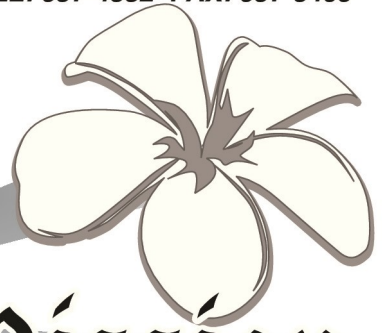
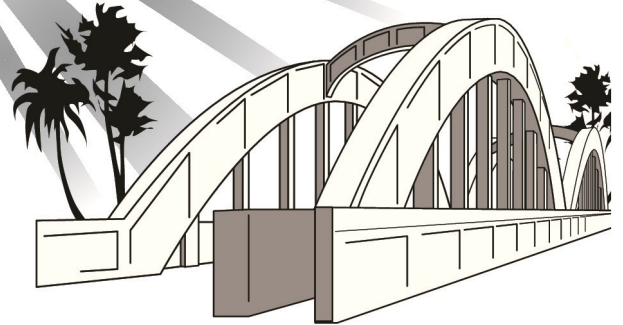
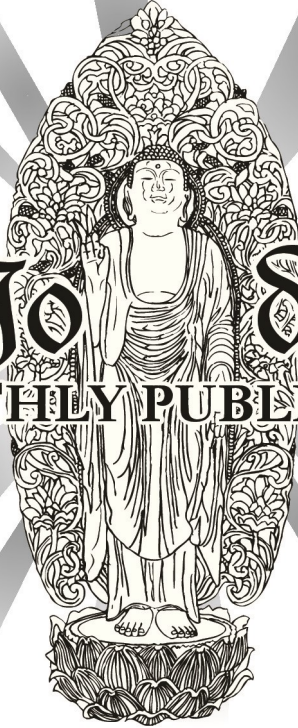


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Haleiwa Jodo Mission

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



JANUARY 2023

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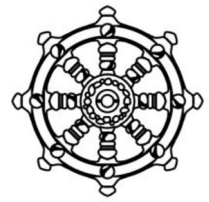
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HALEIWA JODO MISSION

JANUARY, 2023



NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

12:00 AM

SERVICE STARTS AT 11:45 PM ON DECEMBER 31, 2022

TO OVER MIDNIGHT ON JANUARY 1, 2023

LET'S WELCOME 2023 AT HALEIWA JODO MISSION TOGETHER

GYOKI SERVICE

10:00 AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING ON ZOOM

10:00 AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

KOKUA DAY

9:00 AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR 2023

Please refer to this chart for observations of memorial services for the deceased member of your family.

Memorial Service	The Year of Death
1 st Memorial Service	2022
3 rd Memorial Service	2021
7 th Memorial Service	2017
13 th Memorial Service	2011
17 th Memorial Service	2007
23 rd Memorial Service	2001
25 th Memorial Service	1999
27 th Memorial Service	1997
33 rd Memorial Service	1991
37 th Memorial Service	1987
43 rd Memorial Service	1981
47 th Memorial Service	1977
50 th Memorial Service	1974
100 th Memorial Service	1924

BON SCHEDULE IN 2023

The Board of Haleiwa Jodo Mission has decided to observe the 2023 Bon Festival on July 21 and 22, 2023. This year we will return to the pre-pandemic style of bon dance, open to the public, with the bon dance and food booths both nights and the toro nagashi on the second night only. They also have decided on the following schedule for preparing for the two-day Bon Festival:

