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Vancouver Buddhist Temple



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Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

September 2016, Issue #402

JSBTC Day Message “What is Dana?”

I would like to express my most sincere appreciation to all the Jodo Shinshu Temples of Canada (JSBTC) ministers, ministers' assistants, national board of directors, and all temple members and non-members for keeping our organization active and accessible.

In the early days, the temple was financed largely by donations called ‘dana’. In Japanese, this is known as *ofuse* or *orei*. Over the years, temple members established the tradition of donating money to the temple treasury for various occasions such as Buddhist holidays, family weddings, funerals, and memorial services. As well, donations were offered for monthly memorial services (Shotsuki) as well as, for a wide variety of occasions, such as a return to good health, birth of children and grandchildren, graduation of children and grandchildren and for joyous events including return from trips abroad, etc. In other words, the Issei tended to make donations to the temple on any occasion which they felt was meaningful to them. The idea of a membership due or fee was not a consideration.

At all major events at a temple, there was always an *uketsuke* or reception table where donation envelopes were received and duly recorded. Relying entirely on personal donations meant no fixed fees for services rendered. As a member became more active and involved the more the member understood the *ofuse/orei* system. The prevailing attitude was therefore, one of offering a donation as a token of one's appreciation and gratitude, rather than one of paying a fee for specific services rendered.

As the nisei and sansei generation gradually took responsibility in managing the temple, the idea of membership dues became more popular. There was growing frustration not knowing how much one should donate for weddings, memorial services, etc. Thus, today we are torn between two ways of thinking; between the *dana/ ofuse* system and a set price system for services rendered. There has been reluctance in abandoning the *ofuse* system. To do so would reduce the temple to a place of business with set fees for individual services. The consequence of this would eliminate the spirit of *dana*, an important fundamental of Buddhist practice. In short, the difference between *ofuse* versus set fees is attitude. For buddhists, in particular Japanese buddhists, a person's attitude in society has always been considered very meaningful and significant. There is a prevailing view that it is not the amount that is significant, but rather the spirit in which it is given. Therefore, a donation has no fixed amount but rather depends on what the giver wishes or can afford to give. This can be confusing to someone who is unfamiliar with the ways of the temple. And while it is not as efficient as a so-called “price list” it is in keeping with the spirit of *dana*.



[Continued on page 2]

Message from the VBT Board

What a summer it has been for our Temple! In lieu of the usual write-up, this month we offer pictures to show just how busy the temple was during the summer months.

Preparations were underway starting in June for our biggest service of the year, Obon. Many volunteers came to temple to make manju, put together bento lunch boxes, and hang lanterns, among numerous other preparations. Thanks to everyone's hard work, people were able to gather for Obon in a welcoming environment to remember and honour loved ones.

Obon service, officiated by ministers from around the Lower Mainland, were also observed at the Nikkei Cultural Centre.

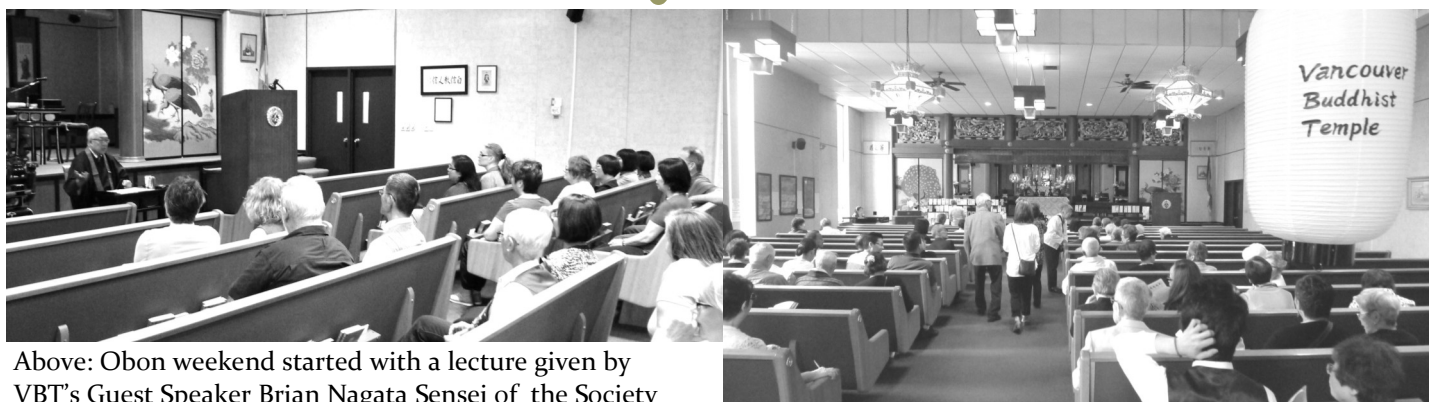
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[Continued from page 1]

