

## 2024年 米国仏教団定期総会 総長メッセージ

2024年米国仏教団定期総会がサクラメント別院にて開催されるにあたり、開教使及び寺院代表の皆さまには、各地よりご参加いただき、誠にありがたく存じます。また、平素より伝道布教及び寺院の護持運営にご尽力を賜り深く感謝申し上げます。

まず、マウイ島大規模火災により亡くなられた方に哀悼の意を表し、被害を受けられました皆さまに、心よりお見舞い申し上げます。1日も早い復興を願い、宗派として物心両面での支援を継続してゆく所存であります。

世界情勢は現在もなお、ロシア連邦によるウクライナへの軍事侵攻、イスラエル・パレスチナ情勢が激化するなど、多くの国で武力重視の風潮が高まり、さまざまな対立や紛争が起こっています。新型コロナウイルス感染症流行前の日常を取り戻した一方で、私たちはあらためて人間の自己中心性を思い知らされると共に、ますます仏法という真実を依りどころとし、み教えを伝え広めてゆくことの大切さを感じずにはおれません。

宗門におきましては、昨年5月、親鸞聖人御誕生850年・立教開宗800年慶讃法要が円成いたしました。遠く海外よりご参拝いただきお礼申し上げます。ご法要に先立ちご門主様は、蓮如上人の時代から伝わる『領解文』を現代人にもわかりやすく表現された「新しい「領解文」(浄土真宗のみ教え)」をお示しく下さいました。そしてご消息において、「新しい「領解文」を「僧俗を問わず多くの方々に、さまざまな機会に拝読、唱和いただき、み教えの肝要が広く、また次の世代に確実に伝わることを切に願っております」と述べておられます。

厳しい情勢の中、少しでも仏さまのお心にかなうよう私たち一人ひとりが行動し、自他共に心豊かに生きることのできる社会の実現に努めてまいりましょう。

今年の定期総会が実りあるものとなり、貴教団の今後のますますの興隆を念じあげ、ご挨拶といたします。

2024年2月23日

浄土真宗本願寺派  
総長 池田行信

## Message

On the occasion of the annual Buddhist Churches of America National Council Meeting being conducted at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento, I humbly extend my appreciation to you, the ministers and sangha representatives from throughout the mainland U.S. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all for your continuing efforts in propagating the Jodo Shinshu tradition and maintaining the temples within your respective districts.

I would first like to extend my condolences to those who lost their lives due to the Maui Wildfire and express my sympathy to all who have been affected. Hoping for the area's speedy recovery, we will continue our support for their efforts mentally as well as physically.

With the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine and reignited battle between Israel and Palestine, more and more countries have come to rely more heavily on armed military force, and in accordance with this tendency, a number of confrontations and conflicts are taking place across the world. Although while regaining relative normalcy in everyday life after strictly controlled days of COVID-19 preventive measures, we are thus forced to see another sad reality of human's self-centeredness. At the same time, however, this anxious world situation reminds us of how important it is to share with as many people as possible the teaching that is founded on the undeniable truth, Buddha Dharma.

At Hongwanji Kyoto, the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching was successfully concluded last May. We are truly grateful for the large overseas delegation that attended the services. Preceding the occasion, Monshu OHTANI Kojun proclaimed the New *Ryogemon* (a way of appreciating the teaching) "Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching" in his effort of updating the original *Ryogemon* that is believed Rennyō Shonin composed. He concluded the introductory message on that passage that he hopes it "will be recited by everyone during various gatherings to share it with a wide range of people as well as the next generation."

Despite the challenging world situation, let us each continue our own efforts to fulfill the Buddha's aspiration toward the realization of a society in which everyone can live life of spiritual fulfillment.

In closing, it is my hope that the Buddhist Churches of America will continue to prosper and that many fruitful results will arise from this annual meeting.

February 23, 2024

Governor General Ikeda Gyoshin  
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha