

CHRONOLOGY FOR 1967

(July—December)

July 1 The Foundation for Promoting Buddhism (*Bukkyō Shinkō Zaidan* 仏教振興財団) was inaugurated to support all groups of Buddhism in Japan. Its committee consists of 80 influential businessmen and Buddhist priests with Mr. Kichiemon Takemura 竹村吉右衛門, President of Yasuda Mutual Life Insurance Co. (*Yasuda Seimei Hoken Kaisha* 安田生命保険会社), as chief director. The office is at Sensō-ji Temple 浅草寺, Daitō-ku, Tokyo.

July 13 Fushimi-Inari Shrine (*Fushimi-Inari-Taisha* 伏見稲荷大社) in Kyoto refused to join the Association of Shinto Shrines (*Jinja Honchō* 神社本庁). It is the only great shrine that is not a member.

—The Tokyo Metropolitan Government sanctioned the establishment of Sōka Junior High School (*Sōka Chūgakkō* 創価中学校) and Sōka High School (*Sōka Kōtōgakkō* 創価高等学校), religious schools of Sōka Gakkai 創価学会. Both schools will be opened in April, 1968, in Tokyo. The number of students to be admitted is 200 in the Junior High School, 300 in the High School.

July 10—14 The Department of Service of the National Council of Churches

in Japan (*Kirisutokyō Kyōkai Kyōgikai Hōshi-Bu* キリスト教教会協議会奉仕部) held an orientation meeting for foreign missionaries for five days at Seisen Dormitory (Seisen-ryō 清泉寮) in Yamanashi Prefecture 山梨県 under the theme "Christianity in Japan Today." About 80 foreign missionaries from Protestant churches attended.

July 15 The Ecumenical Work Camp was held (till 15th of August) at Mominoki Gakuen (もみの木学園), a home for feeble-minded children in Kobe, under the auspices of the Youth Committee of NCC (*Kirisutokyō Kyōkai Seinen Inkai* キリスト教教会協議会青年委員会), Thirty-three young Christians, including 14 foreigners from U. S. A., Italy, West Pakistan etc., took part in it.

July 20 On the contentious case between Asama Shrine (Asama Jinja 浅間神社) and the State concerning ownership of the top of Mt. Fuji, the Nagoya High Court gave the decision that its owner was Asama Shrine. The State pleaded that Mt. Fuji was a symbol of Japan and made an appeal against the decision.

July 22 Zuiryū-ji Temple 瑞竜寺 of the Sōtō-Shū 曹洞宗 in Aomori Prefecture

- 青森県 founded the Senshinkaku 洗心閣, a public Buddhist center. It is one of the memorial works for the 400th anniversary of the founder of the temple.
- July 25** The 3rd national convention of the Religionists Council for Peace (*Shākyōsha Heiwa Kaigi* 宗教者平和会議) was held at the Educational and Cultural Center in Kyoto. 400 Christians and Buddhists attended. It decided to oppose a bill on the national maintenance of Yasukuni Shrine and to prevent American aggression in Vietnam.
- July 28** The 2nd Asian Convention for the Ban of Nuclear Bombardments (*Ajia Kakuheiki Shiyō Kinshi Kaigi* アジア核兵器使用禁止会議, Chairman Dr. Masatoshi Matsushita 松下正寿) was held at the Tokyo Prince Hotel for two days. 150 Japanese and 13 foreign representatives from 13 East Asian countries attended, including some men of religion.
- July 29** Fourteen members of the Japanese Buddhist Council for World Union (*Sekairempō Nihon Bukkyōto Kyōgikai* 世界連邦仏教徒協議会), including the Rev. Sōgen Asahina 朝比奈宗源, chief abbot of Enkaku-ji Temple 円覚寺, left for Norway to attend the 13th International Convention for World Peace to be held there from 30th of July to 15th of August. (About 150 Japanese representatives from other organizations will also attend the convention.)
- July 19th—31** The League of Mission Schools (*Kirisutokyō-Gakkō-Kyōiku-Domei* キリスト教学校教育同盟) held three summer seminars at Tōzan-sō Villa 東山荘 in Gotemba 御殿場: the 13th Committee for Christian Education (*Kirisutokyō Kyōiku Kyōgikai* キリスト教教育協議会) under the theme "Present Japan and Christian Education" for three days; the 37th Summer Seminar (*Kaki Gakkō* 夏季学校) under the theme "Cooperation in Education"; the 11th Summer Seminar for Clerks in Mission Schools (*Jimushokuin Kaki Gakkō* 事務職員夏季学校).
- August 6** Hiroshima City 広島市 held the 22th memorial service for the victims of the atomic bomb at the Hiroshima Peace Park (*Hiroshima Heiwa Kōen* 広島平和公園). Thirty thousand people attended.
- Aug. 15** The Honganji sect of Jōdo-shin-shū 浄土真宗本願寺派 completed a revised edition of *Kyōgyō Shinshō* 教行信証, the chief work of the founder Shinran 親鸞. The edition uses the modern Japanese spelling for daily use.
- On the 22nd Memorial Day of World War II (*Shāsen Kinen-Bi* 終戦記念日), the 5th National Memorial Service for the War Dead (*Zenkoku*

