



IZUMO TAISHA NEWSLETTER

IZUMO TAISHAKYO MISSION OF HAWAII

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GOLF TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2019

A Hawaii Izumo Taisha tradition returns this summer – our annual golf tournament! This year is the 30TH TOURNAMENT and the first one after the devastating pandemic of 2020 to 2022. Due to the public health restrictions caused by the pandemic, we had to cancel our tournament three years in a row. But in 2023, we are finally able to resume this popular event.

This tournament was first held in 1991 and organized by businessman Edwin Tanabe, who was Hawaii Izumo Taisha Board Chairman. He looked at the growing operational expenses incurred by the Shrine organization and had the bright idea to harness the popularity of golf in Hawaii and have the Shrine sponsor a golf tournament to offset some of those expenses.

This annual event has continued to serve as a fun

community activity and successful fundraiser for the Shrine. This year for the first time, the funds raised by this golf tournament will support SHRINERS CHILDREN'S HAWAII, which provides specialty rehabilitation services to children in Hawaii.

Behind the scenes at this annual event are numerous volunteers who keep the players happy, from the reception desk to the awards banquet, which features dinner and prize giveaways made possible by generous local donations. No participant goes home empty-handed, as everyone is given a special "goodie bag with Daikon." The large daikon (white radish) are grown at the Honbushin International Center's farm in Mililani, and have been so popular that some people nicknamed the golf tournament the "Daikon Tournament." Whether you are a golfer or a volunteer, please join us!



Golfers sharpen their putting skills before heading out.



Volunteers making sure our golfers are good to go.



These big *daikon* are a favorite item in our goodie bag.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2023

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| June 1 | First Day of the Month Blessing |
| June 10 | Monthly Worship Service with Great Purification Ceremony |
| July 1 | First Day of the Month Blessing |
| July 7 | 30th Golf Tournament at Ewa Beach Golf Club |
| July 10 | Monthly Worship Service with Star Festival (<i>Tanabata</i>) |
| Aug. 1 | First Day of the Month Blessing |
| Aug. 7 | Hiroshima Commemoration & Peace Service |
| Aug. 10 | Monthly Worship Service |
| Sep. 1 | First Day of the Month Blessing |
| Sep. 10 | Monthly Worship Service |
| Oct. 1 | First Day of the Month Blessing |
| Oct. 6-7 | Festival Preparations |
| Oct. 8 | Annual Autumn Thanksgiving Festival (<i>Omatsuri</i>) |

7/7/2023
\$180 per Golfer
At Ewa Beach
Golf Club
11:00 am
Shotgun Start



DEDICATED PERFORMANCES AT THE MONTHLY WORSHIP SERVICES

On November 10, 2022, following our Monthly Worship Service, we were graced with a Western harp and vibraphone musical performance. This was a dedication by a local music duo called Okini. Subsequently, on March 10, 2023, we were entertained by an oriental dance performance to celebrate Girl's Day. This performance was dedicated by the Iapana Sisters, a local dance duo. In Shinto Shrines, it is popular to dedicate fine artistic performances to 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 a dedication at the Shrine, please contact the Hawaii Izumo Taisha office.



The gentle sounds of Okini vibrated throughout the Shrine.

SEEKING NEW IZUMO TAISHA HAWAII MEMBERS!

As a member of our Shrine organization, you can take your involvement to the next level and help carry on the 117-year legacy of our Japanese immigrant ancestors and their traditions. If you are or would like to help out more at Izumo Taisha activities, we would be very grateful for your *kokua* (cooperation) and offer you good blessings and protection of *Kami* (Gods). In the Shinto religion, even if you belong to another church or temple, you can still be a member of our Shrine and worship *Kami*. Please contact our office and join us!



A lively dance performances by the Iapana Sisters enchanted the audience.

MEMBER'S VOICE

Barriers to Intercultural Communication

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

Through the COVID-19 pandemic, we in Hawaii seem to have been reminded first hand of the fact that we live in a globalized economy. Our economy heavily depends on the global supply chains and any disruptions will impact our daily lives in consumer markets such as automobiles, personal computers, household products, certain groceries and more. The past three years have reminded us the importance of understanding of how our societies are integrated encompassing geography, political situations and cultures. For these reasons, it is salient for us to remember that we make efforts to communicate effectively in our daily interactions and in the diverse workforce. However, there are some barriers to effective communication.

