

KONKO REVIEW

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Tenchi Kakitsuke at the Konko Church of Tokyo
photo by Mr. Alan Matsui

“THE ESSENCE OF THE KONKO FAITH”
BY MR. ALAN MATSUI



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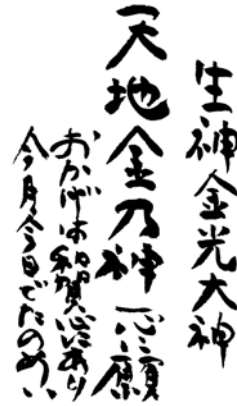
THE ESSENCE OF THE KONKO FAITH by Mr. Alan Matsui



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Tenchi Kakitsuke



*Divine Revelation from
Kami, the Divine Parent of the Universe,
through our Founder,
the Divine Mediator Konko Daijin,
to all humanity.*

Have you ever marveled that so many of our long-time, Japanese-speaking, church members live life with an inner-peace that too often seems to elude you and me? Well, it's probably because they realize the essence of the Konko Faith better than we do.

“The essence of the Konko Faith.”
Wow. What's that? Sounds good!

Even though I've been a member of the Konko Church all my life, sadly I have trouble getting “it.” Growing up as a poor preacher's kid, I thought money and professional success would bring me “it.” Nope. I want “it!”

What is “it,” and how do I get “it?”

The answer lies in the Tenchi Kakitsuke.

To help explain where I'm coming from with this view, I'd like to share a little history.

150 years ago, during the prime of his life, our founder Ikigami Konko Daijin (“Konko Daijin”) received the Divine Call from Tenchi Kane No Kami (“Kami”), instructing him to give up his life as a successful farmer and instead dedicate himself to serving Kami by helping others through Toritsugi Mediation.

This happened during a period of tumultuous change in Japan. Less than 10 years later (1868) came the Meiji Restoration / Revolution, where Japan began its transformation from a backwards, closed feudalistic society (the 265 year Tokugawa era) to become a modern-day major global power.

In 1873, the new Japanese government issued an order prohibiting Konko Daijin from performing Toritsugi Mediation. In order to continue to help save people from hardship during this difficult time, Kami revealed the Tenchi Kakitsuke to Konko Daijin, who made copies of the Tenchi Kakitsuke for his followers so that they could practice their faith without him. He also instructed these followers to place it on their walls at home to serve as a constant reminder that one should always live with faith and how one should practice faith.

While this prohibition was soon lifted, the Tenchi Kakitsuke continued as a powerful revelation for believers of the Konko Faith.

In 1954, Konko Headquarters proclaimed Tenchi Kakitsuke as our “crucial point of faith.” In the book *Shine from Within*, Tenchi Kakitsuke is referred to as “conceptualizing the essence of the Konko Faith.”

In 1983, (100 year anniversary of Konko Daijin’s passing) Konko Headquarters decreed

that every Konko Church was to display Tenchi Kakitsuke prominently on its altar.

Clearly, for believers of the Konko Faith, Tenchi Kakitsuke is supposed to be *profound*.

In 1989, the current English version of Tenchi Kakitsuke was adopted, as follows:

*Through Ikigami Konko Daijin,
To Tenchi Kane no Kami,*

Pray with a single heart.

The Divine Favor depends

Upon one’s own heart

On this very day pray.

This interpretation has served for 20 years, and is familiar and comfortable to us. However, do you find it *meaningful*, let alone *profound*? To be honest, it isn’t for me...and I helped write it.

For a reader new to the Konko Faith, this version *requires* an interpreter. What do “Ikigami Konko Daijin” and “Tenchi Kane no Kami” refer to? What is meant by “Single heart” and “Divine Favor?”

Even for a believer of the Konko Faith, this version is difficult to grasp - at best viewed as “deep,” so that a regular lay person isn’t supposed to understand it on his / her own.

This English version of Tenchi Kakitsuke was developed under a “one-for-one” paradigm - find

*“...in the Konko Faith,
“it” is simple—to be in
harmony with Kami.
Happiness, peace of mind
and all other blessings
stem from looking to
Kami always and striving
to be one with Kami.”*

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the single best word / phrase in English to capture each word / phrase in Japanese. However, Japanese (especially written Japanese [Kanji]) provides for multiple messages / nuances – many of which necessarily had to be omitted because of the limited one-for-one paradigm.

Last year, the KCNA Material Resource Committee (“MRC”) decided to refresh the English interpretation of Tenchi Kakitsuke (“Refresh”) by following a different paradigm: if a given word / phrase in Japanese conveys multiple important messages, then include all of them. Paramount, of course, was to stay true to the original.

In a nutshell, we learned that in the Konko Faith, “it” is simple – to be in harmony with Kami. Happiness, peace of mind and all other blessings stem from looking to Kami always and striving to be one with Kami.

We get “it” by praying with true sincerity and living life with gratitude and caring, harmony and joy.

Through the guidance and counsel of our advisors, I believe that we now have an interpretation of the Tenchi Kakitsuke that is more meaningful, yet easier to grasp, than the current version.

“We get “it” by praying with true sincerity and living life with gratitude and caring, harmony and joy.”

This Refresh was approved by the KCNA Ministry Board of Review in December 2008, and was just approved by Konko Headquarters as the official English version of Tenchi Kakitsuke for all Konkokyo.

Special thanks go to my partners on the MRC, Dr. Eri Yasuhara and Rev. Rod Hashimoto - working with them has been a privilege and a pleasure. My journey to bring my faith from my head to my heart has moved a step closer.

Konko Daijin revealed, “Kami is one with nature—the sky above, the earth below, and the natural world all around us. To meet Kami, just go outside and look around.” If the laws of nature are the laws of Kami, then the gifts of nature are the

“When we acknowledge Kami’s gifts as blessings, it’s only natural to feel thankful. Feeling thankful only makes us happier.”

gifts of Kami. When we acknowledge these gifts as blessings, it’s only natural to feel thankful. Feeling thankful only makes us happier.

I sincerely hope that you find this Refresh useful in more fully realizing the essence of our faith—a faith simple and profound. Please don’t be afraid to share your faith, one-on-one, with your friends and loved ones. Konko Daijin taught us that “...we must spread this Way of Faith throughout the world” [Gorikai II, Kondo Fujimori 53]. The happiness of everyone is Kami’s greatest wish.

Tenchi Kane No Kami

~ Divine Parent of the Universe ~

Ikigami Konko Daijin

~ Divine Mediator ~

**Pray sincerely,
With all your heart.
Be one with Kami.**

**Kami's blessings begin within
Hearts grateful and caring,
In harmony and joy.**

**Look to Kami always,
Now and forever.
On this very day, pray.**

To help you better understand this Refresh, the MRC (“We”) is pleased to share the underlying rationale for the structure and language used.

