

Arizona Buddhist Temple

Co-sponsored with the
Southern District Buddhist Education Committee
present an

EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR

with very special guest

Rev. Dr. Duncan Williams

“Comparing and Contrasting
the Prison Camp Experiences
of Japanese-Americans During
WWII and Migrants at the
Mexico-United States
Border Today”

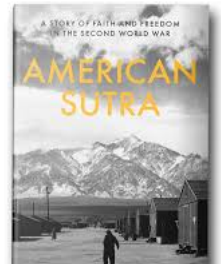
Sunday, August 9, at 10:00 a.m. PST
1 hour with Q & A

Open to the public; non-temple members please
contact dbelcheff@yahoo.com for the Zoom link



Duncan Ryūken Williams is a Sōtō Zen minister, a professor at USC, and a Steering Committee member of Tsuru for Solidarity. In 2019 he published *American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War*.

Tsuru for Solidarity is a nonviolent, direct action project of Japanese American social justice advocates working to end detention sites and support front-line immigrant and refugee communities that are being targeted by racist, inhumane immigration policies.



Background: In May 2018, the administration under president Donald Trump instituted a "zero tolerance" policy mandating the criminal prosecution of all adults who were referred by immigration authorities for violating immigration laws. This policy directly led to the large-scale, forcible separation of children and parents arriving at the United States-Mexico border, including those seeking asylum from violence in their home countries. Parents were arrested and put into criminal detention, while their children were taken away, classified as unaccompanied alien minors, to be put into child immigrant detention centers. Though in June 2018 Trump signed an executive order ostensibly ending the family separation component of his administration's migrant detentions, it continued under alternative justifications into 2019. By the end of 2018 the number of children being held had swelled to a high of nearly 15,000, which by August 2019 had been reduced to less than 9,000. In 2019, many experts, including Andrea Pitzer, the author of *One Long Night: A Global History of Concentration Camps*, have acknowledged the designation of the detention centers as "concentration camps" particularly given that the centers, previously cited by Texas officials for more than 150 health violations and reported deaths in custody, reflect a record typical of the history of deliberate substandard healthcare and nutrition in concentration camps. Though some organizations have tried to resist the "concentration camp" label for these facilities, hundreds of Holocaust and genocide scholars rejected this resistance via an open letter addressed to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. (Wikipedia)

Excerpt from the open letter: The very core of Holocaust education is to alert the public to dangerous developments that facilitate human rights violations and pain and suffering; pointing to similarities across time and space is essential for this task. (<https://www.nybooks.com/daily/2019/07/01/an-open-letter-to-the-director-of-the-holocaust-memorial-museum/>)

This event is free. Donations are appreciated.