



# GASSHO

October  
2012

Issue No10-12

*"Hands together in reverence & gratitude"*



## SOME INTRIGUING FACTS

by rev. roland k. tatsuguchi

As many Americans believe, Christopher Columbus did not discover America. He never set foot on the North American continent. Instead his first voyage in 1492 landed him on Hispanolia (Barbados = Haiti & Dominican Republic). Even before 1492 Europeans were already sailing down the east coast of Africa and around Cape Horn to India and the Spice Islands looking for gold, riches and slaves.

Hawaii Loa, a fisherman, is believed to be the first Polynesian to have discovered the Hawaiian Islands about 500 A.D. Rome at this time was entering the Middle Ages (500-1000 A.D.). An intellectual darkness, or the Dark Ages, was spreading throughout all of Europe. Warring Kings and Nobles backed by the Catholic Church and succeeding Popes were in power until 1450 A.D. As of consequence, the peasantry came under the yoke of the Roman Catholic Church. Cities throughout Europe became fortified by stone walls with defensive parapets. At this time, the Hawaiian islands were still undiscovered by the Spanish and Portuguese.

After Columbus, the Spanish and Portuguese began venturing across the Atlantic. They subsequently sailed down around the Straits of Magellan and the Pacific across to the Spice Islands. It was then that Pope Alexander VI (1432-1503) delegated the lands that had been discovered, colonized and settled by Spain and Portugal. As of consequence, Joseph Campbell, as mentioned in previous issues of GASSHO, noted that the Semitic rooted religions have and still "... are threatening the whole process of global unification with the adventure of their scripturally prophesied Armageddon" (*The Inner Reaches of Outer Space*. p. xxv).

It is believed that the Spanish navigator Juan Gaetano was the first European to discover Hawaii in 1550 and not Capt. James Cook in 1675. Spanish trading and warships, as mentioned, were already

## MONTH'S THOUGHT



He who joyfully marches to music rank and file has already earned my contempt. He has been given a large brain by mistake, since for him the spinal cord would surely suffice. ... how despicable and ignoble war is; I would rather be torn to shreds than be a part of so base an action. It is my conviction that killing under the cloak of war is nothing but an act of murder.

Albert Einstein.



sailing down past the Straits of Magellan and over the Pacific to the Spice Islands. Other Europeans well before this time were already sailing around Africa's Cape Horn across to India then to the Spice Islands. Both the Portuguese and Spanish by 1550 were sailing up to Hong Kong, then back and forth across the Pacific to Mexico well before Cook discovered the Sandwich Islands. Then the Mexicans declared their independence from the Spanish (1810-1821).

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# REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2012

### 1st SUN Oct 7th:

9 A.M. Eng. Service  
Dharma Talk  
For Children & Adults  
Rev. Tatsuguchi

### 2nd SUN Oct 14th:

9 A.M. Eng. Service  
Dharma Talk  
For Children & Adults  
Rev. Tatsuguchi

### 3rd SUN Oct 21st:

9 A.M. Eng. Service  
Dharma Talk  
For Children & Adults  
Rev. Tatsuguchi

### 4th SUN Oct 28th:

MONTHLY  
FAMILY WORSHIP  
9 A.M. Eng. Service  
"Dharma Talk"  
Rev. R. Tatsuguchi

*With Deepest Sympathy*

Paul K. Kuriyama 81Yrs. Aug. 30, 2012

## 2012 Memorial Service Schedule

2011	1 Year	2010	3 Year	2006	7 Year
2000	13 Year	1996	17 Year	1988	25 Year
1980	33 Year	1963	50 Year	1913	100 Year

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

**KARAOKE SINGERS CLUB** Mon 7 - 9 p.m.  
Mr. Nelson Yoshioka

**KARATE CLASSES** Tues & Fri 6 - 8 p.m.  
Shihan - Walter Nishioka

**FUJINKAI LADIES' FELLOWSHIP GROUP**  
Wed 9 a.m. - noon

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Donations continue on p. 10

Presently, the United States is said to have over some 700 military bases in some 130 foreign countries and seven naval fleets and nuclear submarines in the world's strategic ocean areas. According to the military historian Chalmers Johnston, this estimate does not include the numerous secret army, air and naval bases, especially in the Middle East:

... Due to government secrecy, our citizens are often ignorant of the fact that our garrisons encircle the planet. This vast network of American bases on every continent except Antarctica actually constitutes a new form of empire.... By 2009, the number of American bases outside of the USA had increased to over 1,000.