Before beginning, it should be pointed out that Tenchi Kakitsuke (“TK”) is comprised of two “sections.” Obviously, in the first section we recite the names Tenchi Kane No Kami and Ikigami Konko Daijin, signifying that we should keep them in our hearts always.

The second section of TK represents the “message,” or “reminder” portion of TK. The purpose of this section is to provide readers with a reminder of the core principles of the Konko Faith, so that we do not forget to live by them in our daily lives.

Tenchi Kane No Kami

Tenchi Kane No Kami is the formal name for our God. Therefore, although there is some concern with leading off the English TK with a foreign phrase that is meaningless to most readers, we believe that it is core to the Konko Faith to recite both formal names (Tenchi Kane No Kami and Ikigami Konko Daijin). The Founder recited these names whenever he prayed.

We realize starting the English version of TK with “Tenchi Kane No Kami” (“TKNK”), instead of Ikigami Konko Daijin, is a major change. While keeping the “old” sequence would be easier and more familiar, we believe that starting with TKNK better reflects current Konkokyo theology because:

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- In the Japanese version, “Tenchi Kane No Kami” is clearly the most important phrase in TK – it is visually placed highest, and the characters are largest. In English, we can best communicate this importance by using a larger font and placing the phrase on top.
- Placing “Tenchi Kane No Kami” on top visually helps to communicate the relationship between Kami, Ikigami Konko Daijin, and humanity (as represented by the “reminder”). Tenchi Kane No Kami is above all, and Ikigami Konko Daijin is the Mediator between Kami and humanity (that is, the reader and intended recipient of the “message” portion of TK).
- Theologically, the sequence “Tenchi Kane No Kami Ikigami Konko Daijin” is used elsewhere in Konkokyo:
 - Konkokyo Constitution Chapter 1, Article 3 reads “Our faith believes in [Tenchi Kane no Kami Ikigami Konko Daijin]”
 - The Founder used these sequences interchangeably in his Memoirs and Book of Revelations. In fact, one of the versions of TK sequentially places TKNK before IKD.
 - New Gratitude Prayer – 150th Anniversary of Konkokyo Foundation uses this sequence.

Prayer order (official) is Kami Prayer first, IKD Prayer second.

- Note: There was much discussion about the use of “Through IKD” and “To TKNK” in the current English TK. While clearly the interpretation that (within the context of TK) IKD represents the concept of Toritsugi Mediation is currently the conventional view, there are also other legitimate views. Removing “Through” and “To” allows for multiple interpretations.

~ Divine Parent of the Universe~

For most English speaking people, the phrase “Tenchi Kane No Kami” has no meaning. We felt that, for our audience, it was important to describe what TKNK represents – especially for non-believers or “novice believers.” We used the same phrase that is being proposed for the revision of the “Declaration of the Konko Faith” (Previously: “Divine Principle and Parent of the Universe.” “Divine Parent” is simpler, and the term “Divine Principle” is already used by the Unification Church of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon.)

- Note: “Divine Parent of the Universe” is a description for TKNK, not an English translation of TKNK.

Ikigami Konko Daijin

In the Japanese TK, “Ikigami Konko Daijin” (“IKD”) is second in prominence. We used a font slightly smaller than the one used for TKNK, but larger than that used for the “message” portion of TK.

We considered various options for the placement of IKD. Popular options were:

- To right-justify IKD, mirroring its placement in the Japanese TK.
- To space IKD equidistant between TKNK and the message section.

We decided to place IKD just below TKNK, and centered, because:

- IKD has an especially close relationship with TKNK.
- When we pray, we should pray to IKD and TKNK together.
- While right justifying IKD makes sense and has appeal to a person knowledgeable about TK and Konkokyo (i.e., the placement of the okekkakai in the worship hall), for most readers it would appear odd – perhaps a typographical error.
- Centering IKD, along with the rest of the TK, helps to support the image that IKD is between TKNK and people.

~ Divine Mediator ~

As with TKNK, for most English speaking people the phrase “Ikigami Konko Daijin” has no meaning. We felt that, for our audience, it was important to clarify what IKD means – especially for non-believers. We used the same phrase that is being proposed for the revision of the “Declaration of the Konko Faith.” The intent behind the term “Divine Mediator” is to capture:

- The conventional interpretation of “Ikigami Konko Daijin” within the context of TK is that it refers to the eternal Divine Spirit that was born in Konko Daijin and continues to perform Toritsugi for us now and forever.
- The Founder started his prayers with IKDTKNK. He was not praying to himself, but to the Divine Spirit (Ikigami or Wake-mitama) which is “a piece of Kami” within him. Depending on the context, it may be possible to translate IKD as “Divinity within KD” or “Divine Spirit within KD.”
- Another important interpretation is that “Ikigami Konko Daijin” represents Kami’s wish for man. Kami is asking each of us to live our lives such that an “ikigami” is born within each of us. This represents our goal as believers.
- Yet another insightful interpretation – IKD is our role model. Kami wants us to live our

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lives as KD lived his, and become an Ikigami.

- Note: There was a very strong consensus that we should NOT use the term “Living God” in describing IKD, even though that is the literal translation of Ikigami.
- Note: There is some concern that using “Divine” in describing IKD risks the mis-interpretation that we believe in two separate gods. We considered using the term “Eternal” instead of “Divine,” but did not think that fully communicated the nature of IKD.

**Pray sincerely,
With all your heart.
Be one with Kami.**

This stanza is an interpretation of the phrase “*Isshin ni negae.*” In Japanese, this phrase is in “command form,” and represents Kami’s desire – what Kami wants from humanity.

According to current Konkokyo theology, “*Isshin ni negae*” has three meanings:

- Pray without doubt.
- Pray wholeheartedly, with a single heart.
- Hearts unified with the heart of Kami, or one with Kami (“*Isshin*”). (Kami’s heart and people’s heart match. People’s hearts are in harmony with Kami.)

- Teaching (edited excerpt): “*A person [‘s Mitama spirit] shall live forever if he or she receives the blessings of Tenchi Kane no Kami. If you want to receive this blessing, become one [heart] with Tenchi Kane no Kami.*” (Gorikai III #104, pg 106)
- Teaching (re-interpreted): “*Konko Sama said, “If one prays wholeheartedly, one can receive divine blessings because a living kami resides in your heart. Don’t believe in a dead kami. I pray with the same heart as Tenchi Kane no Kami.”* (GI 37)

**Kami’s blessings begin within
Hearts grateful and caring,
In harmony and joy.**

This stanza is an interpretation of the phrase “*Okage wa waga kokoro ni ari.*” In Japanese, this phrase is in “statement form,” and also represents Kami’s desire – what Kami wants humanity to understand.

