

## SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S MESSAGE TO THE 48TH CEC PROOF OF OUR VICTORY

**'Efforts for the sake of kosen-rufu are themselves proof of one's victory as a human being,' SGI President Ikeda says.**

I express my sincerest congratulations to all of you on the occasion of your victorious Central Executive Conference of the new SGI-USA. I understand that you are meeting this weekend in triumph due to your victories in introducing new members, *World Tribune* promotion, the Soka Spirit movement and the May Commemorative Contribution. Thank you so much for all your untiring efforts!

Only our struggles in prayer and action toward the ultimate goal of kosen-rufu give life its exquisite flavor. Furthermore, efforts for the sake of kosen-rufu are themselves proof of one's victory as a human being.

To move for the sake of friends in dire need; to go anywhere for the sake of people's happiness; to care for our members on the forefront—surely, it is our challenge as leaders to practice this “bodhisattva way.” Please be convinced that through the campaigns you have been waging, you are creating a golden history of boundless life force and unparalleled good fortune that will eternally span the three existences.

Next year, Soka University of America will open at last. It is my fervent wish and prayer that through your united strength you will ensure the success of this major undertaking, which will mark the beginning of a new era. SUA is the symbol of hope for the entire world and a guidepost for humanity's future.

The last 10 years of reform and development have led to the construction of a glorious age for the SGI-USA. I hope that each of you will aim toward the opening of SUA by chanting resonantly and summoning forth the “heart of a lion king.” Fearing nothing, please walk the path of your mission with dignity while breaking through every difficulty you encounter in life and in society. I will fight along with all of you.

I am chanting daimoku with my entire being that you carry out your activities freely, cheerfully and in the best of health. I am looking forward to the day next year when I will meet all of you in the land of America. Please take care!

*Daisaku Ikeda*  
*June 23, 2000*