Sembotsusha Tsuitō-shikiten 全国戦没者追悼式典) was held under the auspices of the Government at the national hall 'Nihon Budo-kan' (日本武道館) in Tokyo. The attendants were about 4,200, including Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress, the Prime Minister and the representatives of the bereaved families.

Aug. 16 Prof. Shūjō Nogami 野上俊静 was elected president of Ōtani University (*Otani Daigaku* 大谷大学) of Jōdo-shin-shū.

Aug. 20 A society for preserving the Heian Shrine Festival (*Heian Jingū Jidai Sai* 平安神宮時代祭), one of the three great festivals in Kyoto, was organized by some influential businessmen in Kyoto, including Mr. Seiji Iwai 岩井盛次, the head of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce and Industry (*Kyoto Shōkō Kaigisho* 京都商工会議所).

Aug. 22 A circle for the translation of Buddhist scriptures at Ryūkoku University (*Ryūkoku Daigaku* 龍谷大学) completed the first German translation of the *Shōshin-Ge* 正信偈, a work of Shinran, in 98 pages. Members of the circle were Prof. Teisen Mukōjima 向島謙宣 of Ryūkoku Univ., Prof. Kōkun Sonoda 磯田香巖 of Ōsaka Municipal Univ. (*Osaka-shi-ritsu Daigaku* 大阪市立大学) and Mr. Harry Gieper of the

Shin-Shū Society in Germany.

—The Japan Christian Society for Service (*Nihon Kirisuto-kyō Hōshi-dan* 日本キリスト教奉仕団) held the first teach-in of American and Japanese college students in Iwate Prefecture (岩手県), with "Japanese and American world views", "Christianity and other religions" and "The view of politics" as subjects. Thirty-one Japanese and 19 American students attended with Dr. Shin Koizumi 小泉信 as director and some counselors.

Aug. 29 The Anglican Episcopal Church of Japan (*Nihon Seikō-kai* 日本聖公会) announced that in 1966 it had 48,015 believers and 387 priests, and an income from collections of 226,244,341 yen.

September 5 The celebration of publishing *The history of 70 years of Ōmoto-kyō* (*Ōmoto Nanajūnen Shi* 大本70年史, *Ōmoto-kyō* 大本教 one of Japan's new religions) was held at Ōmoto Hall in Kyoto with Prof. Ichi Oguchi 小口偉一 of Tokyo Univ., the Rev. Ryōkei Ōnishi 大西良慶, chief abbot of Kita Hossō-shū (北法相宗) as guests.

Sept. 10 The Catholic Church in Japan (*Nihon Katorikku Kyōkai* 日本カトリック教会) celebrated in all dioceses the 100th anniversary of the beatification of 205 martyrs in Japan in 1867.