- Literally: Okage is found in / exists in waga-kokoro - means realizing Kami’s blessings - Kami’s wishes, not necessarily what people request
- Wagakokoro means having a piece of Kami in our heart, or a heart of Kami.
- The phrase “Waga kokoro” means, on one level, “one’s own heart.” And it would mean

ONLY that if it had been written in hiragana or in the usual kanji for “waga” 我. However, the Founder used two kanji for “waga” that have other, deeper meanings and nuances. For “WA”, he used the Kanji for Yawaragu, which means:

- Harmony
- Soft / gentle
- How we feel toward / interact with others, getting along with others (“Caring”)
- Part of the original derivation for this Kanji is the Japanese term “kuwae-ru,” which means sum, or total.
- A teaching that Sanokichi Sunami Sensei received from the Founder (In the Japanese Konko Daijin, A Biography; not in the English version.):
 - “Wa” is the kanji meaning “being softened” or “becoming friendly”
 - The kanji can also be read as “kuwae-ru” (add)
- From an article in the November 2008 edition of “Ametsuchi”:
 - Waga kokoro spreads, or adds, to the world. Wagakokoro is contagious.
 - This teaching says that ‘wagakokoro’ will be spread widely in the world in due time,

through the process that the first person who receives the blessing of ‘wagakokoro’ would then light the fire in a second person’s heart to make another ‘wagakokoro.’

- Again, from the teaching of Sanokichi Sunami Sensei, the kanji used for “Ga” in “wa ga kokoro” means “Iwau” and “Yorokobu” and comes from the “Ga” in Shukuga (celebration):
 - The feeling from the Shinto Celebration Day – “iwau.” (“Grateful”)
 - The joy of living one with Kami- yorokobu (“Joy”)
- The phrase “Grateful and caring” was cause for much discussion. There was no debate that the concepts of gratitude and caring are core Konkokyo principles, but are they reflected in Tenchi Kakitsuke? Upon in-depth discussion on this point with several ministers, we became comfortable with the fact that gratitude and caring are legitimately a part of Tenchi Kakitsuke.
 - Caring relates to the feeling we have toward others and how we interact with them (“one of the meanings of “wa”), and
 - Gratitude relates to the special feeling Japanese people in the Edo period felt toward various kami on the special shinto celebration day (“Ga”).

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- Gratitude is also core to the process of how one realizes Okage. Without gratitude, one cannot realize Okage. As the Founder taught: *“There is a certain true way of realizing divine blessings. After realizing divine blessings, you must never forget your gratitude. Forget, and you shall regret. You will be unable to realize divine blessings later on. If you do not forget your gratitude, you can realize future blessings as you wish.”* (Gorikai II, Tsugawa, Haruo 11, p. 236)

Look to Kami always,

Now and forever.

On this very day, pray.

Kongetsu konnichi de tanomei

- “Tanomei” is, like Stanza 1, in command form: This is Kami speaking to us, telling us what to do. The verb “tanomu” means “to request, to ask” also “to rely upon, to depend upon, to trust in.” Even though it can be said to include the meaning of “to pray,” the verb is clearly different from the verb used in the first stanza: “negae” which has been rendered “pray.” By using “Look to Kami,” we tried to capture all these meanings, but especially the idea of relying on, depending on Kami, trusting Kami always, for everything.

“Kongetsu konnichi”

- “Kongetsu konnichi” means, literally, “this month, this day,” or “today, everyday, and always/forever.”

“Kongetsu konnichi DE”

- The particle “DE” adds another important layer of meaning, telling us HOW we should pray, HOW we should rely on Kami: with the intensity of feeling contained in the phrase “kongetsu konnichi.” And what is that feeling? It is the feeling of awe / closeness / joy / appreciation that one feels toward Kami on the day of the special Kami celebration (was after fall harvest – now celebrated on New Years Day). We should think of today and everyday, even every moment as precious—as precious as this Shinto celebration day. So in this last line, we are told to pray, to look to Kami always and pray as if it were the day of intense celebration expressed in the phrase “Kongetsu konnichi.” (This phrase may be found written on lanterns used in this region on shinto festival days.)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We were supported by an outstanding advisory team to help us identify the key messages / nuances reflected in the original (Japanese) Tenchi Kakitsuke and to critique our efforts.

A huge thank you to the following senseis in Japan, Hawaii, and North America, whose guidance and encouragement were invaluable to this Refresh:

<i>Rev. Yoshitsugu Fukushima</i>	<i>Rev. Koichi Konko</i>	<i>Rev. Joanne Tolosa</i>
<i>Rev. Shoichi Izumi</i>	<i>Rev. Saijiro Matsuda</i>	<i>Rev. Nobuharu Uzunoe</i>
<i>Rev. Takao Kishii</i>	<i>Rev. Hisami Okamoto</i>	<i>Rev. Shinji Yamada</i>
<i>Rev. Yoshito Kogawa</i>	<i>Rev. Hiroshi Takebe</i>	<i>Rev. Edna Yano</i>
<i>Rev. Kiyoji Konko</i>	<i>Rev. Motoo Tanaka</i>	<i>Rev. Yasuhiro Yano</i>

Live with faith,
Alan Matsui

150TH ANNIVERSARY by Rev. Roderick Hashimoto

This is the 150th year of the Divine Call to our Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin. On November 15, 1859, he received this request from Tenchi Kane No Kami to give up his life as a farmer and to perform Toritsugi Mediation. This is the beginning of the Konko Faith.

This is a year to celebrate and pay homage to our Founder and to Tenchi Kane No Kami. We will learn more about the Divine Call this year through the KCNA Regional

Seminars, the Faith Training Seminars and the KCNA Summer Conference.

This year, we will have a pilgrimage to our Headquarters in Japan on October 8-9 and attend the Grand Ceremony on October 10th 2009. I hope we all can attend this special occasion. (*Please see page 29 for more information.*) I hope that together, we can all learn more about the importance of the Divine Call and enrich our own faith.



Rev. Roderick Hashimoto is the Chief Administrative Minister of KCNA and the Head Minister at the Konko Church of Vancouver.

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YOUTH COLUMN by Ms. Jeddie Kawahatsu



*Ms. Jeddie Kawahatsu
is a believer at the Konko
Church of San Francisco.*

*Email her through
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Last year, I began my search for a retail job. At first, I was very picky about where I applied and only chose places I thought would be fun. Realizing I couldn't be choosy after a month of no replies, I applied for as many places as possible and was completely surprised when I *did* receive an offer from a shoe store a week later.

I love shoes and for a few weeks, I was happy to be selling them and I even got a free pair on my first day of work. Then, the holiday season came and I was asked to hand out coupons outside because of my “bubbly, happy, and outgoing” personality. After an hour though, I was no longer happy or bubbly. People either took the coupon quickly without a thank you or they hurried past me roughly. The rejection was hard not to take personally and I started dreading going to work. Soon, I was simply holding out the coupons without saying anything.

