

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

March 2017



The shrine welcomed 11 Priests and 6 Miko maidens from Izumo Taisha of Shimane, Japan on Saturday, February 18. This is the second of 2 groups that visited Hawaii as part of their annual educational trips to various Shinto shrines. Mahalo to Diane Nishida for helping to greet the entourage.

MAHALO

for your donations

Curtis Alexander
Michael Ching
Bill & Keiko Doughty
Bob Harada
Jared Ishimoto
Izumo Taishakyo, Japan
Lorraine Kadota
Eiji & Yuka Kato
Kimie Koyanagi
James & Melba Kurashige
Laurie Lesley
Shigemasa Minami
Steven Miwa
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Norman Odani
Guy Okada
Nicholas & Yoko Ponce
Akiko Sanai
Shuji Sekizawa
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Tracy Stevens
Akane Sugahara
Kyle & Donna Lee Tengan
Naomi Teramoto
Annette Watanabe



Setsubun rituals include *Tsuina no Gi* and *mame-maki*. *Tsuina* is an exorcism rite introduced from Tang China (618-907) to drive out demons and negative energies.

Mame-maki or bean scattering to expel evil spirits, seems to have begun in the Muromachi Period (1392-1573).

The rituals were performed at the shrine on Sunday February 12 during our monthly Tsukinamisai.

CALENDAR

MARCH

- 4 1 pm
Sake Festival prep
- 5 3 pm
Sake Appreciation Festival
- 11 & 12 10 am - 4 pm
Honolulu Festival

APRIL

- 2 3 pm
Tsukinamisai Service
- 8 1 pm
Festival preparations
- 9 3 pm
Spring Thanksgiving Festival

House Blessing

Many of you have gone to a home or business and felt a "strange" feeling. Or, maybe you decided not to rent that apartment because of bad "vibes".

Every home, building, piece of furniture, clothing, etc. carries the energies of those who made the object, who sold it, and those who previously owned it. Their energies



A House Blessing in Hawaii Kai on Sunday February 5.



House blessing in Kaimuki on February 19.

are impregnated into the objects and spiritual cleansing or purification is a method of eliminating unwanted energies.

During a house blessing, the owner, family and friends gather in the home with Rev. Takizawa, who goes from room to room, saying a prayer while scattering *kirinusa*, confetti made of rice paper. *Kirinusa* is created to revitalize or cleanse the energy of your home or other sacred space and an excellent way to reclaim your personal space.

le-barai rituals may also be performed when one is feeling depressed, fearful, blocked, prior to moving to a new residence, is uneasy in a house, or going through major life changing events.

le-barai promotes spiritual healing for your residence. Welcome the energies of prosperity and harmony and surround yourself with peace, light and clarity.



Rev Takizawa and owner of a home in Kapahulu on February 14, blessing the four corners of the property.

Japanese Surnames

In Japan, surnames were allowed only to the aristocracy and samurai families until the 1870s.

The Japanese have two names, a surname and a given name. No one has a middle name.

The surname is usually inherited from the father, and women traditionally change their surnames to the husband's upon marriage.

At the time of the Meiji revolution in 1868, only 3.6% of the population had legal surnames.

Merchants and artisans used the name of their business (*yago*) like a surname. So, they were referred to as: Charley of Zippy's or Robert of Macy's. This, however, was not official and all commoners were mandated to adopt a legal surname in the 1870s.

Presently, there are over 100,000 surnames in use in Japan. Commoners chose names from their occupation, aristocratic or samurai clans or geographical features around their home.

Up until the 7th century, *Kabane* (姓) or hereditary titles to denote rank and political standing were used instead of surnames for the aristocracy.

There were more than thirty *kabane* such as *Omi*, *Muraji*, *Kimi*, *Miyatsuko*, *Fubito*, *Agatanushi*, and *Suguri*. The *kabane* system was abolished in 645.

According to the *Shinsen Shojiroku* written in 815, there were 1182 registered surnames in Kyoto, Nara and Osaka.

It is documented that over 30 percent of the registered surnames were those of Chinese

or Korean immigrants that adopted Japanese surnames that reflected their foreign origins.

In ancient Japan, surnames were divided into three categories - 皇別 *Kohbetsu*, 神別 *Shinbetsu* and 諸蕃 *Shohan*.

In the *Shinsen Shojiroku*, there are 335 *Kohbetsu* surnames, 404 *Shinbestu* surnames and 326 *Shohan* surnames.

Kohbetsu were clans that are said to be descended from the Imperial family (i.e. *Shimada*, *Sonobe*, *Matsuura*, *Tamba*, *Miyake*, *Mano*, *Kiyohara*, *Tachibana*, *Kume*, *Ono*, *Ogura*, *Kashima*, *Abe*, *Namba*, *Kusakabe*, *Kuwahara*, *Kusakabe*, *Waki*, *Abo*, *Asuka*, *Shouji*, *Oka*, *Iga*, *Kubota*, etc).

