





**Anniversary Conference** 

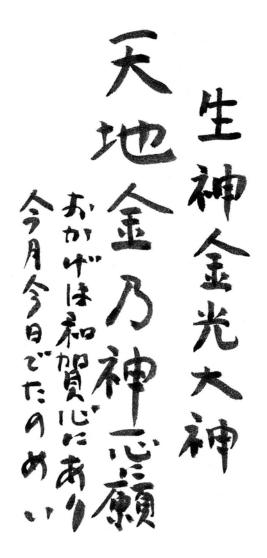
August 18~20, 2006

Konko Mission of Honolulu (8/18) Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (8/19) Ala Moana Beach Park (8/20)

Konko Missions in Hawaii

# TENCHI KAKITSUKE

The Divine Reminder



Through Ikigami Konko Daijin,
To Tenchi Kane no Kami,
Pray with a single heart
The divine favor depends
Upon one's own heart.
On this very day pray.

Calligraphic copy written by the current 5<sup>th</sup> Konko Sama Rev. Heiki Konko Reprint of Shinposha Hikkei

5th Spiritual Head of the Konkokyo Religious Organization



Reverend Heiki Konko



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## **Greetings**

Reverend Masahiko Oka Chief Administrative Minister Konko Missions in Hawaii



On this memorable occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Konko Missions in Hawaii, I am very glad to be here with all of you today who have come from all the islands of Hawaii, North America, and Japan.

It is with great pleasure that together we offer our appreciation to Tenchi Kane no Kami, our Principle Parent of the Universe, with abundant virtue and favor. Through Ikigami Konko Daijin's Toritsugi Mediation, which has been fulfilled by the successive Spiritual Leaders and all of the related ministers of Konko Missions in Hawaii, we are able to celebrate this impressive moment.

Let us also give thanks to all the ministers and members in Hawaii who dedicated themselves to Kami and the community in order to save people in need and to propagate our Konko faith for these past eighty years. They practiced this faith in the light of Kami's only wish—that true peace be achieved throughout the world, and that the well-being of all people be fulfilled.

Now it is our turn to share and spread Ikigami Konko Daijin's timeless faith – "Kami and People live together through an interdependent relationship" – as we move forward. The future begins now, and will be with us for the next 100 years, the next 1,000 years, and for eternity. Let us open up our mind and faith together with the Golden Shining Way of Konko.

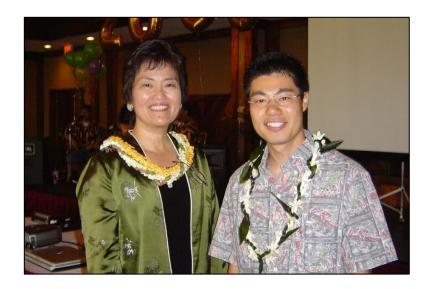
In conclusion, I would like to extend my best wishes for your continued good health, happiness, and prosperity.

Aloha,

masahiko Oka



Founding ministers (L-R): Revs. Setsuko Okuno, Santaro Sonoda, Tetsuzo Kiyotsuka Yoshifusa Nishida, Masayuki Kodama, Shoichi Okuno, Haruko Takahashi (Hilo Church service)



#### Aloha kāua!

On behalf of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, we are delighted to welcome Konkokyo ministers and members from Japan, the continental United States, and our beautiful island state to the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Konko Missions in Hawaii. The Konko Religion was established in the Hawaiian Islands in 1926, and we are very grateful to be able to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Konko Missions in Hawaii on August 18-20, 2006. Our theme, "*Prosperity from Generation to Generation*", help guide our planning efforts for this conference: to honor the past, embrace the present, and plan for the future.

This birthday celebration is a time to show our appreciation to our Parent Kami as well as to the ministers, our great-grandparents, grandparents, parents, and other believers of the Konko faith whose devotion and efforts provided the strong foundation upon which we stand. Throughout the next three days, let us express our gratitude, renew our spirits, and commit to carry on the work that they began.

With so many other activities to choose from, we thank you for registering and attending this 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. We hope that you find the conference provides you with the opportunity to offer thanks, rejuvenate your spirit, meet new people, have fun, and contribute to the future. When you return home you can help to ensure the prosperity of the Konkokyo faith for future generations by becoming involved in your community and sharing Konkokyo beliefs through your actions and faith.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Paula Higuchi, Co-chair KMH 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

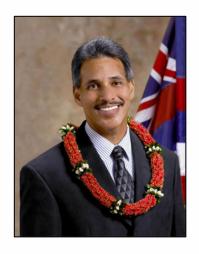
Paules April

Reverend Koichi Konko, Co-chair KMH 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

Koichi Konko







Aloha from Governor Linda Lingle

and

Lieutenant Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
presented to

# KONKO MISSIONS IN HAWAI`I MAY 21, 2006

On behalf of the people of the Aloha State, we send warm greetings of aloha to Konko Missions on the occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

It is our pleasure to congratulate you on this milestone anniversary and offer our gratitude for your many years of work in our island state.

We appreciate your efforts to promote spiritual well-being in Hawai'i and wish you continued success in your outstanding missionary work.

Aloha,

Linda Lingle

Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.

Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

# Message in Commemoration of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Konko Missions in Hawaii

Reverend Hajime Suzuki Chief Administrative Director Konkokyo Religious Organization



On behalf of the Konkokyo Religious Organization, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations on the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Konko Missions in Hawaii. How wonderful it is to witness 80 years of perpetual endeavors in the spreading of the Konkokyo religion, through which many people in the islands of Hawaii have been saved and able to enjoy blessed lives!

The propagation of the Konkokyo religion in the islands of Hawaii began at the moment Reverend Kokichi Katashima, Chief Director of the Konkokyo Young Believers Association, made a tour of North America and Hawaii in 1926. The primary purpose of his tour was to make an assessment of the spiritual health of

Konkokyo believers in America. He made several public appearances, and spoke at various locations during his stay in Hawaii. The Konko believers who had migrated from Japan and new believers who listened to Reverend Katashima's inspiring speeches got together and organized an association called the "Mamichi-kai." And this Mamichi-kai worked as a catalyst to help establish the local Konko churches that we have in the Islands today, one after another. Currently there are six churches in operation.

The Konkokyo Religious Organization officially recognizes the organization of the "Mamichi-kai" as the first tangible stage in Konkokyo propagation in Hawaii. This year we commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the seed of that Konkokyo operation in Hawaii.

The virtuous work of Kami-Sama as well as a great deal of hard work and perseverance on the part of our predecessors has contributed to maintaining the Konkokyo religious tradition from generation to generation in Hawaii. And this is stated so well in a teaching: "People should broaden the Way of Faith. Kami will grant blessings" (GII: Saisaburo Kobayashi 13-1). We would like to extend our sincere appreciation, to pay our respects to those pioneer ministers and believers who have dedicated so much of themselves to the progress of our Konkokyo religious traditions in Hawaii.

No matter what hardship the Founder had to endure, he never failed to keep his heart true and pure, and his Faith steadfast. He was able to make his Dream come true, and to embark upon an unprecedented way of life that can be characterized in the divine statement, "Both Kami and the people uphold each other through the principle of mutual inter-dependent relationship." The common people in our Founder's surrounding community began to seek him out to get help for their various matters. And thus began his practice of Toritsugi-Mediation. The Founder humbly accepted the Divine Call of Tenchi Kane No Kami to be of help to people who were suffering. And so he gave up his family farming occupation, and he devoted himself to the divine function of Toritsugi-Mediation. Many of the people whom Konko Daijin came in contact with were saved. And many of those became enlightened, and many evolved to become Toritsugi-Mediators and spread the Konko Faith far and wide. The Konkokyo Movement spread far and wide through their dedicated work. The Founder in his latter years clearly identified his mission in life, which was to save the world and all of humanity:

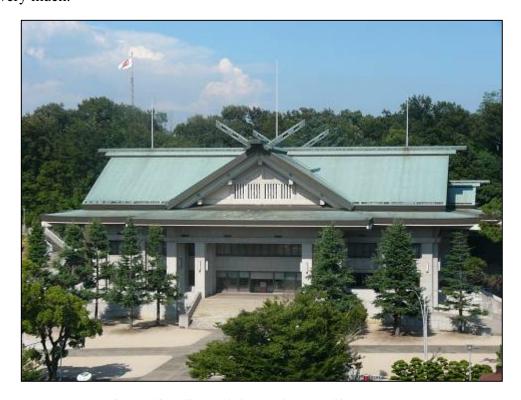
"No one is aware of the blessings of Heaven and Earth, which enable people to live. Kami shall enable people to become aware of the blessings of Heaven and Earth by having Konko Daijin be born throughout the world, where the sun shines, in every country, without exception" (Konko Daijin Oboecho 26-22-3).

The fact that we are here today, and that we witness the continued operation of the Konkokyo religious tradition and that we have lived to see the expansion of the faith in Hawaii, is a cause for great joy. We have been sustained by each and every one of us who has become a part of our religious tradition. Those of us enjoying blessings through our faith in Kami are truly motivated to help others by sharing our own personal stories of blessed experience, and guiding others to our religious tradition. In this manner, we have contributed in the spreading of our faith from individual to individual, and from parents to children.

In commemorating today's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Konko Missions in Hawaii, I sincerely wish and pray that the people of Hawaii continue to uphold the worthy goals of our pioneer ministers and appreciate their religious tradition; that we become more consciously aware of Kami's Wish in each one of us; that we strive to seek our Founder's Faith; and finally, that we help actualize the world of "Aiyo-kakeyo," "our mutual inter-dependent relationship," whereupon Kami and people, people and people, people and all things in the world can enjoy mutual respect and fulfillment. I sincerely pray that the Konkokyo community in Hawaii will evolve to become the hub, out from which our Konkokyo religious tradition will spread in radiance to other lands and other people throughout the world.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my best wishes and prayers for your continued endeavors and happiness, as well as to extend my prayers for world peace and the salvation of all people. Let us all work together to make this a reality.

Thank you very much.