Anthropology professor David Vines says the number of unknown secret bases added to the known bases represent "the largest collection of U.S. military facilities in world history.

Americans take pride in their cultural roots as far back to Hellenistic and Athenian civilization (zenith of Greek civilization — 323 to 146 B.C.). Americans also take special pride in their Pilgrim and Puritan heritages. The Pilgrims landed in Plymouth, Massachusetts, on November 11, 1620. The first Puritans arrived at Massachusetts Bay in the summer of 1630.

When Alexander the Great (356-323 B.C.) finally invaded northwestern India, the East and West began reciprocally exchanging their philosophies, religions, ideologies, practical knowledge, technologies and as well as their arts, literature and music. Ancient Indians and Greeks were already traveling back and forth between India and Greece either as adventurers or traders. Some of them took the land route while others sailed around Cape Horn to reach India. There were also kings, philosophers, historians and diplomats among them. That this was a two-way exchange, this fact is verified by the encounter between the Indo-Greek King Menander (Milinda — 160-135 B.C.?) in his questioning the Indian Buddhist Sage Nagasena (ca. 150 B.C.) concerning difficult buddhist concepts such as *nirvana* (selflessness =

## WORDS OF SHINRAN

... It is indeed sorrowful to give way to impulses with the excuse that one is by nature possessed of blind passions — excusing acts that should not be committed, words that should not be said, and thoughts that should not be harbored — and to say that one may follow one's desires in any way whatever.... SBT-Series. *Letters of ...* No. 20. p. 61.

togetherness), *anatman* ("no ego self working" = "true self working") and *anitya* (impermanence).

King Asoka (ca 304-232 B.C.) sent Buddhist emissaries to Greece and as far as to Rome, for there were some Hellenes who were living in India who had converted to Buddhism. Emissaries of Asoka, such as Dharmaraksita, led such converts back to Greece to propagate Buddhism there even as far down into Egypt. Some historians, therefore, see Buddhism to be the first universal religion because of the missionary activities by King Asoka.

That the Kingdom of Gandhara (today's Pakistan and Afghanistan) was then a key region because the various overland trade routes from Europe and Egypt had to pass through the Bamiyan Valley to get to India in those days. This two-way convergence and cultural exchange that passed through this valley lasted from the early 1st millennium B.C. to the 11th century A.D. What is now Pakistan and Afghanistan then was known as the Greco-Buddhist kingdom called Gandhara that endured until it began disappearing under the onslaught of Muslims during the 10th and 11th centuries. Archaeologists have found desecrated Buddhist reliquaries, artifacts as well as defaced, broken, disfigured statues all along these overland routes between India and Rome, especially in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Then came Marco Polo (1254-1324) traveling the Silk Road venturing all the way into Mongolia then down into China. His tales of gold and other riches triggered Spanish and Portuguese conquistadors accompanied by priests to sail across the Atlantic to seek a shorter route to the Far East. They were authorized by the Popes to conquer and claim any virgin lands in the name of their God, then to subjugate the native peoples by converting them to Christianity. The priests were instructed to convert the natives by baptizing and to educate them into "civilized" Christians by forsaking their primitive and backward pagan ways. The doings of both conquistadors and zealous priests then

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and even now were and are being justified through biblical verses such as found in Deuteronomy 2:10-18. They were also "authorized" to make disciples of all the nations...." (Matthew 28:18-20, NIV).

This was accomplished through a process of outright genocide or by cutting native peoples from their "living connections" to their ancestral wisdom, knowledge, traditions and survival skills that had been accumulated and were being orally transmitted over the passing generations through their "gifted living elders." This decimation of native heritage was accomplished by taking the children from their parents and placing them in strictly run mission boarding schools. The children were required to speak only the language of their colonizers, and in many cases the children were physically punished whenever they spoke in their native tongue.

This loss of native tongue and culture was soon to become the fate also of Native Hawaiians when the first New England missionaries, who were Puritans with Calvinist leanings, arrived in 1820. They were very educated and upright Protestants who were against all human vices, especially fornication. Their main focus was to first convert Hawaiian royalty. Ka'ahumanu was converted by Hiram Bingham and his wife. Ka'ahumanu (1819-1864), Kamehameha I's favorite wife, became the true power behind the Hawai'ian throne after his death by claiming that Kamehameha's dying wish was for her to become Queen Regent.

