

DISTRIBUTE TO: District Through Territory Leaders, Zone and Territory Offices
FROM: SGI-USA Development Office
SUBJECT: **May Contribution 1-Pager, Script & Encouragement Call Link**

Thank you very much for your continued efforts to support and care for each member during these difficult times. With the focus of this year's May Contribution being individual care and faith encouragement, attached to this memo are the following items:

May Contribution 1-Pager (p. 2) *(for all members)*

This is a one page document that contains all the key information regarding the ways to contribute during this year's campaign.

April Discussion Meeting Script (p. 3) *(for District leaders)*

District leaders can utilize this script to promote May Contribution at their April virtual discussion meetings. For districts that are not holding discussion meetings at this time, please ensure that leaders share this information through one-to-one outreach.

May Contribution Encouragement Call Link *(for Group through Territory leaders)*

To hear important updates to this year's May Contribution Campaign in light of the coronavirus pandemic as well as encouragement from our National Women's Leader, Naoko Leslie and SGI-USA General Director, Adin Strauss, please click on the link below (audio only):

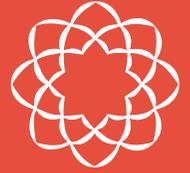
Link: <https://sgi-usa1.box.com/s/s0w243lbc6cc8jykazth1gi4ae6na000>

(total time is 14:15 minutes)

Thank you again for all your incredible support!



60TH ANNIVERSARY MAY COMMEMORATIVE CONTRIBUTION APRIL 28–JUNE 7, 2020

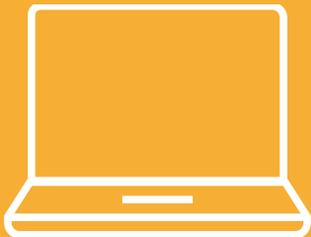


Ways to Contribute

In consideration of the health and well-being of SGI-USA members amid the continued spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), contributions can be made in the following ways:

ONLINE VIA MEMBERSHIP PORTAL

<https://portal.sgi-usa.org/portal/contribution>



- Click “**Make A One-Time Contribution**”
- Log in to your account or register
- To register: Go to <http://portal.sgi-usa.org/portal/login>
Enter your Email or Member ID and click on
“**I have not created an online account yet**”
- The SGI-USA Portal will be open for contributions from **April 24–June 7**



**SCAN QR CODE
WITH YOUR
SMART PHONE**



CALL SGI-USA MEMBER SERVICES

April 28 through June 7
855-SGI-2030 (855-744-2030)
Daily (including weekends)
9:00am–5:00pm Pacific Time
[To contribute by Credit or Debit Card]



U.S. Mail

- Each subscriber will receive 3 pre-paid 60th Anniversary Commemorative Contribution Envelopes with the April 17 *World Tribune*
- If sending a personal envelope, mail to:

ATTN: May Campaign
SGI-USA
606 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90401

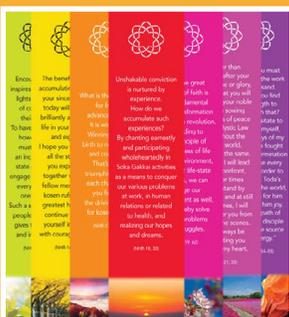
****Please do not send cash****



“Just as flowers open up and bear fruit, just as the moon appears and invariably grows full, just as a lamp becomes brighter when oil is added, and just as plants and trees flourish with rain, so will human beings never fail to prosper when they make good causes.” (WND-1, p. 1013)

APPRECIATION GIFT

Each member who participates will receive by mail a beautifully designed 12-bookmark set with quotes from *The New Human Revolution*, volumes 13–24.



May Contribution Promotion at April Discussion Meetings

Please plan to promote May Contribution at the April Discussion Meetings. Members may wish to share:

- Why they choose to contribute to the SGI-USA
- A faith experience related to contribution

Please include the May Contribution announcement by a District WD or MD leader on the agenda using the script provided below:

Thank you so much for joining today's discussion meeting!

Next month, we will be celebrating May 3, which is known as "Soka Gakkai Day" and "Soka Gakkai Mother's Day." This day also marks the inauguration day of second Soka Gakkai President Josei Toda and SGI President Ikeda. May 3 signifies a day of advancement and fresh start in the SGI! How exciting!

As we commemorate the 60th anniversary of President Ikeda's inauguration as the third Soka Gakkai president this year, I would like to share about our May Commemorative Contribution Activity.

This year's May Commemorative Contribution will begin on April 28 and conclude on June 7. We can begin participating by using our Debit or Credit Card via the SGI-USA membership portal starting April 24.

Beginning on April 28, members can participate by calling Member Services (Debit or Credit Card only) or mailing a check to SGI-USA. Each *World Tribune* subscriber will receive a set of three pre-paid contribution envelopes along with the April 17 issue.

We ask that guests and new members wait one year after receiving the Gohonzon to participate in SGI-USA contributions.

The act of making financial offerings to the SGI is based on the Buddhist tradition of almsgiving, which began in the days of Shakyamuni Buddha. This tradition continued in Nichiren Daishonin's time with his disciples providing life-sustaining goods based on genuine appreciation and the desire to support the spread of his teachings.

One example of this is a female disciple named Nichimyo. Nichimyo, who was either a widow or separated from her husband, traveled through treacherous mountains and seas from Kamakura to Sado Island with her infant child to make offerings to Nichiren Daishonin. She certainly did not have favorable circumstances, but her actions were an expression of her faith and heart.

In the letter, Nichiren Daishonin writes: "It is now almost the end of the fifth month, but society has not yet been restored to peace and security. Nevertheless, despite all the risks involved, you traveled to Sado carrying your infant daughter, since her father, from whom you have long been separated, was not to be depended upon for her care." (*The Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, vol. 1, p. 325)

In another letter to Nichimyo, Nichiren Daishonin states: "All of you are my lay supporters, so how can you fail to attain Buddhahood? ... Strengthen your resolve more than ever." (WND-1, 615)

Genuine appreciation and the desire to support the spread of the Mystic Law is the spirit of offerings we proudly carry on in the SGI today.

Together, let's celebrate this year's May 3 with President Ikeda by transforming winter into spring with unprecedented personal victories!

This script is for the April Discussion Meetings. A script for the May Discussion Meetings will also be sent.