

SHARING THE PUBLICATION WITH OTHERS
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What could be better than returning after a hard day, checking the mailbox and finding, lodged between the bills, circulars and junk mail — the latest issue of the *World Tribune* or *Living Buddhism*! Throughout the 26 years of my practice, the wisdom and guidance contained in the pages of our publications have enabled me to sustain my faith, to break through countless deadlocks and accumulate good fortune.

How many times have you heard members exclaim: “Have you seen the latest *Tribune*? There is an incredible speech by President Ikeda!” or “Did you see so-and-so's experience?”

Take today, for example: I just received the April 30th edition of the *World Tribune*. There is a dialogue between President Ikeda and Herbie Hancock in which they discuss the meaning of true victory in life and how we get younger the longer we practice. There are also wonderful experiences about people using this practice to fulfill their lifelong dreams in the face of insurmountable odds. A woman from New York relates how she followed President Ikeda's guidance about sticking to a 20-year goal and she passed the bar exam at age 46. That is precisely what I needed to hear as I am in the throes of getting yet another graduate degree and sometimes wonder whether I'm too old.

Reading the *World Tribune* has become a family activity in my home. My husband, Roy, reads it right away from cover to cover. He checks to see if I've read the latest speech by President Ikeda. I try to keep up with him so that we can discuss the speeches together. Recently my 14-year-old son was struggling in school. He told Roy that he really wanted to do better in school so that he could go to a good college. Roy had just read an experience in the March 26 *World Tribune* about a young man who was living in a mobile home but wanted to go to Stanford. This young man applied his practice of Buddhism and studied hard despite his circumstances and was accepted to Stanford with a full scholarship. After reading this experience, my son said, “Cool!” and he has already become more serious about his studies.

I used to think I had to search high and low to find some “special” guidance in order to encourage members at a meeting. Then I realized that I need not look further than the pages of *Living Buddhism* or the newspaper to relay really suitable guidance. I always bring one of the publications to meetings or on a home visit.

The recent changes in the paper's format, the appearance and more up-to-date coverage of President Ikeda's speeches have made it an even more exciting resource. The “Dialogue on the Lotus Sutra” series in *Living Buddhism* is so dynamic and profound; the discussions about the Lotus Sutra make this Buddhism ever more relevant to my daily life.

Reading and sharing the publications is an invaluable aspect of my practice. I have deep appreciation for the tireless efforts of those members who work continuously to provide us with these inspiring guides to the correct practice of Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism.