

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

Dear Members and Friends,

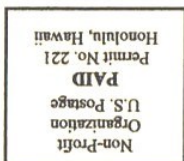
Have you ever heard the Japanese term "akiya"? Perhaps some of you may know Reverend Akiya, who used to be a minister of Kapaa Jodo Mission, but I'm not referring to him at this time. I'm talking about "akiya" in the sense of vacant houses. Recently, when browsing social media, I've often encountered videos where foreigners are encouraged to buy these "akiya" properties, with the Japanese term "akiya" used directly. In certain areas of Japan, vacant houses are marketed as "cheap" properties, with prices as low as \$1,000 for a single-bedroom apartment. Compared to the expensive real estate and apartments in Hawaii, these properties are affordable, even when factoring in maintenance costs.



This increasing number of vacant houses has been predicted as a part of the "2025 Problem" for about a decade. The "2025 Problem" refers to Japan's aging population, particularly the baby boomer generation, which will number approximately 22 million people over the age of 75 by 2025. For reference, Japan currently has a population of 124 million, making this demographic approximately 17% of the entire population. This raises concerns about the rising costs followed by the demand for medical care and nursing care, which will be placed on social security. Due to the ongoing decline in the birthrate, the younger generation is shrinking, and the elderly will soon make up one-quarter of Japan's population. As a result, by 2025, labor shortages are expected to begin, medical burdens will increase, and vacant houses will appear everywhere in cities, causing various problems to become even more prominent. This year marks the beginning of this issue called the "2025 problem."

In my hometown Niigata Prefecture, there are several vacant houses near my family temple. This feels like "Mottainai" (a waste), but over the past two decades, we had to demolish two vacant houses on the temple grounds. Part of this stems from my decision not to take over the family temple and instead immigrate to Hawaii. However, this issue is not unique to my family temple. Many temples in Japan face a shortage of successors due to the rapid decline in the birthrate. With fewer young ministers available, many temples risk becoming "vacant temples," much like vacant houses. The shortage

[Continued on page 2]



Jodo Mission of Hawaii
1429 Makiki St.
Honolulu HI 96814
Address Service Requested

JODO MISSION OF HAWAII
BULLETIN – JANUARY 2025
(#1347-0125)



[Continued Bishop's Message]

of monks in Japan is directly connected to the shortage of ministers in Hawaii, as the latter often relies on Japan for support. This issue is further exacerbated by visa challenges, which make the process of bringing monks to Hawaii time-consuming and difficult.

When I first arrived in Hawaii, there were three resident ministers (Rev. Yachi, Rev. Ezaki, Rev. Kaneda) here at the Betsuin with 17 ministers across the entire Jodo Shu in Hawaii, including Bishop Shibamura and retired ministers. However, today, only 8 ministers remain in Hawaii Jodo Shu, including myself. Over the past 20 years, the number of ministers has halved, and now there are four ministers in charge of multiple temples. This is, of course, due to the shortage of ministers, but also the financial problems of the temples which keep needing the maintenance cost for the old buildings with fewer and fewer members.

For instance, at the temple in Koloa on Kauai, we used to hold fundraising events like the "Huli Huli Chicken" sale twice a year and the "sushi sale" quite often. Also, we hosted large bon dances to support the temple's finances. However, due to the aging of the members and fewer younger members to take their place, these fundraising events are no longer held. Without fundraisers, it is impossible to employ a full-time minister, and without a minister, it is difficult to practice and spread Buddhism.

Considering all of these, we need to establish a training program for local people to be assistant ministers as a realistic approach. The authority of an assistant minister is limited but should be good enough to meet the needs of the temple. Visas and passports are not necessary for the local-born ministers and communication in English is of little to no issue. In addition, there are more and more English-translated scriptures and textbooks **are** available.

