

“The Opening of the Eyes”

February 1272 (Age 51)

Although I and my disciples may encounter various difficulties, if we do not harbor doubt in our hearts, we will as a matter of course attain Buddhahood. Do not have doubts simply because Heaven does not lend you protection. Do not be discouraged because you do not enjoy an easy and secure existence in this life. This is what I have taught my disciples morning and evening, and yet they begin to harbor doubts and abandon their faith.

Foolish men are likely to forget the promises they have made when the crucial moment comes.

(Ref. MWND 2-205 『開目抄』御書 574)

Nichiren Shoshu Myosenji

68th High Priest Nichinyo Shonin's Guidance

Despite encountering obstacles and hardships, we must revere with conviction the Dai-Gohonzon of the High Sanctuary of the Essential Teaching, the ultimate purpose of the advent of Nichiren Daishonin. As these golden words teach, if we devote ourselves to practice for oneself and others with firm and solid determination, the guardian deities will protect us. We will enjoy peace and security in this lifetime and attain the Buddha Way without fail.

What is important in our faith and practice is absolute faith in the Dai-Gohonzon—faith with no doubts.

Today, all of the priests and lay believers of Nichiren Shoshu are powerfully moving forward, aiming toward the achievement of our goals for the coming years of 2015 and 2021. Our driving force is chanting the Daimoku.

In fact, in a chapter where shakubuku is progressing, all the members participate in Shodaikai meetings in order to meet the goal. Every member of the chapter is single-mindedly striving to practice toward this end.

It is important to make strong efforts based on chanting the Daimoku in order to accomplish anything. This also is true for shakubuku. These ceaseless efforts in practice should be the foundation for strengthening the Hokkeko organization. Then, the members in each chapter must promote shakubuku, attend the Oko Ceremonies, participate in tozan pilgrimages, and so on. This is the key to achieving our goals.

I hope you will keep this in mind and further devote yourself to the practice for oneself and others. I pray that all chapters again will achieve their goals for this year, based on these efforts.

(On the occasion of Kōsen-rufu Shodai Ceremony at Head Temple – Mar. 3, 2013)