

FORTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP FOR WORLD PEACE

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS



May 3, 1960, Daisaku Ikeda was inaugurated as the third Soka Gakkai president, inheriting the spirit of second president Josei Toda. The above painting was a gift from Kenichiro Uchida, the illustrator for the novel 'The New Human Revolution.'



For the sake of peace, for the sake of their friends, SGI President Ikeda and his wife, Kaneko, continue to strive with the same dedication as their mentor, Josei Toda (see page 3). May 3 was their 48th wedding anniversary.

Daisaku Ikeda is a leading Buddhist philosopher, author, poet and educator. This special issue celebrates the wide-ranging accomplishments of this remarkable individual.

As president of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI), and the founder of several educational, cultural and research institutions, Mr. Ikeda is the recipient of numerous honorary doctorates and awards, including the U.N. Peace Award, the International Tolerance Award of the Simon Wiesenthal Center and the Rosa Parks Humanitarian Award.

Forty years ago, on May 3, 1960, he became the third Soka Gakkai president. Following in the footsteps of his predecessors, Tsunesaburo Makiguchi and Josei Toda, he resolved to share the humanistic philosophy of Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism with the world for the sake of peace. On Oct. 2, 1960, he arrived in Hawaii on his first overseas trip toward this aim, the first step in the development of SGI organizations, which are now in 156 countries and territories. **WT**

Daisaku Ikeda: A Profile

By JAMIE LIPTAN
STAFF WRITER

Daisaku Ikeda was born in Tokyo on Jan. 2, 1928, the fifth son in a family that produced edible seaweed. Because his father's health was poor, from a young age he assisted in the arduous work of gathering and processing the seaweed and also took up a newspaper route to help with the family finances. When Japan went to war and his older brothers were called up for military service, Daisaku became the family's sole source of support. In the spring of his 15th year, he went to work at a local ironworks, which was soon converted to a munitions plant.

Hard work and compulsory military training exhausted the youth and he developed tuberculosis, beginning a decades-long battle with serious illness. His grief at the news of the death of his eldest brother in the war left him with the determination to devote his life to the goal of realizing a world without war. After the war ended, he worked during the day while attending night classes. After graduating from high school, he enrolled in a junior college.

The young Daisaku's life reached a dramatic turning point when, in August 1947, he met Josei Toda at a Soka Gakkai discussion meeting. He was deeply impressed with Mr. Toda's character, and asked him: "Sir, what is the correct way of life? The more I think about it, the more confused I become."

"Well now," Mr. Toda replied, "that is the most difficult question of all. You can of course ponder on what is the correct way of life. However, if you have that much leisure time, you would do better to practice the Daishonin's teaching. You are still young, after all. Through your own practice, you will come to realize that you are paving the correct way of life. I can assure you this."

The young Ikeda was so moved by their encounter, he recited the following poem of his own composition:

Traveler

*From whence do you come?
And where do you go?
The moon has set,
But the sun has not yet risen.
In the chaos of darkness before
the dawn
Seeking the light,*



Daisaku Ikeda in 1947 at age 19, the year he joined the Soka Gakkai.

*I advance
To dispel the dark clouds from
my mind
To find a great tree unbowed by
the tempest
I emerge from the earth.*

Ten days later, Daisaku Ikeda joined the Soka Gakkai. Later, he took a job at Mr. Toda's publishing company and shortly became the editor of a magazine for boys. In the unstable economic climate of the time, Mr. Toda suffered a succession of business failures. Daisaku quit his classes so that he could support his mentor, working night and day to help resolve the problems stemming from the business failures despite his extremely poor health.

From his youth, Mr. Ikeda had been an avid reader and began composing poetry in his teens. His insatiable thirst for learning led him to continue his education under the tutelage of Mr. Toda, a former school teacher. Under his instruction, he studied politics, economics, philosophy and other subjects, as well as Buddhism. About these private lessons, he would later say, "They turned into invisible possessions that have been literally engraved on my life (*A Youthful Diary*, p. 17)."

On May 3, 1952, he married Kaneko Shiraki, who would become his lifelong partner in their quest for peace. About her, he writes: "My wife is my dearest companion in life. She has been at times my nurse, my secretary, my mother, my sister, my daughter and, more than anything, my best and closest comrade in our struggle" (*May SGI Graphic*, p. 16).

The next year, the Ikedas' first son, Hiromasa, was born on April 28. During this time, he became increasingly active

in the Soka Gakkai and in 1954 became head of the youth division with central responsibility for planning and operations. Shirohisa, the Ikedas' second son, was born on Jan. 28, 1955, and their third son, Takahiro, on April 11, 1958. Shirohisa later died of complications from a sudden stomach illness in 1985.

Mr. Toda died in 1958, having accomplished all of his goals for kosen-rufu. Daisaku Ikeda assumed overall responsibility for the Soka Gakkai as general administrator of the organization. After initially resisting the presidency out of respect for his late mentor, he finally relented to the strong desire of the Soka Gakkai board of directors. At his inauguration as third president on May 3, 1960, Mr. Ikeda declared, "From today onward, on behalf of President Toda's disciples, I will take leadership to move a step forward toward the substantiation of kosen-rufu."

