

Feature:

Buddhism and a New Century of Life

From public lectures

The 20th century, dubbed the “century of science,” was indeed a century of remarkable progress in science and technology. On the other hand, there has undeniably been a downside to this progress as well—its contribution to wars threatening people’s very right to existence, and the emergence of a series of problems described as global in scale. Nor is there any sign of scientific and technological development losing its momentum: on the contrary it seems certain to accelerate even further. It is crucial therefore, that when studying the roles played by science and technology in the previous century, we take into account their future direction, and seek ideas and philosophies to guide their development in the 21st century. In light of this, the Institute of Oriental Philosophy (IOP) organized a series of five public lectures from October–December 2000 on the topic of “Buddhism and a New Century of Life.” This issue we feature the lectures given by Toyo University professor Shoji Mori (“Science and Buddhism”) and Shinichi Kogure, Professor at Soka University (“The Viewpoints of the Buddhism toward the Life Sciences”).