

SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S DEC. 7 ENCOURAGEMENT THE AGE OF YOUTH IS HERE

SGI President Ikeda attended a conference on Dec. 7 in Tokyo with officials of Soka University and Tokyo Fuji Art Museum, both institutions that he founded, and representative leaders. After citing second Soka Gakkai president Josei Toda's teachings "Youth attract youth" and "Good teachers attract good students," President Ikeda explained: "The age of youth is here. I hope that the youth will take full responsibility, that they will agonize and deliberate over how to deal with the challenges that confront them. I hope that they will think and take action, that they will rally together other fine youth and make the coming century one of great progress."

The SGI president continued: "The quality of any school is determined by its teachers. I hope our teaching staff will love and respect their students from the bottom of their hearts. Based on warm, humanistic relationships of mutual trust, I ask the teachers to strive with their students for mutual growth and development, both academic and personal."

"Also, the existence of good relations and unity among the members of the teaching staff in and of itself educates the students."

Addressing leaders of Tokyo No. 2 Joint Territory, President Ikeda stressed that victory in life and in the struggle for kosen-rufu depends on tenacity and determination. Referring to Leo Tolstoy's keen observations of human nature, President Ikeda expressed his wish that the members would remember the ironclad rule that "the person who fights to the last five minutes triumphs."