Main Worship Hall at Konkokyo Headquarters (Okayama, Japan)

## Reverend Roderick Hashimoto Chief Administrative Minister Konko Churches of North America



Aloha:

Congratulations to the believers, members and ministers of the Konko Missions in Hawaii on your 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I bring you well wishes from all the Churches and believers of the Konko Churches of North America on the mainland. We are celebrating this special occasion with you, your 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, as a mile stone in the history of the "Konko Faith" in the United States of America. The Hawaiian Islands were the stepping stone of faith for North America and we are here to thank you for paving the way.

We must reflect back to the founding Believers and Ministers of KMH to realize what a great accomplishment these past 80 years have been. Their dedication and devoted faith are the reason we are all here today. In 1926, Rev. Kokichi Katashima established the "Hawaii Konkokyo Mamichi-Kai" and this ground work laid the path for Konkokyo here on the Hawaiian Islands to grow and thrive. These are some of the Ancestral Spirits (Mitama) of the foundation here in the Konko Missions in Hawaii - Rev. Masayuki Kodama, Rev. Yoshifusa Nishida, Rev. Tetsuzo Kiyotsuka, Rev. Santaro Sonoda, Rev. Haruko Takahashi, Rev. Kiku Horibe, Rev. Shoichi Okuno and Rev. Takiyo Nakai. We thank you all from our sincere hearts.

I believe we are here today to honor our past and look forward to the future of the Konko Faith here in Hawaii. Let the spirit of the people with faith and with Tenchi Kane no Kami, our Principle Parent, sustain the Konko Faith in Hawaii. Let our prayers and faith grow so we can have 80 more years and "To the future and beyond." Once again, congratulations - *Omedeto*.

#### Reverend Michiyo Iwasaki Director of Konkokyo International Center



Congratulations on the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the propagation of Konko Faith in Hawaii.

I would like to express my deep appreciation for the 80-year workings of Kami. I would also like to extend my thankfulness to the late Rev. Masayuki Kodama and all other mitama spirits of pioneer ministers and predecessors, who earnestly wished to initiate and spread our Faith on the Islands of Hawaii with a different language and culture. They dedicated their entire lives to this mission.

These predecessors placed themselves into the local Japanese community who experienced various hardships in this new world. They introduced and passed on

the Konko Faith and actualized the workings of Kami. I initially understood their duty as propagation to the Japanese community. However, I realized that this was not the case. Their intentions were not to assist the Japanese community, but to those vulnerable in the Hawaii's society – which often happened to be the Japanese at the time. With their faith, our predecessors sincerely sought to pray for and be of assistance to these people. In doing this, they manifested the workings of Kami.

With our Founder's Faith as the base, we, who have taken on Kami's Wish and our predecessor's spirit, must be there for the vulnerable and suffering beings in our society. This is my strong desire, as well as the Konkokyo International Center's, as we celebrate the KMH 80<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary. Let us seek and manifest this great example for our Konko Faith, together. Congratulations again.

## Reverend Michiyoshi Yasutake Head Minister Konko Church of Amagi



Congratulations on the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Konkokyo Propagation in Hawaii.

One hundred forty seven years has passed since our Founder Ikigami Konko Daijin received the Divine Call on November 15, 1859. Kami related to the Founder, "There are many people like you, who have sincere faith in kamis, but still have many problems. Help these people by performing Toritsugi."

Eighty years has elapsed since the propagation of the Konkokyo faith was initiated in the islands of Hawaii. Countless numbers of people have been saved.

Eighty years of perpetual existence of the Konkokyo religion in the islands of Hawaii was accomplished through our pioneer ministers who have dedicated and persevered in their efforts to spread the Konkokyo tradition, while encountering many difficulties, such as language barriers and cultural differences.

Currently, the Japanese community in Hawaii is dominated by 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> generation of Americans of Japanese ancestry. When I witness the emergence of local born ministers and their contribution for the progress of the Konkokyo community in Hawaii, I am overwhelmed with feelings of awe and gratitude. I feel assured of the future progress of the faith community.

The Konkokyo Religious Organization has been promoting various activities and functions focused on the principle of "Aiyokakeyo", mutual inter-dependent relationships in our daily living. I would like to extend my wishes and prayers for the people of Hawaii to further their involvement in the practice of faith, while perpetuating heartfelt thanks for the blessings they have enjoyed thus far.



Konko Church of Amagi (Fukuoka, Japan)

## **Mediation Prayer**

Let us seek the Mediation of Konko Daijin with a pure and single heart, each and every day. May we receive the Mediation anew, with all our hearts and souls, on this day, this very moment

> Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama, Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama, Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama

# Kami Prayer

#### Reverently we pray (Leader)

The brilliance of heaven, the richness of earth Time flows without cease, years pass without end In heaven and earth is the Life that nurtures all In heaven and earth is the Truth that orders all

For this wondrous Form For these wondrous Works

Let us praise Tenchi Kane no Kami Let us praise Kami of heaven and earth.

Kami loves and cares for all ujiko All those who live between heaven and earth. To revere Kami as the Parent Kami, To live in Kami's infinite blessings— This is the Way.

Yet many, not knowing the Way, Are lost in greed and selfishness. They suffer the cycle of misfortunes— Great is Kami's sorrow.

Our Founding Father, Konko Daijin Suffered many trials in this world, But held fast to faith and sincerity. He received Kami's great blessing, and began the life of mutual fulfillment Of Kami and humanity.

#### Humbly we pray (Leader)

The Parent Kami's great wish was thus fulfilled: Konko Daijin accepted the Call to Toritsugi That leads to the mutual benefit of Kami and ujiko. By day he taught the Way of faith To all who sought him, Expounding the blessings of heaven and earth And he knew not the coming of night. By night he prayed for those who grieved, Seeking salvation for all who suffered And he knew not the dawning of day. Though years passed and the world changed He did not waver from his task, The divine task of Toritsugi.

Thus was given the sacred Tenchi Kakitsuke, The guiding principle for our daily life. The Divine Favor was thus renewed And blessings flowed universally, Establishing the way of eternal prosperity, The Way of Toritsugi of Ikigami Konko Daijin.

By this wondrous revelation,
We are given knowledge of the Way.
Through all the hardships of this world,
Through pain of body and soul,
The Way of Toritsugi teaches us
To turn our hearts to Kami.

Without regard for day or night, Whether we are near or far, The way of Toritsugi teaches us To pray with total trust. For arrogance in living unaware of Divine Favor, We beg forgiveness and pledge to mend our ways. Let us live every day as an act of faith, Rejoicing in the vastness of Divine Favor. Let us care for those in pain And invite them to the Way. Let us guide those who are lost And awaken them to a life of purpose. "Kami is fulfilled in ujiko, ujiko are fulfilled in Kami." May this Way of mutual fulfillment Be manifested in this world. May Kami's wish for true peace And the well-being of all ujiko be fulfilled So we humbly pray, So we earnestly pray



## **Recitation of Tenchi Kakitsuke**

Leader: Ikigami Konko Daijin Tenchi Kane no Kami

Isshin ni negae

**Congregation:** Ikigami Konko Daijin Tenchi Kane no Kami

Isshin ni negae

Leader:Okage wa waga kokoro ni ariCongregation:Okage wa waga kokoro ni ariLeader:Kongetsu konnichi de tanomeiCongregation:Kongetsu konnichi de tanomei

Through Ikigami Konko Daijin,
To Tenchi Kane no Kami,
Pray with a single heart.
The divine favor depends
Upon one's own heart.
On this very day pray.

# **Adoration Prayer**

Leader: We lift our eyes in awe toward heaven, soaring above We lift our eyes in awe toward heaven, soaring above. We bow our heads in prayer toward earth, rich and deep. Living amid such gifts of Kami's great giving, How happy and grateful we are!

The Mediation of the Living Spirit does not stop for a single day. The protection of the Parent Kami embraces all, far and wide.

The blessings of Kami flow without limit through all generations. The ways of Kami are mysterious and wondrous, beyond our understanding.

Day by day, every day, earnestly and reverently, We praise the virtues of Kami, We honor the power of Kami.



# Konko Missions in Hawaii 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Prayer

Leader: Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama, Tenchi Kane no Kami Sama

## **Congregation:**

How blessed we are to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Konkokyo propagation in the Islands of Hawaii since 1926.

The 80 years of perpetual existence of the Konkokyo community is an actualization of Ikigami Konko Daijin's Toritsugi Mediation.

We also acknowledge the dedicated work and endeavors of the pioneer ministers, Mitama spirits, and the entire congregation.

Let each of us strive to actualize family prosperity from generation to generation through our steadfast belief in Tenchi Kane no Kami.

We pray that the observance of the conference scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup> of 2006 in Honolulu will bring forth positive changes to each and every believer as well as to the entire faith community.

Please allow this conference to fulfill Kami's wish.

Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama, Tenchi Kane no Kami Sama

Please heed our prayers.



# Shinjin No Eiko

(Shining Laurels of Kami and Man)

to wa no hi ka ri o



Lyrics by Kinzo Sato Music by Michiharu Ohara



no yo ni

Hi-to

Hi—to wa mi na Ka mi no i to shi go I— to shi go ni tsu ki nu mi ka ge o



Ka—gi ri na ki me gu mi no na ka ni Chi—ka wa shi shi mi o ya no Ka mi ni



# Shinjin no Michi o Mayowazu Ushinawazu

(The Way of True Faith)

Lyrics from "Shinkun" Music by Toyoji Matsuda





no sue ma de o shi e tsuta e yo oshi e tsu tae yo



## A Shining Shimmering Light

Original Japanese Lyrics and Music by Tamie Imaoka English Lyrics by Lisa Uzunoe & Akiko Mito

With a heart/ caught up in doubt and worry I face/ my life/ every morning Wanting to shine/ but somehow holding back Joy and fear/ swirl within my heart Still I know/ even one as small as I Can run/ into some day/ and find A shining/ shimmering/ brilliant light Glowing from/ a path that never ends

#### (Chorus)

Instead of/ losing hope or/ fearing what's ahead Let's keep on/ moving forward/ with our heads held high For we are all/ living in a world That/ embraces you and me/ with its love Supported by/ the prayers of those who/ care for us We're never/ alone in our lives

When I'm down/ and ready to surrender
When times are hard/ and it seems so dark
Just knowing each day/ that I'm never on my own
Gives me strength/ and courage to try harder
Holding hands/ with my friends standing by my side
Swinging arms/ together we will walk
To the shining/ shimmering/ brilliant light
Glowing from/ a path that never ends



