With recent events in the Middle East, we are once again faced with a complicated and turbulent international situation that is causing uncertainties and anxieties. The U.S., U.K., and France launched airstrikes against three sites in Syria on Friday, April 13th, in response to the Syrian regime’s alleged use of chemical weapons attack on civilians the week before. In his address to the nation, President Trump fiercely accused the Syrian government saying, “The evil and the despicable attack left mothers and fathers, infants and children thrashing in pain and gasping for air. These are not the actions of a man. They are crimes of a monster instead.” On the other hand, Iran and Russia, both of which are supporting the Asad regime, denounced the attack. Alexander Sherin, first deputy chairman of the State Duma Defence Committee said to Russian media, “U.S. President Donald Trump is not just a criminal for the whole world, he is Adolf Hitler number two.”

While leaders of countries play a blame game and try to bring enemies into submission by force, they never realize that they prey on many ordinary people. It is people in their countries and those who are sent to the battlefields who are exposed to the life-threatening violence. Wishing for peace, we seem to deviate from the direction significantly.

Many of us are wondering how Buddhism engages these issues. Some may even expect Buddhism to give us some guidance for the peaceful world.

A peaceful world cannot be achieved by force from a Buddhist viewpoint, because it would have to include all people not just certain groups of people. Also, Buddhism points out that those leaders who severely condemn each other share the same problem. They firmly believe in their righteousness and judge the other as evil or criminal. However, seeing themselves as the absolute right is a delusion, and it is such a delusional view which divides this world between those who are with them or against them. This is the highest obstacle to peace. Learning from Buddhism, we come to be aware of the root of the problem which both sides have.

Here, Buddhism reveals to us...
DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

On May 13 we will be celebrating Mother’s Day. In appreciation for all that our mothers and grandmothers have done for us, the Dharma school children will give our moms and grandmas a gift with all our love and thanks.

We will be celebrating the birthday of Shinran Shonin on May 20th. The Dharma school staff will present a lesson about Shinran followed by a short activity. This important service is called Tanjo-e. During this service, our temple will also have our Hatsumairi presentation in which the new born child is introduced to the temple. If any family would like to participate in this introduction of their little ones born since the last Hatsumairi, please let Miyoshi Sensei know.

We hope to see our Dharma school children on these special Sundays in May!

Gassho,
Claire Hansen

Quote of the Month

Since you lack the karmic cause enabling you to do this, you do not kill even a single person. It is not that you keep from killing because your heart is good. In the same way, a person may wish not to harm anyone and yet end up killing a hundred or a thousand people.

-Shinran Shonin
**WCBT 22nd Annual Golf Classic**
WCBT will be holding their 22nd Annual Golf Classic on Friday, May 11, on the Babe Zaharias Course at Industry Hills Golf Club at the Pacific Palms Resort in the City of Industry. Registration begins at 11:00 AM and the tournament will begin at 1:00 PM.

Entry forms and sponsorship forms have been mailed to Temple members. If you are able to help on the day of the golf tournament or have any questions, please call Roy Takemura at (909) 594-3600 (office) or (909) 973-2580.

**Mother’s Day Service**
A Mother’s Day family service will be held on May 13, at 10:00 AM. A special tribute to all mothers will be presented on this special day so please plan on attending.

**Tanjo-e & Hatsumairi**
The Tanjo-e and Hatsumairi (new baby) Service will be held on May 20 at 10:00 AM. There will be a special ceremony to acknowledge new additions to our Sangha. Please contact Rev. Miyoshi if you or your family member has had a new baby in the last year.

**The Study Class**
The Study Class will meet on May 8 and 22 at 10:00 AM. Discussions will be based on selected topics that vary from week to week. The class usually meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. For more information, please contact Rev. Miyoshi at (213) 219-6140.

**Oldies Dance LX (60)**
“Fifty Plus Ten, Feel Young Again!” Oldies LX (60) will be held on Saturday, June 2. It’s our 60th Oldies with our friend Steve Kikuchi & High Resolution providing favorite hits from the 60’s, 70’s and 80’s. The dance begins at 7:30 PM and ends at 11:30 PM with lots of dancing and fun in between. The earlier hours, although giving us less time to set up, will make it easier for the members who come to help clean-up after the dance.

Presale tickets are $20 or $25 at the door. For info and song requests, call Joanie at (626) 300-8947 or Lillian at (626) 780-9866. Your Toban chairs will contact you about work shifts and assignments. Plan to come to the center at 5 PM to help with the set-up and at 11:30 PM to help clean-up. Donations are welcome for raffle prizes and drinks. Sign-up sheets for drinks will be at our Sunday service.

