STUDY GUIDE 03a [Superdomain “Creating Reality”]

Material from: Kawada, Y. (2009). The SGI within the historical context of Buddhism and its philosophical basis. The Journal of Oriental Studies, 19, 103-123.

1.  Know whether or not **both** SGI organizations aim for the worldwide promotion of and place as its central focus, the principles in the Lotus Sutra, or whether **it’s** **only** **one** of them. Know whether or not SGI boasts over **12** **million** **members** in 192 countries and territories throughout the world. Know whether or not the **Eternal** **Buddha** is a representation of the Eternal Law which encompasses a universal value that **transcends** time and space. Know whether or not the third president of the Soka Gakkai, Daisaku **Ikeda**, by establishing the SGI, has broadened the scope of activities to a **worldwide** **scale**. Know whether or not it is true that in order to **spiritually** **unify** the nation behind the war effort, State Shinto was imposed and a majority of Buddhist sects in Japan **complied** with the government’s agenda.

2.  Know whether or not **global** **warming** and **extreme** **weather** patterns are all manifestations of the **devilish** **function** to rob the life of **all** **living** **things**. Know whether or not the most fundamental principle of the Soka Gakkai’s peace movement is to **challenge** **devilish** **functions**. Know whether or not Shakyamuni used his **inner** **cosmos** as a starting point and delved into the **self-conscious**, or the **other** **way** **around**. Know whether or not the third president of the Soka Gakkai, Daisaku **Ikeda**, by establishing the SGI, has broadened the scope of activities to a **worldwide** **scale**. Know whether or not SGI carries on the Buddhist tradition started from **Nagarjuna** and **Vasubandhu** of India.

3.  Know whether or not **Makiguchi**, as well as most of the initial membership, were **political** **officials**. Know whether or not **Toda**, who had a momentous **religious** **experience** while in prison, set out to **rebuild** the organization after his release. Know whether or not, through **austere** **practices** and **deep** **meditation**, Shakyamuni was able to discover a fundamental cosmic law, which is the **basis** **for** **all** **life**. Know whether or not Nichiren wrote a **major** **treatise** during a time when the people of Japan were suffering from **extreme** **weather** **patterns**, **epidemics** and **famine**.

4.  Know whether or not the most **fundamental** **principle** of the Soka Gakkai’s peace movement is to **challenge** **devilish** **functions**. Know whether or not Shakyamuni used his **inner** **cosmos** as a starting point and delved into the **self-conscious**, or the **other** **way** **around**. Know whether or not Shakyamuni found within himself the **fundamental** **law** that lies at the base of the universe itself.

5.  Know whether or not, using the **Dhamma**, or **Dharma**, Shakyamuni stayed put in a **single** **village**. Know whether or not Nichiren used the **Ceremony** **in** **the** **Air** **in** **the** **Life** **Span** **of** **the** **Thus** **Come** **One** **Chapter** of the Lotus Sutra as a motif for the **object** **of** **worship**. Know whether or not Nichiren created a methodology for all people to **manifest** their own **Buddhahood** by further developing the teachings of **T’ien** **T’ai**, the **Lotus** **Sutra** and Shakyamuni **Buddha**. Know whether or not, according to Nichiren, the true essence of the Buddha’s teaching starts well **after** the **Emergence** **of** **the** **Treasure** **Tower** **Chapter**. Know whether or not the realization that **Toda** finally came to is that the **universe** **is** **life** **itself**. Know whether or not, in the fifteenth chapter of the Lotus Sutra, there is a description of the appearance of nearly **two** **dozen** **of** **Bodhisattvas** from deep underground. Know whether or not, when illuminated by the light of Buddhism, **devilish** **functions** are the desires that appear in the world of **Animality**.

6.  Know whether or not the “**land**” contained within the title of Nichiren’s treatise includes **all** **human** **beings** as well as all of **nature’s** **ecosystems**. Know whether or not SGI is actively involved in contributing to a wide range of **global** **issues** including those dealing with the environment. Know whether or not the **Immeasurable** **Meanings** **Sutra** was considered by **T’ien** **T’ai** as a **followup** to the Lotus Sutra. Know whether or not Toda’s awakening is described in the novel, **The** **Human** **Revolution**, written by Ikeda. Know whether or not **nam-myoho-renge-kyo**is the state of Buddhahood itself.

