

Buddha and Hell

[January 20, 2018 John Hughes](#)

OMONSU DONO NYOBO GOHENJI

Suppose we ask where the Buddha is, and where hell is. Some sutras state that hell is below the earth, while others state that the Pure Land of Buddhas is in the west. But the explicit truth is that both hell and Buddha exist within five feet of our bodies. It probably can be said that hell exists in one's mind when he despises his father and neglects his mother. As the seed of the lotus brings forth its root and flower, we have the Buddha in our minds.

(Background : January 5, 1281, 58 years old, at Minobu, Showa Teihon, p. 1856)

Reply to Kyo'o

Wife of Shijo Kingo

But your strong resolve alone will determine all these things. A sword is useless in the hands of a coward. The mighty sword of the Lotus Sutra (*MyoHoRenGeKyo*) must be wielded by one courageous in strong resolve. Then one will be as strong as a demon armed with an iron staff. I, Nichiren, have inscribed my life in sumi ink, so have confidence in the mandala to attain Gohonzon with your whole heart. The Buddha's will is the Lotus Sutra, but the essence (tamashii) of Nichiren is nothing other than NaMuMyoHoRenGeKyo. Miao-lo states in his commentary that the heart of this sutra is the revelation of the Buddha's original enlightenment and his immeasurable life span.