

“Letter to Ben-dono ama”
(“Ben dono ama gozen-gosho”)

September 19, 1273 (Age 52)

Within the sea of the sufferings of life and death, through his ten kinds of evil forces, the Devil King of the Sixth Heaven has been waging war against the votary of the Lotus Sutra, in order to maintain his power in the impure land of enlightened and unenlightened beings and to further spread his control. I, Nichiren, as the person responding to this, have been fighting back for more than twenty years by leading a large force of my own. Not once have I considered retreat. However, almost all cowards among my disciples and followers have either discarded their faith or have considered regressing in their practice. Ama-gozen, you have never regressed in your faith despite your limited literacy and timidity. You are truly admirable beyond words.

(Gosho p. 686 / Nichiren Shoshu Monthly June 2026)

Nichiren Shoshu Myosenji

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