

April 1, 2024 *Shinja Kokoro no Michi Benkyōkai*

Humanity cannot live in a world where there are no principles.

### *Shinji*

*Politics, the economy, education, and medical care do not guide society.*

*Humanity has begun to realize this as they see today's world trends.*

*The culture that is created by a region is the civilization of the times and that region; and that unmei-jittai (the kokoro) guides people's lives.*

*What should humanity be aware of today? The answers are in the Shinji.*

*All of the Shinji are principles.*

*They show humanity the kokoro it should have to cooperate, collaborate and for society to harmonize.*

*When the kokoro harmonizes, the unmei of all people and things becomes one and the world moves toward peace.*

*But in today's society, the principles have nearly disappeared and are very few.*

*Turmoil increasingly deepens in society.*

*To the Shinja*

*Learn the teachings with your family members and make the effort to create a family that abides by the principles.*

*The unmei-jittai (the kokoro) gradually comes together; and it becomes a home, where there is harmony and cooperation.*

*Your life (your kokoro) in Kami's hands is protected; you will feel meaning and purpose and live out a life filled with joy.*

*When the principles sustain human life, humanity will live in a society of peace.*

### **Summary of the Shinji**

Despite humanity's continuous endeavors in politics, the economy, education, and medical care, the problems today continue to be unending. Practices and conventions that were the norm until very recently no longer hold true. Despite trial-and-error countermeasures, we are unable to cope with the circumstances. Faced with this situation, humanity has begun to feel bewildered and to gradually become aware that "something is not right."

Culture gradually develops from the distinctive traits that characterize a region and reflects the customs and way of life of the community. People, who live in the cities and in remote and isolated areas, travel in different ways according to the norms of that region. When seen in the context of time, the way people lived in the Edo era is completely different to how Japanese live today. This is because the way we live reflects an era and culture of that time. Each region and era have an *unmei-jittai*; hence emulating the lifestyle of another time and region will not go well.

There is always a right and natural way of doing things. If this is ignored, no matter how outstanding the research and technology, it will never succeed. Thus, *Kami* has given us the *Shinji* that shows us the right and natural way of doing things which goes beyond culture, civilization, and era. The *Shinji* points to the causes as to why we are at a stalemate, helps us to become aware of the right direction, and guides us on the correct path. It contains the answers and mysteries to attaining the *kaiun* that humanity ceaselessly seeks to attain. They are principles precisely because they apply to all and always move people and issues toward harmony.

In today's society, both the truth and misinformation proliferate. If information that goes against the right and natural way of doing things is believed without question, turmoil only deepens. To prevent this from happening, *Kami* warns us to live a way of life that is based on the *Shinji*, the principles.

Hence make the best of the teachings in your family, which provides the foundation to happiness. Be the husband and father who supports the family. Be the wife and mother, who together with her husband, connects the *kokoro* of their children. Be the honest child who is able to talk to their parents about everything. Learn the teachings with your family, make them a part of each family members' *kokoro*; the guaranteed path to happiness is the repeated effort to live by the principles.

There is a sense of peace and security by just being together in a family where there is empathy and understanding, and we are filled with a sense of happiness. All endeavors based on the principles will be about cooperation and harmony; and we will experience joy, meaning and purpose. Peace grows in societies where families live in harmony.