



When we think of what a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist looks like, we often find it difficult to answer this question. Whether that is when we explain this teaching to people unfamiliar with this

tradition or talking amongst fellow followers, it is hard to determine what a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist is. Do we just say Namo Amida Butsu all the time? Do we just talk about showing gratitude and saying thank you to others?

As we venture into the ever-developing movement of Buddhism in America, there is a growing challenge to sustain this teaching brought to us by Shinran Shonin—the teaching of Other Power.

This lecture series will look primarily at several of Shinran Shonin’s shorter works and *Ken Jōdo Shinjitsu Kyōgyōshō Monrui*. Here, we will identify the major themes of each of the works while keeping in mind how these points help shape the Jodo Shinshu identity. Finally, we will conclude by discussing how we can take these features discussed throughout the week to think about what a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist can look like in today’s society. I hope to begin to discuss and re-affirm our values in this ever-changing and fast-paced world that we live in, which will give us deep appreciation, joy, and confidence in knowing our spiritual identity.

CLASS SCHEDULE

(Times are Hawaii Standard Time)
Held In-person and via Zoom

Monday, June 5, 2023

6-8pm Opening Service and Lecture
“Kyōgyōshō Monrui and Passages on the Pure Land Way”

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

6-8pm Lecture:
“Sanjō Wasan”

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

6-8pm Lecture:
“Notes on Essentials of Faith Alone and Notes on Once-Calling, Many-Calling”

Thursday, June 8, 2023

6-8pm Lecture:
“Shinran’s Letters and Tannishō”

Friday, June 9, 2023

6-8pm Closing Service and Lecture
“What the Jodo Shinshu Identity is Today”



Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji is currently a minister of Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church since August 1, 2020. In addition, he teaches at the Institute of Buddhist Studies located in Berkeley, California.

He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a Bachelor’s Degree in Philosophy and Japanese language and literature, Institute of Buddhist Studies at Berkeley, California with a Master’s in Buddhist Studies, Ryukoku University in Kyoto, Japan with a Master’s Degree in Shin Buddhist Studies, and completed the doctoral coursework at Ryukoku University. He specializes in the areas of Japanese Buddhism and religion, translation of Buddhist scripture, and Jodo Shinshu doctrine and ethics. He has obtained the academic ranking of *Hokyō* recognized within Hongwanji.

Recommended Preparation

Passages on the Pure Land Way (from The Collected Works of Shinran):

<http://shinranworks.com/the-major-expositions/passages-on-the-pure-land-way/>



BSC Summer Session

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**49th Annual
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**“Shinran’s Challenge”
What it means to be a Shin
Buddhist in the 21st Century
Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji**



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6-8pm HST

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