

**SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S MESSAGE TO THE MEN'S DIVISION
CONFERENCE AT THE FNCC
THE POWER OF COURAGE**

'Always, it is the power of one's courage that opens the way ahead,' SGI President Ikeda says to the men's division members. 'Faith is another name for the utmost courage.'

The latest Men's Division Conference was held at the Florida Nature and Culture Center, March 9–12.

To the men's division members, who are great trees of kosen-rufu:

My heartfelt congratulations on your conference! I truly appreciate your daily efforts for kosen-rufu. I am convinced that Nichiren Daishonin has been watching your steady, assiduous and respectable devotion to your communities throughout American society.

In "Letter from Sado," the Daishonin states, "Those with the heart of a lion king are sure to attain Buddhahood" (*The Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, p. 301). A cowardly mind can do nothing to help the sun of hope arise from within. Nor can it raise the curtain on a new stage.

Always, it is the power of one's courage that opens the way ahead. Faith is another name for the utmost courage. Once a man has stood up, kosen-rufu in his environment will greatly progress. Those who now brace their courage and fight for kosen-rufu and justice with the spirit of a lion king will surely enjoy ever-greater vitality. They will obtain a life-condition as free as the Buddha's.

Please take leadership majestically and dauntlessly. Live the greatest life, powerfully, together with me. You all are important to me. I pray for your good health and happiness. I also pray for the good health and happiness of your family members and friends. Please stay in good health and high spirits forever.

*Daisaku Ikeda
March 2000*