

love, but to make a resolution to receive it.

### Masanobu Yamada — New Religion's Missions in Brazil (16) Transformation of Christianity [13]

Standard activities of the Kardecism Center include diagnosis of one's hardship by a spiritual mediator, spiritual treatment to solve hardships, and doctrinal seminars. People suffering from hardships seek counseling from spiritual mediators in order to solve their problems. The causes of hardship are differentiated between those in which spirits are involved and those without. Most sufferings are thought to involve spirit's curses. In such case, the patient receives spiritual treatment through laying on hands by the spiritual mediator, participate in Kardecism's doctrinal seminars, and take part in volunteer work such as free soup handouts as a way to eliminate the sufferings. Such practice is thought to eliminate the spirit's curses and enable the growth (salvation) of the patient's spirit.

### Midori Horiuchi — Connecting "Life": The Phenomenon of Life and Death (32) On "Life" [3]

Human beings are an existence en route to death. But when we encounter death that seems unreasonable or life that seems unbearably difficult, we tend to think that death that visits upon people is not necessarily fair. At the same time, when we analyze the background for the news around us, we tend to ask whether someone else's involvement may have changed the circumstances that led to such painful death. Religion questions the act of "life," but this comes from the fact that pursuit of life is a uniquely fundamental one.

### Saburo Yagi — The Path Towards Normalization (30) Case of Denmark [2]

As a result of survey examining actual usage, we saw that all vehicles using the disabilities parking space had permits. In this regard, vehicles without permits are regarded as illegal parked vehicles, and its owners are issued fines. Fines involving illegal parking amount to 510 Krone (10,200 Japanese yen) for parking lots managed by the city, and 590 Krone (11,800 Japanese yen) at parking lots managed by EuroPark, a parking lot management company. Parking lots within shopping centers limit the time of parking to three hours, and there are rules where fines are issued when vehicles overstay this limit.

In order to insure compliance of the time limit, there is requirement to install a timer underneath the front windshield of all vehicles. Rules require that one initiate the timer when parking on streets and in parking lots. In parking lots, the companies operating the parking lots hire staff who make regular rounds of the lot to watch for illegal parking.

### Jiro Sawai — Great East Japan Earthquake and Religion (2) Activities of the "Mental Wellness Counseling Room" at the Sendai Municipal Funeral Home

The fifth page of the Tenri Jiho published on May 1, 2011, included an article entitled "Caring for the Grieving: Trans-denominational cooperation leads to opening of a "Mental Wellness Counseling Room" at a funeral home." This opening was prompted by the large number of victims during the Eastern Japan Earthquake, the inability of the religionists to keep pace to perform funeral services, and the urgent demand for mental care among those who lost their loved ones in the disaster. This opening was groundbreaking to the extent that religionists belonging to specific religious traditions took part in the activity while transcending their specific religious ties, that such trans-religious organization focused not on material support by religious care, and that such religious activity took place in a funeral home, a municipal facility which operated under the principle of the separation of church and state. The activities of "Mental Wellness Counseling Room" at the funeral home later expanded into various activities involving religionists, medical workers, and researchers.

### Norihito Nakao — Han Resources in Tenri University Sankokan Museum Collection (10) Folk Woodblock Prints [2]

In this and the next article, I will provide detailed commentary on various categories of folk woodblock prints originating from the common people. In this article, I will introduce the *menhua* (gate drawing) and *zahu*.

Folk prints pasted to gates and doors were collectively called *menhua*. It was thought that pasting these prints would summon happiness as well as ward off evil spirits. Among the various drawings on the *menhua*, those which were pasted to gates facing the roads during the end of the year were called *menshentu* (gate deity drawings). Historical and mythical warlords holding their weapons were often depicted upon these *menshentu*, and their bravery was thought to have shielded the neighborhood from demons. *Zahu* is the collectively term to refer to items made from thinly spliced bamboo or sorghum branches forming the framework and paper pasted upon it. Its varieties are extensive, with large ones including buildings and arches large enough for people to enter and small ones including fans. Kites are also included in this category. Offerings to the deities, such as *tiangongdengzuo* (paper shrines) and *qin角度mating* (papered kiosks), are included among the *zahu*.

## おやさと研究所 NEWS

### 台湾の東アジア宗教国際シンポジウムで発表

金子 昭

台湾の国立政治大学華人宗教センター、同宗教研究所、同人文センター、中華民国一貫道總會及び唯心聖教功德基金会の主催による東アジア宗教国際シンポジウムが6月12日、13日の両日、政治大学（台北市）にて開かれた。台湾、日本、韓国、アメリカから新宗教研究者ら多数が参加し、李豊楸・政治大学教授による基調講演「化身與道脈：《道統寶鑑》中祖師源流所反映の三教合一觀（化身と道脈：《道統寶鑑》における祖師源流に反映された三教合一觀）」を含め、全部で20の研究報告が行われた。私も12日午後のセッションで、「東日本大震災時の日本新宗教賑災活動（東日本大地震における日本の新宗教の活動）」と題して発表した。

### 鶴見大学仏教文化研究所シンポジウムで発題

金子 昭

平成26年度鶴見大学仏教文化研究所の公開シンポジウム「心の安らぎを求めて—仏教者の社会参加—」が6月14日、同大学にて開催された。これは総持学園創立90周年・仏教文化研究所設立30周年を記念したもので、鶴見大学先制医療研究センターとの共催で行われた。釈徹宗・相愛大学教授が「老病死に学ぶ仏教」と題して基調講演。その後、新川泰道・ビハーラ秋田代表が「ビハーラ秋田の活動の展開と今後の課題」、金子昭が「より添い『支縁』で人をつなぐ—無縁社会を有縁化する『人間菩薩』の思想と実践」、そして、前田伸子・鶴見大学副学長が「終末期医療を支援する臨床宗教師の育成事業に関して」と題してそれぞれ発題し、最後に釈氏を交えてパネルディスカッションを行った。大学関係者や一般市民の他、曹洞宗大本山総持寺の修行僧など多数の参加者が来場した。