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**HALEIWA JODO MISSION** 

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# **HALEIWA JODO MISSION**

NOVEMBER, 2022



## JUYA SERVICE

10:00 AM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2022

# IN-PERSON BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

10:00 AM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2022

## KOKUA DAY

9:00 AM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

#### **MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

Shirley Kitamura

(In memory of George Kitamura)

Akiko Nishiyama

(In memory of Edna Umeda)

Brian Kawano

(In memory of Lois Kawano)

Chester Washiashi

(In memory of Lois Kawano)

Judy Nishimura

(In memory of Lois Kawano)

Anonymous

(In memory of Lois Kawano)

#### **OBON DONATIONS**

Candice Kubo

#### HIGAN DONATIONS

Myra Shiratori

#### FAMILY SERVICE DONATIONS

Nadine Matsukawa
Kenneth Masatsugu
Marianne Ono
Grace Iwane
Joan Yamamoto

Dennis Nakamura
Melanie Matsui
David Koizumi
Shinae Sakai

G.

MONTH OF NOVEMBER

3rd YEAR

SAKAI, ROBERT NOV. 6, 2020

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR

13th YEAR

OKUMURA, UME

NOV. 28, 2010

23rd YEAR

OTSUKA, MAE

NOV. 25, 2000

#### FIRST SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER

The first Sunday of November will be a Juya Service starting at 10:00 am at Haleiwa Jodo Mission Buddhist Temple. Lunch will be served. Please join us.

#### OTERA RESTORATION FUND

The Board of the Haleiwa Jodo Mission Buddhist Temple is continuing to plan for the upcoming restoration of the old temple. We gratefully accept your donation to this fund. Thank you for your continuing support.

#### **IN SYMPATHY**

We would like to express our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of the late George Kitamura, who passed away on August 10, 2022. The 49<sup>th</sup> Day service was held at the Haleiwa Jodo Mission on September 26, officiated by Rev. Ezaki.

#### SERMON AT THE FAMILY SERVICE

Rev. Koji Jeff Ezaki Minister of Haleiwa Jodo Mission

My wife and children left for Japan yesterday. This was their first visit to Japan since 2018. Tomomi was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent surgery in Japan in 2018. At that time, they spent three months in Japan. After they returned to Hawaii, COVID occurred in 2020. Now, finally, the COVID test requirement between US and Japan was lifted, so Tomomi decided to visit Japan. They will be staying for only a week, during the autumn break, but I am sure they will enjoy their stay in Japan, seeing their grandpa, grandma, aunt, uncle, and cousins in Osaka and Okayama.

Today, I would like to speak about the simple secrets to success in our life from the Buddhist viewpoint. I think everybody wants to succeed in school, business, or your life plan; get a higher degree, receive a promotion, expand their business, or become How does Buddhism teach the secrets of success in its teachings? There is a very simple teaching by Shakyamuni, on how to succeed in life. To understand this teaching, I will speak about three successful people in history. If we unravel their secrets of success, we can follow what they did and will be able to succeed in any situation. The three are John Rockefeller, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, and Chudapanthaka. Rockefeller is the absolute richest man in the world. I am sure everybody knows his Toyotomi Hideyoshi was the ruler of Japan in It is said that Hideyoshi was the richest 1500.person in the world at that time. And the last one, Chudapanthaka, was one of the disciples of Shakyamuni. He was regarded as one of the Ten Principle Disciples. You might say, "even if we learn from them, we cannot become the richest person in the world." I know but there are common methods to success when we see these three. And it is a simple method. So, let's learn from them.

The first person is John D. Rockefeller. When you hear the name John Rockefeller, you probably associate it with money, considering he was the richest American in history. His fortune at the time of his death in 1937 was estimated at \$409 billion. That was approximately 2% of the entire United States economy. In his autobiography, he says a few days after he got a full-time job when he was a 16-year-old, he decided to keep a strict accounting of his finances in a small, red pocket ledger. One day he lost it at his workplace. Someone picked it up and saw inside and said. "Well, it looks like a financial memo. Wow, there are lots of numbers and items this person bought in it. Let me see.... two pieces of bread, one tip of a pen, and a box of matches..... Oh my goodness. This person must be a stingy guy." As soon as this person knew it was John's ledger, he loudly read what was in it as if everybody can hear. People who heard it made a full of John. However, he continued to keep records and got rid of waste in his expenses to save money. His success story starts with this red pocket ledger. He left the words, "I believe that thrift is essential to well-ordered living." The secret of his success was to keep doing small things even though it is very small things that people miss. The accumulation of small things will eventually lead to success.

