

DISTRIBUTE TO: District through Territory Leaders, Zone and Territory Offices
FROM: SGI-USA Organization Center
SUBJECT: **May Contribution Promotion at May Discussion Meetings**

May Contribution Promotion at the May Discussion Meetings

Please include a brief segment to promote the May Commemorative Contribution Activity at this month's discussion meetings. Ideally, the segment would consist of:

- 1) May Contribution announcement by a District Women's or Men's leader. We have provided a sample script as part of this Memo on p. 2.
- 2) Please select a member to share:
 - Why they choose to contribute to the SGI-USA.
 - A faith experience related to contribution—emphasizing appreciation, as well as the human revolution that the member did as a result of doing contribution.

May Contribution Announcement Sample Script

Thank you so much for joining today's discussion meeting based on the theme of "Appreciation."

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the Soka Gakkai's founding, the 60th anniversary of Ikeda Sensei's inauguration as third president, as well as 60 years since his first journey to the U.S. on October 2, 1960, as his first step to spread the life-affirming teaching of Nichiren Buddhism throughout the world.

In this most auspicious year, we are facing the global COVID-19 pandemic where many are facing challenges related to health and financial pressures.

From a perspective of Buddhism, this is precisely the time to carry out the invincible spirit of Soka to never be defeated—the spirit demonstrated by Nichiren Daishonin and our three founding presidents. In this respect, we have the tremendous opportunity to transform our karma into mission through the A-B-C campaign and the SGI-USA's May Commemorative Contribution Activity.

Ikeda Sensei states: "When viewed through the eyes of Buddhism, everything has profound meaning. We must not lament our situations. As long as we have strong faith—courageous faith—we can definitely transform all hardships into something positive, turning poison into medicine. Please ... continue advancing resolutely forward, no matter what happens. ... We must triumph over ourselves and triumph in life. That is the reason we practice Nichiren Buddhism." (May 15, 2020, *World Tribune*, p. 8)

I would now like to share some practical information about the May Contribution Activity.

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

Second, the May Contribution Activity will conclude on Sunday, June 7.

You can participate online via the membership portal, calling Member Services if you wish to use a Debit or Credit Card, or mail a check to SGI-USA.

You can also see how your contributions are being used to make a difference in the April 10 and May 3 *World Tribune*.

Let's use this year's May Contribution Activity to transform all hardships into victories and express our appreciation for the Gohonzon, our mentor's tenacious efforts to spread this Buddhism worldwide, and our wonderful SGI community. Together, let's advance and triumph courageously with Ikeda Sensei toward October 2, the 60th Anniversary of worldwide kosen-rufu, and November 18, the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Soka Gakkai.

Thank you!