

# SJI-USA ORGANIZATION MEMO

DATE: MARCH 27, 2020

MEMO: 2020-ORG-038



**DISTRIBUTE TO:** District Through Territory Leaders, Zone and Territory Offices  
**FROM:** SJI-USA Organization Center  
**SUBJECT:** **Zoom Conference Guidelines**

With the suspension of all organizational meetings, home visitations and FNCC conferences due to the continued spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), we have seen a surge in the usage of Zoom conferencing as a means to continue to connect with and encourage members.

While this “virtual” technology can connect a great number of people, it cannot and should not replace the heart of Soka, which is to connect one-to-one. In *The New Human Revolution*, SGI President Ikeda writes:

***“I estimate that, now, four times as much guidance is given at meetings than is given to individuals personally. But if you make it your goal to reverse that ratio, you’ll be able to foster many more capable individuals and develop a stronger organization. Above all, you yourselves will be able to grow as leaders”*** (NHR Vol. 26, “Valiant Leaders,” p. 199).

While we are not discouraging the use of Zoom encouragement meetings, we would like to call on all leaders to apply the guidance above - for every **one** Zoom meeting we’re on, let’s give personal encouragement to **four** members.

Regarding Zoom based meetings, we ask that the following **not** be held over Zoom:

- Kosen-rufu Gongyo meetings
- Chanting sessions where members chant simultaneously through Zoom
- Cross-organizations – i.e. one chapter invites another chapter to join a meeting through Zoom

To reiterate, we are not discouraging the use of Zoom, especially for our regularly scheduled monthly activities – i.e. discussion and study meetings. However, we ask that you don’t overly rely on Zoom technology as a means of encouragement and instead ask yourselves, “How many individual members can I reach out to today?”

Thank you for your support and understanding as we chant to end the COVID-19 pandemic as quickly as possible.

Please be safe and well.

SJI-USA National Leaders

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