The next one is Toyotomi Hideyoshi. First, I have to explain a little about Hideyoshi himself. Hideyoshi was the military leader of Japan from 1582 to 1598. He is very famous, as he built the Osaka castle and Himeji castle which were the biggest castles in Japan. I think some of you have visited there. When Hideyoshi ruled Japan in 1500, it was during the Gold Rush. It is said he was the richest person in the world at that time. The Dutch and Portugues merchants described Japan as a Golden Country in their old literature. As a ruler of Japan, Hideyoshi collected gold and silver from the mines in Japan, and he formed business relationships with European Countries. He, however, was originally from a family of farmers and was very poor. Little by little, he stepped up his life from the bottom to the top.

One day he was asked by his servants the secret of his success. Hideyoshi answered, "If you are given a job, do it your hardest. If you are assigned a position, do it the hardest. Throw yourself at what you do. This is the only way you will succeed." First, Hideyoshi joined the military under the local leader. He started as a low-rank soldier. Later he followed Oda Nobunaga who was regarded as the first "Great Unifier" of Japan. Hideyoshi worked under Nobunaga and was steadily promoted. After Hideyoshi started to work under Nobunaga, he was assigned to the castle's fuel department. Hundreds of people were working in the castle so they needed an abundance of fuel for hot water, used for bathing, cooking, and so on. During winter, charcoals were necessary for heating the rooms. What Hidevoshi did was he investigated much was spent on charcoals. Hideyoshi meticulously checked the fuel expenses and was able to cut the costs down. It is said that because of his efforts, the charcoal expense was cut in half and his boss, Nobunaga, was so happy. Hideyoshi caught his boss's attention. He worked the hardest in all the positions he was assigned. Later Hideyoshi took over Nobunaga's position and became a ruler of Japan.

The third successful person is Chudapanthaka who is a Shaykamuni's disciple. He was the slower of Shakyamuni's students and had the poorest memory. When he was taught a four-line verse, he could not memorize the line even after several days of trying to learn them. Chudapanthaka became a disciple of Shakyamuni with his brother. Because Chudapanthaka was too dull-witted, his brother told

him to go home. Chudapanthaka was crying alone. Shakyamuni saw that and told him to stay and gave him a broom. Then the Enlightened One taught the poor guy four words: Abandon dirt, abandon stain. Chdapanthaka just recited the four words, "Abandon dirt, abandon stain" while he was sweeping the yard. However, he could not even memorize these four words. Whenever he forgot the words, he always went to his master to ask him. Again and again, Shakyamuni taught him politely and patiently. For years and years, as he swept the Chudapanthaka continued to recite, "Abandon dirt, abandon stain" single-mindedly. Then one day, he realized what Shakyamuni was trying to teach him. Dirt symbolized desires and stains for delusions in our minds. He finally realized that discarding desires and delusions from our minds is the way to enlightenment. At that moment he got enlightened and became a Buddha. He just recited only four words but never gave up.

As I said there are common secrets of success among those three people. The secrets of success are very simple. That is, diligent continued efforts, even though small, will lead to your success. Success doesn't mean winning the lottery or making money gambling. Shakvamuni taught us Cause and Effect. What you did will return to you. If you do good deeds, good deeds return to you. If you do bad deeds, bad deeds return to you. The Golden Chain says, "I will try to think pure and beautiful thoughts, to say pure and beautiful words, and to do pure and beautiful deeds, knowing that on what I do now depends my happiness and misery." Even though it is small thoughts, small words, or small deeds, if you continue to keep them with pure and beautiful minds, success may fall on you. What we learned today is a success is the accumulation of small successes.

#### PATIO RESERVATIONS

Rev. Ezaki will take reservations for your party to use the patio at the temple. Dues-paying members will be able to use this temple facility. Please call Rev. Ezaki at 637-4382 to make a reservation.

#### TREASURER'S NOTE

Please bring your membership dues up to date. We are accepting dues for 2023 as well as past year(s) dues for those who haven't yet paid. Annual membership is \$50.00.

#### O-BON SERVICE FOR 2023

The Board of Directors of Haleiwa Jodo Mission has decided the date of our 2023 in person O-bon service for July 21 & 22. Please mark your calendar.

#### THANK YOU: KOKUA DAY

We would like to thank the following members for their help on Kokua Day on October 16, 2022: Sheri, Jess, Melanie, Carrie, Peyton, Janine, Etsuko, Ama, Lani, Tomomi, Miku, and Sae.



(Melanie, Peyton, Carrie, Etsuko, Ama, Lani, Tomomi, Miku, and Sae cleaned the temple grounds)



(Jess, Janine, and Sheri cut the vegetation on the beach)

#### PET MEMORIAL

Haleiwa Jodo Mission prays for your beloved pets who were one of your family members. You can choose a shelf-urn burial or a communal burial with different types of nameplates, depending on your donation amount. Even though you keep the ashes of your pets in your home, bury them in your family grave or niches, or scatter them in your yard, you can still order a name plate of your pets for our Pet Memorial.

# PET MEMORIAL

Available to Members and Non-Members



With Love, We Remember