

Jan. 1 Issue Supplement (see note below)



SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S NEW YEAR'S POEMS

*From Daibyakurenge,
the Soka Gakkai study journal:*

*The skies clear,
The earth illuminated,
Our hearts bright—
The heavenly deities, too, rejoice
At the start of the Century of Soka.*

◆◆◆◆

*All Buddhas and heavenly deities
Praise and protect
The ten million members of Soka,
And celebrate a new age dawning.*

◆◆◆◆

*Jubilant cheers
Resound throughout the world
How great is the SGI
Which has written a momentous history
Of kosen-rufu!*

*From Seikyo Shimbun,
the Soka Gakkai daily newspaper:*

*Our stage in the new century
Will expand further throughout the world,
A fresh flame of resolution
Burning brightly in our hearts.*

◆◆◆◆

*Members of Soka,
Ten million strong,
Rise together one and all
And lead the way to victory,
Ushering in the dawn of a new era.*

◆◆◆◆

*Chant with determination
And triumph in life
Without fail!
Our life's mission
Is kosen-rufu.*

*Praying for the active contributions and longevity of all of you,
my precious fellow members in the movement for kosen-rufu.*

*From Soka Shimpo,
the Soka Gakkai youth journal:*

*Always asking ourselves
“For what purpose do I strive?”
We dedicate our lives
To realizing peace
In society and the world.*

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*With hearts happy and free
And fresh, vibrant energy,
Win and shine
Each day of your youth.*

◆◆◆◆

*Life is win or lose,
And so is Buddhism.
Therefore adorn your life
With victory.*

*New Year's Day, 2001
Daisaku Ikeda*

NOTE: This supplement includes: page I, a photo of SGI President Ikeda and his wife, Kaneko, from Jan. 2, President Ikeda's 73rd birthday, along with three additional New Year's poems; pages II–III, a reprint of Pres-

ident Ikeda's New Year's poem; and page IV, a reprint of the Soka University of America, Calabasas, page. Printing problems blurred some photos in the Jan. 1 issue of the *World Tribune*.

We apologize to all who received one of these issues. Thank you for your support!

From the *World Tribune* staff

SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

Raise High the Banner of Humanism and

*The brilliant sun of New Year's Day, 2001!
The dawn of a momentous new page in history!
The commencement of the second phase
Of worldwide kosen-rufu!
My beloved fellow members across the globe,
Congratulations on the start of the new century!*

*Now, at this moment,
President Toda's passionate call for peace
Resounds in my heart:
"We must allow no people to be sacrificed.
We must eradicate all misery from the
face of the earth!"*

*Yet, untold tragedies
Continue to rack the world.
We have not yet clearly replied
To the fundamental question
Put by the sage Erasmus
In his plea for peace:
Why cannot human beings
Have goodwill toward one another?*

*This is our goal:
A world in which we can all live
Together in peace,*

*Sharing only the one common
designation —
Human being.
Now, let us go back and begin again
From the essential starting point
Of the human being.*

*My mentor's advocacy
Of global citizenship, too,
Was a ringing declaration of humanism,
Transcending all differences
And respecting the dignity and equality of all —
How brilliant was his vision
Of the 21st century!*

*His was a challenge to realize the ideal
Of one human race
That had long been an elusive dream.
His was a philosophy of unity and harmony
That viewed the earth
As the common homeland
Of all humanity;
A philosophy of coexistence and human rights
That saw all human beings
As equal sovereigns
Of this planet;
A philosophy of peace and global citizenship
That placed highest priority
On the survival
Of the human family.*

*Oct. 2, 1960 —
With my mentor's lion's roar and visage
In my heart,
I took my first step for peace,
Venturing out into a world
In the grip of the Cold War.
Forty years have since passed.
The SGI's alliance of the people
Now spans the globe*

Advance Toward Lasting Peace!

*And Buddhism has spread
Throughout the entire world—
A world that has surmounted
And moved beyond the Cold War.*

*On the day of the SGI's founding
In January 1975,
I called out from Guam
To our members everywhere:
"When people of all nations unite,
Help each other, and advance
Based on the Mystic Law,
We will definitely achieve lasting peace."
I would like to address
That declaration of peace
Again now*

*To our members in 163 nations and territories,
To tell them that our solid alliance
Of global citizenship
Will change human history without fail.*

*From this day forth, too,
I will continue to knock on the doors
Of diverse cultures and civilizations,
Seeking out the humanity that is vibrantly alive
At the heart of each,
Believing that sincere dialogue
In search of our shared humanity
Will build a rainbow bridge linking the world.*