The subsequent missionaries that began arriving then created the "Hawaiian alphabet" and translated the Bible which they then printed. The Hawaiians called it "the black box!" In doing so, much of the spiritual meanings that were original to the ancient Hawaiians like *kapu* became infused with biblical meanings that came to be enforced by and based on white man's laws. Ka'ahumanu was baptized on December 5, 1825, at the site where Kawaiaha'o Church stands today. She took on the Christian name "Elizabeth." It is said that no single event during this time of New England missionary influx reflects more visibly the changes wrought through contact with foreigners than when Queen Ka'ahumanu was converted by the Bingham's in 1819. For she then completely abolished the *kapu* system for good.

When Ka'ahumanu did away with the *kapu* system many ancient beliefs and traditions concerning things sacred and insights spiritual in the eyes of ancient Hawaiians were also nullified as well. For, example, the basic meaning of *kapu* in Hawaiian originally had a deeper religious meaning in the sense that certain things and ways

are "*kapu*" and not to be violated or desecrated because they were "sacred" and of "spiritual" significance.

Therefore, the signs "no trespassing," or "keep out" or "restricted area" hung on "barbed wire" to fence in so-called "private property" clearly has the meaning that "what belongs to me" is "mine" and "not yours," and that, if you trespass on what is "my property" or "steal what belongs to me," you will be punished and suffer the legal consequences according to the law of the land. Whereas, the underlying ancient meaning of *kapu* was based on the belief that all non-living and living things have *mana*, or mysterious spiritual power. Therefore the things and life forms that support life are not to be desecrated but are to be revered as being sacred. Violators then were punished or executed. Therefore, the things *kapu* are not to be violated or desecrated. The signs "NO TRESPASSING," especially "PRIVATE PROPERTY," this moral and spiritual significance today has been lost and has taken on legal ramifications.

Today's ethnologists and cultural anthropologists are showing how the oral transmissions of the elders of a primitive people were the "living voices" conveying the vital wisdom and practical knowledge of their deceased ancestors that were crucial in their day to day survival, and more significantly in their regard for things sacred and spiritual that were not to be desecrated.

Researchers have also shown that women in "primitive" and "aboriginal" societies that are basically agrarian were never considered to be the inferiors of males. That is, until European priests and missionaries began imposing the biblical view that Adam was the first man created in the very image of God, and since Eve was created later out of one of his ribs, women, therefore, are inferior to men. And because Eve was the first to eat of the "Tree of Knowledge or Good and Evil" and then seduced Adam to do so, women were condemned and required to be obedient and submissive to men (Genesis 3:16. Also, read I Cor. 7 in its entirety and 11:1-15).

Let us now then consider the fact that in the 1800s the island of Oahu already was targeted to become a strategic U.S. military base of operations well before the overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy in 1889. The fact is that military installations like Hickam Air Force Base, Barber's Point Naval Air Station, Fort Weaver, Schofield Barracks, Fort Shafter, Kapalama Military Reservation, Fort Armstrong, and especially Fort Kamehameha that was once Queen Emma's Estate, were subsequently built near and all around Pearl Harbor, and that Ford Island was made into a coaling station, these

facts become quite intriguing. For when one sees and realizes how Pearl Harbor came to be encircled by military installations and forts, one wonders if Honolulu is actually a city not unlike a military outpost for the USA like Naha that is the capital of Okinawa.

Now, up to 1943, Keehi Lagoon was an estuary with tidal mud flats with coral outcropping islets and natural inlets fed by the river waters from Kapalama, Kalihi and Moanalua Valleys. Samuel Mills Damon (1845-1924), son of a missionary, married the daughter of another missionary, Dwight Baldwin (1798-1886). He founded Alexander & Baldwin, one of the "Big Five." In 1884 Damon inherited the Moanalua *ahupua'a*, lands from the top of the mountain peaks of Moanalua Valley, down over the flatlands below Fort Shafter (Mapunapuna), the then extant fish ponds, and the underwater fishing rights in Keehi Lagoon all the way out to the breaking surf.

One of the main reasons for the decline in inshore fish and marine life between Diamond Head and Barber's Point has been the loss of tidal habitats, mud flats and reef such as Keehi Lagoon due to several massive dredging operations. In 1940, the Standard Dredging Company of Los Angeles began extensively dredging the reef and tidal flats that became today's Honolulu Harbor and Keehi Lagoon's three seaplane runways. The coral reefs and some of the most productive fishing grounds between Waikiki all the way up to Barber's Point were also compromised by such dredging and subsequent use of coral material as landfill. The old John Rodgers Airport was originally such a tidal flat. Parts of it would be under water as deep as 8 feet when the tide was in.

