

Shinji

Do you know what kind of kokoro sustains human beings as they live?

The consciousness of human beings, who live by their five senses, is consumed by their thoughts, seeks value in materialism, and forgets the truths about the spiritual world.

Their kokoro is obsessed only by the value of things and is unable to perceive the truths, the principles, about the Kokoro no Michi.

To the Shinja

What do you think and hope to leave behind on the last day of life?

The more the teachings are learned by the family, thoughts of gratitude for the mysterious existence of family and relatives blossom in human beings.

They perceive the origin of life and accept the mysteriousness of ties.

When this happens, the kokoro of human beings is enveloped in gratitude and feel the need to succeed to and the responsibility to protect their Kokoro no Michi.

*Human beings are an existence that is given life (*unmei*) within the Kokoro no Michi of their family, and guided by their Kokoro no Michi, live out their life (*unmei*).*

All human beings, who understand this truth, will accept the existence of Kami and live by the principles of the path.

All human beings are in the hands of Kami; their soul is placed within a physical body and they live within a finite period of time (an era).

*During this time, the soul becomes the strength (*unmei*) to live and sustain the kokoro (life) and guides life to kaiun. Understand this truth, principle, about life; what is needed is the kokoro to build a family that lives by the teachings and leaves behind the kokoro (to endeavor) to your descendants.*

Summary of the Shinji

Kami asks if we know what sustains us as we live our lives. The answer is our *unmei*. *Kami* has given each of us without exception, an *unmei* to be useful in this world. However, human beings tend to be consumed by their five senses as they live out their lives. They depend solely on what they can see, hear, touch, and feel and are inclined to perceive only the physical, materialistic world. They have lost the ability to recognize the importance of the world's spiritual elements.

Society today tends to place value on form and things that are seen. However, there are valuable elements in this world that are not visible. A childish drawing of a parent is delightful because it was drawn by a beloved child in your family. If we don't realize and perceive this kind of worth, the emotions of family members will not come together.

Kami has pointed out that today we are unable to perceive the principle about our *Kokoro no Michi* because we are absorbed by form. Thus, learn the teachings and know the value of your *unmei*. Learn how to hone your *unmei*. The only way to do this is to learn from *Kami*.

What do you want to leave behind in this life that you live only once? The first thing that may come to mind for many people are assets, property, their estate. But, if we know the principle that the *Kokoro no Michi* we live, is succeeded by our family members, we'll feel the mysteriousness of the circumstances that brought our family members to live together in this lifetime. And the feelings of gratitude that emerge deepen our family ties further.

Family members and relatives tend to resemble one another in one way or another. This also holds true in the way they think or live. If we're able to perceive the origin of life, a sense of the mysteriousness of family ties arises, and our gratitude deepens. We feel responsible for protecting the *Kokoro no Michi* we inherit.

As long as we are born into and live our lives within our respective families in this vast world, we are responsible for ensuring that our *Kokoro no Michi* is succeeded by our family members. Therefore, accept the existence of *Kami* and live by the principle of the path, which is to have the right relationship with our family members.

Life is finite. The soul we receive from *Kami* becomes the *unmei* that sustains our life and guides our *kokoro*. This is why we strive to hone our *unmei* and correct our *jittai*. To achieve this, the teachings must be learned as a family in order to have the correct relationship with our family members; and we must strive to leave behind good elements for our progeny.