Shortly after his appointment, Mr. Ikeda, then 32, took the first step in his travels for peace, visiting the United States, Canada and Brazil. In the years since, while constructing a bridge of peace and friendship spanning the globe and uniting the hearts of people around the world, he has conducted dialogues with presidents, prime ministers, scholars, writers, artists and leaders in all areas of society, with a view to encouraging the development of culture and creating lasting peace.

In 1971, Mr. Ikeda founded Soka University, realizing the vision of first Soka Gakkai President Tsunesaburo Makiguchi. The Soka educational system now comprises elementary, junior and senior high schools, as well as secondary and post-graduate schools. The new Soka University of America campus, Aliso Viejo, Calif., will open in 2001 and offer a four-year liberal arts degree.

In 1975, Mr. Ikeda became president of the newly formed Soka Gakkai International. Through his continuous efforts to spread the philosophy and ideals of his mentor, the SGI has established organizations in 156 countries and territories around the world representing 12 million members.

Mr. Ikeda has become a world-renowned author, philosopher and photographer, publishing hundreds of books, dialogues and photo albums in



Leading a song in appreciation for the members' efforts, Kansai, Japan, 1981.

26 languages. Writing about his photography, he says: "Of course, I am not a professional photographer. As an individual who endlessly admires art that is open to all people, nothing gives me more joy if I can, through my photos, help expand the road to mutual understanding and cultural exchange beyond the limits of national boundaries and beyond the lapse of time" (June 9 *World Tribune*, p. 6).

Even at the age of 72, Mr. Ikeda continues his tireless quest for kosen-rufu. In his message to all SGI members commemorating the 40th anniversary

of his presidency, he wrote: "For my part, I will continue to build a glorious network of friendship and philosophy that crisscrosses the globe like so many colorful rainbows spanning the world's skies. Let us set off on our joyous, hope-filled journey, advancing together in friendship, harmony and good cheer! To eliminate war, misery and unhappiness from the face of the earth! To rid the world of all evil and injustice! To enable all people to change their karma and enjoy healthy and fulfilled lives! To realize lasting peace for humanity!" (May 12 *World Tribune*, p. 2) **WT**



Daisaku and Kaneko Ikeda. About his wife, the SGI president has said, 'My wife is a lighthouse of serenity for me.' Speaking of her husband, Mrs. Ikeda says: 'My husband is like the sun, and I am the moon that shines in the sun's light. Without the sun, I won't shine.'

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS

The Path of Mentor and Disciple

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS



Josei Toda (standing) and Tsunesaburo Makiguchi around the time of the Soka Gakkai's founding in 1930. (Above) Daisaku Ikeda at age 33, April 1961.

The Soka Gakkai (Value-Creating Society) was founded in 1930 by Tsunesaburo Makiguchi (1871–1944), a pioneer in the philosophy of education, and Josei Toda (1900–58), a teacher and entrepreneur, as a society of teachers committed to applying the humanistic principles of Buddhism in their work as educators. Originally called the Soka Kyoiku

Gakkai (Value-Creating Education Society), the group took its name from a pedagogical theory published by Mr. Makiguchi in the same year, which defines the principal purpose of education as the creation of values.

During the 1930s, amid heightened global tensions and instability, Japan grew increasingly militant and nationalistic. To strengthen its control over the

populace, the Japanese government imposed a national ideology known as State Shinto, which mandated worship of the emperor, and instituted “thought control” policies that severely limited freedom of speech and provided harsh penalties for any critical of the state.

As a Buddhist, Mr. Makiguchi vigorously opposed the government’s policies, particu-

larly the suppression of religious freedom. In 1943, he was arrested and imprisoned on charges of violating the Peace Preservation Law of 1925 and committing blasphemy against the emperor. Refusing to the end to recant his views, Mr. Makiguchi died from malnutrition in prison on Nov. 18 the following year.

Mr. Toda had been impris-

oned on the same charges as Mr. Makiguchi and, like his mentor, also remained true to his convictions. Upon his release in 1945, shortly before the war’s end, he immediately set about reconstructing the Soka Gakkai. The change in name reflected his intention to develop a broad-ranging movement for peace based

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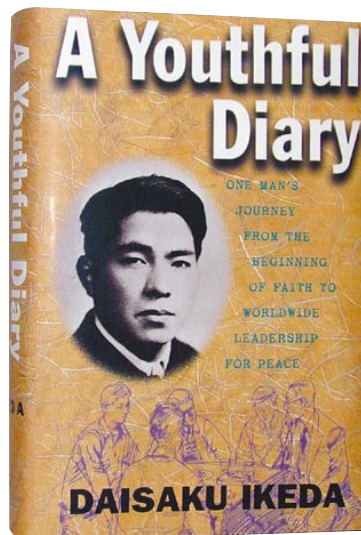


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Youthful Inspiration for All of Us.

