

AROUND THE SGI

The following are excerpts of messages received by SGI-USA General Director Danny Nagashima and the national headquarters from various SGI countries on behalf of all American members in the wake of the tragic events of Sept. 11. At press time, SGI members in 20 countries had sent messages. To view all of them, please visit the SGI-USA's Web site (www.sgi-usa.org).

Message From SGI-Belgium

Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of deep sadness. We mourn the loss of so many precious lives and feel in our hearts the suffering of their family and friends.

Both yesterday and today, the Belgian members have come together to participate in 10 hours of daimoku. We pray that this tragedy not become the match that ignites countless other acts of inhumanity and destruction throughout the world.

Let us take upon ourselves the mission of those who have perished, making the impossible possible, until we have touched the hearts of human beings throughout the world to stop violence. Let us unite with President Ikeda and all members throughout the world, full of hope and courage.

General Director Kiyoshi Shimura, SGI-Belgium

Women's Leader Mieko Udagawa, SGI-Belgium

Message From SGI-Canada

On behalf of your fellow SGI members in Canada, we express our deepest sympathy and our most profound sorrow in the wake of yesterday's tragic incidents. We pledge to you our support through our sincere prayers and any other ways we can help. We will continue to send our prayers to all the people of the United States who have lost their lives and their loved ones.

With our heartfelt prayers for the safety and well-being of the members of SGI-USA, and all the people who have been touched by this tragedy,

Chairperson Elizabeth Izumi, SGI-Canada

General Director Tony Meers, SGI-Canada

Women's Leader Yuriko Skillan, SGI-Canada

Message From SGI-France and SGI-Europe

French members, as well as American citizens who practice in France, watched with horror and were stupefied by the terrible events of Sept. 11 in your country. As soon as we learned about it, we began chanting daimoku and offered prayers for the repose of the innocent men and women who lost their lives in this catastrophe.

We want to assure you all of our sympathy and understanding in this difficult time.

General Director Shoichi Hasegawa, SGI-Europe

General Director Yoshio Chiba, SGI-France

Women's Leader Betty Mori, SGI-France

Message From SGI-Germany

We could not believe our eyes when we saw on television the horrible scenes of the attacks in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. We are so saddened about the huge loss of irreplaceable lives through an insane act of terror on the American people.

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And we mourn and chant together with you.

Now, at the beginning of the second phase of kosen-rufu, let us become even closer, in one mind with SGI President Ikeda, to realize our goals for worldwide kosen-rufu.

On behalf of the members of SGI-Germany,
Senior Advisor Peter Kuehn, SGI-Germany
General Women's Leader Tsuruko Kuehn, SGI-Germany

Message From SGI-New Zealand

We are sending our heartfelt daimoku and earnest prayers from New Zealand. Our hearts go out to everyone affected by these horrific events. Please pass our sincere condolences on to those who have lost family and friends.

Although Sept. 11 will be recorded as a tragic day in world history, we are furthering our resolve to definitely create a peaceful and harmonious world and determine that peace and goodwill will become the prevailing force.

With you in our hearts,
General Director Jimi Wallace, SGI-New Zealand

Message From SGI-United Kingdom

I would formally like to send you all the heartfelt condolences of your fellow members of SGI-UK, following the shocking events on Sept. 11. We join with all SGI members in the world in our determination to double our efforts to combat the negative forces threatening humanity. Through our combined efforts, we will win.

General Director Ricky Baynes and all the SGI-UK members