

IZUMO TAISHA NEWSLETT

IZUMO TAISHAKYO MISSION OF HAWAII 215 N. KUKUI ST., HONOLULU, HI 96817 E-mail: izumotaishahawaii@gmail.com Telephone: (808) 538-7778

Fax: (808) 599-2786

AUTUMN 2023 VOL. N14 ISSUE 3

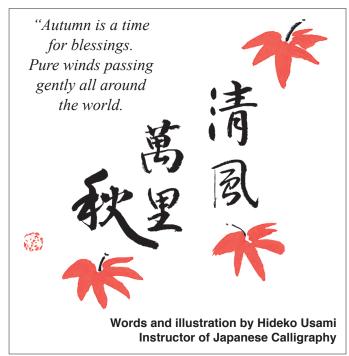
Web: www.izumotaishahawaii.com Office Hours: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

OCTOBER THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL TO BE OBSERVED WITHOUT ENTERTAINMENT DUE TO ON-GOING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

After a two-year absence due to the pandemic, we resumed our annual Autumn Thanksgiving Festival last year, featuring a formal worship service and entertainment. This year's festival will be held on Sunday, October 8th, but without the entertainment portion due to construction.

This annual Shinto tradition, dedicating the first harvest to the Kami (Gods), is the most significant occasion to appreciate our daily life. This year, the festival is still open to the public, but there will only be a Shinto religious service, with no entertainment and cultural performances. Our cottage and the restroom building construction project is on-going now, so any festive gatherings are not available this year.

Following the worship service with celebration at 1:00pm, short blessings will be performed for any worshippers and visitors throughout the rest of the day. Please use the free neighborhood parking at Kukui Center and Hawaii USA Federal Credit Union. After the construction project is completed, we hope to be able to celebrate the festival fully in Autumn 2024!





Golfers relaxing after a fun day on the course and posing on the green.



30TH GOLF TOURNAMENT HELD AT EWA BEACH CC

For the first time after the devastating pandemic, golfers enjoyed this annual summertime fundraising event, our annual golf tournament, held on July, 7, at the 360° Ewa Beach Country Club. We could see many of our regular golfers who haven't been seen at our tournament for three years. The popular large daikon (Japanese radish) from Honbushin International Center's farm was a highly-anticipated "goody" for many of the participants. We thank all the donors, sponsors and volunteers who helped at the golf course under the hot sun!

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2023 - 2024

Oct. 1	First Day of the Month Blessing
Oct. 6-7	Festival Preparations
Oct. 8	Annual Autumn Thanksgiving Festival (Omatsuri)
Nov. 1	First Day of the Month Blessing
Nov. 10	Monthly Worship Service
Nov. 12	Children's Blessing Event (Shichi-Go-San) at JCCH
Dec. 1	First day of the Month Blessing
Dec. 10	Monthly Worship Service with Great Purification
Dec. 26-31	New Year's Preparations
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Jan. 1-3, 2024 New Year's Celebration and Blessing

HIROSHIMA PEACE BELL HEARD RINGING FROM OUR LITTLE CORNER OF HONOLULU TO THE WORLD

On August 7, Izumo Taisha Hawaii, YMCA of Honolulu and Honolulu Hiroshima Kenjinkai (Hiroshima Club) convened the annual Hiroshima Commemoration & Peace Service on College Walk Mall in front of the Shrine torii (gate). This inter-faith service was initiated to commemorate the Hiroshima bombing of 1945 and to offer prayers for world peace, recognizing the deep friendship between Hawaii and Hiroshima. This year, Mayor Blangiardi attended for the first time in his administration and there were several other community leaders who delivered speeches for the occasion. There was also a speech from a YMCA student who went to Hiroshima for the YMCA's student exchange program in the past.

MUSICAL DEDICATION AT MONTHLY WORSHIP SERVICES

On August 10, before closing our Monthly Worship Service, we were treated to a musical dedication to world peace related to the Hiroshima Peace Bell service held three days earlier. The musicians were Ms. Mika Erikson (vibraphone), Ms. Ryoko Kobayashi (piano) and Ms. Ayumi Ueda (singer). Their heavenly sounds and voices echoed through the Shrine in the evening. At Shinto Shrines, it is popular to dedicate fine artistic or martial arts performance toward the *Kami* (Gods) as well as physical offerings. *Kami* are willing to accept and enjoy people's warm performances together with the audiences. If someone would like to plan any performance dedication at the Shrine, please contact the Izumo Taisha Hawaii office.





