



Buddhist Thoughts

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Rev. Hirano's contact numbers: Office: 363-4742,
home: 299-8727, emergency 718-5755

What the mind can create, the mind can destroy

J.K. Hirano

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihg is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig huh? Yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!

As I often mention in my Dharma talks I receive many different e-mails and the paragraph I began this month's article with was one such e-mail. This paragraph emphasizes the power of the human mind. It is said that we human beings only use a small percentage of our mind. I believe that one of the definitions of a fully enlightened being is that they are able to use the full potential of their mind.

The more science studies the working of the mind, the more amazing things they find out. Buddhism has always emphasized the importance of our mind. The intricacies of the human mind that we are just beginning to discover through modern science, has been studied and explored in Buddhism for centuries. Many of the stories we have heard about the amazing feats of early Buddhist priests and monks, may seem too fantastic for our modern intellects to believe. However, maybe our modern intelligence has not yet reached the understanding that Buddhism has found in the study of the mind.

This month we will be celebrating Hanamatsuri, the birthday of Shakyamuni Buddha.

I remember an argument I had with a good friend of mine, the venerable Seelawimala Madawila. He is a Buddhist monk from Sri Lanka. He has spoken at our temple and will be speaking again this December for Bodhi Day. Our argument concerned the story of Buddha's birth. As most of you know, this story speaks of the newborn Buddha walking immediately after birth and speaking the famous words. "In the heavens above and the worlds below, I alone am the world honored one."

I have always felt that this story of the Buddha's birth was an allegory for our human condition. In the baby Buddha's statement, he reveals that each of us should realize that we are the center of our existential search. It is from the standpoint of "I" that we can begin the religious or spiritual quest. We cannot understand our personal spiritual quest from the standpoint of doing it for one's father, mother, ethnicity, culture, etc. We are only able to begin the search when it is from a very personal perspective. There is no way that a new born baby could walk and talk, like this story of the Buddha's birth may state.

However, Bhante argues that Shakyamuni Buddha was not a "normal" human baby. But was the Buddha. Over myriads of kalpas this being had evolved to become the baby Buddha. Bhante's argument is that in this present day and age we cannot make the judgement, that what the Buddha did was not possible. In our present day and age, we have never been in the presence of a Buddha. Therefore, we do not know what a fully enlightened being is capable of.

I guess I will leave it up to each of you to decide which side of the argument you will believe in. Our minds are amazing. As I had learned many years ago, what the mind can create, the mind can destroy. In a similar manner what the mind can imagine the mind can create. If we all focus upon a world of peace and harmony. Whether we are Buddhas or not, wouldn't it be a wonderful world to live in. Let's all work for the betterment of humanity.

I hope that each of you will join us for our Hanamatsuri service on April 9 at 10:00 followed by a luncheon and the Dharma School students program. And if you are able to join us in Ogden for the Hanamatsuri service on April 16 at 10:00 am. Our guest speaker in Ogden will be Rev. Dennis Fujimoto of the Idaho Oregon Buddhist Temple.

President's Message

Paul Terashima

I received a call from Everett Watada, B.C.A. Treasurer. He told me that B.C.A. had to get a 4.5 million dollar line of credit, so it can keep up with the cost of construction. He went to a meeting March 11, 2006, and told me that the campaign is not doing well. The B.C.A. is committed to the new building and as members of B.C.A. we should support this project. If you need more information or a pledge sheet, please see me.

Saturday, April 22 at 9:00 am, we will have our annual spring cleanup. Put this date on your calendar and help us clean our Temple. The more

people we have, the easier and quicker we will be able to complete this task. I hope to see all of you there. Brenda will have a sign up sheet, so please sign up. There will be no Toban for April since we will have spring cleanup.

All Temple boardmembers and Temple's officers are volunteers or railroaded into their positions. I as Temple president would like to volunteer for our two fundraisers, the Obon on July 8 and Food Bazaar on Sept. 30. Would some Temple members please volunteer because I would hate to assign these important events to someone. So please volunteer

BWA News

Yoshiko Uno

On March 12th, we held our monthly meeting. It was a snowing outside so a lot of our members were not able to make it to the Temple. I almost turned around myself but decided to get to the Temple in case anyone was there. We had about 15 people attending. We gathered about 10 people after the service and did our annual Omigaki (altar cleaning). It took us a little longer than usual but we got it done. A special thanks goes to: Kathy and Chic Terashima, Kazuko Yakumo, Fran Akimoto, Yuriko Dennison, Terry Fujinami, Jane Sakashita, Takeko Doi, Dot Richeda, and Gary Okamoto.

On March 4th, we had our new member welcome initiative and thank you to our present members at the Boondocks. About 37 people attended with Carmela Javelana-Hirano getting us involved in thinking about improving our organization. It was a relaxing and enjoyable event for all.

On March 19th about 41 of us attended a dinner at the Pagoda to visit with Mrs. Ishihara. She told us about her family and her Temple in Japan. If anyone missed this dinner because I didn't get it into the last newsletter, I'm sorry. I

had written my usual article but somehow it didn't get to Rev. Hirano. (Raymond was in the process of getting a new desktop computer and my laptop wasn't printing and so it must have gotten lost somewhere. Gomen-nasai--apology to all.)

Our Ohigan service and fundraising breakfast by the Dharma School will be held on March 26th. Our members will be contributing to our Food Sale to be held at the same time. Some of our members will be meeting early Sunday morning to prepare Ohagis for the sale.