(Chorus X2)

# 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Konkokyo Independence (KCNA/KMH Joint)

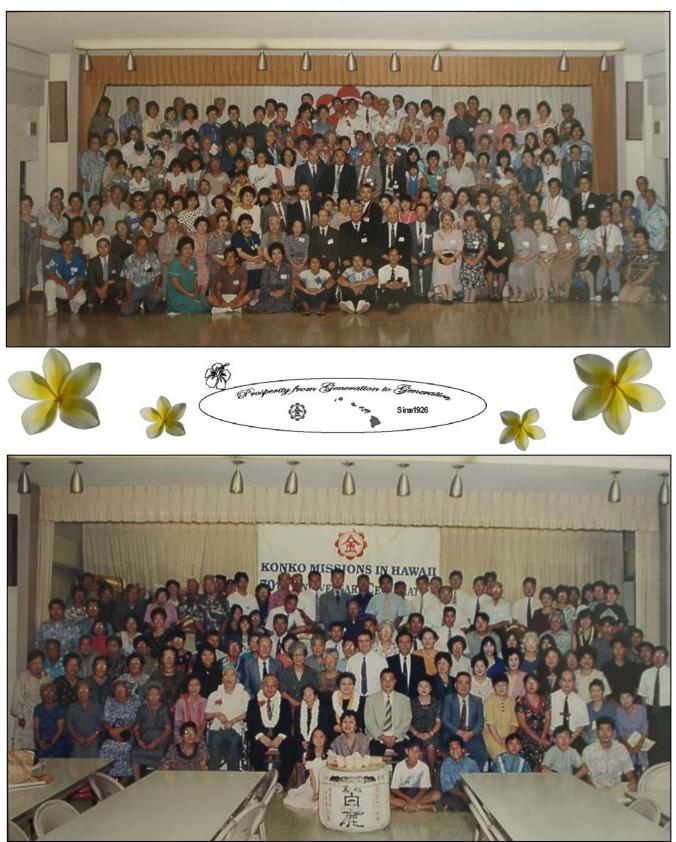


Hilo Hawaiian Hotel (2000)



*Rev. and Mrs. Heiki Konko* (5<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Head & wife)

# KMH 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Honolulu Church



KMH 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Honolulu Church

# "Prosperity from Generation to Generation"



Reverend Koichi Konko Keynote Speaker Konko Mission of Honolulu

#### Introduction

Why is the theme of this conference "prosperity from generation to generation?"

#### Three objectives:

- 1. To define prosperity in Konkokyo
- 2. To explain why Konkokyo is important to this and future generations.
- 3. To appreciate the accomplishments of Konkokyo in Hawaii on behalf of all people as individuals and families.

# What is the definition of "prosperity" according to Konkokyo traditions? (3 elements)

- Physical Condition health
- Financial Condition wealth
- Spiritual Condition faith

#### Which is the most important?

#### "Prosperity" is the status of well-being

#### What does it mean for me to be "happy?"

- Fulfill my goals
- Catch a good wave
- Listen to good music
- Win the lottery
- Go out with a cute girl
- Witness other people's happiness
- Do what Kami Sama wishes for me to do

# In the Case of Our Ultimate Role Model, Konko Daijin (Our Founder)

## First half of Founder's life (successful farmer)

- Increase of his land
- Renovation of main house and barn
- Personal health problems
- Relatives' death

#### Latter half of his life (Toritsugi mediator)

- 15,000 people came to see him
- Witness people being saved
- Gaining Kami Sama's trust
- Complications within family
- Personal health problems
- Governmental pressure

#### First half of Founder's life → Latter half of his life The teachings:

"What should be the goal in practicing faith? The sick come to pray for a cure, while the healthy come to pray for a good harvest or a prosperous business. But these goals are only temporary. When practicing faith, you must look forward to a future free of anxiety, or else your faith won't continue."

"To free your future from anxiety, divine blessings must be received by not only you, but by future generations as well. It is important that you practice a faith that will be passed down to future generations. It cannot be passed down if the family is not harmonious and if the family head doesn't practice faith."

(Excerpt from Gorikai 2 Yamamoto, Sadajiro 7)

# Looking forward to a future free of anxiety > Your Health and Finances

The Founder's ways of accepting or receiving hardships were very different between the first half of his life and the latter half of his life.

#### **Anxiety** → **Anxiety-free**

#### My greatest turning point Younger brother's grave illness

Money didn't improve his condition; faith in Konkokyo did. (Faith enabled our family and my brother to stay calm. We went through a process of Toritsugi mediation, trusting Kami Sama, believing in Konko Sama's prayer—Tenchi Kakitsuke). We realized that spiritual well-being is very important.

#### The crisis:

- Improved our family relationship
- Led to my ministry
- Improved our faith

#### Conclusion

- Prosperity is how much we can smile in any situation.
- Generation to generation is to share our happiness.
- Konkokyo gives us concepts of how to be happy.
- I appreciate the people who passed down the Konko faith to us in KMH.
- We need to learn, and experience the Konko faith just like pioneer ministers, predecessors, and dedicated members before us.

# 子孫繁盛家繁盛

#### 金光幸一師

#### 金光教ホノルル教会

(Japanese outline by Koichi Konko)

#### はじめに

ハワイ布教80年記念信奉者大会のテーマ:

「子孫繁盛家繁盛」- 現教主金光さま今一番大切になさってあることのひとつ

#### 達成目標

- 1. 金光教において、「繁盛」ということはど ういうことなのかを明らかにする。
- 2. なぜ金光教が今の世代、そして次世代にとって大切なのか話せるようになる。
- 3. ハワイの金光教の先人たちの業績に、個人 として、また家族として、みんなを代表す る気持ちでお礼を申す。

#### 繁盛とは?

繁盛とは

- 1、体の状態
- 2、経済的な状態
- 3、心の状態

「繁盛」=「幸せだと感じている状態」

#### 幸せとは?

幸せなとき

- ◆ 例えばほしい物が手に入ったとき、
- ↓ 試験で良い点が取れたとき、
- ♣ サーフィンで良い波にうまく乗れたとき、
- ↓ 運転免許が取れたときなどです。
- 好きな音楽を聞いているとき、
- ↓ ラスベガスでギャンブルに勝ったとき
- ↓ おいしい物を食べているとき
- 幸せだと感じている人のそばにいるとき、
- 神さまの願いにそった自分に少しでもなれているとき、

#### 教祖さまの場合

前半生 VS 後半生

#### み教え

「信心には何を目的にすればよいか。病人は痛いの を治してもらいたいと願い、健康な者は、作がよく できるようにとか、商売が繁盛するようにとか願って参るが、それは一時のことである。信心するには、末の安心を楽しみにしないと信心が続かない。末の安心のためには、自分一人がおかげを受けただけではならず、子孫に伝わる信心をすることが大切である。家の内が円満で、あるじが信心しなければ、子孫には伝わらない。痛いのを願うのは信心の糸口であるが、それでは、治ればお礼参りをして、その後は参らないということになる。自分の心を改めて、よい子どもを得るということを、信心の第一の目的としなければならない。一代信心は神様が喜ばれない(ご理解 II 山本定次郎7より抜粋)。」

安心=幸せ、

あるじ=自分、

よい子ども=神さまの願いに沿った幸せな生き方ができる次世代、

健康状態や経済的な状態は心の状態=信心の状態

「不安」→「安心」

#### 私のいのちの転換点

弟の病 → おかげに

天地書附のご内容

#### まとめ

繁盛ということは、幸せである状態で信心が不可欠。 神さまも自分も、そしてみんなも幸せになる生き方 子孫繁盛家繁盛

- → 幸せになるこのお道の信心を確実に子ども(次の世代)に伝えていくこと
- → 神さまがもっとも喜ばれること

次世代にも大切な内容 お礼を申さずにはおれない

お道を深く知り、経験することが必要 不安から安心へ

## "Prosperity from Generation to Generation" (1926-1980)



Dr. John Tamashiro Keynote Speaker Konko Mission of Waipahu

- I. My title is an appropriate theme for our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference as well as aligned to the purposes of my talk.
- A. This is a theme that represents achievements of Konkokyo as it has brought prosperity to many of its ministers and members.
- B. This theme represents the aspirations of Konkokyo for the present and future to continue to bring prosperity to believers in Hawaii and to people throughout the world.

#### II. Definition of key words in the theme

- A. "Prosperity" refers to:
  - 1. Health
  - 2. A good job
  - 3. Survival during emergencies
- B. "From generation to generation" refers to
  - 1. Future prosperity within all families
  - 2. Continuity of the Konko Church in Hawaii
  - 3. Expansion of the faith throughout the world
- III. How has Konkokyo benefited ministers and members during its first 50 years in Hawaii? Primarily through otoritsugi (a flexible form of mentoring between a minister and a member both of whom believe in Kami-Sama)
  - A. Otoritsugi is a process formalized by ritual
    - 1. Characterized by appreciation, apology, and requests.
    - 2. Performed at the hiromae or worship hall.
  - B. Otoritsugi is a form of self discipline practiced by ministers and believers, but can also be initiated by any person seeking help.
  - C. Otoritsugi is an informal interaction even between members or between members and non-members outside the hiromae.

- IV. Benefits of otoritsugi practice: examples from each of the 6 churches in Hawaii taken from my dissertation, "Konkokyo, a Japanese Religion in Hawaii," pp. 203-240.
  - A. Healing
    - 1. Rev. Haruko Takahashi (Wahiawa Church)
    - 2. Rev. Yoshifusa Nishida (Hilo Church)
    - 3. Mr. Yoshii Fukuichi (Kauai)
    - 4. Related examples
  - B. Solving work-related problems
    - 1. Mr. Shigetoshi Higuchi and Rev. Masayuki Kodama (Honolulu Church)
    - 2. Related examples
  - C. Surviving crises
    - 1. Rev. Takiyo Nakai (Wailuku Church) and Mr. Masao Nagasako (Wailuku Church)
    - 2. Related examples
  - D. Reconciling conflicts within families
    - Rev. Masayuki Kodama (Honolulu Church) and Mr. James Tottori (Waipahu)
    - 2. Related examples
  - E. Leadership of believers mentioned above and their service to church and community.
- V. Lessons of Konko history for present and future: to build upon the achievements of otoritsugi.
  - A. From focus on healing to a concern for good health: example of present activity: yoga classes at the Waipahu Church.
  - B. From solving work-related problems to problems of science and morality such as abortion, euthanasia, stem cell research, etc.
  - C. From helping individuals during personal crisis to helping them transition between stages of the life cycle such as from work to retirement (e.g., speakers on medical insurance, how to play golf)
  - D. From resolving conflicts between a father and son to building bonds of unity among family members such as by researching genealogies on the internet.