In March 21, 1917, the existing airstrip had been named after Commander John Rodgers, a veteran of WWI (1914-1916). Rodgers was Commander of Pearl Harbor from September 1, 1922, to May 1925. John Rodgers Airport was dedicated March 21, 1927. On November 8, 1929, 51 Army and Navy airplanes flew in formation over Honolulu in celebration of Aviation Day, and of the new Inter-Island Airways air service which was to commence on November 11, 1929. In January 1934, six Navy P2Y-1 flying boats flew from San Francisco to Pearl Harbor in 24.5 hours. Then, Pan American Airways made its first flight to Hawaii April 16, 1935, in a Sikorsky S-42 seaplane in a time of 17.25 hours. On May 31, 1935, Hickam Field was dedicated. It was named for Lt. Col. Horace M. Hickam, C.O., 3rd Attack Group, who was killed Nov. 5, 1934, at Fort Crockett, Texas.

The biggest dredging project was the construction of three seaplane runways with a \$5

## SHINRAN'S WASAN

Sentient beings in this world  
with the Five Defilements,  
Tainted, evil, wicked and  
filled with misconceptions,  
In being "endowed" with virtues  
of Mida's Sacred Name,  
Are urged onward by Buddhas  
as numerous as  
the Ganges' sands!

*Jodo Wasan* No. 86.  
rkt trans.

million dollar appropriation from Congress in October of 1941, just two months before December 7th. The project became even more massive after the attack on Pearl Harbor for the Army Corps of Engineers then intensified its efforts. There were as many as nine dredges working all at once. The massive project was not completed until September 1944, just a year before WWII ended in 1945 (May 8th – Europe; Aug 15th – Japan's surrender). During that three-year period, the dredges removed more than 10 million cubic yards of coral reef material from the tidal flats of Keehi Lagoon, pumping it onshore that also became Hickam Field and John Rodgers Airport, joint landing strips on the Diamond side the length of Lagoon Drive. So also were the Fort Shafter Flats, Mapunapuna and other nearby low-lying estuary ecosystems landfilled.

Four years before WWI on December 31, 1910, a J.C. Bud Mars flew a Curtiss P-18 off Sam Damon's Moanalua Polo Field and on his third flight reached a height of 1,500 feet. Aviation in Hawaii had been given a start. In 1913, Tom Gunn flew a plane that he had designed at Schofield Barracks and fitted with pontoons. He flew it from Honolulu Harbor. In 1916 the 6th Aero Squadron of the Army Signal Corps was sent to Fort Kamehameha to guard the channel entrance into Pearl Harbor as an aerial defense. In 1917, Ford Island in the middle of spacious Pearl Harbor (then "Pearl Lake") was purchased for joint Army and Navy use in the development of military aviation in the Pacific. A Captain Curry found that Ford Island located in the middle of Pearl Harbor was a better site for a seaplane base than was Honolulu Harbor. His aircrafts were Curtiss N-9 seaplanes with a 100 hp engine, weighing 2,400 pounds and rated at 70 miles per hour.

Now, another intriguing fact is that as early as 1872, a General John McCallister Schofield was

dispatched even before the overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy to determine what site on Oahu would be the best for a naval refueling and coaling station. Schofield recommended Pearl Harbor that was right next to Honolulu Harbor. This is why King Kalakaua (1836-1891) was persuaded to sign treaties in 1875 and 1884 to grant the United States sole and exclusive rights to "Pearl Lake" which was subsequently criticized by the British and French who then were rival naval powers in the Pacific as well as what was becoming the Imperial Japanese Navy. Japan was emerging as a world power during the Meiji Restoration bent on modernizing Japan through Western science and technology.

All these historical developments since the late 1500s, especially the 1800s into the early 1900s, show that the U.S. military establishment already had its sights well on Oahu as a military base for its growing naval armada in the Pacific rim areas long before even WWI. This was a time when reconnaissance fighter aircraft had become a crucial factor in aerial warfare. For after the Civil War (1861-1865), the Pacific suddenly took on a special military significance for the U.S., especially after Alaska was purchased from the Russians on March 30, 1887. In the 19th century, Japan became involved in the Sino-Japanese War (1894-95). Then in the 20th century it became involved in the Manchurian Crisis (1928), and then the armed invasion of Manchuria followed (1932). There also was the Russo-Japanese War (1904-05). Britain by this time had colonized India and itself was involved in Anglo-Chinese wars [1st Opium War (1839-1842), 2nd Opium War (1856-1860)].

