

WORLD TRIBUNE MAILBOX

Notes From Abroad

Thanks to a friend from New York, I am getting the *World Tribune*. From it, I get encouragement. The experiences are my favorite. Keep up the good work.

I moved back here from New York last July to take care of my aging mother. Thanks to my training in the late '80s and early '90s in New York, I learned the stand-alone spirit, which I so much need here....

I have had many benefits: One of them was to change my financial situation and have good health. Now I am learning to be less selfish in dealing with my elderly parent. I know deep in my heart that I shall win. And when I have doubts, I read the *World Tribune*.

— NEZHA KHALIL, Casablanca, Morocco

On behalf of the Korean Members of Okinawa's International Chapter and myself, I offer deep appreciation to the *World Tribune* for including a Korean page. The Korean members here are not able to obtain a lot of material in their native language, and the last few issues that provided the Korean language material was put to good use during our activities. Again, thank you very much. Keep up the good work.

— CARL S. MOSHER, Okinawa, Japan

Protection for a Son

As a parent of two teenagers, 13 and 17, I have often wondered, do my children practice out of formality or out of their own inner faith? My children and I have been practicing now for 12 years. During these years, we have had many benefits and overcome numerous obstacles.

Recently, my oldest, my 17-year-old son, put my faith to the test once again. First, just four months after getting his driver's license, he met with a car accident; fortunately no one was hurt. He was issued a ticket for careless driving, but after obtaining a lawyer, we got the ticket changed.

After this minor obstacle came our major one. My son, Ted, who is employed as a bank teller, was confronted by armed robbers. All the employees were forced to lie on the floor while the robbers stole from the bank and fired shots into the air after shooting out the front door.

When I received the telephone call from him that morning, about an hour after he went to work, I thought I was dreaming. He told me that the bank had been robbed, and there were shots fired. I asked him was everyone all right, and he said, "Yes."

He told me that he was the person who kept his fellow employees calm. He said: "Mom, I dropped to the floor and started chanting Nam-myoho-renge-kyo with all my heart. I chanted harder than I have ever chanted before. I told everyone to be quiet and stay calm."

After seeing and speaking to him, I realized that he had tremendous faith inside of him. He knew and trusted the Gohonzon at his greatest time of need.

I went to the Gohonzon that evening to do gongyo and to express my appreciation for the protection my son received. I realized that even though my children may not appear on the outside to have faith, they possess the faith they need deep within their lives.

Teddy's favorite Goshu is "Reply To Kyo'o," and now I know why. He mustered his faith when he needed it the most and believed in the Gohonzon with all his heart.

Teddy will be attending Delaware State University in the fall, and I know he will accomplish all the goals he has set for himself with his faith in the Gohonzon.

— SHEILA ALFORD-COLEMAN, Pemberton, N.J.

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