For our Hanamatsuri celebration, we will be contributing omusubis and Sakura mochis. Hoping all will come and enjoy the service, lunch, and program.

Our next meeting will be held on April 23rd. Come join us. We'll welcome you with open arms.

March BWA article

Our monthly meeting was held on February 12th. Carmela Javellana-Hirano is helping us recruit new members and will be sending letters to invite everyone to a Luncheon at the Boondocks restaurant on March 4th. It is planned as a welcome to new members and a thank you to our present members. Hoping to see new faces and wanting everyone to relax and socialize.

Our omigaki, altar cleaning, for Hanamatsuri is planned for March 12th after our meeting and service.

Mrs. Ishihara is coming to Salt Lake March 17-23rd. We are planning a dinner at the Pagoda on the 19th so that we will have an opportunity to meet and visit with her. Everyone is invited to join us. Reservations can be made with Dot Richeda.

There will be a Fund Raising Breakfast prior to our Ohigan Service on March 26th. We will be having a food sale at that time and so any contribution to this effort will be appreciated. We will be asking our members to make omusubis for our April 9th, Hanamatsuri celebration.

Our next meeting will be March 19th. Please join us.

BWA Donations April

Gail Minaga 10.00 BWA luncheon
Elaine Endo 15.00 BWA luncheon
Christy Fong 20.00 BWA luncheon
Grace Oshita 100.00 BWA luncheon
Lynne Doi 20.00 BWA luncheon
Ritsuko Hayashi 30.00 Donation
Yuriko Iwamoto 25.00 Donation
Mary Nakai 20.00 Donation
Reiko Watanabe - \$25.00 Sangha Award
Yoshiko Uno - 50.00 Special

Dharma School Ski Outing

Christy Fong

The Dharma School families and friends were treated to a beautiful day for their annual Brighton ski/barbeque outing. About 140 individuals enjoyed skiing, boarding, and each others company during the barbeque in the sun!

We especially want to thank Miles Miya for setting up the discount pass program for us and organizing the parking area at Brighton. Big, big thank yous go out to Marcus Miya for getting the barbeque grills, tables and assorted picnic gear up to the resort to us and helping with the cooking. Arigato to Karie Minaga-Miya and Maya Chow for helping to prepare the marinated steaks and to Maya for helping with the shopping of food. Thanks to all the families that contributed salads, drinks, rice balls, and treats for the lunch.

We look forward to next year as our group size keeps growing! Let's keep our fingers crossed that we continue to enjoy beautiful, sunny days each time we plan this!

Jr. YBA

Christy Fong

A Jr. YBA meeting was held on April 2nd following classes. If you haven't submitted your letter of intent concerning the bus trip, please get them to PJ Nakamura as soon as possible.

The Jr. YBA conducted a community service project on April 1st. at the Utah Food Bank. Thanks to PJ Nakamura and Andrew Sekino for organizing the lunch after.

The Jr. YBA will be taking Scrip orders on April 9, May 14 and June 11th.

Thank you for your continued support!

Tachiki Kayo	4/27	Roy Tachiki
Takenaka Yoso	4/9/95	Ben Takenaka
Taketa Shinobu	4/18/82	Shizuo Taketa
Okada Hito	4/5/84	Aiko Okada
Terashima Kiyoyuki	4/29/66	Kay Terashima
Mayeda Chieko	4/6/99	Ben Mayeda
Shizue Adachi	4/8/01	Tamiko Adachi
Hasegawa Miyuki	4/7/02	Paul Hasegawa
Chow Choy Lan	4/8/02	Chuck Chow
Sekino Lillian	4/17/02	David Sekino
Aoki Eva	4/2/03	Nob Aoki
Oishi Tai	4/25/03	Victor Oishi

April Shotsuki Hoyo

April 9, 10:00 am

Deceased	Date of Death	Next of kin
Akimoto Landon	4/12/92	Dennis Akimoto
Akiyama Kiyoshi	4/28/39	Genevieve Akiyama
Arishita Ayako	4/23/00	Sam Arishita
Fujimoto Rae	4/20/97	Grace Oshita
Hachisuka Shiroku	4/4/69	Nancy Takagi
Imada Shizuye	4/24/51	
Iwasaki Kamesaburo	4/13/67	Dean Iwasaki
Iwasaki Toshimasa	4/9/98	Dean Iwasaki
Koga Ichizo	4/16/62	Sachiko Koga
Koga Shigeichi	4/20/62	Sachiko Koga
Konishi Toraye	4/30/88	James Konishi
Masuda Tatsuro	4/6/91	Hatsuye Masuda
Matsuura Chotaro	4/4/50	Genevieve Akiyama
Minakawa Harushige	4/13/70	Dean Iwasaki
Mitsunaga Shizuko	4/14/90	Hiroshi Mitsunaga
Oda Fumi		Shigeru Sasaki
Oda Hayano		
Sakashita George	4/2/75	Jane Sakashita
Sugihara Yoshio	4/12/86	Dorothy Sugihara

April Toban

*Masami Hayashi	*Nob Aoki
*Lynn Shimada	*Fran Akimoto
Ritsuko Hayashi	Alan Aoki
Marilyn Shimada	Tom Akimoto
Christihne Munson	George Doi
Dennis Akimoto	Tracy Roberson
Ruby Doi	Neil Chow
Fumio Mayeda	Rick Ikegami
Akimi Chow	Misao Doi
Bobbie Ikegami	Victor Oishi
Elsie Doi	Sherrie Hayashi
Lisa Imamura	