

# Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu



Visiting dear friends of the shrine - Dr. James and Melba Kurashige in Hilo.  
Mahalo Nui for your longtime support, encouragement and love!!!!

# MAHALO

# Private Blessings

## for your donations

Damon Bilbao  
Bill & Keiko Doughty  
Seizo Imamura  
Rodney & Sharon Isa  
James & Melba Kurashige  
Steve Miwa  
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh  
Natalie Nakamura  
Hatsuko Nakata  
Craig & Diane Nishida  
Akiko Sanai  
Gary & Linda Shinsato  
Alice Sugimoto  
Chester Sugimoto  
Florence Sugimoto  
Reid Yoshimura



The monthly Tsukinamisai service was performed on August 2.

Tsukinamisai will be performed internally without any attendees until September.

The first public Tsukinamisai service is scheduled for October 18.



Good Health Blessing was performed for a 90 year-old *Ujiko* from the Palama area.

*Ujiko* is a patron of a shrine who lives within the parish boundaries or in the same district as the shrine.

*Ujiko* originally referred to any member of a clan claiming a common ancestral *kami* or *ujigami*.

A House Blessing was performed on August 14. May you be blessed with positive energies in your new space and life.



Visit our website: [www.jinja.us](http://www.jinja.us)

# Private Blessings

An annual House Blessing was performed on August 7, for the Sugimoto ohana that has patronized the shrine since the early 1920s.

The Sugimoto ohana's patriarch Teiichi was born on July 1, 1888 in Otake-shi, Hiroshima and moved to Laupahoehoe in 1908. He married

Haruyo Okihiro in 1923 and moved to Honolulu to establish the Sugimoto Contracting Company on Dillingham Boulevard.

In 1930, he established the Otaki Jinja Hosan Kai and brought a *Gobunrei* from Otaki Jinja in Otake City, Hiroshima, for worship at Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha.

He was active in the community and served on the Boards of Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha, Honpa Hongwanji, Goji Kai, Hawaii Shinto Renmei, Hawaii Hiroshima Kenjin Kai, Otake-shi Chiho Jin Kai, Meiji Kai, Jyokunsha Club, Nippon Bijutsu Aiko Kai, Hanayagi Kasho Kai and Waki Sonjinkai.



Photo from 1960 of Teiichi Sugimoto and Soichiro Miura presenting the shrine with a new curtain for the social hall.



Otaki Jinja Festival performed by Rev. Kunisuke Sakai at Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha in 1959 with the kokua of priests from Hawaii Daijingu, Hawaii Izumo Taisha and Hawaii Ishizuchi Jinja.

# Shichigosan

## October 18 - Nov 22

ONLINE RESERVATIONS for Shichigosan, Totose no Oiwai and Jusan Mairi will be accepted from **8:30 am on September 1** (Hawaii Time)

**Information will be posted to our website on August 25.**

Please visit our website **www.jinja.us** for details as procedures have changed. There will also be a link to our ONLINE RESERVATION Form and Donation portal.

Please use the Online reservation form as we no longer accept reservations by phone or fax.

A confirmation email or text will be sent to you within 3 days of receipt of your online reservation.

Blessings will be performed on the dates and times below:

10/18 Sun	11/7 Sat
10/23 Fri	11/8 Sun
10/24 Sat	11/11 Wed
10/25 Sun	11/14 Sat
10/30 Fri	11/15 Sun
10/31 Sat	11/20 Fri
11/1 Sun	11/21 Sat
11/3 Tues	11/22 Sun

Maximum 10 slots per day

One (1) child per time slot

9:00 am	12:30 pm
9:30 am	1:00 pm
10:00 am	1:30 pm
10:30 am	2:00 pm
11:00 am	2:30 pm

# CALENDAR

## September

1 8:30 am  
**Online Reservations accepted for Shichigosan, Totose no Oiwai, Jusan Mairi and Seijin Shiki**

Please visit [www.jinja.us](http://www.jinja.us) and view the new procedures before booking a reservation

27 3 pm **(Internal)**  
**100th Anniversary Autumn Thanksgiving Festival**

## October

17 9 am  
**Cleanup & Preparations**

18 9 am - 1 pm  
**Shichigosan**

3 pm  
**Tsukinamisai Monthly Service**

# House of Mitsukoshi

The first Japanese-style Department store opened its doors on December 21, 1940 at the corner of King and Bethel.

It was designed by architects from Shimizu Gumi Tokyo and Fred Yoshimi Fujioka, a local Architect.

The owner of the *House of Mitsukoshi* was a local firm called International Enterprises, headed by Masayuki Tokioka, who founded the National Mortgage & Finance Company, City Bank, Island Insurance, Newfair Dairies and International Savings & Loan.

International Enterprises was capitalized for \$340,000 in the late 1930's. Prior to 1939, it purchased the land on the corner of Bethel and King Streets with plans to build a retail outlet.

The *House of Mitsukoshi* was



The escalator was imported from Tokyo and installed by the Von Hamm Young Company

modeled after the Mitsukoshi Department store in Tokyo and had an escalator between the first and second floors. Many shoppers are said to have visited the store just to ride on the first escalator in the Islands.



There was a food department in the basement and a children's play area on the rooftop. Two elevators serviced the 4-story building that imported all of its merchandise from Mitsukoshi Tokyo.

A ground breaking ceremony was performed in Spring 1939 by the Honolulu Shinto Renmei, an organization formed by priests from Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha, Hawaii Daijingu, Hawaii Izumo Taisha, Hawaii Ishizuchi Jinha and Hawaii Kato Jinja.



Mayor Crane participating in the Ground Breaking ceremony in 1939

Politicians and civic leaders attended the opening gala on December 21, 1940 that began with a ceremony by the Honolulu Shinto Renmei followed by a day filled with food, discounted merchandise and entertainment.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 brought chaos to the islands and an uncertain future for the House

of Mitsukoshi.

The *House of Mitsukoshi* ceased operations in December 1941, less than a year from its opening.



Opening ceremony of the House of Mitsukoshi on December 21, 1940



Geishas from local Tea Houses serving food and drinks

In early 1942, the building was converted to a USO facility named the Victory Club by the Federal Government and remained open until 1945. The building was returned to International Enterprises in 1948.



*House of Mitsukoshi* building converted to the USO Victory Club

The Honorable Walter Kirimitsu was featured on the August edition of KIKU TV's *The Wisdom of Hawaii's Elders*.



Judge Kirimitsu shares his fond memories of participating in sumo tournaments at Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha in the late 1940s.



Judge Kirimitsu served as president of St. Louis School and practiced law for 25 years in private civil practice.



There were peaceful protests on July 21 - 24 in front of 1234 N. King Street, the proposed site of the IHS Transfer and Triage Center.

Neighboring businesses and residents held signs claiming that they were never informed by the Institute of Human Services or the City of the proposed sale and plans.

Neighborhood businesses and leaders say they believe in the IHS mission, however will not support any facilities geared toward serving the homeless in this community.

# Kapalama's changing landscape

Graffiti is often called "art" but it is legally known as felony property damage. Tagging is a public nuisance.

If you are also having this problem, HPD operates a Graffiti Hotline to enable the public to report graffiti on both public and private properties. Call the Hotline at 723-3475.

Hawaii currently has the highest rate of homelessness per capita in the nation.

Homelessness is a complex social problem with a variety of underlying economic and social factors. This summer has seen the rise in the homeless population which seems to be migrating towards Kapalama from Downtown.



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