## 子孫繁盛家繁盛(1926-1980)

玉城ジョン博士 基調講演者 金光教ワイパフ教会

(Japanese translation by Yasuhiro Yano)

- I. 私の演題は80年記念大会に即したテーマでもあり、私の話の目的にも即しています。
  - A. このテーマは数多くの教師やメンバーに 繁栄をもたらした金光教を代表するもの です。
  - B. このテーマは現在そして未来に渡ってハ ワイの信奉者や世界中の人々に繁栄をも たらそうとの金光教の大願を表していま す。
  - C. このテーマは物質的な利益や精神的な利益をハワイにもたらすことを詫びない 我々の信ずる信仰のユニークさを表しています。

#### II. テーマの中のキーワードの定義

- A.「繁栄」は次のことを意味しています。
  - 1. 健康
  - 2. 充実した仕事
  - 3. 緊急時での生き残り
- B.「代々引き続いて」の意味するもの
  - 1. すべての家族内での未来にかけての繁栄
  - 2. ハワイの金光教の継続
  - 3. 世界中へ向けての金光教の展開
- III. どのように金光教が最初の50年間で教師やメンバーに利益をもたらしたのか?主にお取次ぎを通して(教師と信徒の間で行われる、一対一の柔軟な指導形態)
  - A. お取次ぎは儀式によって様式化された一行程 1. 感謝、お詫び、お願いによって特徴付け られた。
    - 2. 広前か礼拝場で行われる
  - B. お取次ぎは一つの教師や信者によって行われる自己規制、しかし、誰でも助けを求めている人によっても始められる
  - C. お取次ぎは広前以外でのメンバー同士、 又はメンバーとメンバーでない人との間 での形にとらわれない関係

IV. お取次ぎの利点: 自筆の博士論文「金光教、ハワイの日本の宗教」ページ203-240、ハワイの各6教会からの例

- A. 治癒
  - 1. 高橋ハルコ先生(ワヒアワ教会)
  - 2. 西田美義房先生(ヒロ教会)
  - 3. 福一ヨシイ(カウアイ)
  - 4. 関連例
- B. 仕事に関わった問題の解決
  - 1. 樋口シゲトシ氏と児玉政行先生 (ホノルル教会)
  - 2. 関連例
- C. 危機を乗り越える
  - 1. 中井タキョ先生(ワイルク教会)と長伯マサオ氏(マウイ)
  - 2. 関連例
- D.家庭内に於ける対立の解消
  - 1. 児玉政行先生 (ホノルル教会) 鳥取一郎氏 (ワイパフ教会)
  - 2. 関連例
- E. 以上に紹介した信奉者の指導的影響と教会 や地域社会への貢献

#### V. 現在と未来に金光教の歴史から学ぶもの:

- A. 治癒中心よりよりよい健康に対する関心:現在の活動例:ワイパフ教会でのヨガ教室
- B. 職場での問題解決から科学、モラルの問題への移動、例えば、堕胎、安楽死、ステムセルの研究など
- C. 個人的な危機からの救いから人生のサイクル層、例えば仕事からリタイアメントへの移行(例えば、医療保険、ゴルフの楽しみ方などの講師)
- D. 父子間の対立の解消から家庭内の結束を 強める、例えば、家系図の研究をインタ ーネットで行う

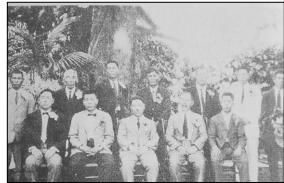


# Founding Ministers of Konko Missions in Hawaii





Rev. Kokichi Katashima



Mamichi Kai established 9/5/1926 (Rev. Katashima at center)



Revs. Masayuki & Kikue Kodama Konko Mission of Honolulu (Since 1928)



Revs. Yoshifusa & Fuji Nishida Konko Mission of Hilo (Since 1929)



Rev. Tetsuzo Kiyotsuka Kona Propagation Hall (Since 1936)



Rev. Santaro & Mrs. Sueka Sonoda Konko Mission of Waipahu (Since 1938)



Rev. Haruko Takahashi (Since 1940) Konko Mission of Wahiawa



Rev. Kiku Horibe (Since 1940) Lihue Propagation Hall



Revs. Shoichi & Setsuko Okuno Konko Mission of Hanapepe (Since 1953)



Rev. Takiyo Nakai (Since 1957) Konko Mission of Wailuku



# Konko Missions in Hawaii Young Ministers



Rev. Roy Mineharu Yasutake Konko Mission of Wailuku Ordained on March 29, 1993



Rev. Todd Zenji Takahashi (Right) Konko Mission of Honolulu Ordained on March 30, 1994



Rev. David Michio Yano & Rev. Megumi Yano Renee Natsuki Yano (Daughter) Konko Mission of Wahiawa/ Both ordained on June 10, 1999



Rev. Koichi Konko Konko Mission of Honolulu Ordained on June 1, 2000



Rev. Rodney Takashi Yano Konko Mission of Wahiawa Ordained on June 1, 2001



Rev. Alvin Nobutaka Yasutake Konko Mission of Wailuku Ordained on June 1, 2002



Rev. Edna Kazuko Yano Konko Mission of Wahiawa Ordained on September 24, 2002

## Konko Missions in Hawaii 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program Schedule

## Friday, August 18 – DAY 1 at Honolulu Church

3:30 p.m. -Registration (受付)

4:30 p.m. -Opening remarks (開会式)

-KMH 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service (80 年記念祭典)

Processional of the officiants(参向着席)

Hymn: "Shinjin no Eiko"「神人の栄光」

Hairei- four solemn claps (拝礼)

**Mediation Prayer** 

Kami Prayer

Saishi- Main Prayer(祭主祭司奏上)

Tamagushi offering by Saishu head officiant (祭主玉串奉奠)

Recitation of Tenchi Kakitsuke (天地書附奉体)

Hymn: "Shinjin no Michi"「信心の道を迷わず失わず」

Tamagushi offering

Guest ministers (来賓教師玉串奉奠)

Representatives (各教会代表玉串奉奠)

**Adoration Prayer** 

Hymn: "Shining Shimmering Light"「光り輝く道」

Hairei- four solemn claps (拝礼)

Recessional of the officiants (退下)

5:20 p.m. -Kibimai Sacred Dance "Toshimasari" (吉備舞奉納)

5:30 p.m. -Congratulatory Remarks by Konkokyo Hawaii Center &

Konko Churches of North America (祝辞)

-Group Photo(記念撮影)

6:00 p.m. -Dinner—2<sup>nd</sup> floor(直会)

7:00 p.m. -Entertainment (余興)

-Oahu Konkokyo Chorus Group

-Nihon-buyo (1) By Ms. Lauren Shinozuka

-Amagi Church

-Halau Hula O Malamalama

-Nihon-buyo (2) By Ms. Lauren Shinozuka

-Momoyama Gagakuryo Band

8:00 p.m. -Disband (解散)



## Saturday, August 19 – DAY 2 at Japanese Cultural Center

7:30 a.m. - Registration & Continental Breakfast (受付・軽食)

8:00 a.m. -Opening Remarks (開会式)

-Welcome address (歓迎の挨拶)

-Opening Prayer (開会御祈念)

8:15 a.m. -Message of 5<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Head Rev. Heiki Konko (Video)

(5代教主金光様メッセージ)

8:30 a.m. -Keynote Speakers

Rev. Koichi Konko & Dr. John Tamashiro (基調講演)

9:00 a.m. -Group Discussion (班別懇談)

10:30 a.m. -Break (休憩)

10:45 a.m. -Report Back (班別懇談リポート)

11:30 a.m. -Lunch (昼食)

-Presentation of interviews with church members

(各教会信奉者代表 ビデオ・インタビュー)

-Recognition of the 80+ members (80 歳以上の御信者さん表彰)

-Evaluation (アンケート評価)

1:00 p.m. -Closing program (閉会プログラム)

-Singing of the three hymns (歌)

-Yosakoi Dance (踊り「よさこいソーラン節」)

-Closing remarks (閉会の挨拶)

2:30 p.m. -Disband (解散)

# Sunday, August 20 – DAY 3 at Ala Moana Beach Park

10:00 a.m. -Gather at Area # 8 near Diamond Head Concession (8番エリアにて集合)

-Opening prayers(開会御祈念)

-Opening remarks (開会の挨拶)

10:30 a.m. -Games and Swimming (ゲームや水泳)

12:00 p.m. -Lunch (昼食)

-Free time(自由時間)

2:00 p.m. -Closing remarks (閉会の挨拶)

-Closing Prayers (閉会の御祈念)

-Group photo (記念撮影)

-Disband



# Konko Mission of Honolulu

Head Minister: Rev. Masahiko Yoshino with wife, Rev. Sugako Yoshino



I would like to share some of my thoughts with you in response to the fifth

item in the interview question requested by the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, namely, "As you look to the future, what are your thoughts on how Konkokyo can continue to prosper?"

My straightforward answer to that question is "to actualize the Founder's faith belief in today's society." In addition, we should learn to appreciate the faith belief exhibited by the founding minister of each local church more intently. One common element that can be found in all successful churches is that they have tried to preserve the initial faith belief demonstrated by their founding ministers with heart and soul. Their sincere and overwhelming attitude to perpetuate the original faith belief from generation to generation is being put to practice. Their strong enthusiasm overwhelms me.