The rights to "Pearl Lake" (*Wai Nomi* or "Pearl Water"), as these world events were taking place, were acquired in 1889. Soon after annexation it became the "Naval Station Honolulu" on November 17, 1899. This allowed the Navy Department to send vessels to make extensive surveys and soundings of the Pacific waterways all the way up to Midway, then down to Johnston, Guam and over to Wake Island. Guam also had become a strategic military base in the middle of the Western Pacific zone. Then, on February 2, 1900, "Naval Station Honolulu" was changed to "Naval Station Hawaii." In 1908 it was renamed "Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard." The period from 1908-1919 was one of steady and continuous growth of Pearl Harbor. Then in 1917 Ford Island was purchased for joint Army, Navy and Air Force use. Aircraft by then had become a most strategic factor in aerial warfare.

Now the continental railroad connecting the East coast to the West coast on the U.S. mainland begun in 1863 was completed in 1869. There were several gold rushes throughout the 1800s in

such places as Australia, Alaska, Brazil, Canada and South Africa. The California Gold Rush was between 1848 and 1855. Therefore, California was not the only place where gold had been discovered. On April 25, 1898 the U.S. declared war on Spain to then take over Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines. Then, as mentioned, on November 9, 1887, the U.S. took possession of Pearl Harbor and extended its military influence over Wake Island, American Samoa, Johnston Island, Marshall Islands Micronesia, and other strategic Pacific islands.

In 1904, Diamond Head Crater was purchased and developed into a five level military observation post with tunnels and several cannon battery positions in anticipation of WWI (1914-1918). In 1908, Schofield Barracks (named after General Schofield) with its related facilities were built all around Wahiawa town to house a mobile military land force. Wheeler Army and Air Force Base named after Major Sheldon Wheeler was also built. Both facilities were established to protect Pearl Harbor from any invasion by land or attack by air from the North of Oahu (Haleiwa, Waimea, Kahuku).

As of today, official military documents on public record show that when Pearl Harbor was bombed on December 7, 1941, suspect Japanese-Americans and *Issei* were already listed on the FBI's list as suspect and possible collaborators or agents of the Japanese Government. They were arrested and rounded up by the evening of that very "day of Infamy" into a hastily established internment camp on Sand Island, which then was merely a desolate, flat, barren island, a mere coral outcropping of an island!

The classified documents now public show that terror techniques were used such as:

... strip searches, frequent roll calls, threats to shoot and excessive display of firepower by the guards who were armed with machine guns and pistols. The prisoners were often forced to eat in the rain, use dirty utensils, and sleep in tents. Ultimately the army held 1,466 Japanese Americans in Hawaii and sent 1,875 to mainland camps....

The rest of the Japanese in Hawaii were not incarcerated.

The reason is quite simple. By 1941, the population of *Issei* and young *Nisei* in Honolulu was about 44 % of the total population. Caucasians were in the minority. However, the "Big Five" through their interrelated families being in positions of economic dominance were in control of Hawaii's

economics, politics and judicial systems with Congressional connections and military backing.

Though the *Issei* and *Nisei* had quadrupled on the mainland, they, however, were still only 0.01% of the total population. Therefore, they were not essential to the war effort or the overall economy. On Oahu, with Pearl Harbor being at the very strategic center of the island, the remaining Japanese on Oahu suddenly became even more of importance as a source of workers needed not only by the military, but especially also by the sugar and pineapple plantations. The plantations would be crippled if all the Japanese in the islands were shipped off to mainland internment camps.

On the other hand, General Delos Emmons, then the military governor of Hawaii, saw that the Japanese family run "mama-san" stores and "papa-san" operated businesses were not only essential to Hawaii's overall community, but would be also needed in providing goods and services to military families residing in Honolulu. For many Caucasians right after the attack, had panicked, sold their homes and had returned to the mainland, fearful that the islands would be invaded and come under Japanese military occupation like in China and Manchuria. With Dillingham's testimony and General Emmons' insistence, the remaining Japanese *Issei* and *Nisei* in Hawaii were not interned.

After WWII ended, many *Nisei* veterans who fought in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the famed 100th Battalion (the "one puka puka battalion"), began working to secure their constitutional rights as Americans. Many worked to redress the wrongs committed against their *Issei* parents. Many, through the G.I. Bill of Rights, pursued college and advanced graduate degrees. Many become technicians, specialists, professionals, doctors, lawyers and academics. A few became legislators on the local and State levels of government.