7.  Know whether or not SGI boasts over 12 million members in 192 countries and territories throughout the world. Know whether or not the **Eternal** **Buddha** is a representation of the Eternal Law which encompasses a universal value that **transcends** **time** **and** **space**. Know whether or not the third president of the Soka Gakkai, Daisaku **Ikeda**, by establishing the SGI, has **broadened** the scope of activities to a **worldwide** **scale**. Know whether or not it is true that in order to **spiritually** **unify** the nation behind the **war** **effort**, **State** **Shinto** was imposed and a majority of Buddhist sects in Japan **complied** with the government’s agenda. Know whether or not **Makiguchi**, as well as most of the **initial** **membership**, were **political** **officials**. Know whether or not **Toda**, who had a momentous **religious** **experience** while in prison, set out to **rebuild** the organization after his release.

8.  Know whether or not **Shakyamuni** used his **inner** **cosmos** as a starting point and delved into the **self-conscious**, or the **other** **way** **around**. Know whether or not the third president of the Soka Gakkai, Daisaku Ikeda, by establishing the SGI, has **broadened** the scope of activities to a **worldwide** scale. Know whether or not SGI carries on the Buddhist tradition started from **Nagarjuna** and **Vasubandhu** of India. Know whether or not Shakyamuni found within himself, the **fundamental** **law** that lies at the base of the **universe** **itself**.

9.  Know whether or not, through **austere** **practices** and **deep** **meditation**, **Shakyamuni** was able to discover a **fundamental** **cosmic** **law**, which is the basis for all life. Know whether or not Nichiren wrote a **major** **treatise** during a time when the people of Japan were suffering from **extreme** **weather** **patterns**, **epidemics** and **famine**. Know whether or not global warming and extreme weather patterns are all **manifestations** of the **devilish** **function** to **rob** the life of all living things.

10.  Know whether or not the **Eternal** **Buddha** is a representation of the Eternal Law which encompasses a universal value that **transcends** **time** **and** **space**. Know whether or not, using the **Dhamma**, or **Dharma**, Shakyamuni stayed put in a **single** **village**. Know whether or not Nichiren used the **Ceremony** **in** **the** **Air** **in** **the** **Life** **Span** **of** **the** **Thus** **Come** **One** **Chapter** of the Lotus Sutra as a motif for the **object** **of** **worship**. Know whether or not Nichiren created a **methodology** for all people to **manifest** their own **Buddhahood** by further developing the teachings of **T’ien** **T’ai**, the **Lotus** **Sutra** and Shakyamuni **Buddha**. Know whether or not, according to Nichiren, the true **essence** of the Buddha’s teaching starts **well** **after** the Emergence of the **Treasure** **Tower** **Chapter**.

11.  Know whether or not, in the **fifteenth** **chapter** of the Lotus Sutra, there is a description of the appearance of **nearly** **two** **dozen** Bodhisattvas from deep underground. Know whether or not, when **illuminated** by the light of Buddhism, devilish functions are the **desires** that appear in the world of **Animality**.

12.  Know whether or not the “**land**” contained within the title of Nichiren’s treatise includes all **human** **beings** as well as all of **nature’s** **ecosystems**. Know whether or not SGI is actively involved in **contributing** to a wide range of global issues including those dealing with the **environment**. Know whether or not the **Immeasurable** **Meanings** Sutra was considered by ***T’ien T’ai***as a followup to the Lotus Sutra. Know whether or not Toda’s awakening is described in the novel, ***The******Human******Revolution***, written by Ikeda. Know whether or not ***nam-myoho-renge-kyo***is the state of **Buddhahood** **itself**. Know whether or not Shakyamuni surpassed the dimension of the **transpersonal** and entered the dimension of the **individual**, or the **other** **way** **around**.