

今月の宗祖のおことば Founding Master *Ippen's* Thought of Tenth Month (Oct.)

口にまかせてとなうれば 声に生死の罪きえぬ 一遍上人「別願和讃」

Chanting the *Nembutsu* prayer (Hail to Amida Buddha) as if reciting the sutra casually, one brings forth merits to cleanse one's sins.

Master *Ippen's* Waka Poetry "Pledged Prayers"

～ 一遍上人のおこころ ～ Master *Ippen's* Innermost Thought

念仏は口に任せて称えれば、その一声一声の中に生死の迷いや罪は消えて救われるのである。念仏を重ねる度に、阿弥陀様の功德がいつの間にか心に染みついて表れてくるのである。

By calling at random the name of Amida Buddha, one's each single voice in voices leads one to the way of relief, vanishing the mundane worries of life and death and the sins. Every time one chants the mantra, one accrues the strength of Amida Buddha infiltrating into oneself.

微妙香潔 (みみょうこうけつ) の香りなり - Scents of Delicately Purified Flower

先月の秋季開山忌が終る頃には暑さも落ち着き、秋の風が感じられるようになってきました。毎年涼しげな秋風にのって、寺務所前の金木犀(きんもくせい)の香りが漂い始めると、「今年もこの季節がやってきたな」と心地良くさせてくれます。さて、皆さまは薫習(くんじゅう)という言葉をご存知でしょうか。私たちが普段生活を送っている部屋は知らず知らずのうちに、自分自身の香りが染みついていきます。それと同じく、三つ子の魂百までと申しますとおり、子供のころに教えてもらった食事作法や言葉遣いなどは大人になっても忘れることなく、浸透しております。また、自分で決意しひたむきに取り組んでいけば、次第に自分の力となっていきます。同様に、他者の行動を見聞きすることで、自然と体に染みついていく力もあります。自分自身や他人の行為が心や体に影響を与えて残存(ざんぞん)すること、それが薫習でございます。

About the time last month's autumnal Buddhist memorial service finished, this year's extreme summer heats got subsided, and the brisk autumn breeze started to be felt on us. Every year, by riding on the cool autumn wind, the scents of the fragrant olives, in front of the temple's office, began to be wafting, making us aware of and comfortable with the arrival of season for the plant.

Now, I wonder if you know the *Kanji* "*kunjū*", (lit. meaning fragrant learning). The rooms, in which ones spend hours in daily life, get unconsciously permeated with the smells of individuals residing there. In the same way, a saying goes, "What is learned in the cradle is carried to the grave." The table manners and language dictions as we were taught in childhood continue to be carried into adulthood, without being thrown away. And, also, what one devotes oneself to, with one's own determination, turns to be one's own strength. Likewise, on witnessing the deeds of others, there is a possibility of the others' merits naturally infiltrating into the onlooker's strength. The phenomenon that one's own or others' actions affect the one's heart or mind, and physical body, to remain (with oneself, the observer), is referred to as the "*kunjū*".

仏さまのいる極楽世界に咲く様々な色の蓮の花は微妙香潔と呼ばれ、いつも気高く清らかな香りを漂わせていると言われています。さらにそれは単にいい香りというだけでなく、仏さまの教えが説かれる世界ですので、清らかな仏の教えが香りと共に身に染みついてくることでしょう。秋は涼しさに加え、落ち着いた夜の時間が長いことから、様々なことに集中して取り組むことができる季節として、読書の秋、芸術の秋などと言われます。

金木犀の香りには心を落ち着かせるリラックス効果や潜在能力を引き出してくれる力がある

そうです。一つのことを継続して取り組むことはなかなか容易なことではありませんが、秋の香りを感じながら自分にとって実りある習慣となるよう、心静かに薫習してみたいかがでしょうか。

合 掌

(内近司(ないごんす) 常盤(ときわ) 慈人(じじん))

The lotus flowers blooming in multiple colors in Buddha's paradise, called as "delicately purified fragrance", are said to be wafting in the air ceaselessly the noble and pure scents. It does not simply mean the good smells drifting, but since the place is for the Dharma preaching, we imagine the sanctorum is being fully permeated with Buddha's immaculate teachings, fraught with the floral fragrance, getting the adherents beholden. Autumn, replete with cool weathers, and serene long nights, getting us to be concentrated in various things, is nominated as the season for reading, and for relishing the Arts. The fragrant olives, whose scents are said to be helpful for producing the strength of relaxation effects, calming our minds, extracting individuals' potentialities. To make a commitment to something worth trying on end is not quite easy for us, but by feeling the autumnal breeze or scents around us, why not emulate serenely the fragrant practicing to the merits of making our efforts bear fruit as a customary habit (in pursuit of something valuable in life).

In Prayers

Written by the temple inner-affairs attendant: Priest Jijin Tokiwa

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