

Reply to Kyo-o
(Kyo-o dono-gohenji)

Aug. 15, 1273 (Age 52)

The lion, the king of beasts, will take three steps forward and one step back, to prepare to spring forth, releasing the same force whether it goes after a tiny ant or strikes out at a ferocious animal. I, Nichiren, am in no way inferior to the lion king, in inscribing this Gohonzon for your protection. This is what is meant by the words of the sutra: “the power of...the lion’s ferocity.” You should believe in this mandala with the utmost sincerity. Nam-Myoho-Renge-Kyo is comparable to the roar of a lion. What illness could possibly hinder you? It is said that the Demon Goddess (Skt. Hariti; Jpn. Kishimojin) and her Ten Demon Goddess Daughters (Skt. Rakshashi; Jpn. Jurasetsunyo) will protect those who uphold the Daimoku of the Lotus Sutra.

(Gosho p. 685 / Nichiren Shoshu Monthly May 2022)
Nichiren Shoshu Myosenji

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