

If the 3rd of May is Soka Gakkai's eternal starting point, then the 5th of May, Soka Gakkai Successors's Day, is a milestone of eternal hope...^I

In the SGI we cultivate the fertile soil of youth through timely, sincere encouragement; this is how we foster the members of the Future Division. We sow seeds of hope, self-overcoming, and courage, which will yield the crop of happiness and victory..^{II}

Fragments of two articles by Daisaku Ikeda dedicated to the Future Division: "Shine brightly and illuminate the world!" (I) and "My dear successors, triumph through study" (II).



Fotografías: Yuko Kawahara, Alida Moi, Civilización Global

Future Division: Representatives of this group of "emissaries of the future" welcomed the spring by planting sprouts (Picasso group) and trees (Casals group) in the park around the Centro Cultural Soka on Sunday, 20th of March, with the support of the Raíces group.

Let us encourage especially the youth and the members of the Future Division

When praised highly by others, one feels that there is no hardship one cannot bear. Such is the courage that springs from words of praise.

The Writings of Nichiren Daishonin (WND), Tokyo: Soka Gakkai, 1999, page 385.

Words of encouragement allow us to instill courage and strength in others. We all feel cheerful when someone praises us; words of recognition generate happiness, joy and optimism in our lives.

Every person has an innate strength equivalent to that of the Buddha – an immense vital strength like that of the universe. And Nichiren Buddhism enables us to express such power to the maximum extent.

Let us move forward with an exultant state of mind, praising one another and acknowledging the courage and the endeavours of all of our comrades. I particularly call on you to warmly encourage our youth and the members of the Future Division, in order to erect a new Soka castle of human values. Together, let us open the gates of a future overflowing with hope. ”

Article by Daisaku Ikeda published on 19th of August, 2013, on the Seikyo Shimbun.

SOME KEY TOPICS

Praise, encouragement · Courage, strength · Future, successors

In another of his writings, Nichiren Daishonin quotes a passage from the Contemplation on the Mind-Ground Sutra states: “If you want to understand the causes that existed in the past, look at the results as they are manifested in the present. And if you want to understand what results will be manifested in the future, look at the causes that exist in the present”. (WND, page 279).

Another quote by the Daishonin, this time to T’ien-t’ai, reminds us that “Voices do the Buddha’s work” (WND, page 188). Every word of encouragement that we offer to the young successors is an act of an incalculable power which does the work of the Buddha.

Let us forge human values and let us help them expressing their potential for the future’s sake! Let us foster capable people who will contribute positively to society! The eagerness for nurturing the human development irradiates an eternal light...

Young Phoenix

Daisaku Ikeda reminds us, members of the Future Division...

... attending the SGI meetings always offers something valuable to us. In general, we all end up the activities with a revitalized state of mind. Although you may not realize on the spot, that experience will remain within you forever, it will become a part of you. With the course of the years, you will truly cherish the fact that you took part in meetings in this early stage of your youth.*

In the article that inspires this month’s discussion meeting (in the previous page) we read that words of encouragement can awaken in us capability, value, strength... These qualities are features of that Buddhism calls...

THE HEART OF A LION KING

Have you seen “The Lion King”?

A lion is respectful with regard to the other beings, especially to those who are more vulnerable. He uses his strength to protect them. In order to do so, and since he is valiant, he faces alone the worst of difficulties and fights for truth and justice with an indomitable spirit. Nichiren Daishonin writes about it:

Each of you should summon up the courage of a lion king and never succumb to threats from anyone. The lion king fears no other beast, nor do its cubs. (WND, page 997)

President Ikeda wrote for us some lines that are like a continuation to this quote (in the right column):



Ilustraciones: Rocío de la Sal

That is why I urge our young champions... summon up courage as lion kings and walk along the noble path of happiness that encompasses humankind!

I will also keep on fighting for... my beloved successors! **

* From “Shine brightly and illuminate the world!”

** From “Shine triumphantly as suns of courage!”