

Foreword

The chief priest of Zenkōji – Temple
Takeshi Kuroda

Under the slogan along with Buddha's teachings, which is we should contribute to "the flourish of Buddhism and the peace of the world", and go back to Shaka – mun through the founder, we can reach the day of the 30th anniversary of Seijuzan Zenkōji – Temple and of the 15th of the Scholarship Foundation.

This is due entirely to Rev. Shaka – mun buddha, Rev. Jōyō, Rev. Jōsai, seccessive reverends, and Buddha's divine protection. Also I think this is the result of kind help of our supporters and many people. I thank these people from bottom of my heart.

As the memorial event of the 30th anniversary, we visited to China this April. Dōgen, the founder of Sōtō sect, was 24 years old when he went to China to study by the Japan – Sung trading boat in 1223, the 2nd of *Jouō*. He called on Rev. Nyojō of Tendōji – Temple in Taipaishan two years later, trained himself hard in Zen meditation and attained spiritual enlightenment by the words "Free from body and mind".

Rev. Dōgen no sooner returned to Japan in 1227, the 1st of *Antei*, than he declared his spiritual enlightenment in China, said he learned the mind of softness, which was getting free

from whatever attachment in mind and body, this was the mind of Buddhists.

During our visit in Chaina, we entered and prayed in Tendōji—Temple in Ningpo. Rev. Shūshōkanninrōshi met us warmly and gave us kind hospitality. We prayed for the prosperity of Zenkōji—Temple, the devotion of our supporters and our good journey, and then held the memorial service for successive spirits of our supporters and relatives in Daiyūhōden of Tendōji—Temple.

In Beijing, we had a visit to the greatest hospital in China “China—Japan Friendship Hospital”, which building late Kisaburō Ito had designed, who was an illustrator for “Seiju”.

Next day, we visited to Kouji Kōsaiji—Temple where was Chinese Buddhist’s Society and held the memorial service for the founder of Seijuzan Zenkōji—Temple, late Mitsuyoshi Muraoka’s 23th anniversary of his death, late Ai Muraoka, late Yūsho Muraoka and late Kisaburō Ito surrounded by the 18 arahans in Hōdōjin of white shinning balustraded Daiyūhōden. We were filled with divine exaltation.

I said to myself, I never create any evils, never attach to life or death and train myself harder for devoting to people.

“Torch of Zenkōji—Temple is twinkling.

The virtue of Buddha leads us to Zen of Seiju”

Toward this aim, to spread Buddha’s teachings to the world, I swear I should start again from scratch.