

Today October 17th was Dr. Shinichi Suzuki's 127th birthday.

(2025/10/17up)

It was one of those typical autumn days in Japan - the sky a boundless blue, the air alive with quiet clarity.

Some of the Teacher Trainers who look upon this year's photographs may remember: on this very same day, two years ago, we visited together to pay our respects at the grave.

As I stood before the stone, I thought I heard Dr. Suzuki's voice rising softly from within it.

"Are you keeping daily practice routine?"

I smiled, and offered *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star* and Beethoven's *Minuet* to Dr. Suzuki and Mrs. Waltraud - a small token of gratitude, carried on the autumn breeze.

Next year, the Suzuki Method will celebrate its 80th anniversary. In the desolate days following the Second World War, Dr. Suzuki founded this movement as a path toward peace - a way to ensure that the sorrow of war would never again be repeated.

Eighty years have passed since that beginning. The world has grown more intricate, more uncertain - in ways that no one of his generation could have foreseen. Yet it is within this very complexity, this confusion of our times, that we are called to inherit and fulfill Dr. Shinichi Suzuki's vision.

Standing before his resting place, I felt his message echo clearly across the decades: this is the mission he entrusted to us.

