



SGI-USA Men's Division Suggested Study Material for October 2020

In October 2020, the Men's Division is studying excerpts from "The New Human Revolution" Volumes 21 found in October "Living Buddhism" published by SGI-USA. This page is intended for all members. The NHR Vol 21 chapter and/or LB pg # is indicated as available. All quotes from 32-49 October LB.

"Shin'ichi closed by ardently calling out to the participants, 'As courageous, compassionate and dedicated disciples of Nichiren Daishonin who are fully committed to truth and justice, please live out your whole lives in a positive and uplifting way, striving for the prosperity of your countries, the happiness of the people and the precious existence of humankind itself.'"

(October LB, pg 39)

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"The seedlings of friendship will not grow tall and strong if they are neglected after a single encounter. Just as seedlings need water, fertilizer and patient care to grow, friendship is fostered through abiding sincerity."

"Differences among people are a given. This is what makes each person unique... That is why we must not only recognize that people are different, but also respect and learn from one another. That should be our basic perspective. Accordingly, regardless of creed, we must always respect others as human beings first."

"First, we are all human beings living on this Earth. Second, we are all living our lives as best we can, facing the realities of birth, aging, sickness and death, and wishing for happiness and peace. By keeping these commonalities in mind, we should be able to recognize ideals that we all share – respect for the dignity of life, which is the inviolable right to life for all humanity and the right to happiness. As such, war is absolutely unacceptable."

"This belief in the sanctity of life is supported by Nichiren Daishonin's philosophy that all living beings are inherently Buddhas... Shin'ichi's purpose in engaging in dialogue was confirm these common elements with whomever he spoke and to create an affinity for peace. His aim was to build alliances for protecting the sanctity of life with people of all nationalities."

(October LB, pg 41)

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"The foundation of prayer is always Kosen-Rufu. And daimoku that originates in the determination to contribute to Kosen-Rufu produces immeasurable and unlimited benefits."

(October LB, pg 43)

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"People of genuine humanity directly and candidly express their gratitude to others. There can be no humanism without gratitude or expression of feeling."

(October LB, pg 45)

Possible Questions for Discussion:

1. How have your efforts to begin or cultivate friendships evolved during this unusual year?
2. Why does prayer rooted in kosen-rufu lead to great benefits?
3. Please discuss gratitude as we mark the 60th anniversary of SGI-USA.