

# Unfolding the Infinite Potential

## A Shooting Test

If a person truly lives with sincerity, does away with any sort of selfishness, and lives the life of a *child of God*, in a carefree, bright and cheerful way, not a single negative thing will happen and the person can, in good health, live a life in which he can always draw out the wonderful power within.

Mr. Torazo Sato worked as the chief of police at various stations. After World War II, police officers began using pistols, so in order to get used to using them, they had to go through various training activities. After this training, the police officers would have to get a certain certification which had three ranks: beginner, intermediate and advanced. Moreover, it was very difficult to receive the beginner-level certification. The goal, however, was to see that all police officers receive this beginner-level training.

There was a round target about 28 inches in diameter placed about 25 yards away, which had a black circle worth 10 points at the center and another black circle worth 9 points drawn outside it. Outside these circles were white circles which got gradually larger. The idea was to shoot at this target, and the person getting at least a certain number of points would pass.

The trick to shooting was for the person to calm himself emotionally, focus and quietly grasp the pistol with his entire hand, and then just naturally pull back on the trigger. That much, Mr. Sato knew. However, he had never actually practiced using a gun. He decided to take the *Holy Sutra Nectarean Shower of Holy Doctrines* with him on the day of the test. This *Holy Sutra* had saved his wife from an illness before, so he knew that this was a wonderful, welcome sutra. He borrowed the large size *Holy Sutra* from his wife and put it in his left pocket.

### **Holding on to the Holy Sutra, Nectarean Shower of Holy Doctrines**

There were two shooting tests that were administered: One in which five shots per minute were fired and one in which five shots were fired within five minutes. When taking the latter test, Mr. Sato closed his eyes, recited the Invocation one phrase at a time, put his hand in his pocket and held on to the *Holy Sutra Nectarean Shower of Holy Doctrines*. As he did so, he felt very calm, as if his right arm was on a stand. During the one minute test, all he did was feel gratitude for the *Holy Sutra*. He abandoned the thoughts of determining the target and then shooting, and as he focused himself mentally and recited, “*Holy Sutra, Nectarean Shower of Holy Doctrines*, thank you very much, thank you very much,” he was able to pull the trigger just naturally. He repeated this five times. Rather than in the allotted five minutes, he was able to do what had to be done in three. However, the officers that were standing near Mr. Sato said, “Chief, none of your shots hit the target.”

Thinking it strange, Mr. Sato went to check, and it was true. The others’ shots had left clear little marks on the targets, but he couldn’t see any holes at all in his. He thought this was very odd. After the five minutes were up, everyone put their pistols down and went to their targets. The shots that Mr. Sato had fired were all within the black circle, but the ones the others had shot were all only in the white circle. So, they found that, from a distance, you could see the holes in the white part of the target, but those in the black area of the target couldn’t be seen at all. Although this was the first time Mr. Sato had ever fired a gun, he was able to receive the intermediate-level certification on the first try. It was difficult enough to receive the beginner-level certification, but having achieved intermediate status on his first try, Mr. Sato became known as a master revolver handler.

The reason he was able to display such wonderful power was because his mind was calm and focused, and he was in an “as is” natural state of mind. And the reason his mind was so calm and not anxious or agitated in the least was because he was holding firmly on to the *Holy Sutra* and was one with the spirit of this sutra.

The *Holy Sutra, Nectarean Shower of Holy Doctrines* states, “God indeed is All of everything.” It also states to the effect that a person is

a *child of God* with infinite potential. We can say this because Mr. Sato had that conviction, took the test while holding on to the *Holy Sutra*, and a wonderful power within manifested.

### **Be Calm or Get Nervous**

In this way, we all have wonderful power and potential within, but it takes practice and training to draw out that ability. In special instances, such as the gun-shooting test, it may be possible to display a certain amount of power without advance training, but practice is necessary to move the next level. There needs to be a tremendous amount of training and practice. And if the practice and training is done without fear or concern getting in the way and if one does away with all fear and acts with the absolute faith of a *child of God* when taking a test, wonderful potential and power will be expressed with all thoughts and things going smoothly.

Mr. Terukuni Maruoka gave the following testimony at a Grand Public Lecture. His story also had to do with taking a test. For Mr. Maruoka, recent changes in his job description required him to get a driver’s license, so he enrolled in a driving school. He started taking classes, but Mr. Maruoka, who had slow reflexes, didn’t progress at all. He felt like giving up many times. However, he had been a Seicho-No-Ie member for over 10 years and felt that, as a Seicho-No-Ie member, he should not be discouraged. He told himself that everyone is supposed to have infinite potential. He then told people around him that he was going to successfully pass the test on the first try. Hearing this, those who knew his abilities laughed.