From June 5 through June 6, 2006, the local women ministers held their annual meeting at the Konko Mission of Wailuku. One attendee who participated for the first time came to church and related to me that she had never experienced such a wonderful and meaningful meeting before. especially impressed was enlightening stories shared by the elderly ministers, which provided her extra encouragement for her future engagement in her missionary work. Her story also moved me a great deal, and also reminded me of a chain of memories I have cherished. When I was admitted to the Konko Church of Amagi as a religious trainee at the age of 17, I learned a lot from the stories shared by the elderly church

members. When I entered into the church, I knew nothing about the practice of the Konko My father who sent me to the Amagi Church expressed his great joy and encouraged me by saying, "You do not have to know You can be completely ignorant. anything. Oyasensei (the Reverends Matsutaro Yasutake and Fumio Yasutake of Amagi Church), will help and guide you to learn about the Konko faith." I had received the blessings my father expected me to receive while at Amagi. Because I was ignorant and had no knowledge about Konkokyo, my mind was like a clean slate of a white board. I was curious and showed a great deal of interest in the stories shared by devoted church members who would share their stories with tears in their eyes. Because of this background, I can still vividly remember those lively stories I learned some 50 to 60 years ago.

As has been stated in the Kyoten Gorikai, "In this faith you are saved not by chanting prayers, but by listening to the teachings" (III Naiden 6-6), it is important to listen to the teachings. One of the Founder's disciples, the Reverend Norio Sato expressed that you have to listen to the teachings 1,000 times and also encouraged to share the teachings you learned 1,000 times with others.

I also remember a story shared by the Reverend Fumio Yasutake. There was a legendary story that took place at a middle school in Japan a long time ago. Every morning, they held a regular morning school assembly. The principal always told the students the same story every morning. He was talking about "Shimatsu Kennyaku" or frugal and thrift way of life. The older students nicknamed the principal "Shimatsu Kennyaku" and always said, "There he goes again." But they found themselves using the expression "Shimatsu Kennyaku" when they discipline other siblings in the house. The message they heard every morning from the principal naturally evolved to become something of their own. The same may apply not only for the practice of the faith but to any concept. Only those who listen well will rise up to the top of the world.

Testimonial Ms. Momiye Kuroda Konko Mission of Honolulu Practicing faith for about 80 years



I first began attending Konkokyo through Mr. and Mrs. Sosuke Kanemura's guidance to my parents. I also went along with them to the gatherings.

Konkokyo is an important part of my life because I have

peace of mind and sanction when attending church.

There are several significant divine blessings that I can think of, but the most recent one happened about two years ago. I had just finished washing the car, and I was wringing out the chamois cloth that I used to wipe the car when I lost my balance and hit my head on the wall in front of my house. Thinking that I just bumped my head, I put my hand over the affected area, and realized that I was bleeding. Seeing the blood, I said, "Konko Sama," prayed, and ran into the house and put the goshinmai paper. To my surprise, it stopped bleeding! I washed the blood out of my hair and went to church. I did "otodoke" to Sugako sensei and she said that she couldn't see any cut. What an amazing divine blessing I had received. At my age, I'm grateful to be very healthy and able to do everything on my own with little or no medical problems. The only "problem" is the fact that I have shrunk two inches due to osteoporosis.

Regarding my family and friends, my husband had several divine blessings throughout his life. One incident was when he was picking mangoes from the tree, the branch he was standing on broke. He landed away from the rocks below, and walked away with only a few scratches—no broken bones or internal injuries. The most amazing blessing was when my husband lost his left pinkie fingertip. It didn't heal after the

doctor stitched the wound. The doctor pierced it to see if it was abscess, but nothing happened. He went to Reverend Kodama to otodoke that the doctor said to wait. Meanwhile, I wrapped his fingertip with goshinmai paper and prayed. Can you believe that the next day, a cotton swab was out on the goshinmai paper with little abscess?! We thank Reverend Kodama and Kami-Sama for the divine blessings that the wound had healed.

It is very difficult nowadays to suggest how Konkokyo can continue to prosper...Our generation is aging; young members are not attending church; today's generation have too many activities that keep them too busy to attend church.

I hope my children and grandchildren will come to realize the divine blessings we receive daily and attend church to help them appreciate Kami-Sama and his teachings.



Rev. Sugako Yoshino teaches Ikebana flower arrangement



Honolulu Church Grand Service Sacred Kibimai Dance

#### Memories of the Late Reverend Kikue Kodama

#### By Ms. Grace Kodama Konko Mission of Honolulu



My mother, Kikue Kodama, came from a very spiritually enriched heritage before she reached Hawaii. Many of her family members and relatives were already part of the ministry that contributed to the establishment and expansion of the Konko faith in Japan. However, she started out her

young adult life as an elementary school teacher and after having some experiences in the educational field decided to enter the Konkokyo Theological Seminary. Upon graduating in 1929, she could have remained in Japan and easily married into a household of a very established church but she preferred not to do so. I feel my mother was truly born to serve Kami on an arduous and turbulent path of life. She did not particularly care for a journey of ease and comfort where surroundings and circumstances were pre-determined, and as fate would have it become a pioneer woman going into another country where the language, customs, and way of thinking were dramatically different from those of her homeland.

In 1928, at the request of the Reverend Matsutaro Yasutake of Amagi Church, Fukuoka Prefecture, my father, Masayuki Kodama, went to Hawaii to propagate the religion. On May 20, 1929, he married mother in Japan and in early August 1929, returned with his young bride. She was about to turn 22 in September and he, 26 years of age in November.

On August 27, 1929, the Konko Mission of Honolulu was established at 1851 Liliha Street. To accommodate the growing membership, on August 21, 1939, the church relocated to its present site at 1728 Liliha Street. Members recalled that my mother was a devoted, hardworking, and conscientious wife and parent.

Of the numerous and harsh physical, emotional, social and financial trials experienced and overcame by mother in her ministry, I believe the war experience clearly embodies the resiliency of her character and the remarkable strength of her soul. It is of this spirit that I now share with you.

On December 7, 1941, with the outbreak of World War II, all missions were closed and Masayuki Kodama and his disciple ministers Haruko Takahashi, Santaro Sonoda, and Kiku Horibe were interned. Kikue Kodama was left behind with six young

children...Dorothy, Arthur, Lillian, Ernest, Grace and The profound impact of the World War II internment camps on the lives of Japanese Americans, as well as, Japanese nationals cannot be underestimated. We experienced very long separation and almost no communication with our family members as he was interned on Sand Island. Oahu and in five mainland. USA states. Before he was repatriated to Japan on September 1, 1943, father made the request to mother to have his family return with him. She relayed to him by letter that all mortgage payments on the church property were paid off; they are responsible to the members; and that the children are growing up well; so please be at peace. Feeling assured, he asked that she look after matters in his absence and returned back to his country. Till mid-September 1946, close to three years, no communication was ever allowed between them.

The war years were difficult for mother as she assumed the role of caretaker of the church. Prayer was confined to a sacred shrine hidden in her bedroom. However, on the second night of father's internment, she saw a dream that made her realize that though he was not physically present at the church he would still serve his family and the congregation through his She embraced the spiritual guidance of prayers. Ikigami Konko Daijin, Tenchi Kane no Kami, Kyoshu Setsutane Konko and his wife and Amagi Church's Rev. Matsutaro Yasutake. She prayed hard that she could serve the church well. Mother's faith deepened when she received many dreams that offered spiritual enlightenment on different matters during father's eight and a half years of absence.

During the hardship times, also, mother bore the great task of raising her young sons and daughters. However, my brothers and sisters and I saw our parent as a strong and determined woman and not as a weak and fearful one. She was kind, loving, patient, very caring and concerned for all. She always made her children feel safe and secure, and that things would be fine. Stressful and anxiety-filled situations never seemed to keep her down. She was the quiet at the center of the storm, the anchor of the family. She had been a rock and foundation of our lives.

After father returned to Hawaii on April 28, 1950, another chapter in our church history began.

After many, many long years of service in the ministry together, father died on August 24, 1973, and mother on November 28, 1997.

As I reflect on the past, I can recall mother's words, "In facing the years that follow...I firmly believe that, whether young or old, if we have a sincere and thankful heart, as we receive the blessings of Kami, we shall find much happiness throughout our lifetime."

# Konko Mission of Hilo

Head Minister: Rev. Makio Nagai



I am overwhelmed with the feelings of gratitude and thankfulness in commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Konkokyo propagation in Hawaii.

I believe that the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary function has

been planned and carried out by the young ministers and believers.

We owe a great deal to the late Reverend Kokichi Katashima who came to Hawaii in August 1926. He helped to initiate the formation of the lay members association, conducted extensive research for the propagation of the Konko faith, and laid foundation for the future propagation work through his public speeches. Other pioneer ministers established their churches and devoted themselves in their missionary work with all their heart and soul. They encountered many differences in the living environment, culture, and thinking. They also had to deal with the social changes such as the development of World War II, but they were steadfast in their belief in Kami and persevered to continue propagating the Konko faith in this community. Let us extend our deepest thoughts of appreciation for the work of the pioneer ministers which enable us to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Konkokyo in Hawaii.

The succeeding ministers have tried to continue organized propagation of the Konko faith, as well as promote educational programs for the younger generation. But we have achieved little due to the lack of human resources and so forth.

The Founder Konko Daijin related, "Even a narrow road is advantageous if it becomes wider by being traveled on frequently. Do not let grass grow on your road" (III Konko Kyoso Gorikai 84). But I feel repentant that we have let grass grow on our road in terms of the propagation in Hawaii.

I feel a sense of crisis for the continuation of the Konkokyo propagation in Hawaii, but at the same time I feel a bit relieved in witnessing the local born young ministers. We rely on them for the future progress of our faith community in Hawaii.

As we commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Konkokyo propagation in Hawaii, I am determined to perpetuate the strong willed endeavor for propagating the Konko faith that has been demonstrated by our predecessors. I will work hard to cooperate with the other ministers and the members in the faith community for the continuation of organized Konkokyo propagation. I would also like to contribute to passing on the faith to the next generation and support future growth of the faith Hereafter, I am determined to community. follow the teachings of the Founder Konko Daijin; overcome the differences of nationality, race, and language; and promote a way of life to actualize the mutual interdependent relationship between Kami and people.



