BECAUSE WE HAVE A FATHER AND A MOTHER



MOTHER'S DAY AND FATHER'S DAY

<Mother's Day>

A women issued the Mother's Day Proclamation with the aim of refusing to send husbands and sons off to war ever again, and this is said to be the origin of Mother's Day.

From one mother's love, a day to express gratitude to all mothers was born.

<Father's Day>

A veteran had lost his wife soon after returning from the war & raised 6 children on his own; one of his children, out of respect for their single father, spoke up & said,

"Since we have
Mother's Day, we
should also have a day
to praise & express
gratitude for fathers," &
so that day came to be.

A mother's steadfast love & affection for her family, & a child's respect for their father, gave rise to the days for expressing gratitude

to both mothers & fathers, & what's more, these days have been

established in countries all over the world.

<From this fact,
we can conclude>

it is the love, respect, & gratitude within

the family that nurtures people's minds, develops

forms the foundation for building a splendid country that everyone can be proud of.

< In that sense, these days for>

expressing gratitude to our parents may be an important opportunity to reconsider the nature of family & parents.

Along with the words passed down to us by our predecessors: "Fathers should be the object of their children's respect, & mothers should be the seat of compassion for their children.

FILIAL PIETY IS CONNECTED TO THE UNIVERSE?

<Kaibara Eiken, a Japanese neo-Confucian philosopher>

"The human body originates from a mother & a father

and begins with the heavens & earth." <Haruo Saji, theoretical physicist>

Our bodies are
"incarnations of nature,"
made up from fragments
of stars that exploded
in the universe, & we
human beings are
"products made by the
universe over the course
of 13.8 billion years."

This is the very proof that we were born from the heavens, the earth, and nature <In that case>

I feel it is important to view the idea of filial piety & our practice of it in a way that goes beyond simply cherishing parents & being respectful to them or giving them gifts from a sense of gratitude-In other words, we should view filial piety within the stream of the one great life force which also comports

with the teachings of the Buddha.

<Nakae Toju, scholar>

"Filial piety does not mean simply caring for the parent who gave birth to you; in fact it is none other than returning,

through your service to your parents,

to the fundamental life of the universe."

<In next
month's issue>

I would like to once again consider the meaning of filial piety & how we practice it, comparing it with the teachings of the Buddha & the wisdom of our ancestors, & delving into it more deeply in concrete terms & from a broader perspective.

l	nature.	Of the Buddha.		
			C VOUE) TAKE AMAY
				R TAKEAWAY
	:			