Ofuse in Japanese consists of two Chinese characters. *O-fu* means "to spread", and *se* means "giving charity". *Dana* or *ofuse* gives one an opportunity to practice gratitude, which arises from the awareness of the inter-relationship of all sentient beings.

The temple, after all, is not a gas station where one fills up with spirituality for the rest of the week at so many cents per liter. It is a living organization, not a mechanical machine. For this reason, temple life is to be valued because it is not 'business-like', efficient or even useful. We need not make perfect manju to sell, because we are not in the manju business. Every helper, whether they are experienced or not, is able to help make manju. They donate their time for the sake of the temple. The temple is involved in the business of getting human beings to be more 'truly human', to get them to see who they truly are, what their true nature is and to be transformed by that Truth. To bend religion to suit our own needs is to miss the point of religion. Religion essentially transforms us to see the Truth. We are not here to transform religion to suit our needs.

Namo Amida Butsu,
Tatsuya Aoki,
Bishop, Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada



Above: Obon weekend started with a lecture given by VBT's Guest Speaker Brian Nagata Sensei of the Society for the Promotion of Buddhism (BDK)

Above: People arrive early to find seats for the Obon service, knowing that the Hondo and Social Hall fill up quickly.
Bottom: VBT's Bob Akune Sensei delivers the English Dharma Talk at Nikkei Centre's Obon service, attended by over 50 people of the Centre, Sakura-so, and the general public.



Above: Dancers in yukata (summer cotton kimono) and observers outside VBT. Traditional Japanese dancing makes up an important part of Obon. Thanks to our dance instructor Akemi Komori, who keeps us dancing beautifully.



Cont'd from previous page

Volunteers came together again to prepare for the annual Powell Street Festival which takes place just outside our front doors. Many festival goers stopped to buy our curry, corn, and ice cream, helping to make the event another successful fundraising weekend.



Above: Scenes from the 2016 Powell Street Festival. Thanks to committee chairs Lorna Bishop and Mits Kazuta.




Above: Obon Dancing on the front lawn of the Nikkei Cultural Centre. Thanks to John Harada and Gentaro Shimizu for hanging the lanterns.



Right and Left: The result of a professional cleaning and waxing of the Social Hall and Kitchen floors which two days to complete.










Introduction to Buddhism
- 5 week course -
September 7 to October 5
(7pm to 9pm)
@ Vancouver Buddhist Temple

Fee: \$30.00
(+ \$2.79 booking fee)
for the 5 sessions

Register Online or at the VBT Office
No Drop-ins.

	① (Sep. 7) with Dr. Jessica Main General Buddhism	
	② (Sep. 14) with Lama Baten Tibetan Buddhism & Meditation	
	③ (Sep. 21) with Dr. Adrienne Ross Vipassana or Insight Meditation	
	④ (Sep. 28) with Rev. Tatsuya Aoki Pure Land Buddhism	
	⑤ (April 13) with Rev. Michael Newton Zen Buddhism	

Cont'd from above Just because the summer is coming to an end, it doesn't mean the end of the activities at the temple.

The very popular "Introduction to Buddhism" course will be returning to VBT for a third time. Each week is an opportunity to learn about other Buddhist traditions, and to meet new people.

