

## SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S DEC. 4 MESSAGE THE PATH OF LIMITLESS BENEFIT

**In his message for the SGI-USA's new departure, SGI President Ikeda emphasizes that clarifying the true teachings of Nichiren Daishonin is "the path of limitless, immeasurable benefit" for our organization.**

My most sincere congratulations on this new departure for the SGI-USA.

I have received detailed reports of the vibrant activities of all who have gathered at the SGI-USA's year-end region leaders meeting today. I wish to express my heartfelt respect and appreciation for your remarkable efforts.

The SGI-USA members have truly exerted themselves. General Director Fred Zaitso and Women's Division Leader Wendy Clark have, through their committed efforts, created a magnificent record that will remain in history.

Now is the time of change and transformation in society and throughout the world. We must foster new people, young people, the people of the future, so that they can grow and develop to the fullest extent.

Our organization for kosen-rufu must also change and adapt. Where these necessary changes are carried out with resolve, there is victory.

The new general director and women's division leader, Daniel Nagashima and Matilda Buck, have my full trust. As we approach the 21st century, I hope that you will join them and, with the spirit of unity — "many in body, one in mind" — advance together to create in America a model for the entire world, a new era in the history of the SGI-USA.

In "The Record of the Orally Transmitted Teachings," Nichiren Daishonin says of the word *kudoku*, meaning benefit, merit or virtue: "*Ku...* means to extinguish evil, and *doku* means to bring forth good" (*Gosho Zenshu*, p. 762).

In light of the teachings of the Lotus Sutra and Nichiren Daishonin's writings, it is absolutely clear that the correct course of action for us lies in courageously engaging and refuting the Nikken sect, which has committed the ultimate evil of seeking to destroy the movement for kosen-rufu. Herein lies the path of limitless, immeasurable benefit.

I ask each of you to exercise bold, confident leadership for the 21st century and to do so with earnestness and sincerity, with courtesy and daring.

Please convey my very warmest regards to all my dear friends, the SGI-USA members. I am praying from the bottom of my heart for the health and happiness of each of you and your families.

*December 4, 1999*

*At the Soka Gakkai  
Headquarters*

*Daisaku Ikeda  
SGI President*