

Joy and Peace

In 1988 the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii in Honolulu, Hawaii had its Centennial and for that occasion, music was composed. There were two pieces, the Centennial Theme Song, and Joy and Peace which is a bon odori. Etsu Osaki brought the cassette tape from Hawaii and Sahomi Tachibana either found the dance through her contacts or created the choreography. We first danced it here in 2007 and we brought it back this year by special request. It was written in English. There is a great article about the woman who wrote the lyrics, Cecilia Lindo at <http://hongwanjihawaii.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Musical-Notes-Jan-2011.pdf>

Video:
Coming ...

Lyrics (from the cassette insert):

JOY AND PEACE

Lyrics by Cecilia Lindo

Music & Arrangement by Setsuo Fujiyama

1. The beat of the taiko goes boom, boom, boom
And echoes the celebration of Obon.
The drum beats out a song for our loved ones
Who've passed on their breath of life to us.
 2. The beat of the taiko goes boom, boom, boom
It celebrates life, and celebrates death
And sends out a thunderous applause to all beings
And makes us aware that we live, because of others.
 3. The beat of the taiko goes boom, boom, boom
And we all rejoice in song and dance
Like happy Mogallana who helped his mother
Free herself from bondage of suffering.
- * (Chorus)
- Free from greed and selfishness
Free from the chains of ignorance
Free from the snares of attachment.
We dance, dance, dance, like happy Mogallana
To the song of joy and peace.
4. The beat of the taiko goes boom, boom, boom
And sends a message of good cheer
To loved ones gone to the Other Shore
Who've passed their love of Amida to us.
 5. Listen, the taiko goes boom, boom, boom
It honors all mothers and fathers past
Who journeyed to Hawai'i Nei from land of birth
And knowing that the Dharma could set them free.

* Repeat