Konko Mission of Hilo

Testimonial Mr. George Greenhouse Konko Mission of Hilo



Hi, I'm
George
Greenhouse,
member of
the Konko
Mission of
Hilo since
early childhood, but as
best as I can

recall a life-time member of Konkokyo. I would say I was born into Konkokyo. My mother's oldest sister, the late Reverend Haruko Takahashi, sought otoritsugi with the Late Reverend Masayuki Kodama between 1928-1930. Receiving Okage, she decided to serve Kami-Sama and began her faith training in Japan in the mid-1930s and ordained a minister circa 1935, beginning missionary work in Wahiawa. Coincidentally, my cousin, Reverend Todd Takahashi, continue to follow in Aunty Haruko's footsteps. I believe Aunty's strong faith commitment guided our family, from the first generation onward, to the teachings of Kami-Sama and the Konko Way of Life.

Konkokyo is important to me because it gives me a solid foundation of faith and way to practice my faith. Its teachings are neither rigorous nor demanding. The teachings are basic to human principles and how to live life with appreciation and respect for all things that affect our lives. It teaches us to live with patience, tolerance, compassion, understanding and love. Konkokyo teaches us to value many things we take for granted, such as the sun, air, and water, and all the elements that support our lives, even our bodily functions. We learn the importance of human kindness and the tremendous satisfaction we receive when helping others, without seeking recognition or reward. Konkokyo keeps me grounded and humble and gives me a path to follow. And, very important to me, now more than ever, it teaches me to honor, respect and appreciate my ancestors for all things they've done to provide us with a solid foundation of faith and way of life. I am sincerely confident that our ancestors continue to be with us, watching over us, protecting and guiding us throughout all of our daily activities. The question of okage is difficult to answer. I believe okage is not a one-time miracle event, but an ongoing process. Every day of life is a blessing. Our health, our welfare, our well-being, are all blessings. Having the strength, courage, knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform our tasks, carrying out our duties and living up to our responsibilities are all okage. Serving Kami-Sama, doing "goyo" at church or helping someone, is okage. Okage is boundless and limitless.

A special okage I received, which helped tremendously in my faith's growth and development was being asked by our sensei, Makio and Yoshie Nagai, to act as "hokyo," a minister's assistant, and teaching Sunday School when we had about a dozen students in regular attendance. At church, as at work when I trained new employees. I realized that teaching is also learning. Through helping others, we strengthen our skills and knowledge. In Sunday school, as we learned of the life of our Founder, and discussed the sacred scriptures and how it applies to us, I found my own faith beginning to evolve. My wife's faith training, growth and development began with Sunday school. experiences I realized here was the beginning of my faith training, a very special okage.

Again, I don't know how to pick out a single special okage. A teaching says, "If you want to meet Kami, step out of your entrance. The sky above is Kami, and all beneath is Kami." When you look about you, Kami-Sama's okage is everywhere. It's all about recognizing it, appreciating it, and reacting positively to it. We are always in the midst of Kami-Sama's okage, but fail to see it. Okage exists in every aspect of our lives. Let us all reach out to Kami-Sama and receive okage daily. Seek it single heartedly and you will receive it.

# Hilo Church Snapshots



Konko Sama visits Hilo Church







# Konko Mission of Waipahu

Head Minister: Rev. Tetsuro Yasutake with wife, Rev. Mitsuko Yasutake



I wish to extend my warmest congratulations on the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Konkokyo

Propagation in Hawaii.

I made my first visit to Hawaii in September 1973. I accompanied the late Reverend Fumio Yasutake of the Konko Church of Amagi to attend the funeral service for the late Reverend Masayuki Kodama, Head Minister of Konko Mission of Honolulu.

My second visit to Hawaii was in August 1976 as part of the entourage of 160 people from Amagi Church attending the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Konkokyo Propagation in Hawaii.

The third visit to Hawaii was made in March 1980. This time, my wife also came to take care of the Konko Mission of Waipahu, and we have lived here until today.

When I moved to Hawaii, I was in my 40s. There were active Issei and Nisei church members who showed comfort in reciting prayers in Japanese and listening to the sermons also in Japanese.

But the time span of 20 years has transformed the church environment, such that the majority of the members have advanced in age and some have passed away, and the use of the English language for church functions has prevailed.

I can clearly visualize the generational transition taking place in the Konkokyo faith community in Hawaii. The Konkokyo operation for the

Japanese-oriented congregation has ceased to flourish, and more emphasis has been placed to better accommodate the needs of the Englishoriented congregation.

Fortunately, the emergence of a new generation of local born ministers provides us much confidence, assurance, and hope for the future of the Konkokyo community in Hawaii.

I wish and pray that I can be of help and support for those young local ministers and lay believers for the future expansion of the faith community in Hawaii.



Konko Mission of Waipahu



Yoga Class at Waipahu Church

Testimonial Ms. Wanda Tamashiro Konko Mission of Waipahu

# Caring for Okaasan A Story of Prosperity from Generation to Generation



Okaasan—Ruth Tottori (left) and Wanda Tamashiro (right)

Taking care of senior citizens is a major concern in most families. Do we put Okaasan in a nursing home at a cost of \$6,000-7,000 a month or put her in a care home for less? Or do we try to keep her at a home? But who will take care of her for 24 hours a day? Well, our family decided to keep her home with a combination of relatives, caregivers and friends, which seemed to be mutually beneficial for the parties involved.

This solution has helped us to keep Okaasan at her home for over 9 years and this year she will be 97 years old. My son and daughter-in-law lived with her and my father. This arrangement kept my parents safe at home for all these years and they in turn were given a place to live; and it has helped me and my siblings from ever having to sleep over so they can attend their own affairs. Living right across the street from the Waipahu Konko Mission was very beneficial for Okaasan because Okusan Yasutake, Mrs. Shimai and the late Mrs. Ishii and other members came to help take care of her and my father when they were still able to walk and so we could all go to work.

However, I would come after work during those days.

But when Okaasan aged and she needed more help, I retired and started to care for her. But, I soon developed sciatica and pain in my back and legs so we enlisted the help of young women who proved to be stronger and more competent in care giving for me. Included in this group were CNA (Certified Nurse's Assistant), and a student nurse, a former nurse and a professional caregiver. How did I find this help? Talking to people and calling the Honolulu Gerontology group for respite care. Sometimes they lived close by as was Reiko Sensei, Angel and Clara. I think all of us benefited from this arrangement because the women were able to pay their rent, buy a car and go to school with the money they received from my mother and I was able to recover, exercise, and do other work.

Voluntary help came from my cousin Amy Suzuki, my sister Michan, my sister-in-laws Miriam and Bertha. They along with my Aunty Yabuki, provided some welcomed emotional support and good food for my mother. My cousin said that she also benefited emotionally from these visits because she had lost her mother when she was young.

As they say in Konkokyo, *aiyo kakeyo* (mutually beneficial relationship) has taken place and that is why I think this is a story of prosperity from generation to generation—from Okaasan to my siblings, to my children and to our young caregivers. We have all prospered.



# Waipahu Church Snapshots



Konko Sama visits Waipahu Church



Top (L-R) Church Bazaar



Bottom (L-R) Shiatsu session and Kendo class





# Konko Mission of Wahiawa

Inochi no Shin no Hataraki Head Minister: Rev. Yasuhiro Yano





Konko-Sama related the theme "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki" or the vital work that sustains all living things. He is quoted as saying, "A tree with thriving branches and a firm root system maintains sound growth." The roots take up nutrients from the ground and send them

all the way up to the branches and leaves. While the leaves yield nutrients for the tree by the work of photosynthesis, the nutrients are then sent down to the roots. This vital work can be referred to as "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki."

The same function of "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki" or "the vital work of sustenance" also can be found in each of us. When a baby is born, we celebrate the birth of a new life. We often say, "Omedeto Gozaimasu" or congratulations and "Arigato Gozaimasu" (thank you) amongst ourselves. We simply try to share our happiness and joy with each other. When a baby celebrates his or her first birthday, we try to extend our happiness and joy, and keep the tradition of exchanging our congratulations, by saying "Omedeto Gozaimasu" or "Arigato Gozaimasu" amongst ourselves. As the child grows up and enters school, we exchange the same greetings. So too, when a child graduates from school, gets a job or gets married.

In trying to perpetuate this ritual of extending positive greetings, we activate the work of "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki" for human beings. When we cease to extend our thoughts of happiness, joy, and appreciation amongst ourselves, we may then stop growing as an individual, thus encounter disruptive relationships with others. In the same manner that a tree sheds its leaves and the roots stop providing nutrients, the tree will eventually die.

This year marks the  $80^{th}$  year since the initial Konkokyo community was born through the

visitation of the Reverends Kokichi Katashima in 1926. Can we recreate the joy and happiness that the people in the community initially experienced when they bonded as Konko believers in Hawaii? They exchanged "Omedeto Gozaimasu" and "Arigato Gozaimasu" when they got together. We might have perpetuated that principle of "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki" for 80 years in Hawaii. But the magnitude of expressed and shared joy and happiness among the faith community may have diminished considerably in the course of our existence in the last 80 years. And this diminished function of "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki" is reflected in the moderate operation of the Konkokyo in Hawaii we now face.

Let us try to recreate the overwhelming sense of joy and happiness the believers of Honolulu might have experienced upon the arrival of the Reverends Masayuki and Kikue Kodama. The initial thought of appreciation for the presence of the resident ministers at each local church has been diminished and replaced with a demand for a better minister of our liking. The situation reflects a feeble state of "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki." Let us try to say "Arigato Gozaimasu" for the presence of our ministers and extend our appreciation for the services being provided by them. Let us try to show our appreciation for the continued operation of our church and share our thoughtfulness to fellow church members. If we stop admiring and expressing thanks to our spiritual head, Konko-Sama, we will simply find it difficult to enjoy blessings and witness the thriving of our faith community as a whole. I know the situation is not all that simple, but a simple act of showing our respect and appreciation for the work of the ministers as representatives of the spiritual head, Konko-Sama, will reinvigorate the work of "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki" for the faith community in Ministers alike need to be willing to Hawaii. activate our part of "Inochi no Shin no Hataraki." If we can rejuvenate this work in our Konkokyo faith community, we will be able to perpetuate the presence of our faith community for many more centuries to come.