In the coming years, I would like to focus on planning the "Goju-Soden" or the ceremony of the fivefold transmission of Jodo Shu teachings which can be great foundation to start our local assistant ministers' program. Goju-soden is a very important ritual in Jodo Shu, which values the practice of chanting "Namu Amida Butsu". The five textbooks from the Jodo Shu lineage, transmit the essence of Jodo Shu by explaining clearly and correctly over five days why Nenbutsu is important. I would like to continue to engage in a translation project for a training program for non-Japanese people, led by Dr./Rev. Hodo Marcos Tanaka of the Jodo Shu Research Institute.

At the same time, we'd like to work on creating opportunities to engage with local communities and encourage a deeper understanding of Jodo Shu's teachings. By developing this program and focusing on education and training, we aim to build a sustainable future for the temple and its practices. We must come together, not only to preserve our heritage but to adapt and respond to the challenges we are facing, including the shortage of ministers. With a cooperative spirit, we can create a stronger and more resilient community that will ensure the continued growth and vitality of Jodo Shu in Hawaii. May this new year bring us determination, collaboration, and wisdom to tackle these challenges and build a brighter future for all.

In welcoming 2025, may I extend my sincerest Aloha and greetings to each and every one of you. At the same time, I would like to thank you very much for your generous and warm support to our temple. I sincerely pray for your good health and happiness throughout the year.

Gassho,

Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

MESSAGE FROM JODO MISSION PRESIDENT

Akimashite Omedeto Gozaimas.

Happy New Year!!! 2025 THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE.

This past year was a very busy year for all of us having to celebrate the founding of Jodo Shu 850th year and 130th year in Hawaii.

For all of our members who volunteered their time to make Jodo Shu a successful 2024, Thank You from our executive Board and governing Board members.

Next year will be the year of the snake. I was told that the year of the snake will bring us opportunity of growth, stability and creativity.

In 2025 we must all take advantage of growth personally, create stability in your home life and business but most of all be creative in whatever you do.

Jodo Shu took advantage of 1st Growth by increasing our membership participation and reaching out to our general public to visit our church and join as members, 2nd Stability by keeping our membership in gauge with different events throughout the year, 3rd Creativity by introducing different types of events that everyone can enjoy, old and young.

Having a change of guard in 2025, there will be a lot of uncertainty throughout the world. We must all stand strong and come together and hang on to our faith. Every Sunday we the Jodo Shu members attend services to enjoy one another with laughter, talking stories and thanking our family who have gone before us by saying thank you for your love and strength. We will all survive for the better and come out stronger than ever because we have faith and prayer.

So come and join us on Sunday and partake in our services. Our bishop and reverend not only practice our faith but preach in a different way that reaches out to our younger generation. If you have not attended, come and see for yourself.

In 2025 we have planned many new activities throughout the year for everyone to enjoy. Look for them in our monthly newsletter and sign up to participate. Like any organization, we lack volunteers. We need help to make any activity a success. To our existing members, please come out and sign up. We love to meet you all and reconnect with all of you. To the younger generation, continue the tradition that your parents once did.

Keep the tradition going for years to come. Your family as well as your parents will thank you for all you do for them. For the family that passed before us I truly believe they will look upon you and thank you for thinking of them. Our Japanese tradition cannot be forgotten and must be passed down for generations to come. For this very reason, I became President to see that our traditions are not forgotten. This is my way of telling my family that passed before me THANK YOU and you will not be forgotten.

Having said this, I truly believe 2025 will be a great year for all of us.

Happy New Year!!!!!!! And ring in the new year with blessing at our temple.

Yours truly,

Daryl Masaki

President, Jodo Mission of Hawaii



“Hybrid”

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

As dues paying members of Jodo Mission of Hawaii, you are welcome to attend the 2025 General Membership Meeting and Installation of Officers on **Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 10:45 a.m., following the Sunday Service** in the temple. It will be held as “hybrid” meaning you may come in person or you may attend via a link given on website **jodo.us**. Please join us and meet your Board of Directors.

