

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE TEMPLE ISSUE

### What Will Happen in the Future?

#### **Q: How will the temple issue affect the SGI in the future?**

A: Buddhism is concerned with winning. To win in this case means to help as many people as possible understand what is at the core of this issue. This will prove the correctness of our practice and open the way for the humanism of Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism to become accessible to all.

It is for the people's happiness — and for kosen-rufu — that we pray for Nikken's resignation.

In "On the Treasure Tower," the Daishonin writes:

In the Latter Day of the Law, there is no Treasure Tower other than the figures of the men and women who embrace the Lotus Sutra. It follows, therefore, that those who chant Nam-myoho-renge-kyo, irrespective of social status, are themselves a Treasure Tower and likewise they themselves are Taho Buddha. (*The Major Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, vol. 1, p. 30)

Today, we are experiencing what has been called a Soka Renaissance, a result of our struggle against the priesthood's authoritarianism and regressive dogmatism. We no longer need to hesitate in stating our conviction that all can become happy without exception, and that the SGI practices Buddhism exactly as the Daishonin taught.

We are entering an age when the truth of the Daishonin's Buddhism will be revealed. In one sense, that truth has been partially obscured behind the formalities and mystique of authority created by the priesthood. We can now re-examine which formalities are valuable and which are not.

While formality has a place in Buddhism, it should never be used to control people nor should it be allowed to block the progress of kosen-rufu.

Our prayer and efforts from now on will focus on bringing the teachings of the Daishonin's Buddhism to society so that it may become a world religion in the truest sense.

*Thirteen in a series*

#### **Key Points:**

- **We can pray for Nikken to vacate the office of high priest as he is the main source of negativity and misinformation that is misleading people.**
- **The temple issue has enabled the SGI to reveal the truth about Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism. In other words, the pure spirit of Buddhism has been revived through the SGI's effort in the temple issue.**
- **The SGI has proven through the temple issue that humanism — the dignity of human life — is the core of Nichiren Daishonin's teachings.**

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