One day, I was asked to fix some shoes in the front window display. A homeless woman came up to the glass on the other side, put her hand on the window and peered in at the shoes with a look of longing on her face. It

had never crossed my mind that there were people out there who did not have suitable shoes to wear.

On my way home, I could not stop thinking about that woman and began to realize the blessings I'd been receiving. I was so fortunate to receive a job when so many are unemployed and I was lucky that it dealt with something I love. Even being around bosses and co-workers that were friendly and generous was a blessing.

The next time they asked me to hand out coupons, I was ready to work with a heart full of appreciation for the things around me. This made it easier to work and the hours flew by. I also made it a point to say thank you to those who took the coupon. This is in part tribute to my dad who is always telling me to say ‘thank you’ more. I realize now that the more I say it, the more I hear it around me.

Even if school seems tough, your job seems boring, or you feel unfulfilled, take a breath. Use this moment to realize all the things you do have and all the things you enjoy and find a way to make this a part of your everyday thoughts.

2009 MWSS REPORT by Mrs. Tokiye Kubo

This time our MWSS was held at the Radisson Hotel & Resorts in the city of San Jose.

Many ladies attended the seminar on January 23, 24 & 25.

I was very grateful and appreciative for the great efforts and sincere goyo of the ladies to attend this seminar. Also, I strongly understand that it is because these ladies perform goyo devotedly, this Konko kyo has continued to prosper and receive blessings.

With everyone's efforts, donations, and duties to run the meeting, it went smoothly.

I mediated my thankfulness to Konko sama.

I wish and pray their health and goyo will prosper and continue to receive blessings.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the ladies again for holding the meeting here in San Jose this year, and coming from far away because of their respect and concern for Rev. Haruko Ishiwata. Ladies, please take care of yourselves.

Thank you again.



Mrs. Tokiye Kubo is the Hokyo at the Konko Church of San Jose.

Email her through sanjose@konkofaith.org



GROUP PHOTO OF THE 18th ANNUAL MISSIONARY WOMEN SOCIETY SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS

TOP: Rev. Joanne Tolosa, Rev. Hideko Oya, Mrs. Tokiye Kubo, Rev. Toshiko Kishii, Rev. Michie Uzunoe, Mrs. Alice Kawahatsu

BOTTOM: Rev. Lisa Uzunoe, Rev. Haruko Ishiwata, Rev. Kanako Takeuchi

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THE HEART OF KANJI by Rev. Masato Kawahatsu



Rev. Masato Kawahatsu is a Senior Minister at the Konko Church of San Francisco and Director of Shin Shin Gakudo Spiritual Training Center in South SF.

Email him at konkoSF2@sbcglobal.net

Today I will be talking about 改新 *Kai Shin* or *New Change*. In English, *Kai* 改 means to change or reform. The character consists of two parts; the left side representing a person sitting down, while the character to the right represents a whip. As a whole, the character is expressing that through punishment, a person who has done bad things can change.

Shin 新 means new and consists of three parts in the character. The upper left side is a symbol for a person standing while the character below it represents a tree. The character to the right of that illustrates an ax. The character as a whole is showing that when a tree is cut down by an ax, it makes new lumber to make new things.

As you know, Mr. Barack Obama was recently elected and inaugurated as the president of the United States. He has many new ideas for changing our country and the world. However, he cannot accomplish this alone. We must all work towards positive change in our communities and the world.

I believe that the most important change needed is the change from a material society to one of spirituality. Especially in these hard economic times, we must be appreciative and thankful for everything that we have our friends, family, and blessings.

I was born in 1946 in Japan right after World War II. At the time, there was a great shortage of many things such as food, shelter, transportation, electricity, and many other things. Everyone struggled, but still they practiced faith and were spiritually at peace. Now, I am 62 and I see that the world has changed so much since then. People are spending more time and energy acquiring material goods that they are forgetting about their inner happiness. In order for us to be truly happy, we must find a balance between the material and the spiritual.

I would like to share a story with you about the small villages in the East. The people that were living there were happy for a while and although they were poor they were surviving. Soon, the families began to

have more problems than usual. When city people came to the village to sell things such as televisions, computers, and cars, the village people could not afford anything.

The city people made a bargain with the village people. If they sold their daughters to the city people, they could afford the expensive items. Some families agreed and sold their daughters for the televisions and cars. Though they were happy for a while, this caused much unhappiness and many broken families.

This story reached a group of Konko believers in Japan who were saddened about the problems of the village people. They decided to visit the town and teach the townspeople and their daughters how to knit. The group also helped to sell their products in Japan. Through this, they were able to be self-sustaining once again without having to separate their families. This is a great example of balancing the material and spiritual.

I hope you will all think about this deeply and find ways in which to balance your own life as well as help others find balance in theirs.

Kanji characters for
Kai (above) *and* **Shin** (below)

Calligraphy by Rev. Kawahatsu



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2009 KCNA Conference

"The Divine Call"

Regional Chair:

Konko Church of Seattle

Regional Co-Chair:

Konko Church of Portland & Konko Church of Vancouver

July 24 – 26, 2009

Seattle University
Seattle, Washington

Guest Speakers: Rev. Joanne Tolosa, *Konko Church of San Francisco*
Rev. Masanori Takeuchi, *Chicago Propagation Hall*

Registration Fees: includes meals, lodging, linen and registration

Adult	(18 yrs. old + older):	\$180.00 (double occupancy)
	Adult, <i>Single Room available upon request (+ \$ 30):</i>	\$210.00 (single occupancy)
Young Adults	(18-23 yrs. old):	\$140.00 *
	<i>(Must be a Full-Time Student)</i>	<i>* Price includes KCNA Subsidy</i>
Youth	(11-17 yrs. old):	\$135.00 *
		<i>* Price includes KCNA Subsidy</i>
Children	(2-10 yrs. old):	\$ 90.00 *
		<i>* Price includes KCNA Subsidy</i>
Infant	(2yrs. old – younger):	\$ 25.00

Registration must be received no later than June 23rd
(締め切りは、2009年6月23日です)

For registration information, contact the Konko Church of Seattle

(206) 325-4498 or conference@konkofaith.org

<http://konkofaith.org/forms/conferenceregistration.html>

Seattle

by Mr. Takashi Yuasa

Kiyoshi Igawa and **Rev. Michihiro Yuasa** attended the 2008 KCNA House of Delegates meeting on December 6 at Hotel Tomo in San Francisco. Mr. Igawa was the chairman of the meeting.

Rev. Yuasa attended the Minister Board of Review meeting on December 7, which was also held at the Tomo Hotel. He reported that many important issues were discussed at the meeting.