Finally, the day of the practice test arrived, which was held 10 days before the actual exam. Not surprisingly, when Mr. Maruoka took the practice test, he had 150 points deducted and was last in the class. Despite the fact that 70 points out of a possible 100 would have been a passing score, since he had 150 points deducted, that meant he had a final score of -50. This being the case, there was no hope of his passing. True, Mr. Maruoka was nervous from the beginning to the end of the test. However, he was also well aware that he had not practiced enough. He was convinced that a person has infinite potential, and at the same

time, he vowed very strongly to himself, “I am definitely going to express the infinite power that I have within and get a wonderful score. To do this, I’m going to practice and practice, and in the next 10 days, I’m definitely going to display this wonderful ability!”

### The Effects of Practicing

Mr. Maruoka then began working three times harder than the others. While he was at school and studying, he focused only on cars, thinking about nothing else, putting forth tremendous effort in his studies. At first, his teachers, as well as his fellow students, laughed. He could hear a voiceless voice saying, “How is that hopeless, clumsy guy ever going to pass?” However, watching him and seeing him try so hard, the others were impressed with his perseverance, and they all began to focus their attention on him and earnestly cheer him on.

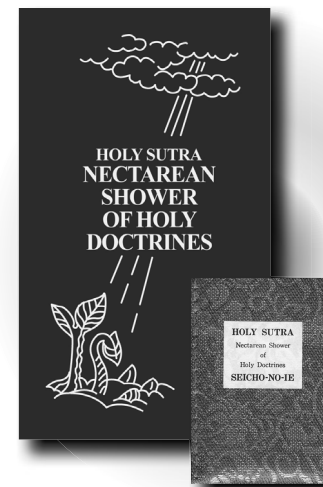
The day of the actual test arrived, and Mr. Maruoka was the first person scheduled to take it. When he got in the driver’s seat, he heard a strange clattering sound. “Where is that sound coming from?” he wondered. He then realized that it was the sound of his shoes tapping against the floor of the car because his legs were shaking so much. He thought his mind was more or less calm, but his legs were dancing on their own and he couldn’t control them. He had to do something. Mr. Maruoka took the *Holy Sutra Nectarean Shower of Holy Doctrines* that he always carried as a talisman and held it quietly in his hands, breathed deeply and quietly and continued to pray to God. Since the examiner would think it strange if he took too much time praying, he tried to quiet his mind as he adjusted the rearview mirror. By the time he decided to start off, the clattering sound that had continued until that point had settled down, and there was no noise and he felt very calm.

Off he drove and everything went well. Afterwards, the examiner praised him saying, “It was wonderful driving—even better than the most seasoned driver,” and gave him a score of 98. He used the entire eight minutes that was given to him to finish the test and was able to reach his destination without being off even by a second.

For those who knew what his past results had been, Mr. Maruoka receiving such a wonderful score was a miracle. The same person who, 10 days before, had been the poorest student there, had 10 days later, received 98—the highest score in the class. This happened because Mr. Maruoka truly believed in the God within, devoted himself to try diligently, practice endlessly, and moreover, drove with firm faith, carrying the *Holy Sutra*. In other words, it was thanks to the *Holy Sutra, Nectarean Shower of Holy Doctrines*. However, he didn’t simply rely on the *Holy Sutra*, but the result came from his having practiced and practiced with his firm faith and is a fine example of expressing one’s ability. In this way, when Mr. Maruoka graduated driving school, he was the only person out of 200 students to receive the Top Student Award.

From *Unmei no Shujinko*, “The Master of Fate,” pp. 270-278

## HOLY SUTRA NECTAREAN SHOWER OF HOLY DOCTRINES



This *Holy Sutra* is the heart of Seicho-No-Ie. The words are God’s words which came to Dr. Masaharu Taniguchi through divine inspiration. This beautiful Sutra contains the essence of the Truth of life. You will find God’s divine power here.

**\$10**

Amulet version also available.  
Please specify type when ordering.

**\$10**

Prices do not include tax or shipping. Please see pages 33-34 to place your order.

# The Truth of Life Is a Bible Written in Modern Language

Masaharu Taniguchi

Mr. Kakichi Eto first touched upon the Seicho-No-Ie teachings when he went to visit a relative who was on the verge of death. It was at this time that Mr. Eto's friend gave him a copy of the *Truth of Life* volumes. He was told, "If your relative is near death, read this book, *Truth of Life*, to him by his bedside and he'll get well." He wondered what kind of wonderful book it was and decided to take it with him to read to his relative. However, by the time he arrived, the person had passed away. Since he had already died, there would be no merit in the phenomenal sense. The Truth is best used when there is life. No matter if you read it, there is nothing one can do if there is no life to receive the teachings of the Truth.

