

## SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S NOV. 11 ENCOURAGEMENT YOUTH CAN IMPART GREAT HOPE

**‘Turbulent, challenging times present a wonderful opportunity for youth to take center stage,’ says SGI President Ikeda. ‘Since you are young, I hope that you will work much harder than others to impart hope to friends and vanquish the evil and injustice that inflicts suffering on people, and that you will strive to expand our alliance for peace throughout the entire world.’**

On the evening of Nov. 11, SGI President Ikeda attended a conference with Soka Gakkai regional leaders and youth representatives at the Shinano Culture Center in Shinanomachi, Tokyo. Expressing his appreciation for the members’ wonderful efforts to promote kosen-rufu, President Ikeda had the following to say:

- Today, filled with growing uncertainty about the future, people are seeking a solid philosophy they can base their lives on. Turbulent, challenging times present a wonderful opportunity for youth to take center stage. Since you are young, I hope that you will work much harder than others to impart hope to friends and vanquish the evil and injustice that inflicts suffering on people, and that you will strive to expand our alliance for peace throughout the entire world.
- Everything depends on the leaders. This includes the leaders’ ability to evaluate reports and respond appropriately, their courteous speech that wins people’s hearts and their appealing, attractive personalities that draw people like a magnet. When leaders demonstrate these qualities and take action on the front lines of our movement, the momentum of our entire organization will multiply. Right up to the very end, leaders must never think of retreating.
- Life is long. There is no need to be impatient. Happiness lies in being strong. Faith lies in never being defeated. While forging a self that remains strong and unshaken in the face of any challenge, please advance with vigor and joy, and lead great lives dedicated to kosen-rufu.