A memorial service for the ancestors of the Kuwanoe and Takahashi families was held on December 10 at the Seattle Church. Special prayers were given for **Kiku Takahashi** (25 years), **Masaji Takahashi** (49 years), and **Takeo Kuwanoe** (25 years). **Tomoko Kuwanoe** attended the service.

The 2009 New Years Service was held on January 1 at the Seattle Church. This was also a

celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Konko Religion. Following the service was the serving of the sacred wine and ozoni at the luncheon.

Mitsue Kodani celebrated her 80th birthday on January 3 at the New Hong Kong Restaurant in Seattle. Well over 100 of her family, friends, and Seattle Church members attended the celebration. Congratulations Mrs. Kodani!

The Japanese Community Service of Seattle held its New Year celebration on January 10 at the Japanese School in Seattle. Rev. Yuasa attended the celebration.

A memorial service was held on January 14 at the Seattle Church for the Ikeda family ancestors. Specifically for **William Ikeda** (17 years), **Ray Hiroshi Sato** (31 years), and **Toku Sakai** (35 years). **Setsuko Ikeda** attended the service.

Request from 2009 Conference Committee

At this year's Conference, we would like to have a retrospective photo slideshow featuring photos of the past year's events (July 2008-July 2009), as well as photos of those Believers who have passed away.

We would love to show the events and people from your church, so we are asking all Churches and Believers who have these photos to send them to conference@konkofaith.org no later than **June 23**.

We hope to hear from you soon!

Bobby Giulietti & Kiyoshi Igawa
2009 Conference Co-Chairs

KONKO REVIEW

Portland

by Rev. Lisa Uzunoe

Our church held our first Holiday Charity Party Potluck on December 13. Combined with good food, good music, line dancing lessons, and even some brave karaoke souls, we all enjoyed ourselves while also raising money for a good cause. This year, donations were utilized to purchase gifts for several deserving foster children under the caring arms of the Division of Children and Family Services.

Our 2008 Holiday Fundraising Goal was to help 5 children with their wish lists. With everyone's support and donations, we were able to help three times as many! Thank you very much! We also would like to thank **Michele Fukawa, Atsuko Akagi, Tomiye Akagi, Karen Sunada, Teresa Jackson, and Amy Uzunoe-Chin** for volunteering their time to making this event a success!

We had an unusual amount of snow for Portland which froze all kinds of activity throughout the city. Our End of the Year Service was rescheduled, and many people came to help shovel the sidewalks and parking lot by hand. Thank you!

This year, our 23rd Annual Mochitsuki Fundraiser on December 29-31 fell on a Mon-Wed. However, we had just enough people to allow us to make it. Some came dedicatedly everyday at the church earlier in the morning to cover for people

who could not make it, others took off work to volunteer, and those who could not physically help brought us wonderful treats to keep us going! It was truly due to everyone's help and hard work that our annual Mochitsuki fundraiser was able to continue. With Kami's blessings, all the snow and ice melted just in time to allow safe travel for our volunteers, delivery, and customers. Thank you again!

Especially in difficult times, gathering with people who care to support and pray for you during the New Year brings hope and warmth into our lives. It was nice to see everyone at the New Year's Day Service on January 1 and thank you to everyone who brought delicious dishes for the New Year's Party Potluck on January 4!

The visiting **Rev. Nobuharu Uzunoe** was able to help **Revs. Michie & Amy** (who are usually attending the MWSS) with the Community Mochitsuki at PCC Sylvania on January 17. We reached out to every corner to find volunteers and had a record 29 people on site, 36 including kids and grandmas, WOW! Again another successful year. Thank you Kami sama!

Revs. Michie & **Lisa Uzunoe** attended the Missionary Women's Society Seminar from January 23-25.

An excerpt from Rev. Lisa's article:

These women behind the scenes of the churches have a tough role with the networking, sharing, collaborating and supporting they do to keep the churches alive and welcoming. And of course, most of this happens on time not written on the "schedule." Some of them also have the challenges of cultural and language barriers to overcome. Listening to and seeing this happen, being a part of it, was

truly a rewarding experience. Also, I felt truth in our Founder's teaching that talks about faith being something that one can do no matter how old one gets, as you could feel the virtue of Rev. Haruko Ishiwata, Rev. Toshiko Kishii, and Mrs. Kubo just by their presence and sincere words of appreciation. It was an honor to meet with and share with women so dedicated to this Faith and their churches. Again, thank you to everyone!

Fresno

by Ms. Suzanne Okazaki

Rev Masaru Okazaki and **Suzanne Okazaki** attended the HOD and MBR meeting in San Francisco from December 6-7.

On New Year's Day at 10am, church members along with friends observed the New Year's Service. We were blessed with fellowship and ate traditional Japanese New Year's food including ozone (freshly made rice cakes and soup).

On Jan 4th at 2pm, the Aikido of Fresno held its annual Grand Opening Ceremony at the Kashinoki-Dojo. The members embrace each new year with a grand opening and Rev Masaru Okazaki offered prayers for their safety and well being as they

continue to practice and improve their aikido throughout the coming new year.

On Jan 25th our church held the first monthly service of the New Year. Members took part in the annual drinking of Gonshinshu (sacred rice wine) and there was the traditional *fukibiki* (prize drawing with Kami-sama's teachings attached). Fellowship and a delicious lunch followed.

KONKO REVIEW

Lancaster

by Rev. Toshio Ota

Rev. Toshio Ota attended the HOD and MBR meetings held at San Francisco from December 6-7.

A Monthly Service was held on December 7 where a Special prayer for **Ethen Akira Lim** (3) for his Bilateral Tube Removal, Bilateral Myringotomy Tube Placement, and Adenoidectomy Surgery was given. After the relatives held a “Well Wish” Party for him on the 13th, Ethen had a successful surgery at Long Beach Memorial Hospital on the 26th and recovered well at home immediately afterwards.

It snowed for a day and a half in the Antelope Valley area including our city, Lancaster. It was the first time in 20 years and there was a record snowfall of 8” to 10”. All schools were closed for two days, so of course **Kayla** and **Iris Ota** enjoyed playing in the snow with Yoshiko-sensei.

The year-end appreciation service was held on December 31. We thanked Kami-sama for all the things happened throughout the year 2008.

Rev. Yoshiko Ota did *goyo* as one of the Officiants in the New Years Day Service at Whittier Rose-Hill Church. As we enjoyed a wonderful Japanese style luncheon, we exchanged some encouraging words to each other to pray to Kami and to do our best every day in these economically unstable days.

Revs. Ota attended the Bando Mitsuhiro-Kai 40th Anniversary held at Marriott Hotel in Torrance, CA on January 25. Over 100 people gathered to congratulate **Madam Bando Mitsuhiro** for her life long commitment in teaching Japanese classical dance. Yoshiko-sensei was one of the first groups of her students. The dancing lessons first started at Konko Church of Los Angeles.