Through the tale of the ever-deepening relationship between the young Daisaku Ikeda and his mentor-in-life, Josei Toda, *A Youthful Diary* is a compelling account of both triumphs and setbacks on the road to establishing the foundation of today’s Soka Gakkai.

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‘Photography captures the moment for all eternity’ –

Daisaku Ikeda in a conversation with Cornell Capa, director of the International Center of Photography, Tokyo, November 1989



President Ikeda takes a photo of Florence and the Arno River from the Piazzale Michelangelo, Italy, July 1992.



‘Roiling clouds aflame; the full moon above: nature provides unexpected drama.’ Tokyo, April 1999. Photo by Daisaku Ikeda.



‘Though their roots are buried in mud, time will crown lilies with flowers.’ Gumma, Japan, August 1997. Photo by Daisaku Ikeda.



Playing the piano for friends at the Kanagawa Culture Center, September 1997.

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS

'Springing From the Earth'

A prolific poet, Daisaku Ikeda wrote 'The Sun of "Jiyu"' in 1993. The excerpt below expresses, his hopes for the American people to advance the cause of human rights.

Ah, America, land bringing together so many different peoples! A republic of ideals born beneath the lofty banners, the uniting principles of freedom and equality. As this century draws to its close, the soul of your idealism grieves, at the stark realities of racial strife. What is to become of the spirit of your nation fostered by so many people of wisdom and philosophy?

My treasured friends, There is no question that your multiracial nation, America, represents humanity's future.

Your land holds secret stores of unbounded possibility, transforming the energy of different cultures into the unity of construction, the flames of conflict into the light of solidarity, the eroding rivulets of mistrust into a great broad flow of confidence.

On what can we ground our efforts to open the horizons of such a renaissance? ...

Seek out the primordial "roots" of humankind. Then you will without fail discover

the stately expanse of jiyu unfolding in the depths of your life. Here is the home, the dwelling place to which humankind traces its original existence—beyond all borders, beyond all differences of gender and race. Here is a world offering true proof of our humanity.*

If one reaches back to these fundamental roots, all become friends and comrades. To realize this is to "emerge from the earth." ...

Buddhism describes the connective threads of "dependent origination." Nothing in this world exists alone; everything comes into being and continues in response to causes and conditions. Parent and child. Husband and wife. Friends. Races. Humanity and nature.

This profound understanding of coexistence, of symbiosis—here is the source of resolution for the most pressing and fundamental issues that confront humankind in the chaotic last years of this century.

The Buddhist scriptures include the parable of "Two Bundles of Reeds," aptly demonstrating this relation of dependent origination. Only by supporting each other can the two bundles stand straight—if one is removed, the other must fall. Because this exists,



President Ikeda's essays, poems and other works touch the hearts of people around the world.

so does that; Because that exists, so does this.

For several brilliant centuries Western civilization has encouraged the independence of the individual, but now appears to be facing a turbulent twilight. The waves of egoism eat away at the shores of contemporary society. The tragedy of division wraps the world in a thick fog. Individuals are becoming mere scraps, mere fragments, competing reed bundles of the lesser self threatened with mutual collapse. My friends! Please realize that you

already possess the solution to this quandary. First you must break the hard shell of the lesser self. This you must absolutely do. Then direct your lucid gaze toward your friends.

People can only live fully by helping others live. When you give life to friends you truly live. Cultures can only realize further richness by honoring other traditions. And only by respecting natural life can humanity continue to exist. Now is the time for you to realize that through relations mutually inspiring and

harmonious, the "greater self" is awakened to dynamic action, the bonds of life are restored and healed. And blossoms in delightful multitude exude the unique fragrance of each person, of each ethnicity, in precise accord with the principle of "cherry, plum, peach and damson." ...

Translated from the Japanese by Andrew Gebert

** Jiyu is a Japanese expression denoting "Bodhisattva of the Earth," or a condition of compassion and consideration.*

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on Buddhist principles that would not be limited to educators but would include people from all walks of life.

In 1951, Mr. Toda became the second president of the Soka Gakkai. On Sept. 8, 1957, he issued an impassioned call for the abolition of nuclear weapons. In this document, titled the "Declaration against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs," he characterized the production and use of nuclear weapons as

satanic and asserted the inalienable right to life of all people. This declaration has become the prime point of the Soka Gakkai's movement to rid the world of nuclear weapons and secure lasting peace.

Under President Toda's leadership, the Soka Gakkai achieved a membership of more than 750,000 households, establishing the group as a major force for peace in Japan. His achievements were realized

with the help of the young Daisaku Ikeda. Profoundly impressed by Mr. Toda's strength of conviction and character, he joined the Soka Gakkai in 1947. After his mentor's death on April 2, 1958, he assumed responsibility for the further development of the movement.

Recalling his relationship with Mr. Toda, President Ikeda has said: "The mentor and disciple spirit that bound Mr. Makiguchi and Mr. Toda together is the Soka

Gakkai's eternal prime point. Mr. Makiguchi stood squarely in the face of a storm of persecutions and Mr. Toda, with the heart of a lion, stood at his side. Having the same dedication to the spirit of mentor and disciple, I have stood up to succeed Mr. Toda as the third president. In other words, the present development of the Soka Gakkai is a result of the mentor-disciple relationship, which each of us has followed faithfully. We have thereby cre-

ated a foundation that will endure for all ages. Herein lies the spirit of the Soka Gakkai; it is the founding spirit."

