

Dr Suzuki's Sayings.

Dr Suzuki wrote two sets of *Aphorisms*, in 1968 and in 1979, each containing 31 concise statements. They were written in calligraphy and published in Japanese as *Ichi Nichi Ichi Go* and translated as "*A Saying a Day*". A selection of these are reprinted below, plus some key phrases from his book "*Nurtured by Love*".

- All children have the potential at birth to become persons of high ability.
- Abilities are developed: they are not inborn. Let us, with perseverance, search for the best ways to develop ability.
- Where there is no effort there is no growth in a person's abilities. We must keep this "Law of Ability" at heart.
- Parents who say "This child has no ability" harm the development of so many children with this horribly mistaken idea.
- We parents should strive to deeply instil a beautiful, sensitive heart and splendid ability in children, believing that every child can develop into an adult who has these basic characteristics.
- In the hands of ignorant parents, children left without a guiding spirit develop into adults with heavy hearts.
- Thoughtful parents, for the sake of their children, seek to make their own hearts true and to illuminate the nest paths for living, which is the real way to love.
- "The ear was so poor, so he became tone deaf." No, he mastered pitch exactly according to the way he heard it and developed that precise form of tone deafness.
- Man is a son of his environment.
- If love is deep, much can be accomplished.
- Creating desire in the child is the parent's duty.
- Do not hurt anybody's heart.
- Music is the language of the heart without words.
- Self evaluation is the highest sense as a human being: the children should not only advance, but repeat and evaluate their progress.
- Don't hurry, don't rest – without stopping, without haste – carefully taking one step forward at a time will surely get you there.
- To deceive oneself is worse than to deceive others. (Tolstoy)
- With patience and repetition, the seed blossoms.
- Talent is not inherited. All the world's children could be brought up singing out of tune.
- Natural ability is brought out by training.
- Educate children rather than instruct them.
- Ten years of effort can change inferiority into superior talent.
- Develop excellence through repetition.
- Hear everything, overlook a most, correct one thing.
- Talent is no accident of birth
- If love is deep much can be accomplished
- Dawn comes to the world with children
- Talent is not inborn, it has to be created.
- Music is a language of the heart without words
- Any skill can be acquired by constant repetition
- Parent who understand children make fine teachers
- Practice is the very cornerstone of instrumental learning
- Character first, ability second

What is man's ultimate direction in life?

It is to look for love, truth, virtue and beauty.

Nurtured by Love- Shinichi Suzuki