**Dads & Grads Family Service**
A Father’s Day & Graduation Family service will be held on June 17, at 10:00 AM. All graduates will be honored so please contact Rev. Miyoshi (213) 219-6140 with the names of graduates in your family. Join us for this special event.

**Bon Odori Practices**
Bon Odori (dance) practice will begin in June, every Tuesday and Thursday, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. All you need to bring are your kachi-kachi (castanets) and tenugui (Japanese towel) or fabric of equivalent size. The fans will be provided. The dates again are June 5, 7, 12, 14, 19 and 21. Everyone is invited to join in the fun. See you there!

**OBON FESTIVAL!**
Our 2018 Obon will be on Saturday, June 23 and is just a few weeks away. Preparations are in the works but there’s still a lot to do to make this exciting annual event a success.

Set-up will begin on Friday, June 22, at 1:00 PM. We’ll need help setting up inside the gym, social hall and parking lot. We’ll also need help in the kitchen with food preparation.

In the mean time, we are accepting donations for rice, chili and children’s and regular raffle prizes. Raffle tickets will be sent out and don’t forget to get your favorite dessert recipes out for our famous West Covina Dessert Booth.

Sign-up sheets will be passed around at Sunday Services or contact Bruce at bwhang@earthlink.net to see how you can help.

**GATEWAY Staff**
*Layout & Editing: Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi, Hisako Koga, Claudia Haraguchi, Richard Kagawa*
*Contributors: Claire Hansen, Michael Jitosho, Joanie Martinez, Phillip Underwood*
*Circulation: Rev. Fred Brenion, Joy Kitaura*
*West Covina Buddha Temple Mission*
*Statement:*
*In the spirit of universal brotherhood, West Covina Buddha Temple provides the opportunity for all to listen to and share the Teachings of the Buddha in order that we may awaken to our true selves, living our lives fully and dynamically.*

*The Temple’s mailing address is:*
West Covina Buddha Temple
P. O. Box 1616
West Covina, CA 91793
(626) 689-1040
Website: www.livingdharma.org
Facebook: facebook.com/westcovinabuddhist-temple
E-Mail: wcbt.livingdharma@gmail.com

**MAY**
Tanjo-e Service
In celebration of the birth of Shinran Shonin

Hatsumairi Ceremony
Held in conjunction with the Tanjo-e Service
Sunday, May 20, 2018 10:00 am

Dharma Message: Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi

A ceremony for infants and children up to 6 years of age who shall be presented initially before the Buddha. It signifies the foundation towards a spiritual life.

初参りは、新しいいのちの誕生を祝う儀式です。6才までのお子さんを受け付け致します。お早めにお寺まで申し込んでください。

---

Child's Name: 
Birthday: Age: M F
Parent's Name: 
Address: 
City: State Zip
Telephone: E-mail:

---
WEST COVINA BUDDHIST TEMPLE PRESENTS

FIFTY PLUS TEN 
FEEL YOUNG AGAIN!
OLDIES LX (60)!!

SATURDAY, June 2, 2018
7:30 to 11:30pm

At the ESGV Japanese Community Center
Tickets: $20 presale, $25 at the door
Music by guest HIGH RESOLUTION
Drinks available, must be 21 or over
Dressy Casual
For tickets and/or information
Call or Text:
Joanie:  (626)300-8947 (calls only)
Lillian: (626)780-9866
or email: lilnish77@gmail.com or joaniekmartinez@gmail.com

NO HEELS for Ladies.

WCBT/ESGVJCC is located about a mile north of the West Covina Fashion Mall. Parking in rear of buildings.
WEST COVINA BUDDHIST TEMPLE presents

BON ODORI DANCING
public invited to participate
MARTIAL ARTS
DEMONSTRATIONS
CULTURAL EXHIBITS
AND ENTERTAINMENT
TAIKO DRUMMING
DELICIOUS FOOD
GAMES • PRIZES

JUNE 23 SATURDAY
2 PM TO 9 PM

1203 W. Puente Ave, West Covina 91790
626.689.1040
wcbt.livingdharma@gmail.com • www.livingdharma.org
facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple
West Covina Buddhist Temple Announces

Bon Odori Dance Practices

• WHAT: The Bon Odori dancing is the highlight of the Obon because, as a celebratory “group dance,” it symbolizes the world of oneness that is the goal of the Buddhist teaching. It's also just a lot of fun! The public is invited to learn the specific moves of each dance at the free and popular public dance instruction practices.

