

## AROUND THE SGI

### **Tsunesaburo Makiguchi Street Opens in Perugia Province, Italy**

Passignano sul Trasimeno City in Perugia Province, central Italy, officially opened a street named after Soka Gakkai founder Tsunesaburo Maki-guchi, honoring posthumously his peace activism during World War II. On April 21, the city held a celebration at the Urbani civic auditorium attended by Mayor Vladimiro Chellini, Nadia Pasquali, city official in charge of culture, and other government officials. A dedication ceremony followed on Tsunesaburo Makiguchi Street, attended by nearly 300 local residents. The street lies between the National Birago Elementary and Middle School and the city hall, and is considered a school crossing zone. The middle school students jointly created a mosaic, which included a quote by SGI President Ikeda, on a wall along the underpass in the middle of this street.

### **Victor Hugo Exhibition Shows in Bingen, Germany**

The “Victor Hugo and the 21st Century” exhibition, which comprises 107 original manuscripts, letters, rare portraits and photographs of the French author, will be displayed in Bingen, Germany. The items are from a permanent collection of the Victor Hugo House of Literature, Bievres, France, which is sponsoring the exhibition with a Bingen museum. Bingen City and Rheinland-Palatinate Governor Kurt Beck are supporting the exhibition. Displayed for the first time outside France will be Victor Hugo’s original manuscript for *Les Misérables*, a handwritten draft of an order of pardon, and a piece of paper with the last words he ever wrote, “to love is to act,” on May 19, 1885, three days prior to death.

Established in 1991 by the SGI, the Victor Hugo House of Literature is the former Chateau des Roches. The Hugo museum contains approximately 1,900 items of the author’s memorabilia.

### **Implementing Makiguchi’s Educational Theories in Brazil**

SGI-Brazil educators of São Paulo, Brazil, have been conducting the Makiguchi Project, a program to implement the educational theories of first Soka Gakkai president Tsunesaburo Makiguchi in Brazilian classrooms. Project reports have been collected and published as a book, *Makiguchi’s Practical Pedagogy—Education for Peace*. A book launching took place on April 20 at the Simon Bolivar Auditorium, Latin American Memorial, São Paulo. Approximately 600 guests and local residents attended.

The book introduces Mr. Maki-guchi’s pioneering educational theories and practices, based on humane competition, value-creation and fostering the inherent capabilities of individuals. Experts in education are now recognizing these theories for their relevance in addressing many of the problems encountered with traditional educational methods. Since the start of the Makiguchi Project in 1994, some 60 Brazilian schools have adopted Makiguchi’s theories that provide a guide for teachers in nurturing in children the attitudes and skills needed for leading valuable and meaningful lives. Tens of thousands of students have been exposed to Mr. Makiguchi’s value system based on beauty, gain and good.

### **Book on Mother–Child Relations Published in Taiwan**

Chen Yin Culture Enterprise Co., Ltd., Taiwan has just published a traditional Chinese version of *A Conversation on Mother–Child Relations For the 21st Century*, a dialogue among representative Soka Gakkai women and SGI President Ikeda on their views of parent-child relations. President Ikeda dedicates the two-volume book to all mothers engaged in parenting and child education. In recent years, Taiwan’s economic development has created an affluent society with more people leading lives of comfort and ease. At the same time, child rearing, including education in the home, has become an overwhelming issue for many. *A Conversation on Mother–Child Relations For the 21st Century* provides concrete guidelines on parenting.

*Courtesy of SOKANET ([www.sokagakkai.or.jp](http://www.sokagakkai.or.jp))*