

Scholarship

From **Ananda** to **Nichiren** and all scholar monks in-between, Nichiren's writings offer a "Latter Day" elucidation of the full breadth of Shakyamuni Buddha's intent and the proper attitude for correct and effective practice. This "practice" being designed to awaken the mind from its cravings and clinging to a living experience happening in immersion of the *process of life* itself rather than creating warehouses of impermanent and false reality. Nichiren has provided us with modern tools created directly from the pages of the Lotus Teaching of the Wonderful Dharma. His writings still contain exigencies for the capacity of the people of Medieval Japan, and yet remain cogent to our 21st century issues and distractions. Nichiren locates his life and work in relation to Shakyamuni's foretelling of this age or era within which is a human capacity to inherently manifest this awakened mind directly and quickly by invocation of the Lotus method or teaching. Nichiren's brilliance was his understanding of the physical and study tools necessary for our modern minds to quickly focus and connect with our mind's portal to the Buddha experience or "eye".

My goal in this revised and annotated translation of the Lotus Sutra is a simple evolution for our time and vernacular to make more clear, abundantly clear, the ***synthesis of Nichiren's insights*** and ***elucidations in the teaching of the Lotus*** for our comprehensive and efficient understanding and practice of his doctrine, and ***Shakyamuni's intent***, for the enlightenment of all living beings.