

Foreword

It is only three years left before 21st century. Last autumn a department store and a shopping mall were completed around new Kamiooka station,so that our hometown has changed better to live, and also it became very useful for worshippers to Hino-kōen graveyard and Zenkoji temple. In addition to that, the plan is announced to hold the Olympic game at Yokohama in 2008, we have a lot of happy news these days.

By the way,this volume of Seiju has put together a special issue on the late Mr. Kisaburo Ito(Sankian). He devoted to architectonic society in Japan as a president of Ito Zenzaburo Architectionic Office, and as a honorary president of the Assosiation of Tokyo architectonic companies. He was also a chairman of Japanese painting circles(Nihon Jiyuu Gadan)and a vice chairman of the Southern School of painting circle. He was awarded the prize of the Minister of Education. He had also drawn illustrations for “Camellia and Dogwood”, a novel which had been published serially in Yomiuri Shinbun newspaper

from 1991 to 1993, and stood high in public estimation.

He also, as a chief supportor of our temple, made a plan for Shakkaden hall of Zenkoji temple for the eternal prosperity of Buddhism and of our temple, and had drawn illustrations for Seiju for a long time.

Mr. Ito, in his life time, tried to endeavor and apply himself to live by expressing his real state and feeling without any arms. He was affluent but not stingy, wealthy but not arrogant. He lived pure life like Buddha. I believe it was completed life as a human being.

Yō Tsumoto, the author of “Camellia and Dogwood” said about Mr.Ito, “His illustrations reflected himself. People who saw them was spurred to creativity and thought as if they were in the world of his illustrations. Quiet, but dignified atmosphere they had.”

Zenkoji temple must try to bccome a temple of 21st century, hoping prosperity of Buddhism and of world peace, giving people hopes for the bright future.