The following is a list of officers and directors to Jodo Mission of Hawaii Board of Directors:

President:	Daryl Masaki
First VP:	Christine Inouye
Second VP:	Gail Okamura
Secretary:	Sally Hayashi
Assistant Secretary:	Jon Riki Karamatsu
Treasurer:	Ian Kitajima
Assistant Treasurer:	Gail Okamura
Director:	Darin Miyashiro
Director:	Lyvonne Loui
Director:	Patsy Takemura

2025 Concerns; Suggestions

If you have any concerns or suggestions you want to address, please do so at this General Membership meeting. We welcome all your help in making 2025 a very good year..

Ministers; Bishop Kosen Ishikawa, Rev. Myoko Takano, Rev. Takaaki Tanabe

Zoom Meeting—Topic: General Membership Meeting & Installation of Officers

Time: January 26, 2025 @ 10:45 am Hawaii time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81472790661?pwd=MOjiQ197jYC7dezvmOCyMh9YTOoQeI.1>

You may also join via telephone by calling the following number at the above date and time: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

QR code for 2025 General Membership Meeting on Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 10:45 am

Step 1: From your smartphone, open the camera (ensuring the rear-facing camera is selected.)

Step 2: Point your camera at the QR code. Center the box over the code to scan it.

Step 3: Tap on the URL popup banner at the top of the screen, and you'll be connected directly to the intended Zoom site.

Or you can manually input the following meeting ID and passcode

Meeting ID: 814 7279 0661

Passcode: jodo



Shinnenkai 新年会 New Year's Party

Please join us for our New Year's Party following the Annual General Membership meeting. All members, volunteers and friends are invited—delicious food, lucky number, Bingo game, and entertainment.

Date: Sunday, January 26

Time: 11:30 a.m. (after General Membership Meeting)

Place: Jodo Mission Social Hall



GYOKI-E CHUTOBA FORM 2025 (御忌会中塔婆申し込み用紙)

Deadline: January 10, 2025

YOUR NAME (お名前) : _____ PHONE (お電話番号) : _____

NAME OF DECEASED (亡くなった方のお名前) :

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

**Virtual & In-Person Gyoki Service
January 19 at 10 a.m.**

Zoom link will be on website
www.jodo.us

_____ I plan to attend service

_____ I do not plan to attend

One Chutoba is \$ 7.00 × Total of Chutoba _____ = Total \$ _____
(中塔婆 1本 7ドル) (本数) (合計)

Please make checks payable to “Jodo Mission of Hawaii”. Membership dues (Gojikai)(\$80) and Niche maintenance donation may also be included with your payment. Thank you.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Order accepted by: _____ Date accepted: _____ / _____ / 2025 (In person / Mail / By phone)

Received by: _____ Date paid: _____ / _____ / 2025 (Cash / Check # _____) Write _____

“Hybrid” Gyoki-e (Honen Shonin’s Memorial Service)

Gyoki-e means the memorial service for **Honen Shonin**. Honen Shonin, who is the founder of Jodo Shu, passed away on January 25, 1212. He was 80 years old.

After Honen Shonin passed away, his disciples and believers started to have a memorial service for him on the 25th of every month. The biggest ceremony was held on the 25th of January every year. This service was held not only locally in Kyoto but it spread all over Japan. In those days, the word “Gyoki” meant the anniversary of the deaths of the Emperors or their wives. The word “Gyoki” was such a respectable word for the Emperor's family.

Three hundred years after Honen Shonin passed away, Emperor Gokashiwabara mandated Jodo Shu to call the anniversary of Honen Shonin’s death “Gyoki”. Since then, people called his annual memorial service “Gyoki”. This occasion implied that Honen Shonin was clearly accepted and revered by the Emperor and the people.

Our Gyoki service will be held on **January 19th at 10 a.m.** Please join us.

Chutoba is available for this Gyoki service. At this service you may also honor your deceased ancestors with a Chutoba prayer. See above for the Chutoba order form.



