

FOREWORD

The proverb says, there is no colour of pinetree, such as joints of bamboo to recognize its age. Time has passed endlessly just as the same pace as it were, though it has big, small, long, or short joints like bamboo's.

There were two big events our temple this year. One is the tenth anniversary of our Scholarship Foundation for International Buddhist Study, another is the twenty-fifth anniversary of our temple. Therefore, to memorize the former event, we held the service by Rev. Shuyu Sakurai, the president of Komazawa University, and the ceremony to invite Rev. Rotengekka Hojo of Tsudoji-Temple, which is the head temple in Korea.

I'd like to explain about Hojo. In Korea, there are only four priests called by this honorific title, while in Japan, the chief priest, that is, Hojo. Rev.

Rotengekka is the priest of highest rank, to be installed as the Soshō of the Sokei Sect next April.

Then, to memorize twenty-fifth anniversary of our temple, as many as 550 people took part in the celebration on scale at Sojiji-Temple. We held the memorial service by Rev. Umeda Shinryū Kanshū at Taisōdō, the ceremony at Zuioden, and the meal of celebration at the banquet hall on the fourth floor of Sanshokaku. These was the big event for whole four hours.

Excuse me for mentioning something personal, but I was appointed as Gondai Kyōshi and shouldered responsibility for Kionne, which means to be honored putting on yellow surplice. I am grateful from bottom of my heart to your encouragement and supporter's cooperation, and hope you will favor us with your continued patronage.