The first barrier is high anxiety. Anxiety increases when a person is worried about initial interactions. When anxiety is high, we tend to avoid interactions, and when it is low, we do not care what happens in the interaction. When we are anxious and unaware of what we are expected to do, it is natural to focus on anxiety. Thus, during the initial phase of our interactions with another person, it is important to try to reduce our uncertainty regarding that person. For example, for students from Japan, anxiety over speaking English

seems to contribute to some degree to avoiding interaction with U.S. students and limiting interactions both on and off campus.

The second barrier is assuming similarities instead of differences. When you assume similarities between cultures, one might be unaware of important differences and making an assumption could result in miscommunication. It is always important to remember that each culture *is* different and unique. For instance, cultures differ in terms of the appropriateness to display emotions. It is a well-documented fact that the people in Japan tend to suppress emotions more than the people in many other cultures. On the other hand, sometimes we meet people who assume differences more between cultures than similarities. This practice could lead to failure to recognize the common elements between cultures.

So, what should we do? Well, in short, it is better to assume nothing. For example, it would be better to ask, “What are the customs of XYZ country?” rather than assuming it is the same or different. Here are some examples of differences of cultural customs and practices. Meals are conducted in Spain in a calmer manner than the rushing we are used to in the US. Children are left outside of cafes in strollers in Denmark, but in the US, it could be an offense with jail time.

Religious practices may differ depending on the religion as well.

In this respect, schools must respect the religious practices of those of other cultures such as Muslims having the need to have a prayer room and time to pray facing Mecca. At Kansai International Airport in Osaka, Japan, there are three prayer rooms inside the facilities to particularly accommodate a great number of the Asian Muslim travelers from Southeast Asia mainly Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. Also, many restaurants have been Halal certified in Japan to appropriately serve the Muslim travelers. Remember, until recently the Japanese had very little knowledge of the Muslim practices and customs.



Having mentioned this, another major obstacle to effective intercultural communication would be having ethnocentric attitudes. Simply put, ethnocentrism refers to negative judgement of another culture based on the standards of your own culture. When a person is ethnocentric, one believes his/her own culture is superior, which would not help develop healthy intercultural relationships.

Lastly, stereotype is the broader term and is commonly used to refer to negative or positive judgments made about individuals based on any observable or believed group membership. There have been attempts made by psychologists to explain stereotyping as the mistakes that our brains make in the perception of other people. Simply, our brain reaches the wrong conclusion whenever the information is ambiguous. In such a case, stereotypes can cause us to assume that a widely held belief is true when in fact it may not be. As people continue to use the stereotype, the stereotype reinforces the belief. As such, stereotypes can also impede communication when they make us assume that a widely held belief is true of any one individual.

In summary, it is always better to ask what the customs are rather than assuming anything. For instance, it would not be so appropriate to cross legs in a Shinto shrine as on any other occasions in Japan. However, if we are not aware of this, unknowingly we could be offending some people. So, if you have any questions at Hawaii Izumo Taisha, feel free to ask questions to the folks there instead of making any assumptions.

[Reference: Jandt, F. E. (2020). *An Introduction to Intercultural Communication: Identities in a Global Community* (10th ed.)]

“幸せ”の実感を求めて

“今、あなたは幸せですか”と問われて、直ぐに“はい”と答えられますか。“幸せ”の概念が抽象的なので、応える人によって捉え方が異なり、即答は難しいかも知れません。では、“今、あなたは恵まれていますか”と聞かれたら如何でしょうか。こちらは“はい”と答え易いかも知れません。恵まれていることを具体的にイメージし易いからです。

つまり“幸せ”を求めたり探したりするには、“幸せ”の内容をより解り易く具体的に提示することにより見つけ易くなるのです。それは開運や心願成就等の様な表現ではなく、子供の志望校への合格、数学の成績の向上とか売上げ目標値の達成等、具体的な数字や希望を示すことにより、目指す目的がより解り易くなります。

それ故、抽象的な大目標ではなく、自分の為の欲求や自分に合う選択肢を探り出すことから始めるのです。たとえ小さなことでも自分に相応しい具体的な指標を定めることが大切なのです。具体的であればある程、実現し易くなります。

その結果、願い事が叶うと充実感、達成感と共に自信が増してきます。細やかな目標でも成し遂げられれば、達成感が昂まり生きている充実感をより感じられるでしょう。願い事が叶えられれば、自分の周囲の人々と環境に感謝の気持ちが