**Founder of Jodo Shu :
Honen Shonin
(1133-1212)**

Hyakusai (100 year olds) 百 歳

We would like to honor all 100 year olds and older members at our New Year’s Party. To live to be 100 is amazing! If you know of anyone who will be 100 years old or older by January 26 and he/she will be attending the Shinnenkai, please call our office at **(808) 949-3995** with the name of the member. *Thank you.*

What is Perpetual Memorial Service (Eitaikyo)

When the date of death of a deceased occurs, ministers do prayers on this anniversary date each year. Prayer services are held each day at 9:30 am (times may change due to scheduling). This perpetual memorial service is called *Eitaikyo* in Japanese.

Please contact temple office if you are interested..

Notice to Nokotsudo Visitors

(Sometimes referred to as the Niche rooms)

Many people call to see if the Nokotsudo/Columbarium (or sometimes known as Niche rooms) are open. We let people in if you come and ring the blue bell. **We recommend you wear a mask, use the hand sanitizer going in and coming out and go home and wash your hands with soap.** No more than 4 people at a time, with social distancing.

New Hours: 10 am to 5 pm Mon to Sat
12 pm to 3 pm Sunday*
10 am to 3 pm Holidays

*Sundays no one in office since we have Sunday Service

REMINDERS

Gojikai or Membership—\$80.00 per year

Persons of the same family but living separately should have their own membership

Niche owners should continue their Membership or Gojikai each year (Gojikai is paid only once each year). **AND**

Maintenance donation \$5.00 per year per niche

Become a Jodo Mission Member!

If you're coming to services, volunteers at events, and/or donates to the temple, please become a Jodo Mission member for \$80 a year!

Thank you for your understanding.

Memorial Years Observed

1 st year	2024
3 rd year	2023
7 th year	2019
13 th year	2013
17 th year	2009
23 rd year	2003
25 th year	2001
27 th year	1999
33 rd year	1993
37 th year	1989
43 rd year	1983
47 th year	1979
50 th year	1976
100 th year	1926

Email Monthly Bulletin

—Please advise if you wish to have your monthly bulletin via email instead of U.S. mail.

Please also keep Jodo Mission advised of your current address & phone number.

Mail forwarded because you moved also adds additional costs. Thank you for your cooperation.

お知らせ

2023年より年間護持会費、又はメンバーシップ費が一世帯につき1年間で**80ドル**へと変更になります。(お住まいの家族世帯が別の場合は個々にメンバーシップが必要となります。)

また、納骨堂(ニッチ)内に納骨棚を所有の方は、護寺会費とは別途、5ドルの年間管理費をお納めください。

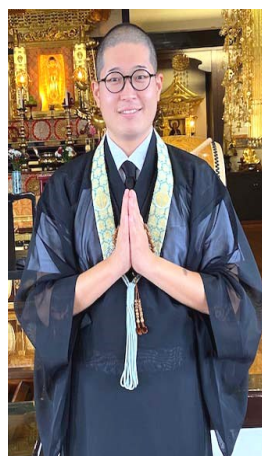
皆様にはご負担をおかけしますが、ご理解ご協力のほどよろしくお願い致します。 合掌



Bishop Kosen Ishikawa



Rev. Myoko Takano
Resident Minister



Rev. Takaaki Kouken
Tanabe
Resident Minister

Jodo Mission Office Hours:

[New Hours]