Under Governor Jack Burns' leadership, Hawaii finally became the 50th State in 1959. When Governor Burns became incapacitated, Lieutenant Governor George Ariyoshi then became the first *Nisei* Governor, the first Asian and Japanese American ever to do so. He was also the first three-term Governor, the longest state governor in Hawaii. Others, such as Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, as well as Hiram Fong, eventually became U.S. Senators. *Nisei* women also began entering the political arena such as Patsy Mink, Pat Saiki and now Mazie Hirono.

Now, the toppling of the Hawaiian Monarchy on January 17, 1893, raises even more intriguing

questions. For, in 1889, President McKinley had already approved going to war with Spain. And even before the American-Mexican War (1846-1848), the U.S. in 1845 had already annexed Texas to then quickly occupy New Mexico, California and other parts of Mexico. Soon thereafter the United States, on April 25, 1898, declared war on Spain and claimed subsequently much of what the Spanish had previously colonized, such as the Philippines, Haiti, Puerto Rico and Cuba. So all these intriguing sequence of events leading up to President McKinley's signing of a resolution to annex Hawaii on July 7, 1898, undeniably shows that the U.S. already had its sights on more than just the Hawaiian Islands as rationalized and based on its biblical visions of "Manifest Destiny." All the symbolism of this "Manifest Destiny" held by the U.S. as being a supreme military power "divinely destined" can be seen in the engraved symbols on the back of the U.S. dollar bill, much of which has been appropriated from other peoples and cultures, both aboriginal as well as mystical.

Now, it was on July 4, 1776, that the United States declared its independence from England. In competing with the then dominant naval powers of Britain, France and Germany, the U.S. was, at the same time, already displacing, if not decimating, American Indian tribal peoples and nations on the North American Continent and taking over their ancestral tribal lands. Therefore, the devastating Civil War between the Confederate forces of the slave states in the South and the Federal forces of the North clearly harbingered the future importance of Oahu as a strategic military naval, army and air force fortification of the United States in the Pacific if not the world. As of today, the U.S. has seven naval fleet regions all over the globe ready to respond to any military urgency.

As mentioned, even before King Kamehameha I (1758?-1819) conquered the islands in 1810, the Portuguese and Spanish were already engulfing the peoples of the world in a two-way expansion based on a culture of superior steel implements, machines, and especially "gun powder," "musket fire" and "cannon fire" that easily overpowered weapons made out of stone, wood, teeth or bone. The Portuguese and Spanish were looking for gold, precious gems and metals, natural resources, as well as slaves to enrich themselves and their nations by claiming sovereignty over the peoples it colonized to then subjugate them in the name of their Almighty God and Sovereign King.

The Jesuit and Franciscan priests who accompanied the European navigators justified their conquests and the conversion of native peoples based on the mandate of Jesus authorizing his twelve apostles as follows:

... All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth.  
Go ye therefore, and teach all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Ghost:  
Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the word. Matthew 28:18-20, KJV.

In the revised versions of the Bible, the words "Go ye therefore and teach all the nations ..." have been changed to "go therefore, and make disciples of all nations ..." which totally has a different significance and compulsion. These words as revised are justifications that are based also on biblical verses such as Deuteronomy 6:10-13 and 20:10-18.

These words of Jesus "to teach all nations" of the King James version were changed as "to make disciples of all nations" in revised versions of the Bible. These words as revised seem to also have influenced President William McKinley's assertion that: *"We need Hawaii just as much and a good deal more than we did California. It is our Manifest Destiny."* Such assertions and reasoning based on a divine destiny also can be seen as to have justified the New England missionary's zealous efforts in making Hawaii a Christian nation, especially by first converting Hawaiian Royalty and its High Chiefs. The words found in Deuteronomy 6:10-13 can also be seen as justifications in the working of European and American entrepreneurs in tandem with the business-minded descendents of the first missionaries in the final overthrowing of the Hawaiian Monarchy through what has been called the "Bayonet Constitution."

During this time, other business-minded Europeans and Americans were serving on the Privy Council with other Hawaiian Royalty and high-ranking Chiefs. Not a few had married with women of Hawaiian royalty, such as John Owen Dominis (1831-1891). He was an American born statesman of Austrian-Hungarian descent, who married Queen Liliokalani (1838-1917), the last Hawaiian Monarch who was forced to abdicate her throne. Her original name was Lydia Kamaka'eha Pahi. Kamehameha V (born Lot Kapu'iwa — 1830-1872), the last of the Kamehamehas, was in love with Bernice Pauahi Bishop (1831-1884) who, instead, fell in love with Charles Reed Bishop (1822-1915 — Bishop Estate, Kamehameha Schools). Queen Emma (1856-1863) was the granddaughter of John Young (1742-1835) Kamehameha I's British born seaman who became his military advisor and married into his family. Princess Ka'iulani (1875-1899), as mentioned, was *hapa-haole* (Hawaiian-Scottish) because her father, Archibald Scott Cleghorn (1835-1910), was a Scotsman.