自然と湧き出してくるのです。自分は恵まれているなあ、自分は幸せだなあ、と実感できる瞬間です。

千里の道も一歩からと申します。未来の“幸せ”に向かって前向きな一歩を始めましょう。

＜ハワイ出雲大社由緒＞

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。ハワイ準州政府より正式な法人認可（1919年）を受けた後、出雲信仰の積極的な布教活動を展開。1922年（大正11年）には現在の大社造の社殿が完成し、翌年日本からも出雲大社教管長一行が来布して盛大な祝祭が執り行われた。日本文化の象徴的存在として発展を見るも、1941年（昭和16年）の日米開戦により全活動の停止、財産の没収、神職の身柄拘束など甚大な被害を受けた。戦後、収容所より帰布した宮王重丸二代分院長は仮社殿の神明奉仕の傍ら約10年間に及ぶ長い法廷闘争を支援者・崇敬者と共に続け勝訴、返還された社殿を現在地に移築修理。1969年（昭和44年）には竣工大祭を賑々しく奉仕し、ハワイの風土に溶け込んだ神社として教務を復興させた。2006年（平成18年）には100周年、2016年（平成28年）には創祀110周年奉祝記念大祭が執り行われ、2023年は鎮座117年に当たる。

御参加下さい！

ハワイ出雲大社のゴルフ大会が4年振りに開催されます。第30回の記念大会です。

日 程 Friday, July 7, 2023
時 間 11:00 A.M. Shotgun Start
9:30 A.M. Check-in & Lunch
場 所 Ewa Beach Golf Club
参加費 \$180/person
(軽食、賞品、夕食込)


amazonsmile

amazonsmile は本年2月で終了致しました。御協力戴きました皆様に感謝申し上げます。今後共、ハワイ出雲大社の活動に更なる御支援の程、宜しくお願い申し上げます。

Amazonsmile donation service ended in February this year. We would like to thank everyone for your support. We accept your donation anytime. Thank you very much.

好評!! “みおしえおみくじ”

かねてより要望のありましたハワイ出雲大社特製の“みおしえおみくじ”が出来上がりました。出雲大社教の初代管長、千家尊福公（1845－1918）が詠まれた和歌の中から出雲大社の信仰や教えに関係する内容のものを30首選び、その和歌から学ぶ“みおしえ”を日本語と英語で解り易く記したものです。この“おみくじ”は1つ \$1.00 で配布いたします。どうぞお守り授与所にお立寄り下さい。尚“おみくじ”の歌に託された神様の“みおしえ”は十分に味わい、家に持ち帰り、時々読み直したりして大切に保管して下さい。



Omikuj
みおくじ

Poetry of Takatomi Sengen

The Most Reverend Takatomi Sengen (1845 - 1918), the 80th generation of Izumo Taisha Head Priest and the first Superintendent of Izumo Taishakyo, was an elaborate religious leader in 19th century Japan who composed many poems describing Shinto teachings. His poems mentioned daily appreciation and gratitude as well as Japanese traditional heart, and were carried down from generation to generation. These poems mention the importance of productive daily life and continuous personal improvement and achievement.

Teachings through Poetry

Classical Japanese poems called *uta* or *tanka* consist of five lines (*ku*, or phrases) of 5-7-5-7-7 syllabic units, containing 31 syllables total. In these poems, people are encouraged to live with a Shinto heart. Daily life habits, motivations toward our civil business, ambitions toward our humanity all eventually concern our spirituality. From the Shinto perspective, the human soul originates from *Kami* (gods). In society, it is believed that all people are assigned certain roles in life by *Kami* and should serve with moral cleanliness, purity, righteousness, sincerity and honesty. May you keep these sacred words with you always.

これは出雲大社教初代管長、千家尊福公の詠まれた和歌です。日々の運勢や吉凶を占むものとは異なり、日々の大切に保ち、歌に託された神様の「みおしえ」を十分に味わい、これからの生活に活かしましょう。

Today's Poem by Takatomi Sengen				
“Asa wa toki 朝はとく	Oki te tsutome ba 起きてつとめば	Amatsuchi no 天つ日の	Toyosaka noboru 豊栄登る	Sachiya ete mashi 幸や得てまし

＜Teachings Based on This Poem＞
As we pray to the Gods, breathing in the fresh morning air and thanking them for their divine blessings, may you have a most fulfilling day. Bestowed with your daily duties, showered with the sun's bright light, partake of your blessings and natural environment.

＜この和歌から学ぶみおしえ＞
爽やかな朝に神様に祈り、神恩やお蔭に感謝し、素晴らしい一日になる様に努めましょう。太陽が昇り、めでたき任務に励み、清々しい朝の光、神恩や自然の恵みを鑑みましょ。