Shinbetsu were clans that are said to be descended from the *kami* (i.e. *O-nakatomi*, *Azumi*, *Suwa*,

Yugeshi, Kamo, Yuasa, Hozumi, Sekiya, Sakurai, Fushimi, etc.).

Shohan were clans that were descendants of Chinese or Korean immigrants.

Registered in the *Shinsen Shojiroku* were 163 clans from China (i.e. *Hata, Nagaoka, Takao, Sakurada, Takeo, Ikebe, Sakurano, Koshi, Kitsu, Tani, Oishi, Hitohira, Yamashiro, Musa, Shiga, Mineta* etc.).

104 clans were from *Paekche*, Korea (i.e. *Kudara, Akutsu, Koshi, Ishino, Kanno, Kuzui, Miyahara, Miyoshi, Fuwa, Wa, Hyakusai*, etc.).

41 were from *Goguryeo*, Korea (*Kohrai, Koma, Shirakawa, Adachi, Takakura, Idemizu, Sakai, Ohtomo, Namba* etc.).

6 were from *Shilla*, Korea (i.e. *Itoi, Nira, Toyohara, Tachibana, Shinra, Ukita*, etc.) and 3 from *Gaya*, Korea (i.e. *Shimizu, Tatara, Abe*, etc).

Top 15 Surnames in Japan

(Approximate number of people - as of 12/2015)

1	Sato	佐藤	1,894,000
2	Suzuki	鈴木	1,809,000
3	Takahashi	高橋	1,425,000
4	Tanaka	田中	1,346,000
5	Ito	伊藤	1,084,000
6	Watanabe	渡辺	1,073,000
7	Yamamoto	山本	1,060,000
8	Nakamura	中村	1,053,000
9	Kobayashi	小林	1,036,000
10	Kato	加藤	893,000
11	Yoshida	吉田	837,000
12	Yamada	山田	820,000
13	Sasaki	佐々木	682,000
14	Yamaguchi	山口	649,000
15	Matsumoto	松本	633,000

Unusual Surnames

1. 鬼 Oni or ogre
2. 砂糖 Sato or sugar
3. 無敵 Muteki - one without enemies
4. 素麺 Somen - as in the noodles
5. 鰻 Unagi or eel
6. 東京 Tokyo - as in the capital of Japan
7. 金玉 Kongyoku - literal translation "gold balls"
8. 左衛門三郎 Saemonsaburo - origin unknown
9. 猫屋敷 Neko Yashiki - Cat Mansion
10. 四月一日 Watanuki literally means to remove cotton - cotton was removed from futon to prepare for warmer weather on April 1
11. 馬鹿 Mashika - also read as "baka"
12. 御手洗 Mitarai - can also be read as Otearai or bathroom
13. 牛糞 Kogoe - kanji characters translate as "cow dung"
14. 鼻毛 Hanage or nasal hair



The 9th Memorial Service for Karen Fujishima Lee (Hanayagi Mitsuaki II) was held on February 8.

Every opportunity to gather in remembrance of the deceased is an opportunity to thank them for having been a part of our lives, to give us the strength to accept what is past, to appreciate what is present and to look forward to good in our future.



The annual group Kanreki Blessing at 1 pm and Yakudoshi Blessing at 2 pm were held on Sunday, 2/12.



After a few weeks of overnight work, a new LED sign tower emerged directly in front of the shrine on 2/16.



The shrine's omamori were featured in the Japanese edition of the iconic fashion magazine, VOGUE.

Maintenance



Repairs by Rudy Santiago to the area below the Ewa-side stairs were completed on January 30. Painting began as soon as the cement and epoxy dried.

Concrete work continues with repairing stairs with large chunks of concrete broken off the edges. Re-rods were inserted, forms were made and concrete poured in to patch the broken edges. Railings were also re-enforced with epoxy.

Spalling and popouts caused by the corrosion of the reinforced bars embedded in the concrete, joint deficiencies and surface damages indicated significant distress and deterioration.

Areas identified as high priority will continue to be addressed and repaired in the months ahead.

On Saturday, February 11, radars showed heavy rains falling over Oahu at a rate of 2-3 inches per hour. Kalihi experienced torrential rain and flash floods throughout the day.

The sump pump, which usually kicks in during heavy rain stopped working due to mud, rocks and sand clogging the pipe, impairing the impellor. It began working as soon as the debris was removed and the pump cleaned and tested.

MAHALO to Rudy Santigo, Sherrie Kalua, Bryson Goda, Diane Nishida and Stacie Hata for their kokua !!!