- Nishinari Church (*Nishinari Kyōkai* 西成教会) in Kamagasaki district in Osaka (大阪釜ヶ崎) of the United Church of Christ in Japan (*Nihon Kirisuto Kyōdan* 日本キリスト教団) upon public request planned the construction of a five floor building. It will contain a church (first floor) and apartments (the other floors)
- Kōka Women's School (*Kōka Joshi Gakuen* 光華女子学園), founded by Jodo-shin-shū, decided to establish an elementary school next spring, which will admit 40 children.
- Sept. 10** The national convention of the Japan Buddhist Women Federation (*Zen Nihon Bukkyō Fujin Taikai* 全日本仏教婦人大会) was held at Hida City in Gifu Prefecture (飛騨市, 岐阜県), Five thousand people attended, including the Lady Abbess of Higashi Honganji (*Higashi Hongan-ji Urakata* 東本願寺裏方) and Rev. Shinkō Kishi 岸信宏, chairman of the Japan Buddhist Federation (*Zen Nihon Bukkyō Kai* 全日本仏教会).
- Sept. 16** The parents whose children joined *Genri Undō* (原理運動), a recent radical religious movement, formed an association with the purpose to take back their children from the movement.
- Sept. 22** The Committee for the Bill on National Maintenance of Yasukuni Shrine (*Yasukuni Jinja Kokka Goji Mondai Shō Inukai* 靖国神社国家護持問題小委員会) of the Liberal Democratic Party asked representatives of religious groups about the bill. The Association of Shinto Shrines, the Japan Buddhist Federation, Christian churches and the Union of New Religious Organizations of Japan (*Shin Nihon Shākkyō Dantai Rengōkai* 新日本宗教団体連合会) attended. The committee announced that these groups agreed with the bill, but Christian churches expressed their dissatisfaction.
- Sept. 23** Sakata City, Yamagata Prefecture (酒田市, 山形県), planned a public park in the suburbs, which will have burial grounds. The old burial ground in the center of the city will be changed into a business district.
- Sept. 25** The Dalai Lama XIV, the Tibetan living Buddha staying now in India, visited Japan under the auspices of *Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai* (仏教伝道協会). He would like to stay till October 10th seeing the Kansai and Kantō districts and meeting Japanese religious leaders. The Religionists Council for Japan-China Friendship (*Ni-Chū Yākō Shākkyōsha Kondankai* 日中交友宗教者懇談会) released a statement against his visit because of its Japan-China friendship.
- Sept. 29** PL Kyōdan (PL 教団), a new

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- religious organization in Japan, held the PL festival for a month in various places in Japan to celebrate the 21th anniversary of its foundation.
- October 1** Hieizan Enryaku-ji (比叡山延暦寺), the head temple of Tendai-shū, 天台宗 in Kyoto, held the *Hokke-Daie* 法華大会, a grand ceremony to read the Lotus Sutra with 291 Buddhist priests in attendance. This ceremony is held once every five years.
- Oct. 3—4** The Japanese Buddhist Academy (*Nihon Bukkyō Gakkai* 日本仏教学会) held its convention at Hieizan in Kyoto under the theme "Buddhistic View of Man". About 100 members from 23 universities, including Prof. Hajime Nakamura 中村元 of Tokyo Univ. and Prof. Yoshifumi Ueda 上田義文 of Nagoya Univ., read papers.
- Oct. 7** The Honganji sect of Jōdo-shin-shū established an Institute for the Study of the History of Jōdo-shin-shū. It is to be a permanent institute replacing the old editorial office of Honganji Temple, which was begun 7 years ago on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of the founder Shinran.
- Oct. 12** At Sendan Gakuen (梅檀学園), a college founded by Sōtō-shū in Sendai (仙台), the students and some teachers staged a movement against the president by boycotting the examinations. There seemed to be religious
- strife between sects.
- Oct. 14** Nakayama-ji Temple (中山寺), the chief temple of Shingon-shū (真言宗) in Hyōgo Prefecture, completed *Banrei-Tō* 万霊塔, an ossuary modeled after Indian towers in the Buddha's time.
- Oct. 15** Tsukushi Women's College (*Tsukushi Jogaku-in* 筑紫女学院) founded by Jōdo-shin-shū in Fukuoka City (福岡市) celebrated the 60th anniversary of its foundation with 6,000 students, teachers and guests including the chief abbot Kōshō Ōtani 大谷光照 and the Lady Abbess in attendance.
- Oct. 15—22** As a feature of the 17th Christian Educational Week (*Kirisutokyō Kyōiku Shūkan* キリスト教教育週間), NCC held lectures in various parts of the country and a student convention of mission schools at Aoyama Gakuin University (青山学院大学), Tokyo.
- Oct. 18** Hieizan Enryaku-ji Temple held a ground breaking ceremony for a cemetery which will be 3,000m² in area and open for the public including non-believers.
- Oct. 20—29** Billy Graham held a crusade at Budō-kan and Korakuen Stadium in Tokyo with an audience of 15,000.
- Oct. 21** The 3rd National Convention of Shinto Shrine Representatives (*Zen-*