San Diego

by Ms. Jennifer Tashiro

Congratulations to **Kimiyo Spies!** She received a Hokyo certificate from Gohombu. All of the church members are looking forward to her goyo for the church.

A Monthly Service was held by church members on December 14.

The New Year’s Service was officiated by **Rev. Masato Kawahatsu** on January 4. We celebrated the new year by making New Year’s resolutions and eating osechi and ozoni.

Mutsuko Tashiro went to Japan on January 16 to visit her mother and for ohaka mairi (visit ancestors’ graves). She returned safely on 1/23.

Los Angeles

by Mr. Roy Nishida

The annual yearend grand-cleanup of the church premises on December 7 was done by many hands – thank you all. The worship for the year’s last Monthly Service were led by Hokyo **Roy Nishida** as the HM was away in San Francisco to attend the KCNA meetings during the weekend.

After **Rev. Alfred Tsuyuki** performed the year’s last Monthly Mitama on December 21, the congregation learned the sad news of the passing of **Mrs. Junko Shibasaki**. Her husband, **Dr. Eugh Shibasaki**, preceded her a few years ago and they were both long time church elders. Rev. Tsuyuki performed the service for the Shibasaki family.

The annual *mochitsuki* event on December 27 was in good hands of many willing helpers and it seemed like most old timers retired from the event

after many years of pounding. This year, the only seniors were Roy Nishida and **Mrs. Noriko Kawai**. However, it’s very encouraging the event is now being run by the young generation of people. Thank you all for participating! It was nice to see **Mr. and Mrs. James Cole** and their daughter.

To kick off the start of the New Year, Rev. Tsuyuki served *omiki* to well wishers coming to the church for *hatsumode* on January 1.

Rev. Tsuyuki invoked at the gathering of 300+ members of the Monterey Park Senior Citizens Club at their annual New Year’s party on January 17.

After the New Year’s first Monthly Mitama Service on January 18, church members gathered for the members-at-large New Year meeting and party. All enjoyed the delicious potluck luncheon.

Announcement for the Konko Church of Los Angeles’

Tenchi Kane No Kami Grand Ceremony & 80th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, May 17, 2009 at 10:00 am

Location:

Konko Church of Los Angeles
2924 E. First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90033

KONKO REVIEW

San Francisco *by Rev. Joanne Tolosa*

On December 1, **Mr. Alan Matsui** joined **Mr. Nobusuke Fukuda** and **Mr. Eiji Ayabe** as one of our Minister's Assistants (Hokyo). Congratulations, Al!

The group sharing of Konko Teachings and their significance in our lives has been reinstated at our prayer services as of January 18. We are enjoying this forum to share our faith, learn more about Konko Faith and about each other after a service. We used *Live with Faith* by the late Rev. Yoshiaki Fukuda and discussed the first chapter "Be Sincere." We look forward to the next chapter "Be Joyful & Appreciative" – a challenging topic during these challenging times.

We held our **30-Day Winter Special Prayer Service** at 6:30 am from January 6 through February 4. Congratulations to **Mr. Clifton Reeves** for attending **every day** (*along with Rev. Kawahatsu*)! We averaged 6-8 people daily, with our biggest turnout the last day – 12 of us! In past years, the average was 3-4 people. Not surprisingly, our Shinto Sodai members were the most faithful to embrace the challenge of adversity in the cold and the distance. Congratulations to all who took this physical challenge and spiritual training to help them in times of adversity throughout the year. Our three ministers rotated leading the prayer service in their unique styles. Join us in 2010!



New Signboard at KCSF

Our new front yard signboard message is up! A welcoming message to passersby is on the left, and to the right, the new English version of "Tenchi Kakitsuke" for public usage. (*See photo*) Kudos to Al Matsui for taking the initiative and seeing it through to the completion of this outreach project!

On February 6, **Rev. Joanne Tolosa** and **Rev. Masato Kawahatsu** performed the funeral service for the late **Ms. Eleanor Josephine (Lady Eleanor) Stout** – spiritual birthday 1/23/09. **Mrs. Alice Kawahatsu** was the MC. Temple Sherith Israel's **Rabbi Emeritus** also expressed words of remembrance and recited the *Kaddish* prayer. Our deepest sympathy for their loved ones.

Chicago

by Rev. Masanori Takeuchi

On January 1, with feelings of awe, gratitude and joy welling up in his heart, **Rev. Masanori Takeuchi** stepped out of the Konko Propagation Hall of Chicago a little bit before 4:00 am and prayed to Heaven and Earth. The New Year's Day Ceremony was held on that day at 1:00 pm. More people than he had expected joined this celebration, and he delivered the following sermon:

This year Konkokyo will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of our Founder's receiving the Divine Call around the world. It is with great honor that we here in Chicago plan to commemorate this great event by establishing this propagation hall as a church. We have chosen Sunday, November 1, 2009, as the date for the Opening Ceremony of the Konko Church of Chicago. I will do my best to develop

peace and joy in my heart through everything that happens in my life; with all my heart, seeking always to connect to Tenchi Kane No Kami through Ikigami Konko Daijin. That is the essence of this Divine Revelation. I pray that Kami will be most pleased for us to open a church in Chicago with this spirit this year."

Then Rev. Takeuchi shared his New Year's poems with the attendance (See "Editor's Notes" of KR 351). During the service, the worship room was filled with joy and happiness and after the service, everyone enjoyed talking over the Japanese traditional New Year's meals that were prepared by **Rev. Kanako Takeuchi** and their daughter, **Hiroko Takeuchi Chon**.

Please Mark Your Calendar! You Are Cordially Invited to Our —

Tenchi Kane No Kami Grand Ceremony & 20th Memorial for the Late Rev. Fumio Matsui

Sunday, June 7, 2009 at 11:00 am



Location:

Konko Church of San Francisco
1909 Bush Street
(Reception in Social Hall
immediately following)

Please RSVP by May 13, 2009

sanfrancisco@konkofaith.org

415-931-0453

KONKO REVIEW

San Jose

by Ms. Brianna Nakayama

Rev. Byron Ishiwata & Mr. George Yano represented the church at the House of Delegates meeting on December 6.

The year end appreciation and purification service was held on December 21.

The time for the New Year's Day service was changed to 10 am for the first time and many of the members enjoyed the later time.

Mr. Richard Omori, a longtime member of the church, passed away on January 20. We pray for his spiritual peace and happiness.

Rev. Haruko Ishiwata and **Mrs. Tokiye Kubo** represented the church at the Missionary Women's Society Meeting from January 23-25. Many thanks to **Rev. Michie Uzunoe** for selecting a location in San Jose so that Rev. Haruko could attend and for her hard work and effort in organizing the Seminar.

