



Bishop Seytsu Takahashi
1933-1982

1962-1971

The year 1962 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Koyasan Buddhist Temple. The occasion was celebrated with two weeks of festivities highlighted by a grand ceremony at which Bishop Takahashi officiated. Joining him in those solemn duties were the temple's three resident ministers, six Shingon ministers from other American temples, and several priests from the Los Angeles Buddhist Church Federation. The services were followed by Goeika and the burning of incense, a statement of "Keisanmon", prayers for the departed, and a ceremony of commendation in which many members of the Temple were honored for outstanding service. Various messages of congratulation were read aloud. Rev. Seisho Hakeda, Professor of Religion and East Asian Languages and Culture, Columbia University, rounded off the day's program with a special sermon in which he honored the Issei pioneers

and exhorted the new generation to emulate their hard work and admirable sense of duty.

Professor Hakeda was himself an exemplary representative of the new breed of American Koyasan ministers whose facility with English and impressive academic achievements filled the founding generation with confidence in the continued success of Bishop Aoyama's original mission. Rev. Hakeda had already earned his doctorate at Yale University and others, like Rev. Shunsho Terakawa, Rev. Shozui Togano, and Rev. Taisen Miyata, were likewise pursuing advanced degrees at respected institutions. Thus, the 50th anniversary celebration was both a joyful commemoration of the Temple's past success and an extremely satisfying and reassuring glimpse of a bright future.



1965

- Memorial service commemorating the 1,150th year of the founding of Mount Koya is held.

1970

- First Jiho newsletter is published.

1962-1971

1962

- 50th Anniversary of the Temple is celebrated.
- After twenty-five years, Boy Scout Troop 379 goes on a second Goodwill tour of Japan.



1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971



50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF KOYASAN
BEIKOKU
BETSUIN, 1912-1962

COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

50th Anniversary - December 1962



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

From left, Reverend Hiroyuki Kawashima, Reverend Suen Tanjo, Reverend Shozui Togano, Reverend Seisho Hakeda, Bishop Seytsu Takahashi, Reverend Ryosho Sogabe, Reverend Taisen Miyata, Reverend Shunyu Asahi, Reverend Shunshin Iseki.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Reverend Keiryō Mizuno leads the procession into the Temple. To the left are Reverend Ryosho Sogabe and Reverend Shunshin Iseki. Behind are Temple President Tsuruhiko Abe (left) and Sodai Katsuichi Kazahaya (right).

50th Anniversary Service



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYAKE STUDIO

With the assistance of the LABCF ministers on the left and Koyasan ministers on the right, Bishop Seytsu Takahashi leads the Sange Ritual.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYAKE STUDIO

Sunday School children offer incense at the 50th Anniversary.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYAKE STUDIO

The Goeika group performs during the service.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYAKE STUDIO

Members of the Sonen-kai in line to offer incense.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYAKE STUDIO

Incense offering by teenage members of the Temple.

50th Anniversary Service



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Reverend Seisho Hakeda and Bishop Seytsu Takahashi.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

The Sodai representatives are honored for their contribution to the Temple.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Jack Wada is commended as the President of the Sonen-kai.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Reverend Ryosho Sogabe.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Fujin-kai Advisor honorees.



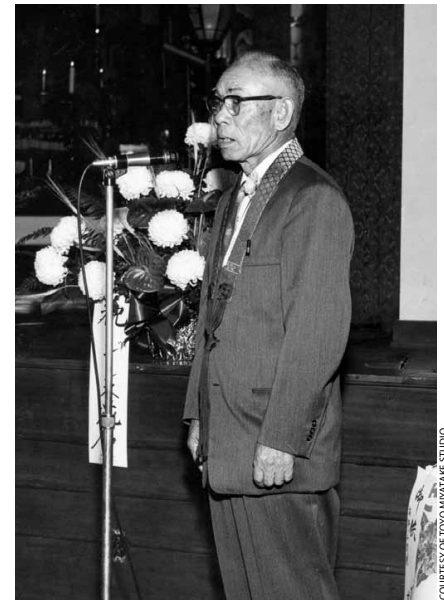
COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Harbor City Koyasan Church honorees.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Betsuin Sunday School Teacher honorees.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Temple President and Anniversary Committee Chairman, Tsuruhiko Abe.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Kakuo Tanaka, future Temple President from 1965 to 1974, addresses the congregation.

50th Anniversary Banquet - 1962



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

The Issei pioneer leaders of the Temple are honored at the 50th Anniversary banquet held at Restaurant Raffle.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

From left, Mitsuye Sadamitsu, Suzue Takahashi, Bishop Seytsu Takahashi, Tom Oki.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Peggy Wada and Yutaka Sadamitsu honor Mr. and Mrs. Katsuichi Kazahaya.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Members of the Sonen-kai at the banquet.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

From left, Shoji Kanogawa, Yasuko Yamagami, Yoshio Kato, Imaharu Yoshimura, Kiyoko Watanabe, Suzie Oki, Reverend Ryosho Sogabe.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

From left, Jack Wada, Reverend Shunshin Iseki, Reverend Shinsho Hasu, Reverend Taisen Miyata, Reverend Hiroyuki Kawashima.

50th Anniversary



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

From left, Jack Wada, Reverend Seisho Hakeda, Bishop Seytsu Takahashi, Sachiko Hakeda, Yae Aihara

50th Anniversary - Sonen-kai



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

The Sonen-kai (YAA) evolves into the group now known as the ABA (Adult Buddhist Association).



