

Shinji

If your kokoro is supported by the teachings as you live, human beings will correct their jittai and live a life that abides by the path.

Having met the true Kami, entrust your thoughts and cherish each day of your life.

If you walk the path of the shinja with the right kokoro, your jittai will greatly improve and the emotion to give back to society with the strengths of your unmei will be brought out.

To the Shinja

As you learn the teachings, are you able to perceive the principles?

Reflect on your kokoro through the teachings and endeavor to correct it—acting on these two things will greatly elevate the kokoro of the shinja, enable them to see society correctly, and to go with the flow of the world (society) and live.

The flow of the times does not stop.

The power (unmei) of the times leads the world.

Be grateful to be a shinja who walks the right path knowing this truth (principle).

As you live your life together with this gratitude, entrust your kokoro to Shinkon and live.

Gratitude to Kami, your family, relatives, shokuin, kakari, and to the people in the world will gradually grow deeper in your kokoro (thoughts).

This is the kokoro of the human being who has attained kaiun.

Summary of the Shinji

December is the month of *Aiju Onrei Shinja Sanpaiji* when we express our gratitude to *Kami* for the year. It is a time when *shinja* give an accounting to *Kami* about the spiritual growth they have achieved during the year and to give thanks for being alive due to the immeasurable support they've received from others throughout the year.

Kami has clearly stated that if our *kokoro* is supported by the teachings, our *jittai* will be corrected, and we will live according to our *unmei*. In other words, through the protection of *Kibō no Michi*, we approach *kaiun* with each passing year.

This is possible because we have met the true *Kami*. We're able to suppress and correct our *jittai* only because we *kigan* based on the teachings. We learn the teachings, *kigan*, practice them, and elevate ourselves to be a human being with love for others—this is the real *shinja*.

If we abide by the path of the *shinja*, the way we perceive people and situations, the way we feel, think, and live will change for the better; and we'll use the *unmei* we were born with to give back to society.

Thus, *Kami* has asked us two questions. First, "As you learn the teachings, are you able to read between the lines and perceive the principles?" If you're able to do this, you will want to live a way of life that abides by the principles. As *Kami* has pointed out, we must read carefully between the lines of the teachings to perceive the principles and try to make the most of them.

Secondly, *Kami* asks us if we've looked at our *kokoro* through the teachings and tried to improve it. If we're able deeply reflect on our *kokoro*, *Kibō no Michi* protects us and with each passing year, our *kokoro* moves according to the teachings.

When we achieve these two things, *Kami* states that the *kokoro* is elevated, we're able to accurately perceive the movement of the world, and to live and move with the flow of society. We will no longer depend on effort and knowledge, and to criticize, deny, and argue with others. We're able to harmonize as we live and move with the flow of the world.

Time does not stand still. All of us go through repeated cycles of birth and death. An era moves and it also has an *unmei*. It is this *unmei* that guides the movement of the world.

A person, who knows the power of an era's *unmei*, who is aware of the *unmei* of other people, who harmonizes their existence with others, is able to move and live with the flow of the times. In contrast, if you believe that politics is deficient, society is faulty, and think negatively about everything and everyone, you will lower your *jittai*.

You must not take the *Shinji* lightly. Be deeply aware of the principles in the *Shinji* and walk the right path toward *kaiun*. Never forget to be grateful that you are a *shinja* who is able to achieve what *Kami* teaches. *Kigan* and live with a *kokoro* that merges with *Shinkon*. That is how *kaiun* is attained.