Testimony Ms. Jane Suwa Konko Mission of Wahiawa



(The four generations of the Suwa Family: Bottom L- Jane Suwa, Jayden Adkison, Mitsuko Suwa, Top L- Trisha & Bryce Adkison)

My name is Jane Suwa and I am a member of the Wahiawa Konko Mission. I was first introduced to the Konkokyo faith over 20+ years ago by my mother-in-law whom I drove to this church with her friend to attend the evening services, which were held on the 1<sup>st</sup>·13<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month. My two daughters and I started attending church services on Sundays around 1982. After the church service, there was Sunday School for about an hour conducted by Reverend Reiko Yano at the downstairs hall. My daughters along with my niece, nephew and Reverend Yano's three children were taught some Japanese language and other activities such as arts, Japanese children card games, crafts, and snacks were served after classes.

Konkokyo has given my family many divine blessings since we started attending this church. My children from grade school to college achieved good grades all throughout their school years and I thank Konko Sama for all these OKAGE.

My significant divine blessing has been my two children and their families who are all healthy and are doing well today. I have been blessed with three grandchildren who have lots of energy, all in good health which makes me happy. My son-in-law, who is in the Army, has just been deployed to Iraq for one year and I pray to Konko Sama every day to watch over him, keep him safe, in good health and to bring him home safely to his family.

I pray to Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama every morning before I leave home to protect my family and friends, keep us safe, in good health and give us the guidance we need in our daily lives. When any of my family members goes on a trip for vacation we always ask Reverend Yano to "onegai" for a safe trip. Whenever I have to go to an event and I know parking is a problem, I always pray to Konko Sama to please help me find a parking space when I get there and somehow I always find a parking space.

Every night, before I go to bed, I always pray to Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama to thank him for a wonderful day and for all the blessings he has given us today and continue to bless us each and every day.

As we look to the future, the Konkokyo faith can continue to prosper if we continue to have newsletters informing us of the upcoming services and activities. They should also have the Konkokyo teachings and speeches done at Sunday's Services on the newsletters for family members and friends to read, who were unable to attend that particular service, and the church members can distribute the newsletters to their family member and friends to spread the Konkokyo teachings. There should be more guest speaking sessions at public events, more radio exposure, more newspaper articles, etc. on what the Konkokyo faith is all about. We should also let the public know that Konkokyo now has a website if they want to know more about this faith.



Konko Sama visits Wahiawa Church



### Testimony Mr. Channon Pangorang Konko Mission of Wahiawa

Channon is a childhood friend of Rodney and David Yano of Wahiawa Church since early elementary school days. Channon, along with his four other siblings often participated in various church activities—the friendship still continues.



I remember when I was in the fourth grade. My friends and I, including David and Rodney, went to play at a nearby parking lot. We were playing "Who can bounce the golf ball the highest." Out of the many times I was bouncing the ball, I beamed the ball to the concrete pavement with full force. Then it

backfired just above my right eye socket. I sustained a cut about half an inch in length. My mother, not wanting me to turn to the hospital for stitches, went to the Wahiawa Church to talk about the matter with Rodney's mom.

I remember Rodney's mom dabbing my wound with sacred rice wine and putting a piece of goshinmai sacred rice paper over it, and a bandage to seal it all in. Then she told my mom and me not to touch or wash the treated area for one whole week. Then, in just 5 days, the worn out bandage started to peel off by itself. Rodney's mom told me to bring back the sacred rice paper that was on my wound to dispose of it properly. Under the dirty bandage was a cut that had amazingly healed. No stitches were necessary. And till today, no scars remain. This was a divine blessing.

I joined the United States Army in June 1999. I was assigned to go to Afghanistan in 2002. And in August of 2002, my right arm had been slashed with a dull knife or something, by one of the insurgents. It was a wound about 4 inches long. I remembered that I had the sacred rice that Rodney's dad handed to me before I left for Afghanistan. I ate the sacred rice and put the sacred rice paper on my wound. Again, no stitches were necessary, and now only a barely noticeable scratch remains. Then again in March 2003, I went to Iraq. I got slashed on my back, but I couldn't reach the wound, so I did not put the goshinmai sacred rice paper. The wound healed, but the scar is much more noticeable on my back. "Goshinmai" works! I resigned from the US Army in February 2004, and am currently studying to be in the law enforcement agency.

## Wahiawa Church Snapshots



Konko Mission of Wahiawa

Rev. Reiko Yano handing Konko-Sama the sacred Tamagushi branch at the 2002 Autumn Grand Service at the Headquarters, Japan



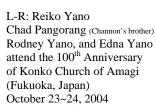
Wahiawa Church 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service March 12, 2000

Volunteer Activity At Wahiawa General Hospital Long Term Care Facility





Wahiawa Church Annual New Year's Mochitsuki





## Konko Mission of Hanapepe

Head Minister: Rev. Setsuko Okuno



We celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Konko Missions in Hawaii with divine blessings received in expanding our religion in Hawaii.

Since 1926, there were many changes over the generations in our society.

And I wholeheartedly express my gratitude to Ikigami Konko Daijin Tenchi Kane no Kami for allowing our Konko religion to thrive in Hawaii. I also convey my deepest appreciation to our pioneering ministers, who dedicated their lives in establishing the foundation of our religion in Hawaii.

## A brief chronology of Konko Mission of Hanapepe

- 1952 Rev. Shoichi Okuno arrived in Hawaii.
- 1953 Konko Mission of Hanapepe established.
- 1954 Rev. Setsuko Okuno arrived in Hanapepe.
- 1963 Massive flooding of Hanapepe River.

  The people of Hanapepe and the church received a miracle—no lives were lost.
- 1964 New church building completed.
- 1966 Monthly religious services begun at Anahola and Koloa.
- 1982 Hurricane Iwa caused major damage to the island of Kauai.
- 1992 Hurricane Iniki devastated the entire island of Kauai with landfall in Hanapepe.
- **1994** Konko Mission of Hanapepe relocated to Oahu.
- 1997 Rev. Shoichi Okuno passed away. Rev. Setsuko Okuno appointed Head Minister by Konkokyo Headquarters.

Throughout our lifetime we encounter many challenges. Always be "Thankful" of the life given to you by Kami-Sama, and change your outlook of suffering to a heart of "Joy and Peace." Welcome the future with a heart of "Thankfulness" as you recite daily, the "Tenchi Kakitsuke" the "Divine Reminder of Heaven and Earth". Let us all pray with a single heart with great hope for a bright future.

## Hanapepe Church Snapshots



Kauai Gathering



Kauai Gathering

### Reverend Shoichi Okuno A Selfless and Compassionate Pioneer of the Konkokyo Faith

### By Mr. Glenn Okuno



Reverend Shoichi Okuno was a selfless and compassionate Teacher of the Konkokyo faith. He devoted 44 years saving people and propagating its teachings to the people of Hawaii. He served as Reverend of the Hanapepe Konkokyo Church and as Administrative Head of the Konko Missions of Hawaii.

Reverend Shoichi Okuno graduated in 1949 from the Konkokyo Theological Seminary. In 1952, he was sent on an assignment to Honolulu to assist in the compilation of a book of Konkokyo teachings, "Yasutake Matsutaro Kyo Go Shu". completion, he received the divine guidance from the Third Konko-sama to immediately open a Konkokyo Church in Hanapepe. Hanapepe was a rural agricultural community on Kauai with a diverse ethnic mix of different cultures and languages. He arrived in Hanapepe on June 17, 1953. After a year of start-up challenges of the Church and stimulating test of his faith, he was joined by his wife Reverend Setsuko Okuno on July 4, 1954, after she graduated from the Konkokyo Theological Seminary. Together they pursued their challenging Mission in Hanapepe of saving people and propagating the teachings of Konkokyo in Hawaii.

As the children of Reverend Okuno, the three of us have personally witnessed his selfless dedication and commitment to the divine Mission that was bestowed upon him by the Third Konko-sama. We have watched our father put his heart and soul into saving other people, enduring long hours of teaching, counseling, and praying without break, putting their needs before his own. The concept of a "vacation", as known in our working careers, did not exist in his life.

Our father was very warm-hearted and not only physically strong with "big muscles" but also skilled and strong-willed to endure many personal hardships and challenges to pursue his Mission. From the start,

he faced very difficult conditions in Hanapepe in unfamiliar multi-cultures and languages. Within those challenges, his Mission was to save people and propagate the Konkokyo teachings, to which he well succeeded in his 44 years.

After the conversion of two consecutive old houses to be the Konkokyo Church of Hanapepe, Reverend Okuno built his third (and last) Konkokyo Church of Hanapepe with his own muscle and sweat, alongside its members. The large two-story solid wood and concrete structure was built to last, withstanding major floods and direct hits of Hurricanes Iwa and Iniki. Through each ordeal, Reverends Shoichi and Setsuko Okuno helped people to endure throughout their trying aftermaths of each natural disaster.

In their Mission, for members who could not drive or was inconvenienced to attend Church in Hanapepe (west-side), Reverends Shoichi and Setsuko Okuno brought the Church to them. Specific locations in Koloa (south-side) and Anahola (east-side) were established to hold regular monthly services to accommodate its members, in addition to individually requested services at homes and businesses.

In 1979, Reverend Okuno was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, but his strong will to battle and endure its degenerative symptoms for over 18 years allowed him to continue with his Mission to help people. During his latter years, he relocated to Oahu for better medical attention and despite the eventual decision to close the church in Hanapepe Valley, the church operation still continues in Foster Village, Oahu, by Reverend Setsuko Okuno.

On January 26, 1997, at age 75, Reverend Shoichi Okuno passed on to become a "Mitama Spirit". His passing was Kami Sama's will and personal acknowledgement to Reverend Okuno saying, "You succeeded in your Mission, Gokuro-sama deshita!". The people of Hawaii, as well as each of his children, have truly been inspired by Reverend Okuno's selflessness and compassion extended. He pioneered the faith of Konkokyo in many people on Kauai and throughout Hawaii. His Konkokyo legacy and memories of his selflessness and compassion for people will live-on in all of our hearts.

# Konko Missions in Hawaii Snapshots



Rev. Ryoko Katsura, Rev. Masahiko Yoshino and Rev. Kikue Kodama



3<sup>rd</sup> Yatsunami Festival at Ihilani Resort and Spa (1996)



Top: KCNA/ KMH Joint MWSS at Pagoda Hotel



Top: Volunteer Activity at Kuakini Medical Center



Top: KMH Conference in Kauai (2002)



Top: Young Minister's Camp at Timberline (2006)

## Konko Mission of Wailuku

### Head Minister: Rev. Hisayo Yasutake



I am filled with gratitude as we observe the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Konko Missions in Hawaii.