Carrying on his mentor's vision, President Ikeda founded the Soka Gakkai International in 1975. In the past 25 years, the SGI has spread to 156 countries and territories around the world. The SGI has become one of the world's foremost movements for lasting peace and human happiness. **WT**

SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA IN AMERICA

CREATING THE FUTURE FROM DIVERSITY

By SGI-USA General
Director Danny Nagashima

This year marks the 40th anniversary of SGI President Ikeda's first visit to America in October 1960. Newly inaugurated as the third Soka Gakkai president, this was his first trip outside Japan, marking the origin of our global network of SGI nations.

At that time, there were few members in the United States, most of them young, Japanese-born brides of American military personnel. These women were homesick and lonely, and clung to their Buddhist practice as a form of solace or connection to their homeland. President Ikeda's message to them was clear: Each was a Bodhisattva of the Earth, entrusted with the mission to lead all people to happiness. Each had a mission in America—a mission for the world.

For 40 years, President Ikeda's message has never changed. He has continued to remind us that America has

a significant mission to contribute to world peace, and that every American shares this mission. For instance, his three poems to America—"To My Young American Friends" (1981), "Arise, the Sun of the Century" (1987) and "The Sun of *Jiyu* Over a New Land" (1993)—all center on this point.

President Ikeda has returned to visit the United States almost 30 times—reaching all corners of our country—each time making the personal care of individuals his focus. He has created the SGI-USA that we have today and influenced America through painstaking one-on-one development of people. This human network has as its foundation friendship and trust.

I am overwhelmed with appreciation for his efforts to personally raise so many beautiful leaders for America and the world.

In America, President Ikeda sees a land of limitless human resources; a nation that



Some 20,000 youth from Japan and the United States participate in the first U.S.-Japan Joint Youth Division General Meeting, March 11, 1984, at the San Diego Sports Arena.

can draw immense strength from its unprecedented social, racial and religious diversity; a country built by the world's people that must in return serve the world. With great humility, America must set an example—this is his expectation, I believe.

On May 3, 2001, we look forward to the dedication of the Soka University of America, Aliso Viejo campus, which President Ikeda has founded as a gift to the world.

This university—open to students of all religious, national and cultural backgrounds—aims to foster many young people dedicated to working for international and intercultural understanding in the 21st century.

All of President Ikeda's efforts in America lead up to this point. He has set the stage for youth from all over the world to come to America and train themselves as the leaders of the future.

It is my great hope that on May 3, 2001, we can show our mentor our appreciation and determination through the young champions of peace that we have discovered and raised.

I know that President Ikeda's heart is full of pride at our growth. Let's continue advancing with him toward the realization of kosen-rufu with the spirit of "many in body, one in mind." Let's set the example. **WT**



Arrival in Honolulu, October 1980.



President Ikeda with New York members, June 1981, on the day he wrote the poem "To My Young American Friends."

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS

Photo by GREGORY NAKASUJI



SGI President Ikeda views Toda Lake at the opening of the Florida Nature and Culture Center, June 19, 1996.

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS



The SGI president's first visit to the Denver Culture Center, June 9, 1996.



Mr. Ikeda is installed as the first SGI president at the Guam World Peace Conference, when the SGI was established, Jan. 26, 1975.



With 5,000 San Francisco members at the multi-tiered Galleria Design Center, 1980.



Watching a culture show at the Dallas Pioneer Meeting, Feb. 16, 1984.



Making a new friend at the Malibu Training Center during the SGI president's 1990 visit to Los Angeles.

A QUEST FOR HUMAN DIPLOMACY

SGI President Ikeda has resolved to spend as much time as possible traveling to various countries in the interest of peace and international goodwill. Toward that end, he has made more than 100 overseas trips. Traveling to different countries gives him the opportunity to engage in what he calls “human diplomacy,” by which he means face-to-face, heart-to-heart communication. Wherever he goes, he talks not only with political and cultural leaders but with as many everyday people as possible. Fundamentally, he believes that the most important people are “ordinary” people.



With well-wishers at a train station in Florence, Italy, July 1992.



Touring the Taplow Court Grand Culture Centre on the outskirts of London, 1989.

