

March 15, 2023 *Shinja Kokoro no Michi Benkyōkai*

## The Changes of an Era Appear in Nature

### *Shinji*

*Humanity analyzes and understands the truth through knowledge and endeavor and not the principles.*

*Hence, they are increasingly unable to perceive the direction (the conditions); they confuse society (the kokoro) and change the environment.*

*To the Shinja*

*Perceive what society (humanity) should depend on and what should be the guiding principle in life.*

*The world relies on knowledge without principles as it moves in turmoil.*

*The shinja lives their life sustained by the principles, the Shinji, hence their kokoro is anchored and does not go against the path.*

*The kokoro of family members increasingly come together in their thoughts, is enhanced and sustained by love and words of truth and compassion.*

*This is the truth that is learned as the kokoro comes together with a world that is fostered by the natural environment.*

*Humanity does not have the power to protect society and guide it to peace.*

*When the individual unmei of all people and all things comes together guided by the natural flow of an era, society harmonizes and humanity's kokoro is guided by the unmei (the power) of an era to a society of peace.*

*Shinja should learn the teachings and live as they understand the flow of an era.*

*The strengths of your unmei will be gradually drawn out and you will become the human being (the person) who guides society on the correct path.*

### Summary of the Shinji

The truth about the changes of an era cannot be understood through formal education. The fact that human beings do not fully understand why the changes in the past occurred speaks for itself. However, if we learn the *Shinji* that forecasts these changes, we can unerringly live a way of life that moves with the flow.

Many people try to rely on knowledge and experience in their day-to-day judgment calls. They believe that somehow everything works out if they strived. *Kami* points out that this mistaken belief is what makes people lose sight of the right direction and leads society into confusion. Therefore, it is important to accurately understand life's guiding principles, in order to know what we should do, and how humanity is primarily meant to be.

To achieve this, we must understand the principles through the *Shinji*; and when they sustain our life, our *kokoro* anchors and we do not behave and act in ways that go against the path. When the teachings become a part of our family, an environment is created where family members support and enhance one another.

This truly shows that we have learned from the natural environment. Like plants that receive abundant sunlight and nutrients, the inherent strengths and abilities of family members, who sustain one another through love and words of truth and compassion, are greatly drawn out. This is because their *kokoro* is fulfilled.

*Kami* tells us that human beings do not have the power to protect and guide society to peace. What they can do is to bring together their individual *unmei* and move with the natural flow created by the power of an era. This is how society begins to harmonize.

We must first maintain harmony based on *Kami's* teachings within the family, which is the smallest social unit in society. As we strive to achieve this, our surrounding environment harmonizes and our *kokoro* begins to feel at peace.

*Kami* teaches us through the *Shinji* what we need to know in that moment of time. Hence learn the teachings of the *kokoro* from *Kami* without fail; and from the teachings, understand the flow of an era as we live our lives.

When this happens, our individual strengths *Kami* gave us to be useful in the world are drawn out. We live out each day with meaning and purpose and become an existence that guides the society around us on the correct path.