



## HONGWANJI INTERNATIONAL CENTER

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Dear ministers and members,

**The Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching** will take place as follows:

1st session	March 29–April 3, 2023
2nd session	April 10–April 15
3rd session	April 24–April 29
4th session	May 6–May 11
5th session	May 16–May 21

This will be a great opportunity to express our appreciation for Shinran Shonin, who founded the Jodo Shinshu Tradition. Thanks to this universal teaching that excludes no one, we are enabled to live with peace of mind entrusting ourselves to Amida Buddha's salvific working. We look forward to welcoming as many fellow Nembutsu followers as possible from the overseas sanghas to this only once in fifty-year occasion.

Attached is the initial information packet on the Joint Celebration to assist you in making your plans. It will also be made available online (Hongwanji International Center website URL: <https://international.hongwanji.or.jp/>).

With the 17th World Buddhist Women's Convention scheduled for May 11 and 12, 2023, many seats have been secured for the overseas delegation during the following dates:

**May 10 Morning Observance**

**May 10 Afternoon Observance**

Of course, we gladly welcome you to attend during the other dates and sessions as well. Please notify the Hongwanji International Center (HIC) of your plans through your overseas district headquarters. Applications from overseas will be given high priority during the First Application Period that ends in December 2021. Only when the service of your group's first choice happens to be significantly overcrowded, might you be asked to reschedule to another date/session. Registrations following the first application period will be accepted, but please be aware that we may not be able to accommodate your requested date/session. Contact HIC for seat availability.

In gassho,  
Hongwanji International Center  
Kyoto, Japan