

## **BUILDING A CULTURE OF PEACE**

Over the years, SGI President Ikeda has written several innovative peace proposals and undertaken various activities for peace. His proposals are geared toward strengthening the United Nations' peacekeeping functions and finding creative solutions to solving the world's problems. They concern issues such as disarmament, human rights, the global economy and the environment.

Based on these proposals, several SGI-affiliated institutions that promote peace initiatives were founded by President Ikeda including the Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research, the Boston Research Center for the 21st Century and the Institute of Oriental Philosophy.

Since its establishment in 1962, the Institute of Oriental Philosophy is dedicated to making Asia's rich philosophical heritage accessible to people throughout the world. It conducts independent research into topics such as bibliographical studies of Buddhism, Buddhist thought, comparative religion, and the interrelations between science, religion and society. It has centers in India, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom in addition to its head office in Tokyo.

The Toda Institute, based in Tokyo and Honolulu, was founded by Mr. Ikeda in 1996 to manage research focused on peace, disarmament and nonviolent conflict resolution; sustainable development, employment and the environment; and human rights, the United Nations and global governance. It specifically links scholars, activists, research organizations and NGOs around the world in an effort to create a global network.

The SGI, at the suggestion of President Ikeda, has sponsored numerous touring exhibitions around the world on nuclear weapons, human rights, the environment and war, among other topics. They provide a rich cultural and educational exchange, nurturing understanding and respect for people, while promoting peaceful coexistence.