And before you know it, preparations for the Fall Food Bazaar will begin! Please take note in this and next month's issues for dates and times for volunteer opportunities.

Every gathering at the temple is made possible only through the volunteer members and friends. Thank you for your continued support!

Gassho, VBT Board of Directors


Vancouver Buddhist Temple

FALL FOOD BAZAAR


Sunday, October 30
12 Noon ~ 2:00 PM

Udon, Teriyaki,
Sushi, Manju,
Vegetables, fish,
Plants, Books,
And Much More!

うどん
照り焼き
寿司各種
まんじゅう各種
野菜、等等



10月30日(日) 正午より



Vancouver Buddhist Temple
220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver
Tel: (604) 253-7033
www.vancouverbuddhisttemple.com

バンクーバー仏教会
秋のバザー

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Weddings were held for

Lani Terada and Dr. Robert James Bridges

(August 6)

AND

Kelsey Chan and Andrew Wong

(August 20)

Congratulations to the couples,
their family and friends.



Toban Groups

The following VBT activities in **September** are the responsibility of

Toban #2

- **Sat. 3—9am** Toban & Board meeting
- **Sat. 10—9am** Manju making
- **Sun. 11 —9am** Shotsuki



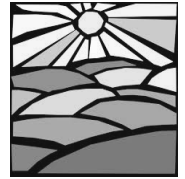
Mr. Takeshi Kumano
Mrs. Yoshiko Koyanagi
Mrs. Kazue Kozaka
Mrs. Miyako Kuromi
Mrs. Shu Mind Lai
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Leong
Mr. Doug Maruno
Mr. & Mrs. Toshimi Maruno
Mrs. Terumi Matsunaga
Mr. & Mrs. Sadao Minato
Mr. Kazuo Mori
Mrs. Noriko Natsukoshi
Mr. Tom Okada
Mrs. Ritsu Saimoto
Mrs. Fusae Sameshima
Mrs. Tsuneko Soyama
Mr. Kazuo Sugawara
Mr. Tetsuo Takemori
Ms. Joyce Takeshita
Ms. Marilyn Teramura
Mr. & Mrs. Eiji Tsuji
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukishima
Mrs. Toshiko Tsukishima
Mr. Dave Wong
Mrs. Kiyoe Yada
Mrs. Masako Yada
Mr. & Mrs. Yoshio Yagi
Mrs. Kuniko Yuasa

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Akune
Mr. Patrick Couling
Ms. Kiyoko Hanazawa
Ms. Shirley Hanazawa
Mrs. Masako Hattori
Mrs. Tokiko Hayashi
Mr. Homma Shinobu
Mr. & Mrs. Narhari Joshi
Mr. Suresh Joshi
Mr. Tom Kadota
Mrs. Mary Kawamoto
Mr. & Mrs. Takehisa Kawasaki
Mrs. Sharon Kawasaki-Chan
Mr. Mits Kazuta
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kitamura
Mrs. Fujiko Kitano
Mrs. Eleanor Kondo
Mrs. Fumie Kondo
Mr. Paul Kondo
Mr. Dick Koyanagi

VBT activities in October will be the responsibility of Toban #3. The event dates and members will be listed in next month's

Greetings from the Valley

Welcome to the Valley..... The second half of summer has been warm, warmer, warmest as we enjoy the higher temperatures.. We enjoyed the Obon service with Reverend Brian Nagata as guest minister and although we held our obon odori inside because of the threat of rain, the joy of obon was not diminished. Obon services held in Vancouver, Steveston, Fraser Valley and Nikkei Place all concluded with obon dancing a wonderful way to remember those who are no longer physically with us.



The fall is harvest time and bazaar time. The Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Bazaar will be held on October 23rd so, start thinking about White Elephant items and coming out to help us on Saturday October 22nd. Remember fall is also matsutake time!

Our September service will be on September 10th at 2:00 and the October service will be on October 1st also at 2:00. Please join us.