*I ask each of you, too,
Together with me,*

*And in my place,
To deepen the dialogue
Of real human exchange and communication,
In all cultures, among all peoples of the world.*

*From one individual to another,
Starting in our immediate environment,
From small, modest efforts,
Let us steadily carry on our movement.
A commitment to treasure each person—
In that daily, unceasing practice
Lies the dynamism
To transform the entire planet.
And there, too, shines a life
Of unparalleled value-creation.*

*Now, let us courageously advance together
Into the uncharted frontier
Of a new millennium of hope!
As we ring in the second series of Seven Bells,
Let us raise higher and higher still
The banner of humanism of Buddhism!*

*With my prayers for the increasing good health
And prosperity of my beloved fellow SGI members,
And the wish that all of you may live victorious lives
Filled with joy, wisdom and strength.*

*New Year's Day, 2001
Daisaku Ikeda
President, Soka Gakkai International*



SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S MESSAGE TO THE 6TH GRADUATING CLASS OF SUA, CALABASAS

To Be Truly Wise

'The truly wise is one who creates the highest value out of life,' SGI President Ikeda says, 'no matter what the circumstances or how daunting the adversity. That person struggles ever onward, foothold after foothold, head held high and profound ideals firmly embraced in one's heart, as she or he scales the peaks of self-completion.'

To all my beloved members of the 6th Graduating Class, who shall take flight into the dawn of a new century, a new era for humanity: Please accept my heartfelt felicitations on your challenge to complete this meaningful page in your youth. I congratulate you on your joyful new departure in life!

I also extend my wholehearted gratitude to Dr. Hazel Henderson, whom I hold in great esteem, and the many dis-

tinguished guests who have so kindly joined us in celebrating this occasion, despite the manifold demands on their time.

Allow me, as the founder of this institution, to further express my deepest appreciation to Dean of the Graduate School Tomoko Takahashi and every member of the faculty. You have to this day warmly offered encouragement and direction to these graduates as though they were your own siblings, lavishing care and affection upon these young women and men of scholarship who willingly chose to pass through our gates of value creation.

And to all the families and friends of this graduating class, please accept my heartfelt congratulations as well.

Last month, I was granted the opportunity to attend a graduation ceremony in Singapore, one in which I was conferred a Doctor of Letters Honoris Causa from Australia's University of Sydney (see the Dec. 29, 2000, *World Tribune*, p. 10). That occasion remains vivid in my mind. Chancellor Dame Leonie Kramer greeted her students, one after another, as she presented them their diplomas on stage, her love and caring for them evident as she inquired about the lives and

plans of each graduate, wishing every one a prosperous future. That scene profoundly moved me, seeing in those students the same boundless promise I see in all of you.

Although I am not present today to greet each member of the 6th Graduating Class in person, please know that wherever I may be, my heart is always with you. I shall always be praying for you, taking note from afar with great pride over the giant strides you make, the many successes you achieve.

Thoreau writes: "As for the comparative demand which men make on life, it is an important difference between two, that the one is satisfied with a level success, that his marks can all be hit by point-blank shots, but the other, however low and unsuccessful his life may be, constantly elevates his aim, though at a very slight angle to the horizon. I should much rather be the last man..."

The truly wise is one who creates the highest value out of life, no matter what the circumstances or how daunting the adversity. That person struggles ever onward, foothold after foothold, head held high and profound ideals firmly embraced in one's heart, as she or he scales the peaks of self-completion.



Dr. Hazel Henderson, independent futurist, alternative economist and author, speaks at the graduation ceremony, Dec. 13.

I therefore urge you to ascend this majestic mountain of life, toward the most sublime goal of bettering oneself, society and humanity.

The focus of the 21st century will at last turn to education. It is a field that many Soka University of America graduates are devoting themselves to, a task that is truly worthy and noble.

I have had the opportunity to engage in dialogue with Dr. Henderson, who so kindly joins us for this ceremony, in which

we exchanged views on the importance of education. We agreed that if the 21st century is to be a time when all members of humanity live as global citizens, in harmony and in support of one another, a time when we all may manifest our boundless inner potential, then ordinary people must grow wiser and stronger. Therein lies the decisive key to the destiny of our species.

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I conclude my message with a passage from a poem that Dr. Henderson bequeathed in tribute to her mother: "This is true courage: To toil each day for others. This is true valor: To keep faith with the future, without compensation or recognition."

My young friends of Soka, may you be blessed with boundless glory! Blessed by ardent friendship! I close with these cherished thoughts for you.

Daisaku Ikeda
Founder
December 13, 2000



The 6th graduating class of Soka University of America, Calabasas, with Dean Tomoko Takahashi (center).

Tsuneshaburo
Makiguchi,