Now, as early as in 1778 and 1779 some Chinese sailors and tradesmen had jumped ship and were already living in Honolulu village. Then two hundred Cantonese contract laborers from Amoy, Fukien, China, arrived on January 3, 1852, on a ship called the *Thetis*. There were subsequent ships that brought other single Chinese men mostly from China's impoverished southern provinces to work in the plantations and, surprisingly, in rice paddies. Then by 1865, when their five-year contracts expired, the Chinese on the plantations left to find jobs as clerks or domestic servants. They began forming their own businesses, especially in and around Honolulu's Chinatown adjacent to the central downtown business district then in Honolulu Village, within walking distance of Iolani Palace and its makai courtyard areas up to the waterfront that was once Fort Kamehameha and now the Fort Armstrong harbor front.

Way back then there were no available Chinese women to marry. So many married Hawaiian women and started families. Many also were too old to get married, so, as bachelors, they gravitated to the ghetto tenements and basements of Chinatown's brothels and opium houses. However, younger enterprising Chinese began successful family run businesses and other enterprises. And, later, as women of other ethnicities became available, like the Japanese, Koreans, Portuguese and so forth, they also began marrying them. So many Hawaiian names like Akaka, Apana, Akana, Ahana, Akina, Awana, Ah Loy, Afook and so on are mainly of Chinese-Hawaiian ancestry.

Now, however, the fact is that as far back as in the 1600s, intermarriage in the U.S. was forbidden between non-Whites and Whites, especially in America's deep South. In 1770, six years before 1776, marriages between Whites and Blacks were declared illegal and forbidden in the southern colonies including Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. However, it seems that even before Captain Cook (1727-1778), Hawaiian women were already being impregnated by the crews of Spanish ships, who, as mentioned, were already sailing the Pacific between Mexico, Hong Kong and the Spice Islands. For Captain Cook and his ship's physician noticed that some of the Hawaiians noticeably had lighter skin and facial features that were definitely Caucasoidal in comparison to their darker skinned brothers and sisters whose facial features were distinctly aboriginal and Negroidal.

Cook's ship's physician also observed several advanced, terminal cases of syphilis indicating that Hawaiians had earlier contacts with, white Europeans. There also were several legends about a fertility god Lono who was of fair, white

complexion who was thought to have descended from the heavens above to the earth below on a rainbow to marry Laka the goddess of the earth. Capt. Cook, being of white complexion with Caucasian features, therefore, was mistaken for the God Lono who was believed to have returned on the cloud-like sails of his ship.

Now, when Liliuo'kalani (1838-1917) abdicated her throne, European and American businessmen working in tandem with descendants of New England missionaries, as mentioned, were a minority. They were fearful that the Monarchy would not protect and promote their recently gained economic interests and immense tracts of land through the Great Mahele proposed in 1830 and enacted in 1889 ("great land division and land grab"). The legal complexities basically left out the commoner Hawaiian who could not read or write. They did this by forming a Committee of Safety to protect their vested interests and properties. They justified their doings by rationalizing that the Hawaiians were incapable of self-government because of their backwardness and pagan ways. As of consequence, the "Bayonet Constitution" stripped all voting rights and disenfranchised the commoner Hawaiian as well as the Asian immigrant because they were foreigners and aliens. The number of Hawaiians continued to be reduced even further by White man's diseases, foods and alcohol.

Now, in 1865 the Fort Street English Day School was established. In 1907, the school was moved to Beretania and Victoria Streets and was renamed President McKinley High School (former Lincoln Elementary School?). Because President McKinley (1914-1918) has played a very influential role in bringing about the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, an eight-ton bronze statue in his memory was cast in New York and shipped all the way to Honolulu. It was dedicated on February 23, 1911, just three years before WWI. Sadly, William McKinley (1843-1901) was assassinated on September 14, 1901.