In gassho,
Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

July 9, 2016

Obon, Hatsubon, July & Aug. Shotsuki



Irene Tateyama, Henry Tateyama, Tony Tateyama, Lester Tateyama, Mitsuo Saito, Genevieve Iwata, Ruth Iwata, Stan & Lucy Yoshioka, Lori North, Byron Kagawa, Denise Cork, Hiroshi & Ruth Honkawa, Naomi Shikaze, Ritsuko Okada, Chieko Takasaki, May Mukaida, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Matsuno, Hiro & Masami Miyagi, Gregory & Lynn Smith, A. Nagamatsu, Irene Rohrer

In memory of our mother Hisako Kawamoto who passed away 1 May 2016: Amy Kawamoto, Ted Kawamoto & May Nakano

In memory of Hisako Kawamoto: Frank & Pat Hamanishi; Marion Fujita

In memory of Joe Tateyama: Teruko Kawamoto & family; Robert & Misaye Hamaura; Lori North

In memory of Mary Ann Uyede: Hiroshi & Ruth Honkawa

In memory of Fumi & Ken Honkawa: Reiko Honkawa

In memory of Masao Kawamoto: A.E. Kawamoto

In memory of Makoto Kawamoto: A.E. Kawamoto

In memory of Sharon Maruyama: A.E. Kawamoto

In gassho,
Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

September Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The September Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held on **Sunday, September 11 at 10:30 am**

1958

KARIYA, Tsune
OKAMOTO, baby
SATO, Saburo

1960

*IINUMA, Chusaburo
*KOHARA, Maju

1961

*KAWASHIMA, Masaki
*YAMAMOTO, baby

1963

UCHINAMI, Kazumi

1964

KAGETSU, Tsurutaro

1965

*IWASAKI, Kinnosuke
KASUYA, Kenzo
*SHIOZAKI, Minoru
TANAKA, Tei

1966

*ITO, Yukie

1967 (50th year)

*OKANO, Moritaro

1968

*HAYASHI, Eikichi

1969

*NAKASHIMA, Asa

1970

*MIYANO, Kyoichi
*MIYANO, Tetsuro
*OMOTO, Kanshiro

1971

*IKEGAMI, Matajiro

1972

*KOMINAMI, Jiroichi
*MIMOTO, Tosaru

1973

*KAWASAKI, Tokusuke

1974

*TAZAWA, Haru
*YANO, Minoru

1976

*HAYASHI, Tatsuo
NAKANO, Heiroku
*TAKAHASHI, Genza

1977

RYUJIN, Shinaye
YADA, Takao

1979

TOMITA, Mariko

1980

*KITAGAWA, Yosokichi

1981

*FUJII, Tetsuo
IDA, Tsuejiro
*YOSHIDA, Hari

1982

*TANAKA, Yoshiye
UYESUGI, Ryu

1983

*KOSAKA, Hisa

1984 (33 year)

*AKITAYA, Hidetoshi
*INAMASU, Yasuo
*YOSHIZAWA, Shizuyo

1985

*MINESHIWA, Ichiro

1986

OYE, Yakichi
*SHIMIZU, Kimiteru
*UYESUGI, Naosada

1987

EBATA, Masukichi
*HAMANISHI, Shizuka
HAYASHI, Matsujiro
*ISHIDA, Tomiye
*KITAGAWA, Shosuke

1988

MATSUTANI, Hidehiro

1989

*HAMA, Seitaro
*TAKEUCHI, Itsu
UYESUGI, Bunshichi

1992 (25th year)

*HAMANISHI, Katsuji
*KURAMOTO, Roy
*NAGASHIMA, Ishi

1994

KAWAGOE, Kiyoshi
*TAKEUCHI, Chisato
YAGISAWA, Yuri
YAMASHITA, Akira

1995

NISHIMURA, Emiko
SUGIMOTO, Kanao

1996

CHOI, Jon Hee
KADOTA, Kunio
OKAHORI, Yoshiye
TAN, Misao

1997

FUKUSHIMA, Fusagorou
MURATA, Miyako

1998

HAMADA, Hideichi
YAMASHITA, Iwataro

1999

*AYAKAWA, Fumi
MASUDA, Maria
TERAI, Shige
YAGISAWA,
Christopher

2000 (17th year)

