

**SGI PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE TO THE STUDENT DIVISION CONFERENCE
AT THE FNCC, AUG. 17–20
EMBRACE THE SUN OF INFINITE HOPE**

‘All I want to ask of you is to engage dauntlessly in the battle of right and just speech,’ SGI President Ikeda says.

To my most cherished SGI-USA Student Division members, young representatives of hope and intellect:

My sincere congratulations on your training course where determined hearts abound! Nothing encourages and delights me more than the growth of many sharp, young people.

Nichiren Daishonin states, “The lion king fears no other beast” (*The Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, p. 997). You have nothing to fear, as you have embraced the sun of infinite hope. All I want to ask of you is to engage dauntlessly in the battle of right and just speech, always brightly, always cheerfully, in a manner that suits youth. Creating circles of friendship with the youth of the world, I hope you will beautifully advance as you correctly lead them into the 21st century.

Toward this end, I hope you will seriously challenge your studies at school and assiduously polish your intellect. I say this because today the vital issue is how to develop wisdom that serves as the foundation of value creation—the type of wisdom that will enable you to inspire others, guide people to happiness, and bring prosperity to society. Faith is the source of such wisdom, and enables us to live an unswayed, indestructible existence. My heart rejoices, imagining each of you playing a major role in your great cause on the stage of the new century.

I hope you, my beloved members of the SGI-USA Student Division, will advance day by day, step by step, with patience, thus living a brilliant youth of great value-creation and victory. I end my message with a heartfelt prayer for your meaningful student experience, where you put priority on study, action and good health.

*Daisaku Ikeda
August 2000*