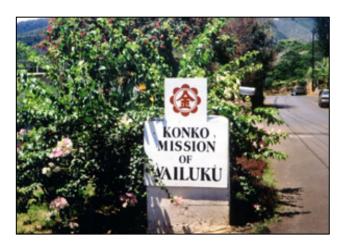
We are here today due to the work of our predecessors, who passed down to us the Toritsugi mediation of

the Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin.

In 1926, the Reverend Kokichi Katashima organized a faith gathering. 31 years later, in 1957, Reverend Takiyo Nakai, who had been training at the Konko Mission of Honolulu, came to Maui to begin propagation work.

There is a teaching (Voice of the Universe; pg. 42; #135) which states, "Few have a heart that Kami can accept. Those whose hearts can be accepted by Kami will be blessed with good health, wealth, and wisdom for three generations, resulting in a strong family lineage."

Those that can claim to have practiced faith for three generations are growing in number. However, I believe one should begin counting from himself and strive to pass on this way of faith down to children, then grandchildren and receive the blessings of having carried this faith for three generations.





Konko Sama visits Wailuku Church





### Testimonial Ms. Elsie H. Miyamoto Konko Mission of Wailuku



I first began attending Konkokyo when I had a dress shop business next to the grocery store. Reverend Nakai had to pass my shop whenever she went to the market. After work, my daughter age 3 at that time, and I

would stop by the church to do "Orei" (give thanks), and head on home.

Konkokyo is very important to me. I received many, many divine blessings. Without it, I wouldn't be alive today.

A significant divine blessing I recall is that I had lung cancer in 1975, it has since been arrested and I am doing fine. Just three years ago, I got into an auto accident and my car was a total wreck. I had no injuries whatsoever. It was really a blessing.

Not too long ago I have received a divine blessing. I fell in my yard while doing something, and I immediately asked Konko-Sama for help. I received my divine blessing and am feeling much better now. Prayer is power.

My family has also received okage. Recently, my niece who lives in Kula had an accident while lifting a box. She damaged her neck and had even gone to the chiropractic center for therapy. I called Yasutake Sensei to offer prayers for her. Her condition since has improved significantly.

As we look to the future of Konkokyo, I believe we must increase membership in our church. Konkokyo is a wonderful religion for everybody who needs protection, guidance, but above all, "Divine Blessings."

### Testimonial Ms. Noreen Nagata Konko Mission of Wailuku



I was introduced to the Konkokyo faith when I was about 8 years old. I began attending church as I followed alongside my grandmother going to church.

Konkokyo is an important part of my life. I believe in the teachings of Ikigami Konko Daijin. It has helped me in my life. Being blessed everyday, and given guidance everyday is a divine blessing.

The most significant divine blessing I have received is having three children who are doing well. As for the blessings that my family have received, my mother has been helped a lot by the blessings she has received. She has undergone a lot of pain and suffering (cancer and osteoporosis) and yet she still has a strong outlook on life.

I think it is a personal value for each person to have faith. Because everyone is so busy, membership in all churches is declining. Each person needs to look in themselves and make their own commitment.



Wailuku Church Sunday School Back in the days

# Wailuku Church Snapshots





Konko Mission of Wailuku

Late Rev. Kiyotaka Yasutake
2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Head Minister
Konko Mission of Wailuku
March 3, 1942 ~ December 27, 1992









Wailuku Church Members back in the days (above left)



KMH Convention in Wailuku, Maui (1981)

Service in the new church hall (below left) Wedding Ceremony at Wailuku Church (below right)





### History of Konko Missions in Hawaii (KMH): 1996~2006 KMH 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Konko Mission of Honolulu. 1996 August 17 3<sup>rd</sup> Yatsunami Festival at Ihilani Resort and Spa. August 18 January 26 Rev. Shoichi Okuno, head minister of Konko Mission of Hanapepe, 1997 passes away at age 75. August 14 Rev. Kanae Yasutake transfers to Konko Mission of Wailuku from Konko Church of Yoshii in Fukuoka, Japan. 4<sup>th</sup> Yatsunami Festival at Ala Moana Beach Park. August 17 Youth Camp at Konko Mission of Wailuku, Maui. August 19-21 September 1 Revs. Yoshitsugu Fukushima and Shinji Yamada with families arrive in Hawaii to work as advisors and staff the KMH Administrative Office. November 28 Rev. Kikue Kodama, head minister of Konko Mission of Honolulu, passes away at age 90. 1998 January 28 Rev. Makio Nagai appointed the Chief Administrative Minister of KMH. July 17-19 Youth Gathering at Camp Erdman. August 16 5<sup>th</sup> Yatsunami Festival at Konko Mission of Honolulu. 1999 June 10 Mr. David Yano ordained as Konkokyo minister. September 4 Youth Gathering at Konko Mission of Waipahu and Hawaiian Waters Adventures Park. 2000 February 2 Rev. Saijiro Matsuda arrives in Hawaii to work at Konkokyo Hawaii Center. February 25 Rev. Yoshitsugu Fukushima appointed as the Director of the Konkokyo Hawaii Center (KHC). August 11-13 Konko Churches of North America (KCNA)/KMH Joint Conference at Hilo Hawaiian Hotel: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Konkokyo Independence celebrated with the presence of the 5<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Leader, Rev. Heiki Konko and wife, Mrs. Yaeko Konko. 2001 February 15 Rev. Kyoji Muta arrives in Hawaii to work as a staff of KHC. March 15 Rev. Shinji Yamada and family returns to Japan. June 1 Mr. Rodney Yano ordained as Konkokyo minister. July 6-8 Youth Gathering at Pu'u O Hoku Ranch on Molokai. August 28 Rev. Megumi Yano transfers to Konko Mission of Wahiawa from Shiranuhi Church in Fukuoka, Japan.

2002	May 31	Rev. Fukushima finishes term as Director of KHC, and returns to Japan.
	June 1	Rev. Kyoji Muta appointed as Director of KHC.
	June 12	Rev. Masahiko Oka arrives in Hawaii to work as a staff of KHC.
	July 11-13	Youth Gathering at Aloha Beach Resort Hotel on Kauai.
	July 13-14	KMH Conference at Aloha Beach Resort Hotel.
	June 1	Mr. Alvin Yasutake ordained as Konkokyo minister.
	September 24	Ms. Edna Yano ordained as Konkokyo minister.
2003	March 27	Rev. Saijiro Matsuda returns to Japan for a year.
	July 15-22	Hawaii youth group goes to Tokyo for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> KIYA Peace Prayer.
	July 20	1 <sup>st</sup> Konkokyo International Youth Assembly and Peace Prayer at Konko Church of Tokyo, Japan.
	July 28	Youth Gathering at Konko Mission of Waipahu and the Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park.
	August 26	Rev. Koichi Konko transfers to Konko Mission of Honolulu from Konko Church of Amagi in Fukuoka, Japan.
2004	May 10	Rev. Saijiro Matsuda returns to Hawaii for another term.
	June 10	Rev. Kyoji Muta finishes term as Director of KHC and returns to Japan.
	June 11	Rev. Masahiko Oka appointed Director of KHC.
	July 2-4	Youth Gathering at Camp Timberline.
	July 17-18	KMH Conference at Konko Mission of Honolulu.
	August 21	2 <sup>nd</sup> Konkokyo International Youth Assembly and Peace Prayer at USS Battleship Missouri.
	August 31	Rev. Rodney Yano moved to Konko Church of San Francisco on a three year term as assistant minister.
2005	February 19	Family Gathering at Konko Mission of Wahiawa and Dole Plantation.
	July 21-26	Hawaii youth group goes to Korea for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> KIYA Peace Prayer.
	July 24	3 <sup>rd</sup> Konkokyo International Youth Assembly and Peace Prayer in South Korea.
	August 5-7	KCNA/KMH Joint Conference at Camp Angelos in Corbett, Oregon.
2006	April 26	First invocation for Senate at State Capitol by Rev. Edna Yano.
	June 16-18	Youth Gathering held at Konko Mission of Honolulu.

# Konko Missions in Hawaii Snapshots



Minister's gathering with Rev. Shiro Okuhara (Japan)



Punch Bowl Visit on Memorial Day



Rev. Masako Kikekawa (KCNA)



KMO Chorus Group (since 1997)



Missionary Women's Society Seminar



Youth Camp in Portland, Oregon



KIYA Peace Prayer at USS Missouri



KMH Summer Youth Gathering at Honolulu Church (2006)



2<sup>nd</sup> Konkokyo Int'l Youth Assembly picnic at Magic Island



3<sup>rd</sup> KIYA Peace Prayer in Korea



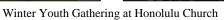
Dr. George Tanabe's lecture



At the Water Park









### KMH 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Steering Committee Members



Co-Chairs: Koichi Konko and Paula Higuchi

**Program:** Chair: Saijiro Matsuda

Co-chair: \*Ronald Yamanaka

**Promotion:** Chair: Masahiko Oka

Co-chair: Edna Yano

**Logistics:** Chair: John Tamashiro

Co-chair: \*Randy Furusho

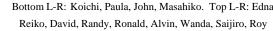
Secretary: Saijiro Matsuda

Edna Yano

Treasurer: David Yano
Translation: \*Yasuhiro Yano
Publication: Edna Yano

Other Members: Roy Yasutake, Alvin Yasutake, Reiko Yano, and \*Wanda Tamashiro









### \*Sub-committee members and consultation

### **Church Directory**



### Konko Missions in Hawaii

URL: http://www.konkomissionshawaii.org/

### Konkokyo Hawaii Center

⊠ kmhcenter@hawaiiantel.net Rev. Masahiko Oka Rev. Saijiro Matsuda Rev. Koichi Konko

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Rev. Koichi Konko

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 Revs. Mitsumasa & Mayumi Yasutake
Rev. Katsuo Yasutake Rev. Noriko Yasutake
\*Revs. Akinobu & Miyoko Yasutake

\*\*Revs. Akinobu & Miyoko Yasutake\*\*
\*\*Tevs. Akinobu & Miyoko Yasutake\*\*

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 Revs. David & Megumi Yano
 \*Rev. Rodney Yano Rev. Edna Yano

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\*Currently out of state