AMANO, Emi
ANDO, Eiichi
OHASHI, Hatsuko

2001

MINATO, Toshimi
YADA, Yoshiko

2002

INOUE, Hisaye
KADO, Shizuo
OMOTO, Teruko
SHINKODA, Mitsuo
TSURUGA, Masataro

2003

HAMA, Shigeo

2004 (13th year)

NAKATA, Toyoko

2005

NAKAMURA, Kimi
KOMORI, Haruo

2006

KOBAYASHI, Toyoko
TSURUSAKI, Nobuya

2007

TANABE, Lily
KAGAWA, Ayaka

2008

NASU, Katsumi
UYEYAMA, Toshio
SUGIYAMA, Hiromi

2009

UYENO, Kenneth

2010 (7th year)

MORISHITA, Kimiye

2011

MURACHI, Matsuri

2012

KOYAMA, Keiko
MATSUBARA, Teruko

2014 (3rd year)

SHIKAZE, Hisako
GOMYO, Yoshie
OBARA, George

2015 (1st year)

MATSUI, Kikue



Affinity Benefit Program Card


Members of the Vancouver Buddhist Temple may apply for an membership to the Affinity Benefit Program through the Glenhaven Memorial Chapel. Members of the Affinity Benefit Program are eligible for benefits such as a 10% discount through Forest Lawn & Ocean View Cemeteries and Funeral Homes.

Since the summer of 2008, Dignity memorial has invited our temple members to join the Affinity Benefit program. To be eligible for benefits, members must have a Membership Card. The issuance date on the Dignity memorial records must be dated and activated before the date of passing. The application form for membership and membership cards are available through the temple office.



September 2016



Sun.	Mon.	Tues	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3 <u>10:00 am</u> VBT Toban and Board Meeting
4 <i>No Service @ VBT</i>	5 Labour Day (VBT Office Closed)	6	7 <u>7:00 pm</u> Intro to Buddhism Lecture 1 (Dr. J. Main)	8 <u>12:00 pm Noon</u> Service in Japanese Howakai and Seniors' club	9	10 <u>9:00 am</u> Manju making <u>2:00 pm</u> FVBT Shotsuki Service (Rev. G. Ikuta)
11 <u>10:30 am</u> Fall O-Higan and September Shotsuki Memorial Service	12	13	14 <u>7:00 pm</u> Intro to Buddhism Lecture 2 (Lama Rabten)	15 <u>12:00 pm Noon</u> Service in Japanese Howakai and Seniors' club	16	17
18 <u>10:30 am</u> VBT Dharma Service	21 <u>7:00 pm</u> Intro to Buddhism Lecture 3 (Dr. A. Ross)		21 <u>11:00 am</u> Nikkei Home Service (Rev. G. Ikuta)	22 <u>12:00 pm Noon</u> Service in Japanese Howakai and Seniors' club	23	24
25 <u>10:30 am</u> VBT Dharma Service	26	27	28 <u>7:00 pm</u> Intro to Buddhism Lecture 4 (Rev. T. Aoki)	29 <u>12:00 pm Noon</u> Service in Japanese Howakai and Seniors' club	30	OCT 1 <u>9:00 am</u> <u>Manju making</u> <u>2:00 pm</u> <u>FVBT Shotsuki Service (Rev. T. Aoki)</u>
2 <u>10:30 am</u> JSBTC Day and October Shotsuki Memorial Service	3	4	5 <u>7:00 pm</u> Intro to Buddhism Lecture 5 (Rev. M. Newton)	6 <u>12:00 pm Noon</u> Service in Japanese Howakai and Seniors' club	7	8 <u>10:00 am</u> VBT Board Meeting
9 <u>10:30 am</u> VBT Dharma Service	10 Thanksgiving Day (VBT Office Closed)	11 	12	13 <u>12:00 pm Noon</u> Service in Japanese Howakai and Seniors' club	14	15