

Honolulu Hongwanji Buddhist Ministers Association Lecture

Why Buddhism and the West Need Each Other

Lecturer:

Dr. David Loy

Friday, March 28, 2014, 6:30pm

Buddhist Study Center, 808-973-6555

1436 University Ave. Enter the parking structure from the Puaena St. Entrance

Open to the Public

In this era of almost instantaneous communication and interchange of ideas and beliefs, the interactions and resulting transformations happen at a much faster pace. Therefore *Why Buddhism and the West Need Each Other* is an important topic in this era. By understanding the potential of the ideas and their influence on each other we can contribute more immediately to positive and productive transformations in the world.

In Dr. Loy's view the highest ideal of the Western tradition is to restructure society so that it is more just. While the most important goal of Buddhism is to awaken spiritually, which ends *dukkha*, loosely translated as "suffering." He puts forth a fruitful idea that the world needs both of these ideals. Not only because they complement each other but also because they in fact need each other.

David Robert Loy is a professor, writer, and Zen teacher in the Sanbo Kyodan tradition of Japanese Zen Buddhism. He is a [prolific author](#), whose essays and books have been translated into many languages. His articles appear regularly in the pages of major journals such as *Tikkun* and Buddhist magazines including *Tricycle*, *Turning Wheel*, *Shambhala Sun* and *Buddhadharma*, as well as in a variety of scholarly journals.



He lectures nationally and internationally on various topics, focusing primarily on the encounter between Buddhism and modernity: what each can learn from the other. Presently he is offering [workshops on "Transforming Self, Transforming Society"](#) and on his most recent book, *The World Is Made of Stories*.