

SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S MARCH 14 ENCOURAGEMENT THE SPIRIT OF SELFLESS DEDICATION

‘The Soka Gakkai spirit is the spirit of selfless dedication, the spirit of kosen-rufu,’ SGI President Ikeda explains. ‘I hope you will seek out challenges and fully test your strength and ability as people who possess a profound mission.’

The evening of March 14, SGI President Ikeda attended a conference at the Shinano Culture Center in Shinanomachi, Tokyo, with representatives from SGI organizations outside Japan, including a contingent from SGI-USA, and regional leaders from various parts of Japan. After thanking those who had traveled long distances, President Ikeda made the following points:

- The most praiseworthy are ordinary people who strive for kosen-rufu. We should protect and support them without fail. As leaders, we should always be thinking about how we can encourage and show our appreciation to our fellow members. If there is a problem or issue at hand, it is important that we swiftly address it, always doing our utmost to serve the members. Should this spirit and action disappear, callousness and inhumanity will come to reign in our organization, and it will no longer be a realm of Buddhism.
- Unless our hearts are firmly united and in rhythm, we will not be able to bring forth our true strength and potential. When we stand up for the sake of kosen-rufu in the spirit of the oneness of mentor and disciple, we can open the way to victory. We can tap the power of great, inexhaustible courage.
- Youth must cast aside vanity and conceit. The Soka Gakkai spirit is the spirit of selfless dedication, the spirit of kosen-rufu. I hope you will seek out challenges and fully test your strength and ability as people who possess a profound mission, giving free play to the power of faith. Please become a driving force in all endeavors and create a history of unprecedented brilliance.

President Ikeda also expressed his delight to Soka University of America representatives that the 1st class of SUA, Aliso Viejo has so many outstanding students. He asked the SUA representatives to put all their energies into raising world leaders.