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English Editor: Rev. Jun Miyasaka Japanese Editor: Bishop Daiya Amano Proofreader: Karlton Tomomitsu Photographer: Karen Prestidge

NARRATIVE OF THE SOURCE OF HAWAII IZUMO TAISHA

By Richard T. Miyao, Shrine Historian, Grandson of Founder

Survival Despite Hardships

Foreword: At the request of the Shrine, as one of the few persons with knowledge of the origin and formation of the Izumo Taishakyo or Izumo Oyashirokyo in Hawaii, I narrate informally my family's history as it relates to the Shrine. It is necessary to explain how Katsuyoshi Miyao (born 1874) founded the Hawaii Shrine and relate how one family found it difficult to survive in Japan and found it necessary to immigrate to Hawaii. Many Japanese American readers may find similarity in their ancestors' struggles before they came to Hawaii. This is part of our legacy.

The Rev. Takakazu Maeda of Jinja Honcho spent many years researching the origins of Shinto shrines in Hawaii. He published a Japanese book in 1999 titled <u>Shinto Shrines in Hawaii</u>. He gathered information mainly from the published newspaper articles of <u>The Hawaii Hochi</u> and <u>The Hawaii Times</u>. I rely partly on the Japanese publication of Rev. Takakazu Maeda (labeled "Maeda"). This narrative was transcribed by Karlton Tomomitsu.

The Source: Early History

Hibagun in mid-Hiroshima, later absorbed as part of the county of Shobara City, is located equal distance from the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan. It is surrounded by mountains and dense forests. The question of why and how the Miyao family settled there are based on oral tradition and existence of supporting artifacts, such as swords, poetry written on strips of paper, religious writings, prayers and over 80 tombstones that existed there. Many names carved on the older and smaller tombstones are eroded and are not readable. Words on some 15th-16th century (Sengoku or Warring Era) tombstones are larger and legible.

In the history of Japan, in the battles between Genji/Minamoto versus Heike/Taira, the war between the two military powers lasted on and off between 1100-1185 A.D., with Minamoto winning the final battle at Dan no Ura, located at the western tip of Honshu. The defeated Heike troops fled in all directions. Masterless lower rank samurai were called "ronin." The Miyao ancestors settled in Hibagun. Among the over 80 tombstones in the private Miyao cemetery, there is a single row of about 40 stacked older tombstones which are called "yosebaka." In the mid-1980s, Bishop Shigemaru Miyao straightened and repaired those larger circa 15th century tombstones standing in spaced rows with concrete foundations. There is a standing artistic tombstone, 4 feet by 2 feet by 2 feet, which has carvings in Sanskrit (Indian Buddhist script), which reads "Miyao, Lord of Bingo." The family once owned mountain ranges.

Samurai Family Survived as Priests and Teachers

While surviving in the remote mountain ranges for centuries and no longer having continuing contact with established cultured society, such as Kyoto, the Miyao family was later recognized more also as high priests. Several artifacts, Konbu (dried kelp), now brown and caked in salt, are said to have been brought back from Kyoto by my ancestors after they were personally invested to the high rank of priesthood by the Department of Religion in Kyoto. The Hachiman Diety was traditionally worshipped together with other Deities.

Prior to the Meiji Restoration of 1868, the Miyao family of priests also operated "Terakoya," schools conducted nationally, independently by samurai, scholars, Buddhist and Shinto priests for the children in various regions. The Meiji Restoration of 1868 established the new national educational system which replaced the Terakoya.

The Miyao family, in its official registry called "koseki" still shows the family status as "samurai." The feudal caste system was from top: samurai, priest, merchant, farmer and commoner. In 1868, the caste system was abolished.

The Meiji Restoration of 1868

After a self-imposed international isolation of 200 years, Japan opened itself to the world in the Meiji Restoration of 1868. However, Japan was not economically stable. Many rural areas continued to suffer from famine. Soon after the opening of Japan, Hawaii's King David Kalakaua made a timely tour of the world and the Far East and approached the Japanese government with an economic package. He sought Japanese laborers to work in the sugar plantations which were enjoying booming sugar production.