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

50th Anniversary Boy Scout Troop 379

The Boy Scouts are on hand to post colors at the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Fall Ohigan Lantern Dedication - 1966



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Bishop Zenko Kusanagi of Mount Koya's Sanhoin arrives for the lantern dedication ceremony. He holds one of the highest positions serving as the Chief of Religious Affairs for the Headquarters.

Shomieku - 1965



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

June 1965 is the 1,150th year of the founding of Mount Koya. A special Shomieku ceremony is held to commemorate this event.

Kyogi Nagashi - 1965

To guide the spirits of the departed back to the other world, Bishop Seytsu Takahashi (kneeling), Reverend Keiryō Mizuno and Reverend Ryōshō Sogabe burn kyogi (wooden tablets) with names of the deceased at Seal Beach.



Cabinet members and ministers in procession to enter the Temple.



Kakuo Tanaka, Temple President, leads the procession of Cabinet members.

Hoshimatsuri - 1968 through 1971

1968



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

1969



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

1970



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Several former Nisei Week Queens including actress Helen Funai and prominent people from the Japanese-American community participate in the Hoshimatsuri service from 1968 through 1970.

Hoshimatsuri - 1971



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

A common ritual of Hoshimatsuri is to toss the fuku-mame (lucky beans) by a Japanese-American celebrity and toshi-otoko, a man born in the Chinese zodiac year. Additionally, the congregation is treated to the fuku-mame distributed by the participating celebrity and toshi-otoko.

Goeika Taikai - November 1970



Reverend Ekan Ikeguchi performs a buyo dance during the Goeika Taikai.

Oseibo Taikai - December 1970



Children of Sunday School give various performances during the Oseibo Taikai.

Boy Scout Troop 379 Honors Scoutmaster - 1969



Troop 379 show appreciation to Shoichi Sayano (center) for his ten years as Scoutmaster from 1959 - 1969.



Cub Scout Troop 379 Halloween Party - October 10, 1963

Two Cub Scouts show off their trophies and prizes won in a contest at the Halloween party.

Boy Scouts Goodwill Tour of Japan - 1962



Scoutmaster Ronnie Sugiyama (left), one of the first Boy Scouts to go to Japan in 1937, visits the country again for the first Asian Jamboree.



Troop 379 participate in the Asian Jamboree near Gotemba, Shizuoka. In addition, the troop make a guest appearance on NHK television, and perform at the opening ceremonies of the Koshien Baseball Championships before 60,000 people



From July 31 to August 21, the Boy Scouts travel through cities such as Tokyo, Kamakura, Nagoya, Osaka and Hiroshima.

Fujin-kai Travels To Sacramento - 1962



Fujin-kai members and their spouses stand in front of the State Capitol Building in Sacramento. Bus tours to cities such as Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Fresno and Las Vegas become a Fujin-kai tradition and last for several years.

Fujin-kai Trip - May 1963



The Fujin-kai takes a bus trip up north in 1963. Reverend Ryosho Sogabe (third from the left in front) is part of the group.

Fujin-kai Installation - Cabinet - 1966 1965



In 1965, Kamiye Taenaka is elected to serve as Fujin-kai President.



Kakuo Tanaka (second from left in front) in his second year as Temple President.

Junior YBA Installation - 1967



Banquet for the Jr. YBA installation. Kiyoko Onishi (on left) acts as advisor to the group, while Reverend Taisen Miyata serves a religious advisor.



Newly elected officers after the installation ceremony. A young Ken Fujimoto stands next to Reverend Taisen Miyata.

Some of the other elected officers are Wendy Aihara and Emi Sadamitsu (both on right).



Junior YBA Hawaii Conference - 1968



Top row (L to R): Steve Kato, Yuki Yoneda, Naomi Katayama, Eddie Ogawa, Irene Kato, Emi Sadamitsu, Don Yamagami, Robin Yoneda, Wendy Aihara, Susan Noritake. Bottom row (L to R): Helen Takata, Reverend Taisen Miyata, Janie Sogabe, Janice Nii, Barbara Amimoto.



Left: The members of the Jr. YBA enjoy a dinner banquet in Waikiki, Hawaii.

Koyasan Carnival - 1962 through 1965



The ladies of the Sonen-kai help with food booths selling hamburgers, tacos, and teriyaki BBQ chicken.



Members of the Sonen-kai show off their handiwork heralding the weekend carnival.



The grand prize winner of the raffle tickets wins a round-trip ticket to Japan donated by Asia Travel Bureau.



1965 - A young Leonard Narumi with Usaburo Amimoto.



1965 - Reverend Ryosho Sogabe shows off a prize he won playing a game at the carnival.

Ministers - 1965 through 1970



1967 – From left, Reverend Kosho Shono, Reverend Taisen Miyata, Reverend Ryosho Sogabe, Bishop Seytsu Takahashi, Reverend Shozui Togano, Reverend Shoko Horisaka, Reverend Keiryō Mizuno.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYAKE STUDIO

Reverend Hiroyuki Kawashima, 1965.



1970 – From left, Reverend Shozui Togano, Reverend Shunsho Terakawa, Reverend Seisho Hakeda, Bishop Seytsu Takahashi, Reverend Ryosho Sogabe, Reverend Taisen Miyata, Reverend Kosho Shono, Reverend Eishun Shigetoshi.

Reverend Terakawa's Wedding Reception - 1962



Standing from left, Katsuichi Kazahaya, Satoko Kazahaya, Reverend Shunsho Terakawa, Chiyeiko Terakawa, Nobuyuki Moriguchi, Tomie Moriguchi. Bishop Kenko Yamashita and his wife, Shizue, of Zenshuji in foreground.