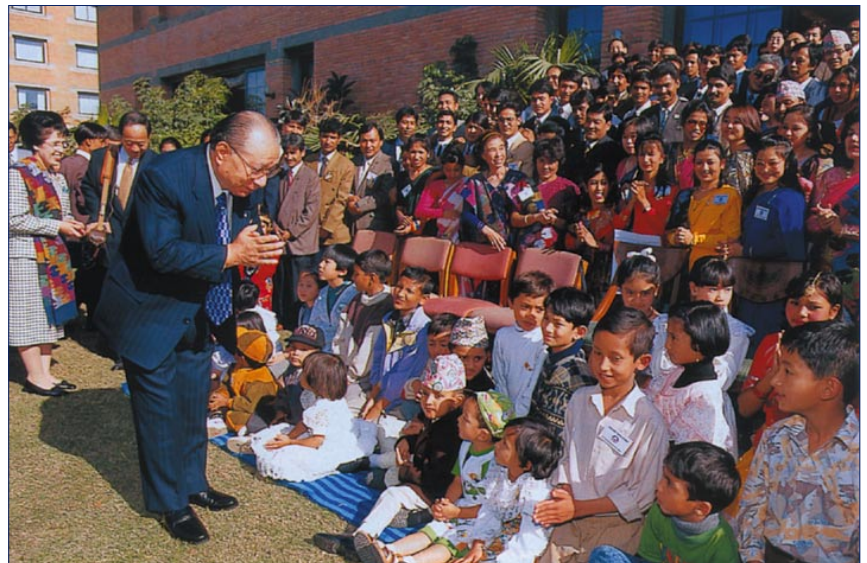


Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS

First steps on a journey for world peace only five months after inauguration as the third president of the Soka Gakkai, Haneda (now Narita) Airport, Tokyo, October 1960.

'A great human revolution in just a single individual will help achieve a change in the destiny of a nation, and further, will enable a change in the destiny of all humankind.'

— Daisaku Ikeda



Nepalese young people and the SGI leader, November 1995.



With Portuguese children, Lisbon, 1965.



SGI President and Mrs. Ikeda in Seoul, Korea, May 1998.

Countries Visited by SGI President Ikeda

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Argentina | Korea |
| Australia | Lebanon |
| Austria | Luxembourg |
| Bahamas | Macau |
| Belgium | Malaysia |
| Brazil | Mexico |
| Bulgaria | Myanmar |
| Cambodia | Nepal |
| Canada | Netherlands |
| Chile | Norway |
| China | Pakistan |
| Colombia | Panama |
| Costa Rica | Paraguay |
| Cuba | Peru |
| Czech Republic | Philippines |
| Denmark | Portugal |
| Dominican Republic | Romania |
| | Russia |
| | Singapore |
| | Spain |
| Egypt | Sri Lanka |
| France | Sweden |
| Germany | Switzerland |
| Greece | Thailand |
| Hong Kong | Turkey |
| Hungary | United Kingdom |
| India | USA |
| Iran | |
| Iraq | |
| Italy | |



The SGI president's first visit to the Denver Culture Center, June 9, 1996.



Visiting Madame Deng's home, Beijing, 1990. Deng Yingchao was the wife of the late premier of the People's Republic of China, Zhou Enlai.



A commemorative photo with youth in Florence, Italy, June 1992.



Talking with Sonia Gandhi and her daughter, Priyanka, Tokyo, 1994.



With Madame Fang Zhaoling, Hong Kong artist, Hong Kong, 1997.



Taking time for some exercise and fun with SGI members in Paris, France, June 1989.

A GLOBAL AMBASSADOR OF PEACE

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS

For the past 40 years, one theme has characterized every step taken by SGI President Ikeda: peace based on the inherent dignity of life.

President Ikeda's own youth was virtually torn apart by global war. At a very young age, he realized the futility and tragedy of war. More important, he recognized that it must first end in the hearts and minds of humanity.

His efforts have been based on a new concept of peace not merely as the absence of war but as a profound and universal condition possible only when based on humanism.

He has proven himself to be a global ambassador of peace, meeting with world leaders in the fields of politics, philosophy, education and culture. He has constantly sought the common ground that will enable them to respond to the common person's yearning for permanent peace and the construction of a society based on the dignity of all life.

On Sept. 8, 1957, second Soka Gakkai President Josei Toda declared his opposition to the use of atomic and hydrogen bombs, emphasizing that the devilish nature inherent in human life that led to the creation of nuclear arms is an enemy of peace. Since then, his declaration has become the prime point of the Soka Gakkai's peace movement.

Carrying out his mentor's will, President Ikeda has made numerous proposals concerning the issues of peace and disarmament; he has also voiced strong support for the United Nations and come out in favor of the idea that its peacekeeping functions be strengthened. By his strenuous efforts and activities over the years, he has demonstrated his constant desire for peace. **WT**



With Premier Zhou Enlai of China, December 1974. This meeting set a landmark in the history of bilateral exchange between China and Japan.



Reunited with former Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev at Soka University, Tokyo, April 1993.



A reunion with B. N. Pande, vice chairman of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (Association for Gandhi Memorial and Propagation of Gandhian Ideals) and one of the closest disciples of Mahatma Gandhi, February 1992.



Affirming mutual commitment to human rights issues with Rosa Parks, the mother of the American civil rights movement, January 1993.



With Philippines President Corazón Aquino, April 1991.



With Dr. Linus Pauling, a Nobel laureate in both chemistry and peace, Los Angeles, February 1987.