The Japan government eagerly entered into a contract with the Hawaiian Kingdom to have workers called "contract laborers" work in the Hawaiian sugar plantations beginning in 1885. Not all immigrants were engaged in plantation work. Some came for increased business development. For example, the several families of Uichi Yamane established the U. Yamane Company, Limited, in 1901. The Matsujiro Otani family (now Pier 38) specialized in the fishing industry. Other ordinary immigrants followed. Many Japanese Americans in Hawaii are descendants of the Kanyaku Imin laborers and others and are descendants of former samurai, priests, merchants, farmers and commoners of many generations past.

Breakout and Venture to Hawaii



Rev. Katsuvoshi Miyao

Around 1900, the Rev. Katsuyoshi Miyao was already interested in the Izumo Taisha Oyashirokyo faith, an ancient faith said to be the first shrine in Japan by Japanese archaeologists. It was incorporated in 1882 as a "Sectarian" Shrine, mainly to avoid being absorbed by the Japanese government and become a "State" or "National" Shinto. The Izumo Taisha Oyashirokyo was propagated especially in Western Japan before the turn of the century by the dynamic Rev. Sompuku Senge. Rev. Katsuyoshi Miyao traveled to nearby Shobara, the main nearby city, to learn English and to learn more about the emerging post-1882 Izumo Taisha faith. At the same time, the new offer of employment in Hawaii was of special interest to him and others in western Japan. Having five children, he felt that working in Hawaii would mean survival for his family. To work in Hawaii, sending back money and

returning to Japan or staying in Hawaii, as many did, is called "dekasegi."

Although he was a priest of the Hachiman Shrine, he was fervently interested in the Izumo Taisha faith. At the age of 23, he professed his belief in Izumo Taishakyo. (Maeda)

When he announced his plan to go to Hawaii with part of the family as immigrants, he was strongly opposed by the family members. (Maeda) Nevertheless, he was granted free immigrant status and arrived in Hawaii in April 1906. For a while he worked as a laborer at the Aiea Sugar Plantation.

He returned to Honolulu in September 1906 and with a group of trusted believers bought land on Leleo Lane, at the junction of Beretania and North King Streets, for 500 dollars. Koiso, his wife, was ill and died when she returned to Honolulu. (Maeda) That was the first site of Izumo Taishakyo Hawaii. A temporary Shrine was built in 1907. The site was a block away from Aala Park. Rev. Miyao was frequently seen preaching at the park, which was a meeting place for many immigrants from different countries. (Maeda) His background as a priest in Japan and his belief in Izumo Taishakyo and his preaching lent credence and stature to his personality as a bonafide qualified priest. I am told that a few fine family swords were sold to fund an early Ford automobile for the Shrine.

Building a Permanent Shrine

During World War I and thereafter, Uichi Yamane, a new immigrant and an Hawaii Izumo Taisha board member with a business, volunteered to serve as head fundraiser and construction head for a proposed permanent shrine. The solicitation for funds was delayed during and after World War I and due to the Filipino and Japanese



1923 visit to shrine by Superintendent Sonyu Senge who blessed the Shrine.

laborers' strike for better working conditions and better pay.

With funds raised from various local sources, the permanent Shrine was constructed in 1922 by builder, Ichisaburo Takata, The 1907 temporary shrine was built a year after conforming to traditional purchase of the land. Japanese shrine archi-



tecture, without use of nails. The then-Kancho (Superintendent) Sonyu Senge arrived in Honolulu in 1923 to officially bless the Shrine. A peaceful period followed. The Rev. Shigemaru Miyao, son of Katsuyoshi, arrived in 1932 with his wife, Yuki, and son, Yoshimaru.

He earlier graduated from Kokugakuin University and served as a priest in Tokyo and Shimane main shrine. The Hawaii Izumo Taisha was very busy performing marriage ceremonies for the new immigrants, including picture brides. After the death of the Rev. Katsuyoshi Miyao in 1935, his son Rev. Shigemaru Miyao became head priest.

Vacationing Shigemaru Miyao Family Desperate to Return to Hawaii

In the spring of 1941, the Rev. Shigemaru Miyao, with wife and three minor children, Richard, Florence and Masanori, departed for a vacation in Japan. But the Japan-U.S. diplomatic relationship worsened in the summer of 1941, when large passenger cruise ships no longer scheduled Japan-U.S. trans-Pacific routes. Stranded in Japan, the Rev. Miyao tried desperately to acquire family passage back to Hawaii. There was a German ship which planned to transport a limited number of civilians back from Yokohama to Honolulu. By a stroke of luck, the Miyao family of five boarded the ship and returned to Hawaii in mid-November of 1941.