Monday to Saturday

10am—5pm

Sunday & Holidays

10am—3pm

Phone: (808) 949-3995

Website: www.jodo.us

Parking: NO PARKING in Reserved stalls. Thank you

Perpetual Memorial Service (Eitaikyo) For January

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>1 Sekitaro Hirohama
The Hirohama & Kawasugi Family
Kenji Fujikami
The Hashimoto Family
The Ohara Family
Haruko Ikuta
Tsugio Takamatsu Family
Kiyotaka Glenn Mitsuyasu
Tomomitsu Kawamura
The Kawamura Family
Tokusaburo Fukuda's Father
Hon-yo Jo-dai Shin-ji
The Fukuda Family
The Nakabayashi Family
Members of Honolulu Meisho YBA
Chukichi Asamura
Toyo Asamura
The Masuda & Asamura Family
The Yamasaki & Hara Family
The Yoshizaki Family
The Matsushita Family
The Aoki Family
The Sakuda Family
The Okamura Family
Stanley Satoru Morimoto
Tomoyo Yanagihara</p> | <p>9 Taka Tomonari
The Tomonari Family
Asa Hayashi
Hisako Takamura</p> <p>10 Hiroko Yoza
The Yoza Family
Kami Higa
The Higa Family
Bishop Ninryo Nago (2)
The Nago & Kunimoto Family
Janice Misao Okamoto</p> <p>11 Tokoe Imaguchi
The Imaguchi Family
Hatsuko Hayashi
The Hayashi Family
Masakichi Teruya
Reginald Hisao Hisamura
Uichiro Ishii
Kohei Umeda
Matsuyo Yamamoto
Tadashi Yanagihara (2)</p> <p>12 Heiji Fukuda (2)
The Fukuda Family
Nagao Yamada
Shokichi Harada
Katherine Kayoko Uyehara</p> <p>13 Bishop Jiko Kuya
Shima Morita (2)
Shizue Fujita
Kinmatsu Nakagawa
Maruo Sasuga</p> <p>14 Akitaka Chikamoto
The Ohta Family
Genzo Yanagihara
The Yanagihara Family
Tsuchiyo Kimoto
Miyoko Kaya
James Akira Tamura
Edward Kisaku Teraoka
Yaichi Nakao
The Nakao Family
Richard Megumi Fujie, Sr.</p> <p>15 Tane Nagata (2)
The Nagata Family
Sukeichi Kameoka
The Kameoka Family
Tane Nagata
Mildred Misako Tanimura
Shizue Kimura</p> <p>16 Take Shinagawa
Tomojiro Fujita
The Fujita Family
Kenji Iwamoto
Chiyoka Mizuno
Seiichi Shimamoto
Tatsuo Fujimoto
Helen Kinuko Iwakawa</p> <p>17 Hanayo Taniguchi
Kame Okamoto
Moto Kawasugi
Nobuo Hayashi
Amy Hideko Tanaka</p> <p>18 Kiyomatsu Daitoku (2)
The Daitoku Family (2)
The Kochi Family
Katsutoshi Takata
The Takata Family</p> | <p>Itaro Kurihara
The Kurihara Family
Masao Ishii
Richard Shoichi Ishida</p> <p>19 Tai Kawano
The Kawano Family
Chiyo Tomai
The Tomai Family
Miyo Ueno
The Ueno Family</p> <p>20 Shinazo Nishiguchi
The Nishiguchi Family
Noboru Ajimura
The Ajimura Family
Kiku Kimura
Yuriko Nishimoto
Nisuke Oyama</p> <p>21 Sueko Higashimura
Kiku Kimura
The Kimura & Muroshige Family
Masao Teruya
Takeo Yamane
Shimo Hatanaka
Hiroshi Furuya
Tsuneko Shintaku
Ronald Koichi Namihira
Aileen Mitsuyo Kishida</p> <p>22 Masae Tanimura
Konoshin Kimura
Fukukichi Tatei</p> <p>23 Shokichi Fukumoto
The Fukumoto Family
Takeo Yoshihara
The Yoshihara Family
The Tanaka Family
Jiro Kiyama
Ralph Toshiaki Hashimoto
Terry Kazuo Yorimoto
Clara Ebisuzaki</p> <p>24 Heikichi Isobe
The Isobe Family
Machi Yokoyama
The Yokoyama & Morita Family
Toranosuke Kinoshita
Tane Kinoshita
The Kinoshita Family
Tsune Aoki
George Masao Tanaka
Helen Katsuko Ito
Tetsuo Shinohara (2)</p> <p>25 Taka Fukuda
The Fukuda Family
Saitchi Hyodo
Joseph Yoshihiko Fujihana
Sadako Oki
Teruko Mamiya (2)
The Sato Omura Family
Takeshi Tanaka
Kasuke Yamane</p> <p>26 Take Arita
The Arita Family
Haruo Harry Nakamura
The Nakamura Family
Kimio Yagi
The Yagi Family
Sueyoshi Yanagihara
Yoshi Yamamoto
Chester Takeo Kaita</p> <p>27 Seiichi Fujimoto
The Fujimoto Family
Takeshi Sato
Charles Shoichi Kimura
Hiroko Nakano
Yoshiro Ohta
The Ohta Family
Marie Umeda Kekuewa</p> <p>28 Yoshie Sato
The Sato & Suzuki Family
Sae Higashimura
The Higashimura Family
Tome Yamanaka
The Yamanaka Family
Chizuko Saeki
Sadamu Iwamoto
Yooko Fujimoto</p> <p>29 Tomo Isobe
Hana Kinoshita
The Kinoshita Family
Jisaburo Kanemoto
The Kanemoto & Miyamoto Family
Kansuke Shintani
Fusao Taniguchi
Ralph Hitoshi Tanaka
Toshito Fukuda
Hisayo Higashi
Helen Fusaye Morita</p> <p>30 Kumaichi Tomonari
The Tomonari Family
Tsunejiro Kawasaki
The Kawasaki & Nakagawa Family
Ine Yoshizaki
The Yoshizaki Family
Tomota Kakehashi
Masao Kume
Akio Matsuda
Kiyoshi Kamimura
Barbara Okimoto
Stanley Takayuki Ajimura
Frederick Seikichi Kamimura</p> <p>31 You Kawamura
The Kawamura Family
Shizuko Aoyama
Kaname Yamanaka
Harold Takeo Tanaka
Shigeno Ohara</p> |
|---|---|--|