• WHEN: Every Tuesday and Thursday, 7-8:30 pm starting Tuesday, June 5. (June 5, 7, 12, 14, 19 & 21)

• WHERE: the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center parking lot, 1203 West Puente Avenue, West Covina, 91790

• THE OBON FESTIVAL: Saturday, June 23, 2-9 pm

• Contact Info:
  phone: 626 689-1040
  website: www.livingdharma.org
  e-mail: wcbt.livingdharma@gmail.com
  Facebook: facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple
another important thing, that is, we also have the same problem. This is the reality we often ignore.

We make a face and criticize leaders who aggressively blame each other. When we do this, we usually separate them from us and judge them as being wrong. Without noticing, we also do the same thing as they do. Buddhism teaches us that our problem is that we all want to be a ‘right person.’ To make us feel right, we judge those who have different viewpoints from us as ‘wrong’ and exclude them. The problem manifested by current leaders is undoubtedly our problem also.

The teachings Shinran Shonin encountered do not judge people good or bad, or right or wrong. Instead, it taught him that our existence is a compilation of Dependent Co-Arising (engi). ‘Living as a compilation of Dependent Co-Arising’ means that we all have potential to do anything once causes and conditions mature. No matter how much we do not want to hurt anyone, there is no guarantee we will not. It was Shinran Shonin who sincerely accepted it as his reality and the reality of all.

Buddhism talks about the kinds of problems in which we are entangled. It sheds light on our true nature and aspires us to awaken to it. Buddhism is universal because the reality Buddhism shows us is true and real for all human beings beyond a border of countries, time, gender and social status.

Many people expect religion to make them a just person or to rid problems, however this is not the goal of Buddhism. Revealing our problems to us is what Buddhism does. It is not a comfortable reality. Therefore, it is much easier to apply Buddhist teachings to other people than to ourselves. Encountering the teachings, we are finally able to realize that it talks about me. Being utterly free from self-righteousness and becoming non-judgmental may not happen to us. However, opportunities to be aware of it are always with us. Whenever we judge others, Buddhism always asks us, “How about you?” The voice is very subtle but ceaseless. Listening to the calling and receiving an opportunity to reflect on ourselves would become a step to walk on the path to peace.
国際情勢がますます混乱を極めています。そんな中4月13日、アメリカ軍がイギリス、フランス両軍とともにシリアを攻撃しました。トランプ大統領は国民向けの演説で、アサド政権が化学兵器を使用したことを断じ、「悪辣かつ卑劣な攻撃で女性や子供に苦しみを強くした。怪物による犯罪だ」と痛烈に批判しました。一方、アサド政権の後ろ盾として軍事的な連携を続けているロシアのプーチン大統領は、今回の米英仏のミサイル攻撃を激しく批判。またアレクサンドル・シェリン下院国防委員会副委員長も、トランプ米大統領について「犯罪者と呼ぶのはおかしなもの。第2のヒトラーだ。」とロシア通信に語り、強く批判しています。

国の指導者同士の非難合戦と力で相手をねじ伏せることによって秩序を保とうとする影で、犠牲となるのは力を持たない弱者であり、命が翻弄される恐怖を強いられるのはその国の人々であり、実際戦地に赴く人々です。本当に私たちは平和に向けた歩みをしていいるのか。むしろ背き続けていないかと感じさせられます。自分を彼らと切り離す時、批判している者と結局は同じことをしているのです。そしてそのに気づいていない暗さを私たちはもっています。私たちは他者の間違いには敏感な一方、自分も同じ間違いを犯していることに気づいていない暗さを私たちはもっています。私たちは他者の間違いには敏感な一方、自分も同じ間違いを犯していることに気づいていない暗さを私たちはもっています。私たちは他者の間違いには敏感な一方、自分も同じ間違いを犯していることに気づいていない暗さを私たちはもっています。私たちは他者の間違いには敏感な一方、自分も同じ間違いを犯していることに気づいていない暗さを私たちはもっています。
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<td>27</td>
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### 2018年5月行事予定

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<td>3</td>
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<td>法話会</td>
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<td>午前11時</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>午前10時</td>
<td>理事会</td>
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### お知らせ

おりおりおおきにみずおおし
さわりおりおきに徳おおし

親鸞聖人