
YOUR KARMA IS WAY DEEP

By Rev. Ryoko Osa

It has been four months since restrictions on going outside were put into place due to the spread of the new coronavirus. I know this has been a hardship for us all, as we miss interacting with family and friends the way we used to. Meanwhile, protests condemning racism towards African Americans have exploded across the country.

There is an expression in Japanese: "Your Karma is way deep". Whenever I heard or read this phrase when I was a child, it felt poetic, but it also mystified me, in a way that made me eventually give up trying to figure it out. Sometimes this phrase is also used to simply mean being jealous or obsessed with money. When you learn about Karma, the phrase "Your Karma is way deep" means that our present life is connected to a tremendously long and deep past that we can never fully know ourselves, and also that nothing in life ever works out

quite the way we expect. At some point I noticed that there is indeed something there: this Karma. It's not good or bad, it's not whether you like it or not, it's just a fact of life.

In recent months, Americans have increasingly been thinking about racism. It's true that many born in this country have encountered various degrees of discrimination. Indeed, the list of such life obstacles is long.

Where you were born and raised, or how much discrimination you face, is not of your choosing. So when we make choices, we do so in part based on past life experiences and current environmental conditions in which we have had no say. Since we have no choice but to decide our way in life based on these experiences and conditions we have been formed by, we cannot really say that we make decisions completely of our own free will. I think these assumptions come

out in the words "Your Karma is way deep." Buddhism was first introduced to Japan about 1500 years ago, and since then it has been deeply rooted in the lives, customs, culture and art of the Japanese people. The 1500 years of history of Buddhism in Japan makes it inevitable that the Japanese use the word "Karma," which has such deep meaning, in their everyday lives.

Our Karma is different for each person, so there will be disagreements and conflict. However, richness is born out of this limitless diversity. It is necessary to make an effort to respect other individuals who have a Karma different from our own, and to see the truth of other people's sadness as our own sadness rather than to judge it as right or wrong.

Shinran Shonin said "All of us sentient beings are of the ordinary-man variety, heavily laden with wicked karma."

All of us are ordinary, foolish people who are deeply



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 2020



Date	Day	Time	Event
2	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Service (online)
		11:00 a.m.	WBA Zoom meeting
9	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Shotsuki memorial/family service (online)
16	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Service (online)
23	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Service (online)
30	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Service (online)

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST TOBAN
(group #1) *Janice Adachi, Wendy Adachi, Nina Costales, Satoko Davidson, Grace Goto, Alice Horio, Doreen Imada, Elsie Lum, Denice Nakano, Diane Nishioka, Michi Takata, Miyoko Truong*

Sunday Service
We will continue live-streaming our Sunday services via Facebook. You DO NOT NEED a Facebook account in order to view the live-stream. Just go to the link on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. You will also be able to watch the service later if you miss the initial

10:00 a.m. broadcast. Here is the link:
<http://www.facebook.com/berkeleyhigashi/live>.

SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

This month, we will hold the Shotsuki monthly memorial service on August 9th Sunday at 10 a.m. The following families observe memorials for loved ones this month: *Chiyoji Nagatoshi, Janet Jung, Janette Jenkins, Kinuyo Hiwano, Nancy Moriwaki, Noboru Otani, Noriko Yanaba, Takaji Matsunaga, Tom Tominaga, Yoshihiro Takahashi*

Yoshii, Shinoda, Morodomi, Cooc, Nakazawa, Imazumi. This service is open to everyone.

E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

For COVID 19 safety precautions and to save temple expenses, also in order to quickly notify temple members and friends of important information we are currently asking members to change their subscription format from the mailed paper version to email. If you have an email address, and would like a paperless subscription, please contact Rev. Osa at: ryoko.osa@gmail.com.

IN MEMORY

Mrs. Miyoko Goto Uyemoto passed away on May 3, 2020 at age 97. She was married to Atsushi Uyemoto, both long time members of temple. Miyo was a past Fujinkai President and a longtime active temple member, the original Mochi making crew, enjoyed activities at temple. Our condolences to the family and relatives of Mrs. Uyemoto.



Credits:

This is a publication of the Berkeley Higashi Honganji. Please contact Rev. Ryoko Osa at 1524 Oregon Street, Berkeley, CA 94703. 510-843-6933 www.bombu.org. osa@higashihonganji.org. Newsletter design by Kevin Sullivan

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIG THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING

NEWSLETTER MAILING *Tom & Karen Morioka*

VIRTUAL OBON DANCE WITH SANGHA, BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE Dance Instructors: *Mmes. Michisuya Hanayagi*, Virtual Obon dance committee: *Miya Sommers, Nina Rizzo & Peter Sullivan*

Thank you everyone for your donations, time, energy and support. Because of you, our temple exists for us and for future generations. Help us by calling or emailing the temple if names are inadvertently omitted from acknowledgements or donations. Domo arigato gozaimashita!

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guilty of wicked deeds. Because of this self-awareness, we, who are foolish and selfish beings, wish to live in a world full of pure deeds. It is the Amida Nyorai that transfers to us the

merit of the pure activity of "Namu Amida Butsu."
So we receive the energy of our innermost aspirations from Amida Nyorai, and this

energy becomes our energy. Then let us work for a world without discrimination in accordance with your own deep individual Karma.