General Clean-up and setting up the toro shelves
July 2, 2023, at 9:00 am

Toro Making and Yagura building
July 15, 2023, at 8:00 am

Setting up the food booth, etc.
July 20, 2023, at 4:00 pm

Beach clean-up
July 23, 2023, at 6:00 am

Yagura take-down
July 30, 2023, at 9:00 am

SERMON AT THE BODHI DAY SERVICE

Rev. Koji Jeff Ezaki
Minister of Haleiwa Jodo Mission

We are gathered here this morning to observe our Bodhi Day Service or Jodo-e. Bodhi Day is a celebration of Shakyamuni, the founder of Buddhism, who got enlightened 2,500 years ago. Shakyamuni was a prince in India and his name was Siddhartha Gautama. He left his royal palace at a young age and practiced strict monastic living to seek the ideal teaching for mankind. He struggled in his practices of meditating, fasting, and being secluded in the mountains. Obtaining enlightenment was not easy for him. After practicing for several years, he sat down beneath a bodhi tree and meditated. Finally, on December 8, he was enlightened and became a Buddha. The reason we call Bodhi Day Service is that he got enlightened under the bodhi tree. Now, I would like you to watch a short movie on the screen. This movie shows when Siddhartha got enlightened and became Shakyamuni.

(Please type "Lord Buddha Stories - The Great Battle" on YouTube and find the cartoon movie we watched during the service)

In the movie, Siddhartha fought with his enemy, named Mara. First, I would like to read the explanation about Mara from the handout. Let's take a look.

In Buddhism, Mara is the demon who tempted Siddhartha Gautama (Shakyamuni Buddha after he was enlightened) by trying to seduce him with the vision of beautiful women who are often said to be his daughters. In Buddhist teaching, Mara is a tempter, distracting humans from practicing spiritual life by making the mundane alluring or the negative seem positive.

As the definition says, Mara is a demon or devil who disturbs our practice or faith. It is like Satan in Christian teaching. I'll explain a characteristic of Buddhist Satan, Mara. Mara attacked Siddhartha persistently during these monastic practices to disturb his enlightenment. Initially, Mara sent his army to attack Siddhartha by force. The army shot arrows and threw spears toward Siddhartha to stop his meditation, but all those turned to flowers and petals in the air as it rained down on him. Arrows and spears also represented fear, but Siddhartha's steadfast belief turned fear into calmness. The attack by fear was defeated. Mara became angry about it, and next, he sent his beautiful daughters to tempt Siddhartha. Three beautiful daughters named, Lust, Thirst, and Delight approached Siddhartha and said with sweet voices, "Hey, Honey, stop meditating. You are so skinny. You must be

hungry. We have plenty of gochiso or fancy meals. Give up such practices." By disturbing Siddhartha's discipline, they tried to discourage him from keeping faith and belief. Siddhartha, however, who had a strong mind, did not hesitate, and said, "Get out of here." Again, he blew away his enemies. Siddhartha never stopped seeking true teaching. Furious, Mara himself appeared before Siddhartha. Taking on the guise of Siddhartha himself, he confronted the true Siddhartha. Siddhartha told Mara that this false self, this ego, did not exist. Then, Mara crumbled in defeat, disappearing from Siddhartha's presence. Siddhartha gained victory over Mara, was enlightened, and became a Buddha.

The evil Mara symbolized the internal battle Siddhartha fought with himself as he waded toward enlightenment. In Buddhist teachings, Mara, in fact, was part of Siddhartha --- that part of him that we also have inside us. Siddhartha struggled with his inner self. When he defeated his self, he became a Buddha. Even though lust, fear, anger, pride, doubt, ignorance, and hatred are created by us in our minds --- all these negative ideas keep ourselves in our smaller selves. Think about our lives. Doctors say don't eat too many sweets and don't eat fatty foods, but we sometimes cannot restrain ourselves. High-calorie foods are very delicious. We know junk food can harm our health, but we love french-fries and other fast foods. We always say the company that sells junk food or manufactures harmful things is wrong, but actually, our minds which are tempted and lured by desire are wrong. We create Mara (desire, delusions, anger, and jealousy) by ourselves and fight within ourselves. We always point to others and say, "He is wrong" or "She bothers me." Or we think our mental problem is caused by someone else. We say, "You broke my heart," or "He scares me." We always deal with others as Mara. We always regard others as the cause of our troubles by pointing to others and saying, "Mara attacks me!" as if Mara exists outside of our minds. Actually, there are no enemies outside of us. Our mind which regards others as Mara is the Mara itself. Our mind is the Buddha-to-be and also Mara-to-be. Without seeing ourselves inwardly, we regard others as Mara, even though we create our own enemies.

Buddhism says to stop blaming others. Blame thinking has become extremely common in our culture. My boss treats me unfairly, and that's why I am not promoted; I cannot save money because my boyfriend asks for money all the time; My parents didn't give me a good education, so my life is worthless, and so on. I often hear words blaming others as if others are Mara. By blaming others, we convince ourselves that anger, frustration, depression, stress, and unhappiness are made by others. If you stop regarding others as Mara and knock down the Mara that exists in your mind, you will never feel fear, sadness, laziness, anger, or frustration. That is the

perfect form of enlightenment. In the short movie you watched it said Mara is our greed, hatred, ignorance, jealousy, doubt, and all the other poisons that bring unhappiness and grief. Buddhist Satan, Mara, does not exist outside of us; it is within our own minds. A person who controls his/her own mind is called a Buddha. Because we humans are helpless beings as we have Mara in our minds, we must entrust Amida Buddha with our salvation. That is why we, Jodo-shu followers, must throw ourselves to Amida and ask him to be saved by reciting His Sacred Name.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN THE KITCHEN AT BODHI DAY SERVICE

We would like to thank the following people who helped prepare the refreshments and clean the kitchen and hall after lunch at Bodhi Day Service: Patty Hirano, Etsuko, Ama, & Lani Morikawa, Kumi, Yuma, & Yuka Kojima, and Tomomi, Miku, & Sae Ezaki.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AT THE GENERAL CLEAN-UP ON DECEMBER 18

We would like to thank the following people who helped to clean the temple facilities at the General Clean-up: Sheri Yamauchi, Jess Kawachi, Melanie Matsui, Carrie Aoki, Lorelei Campbell, Janine Breguller, Keith Yamamoto, Lynne Higa, Etsuko & Lani Moriawa, and Wendi Woodstrup.

Because of the support from so many people, Haleiwa Jodo Mission will be able to welcome a bright 2023. The temple cannot survive without your participation. Please continue to help the Haleiwa Jodo Mission. Tanomimasu!

PATIO RESERVATIONS

The Haleiwa Jodo Mission's patio is the perfect place to have a large party, but if you would like to use the patio in 2023 for a graduation, baby shower, birthday party, etc., please plan it well in advance and make a reservation early. The period from May to August is an especially popular season for parties. Because Haleiwa Jodo Mission will observe the Obon Festival next year in July, you will have a limited time in the summer to use the patio.

Only dues-paying members (who have paid dues for at least the last three years) can reserve the patio, and the member that makes the reservation must stay at the party from the beginning to the end. We do not allow subleasing to non-members. Please call Rev. Ezaki to make a reservation.

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR MONTH OF JANUARY

1 YEAR	MIYASAKI, JENNIE JAN. 23, 2022
7 th YEAR	TERANISHI, EVELYN JAN. 20, 2017 HAYASHI, HOWARD JAN. 16, 2017
17 th YEAR	MURATA, YOSHIKO JAN. 27, 2007 MATSUKAWA, MASAKAZU JAN. 24, 2007
23 rd YEAR	NISHIYAMA, TERUHISA JAN. 15, 2001
27 th YEAR	YOSHIDA, WALTER JAN. 14, 1997
47 th YEAR	EBISU, AMY JAN. 10, 1977 NAKAMURA, EVELYN JAN. 20, 1977

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MEMBERSHIP DUES (2023)

Dennis Nakamura Donald Koga

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Frances Shimauro Bower

(In memory of Shigeru & Mie Shimauro
and Amy Shimauro Ebisu)

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Glenn Takahashi Donald Koga
Clayton Plemer

BIRTHDAY DONATIONS

Donald Koga Carol Koga

SUNDAY SCHOOL DONATIONS

Clayton Plemer

OMAMORI DONATIONS

Mae Yorimoto Joan Yamamoto

BODHI DAY SERVICE

Nadine Matsukawa	David Koizumi
Michiko Yamauchi	Marianne Ono
Dennis Nakamura	Grace Iwane
Jennifer Pang	Joan Yamamoto
Shinae Sakai	Melanie Matsui
Mae Yorimoto	Sheri Yamauchi
Kenneth Masatsugu	Myra Shiratori