- koku Jinja Daihyōsha Kaigi* 全国神社代表者会議) was held at Industrial Hall (*Sangyō Kaikan* 産業会館) in Kyoto. The convention announced to construct a Shinto Hall (*Jinja Kaikan* 神社会館) with 250,000,000 yen, which is supposed to be used for missionary work.
- Oct. 23** The Protestant and Catholic churches decided formally to take part in the International Exposition in Osaka.
- Oct. 23—26** Tenri-kyō(天理教) held its Autumn Great Festival for four days in Tenri City (天理市), celebrating the 130th anniversary since its foundation. About 200 thousand believers including many foreigners attended.
- Oct. 24—28** The International Seminar for Christians was held at the Christian Center in Tokyo, Aoyama University, and the Academy House at Ōiso(大磯), under the theme 'Peace for Asia'
- Oct. 24** Fujizono Women's School (*Fujizono Joshi Gakuen* 藤園女子学園, founded by *Jōdo-shin-shū* in Toyama City) celebrated the 30th anniversary since its foundation.
- Oct. 27** The professors of Dōshisha University 同志社大学, Department of Theology, announced their objection against the bill concerning the national maintenance of Yasukuni Shrine because of its violation of freedom of belief and thought.
- November 3** The representatives of some Japanese religious groups demanded from the National Security Agency (*Bōeichō* 防衛庁) to cease their group worship at Ise Shrine (Ise Jingu 伊勢神宮, at Ise City) because of its being against liberty of faith.
- Nov. 1** Meijigakuin University (*Meijigakuin Daigaku* 明治学院大学, Protestant) celebrated the 90th anniversary of its foundation.
- Nov. 9** The executive office of the crusade of Billy Graham announced that the total number of attendants at his crusades during 10 days was 207,750, and the collection was over 20,000,000 yen.
- Nov. 14** NCC and the Catholic Church in Japan (*Nihon Katorikku Kyōkai* 日本カトリック教会) decided to publish *the Christian Year Book 1968* (both in Japanese and English) in partnership. The chief editors are Mr. Chūzō Yamada 山田忠蔵, director of NCC, and Fr. Tadayoshi Tamura 田村忠義, director general of the Central Christian Council (*Katorikku Chō Kyōgi-Kai* カトリック中央協議会).
- Nov. 21** The funeral service for the Rev. Shōzen Nakayama 中山正善, Shimbashira of Tenri-kyō, took place at Toyota-yama (豊田山) in Tenri City. 20,000 people, including the Governors of Nara Prefecture and Osaka City, the

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- Chairman of the House of Coun-
cillors and some professors, attended.
Prince and Princess Mikasa (三笠宮),
Prince Takamatsu(高松宮)and Princess
Chichibu (秩父妃殿下) sent flowers.
- Nov. 25** Zen'e Nakayama 中山善衛,
the son of the late Shōzen Nakayama,
was chosen new head of Tenri-kyō.
- Nov. 21** Under the auspices of *Chūgai*
Nippō (中外日報, one of the religious
newspapers), a party of 10 Buddhist
priests and laymen, including the Rev.
Kiyoo Arima 有馬清雄 of Jōdo-shin-
shū as the head, left for East Asian
Buddhist countries, Thailand, Singa-
pore, Formosa etc., to promote
friendly relations with them and to
hold memorial services for the war
dead there.
- Nov. 18** The League of Buddhist
Universities in Kyoto (*Kyōto Bukkyō*
Kakushū-Gakkō Rengōkai 京都仏教各
宗学校連合会) held an exhibition of
Buddhist materials and celebrated the
100th anniversary of the Meiji Resto-
tion with lectures and a memorial
service.
- Nov. 19** At the convention of the Youth
Department of Sōka Gakkai (創価学
会) President Ikeda Daisaku 池田大作
suggested to establish a labour union
supporting the Kōmei Party (*Kōmei-Tō*
公明党, political arm of Sōka Gakkai).
It is expected to become the third
power in labour unions in Japan.
- Nov. 19** The Society for the Study of
Japanese History (*Nihon-shi Kenkyū-*
kai 日本史研究会, consisting of about
1,500 historians, President Prof.
Tatsusaburō Hayashiya 林屋辰三郎)
expressed its objections against the
national celebration of the 100th an-
niversary of the Meiji Restoration,
which the Government has planned in
the next year. They said that the Gov-
ernment's disregard of democratic
principles influences aspects of Japa-
nese history.
- Nov. 26** The League of Japanese
Martial Arts (*Zen Nihon Budō Rem-*
mei 全日本武道連盟) decided upon the
construction of *Kenshinden* 献心殿, a
stadium for all kinds of Japanese
martial arts, in the precincts of Shimo-
Kamo-Shrine (下鴨神社) in Kyoto.
The costs are estimated at 130,000,
000 yen. It will be completed next June
as the first attempt in Japan.
- Nov. 29** International Christian Univer-
sity (*Kokusai Kirisutokyō Daigaku* 国
際キリスト教大学) announced the state
of the University. About 14% of all
its students, 182, consisted of foreigners
from the U.S.A., Formosa, England,
Philippines, Canada, India, Germany
etc.
- Nov. 9** The Society of Buddhist Lay-
men, *Chōonsha* 潮音社, planned to

