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Japanese Buddhist Practices

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Japanese Buddhist Practices

AIVS Associazione Italiana Vittime delle Sette (2019) elaborate various Japanese Buddhism practices. The Chanting Millions aired by BBC in 1995 aims at drawing parallels that exist between the group and Aum Shinrikyo. According to the information by BBC, the group strives to become the mainstream at the same time more concerned with political power. Consequently, the group has become more prestige while abandoning the spiritual quest, creating more speculation for the existing population. On the other hand, according to Ngo (2019), the marathon monks of Mount Hiei strive for legendry by taking a challenge of over 1000 marathons in 1000 days. Tendai Buddhists believe that the only way to remain a legend is by taking up the marathon challenge despite the consequences of not finishing up the race or perishing.

The 1000 marathon challenge taken by Tendai Buddhists is not just about running but make a stop over the shrines while reflecting on life. Monks being the most spiritual men accorded with a certain level of respect within the society, are to take the challenge. Unlike other members of Tendai Buddhists, monks tend to endure the most difficult hardships, hence the courage to take the most challenging race. In comparison, there is a belief of abundance of life by the group and Aum Shinrikyo, the BBC documentary of 1995. Here, the believers were taught the concept of salvation since it was believed that the universe gave an abundance of life. However, this only benefited believers who considered maintaining their natural connection with the source of life. Having valued life in both the documentaries, the concept of humanity had to be drawn by the Buddhists believers. From this perspective, the policy of religious tolerance came to the limelight by the general assembly of Soka Gakkai in 1995 October. Therefore, life could only become interesting by understanding the concept of humanity, believing and enduring suffering in the universe while having a strong believe in a creator.

AIVS Associazione Italiana Vittime delle Sette (2019) gives more insight on the Japanese Buddhism culture. The BBC documentary initially attracted the attention of the media due to the clear elaboration of Aum Shinrikyo. This is a distinct group whose ambition was to take over other religious groups and entire Japan. Conducting a chemical attack on the Tokyo subway system in 1995 made the group famous. Interestingly, the group constitutes Buddhism and Hinduism, all under the category of Japan. There is still controversy about the group due to failure to protect their image of the past incidence. However, it remains strong politically, shifting several attentions towards it.

Additionally, the documentary elaborates on the implementation of religious policy in Japan. This particular charter was enacted in October 1995 at the 20th general assembly. The main aims of the charter were tolerance by the religious groups which were initially torn apart. Consequently, respecting other religious groups, engaging in dialogue and working together with other religious groups was the best resolution for reviving humanity among the Buddhists in Japan. Given these concepts, AIVS Associazione Italiana Vittime delle Sette (2019) gives more insights on Buddhism in Japan.

Further, revision of the religious Corporation al laws is another concept of AIVS Associazione Italiana Vittime Delle Sette (2019). This was after the split of the Soka Gakkai during the tearing down of the worshipping hall of Taisekijiji. The tearing down of the worshipping hall is linked to the maintenance that had become prohibited. As a result of this, there was a drastic drop in the number of worshippers. This is contrary to the number of worshipping halls built in the 21st century with several worshippers. Just like other believers, Buddhists in Japan believe in the construction of worshipping temples. Therefore, the

documentary gives information on Buddhism practices of constructing worshipping halls in the past centuries.

References

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