18 people attended the Northern California Regional Seminar held on January 31, with **Rev. Masato Kawahatsu** as the speaker. Many thanks again to **Irene Yano-Greenfield** for hosting the event at her house in Palo Alto.

GROUP PHOTO OF
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL SEMINAR
PARTICIPANTS



Photo courtesy of Rev. Rodney Yano

Gardena

by Mr. Craig Hashimoto

Fusako Tamura of Glendale, Arizona celebrated her 82nd birthday on December 11.

Mochitsuki was held after the year-end service on December 28. After the pounding of mochi, food was served. It was a grateful event. Everyone was full.

The New Year's Day service took place and everyone received goshinmai. The New Year's Day breakfast celebration meal of mochi, ozoni and more was served.

The first monthly service of the year took place on January 11 at 10am. The New Year's party was held after the service.

Scott and Cindy Arakawa welcomed the arrival of their first child on February 2. **Nathan Arakawa** was born in Seoul, South Korea and weighed in at 6 lbs, 8 oz. He is Rev. Takeda's third great-grandchild.

Sacramento

by Mr. Shin Oya

A brand new year has come upon us when the Konko Church of Sacramento had started the renovation during January of 2009. We pray that the renovation will be complete in 2 to 3 months.

We are very fortunate to have this renovation in the 150th Anniversary Year of the establishment of the Konko Faith.

Vancouver

by Dr. Karen Kobayashi

As representatives of the Konko Church of Vancouver, **Rev. Hashimoto** and **Karen Kobayashi** attended the KCNA House of Delegates meeting in San Francisco on December 6th. Following this, on December 7th, Rev. Hashimoto attended the Ministry Board of Review meeting.

On December 21st, we held our year-end and purification service. To mark the beginning of the

new year, we had a wonderful service and onorai lunch on January 1st. Although it was an extremely snowy day, **Mrs. Sayoko Hisanaga** was able to brave the elements and make it to service.

Sadly, on February 4th, **Mrs. Ayako Ikeda**, the sister-in-law of Mrs. Hisanaga, passed away at the age of 97 years.

KONKO REVIEW

Toronto

by Rev. Takao Kishii

After our Mitama Service on January 18, we held our New Year's Party & General Meeting and elected new officers as listed below:

CHURCH CORPORATION:

President: **Koji Morishita**
Vice President: **Bob Tanaka**
Secretary: **Jennifer Shimoda**
Treasurer: **Jim Kobayashi**

SHINTO-KAI:

President: **David Fujimoto**
Vice President: **Tomiko Kuroda**
Secretary: **Kay Morishita**
Treasurer: **Rosa Kimoto**

SHINTO SODAI:

Setsuko Yoshida, George Fujimoto, Haruco Morishita, Koji Morishita, and Jim Kobayashi.

David Fujimoto will also be our new HOD representative for 2009, replacing Tomiko Kuroda, whom we thank for serving many years.

On January 11, **Stephane and Deanne Rochon** became proud parents of **Lilian Kiyoko Rochon.**

On February 20, **Jason and Andrea Yoshida** became proud parents of **Joshua Keiji Yoshida.**

Congratulations and best wishes to these new parents!

Photo Request to Reporters & Churches

The limited number of pages for the print version of the *Konko Review* often means that only text information from the churches gets published each month. Pictures included with submitted articles don't always make it since they take up a lot of room on the page. While people can read about your church's events, they can't actually *see* them.

However, we'd like to do something about that. If you have any photos of activities, services, or people that'd you like to share with the readers in KCNA, please send them to us and they will be published in the online *KR* version starting in May.

Also, keep in mind that while this *KR* will be posted as a PDF file on a hidden page for you to view or download, you should carefully consider which photos to submit as they can be "available to the general public."

Ready? Here's where to send them:

- konkoreview@konkofaith.org
- Photos for Ed.
PO Box 221130
Sacramento, CA 95822

- Ed.

改新（かいしん）

New Change

川初 正人

改（かい）の左側は人が坐っている形で、右側はムチです。罪を犯した人を坐らせてムチを打ち革ませる事。新（しん）の左側の上は立つで、その下は木です。右側はオノです。立っている木をオノで切り倒した新しい木材の事で、新しいという意味になりました。改新とは新しく改まる、変えることです。

米国では、黒人では初めての新大統領、オバマ氏が選ばれました。

大統領宣誓式には史上空前の参加者で2百万人以上の参加者で埋め尽くされました。彼のうたい文句は改新、変革でありました。もちろん彼だけの力では社会を改新することは難しい事でありませぬ。私達一人一人や家族そして社会全体が改新してゆかねばなりません。オバマ氏にはいろいろとアイデアがあるでしょう。でも、もっとも新しく改新されるべきことは経済成長ではなく、物質文明社会から精神文明社会に変わる事ではないかと思ひます。精神文明社会とは、たとえあまり物質的に恵まれなくても、感謝が出来、今あるもの、家族や友達、神様のお恵みに満足し、平和な心、喜びの心をもつ事が出来る事です。人々は長年物の繁栄の中で生きてきたので心の平和を見失いました。

私は1946年日本において生まれました。其れは第二次世界大戦直後でした。其の当時は全てに渡り不足していました。日本人の半数はホームレスでした。私の両親は子供3人連れて韓国から山口県の防府に帰り、すぐに私が生まれたのですが、父はすぐに四国の松山市に近い島に布教したので、母一人で4人の子供を育てました。私が2歳ぐらゐの時、兄達が私の世話をしていました、私のことを忘れて遊んでいた時、私は町中を一人で歩き回り、警察につかまったそうです。それはダイバー（おむつ）をどこかで失い、丸裸で歩いていたからだそうです。其の当時は車も無く、誘拐する人もいなかったようです。とにかく皆苦しい生活をしていたのです、でも、生きていただけで満足していた時代でした。今、私は62歳です。

この62年間で世界は随分と変わりました。物質的には随分と豊かになってきましたが、心はそれに伴い貧しくなってきました。今は物と心のバランスをとりもどさなければならない時代であると思ひます。

これはアジヤの貧しい国で起きた事ですが、大変なショックを受けました。

そこに住んでいる人達はとても貧しい農民ですが、幸せに自立して生活していました。ところが問題が起つてきました。都会の人達が、日本や米国、その他の先進国から輸入した品物（テレビ、コンピューター、車、その他）を田舎に持ち込み販売を始めたのです。しかし、皆まずしいのでそれを買える人はいません。それで、都会から来た人が、娘を売れば買うことが出来るともちかけました。それで娘達をそれらの品物のかわりに売り始めたのです。其れがために家族が崩壊し、とても悲しい結果となりました。それを聞きつけた日本の金光教のあるグループが田舎に出向き、手助けすることはないかを求めました。そこで、編物が出来る人を捜し、娘さん達に其の技術を教え、出来上った物を日本で売りました。それによりまた自立の生活が出来、娘さん達が犠牲にならなくてすむようになったのです。これは一つの例ですが、今の現状を深く考え、どうすればバランスの取れた家族を、社会を築くことが出来るかを生み出していきたいものです。