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- construct a Zen hall for the youth in Japan near the Nihon Budō-Kan in Tokyo. The cost will be 2,500,000 yen. The Hall will contain a Zen hall, lodging rooms, a refectory and a picture gallery.
- December 2** Musashino Joshi Gakuen (武蔵野女子学院, the only women's Buddhist college in Tokyo) established American-Japanese Culture Center (*Nichi-Bei Bunka Sentā* 日米文化センター) on the campus. It is supported by some Buddhist associations in U.S.A. and gives accomodation to foreign students studying Buddhism in Japan. This attempt is the second in Japan after a similar attempt at Ryūkoku University, Kyōto.
- Dec. 2-3** The 3rd national convention of the Buddhist Students Association (*Zen-Nihon Bukkyō Gakusei Kaigi* 全日本仏教学生会議) was held at Ryūkoku Univ., under the themes 'Buddhism and Students', 'Buddhism and Welfare' and 'Buddhism and Movement for Peace'. About 400 students from nine Buddhist universities attended.
- Dec. 6-10** At Hanazono University (*Hanazono Daigaku* 花園大学, a Buddhist college in Kyoto) the students boycotted the lessons since they were opposed to the school authorities about the construction of a student-hall.
- Dec. 10 and 12** The 13th *Shinkokusai* (新教祭, a Shinto ceremony for a new harvest), was held at Ise Shrine.
- Dec. 10** At Kōyasan(高野山), the chief temple of Shingon-shū, a 951.53 m² large center for the study of Shingon Buddhism was completed. It is open to Japanese and foreign scholars.
- Dec. 13** Rishō Kōsei-kai (立正佼正会) established the Kōsei Foundation for agricultural and fishing industries at one village of Hokkaidō (北海道) to construct orchards, fishponds, special vegetable gardens etc., in exploiting the hot spring water under the ground.
- Dec. 18** Under the auspices of the Kyoto Christian Church Council (*Kyoto Kyōkai Kyōgikai* 京都教会協議会), the 6th Christmas party for the citizens was held as 'the first joint concert' of Protestant and Catholic churches.
- Dec. 19** The committee for celebrating the National Foundation Day, *Kigensetsu* 紀元節 (*Kigensetsu Hōhukukai* 紀元節奉祝会), demanded from Prime Minister Sato(佐藤首相) and the Ministry of Education (*Mombushō* 文部省) to give a lead to governments in districts, public offices and public schools to celebrate the coming National Foundation Day (*Kenkoku Kinen-Bi* 建国記念日).
- Dec. 23** The Board of Directors of Kōgakukan University (*Kōgakukan Daigaku* 皇学館大学, a Shinto college)

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elected Mr. Nobusuke Kishi 岸信介,
ex-Prime Minister, as President in place
of the late Shigeru Yoshida 吉田茂.

opened *Shūsei-E* (修正会), a religious
sacred rite, for five days to the public
for the first time.

Dec. 31 Hieizan Enryaku-ji Temple