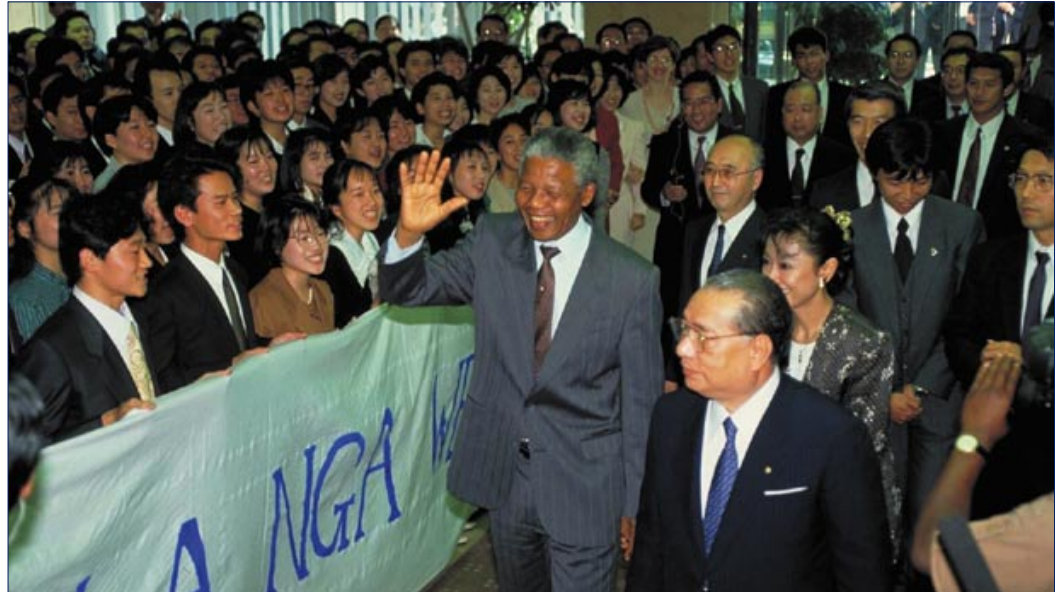


Dialogues with British historian Dr. Arnold J. Toynbee beginning in May 1972 in London led to the publication of the book 'Choose Life,' now available in more than 21 languages.

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS



Ghana President Jerry Rawlings, December 1997.



Nelson Mandela, anti-apartheid champion of South Africa, receives a warm welcome from the SGI president and members, Tokyo, October 1990.

Building a Culture of Peace

Over the years, SGI President Ikeda has written several innovative peace proposals and undertaken various activities for peace. His proposals are geared toward strengthening the United Nations' peacekeeping functions and finding creative solutions to solving the world's problems. They concern issues such as disarmament, human rights, the global economy and the environment.

Based on these proposals, several SGI-affiliated institutions that promote peace initiatives were founded by President Ikeda including the Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research, the Boston Research Center for the 21st Century and the Institute of Oriental Philosophy.

Since its establishment in 1962, the Institute of Oriental Philosophy is dedicated to making Asia's rich philosophical heritage accessible to people throughout the world. It conducts independent research into topics such as bibliographical studies of Buddhism, Buddhist thought, comparative religion, and the interrelations between science, religion and society. It has centers in India, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom in addition to its head office in Tokyo.

The Toda Institute, based in Tokyo and Honolulu, was founded by Mr. Ikeda in 1996 to manage research focused on peace, disarmament and nonviolent conflict resolution; sustainable development, employment and the environment; and human rights, the United Nations and global governance. It specifically links scholars, activists, research organizations and NGOs around the world in an effort to create a global network.

The SGI, at the suggestion of President Ikeda, has sponsored numerous touring exhibitions around the world on nuclear weapons, human rights, the environment and war, among other topics. They provide a rich cultural and educational exchange, nurturing understanding and respect for people, while promoting peaceful coexistence. **WT**



The BSG Culture Centre, home of the Indian office of the Institute of Oriental Philosophy.



The Institute of Oriental Philosophy European Centre located at Taplow Court, United Kingdom.



Dr. Majid Tehranian and Daisaku Ikeda discuss plans for the Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research, which was founded by Mr. Ikeda in February 1996. Dr. Tehranian is the director of the institute.



The Boston Research Center for the 21st Century was founded in 1993. The BRC brings together scholars and activists in dialogue on common values to support an evolving global ethic for a peaceful 21st century.



Mr. Ikeda is interviewed at the showing of the 'Nuclear Arms: Threat to Our World' exhibition in Moscow, May 1987.



'The Courage to Remember—Anne Frank and the Holocaust' exhibition was viewed by more than 1.5 million people. Above, in Hiroshima, 1995.

Leadership in Cultural Exchange

Cultures can only realize / their further richness / by honoring other traditions," SGI President Ikeda writes in his poem "The Sun of *Jiyu* Over a New Land." This is the thinking behind all his cultural activities. Cultural exchange leads to greater understanding among nations, he believes, and, most importantly, among individuals.

