

An Engaged Buddhist Community

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Hindu Mandir Executives' Conference
Sept. 15-17, 2017 Indianapolis, IN

Introduction



- **Who we are**

MAHAYANA BUDDHISTS

- **SOKA GAKKAI INTERNATIONAL (SGI-USA) 1930**

- **LOTUS SUTRA**

- **NICHIREN BUDDHISM- 13TH CENTURY JAPAN**

- 12 million people in 192 countries

- 1.5 M IN NORTH AMERICA

- **Liturgy**

2ND AND 16TH CHAPTERS OF LOTUS SUTRA

NICHIREN DAISHONIN'S WRITINGS

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Our Practice



INVOCATION:

NAM-MYOHO-RENGE-KYO

NAM - DEVOTION

MYOHO – MYSTIC LAW

**RENGE- LOTUS FLOWER, CAUSE &
EFFECT**

KYO – SOUND OR TEACHING

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Daily Practice



- A mind now clouded by the illusions of the innate darkness of life is like a tarnished mirror, but when polished, it is sure to become like a clear mirror, reflecting the essential nature of phenomena and the true aspect of reality. Arouse deep faith, and diligently polish your mirror day and night. How should you polish it? Only by chanting Nam-myoho-renge-kyo.

"On Attaining Buddhahood in This Lifetime" (WND, 4)



Life Goal



To become a more humanistic person

- **“A great human revolution in just a single individual will help achieve a change in the destiny of a nation and further, will enable a change in the destiny of all humankind” – Daisaku Ikeda**
- **First win in my families and neighborhoods**
- **Jigyo Keta – Practice for self and others**
- **Accomplish my purpose to better encourage others**

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Life Goal



- Suffer what there is to suffer, enjoy what there is to enjoy. Regard both suffering and joy as facts of life, and continue chanting Nam-myoho-renge-kyo, no matter what happens. How could this be anything other than the boundless joy of the Law?
- "Happiness in This World" (WND, 681)



Interfaith Involvement



- What does it take to change the foundation of society? Do ordinary people have the ability to bring about an age of peace?
- **To transform society, we must transform the deluded impulses within the human heart.**
- Because anger increases in intensity, strife of arms occurs. Because greed increases in intensity, famine arises. Because foolishness increases in intensity, pestilence breaks out. And because these three calamities occur, earthly desires grow more powerful and false views increasingly flourish. (*The Record of the Orally Transmitted Teachings*, p. 33)



Youth as our future

- Core group of youth – small in numbers
- Elementary school division
- My youth
- My daughters
- 50K Regional Youth Conference 2018
- Victory over Violence campaign post Columbine
- Nurture relationships and dreams



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Conclusion



- Based on core Buddhist principles such as **respecting the dignity of human life** and the interconnectedness of self and the environment, SGI engages in various peace activities, including human rights education, the movement to abolish nuclear weapons and efforts to promote sustainable development.

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