

**For Women**  
**My Source of Encouragement**  
**By Momoyo Martin , L.A. #4 Region Women's Leader**

When I first came to the United States in 1966, the *World Tribune* was the Soka Gakkai's only English-language tool to introduce others to Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism. SGI President Ikeda's guidance reprinted in every issue was my direct link to his tremendous determination and spirit to awaken humanity to its fullest potential. It became my outlet to revitalize my faith, my source of encouragement to muster my determination, and it helped me navigate the challenges of my daily life.

More than 30 years later, the *World Tribune* remains essential to our individual practice. It is also a critical weapon in our efforts to spread kosen-rufu. That's why, during the month of June, SGI-USA women's division members are being encouraged to help increase the readership of this vital publication. This is not only a campaign to increase the number of subscriptions. Rather, this is an opportunity for us to help our members establish their own link with President Ikeda and tap the bounty of hope, encouragement, inspiration, lessons in history and culture his guidance imparts.

Calling the *World Tribune* "a news journal for humanity," President Ikeda wrote in *The New Human Revolution*:

"Ordinary papers are filled with dark and dismal news. To some extent this can't be helped because it's a reflection of society. Nevertheless, none of these newspapers applies any thought or editorial effort to enabling people to find hope and experience joy while living in such a society. None of them teaches its readers how to truly challenge and overcome life's sufferings. But it is just this kind of newspaper that society needs most..." (vol. 1, p. 209).

Recently, four women's division members in the Twenty-nine Palms area of Southern California began their own personal promotion campaign of the *World Tribune*, which they referred to as "my paper." They determined that they would use the newspaper as a resource for giving encouragement when visiting members at home; as a tool in discussion meetings, and as a means to re-ignite their individual sense of mission. Their determination was that each family member would have his or her own copy of the *World Tribune*.

By consistently using President Ikeda's guidance and experiences in the *World Tribune* to encourage members, and using the paper as the foundation for discussion meetings, more people became interested in reading it. Within months, more members began to subscribe to the *World Tribune*, and the number of people receiving the publication grew from less than half of the district to 80 percent! But most important, according to Sachie Jamison, one of the women's division members involved in this effort: "The members of the district united. They're opening up."

President Ikeda's vision for the *World Tribune* is that it will be instrumental in cultivating a peaceful future and a new century of humanity. With the success of the women's division members in Twenty-nine Palms as an example, it is my determination to increase the readership of the *World Tribune* so that we can continue to help people challenge and overcome life's sufferings, which is most urgently needed in America today.

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