President Ikeda founded the Min-On Concert Association in 1963 based on this principle. Over the years, Min-On has brought performing groups from 76 nations to Japan and organized many overseas tours of Japanese performers. From the Vienna State Opera to Herbie Hancock, Min-On's family of performers encompasses great diversity. Similarly, the Tokyo Fuji Art Museum, founded by President Ikeda in 1983, has created an international family of paintings, pottery, lacquer ware, calligraphy and sculptures from East and West. Exhibitions have included everything from the ancient Buddhist artwork of Dunhuang, China, to a retrospective of photographer Robert Capa's work.

The SGI organization also has its own tradition of international cultural exchange through its culture festivals, where SGI members share their cultures and learn of others' through song and dance. President Ikeda for 40 years has taught that we should not be locked into our own cultures; each of us should absorb what other cultures have to offer. Culture becomes, then, the antidote to war on a grassroots level. To make the 21st century truly new, President Ikeda's vision of cultural exchange is vital. **WT**

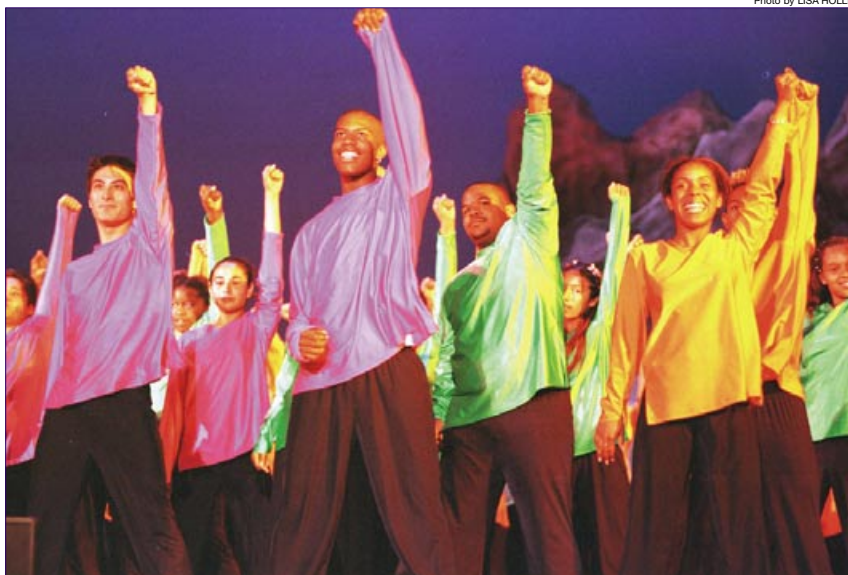


Photo by LISA HOLLIS

The SGI-USA Youth Culture Festival 'Sound to the World! A Fanfare of Life and Peace!' was held in 1999 in Pasadena, Calif.



The Min-On Concert Association, formed by SGI President Ikeda in 1963, opened its new headquarters in Tokyo in 1997.



In February, SGI youth hold a music festival in Ginowan City, Okinawa Prefecture, Japan. The festival commemorated the 100th anniversary of the birth of second Soka Gakkai president Josei Toda.

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS



SGI President Ikeda founded the Tokyo Fuji Art Museum in Hachioji (next to the Soka University campus) in 1983.



Pierre-Auguste Renoir's 'Young Woman in Red Dress' (1892) from the Tokyo Fuji Art Museum collection.



Jacques Louis David's 'Bonaparte Crossing the Great St. Bernard' (1801) from the Tokyo Fuji Art Museum collection.

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS



SGI President Ikeda and French art historian René Huyghe published a dialogue, 'Dawn After Dark,' on restoring the human spirit through art. In Paris (above), June 1989.



Jazz greats Herbie Hancock (left) and Wayne Shorter, both SGI members, perform at a Soka Gakkai meeting in Tokyo, April 2000.



A friendly talk with the Argentine 'King of Tango,' Osvaldo Pugliese, and his wife, Lidia, in Tokyo, December 1989.



At the invitation of the Académie des Beaux-Arts, SGI President Ikeda delivers a speech titled 'Art and Spirituality in the East and West' at the Institut de France, June 1989.



Reunion with Natalia Sats, president of the world-renowned Moscow State Musical Theater for Children, Oktyabrskaya Hotel, July 29, 1990.

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Soka University of America, Aliso Viejo's four-year liberal arts campus, will open in Orange County, Calif., next year.

LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION

The future of the world depends on education, SGI President Ikeda has often said. Why does he feel this way? Education produces people; what kind of leaders we will have in the future rests entirely on what kind of education we can offer youth today.

Putting into action the ideals of first Soka Gakkai president Tsunesaburo Makiguchi, the originator of Soka (value-creating) education, President Ikeda has founded in Japan Soka University, Soka Women's Junior College and the Soka elementary, junior high and high schools. The Soka sys-

tem is also international: Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong now have Soka kindergartens. As well, the Soka schools have become the hub of an expansive network of international studies — more than 40 countries and regions have had exchanges with Soka. Next year, the crowning glory of the Soka

schools, Soka University of America's four-year liberal arts campus, will open in Orange County, Calif. The first 100 freshmen are to begin classes in August 2001.