GET YOUR WORDS IN THE BOMBU

I hope you are doing well with this new lifestyle, staying at home. Some of you may have more time for your hobby. If you would like to share your thoughts, why don't you write an article for our temple webpage? Something about your daily life or Buddhism, for example, birth, aging, sickness or death. If you write an article, please send it to Rev. Osa at: ryoko.osa@gmail.com.

REV. KEN YAMADA, SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

CBE SEMINARS ONLINE FOR ALL

"Higashi Honganji & Nishi Hongwanji: History & Thought"

BCA Center for Buddhist Education
Saturday, August 22, 2020 | 1:00 am - 1:00 pm (PDT)
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

General Information:

The BCA Center for Buddhist Education (CBE) will present this seminar online via Zoom videoconferencing on Saturday morning, August 22, 2020, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm (Pacific Time).



Registration is Free. Register at <https://forms.gle/CqK5PxRTNMwdfZ758> Donations gratefully accepted <https://bca.kindful.com>

(Scroll campaigns to select CBE. Donations are processed by BCA Endowment Foundation)

Visit buddhistchurchesofamerica.org email: cbe@bcahq.org or phone: 510.809.1460

バークレー東本願寺会報 2020年 8月号

すべての日曜礼拝はオンラインでの放送になります。

8月お寺の行事予定

2日(日)	午前 10時	日曜礼拝
	午前 11時	婦人会
9日(日)	午前 10時	祥月法要
16日(日)	午前 10時	日曜礼拝
23日(日)	午前 10時	日曜礼拝
30日(日)	午前 10時	日曜礼拝

7月当番(当番1): 敬称略

あだちジャニース、あだち ウェンディ、Costales ニーナ、Davidson さとこ、ごとう グレイス、堀尾アリス、今田ドーリン、Lum エルシー、中野デニース、西岡 ダイアン、高田みち、みよこ Truong

ライブ配信祥月法要: 8月9日午前10時に祥月法要 が勤められます。今月の施主は、永利、ジャング、肥和野、森脇、大谷、柳場、松永、富永、高橋、吉井、篠田、金子、大澗、奥本、もろどみ、クック、中澤、いまずみ の諸家です。

<http://www.facebook.com/berkeleyhigashi/> live このリンクからご参加ください。



見守られている私

長 良子

昔、昔あるところに貧しい母と小さな男の子がいました。ある夜、食べ物が底をつき、男の子がお腹を空かせて泣きました。母はその子を手を連れて人の畑にいき、子供を畑の入り口に立たせ「仕事が終わったら食べ物をあげるからここで待っていてね。誰かが来たらお母ちゃんと呼ぶんだよ」と言って、月明かりをたよりに芋を盗みに入っていました。すぐに子供が「お母ちゃん」と呼ぶので、母は「誰もいないよ。誰かが来て私らを見たら呼ぶんだよ」と子供を諭しました。すると子供は「見てるよ。お月さんがずっとぼくらを見ているよ。」と言いました。

母親は自分が恥ずかしくなり「本当だね。お月さんがずっと見てくれているね。仕事が終わったからおうちへ帰ろうね」と言い芋を盗まずに泣きながら帰りました。

このお話には、「見ている私」と「見られている私」の二つの「私」がいます。「人の芋を盗んでいることを知っている私」と「お月さんに見られていることに気づかない私」です。仏法を聞くと「救われようのない罪の深い私」だと気付かされて反省して努力して助かろうとします。例えばまじな人間になろうと仏教を勉強して理解しようとしてします。しかしこれは私が私を見ている「私」です。

私たちは如来様に見られていることに気づいてないのではないのでしょうか。或いはすぐ忘れてしまうのではないのでしょうか。

信じる中身について中国の善導大師は二種深信という言葉で説明してくださいました。機の深信と法の深信です。

必ず落ちるとというのが機の深信、必ず助けるとというのが法の深信です。どうしようもない私、落ちるしかないそんな私を見てくれている如来様は、同時に必ず救うという如来様です。如来の教えを聞くことは、落ちる私を知らされると同時に助けてくださる法にあうことであり、二つで一つなのです。

そこにあるのは「如来様にいつも見守られている私」なのです。お浄土には心が行くのだろうか、この体が行くのだろうかと思慮で考えることもあります。しかしそれは「見ている私」です。そうではなく「考える以前のこの身の私」がお浄土へ行くのです。今ここにいる「いずれの行も及びがたきこの身の私」が助かってお浄土に行くのです。私が信じているのではなく如来様が私を助けようと思守っておられることに気づくだけなのです。

如来様はたった今私を見守ってくださり、いつでもどこでも見守って下さっているのです。そのことは事実でありこの「私」の考えではない、と私は諸先生方のお話から聞かせていただきました。



Words of the Month | 今月の言葉

Know yourself to be a foolish being of karmic evil caught in birth-and-death, ever sinking and ever wandering in transmigration from innumerable kalpas in the past, with never a condition that would lead to emancipation. This is what we are to deeply believe.

From "A Record in Lament of Divergences –Postscript"

我が身は現に罪深く迷える凡夫であり、遠き過去よりこのかた、つねに苦しみ悩みの海に沈み、
つねにさすらいして、苦しみ悩みを離れるてがかりがない、と深く信じる。

(歎異抄後序 現代語訳)



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Address Correction Requested