

**SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S MESSAGE
TO THE YWD CONFERENCE AT THE FNCC
ACCUMULATE THE TREASURES OF THE HEART**

‘You need not chase after fleeting popularity, wealth or glamour,’ SGI President Ikeda says. ‘Instead you must seek to accumulate treasures of the heart during your youth.’

The Young Women’s Division Conference was held at the Florida Nature and Culture Center, June 15–18.

My sincere congratulations to all of you on your SGI-USA Young Women’s Division Conference—a gathering of young women filled with spirit and vigor who are enacting the drama of youth. From the bottom of my heart, I am praying that each of you, without a single exception, will live with strength and composure, attaining supreme happiness in the 21st century, which I believe will be the era of women.

Nichiren Daishonin states: “There is nothing to lament when we consider that we will surely become Buddhas.... Even if one were to be reborn in heaven, what end would it serve?” (*The Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, p. 657). I ask that all of you— young women of America—have confidence in your inner palace of eternity and live each day free from regret, as you dance a youthful dance of freedom on the stage of kosen-rufu. You need not chase after fleeting popularity, wealth or glamour. Instead you must seek to accumulate treasures of the heart during your youth.

Whatever hardships you may be facing now, please turn them into a source of prayer. Improve yourself each day, do your utmost for the sake of others and study hard so that you can actively, freely contribute in the field of your mission. Nor should you be hasty. Rather, please always base yourself on daimoku, and steadily build a foundation of indestructible fortune.

I hope that your conference will be filled with harmony, joy and cheer, as you expand and strengthen your bonds of friendship. Please be convinced that you will be always embraced and protected in this circle of good friends.

I am offering my heartfelt prayer for your excellent health, peace and security. Please give my sincerest regards to your families as well.

*Daisaku Ikeda
June 15, 2000*