

“Opening of the Eyes”

(Kaimoku-shō)

February 1272 (Age 51)

There are two vital principles described in more than 3,000 volumes of non-Buddhist writings: filial piety to one’s parents and loyalty to the sovereign. Loyalty is based on filial piety. Filial piety is exalted. Although the heavens are high above, they are not comparable to filial piety. Filial piety is also profound. Although the earth is deep, it cannot be compared to filial piety. Two types of people called sages and wise men come from a tradition of filial piety. Furthermore, those who practice Buddhism must appreciate and repay their debts of gratitude. And most importantly, disciples of the Buddha must first realize what the four debts of gratitude are, and then repay them.

(Gosho p. 529-530 / Selected Gosho Passages p.217)

*Four debts of gratitude:

Parents, Sovereign, All living beings and The Three Treasures

Nichiren Shoshu Myosenji

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