KONKO REVIEW

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR for March & April 2009

Schedule of Events

- March 29
Southern California Regional Seminar at **Gardena**

MARCH 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 SoCal RS	30	31				

Schedule of Events

- April 5
Portland's
Tenchi Kane no Kami Service
- April 12
Lancaster's
Tenchi Kane no Kami Service
- April 19
San Jose & Vancouver's
Tenchi Kane no Kami Services
- April 25
Northwest Regional Seminar at
Portland
- April 26
Sacramento & Toronto's
Tenchi Kane no Kami Services
East Regional Seminar at
Toronto

APRIL 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 Portland	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Lancaster	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Sj, Vancouver	20	21	22	23	24	25 NW RS
26 Sac., TO	27	28	29	30		

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR for May 2009

MAY 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Fresno	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Gardena	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 LA (80th)	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Seattle	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Chicago, Whittier - RH						

Schedule of Events

- May 3
Fresno's
Tenchi Kane no Kami Service
- May 10
Gardena's
Tenchi Kane no Kami Service
- May 17
Los Angeles'
Tenchi Kane no Kami Service & 80th Anniversary
- May 24
Seattle's
Tenchi Kane no Kami Service
- May 31
Chicago & Whittier-RH's
Tenchi Kane no Kami Service

KCNA Pilgrimage to Japan for the 150th Anniversary of the Konko Faith



To help believers who wish to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Konko Faith in Japan this October, the KCNA Office has arranged for accommodations in Konko City for October 8-9.

The cost is \$30 per person per night. Space is limited and more information is coming soon.

Contact Rev. Hashimoto of KCNA Office

- 150tour@konkofaith.org
- 604-637-7511

Registration Deadline: August 31, 2009

KONKO REVIEW

CONTACT INFORMATION for Administrative Offices

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

KCNA Office	PO Box 221130 Sacramento, CA 95822	800-719-KCNA	kcnaoffice@konkofaith.org
KMH Office	1744 Liliha St, Suite 304 Honolulu, HI 96817	808-536-9078	kmhcenter@hawaiiantel.net

NEWS from Administrative Office

At the request of the House of Delegates, a Yahoo! Group has been set up since January to facilitate discussion among themselves throughout the year. Topics include a request for Sunday School materials and suggestions for revising the Children's Alphabet Book. All delegates are expected to enroll in order to stay updated and share progress with their congregations. Contact the Office if you need help registering.

The Youth Program Committee held a meeting in Seattle on February 6-7 to visit the Conference site and discuss goals for the Program. John Katayama is in charge of the 2009 Youth Camp and Bobby Giuliatti is leading the 2009 Young Adult Seminar.

The Office met with the 2009 Conference Committee in Seattle on February 7-8 to visit the Conference site and work out details for logistics.

Registration forms are now available through your church and the website.

The Finance Committee met in San Francisco on February 17 to discuss the preliminary 2010 budget and investment strategies for KCNA funds. They also discussed fundraising ideas for use at the 2009 Conference.

The *Konko Review* is currently undergoing a format update, which includes the new layout this issue and being available online. If you would like to receive the *KR* online instead of a print copy, please email the editor at the address below. People who have previously requested "email-only" newsletters will start receiving them in issue 35-3.

Any comments or suggestions about the new print or online versions can be sent to the editor at konkoreview@konkofaith.org

CONTACT INFORMATION for Local Churches & Propagation Halls

CHURCHES

Fresno	936 Kern Street Fresno, CA 93706	559-266-2762	revmokazaki@aol.com
Gardena	15722 S. Normandie Ave. Gardena, CA 90247	310-327-3349	tenchinoko@sbcglobal.net
Los Angeles	2924 E. 1st Street Los Angeles, CA 90033	323-268-6980	-
Portland	1330 S.E. 92nd Avenue Portland, OR 97216	503-256-4201	muzunoe@hotmail.com
Sacramento	2006 6th Street Sacramento, CA 95818	916-498-1233	yomisu@gmail.com
San Francisco	1909 Bush Street San Francisco, CA 94115	415-931-0453	sanfrancisco@konkofaith.org
San Diego	c/o 4408 Verley Court San Diego, CA 92117	-	kcnaoffice@konkofaith.org
San Jose	284 Washington Street San Jose, CA 95112	408-295-3837	sanjose@konkofaith.org
Seattle	1713 South Main Street Seattle, WA 98144	206-325-4498	tkshyuasa@yahoo.com
Toronto, Canada	398 Kennedy Road Scarborough, ON M1K 2A6	416-261-9619	tokonko@rogers.com
Vancouver, Canada	5319 Sherbrooke Street Vancouver, BC V5W 3M3	604-876-7365	vancouver@konkofaith.org
Whittier-Rose Hill	11513 Sierra Sky Drive Whittier, CA 90601	562-699-5019	krwrh@hotmail.com

PROPAGATION HALLS

Chicago	6447 N. Albany Avenue Chicago, IL 60645	773-465-5406	masanoritakeuchi@sbcglobal.net
Lancaster	2543 West Avenue K-7 Lancaster, CA 93536	661-949-0057	otatoshio@hotmail.com



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EDITOR'S CORNER

Welcome to the newest incarnation of the *Konko Review*!

By the time you read this, you've already seen the changes in the *KR*'s format; bigger pages, a different layout, and a new look for the cover. Soon, we'd like to add additional photo galleries of activities from the churches too.

More than that, we'd like to change the content. Keeping up-to-date on other churches' activities is good, but what are the issues that affect all of us as KCNA believers? What are the topics which make believers get involved today?

This issue's feature article deals with the "refreshed" English version of the **Tenchi Kakitsuke**, the first change in 20 years and in the same year as the 150th Anniversary of the Divine Call to the Founder. Mr. Alan Matsui shares his insights from working on this project during his stay in Hombu last year.

In the next issue, we'll look into the development of the new Prayer Book, the first change again in 20 years. A committee has already been working for over a year, translating new prayers into English and talking about other additions which would make it more useful to people outside of church services.

Speaking of involvement, I'd like to acknowledge Rev. Masanori Takeuchi's dedication for the last 10 years. The *KR* isn't easy, but he served as Editor with patience and grace I can only hope to match.

But on the odd chance you're looking at this before you've actually opened the *KR* for the first time, I hope I haven't ruined anything for you - enjoy reading issue 35-2!

Ed. -Ed.

Send your comments about this issue to Ed. at konkoreview@konkofaith.org

