

## **SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S SEPT. 8 ENCOURAGEMENT AN UNSURPASSED ACHIEVEMENT**

At an executive conference with representative SGI leaders on Sept. 8, SGI President Ikeda said: "Who has actualized the Daishonin's prophecy of world kosen-rufu? You have. It is an unsurpassed achievement in human history.

"You are more praiseworthy than any hero or eminent figure. You are noble emissaries of the Buddha, just as described in the Goshō and the Lotus Sutra—and I sincerely welcome each and every one of you, praying for your longevity and happiness, and for the prosperity and development of your respective countries."

The SGI leader further stressed that Buddhism is win or lose and that battles in the realm of Buddhism must not be fought halfheartedly. In any country where, as in Japan, priests of the Nikkō sect are attempting to undermine and obstruct the kosen-rufu movement, he said, it is vital that the SGI members give them no quarter, recognizing them clearly as the enemies of the Buddha that they are.

President Ikeda also presented the members of SGI-Macau with a long poem he composed in their honor, titled "Shine, Eternal Citadel of Human Harmony!" [Later this year Macau, long a Portuguese territory, will be returned to China.]

**WT**