Human beings universally are mortal and sensual creatures. They are sensitive and instantly react to anything painful and avoid life threatening situations. Therefore, they are conditioned and easily addicted by pleasurable sensations. They are naturally sensitive to the world of shapes and forms, especially the colors "white" and "black." The reason being that the color white, unfortunately, is associated with things "bright, radiant and cheerful," while the color black with things "sinister, ominous and threatening." Therefore, the colors "white" and "black" more than often are subjectively associated with what is "right" or "wrong," and irrationally with what is perceived

to be "angelic" and "demonic." The in-between colors yellow, brown and red, as of consequence, more often than not, become associated with the hues and shades of grays that also come to be seen to be tainted because they are not crystal and clear, that is, "white as crystals of snow."

Now, when light is passed through a crystal, it becomes transformed into a "circular rainbow," a sphere, the center of which is "colorless" and "empty." Emptiness in Buddhism is symbolic of a "no self working" full of "clear thinking and pure feelings" that are without discriminations, rejections or condemnations just as the mind and heart of a newborn baby has no favoritisms or preferences. A person whose awareness has become "pure" becomes "clear" in the very center of his very being, like a newborn baby. He becomes a person "permeated" and "transformed" by Wisdom's Light in which all extremes between the colors "Black" and "White," including the Browns, Reds and Yellows and become color blind. In fact, in being illuminated by the Dharma's Wisdom, such a person becomes like a crystal-clear prism radiating all colors and in-between hues of the rainbow where there is no distinction between white or black but only the radiance of all colors with all their hues in harmony and grandeur.

Such then is the meaning and significance of Amida's Primal Vow that,

... does not discriminate between the young and old, good and evil; ... The reason is that the Vow is directed to the being burdened with the weight of karmic evil and burning with the flames of blind passion.  
T. Unno. *loc. cit.* Ch. I. p. 5.

In other words, Amida's Vow is like the "sun" shining on all kinds of flowers to bring out of each their unique respective colorations and hues like a crystal radiating all colors and their in-between hues as a perfect, seamless rainbow that is a boundless sphere of all possible colorations.

A person so "transformed" becomes "infused" with the Four Illimitable Virtues of Amida which are: kindness and tenderness (*metta*), love and compassion (*karuna*), commiseration and sympathy (*mudita*), and an equanimity full of joy and happiness (*uppekha*).

Shinran Shonin, in having being so "transformed" and "infused" by Amida's Primal Vow manifesting the Dharma's Selflessness and its Togetherness, came to realize that: "... all beings have been fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, in the timeless process of birth-and-death..." (T. Unno. *Tannisho* V. p. 18). As of consequence

he was made to “realize” that in actuality he was undeniably a “foolish being filled with blind passion, living in this impermanent world of burning house” in which “all things are empty and vain; therefore, untrue.” And, therefore, he came to “realize” that “Only the nembutsu is true, real, and sincere” (*op. cit. Epilogue*, p. 36). May we then also all become persons of O-nembutsu gratitude, humility and penitence, permeated by Amida’s Light of Selflessness of All-embracing Togetherness that is the True and Real Life!

## BUDDHIST STORIES & PASSAGES

A home with one’s wife and children is transformed into a home where Buddha is present; a country that suffers because of social distinctions is likewise transformed into a fellowship of kindred people... Faith in Buddha spreads from individual to family, from family to village, from village to towns, to cities, to countries, and finally to the whole world. BDK. *The Teaching of Buddha*. (Eng./Jpnse) p. 496.

### QUESTION & ANSWER KORNER

QUESTION: What are the ten wholesome actions?

ANSWER: According to Sakyamuni Buddha the “ten wholesome actions” are as follows:

1. Abstaining from destruction of life, by cultivating loving-kindness and compassion, and working for the welfare of all beings.
2. Abstaining from taking what is not given by cultivating respect for others’ property rights and by earning a livelihood through fair means.
3. Abstaining from sexual misconduct, by practicing self-restraint and observing good morals.
4. Abstaining from false speech, one adheres to truth, is honest and trustworthy.
5. Abstaining from malicious speech, by endeavoring to reconcile people and promoting harmony among community members.
6. Abstaining from harsh language, by practicing pleasant and courteous speech.
7. Abstaining from frivolous speech, by speaking only words which are useful, reasonable, and appropriate to the listener, time, and purpose.
8. Abstaining from covetous thoughts, by practicing generosity and altruism.
9. Abstaining from thoughts of ill will, by cultivating goodwill and kind thoughts toward all beings, by wishing them safety and happiness and freedom from fear and suffering.
10. Abstaining from wrong view, by developing right understanding and right conviction in the law of *kamma*, and by believing in the karmic consequences of both wholesome and unwholesome actions.

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... to be continued in the next *Gassho*