The words, "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32, NIV), are written in the Bible, but unless there is life to receive this Truth, there is no way for an illness to be healed.

Not having any other alternative, thinking that it would be a waste to simply leave the book on the pillow of the deceased and also wondering what was written in the book, Mr. Eto began to read. He was very moved.

Until then, he had been a Christian and had read the Bible a number of times but had thought the Bible was like a fish. That is, there are "delicious" things written there, truths that are nutrients for the soul. However, no matter how much he would read and try to savor the meaning, there was something there, much like a fish

bone, which kept him from fully enjoying it. So, there were portions that were nutritious, but there were also parts that seemed tough to him, parts that he couldn't chew entirely no matter how he tried. This is why he thought the Bible was something like a fish.

When he read *Truth of Life*, however, he was able to understand the Bible, which he had previously found difficult to understand. He began to really respect *Truth of Life*, calling it a "Bible written in modern-day language" and always took it with him, reading it whenever he had a spare minute.

## Is it Actually a "Book of God" or a "Book of the Devil"?

What happened then was that Mr. Eto's son, Akira—who would one day compose the Seicho-No-Ie hymn, "Song of Reality"—was a very devoted third-generation Christian and saw his father carrying around a copy of the *Truth of Life* and reading it whenever he could, and said, "Father, you shouldn't read that imitation Bible. A Christian must read the Bible that has the words of Jesus Christ written in it. That is the devil's book!"

Kakichi replied to his son, "You say this is the devil's book, but you've never read it. You can't tell whether it's the devil's book or God's Bible unless you read it. I'll lend it to you, so read it. And if there are sentences in it that you believe are the marks of the devil, underline them and write, 'This is the devil,' in the space above it and show it to me later. If the words of the devil are really written in it, I won't read it any more."

Akira read the Bible-sized *Truth of Life*, found parts that he thought were from the devil, and underlined them in red. What it said was, "Sin does not exist." If there is no sin, there is no need for religion. Religion exists because sin exists, and religion exists to help eradicate it. If there were no sin, there would be no need for religion or faith. Despite this, "Sin does not exist" was written in the book, so it must have been a sign of the devil. He commented on it in this way and went on reading.

As he did, following the section he had rejected and written as being from the devil, there was a detailed and thorough explanation

of the meaning of “sin does not exist.” As it turned out, the section that he had cited as proof of the book being the devil’s work, all became *God’s words* for him, and Mr. Akira Eto became a very dedicated Seicho-No-Ie member.

### **A Gifted Composer**

Akira was very gifted and talented in music. He would watch and listen as his younger sister took piano lessons from a teacher who came to their home and then practiced on his own and he learned to play better than she did. He also began to compose music. His hope was to become a musician. At the time, Akira was the second son in the family, and he had an older brother who could take over the family watch store business, so he thought he was free to pursue his dream of becoming a musician. However, his father said, “I would like you to be the heir to this famous store, Shoubido.”

In those days, a watch store was an unparalleled monopolistic business, and because Kakichi didn’t want to see the long-standing Shoubido fall into the hands of a stranger, he wanted Akira to take over the family business. So although he had watched his younger sister practicing the piano, had begun playing note by note on his own, and had also begun composing music, deciding when he was in middle school that he wanted to go to a music school, Akira was unable to pursue this goal. His father said, “No matter what, I want you to take over this watch business (they also had a factory that made watches), so you have to know and understand the process of making and manufacturing watches and clocks. Rather than going to a music school, you should go to a technical high school.” Therefore, Akira entered a technical high school in Osaka and studied mechanical engineering and material mechanics—subjects having to do with the manufacture of watches and clocks. Akira couldn’t stand this.

Around that time, a world renowned musician came to Japan. Akira’s father said, “Go and see the world famous Mogilevsky (phonetic spelling) who came here recently from Germany and play one of your compositions for him and find out whether or not you

really have any talent as a musician.” Mr. Eto took his son to the composer who had come to Japan and had him play for him.

Listening to Akira, this famous musician was very moved and said, “You are a wonderfully gifted musician. Who’s the fool that is leaving this talented young man in a technical high school?” The musician scolded Mr. Eto. After that, he resigned himself to the fact that his son was better suited to a music career and Akira entered Kunitachi Music University in Tokyo. After graduating, he continued to live in Tokyo, composing and teaching as a professor of music. However, his older brother passed away and his father called Akira back to Osaka against his will. And because he was the son of the president of Shoubido, he became managing director and one of the senior executives of the company.