Obituaries


The Jodo Mission of Hawaii extends its sincere condolences to the family members and loved ones of the following members who have recently left this world for the Pure Land.

Haruko Yoshida 92
Lucius Teuhiko Fujihana 86

9:30am Morning Service Everyday
Note: Time may change due to
 Schedule

January 2025

Jodo Mission of Hawaii
 Phone: (808) 949-3995
 Website: www.jodo.us

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00 am New Year's Day Service 	2	3	4
5 8:30 am Fujinkai Mtg 10:00am 1st Sunday Service	6	7	8	9	10 Deadline to Order Chutoba	11
12 8:30 Board Meeting 10:00 Sunday Service	13	14	15	16	17	18 8:00-12 noon Sewing Circle
19 10:00 am Hybrid Gyoki Service	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 10:00 Sunday Service 10:45 Hybrid Gen Membership Mtg & Instl of Officers 11:30 New Year's Party in Social Hall	27	28	29	30	31	

COMING EVENTS:

Feb. 9, 2025 Nehan-e Family Service
 Feb 23, 2025 Fujinkai General Mem Mtg &
 New Year's Party
 March 1, 2025 Deadline for O-Toba Orders
 March 2, 2025 Yula Yula Repentance Ceremony

Sunday School to join Family Ser-
 vice Sunday 1/12/25 @ 10 am
 * * * * *

Fujinkai Meeting on 1/5/25
@ 8:30 am in Ikoï Hall

Sewing Circle: Saturday
 1/18/25 @ 8:00-12 noon

NO Meeting in January for YBA

**Mochi available—call temple
 if interested**

Bazaar Donations will be accepted Kindly call temple office (808) 949-3995, if you have donations. Thank you..

Membership Dues (Gojikai) REMINDER: Please pay your membership dues (\$80). If you did not pay for 2024 and would like to pay for 2024 and 2025, please do so by making your check payable to **Jodo Mission of Hawaii** (mail to 1429 Makiki Street, Honolulu, HI 96814). You may also include your niche maintenance donation. *Thank you.*