"Education must never be coercive," the SGI president has said. "The heart of education lies in the process of teacher and pupil learning to-

gether, the teacher drawing forth the pupil's potential and raising the pupil to surpass the teacher in ability." This is the way, President Ikeda believes, to develop the people who will create peace amid the turbulent waves of today's society and who will make advances for humanity in whatever fields they choose. **WT**

SGI President Ikeda's Addresses at Universities and Institutions

UCLA, USA	April 1974	Toward the 21st Century
Moscow State University, Russia	May 1975	A New Road to East-West Cultural Exchanges
Peking University, China	April 1980	Personal Observations on China
University of Guadalajara, Mexico	March 1981	The Mexican Poetic Spirit
University of Sofia, Bulgaria	May 1981	A Harmonious Blend of Cultures
University of Bucharest, Romania	June 1983	Crossroads of Civilization
Peking University, China	June 1984	The Royal Road to Peace — A Personal Observation
Fudan University, China	June 1984	The Making of History
Institut de France	June 1989	Creative Life
University of Buenos Aires, Argentina	March 1990	Globalism and Nationalism
Peking University, China	May 1990	A Matter of the Heart
University of Macau	Jan. 1991	Arousing a New Global Awareness
University of the Philippines	April 1991	Beyond the Profit Motive
Harvard University, USA	Sept. 1991	The Age of "Soft Power" and Inner-motivated Philosophy
Chinese University of Hong Kong	Jan. 1992	Traditional Chinese Humanism Will Shine in the New Century
Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, India	Feb. 1992	Toward a World Without War — Gandhism and the Modern World
Ankara University, Turkey	June 1992	The Kemalist Revolution: A Model
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	Oct. 1992	An Ethos of Symbiosis
Claremont McKenna College, USA	Jan. 1993	Radicalism Reconsidered
Brazilian Academy of Letters	Feb. 1993	A Garden of Imagination
Harvard University, USA	Sept. 1993	Mahayana Buddhism and 21st Century Civilization
Shenzhen University, China	Jan. 1994	An Infinite Horizon
Moscow State University, Russia	May 1994	The Magnificent Cosmos
University of Bologna, Italy	June 1994	The Flight of Creativity
East-West Center, Honolulu, USA	Jan. 1995	Peace and Human Security
Ateneo de Santander, Spain	June 1995	Toward the Dawn of the Civilization of the 21st Century
Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Nov. 1995	The Living Lessons of Gautama Buddha
Simon Wiesenthal Center, USA	June 1996	Makiguchi's Lifelong Pursuit of Justice and Humane Values
Columbia University, USA	June 1996	Thoughts on Education for Global Citizenship
University of Havana, Cuba	June 1996	Building a Great Spiritual Bridge into the New Century
Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, India	Oct. 1997	A New Humanism for the Coming Century



Minuteman Hall at SUA, Calabasas (Calif.), which has a graduate program in Teaching English as a Second Language.

In addition to the lectures he has given, SGI President Ikeda has been honored by educational institutions around the world with 30 honorary professorships and 50 honorary doctorates to date.

Photos courtesy of SEIKYO PRESS



Unforgettable warm handshakes, Hong Kong Soka Kindergarten, May 1993.



At Harvard University, September 1993, SGI President Ikeda delivers a lecture titled 'Mahayana Buddhism and Twenty-first Century Civilization,' his second lecture at that institution.



In January, SGI President Ikeda meets in Tokyo with the noted American economist Lester C. Thurow, professor of management and economics at MIT.



The SGI president gives a commemorative lecture at the University of Havana during his first visit to Cuba in June 1996.



SGI President Ikeda lectures at Columbia University Teachers College: 'Global citizens respect and strive to understand people of different cultures.'

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The World Tribune welcomes reader submissions. If you are interested in contributing an article or photograph, please contact us for guidelines. Together we can make a great newspaper.



An artist's vision of the Aliso Viejo campus of Soka University of America in Southern California. SUA is founded on the belief that student-centered education is the best way to promote peace and human rights. SUA's founder, Daisaku Ikeda, has said: 'The mission of Soka University of America is to foster a steady stream of global citizens committed to living a contributive life.'

New SUA Principles Announced

SGI President Ikeda, the founder of Soka University of America, gave three new principles to the university on May 26, 2000:

- ❖ *Foster leaders of culture in the community*
- ❖ *Foster leaders of humanism in society*
- ❖ *Foster leaders of pacifism in the world*

These principles are in addition to the three mottoes that Mr. Ikeda gave the university on Nov. 12, 1998:

- ❖ *Be philosophers of a renaissance of life*
- ❖ *Be world citizens in solidarity for peace*
- ❖ *Be the pioneers of a global civilization*



SUA's Calabasas, Calif., campus currently offers a master's degree program in second- and foreign-language education. SUA's Aliso Viejo, Calif., campus, scheduled to open in 2001, will offer an undergraduate program in liberal arts.



SGI members visit the new Central Tower at Soka University in Hachioji, Japan. The university was founded in 1971 by SGI President Ikeda.