Reverend, later Bishop Shigemaru Richard, former members hosted them.



Florence (Morikawa) Miyao and Yuki Miyao took a Masanori posed for a photo, circa 1939. pilgrimage group to Izumo Taisha's During WWII, by error of the FBI and US Main Shimane Shrine in 1972 and Military, the children were separated later visited Okinawa where many from both parents for a year. (See Part 2 in our New Year's Newsletter.)



Attack on Pearl Harbor and Declaration of War

On December 7, 1941, at 7:00 a.m., the Rev. Shigemaru Miyao was blessing the new Otani Fish Company's concrete building, located south of Aala Park. While the blessing ceremony for the new building was still being conducted, the then City Supervisor Heen rushed into the gathering and repeatedly shouted, "Pearl Harbor is being bombed!" It was possible, from Aala Park, where I was playing, to hear the distant booming sounds in the West, presumably around Pearl Harbor. The blessing ceremony was abruptly terminated, and everyone retreated to their homes. On December 8, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared war on Japan.

(NOTE: This ends Part 1. The second part will be published in the New Year's Newsletter. Part 2 begins with the bombing of Pearl Harbor, followed by the incarceration of those listed on the blacklist compiled by the FBI, U.S. Military and local informers. Izumo Taisha was closed on December 7 and the Miyao family was split into three parties: Rev. Miyao, Mrs. Yuki Miyao and the 3 minor children (due to misidentification of Mrs. Miyao). The children were cared for by the Kakuji Inokuchi family until August 1942. The Miyao family was reunited in Winter 1942 at Seagoville, Texas. After confinement at Crystal City, Texas, they returned to Hawaii in mid-December 1945 but had no housing. A petition of 10,000 names was filed with the Honolulu City Board of Supervisors. The City returned the dilapidated Shrine and real property to the Shrine organization but there was a taxpayer suit filed. The Hawaii Supreme Court ordered the Circuit Court judge to permanently return the Shrine property to the Shrine organization in 1962. The "penniless" organization opted to save the immigrantbuilt Shrine building but struggled to finally complete restoration in 1968. This is the story of heroic actions of the immigrant pioneers and their descendants. This narrative is mainly a private recollection of past events and reproduction is strictly prohibited.)

MEMBER'S VOICE

Flying Taxis to the Neighbor Islands!?

By Kenny Kiyohara, MA, MBA
PhD in Learning Design & Technology
Izumo Taisha Member

In 2025, the Osaka-Kansai World Expo will be held on a man-made island called Yumeshima in Osaka Bay. The World Expo will run from April 13 to October 13, 2025 and 153 countries along with eight international organizations and regions will participate. The theme for the World Expo is "Designing Future Society for Our Lives," and it is a showcase for new technologies, products and innovations.

There are a few things expected to be on display that may be relevant to our lifestyle in Hawaii in the near future. If you are planning to attend the World Expo, be mindful that all payments will be cashless for the first time in the World Expo's history. Visitors should expect to see no cash transactions in restaurants and shops, which should make your shopping experience quick and easy.

The Expo Digital Wallet, which is a new blockchain-based payment app, will be used for the first time. Prepaid cards will also be available for those visitors who do not own a smartphone. Users will be able to add money to the payment app by credit card, electronic money or bank transfer. Also, points may be earned and redeemable for merchandise and special offerings. The World Expo will be a great experiential undertaking for Japan, expected to become a cashless society later in the 21st century with as many as 28 million visitors expected. Outside the World Expo grounds and after the event, the Expo Digital Wallet app will continue to be used for transactions.

Interestingly, the cashless economy can already be seen at Shinto Shrines in Japan. Where *Saisen* (donation money) is usually thrown into the wooden *Saisen* box, a growing number of Shinto Shrines have been adopting QR codes and other cashless donating methods. There are two major reasons for this shift to cashless *Saisen*. One is that fewer people have been carrying cash since the COVID-19 pandemic. Secondly, there is a greater number of visitors to Shinto Shrines from foreign countries and they would often use non-Japanese yen coins and bills. The Shinto Shrines would often end up donating the non-Japanese donations to UNICEF as foreign currency cannot be used in Japan.

