

Shinnyo-en VIOLATES PRINCIPLES of Buddhism

OPEN REQUEST to Pacific Buddhist Academy

April 16, 2025

Josh Hernandez Morse, Head of School & President
Miho Bradley, Business Manager
Zachary Agcaoili, Executive Assistant to the Head of School
Megan Lee, Director of Advancement
Liane Vilorio, Dean of Students
Blanche Yarnell, Director of Admissions
Dr. Benjamin Bruch, Humanities Teacher
Roman Chavez, Humanities Teacher
Ryan Curry, STEM Teacher
Kama Kaaikaula, Kumu 'Ōlelo Hawai'i
Jake Lui, Music Teacher
Verena Mellein, Humanities Teacher
Loren Otake, Japanese Sensei & Athletic Director
Adrian Pedroza, STEM Teacher
Lexi Scarborough, Performing Arts Teacher
Allison Sunnaa, STEM Teacher
Jenny Taira, Music Teacher
Jay Toyofuku, Taiko Sensei
Marion Yasui, Sado Sensei

Aloha e PBA teachers and administrators ~

As a 3rd Generation teacher, veteran and supporter of Buddhism, I plead with each of you to assist our BOYCOTT of Shinnyo-en Japanese Buddhist Order lantern floating. All of us enjoy more freedoms, privilege and luxury due to the heroic sacrifice of the men and women who gave their lives to preserve our nation, our values and our freedom.

Core values of Buddhism are wisdom and compassion. And WISE people do not trample on the traditions of others. They are COMPASSIONATE and seek compromise to demonstrate their RESPECT for others. Shinnyo-en violates the principles of Buddhism by refusing to compromise.

Our request has been clear. Please DO NOT host lantern floating on Memorial Day Monday. This observance is reserved for the men and women who died in service to our nation to protect all of us. Such sacrifice is recognized this weekend with the christian observance of Easter. Christians believe a man named Jesus gave his life to show followers his spiritual path to heaven. Non-believers do not host events on this revered weekend. They show wisdom, compassion and respect.

And this attitude is ALL that we seek from Shinnyo-en. We have PROPOSED a Memorial Weekend ... rather than a single day. We find Shinnyo-en's lantern floating to be an enlightened observation for families and civilians. We suggested Shinnyo-en host lantern floating on Sunday, allowing the military memorial to be held on Monday, as we create LAULIMA a Memorial Weekend for all.

This compromise would seem to delight Buddhists who seek the KEY values of Buddhism:

- Wisdom (Paññā):

This involves understanding the nature of reality, including the Four Noble Truths and the cycle of suffering (Saṃsāra). It's fostered through mindfulness, meditation, and intellectual inquiry.

- Compassion (Karuna):

This involves having a strong desire to alleviate suffering and help others, both humans and animals. It is a key element of loving-kindness and is practiced through ethical conduct and acts of service.

- Loving-kindness (Mettā):

This involves cultivating a warm and benevolent attitude towards all beings, wishing them well and free from harm.

- Ethical Conduct (Sīla):

This is based on the Five Precepts, which prohibit killing, stealing, sexual misconduct, lying, and intoxication. These precepts guide daily life and are essential for developing a virtuous mind.

- Respect for Others:

Buddhism emphasizes treating others with kindness, understanding, and empathy, as well as avoiding harmful actions and speech.

- Enlightenment (Nirvana):

The ultimate goal in Buddhism, Nirvana, is a state of liberation from suffering and the cycle of rebirth, achieved through realizing the true nature of reality.

- Dharma:

This refers to the Buddha's teachings and the path to enlightenment. It also encompasses the natural law or cosmic order.

- The Four Virtues:

Buddhists strive to develop loving-kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy (Mudita), and equanimity (Upekkha), which help to balance emotional states and cultivate a calm and composed demeanor.

- Karma:

The principle of cause and effect, where actions have consequences that shape future experiences.

- Meditation:

A central practice in Buddhism, meditation helps cultivate mindfulness, concentration, and insight into the nature of the mind and reality.

- Rebirth:

The belief that life is a continuous cycle of birth, death, and rebirth, influenced by one's actions and karma.

Thank you for your efforts to make our world more compassionate and peaceful. Please assist us in our efforts to do the same. You can reach Shinnyo-en at:

Reverend Eitaro Hayashi

- TEL: 808-947-2814
- FAX: 808-949-3045
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Mahalo nut loa,
Scott

Scott Gould

“Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.” Dalai Lama

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Pacific Buddhist Academy teacher Roman Chavez set out on an ambitious endeavor: a 136-mile ultra marathon around Oahu to generate funds for the school's athletics program.



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Honolulu teacher laces up to raise funds for school athletics program

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 **Scott Goold**
Buddhists are extremely HONORABLE people. They STRIVE for harmony and peace. Please HELP us. The JAPANESE Buddhist Order Shinnyo-en mistreats our national heroes on Memorial Day.
We've begged and pleaded with Shinnyo-en. They refuse our peaceful requests. They give the Japanese and Buddhists a BAD reputation.
JOIN US: USA Veterans Call to BOYCOTT Shinnyo-en Lantern Floating Hawai'i
<https://boycottshinnyo.com>

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