

PACIFIC WORLD

Journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies

Third Series Number 5
Fall 2003

**TWO SPECIAL SECTIONS:
IN MEMORY OF MASATOSHI NAGATOMI, AND
JAPANESE BUDDHISM IN AMERICA**



Pacific World is an annual journal in English devoted to the dissemination of historical, textual, critical, and interpretive articles on Buddhism generally and Shinshu Buddhism particularly to both academic and lay readerships. The journal is distributed free of charge. Articles for consideration by the *Pacific World* are welcomed and are to be submitted in English and addressed to the Editor, *Pacific World*, P.O. Box 390460, Mountain View, CA 94039-0460, USA.

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Masatoshi Nagatomi, In Memoriam

This issue of *Pacific World: Journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies* is devoted to the memory of Masatoshi Nagatomi. For years, as a member of the Institute of Buddhist Studies Advisory Board, he provided us with valuable advice and support. In conversation with his widow, Mary Nagatomi, we learned that he had intended to devote more of his precious time and energy to the Institute. Unfortunately, his final illness made it impossible for him to fulfill this wish. In recognition of his intent, Mrs. Nagatomi has very generously donated his personal library to the Institute. This contribution will form a special and permanent part of our research collection. In recognition of the importance of this contribution, the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Buddhist Studies has established an endowment for the maintenance of this collection.

During his years as a professor at Harvard University, he taught many students, several whom are today leading figures in the field of Buddhist studies. Many of those students have contributed essays to this issue, and the reverence in which they hold the memory of Prof. Nagatomi is evident in their contributions. (Please note that the contribution by Duncan Williams in memory of Prof. Nagatomi appears in the section on “Japanese Buddhism in America” later in this issue. Otherwise the contributions simply appear in alphabetical order.) It is an honor for us to be able to bring these essays together here, and we wish to express our thanks to Mrs. Nagatomi and to all of the contributors.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, I would like to also express my personal appreciation for the support and encouragement Prof. Nagatomi gave me at an early and key point in my career. We all feel a deep loss at his passing, and hope that this collection serves as an appropriate tribute to his contribution to the field of Buddhist studies.

Richard K. Payne

Dean, Institute of Buddhist Studies

Editorial Note: Japanese Buddhism in America: Shared Issues, Common Concerns

In conjunction with the 2003 annual meeting of the Buddhist Churches of America held in Los Angeles, the Institute of Buddhist Studies organized a conference on the topic of "Japanese Buddhism in America: Shared Issues, Common Concerns." The presentors were Prof. Duncan Williams (University of California, Irvine), Ms. Tara Koda (University of California, Santa Barbara), Prof. Jane Iwamura (University of Southern California), and Prof. Mark Unno (University of Oregon). Discussants were Prof. Helen Hardacre (Harvard University) and Prof. David Matsumoto (Institute of Buddhist Studies). The following articles are revised versions of the conference proceedings, together with Prof. Hardacre's comments, which are given here as an introduction.

The conference program was split over two venues. During the day, the full papers were presented on the campus of the University of California, Los Angeles. In the evening, summaries and discussion of the papers were conducted at the Japanese American National Museum. The conference received support from the Research and Propagation Committee of the BCA Ministers Association, the UCLA Center for Buddhist Studies, the UCLA Center for Japanese Studies, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, the Japanese American National Museum, and the Institute of Buddhist Studies' Japan Foundation Endowment. We would like to also thank the following individuals for their support of this project: Rev. Marvin Harada, Prof. Robert Buswell, Jr., Prof. Fred Notehelfer, Prof. Don Nakanishi, and President Irene Hirano.

Richard K. Payne

Dean, Institute of Buddhist Studies

The *Pacific World*—Its History

Throughout my life, I have sincerely believed that Buddhism is a religion of peace and compassion, a teaching which will bring spiritual tranquillity to the individual, and contribute to the promotion of harmony and peace in society. My efforts to spread the Buddha's teachings began in 1925, while I was a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley. This beginning took the form of publishing the *Pacific World*, on a bi-monthly basis in 1925 and 1926, and then on a monthly basis in 1927 and 1928. Articles in the early issues concerned not only Buddhism, but also other cultural subjects such as art, poetry, and education, and then by 1928, the articles became primarily Buddhistic. Included in the mailing list of the early issues were such addressees as the Cabinet members of the U.S. Government, Chambers of Commerce, political leaders, libraries, publishing houses, labor unions, and foreign cultural institutions.

After four years, we had to cease publication, primarily due to lack of funds. It was then that I vowed to become independently wealthy so that socially beneficial projects could be undertaken without financial dependence on others. After founding the privately held company, Mitutoyo Corporation, I was able to continue my lifelong commitment to disseminate the teachings of Buddha through various means.

As one of the vehicles, the *Pacific World* was again reactivated, this time in 1982, as the annual journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies. For the opportunity to be able to contribute to the propagation of Buddhism and the betterment of humankind, I am eternally grateful. I also wish to thank the staff of the Institute of Buddhist Studies for helping me to advance my dream to spread the spirit of compassion among the peoples of the world through the publication of the *Pacific World*.

Yehan Numata
Founder, Mitutoyo Corporation

In Remembrance

In May of 1994, my father, Yehan Numata, aged 97 years, returned to the Pure Land after earnestly serving Buddhism throughout his lifetime. I pay homage to the fact that the *Pacific World* is again being printed and published, for in my father's youth, it was the passion to which he was wholeheartedly devoted.

I, too, share my father's dream of world peace and happiness for all peoples. It is my heartfelt desire that the *Pacific World* helps to promote spiritual culture throughout all humanity, and that the publication of the *Pacific World* be continued.

Toshihide Numata
Chairman, Mitutoyo Corporation