The second notable innovation that will be seen at the World Expo is the use of flying cars for transportation of participants. By definition, "flying cars" are not cars that fly like the DeLorean car in the "Back to the Future" films. The most appropriate definition of a flying car as defined by the Japanese government is "a hybrid vehicle that combines fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft capabilities." In short, a flying car is like a large drone that looks parthelicopter and part-airplane.

For the World Expo, flying-taxi routes using the flying cars have been planned to connect to the Expo site via eight possible routes with roughly 20 flights per hour. The flying-taxis will connect Yumeshima, the site of the World Expo, to airports and other locations in and around Osaka and Kobe, including Kansai International Airport, Osaka (Itami) International Airport, the city of Osaka and the Osaka Bay area. Possible destinations in Kobe include Kobe Airport and the city of Kobe.

Flying cars or taxis would provide new transportation possibilities in Hawaii as residents do not have many transportation options between islands besides the interisland airlines. On one hand, in medical emergencies and natural disasters, flying cars would be instrumental in helping and saving lives. On the other hand, it is not totally clear how this new transportation system would be accepted as it might bring out some issues involving environmental considerations, some lifestyle changes and new traffic regulations. Much discussion would probably be needed before we in Hawaii could start seeing flying taxis.



時代の流れや変化に対応するのは自分だ

今から50年前_{あそつ} 体誰がコンピューターを片手で操り、様々な情報を瞬時に得ることが出来る時代が来る、と考えたでしょうか。世の中の技術革新は速やかに素晴らしい方向へと進んでいる様です。

ところが、今はこれらの情報が余りに多く氾濫し過ぎています。それらの中から本当に大切、重要なものをしっかり見極めなければならないのですが、実はそれがとても難しいのです。

正しい情報であるのか。否定的な内容を伴うものなのか。思い過ごしや先入観により一方的な見方をしないない。最近は様々な詐欺行為が蔓延しており、パスワード等も巧妙な手口で抜き取られてしまいます。Internet 回線の場合は、より注意深く対応しないと事件や事故に巻込まれることもあります。千載一遇のチャンスは今だと思わて、気持ちが昂ぶり冷静さを欠いてしまうのは、相手の思う壺なのです。

冷静に考えることは普段の生活でも 難しいのです。ましてや気持ちが焦り アドレナリンの分泌が増え興奮状態に なったら猶更の事、事実を見直す余裕 さえ失くしてしまうのです。そんな時 には誰でも判断力が鈍ります。ですか ら大事な判断を行う時には、気持ちを 落ち着かせ冷静に対応出来るまで待つ 方が良いかも知れません。私たちには そんな余裕をもつ心が必要なのです。

目に見えるものに支配されてきた時代は既に終え、目に見えない心の時代の到来と言われてより、久しく時も経ちました。そうであるにも拘らず、私たちはどれだけ時代の変化に自分を適応させているでしょうか。

学校教育でも小学生からコンピューターを分け与えられ、コンピューターを通して連絡、指示がなされる様になっています。私たちが小学生であっ

た頃と環境が全く変わってしまっています。環境の変化の多い毎日の生活の中で、私たちは様々なストレスを抱えています。ストレスを溜め込み過ぎなるのはいけませんが、適度な緊張は能力を高めるとも言われています。自合が無さ過ぎても、有り過ぎてもはけないのと一緒です。私たちは皆、代の変化と共に生きています。そして、時代の流れに沿って生かされているのです。

様々な環境等の変化によりストレス が溜まっても、私たちにはその時代 や社会を変えることは出来ません。し かし、私たちは自分の心を変えること が出来ます。自分の心が変われば、言 葉遣いや行動等の自分自身も変わりま す。自分が変われば、自分の周囲の人 や友人も変わるのです。それは即ち自 分を取り巻く環境が変わり、社会が変 わる事と同じ意味です。つまり、自ら が変わろうという意思や力から世の中 の変革が始まるのです。いつまでも過 ぎ去ったこと(過去)に捉われない で、より良い明日(未来)に向けて、 強い意識と共に前向きな気持で時代を 乗り越える事が大切なのではないで しょうか。