However, Akira was a very sincere and innocent person and thought, “What’s the use of becoming a watch and clock manufacturer and making money? There’s no use in making money. One’s soul won’t grow and develop even if one does make money.” So saying, though his title was managing director, he did not enthusiastically help his father with his business. He would get his inspiration at night and compose music. He would then stay up and go to bed at 2:00 or 3:00 a.m. and get up at around 10:00 or 11:00 the next morning, eat a meal that was difficult to tell whether it was breakfast or lunch, and then go to work.

He couldn’t balance his important work composing music and his job, so there was friction between the father and son, and this manifested itself in the physical body as asthma, with Akira having asthma attacks two to three times a week.

However, his father read the *Truth of Life* books and gave them to him, encouraging him to read them, saying, “Here, read this. You’ll be able to tell whether it’s the book of God or the book of the devil.” As he read them, although he had started off planning to prove that the *Truth of Life* books were the devil’s books, he began feeling that they were God’s books. He understood his physical body to be a reflection of his mind and knew the reason for his asthma. Akira knew that the answer was in how he could resolve the conflict with his father.

**A Person Is a Child of God—****Let Us Practice Using Our Infinite Potential in Our Daily Lives**

One cold winter's day, Akira was having an asthma attack, but he asked the maid to put water in the bathtub. The maid replied, "Yes, sir. Are you going to take a bath this morning? What time should I heat it for you?"

"There's no need to heat it—I'll just take a cold bath."

"Oh, I see." So saying, the maid filled the tub with tap water. Since it was in the middle of winter, the tap water was very cold. He was going to take a cold bath despite the fact that he was having an asthma attack. He already had the conviction that a person is a *child of God* and not a lump of matter called the physical body. The physical body is a reflection of the mind. As long as the mind does not become sick, there is no such thing as asthma. He dunked himself in the water bath and thought, "Oh, it's freezing!" but he stayed in the tub for five to ten minutes.

He got out and dried himself, after which, as a reaction, he began to feel very warm, and before he knew it, his asthma had disappeared.

Akira had experienced firsthand that a person is not a mere physical body that is matter. A person is not something that will be invaded by cold or heat. At the same time, when reading *Truth of Life*, he found that it said, "a person is a child of God and has infinite potential." He understood that putting his total effort into the watch and clock business would in no way adversely affect his composing. He could draw forth as much power as he wanted. He said he would go to work early in the morning and work along with the other employees, come home in the evening, have dinner and then work on composing. He would balance composing and his job.

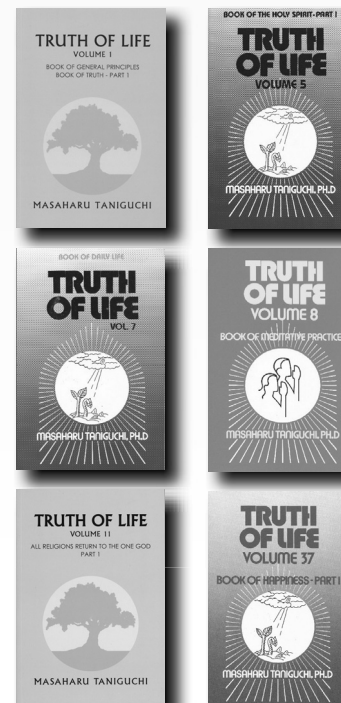
When he realized that a person is a child of God with infinite potential, the friction disappeared that came from his having opposed his father and resenting him for making him managing director of the watch and clock company while he wanted to become a musician. And even if he began composing music after dinner, he could still wake up early in the morning and still could do his composing more efficiently than before.

As it turned out, by practicing the teaching that a person is a child of God with infinite potential in his daily life, he was able to work in a way in which he was doing both what his father wished, and at the same time, realizing his own ideals.

During that time, a three country alliance of Japan, Germany, and Italy was formed in opposition to the Allied Nations. There was a world competition of composers then, and while there was no first level at the time, the person who won first prize in the second level was Mr. Akira Eto.

From *Yuishin Jisso no Sekai wo Toku*, "Expounding the World of Only God," pp. 70-82

## TRUTH OF LIFE Books Available in English

**VOLUME 1**

Book of Truth  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)  
\$11

**VOLUME 5**

Book of the Holy Spirit  
Part 1  
\$10

**VOLUME 7**

Book of Daily Life  
\$10

**VOLUME 8**

Book of Meditative Practices  
\$11

**VOLUME 11:**

All Religions Return to the One God  
Part 1  
\$11

**VOLUME 37**

Book of Happiness  
Part 1  
\$11

Prices do not include tax or shipping.  
Please see pages 33-34 to place your order.