<参拝のご案内>

社務所受付時間(御守授与、祈願受付等) 午前8時30分~午後5時まで。 開門中はいつでもご参拝いただけます。

<祈願のご案内>

初宮詣り、七五三、良縁成就、厄除、交通安全等のご祈願、結婚式、地鎮祭、家清め、 事務所祓い、神葬祭等も受付けています。

ご祈願は予約制ですので、電話または E-mail にてお問い合わせ下さい。

<御祭神>

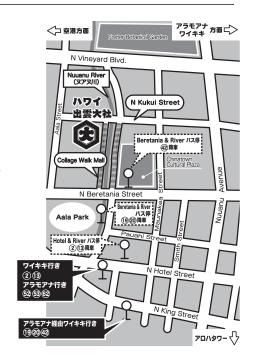
大國主大神 天之御中主大神 高皇産霊大神 神皇産霊大神 天沢大御神 ハワイ産土大神 (合祀)沖縄神社・波上宮・普天満宮の御分霊、恵美須神社、ワイアナエ氏神社、稲荷神社、祖霊社

<祭日>

2023年 10月 8日(日) 例大祭 (鎮座 117年) 毎月 10 日 月次祭

<由緒>

出雲大社(島根県出雲市鎮座)の分院。1906年(明治39年)広島県の神職であった宮王勝良初代分院長によって日系移民への神道布教を目的とした出雲大社教会所が開設されたことに始まる。現在出雲信仰の積極的な布教活動を展開中。





MAUI, STAY STRONG

頑張ろう マウイ島

Hawaii Izumo Taisha sends our condolences and prayers to all who were affected by the recent wildfires on Maui. The complete destruction of a large portion of the much-loved and historically-significant city of Lahaina, which most of us have seen in the heartbreaking images on television and the internet, cannot possibly convey the true loss for those whose homes, businesses and loved ones were taken from them in just a matter of hours. The relentless efforts of first-responders and volunteers, as well as the outpouring of support through monetary and in-kind donations has been encouraging. Yet such efforts will need to continue in the months and years to come, until what was once one of the most beautiful parts of our island community is fully restored. Please continue to support our friends one the island of Maui as they struggle to make it through these difficult times.

去る8月8日~9日にかけて、マウイ島ラハイナ地区、クラ地区等で山火事による大惨事が発生致しました。思いもよらない多くの人々の生命が亡くなり、心より御冥福をお祈り申し上げると共に、此度の災害に被災された方々にも謹んで御見舞申し上げます。ハワイ出雲大社は、これからも被災者の皆様方の心に添いながら復興支援に協力致す所存であります。皆様方の更なる御理解をお願い申し上げます。



117TH ANNUAL AUTUMN THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL

October 8, 2023 (Sunday)
1:00 PM SHINTO SERVICE & PROGRAM

DUE TO CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE SHRINE PROPERTY, NO ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE FEATURED THIS YEAR

According to Shinto tradition, Autumn Thanksgiving is one of the most significant occasions to express our appreciation and gratitude for the bountiful harvest of the year. It is a sincere expression of "thank you" to the *Kami* (Gods, Deities).

OUR HISTORY

HAWAII IZUMO TAISHA HAS BEEN A COMMUNITY HOME FOR FAMILIES FROM JAPAN AND HAWAII SINCE 1906. THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN ENSHRINED AND CARED FOR AT THE SHRINE:

SINCE 1906 : IZUMO TAISHA, HAWAII UBUSUNA-NO-KAMI

SINCE 1941: NAMINOUE-GU, OKINAWA JINJA,

FUTENMA-GU, (OKINAWA UJIGAMI)

SINCE 1969: EBISU JINJA (AIEA UJIGAMI)

SINCE 1975: WAIANAE UJIGAMI

SINCE 1992 : KEEAUMOKU INARI JINJA SINCE 2000 : MOILIILI INARI JINJA

PLEASE CELEBRATE WITH US AT

IZUMO TAISHAKYO MISSION OF HAWAII

215 NORTH KUKUI STREET

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鎮座 117年 謝恩大祭

2023 年 10 月 8 日 (日) 午後 1 時 例大祭 神事&祝賀式



境内地において工事が予定されているため、本年は奉納余興はありません

〈神社の歴史〉

・出雲大社 ハワイ産土神 48年 1906鎮座 117年 ・ワイアナエ氏神社 1975鎮座 ·沖縄神社 波上宮 普天満宮 1941鎮座 82年 ・ケエアウモク稲荷神社 1992鎮座 31年 ・恵美須神社(アイエア氏神) 1969鎮座 54年 ・モイリイリ稲荷神社 2000鎮座 23年

上記神社の合併大祭です。神恩に感謝し、世界平和、日米親善、ハワイ繁栄、家内安全、霊魂平安を祈願します。