

***Minwa-Fu Hokekyo Dowa***

**(Volume 18 of 30 Volumes)**

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# **Merits from an Obedient Mind and Faith**

**(Assemblies at Mt. Sacred Eagle, in the Sky and in the *Mappo* Era)**

## **Chapter 1**

### **The Eternal Life**

I hope you still remember what we have learned in the preceding volume, The Duration of the Life of the Tathagata. It is most important because it reveals the eternity of Sakya-muni Buddha. His life has no beginning and no end. He has been alive since the eternal past and the eternal future. His life never ceases in the future.

## A) Just Like the Teaching of the excellent Physician

Sakyamuni Buddha explained His eternal life with a parable of the excellent physician in order to make people understand it. It was the story where the father saved his poisoned sick children by having them take the incomparable wonderful medicine to recover them from the sickness. Just like the parable, Sakyamuni Buddha promised to save all living beings without exception with the wonderful medicine of the Lotus Sutra.



“How shall I cause all living beings to enter the unsurpassed way and quickly become Buddhas?” He is always praying day and night on how to bring us peace and happiness. It is just like parents who worry about their sick children, or the lord who prays for world peace and happiness for all mankind, or the master of the Dharma who leads his followers to righteousness with his compassionate words.

Therefore, the savior must be the Eternal Buddha who has the virtues of the lord, the master and the parent. Otherwise the savior cannot make us peaceful and secure in our minds. Please keep that in your minds! Why is that? It is because the historical, physical Sakyamuni appeared on this world as the manifestation of the Eternal Original Buddha! That means all people on this earth are the children of the Eternal Buddha.

It is very important to know who your parents are and who raised you! Otherwise you will make mistakes! As it has been said from long ago, “Good medicine is bitter;” it is important that your parents raise you and educate you with strict discipline, with a warm heart and with a protected mind for your sake in the future.

Please do not forget that the good and the bad that happens to you are all caused by you. You should not blame others. Without good conduct and virtue, you cannot expect to go to the Pure-Land. It is only possible by your good behavior and virtues.

## **B) The Replica Buddhas Devour the Buddha Sakyamuni Buddha**

It is only Sakyamuni Buddha who has the three virtues: the lord, the master and the parent. He is the only one Eternal Original Buddha, so all other Buddhas are His manifestations. They were sent to their Buddha Lands in the eight directions of the universe to expound the Lotus Sutra.

And now all of the replica Buddhas were called back to the sky above Mount Sacred Eagle. All of them are listening to the Eternal Original Buddha.

The past, the present and the future are all together here at once. The Eternal Buddha who is expounding the Lotus Sutra to save all living beings is the one and only Sakyamuni Buddha. The great multitude assembled at the sky above the mountain truly believe in it. The assembled multitude who are all the replica Buddhas, Bodhisattvas from the ten directions of the universe and all disciples of the Historical Sakyamuni Buddha believe in the existence of the Eternal Buddha.

Thus, it is important for us to obediently believe in the Eternal Buddha!

## **C) Without Belief We Cannot Live**

Yes, without belief we cannot learn anything about the Lotus Sutra! For instance, suppose an evil man brought some delicious food and asked us to eat it! How can we eat the food knowing that the food may contain poison? The reason we cannot eat the food is because it may contain poison, so that we cannot trust his words





On the other hand, you trust your mother, so you can eat the food she makes. If your father puts you in a pool, you trust him so you are able to float in the water. It is because you believe in your mother and father from the bottom of your heart.

If you do not believe your parents, you cannot eat food your mother makes or go into the water with your father. If you cannot trust your parents, you cannot sleep at all. If you cannot trust your parents, if you cannot trust your siblings, if you cannot trust others; you cannot live even a single day! You may not be able to drink even a cup of water because you have doubts that the water may contain poison. You may not eat meat, fish or vegetables. You may not walk on a street or you may not ride on public transportation.

I wonder what will happen to you, if you cannot trust anything! You may live in fear all day long!

## **D) To Trust Means to Respect!**

That is why the Buddha teaches us to trust each other, help each other, and respect each other to live! Among them, it is very important for us to believe in the endless life of the Eternal Buddha and his protection from the bottom of our hearts! Believe in that and the Buddha will always be with us.

This volume of the Lotus Sutra explains this in more detail.

## Chapter 2

### Various Merits of the People at the Assembly

Thereupon the innumerable living beings in the great congregation, who had heard from the Buddha that the duration of the life of the Buddha continuing endlessly as previously stated, were so excited and joyful and obtained great benefits.

When the Buddha said that the duration of His life was eternal, six hundred and eighty billion *nayuta* living beings, that is, as many living beings as particles of sand in the River Ganges, purified their six senses of the eyes, the ears, the nose, the mouth, the body, and the mind. Then they obtained the truth of birth-less (the eternal life). They were also able to be very patient, accept any hardships, overcome any hardships and have strong determination to accept all things are parts of the happenings in the universe.



Bodhisattvas as many as ten times the number of sand particles of the River Ganges obtained the *dharanis* (magic spells) by which they could memorize all that they had heard. They all obtained eloquence without hindrance.

Even though you heard a very important message, if you forget it or throw it away because it is too hard for you, you will not get any benefits.

## A) Merits by Your Own Practices and the Merits by Practices for Others

Sakyamuni Buddha taught these three merits of obtaining purification of their six senses, obtaining the truth of birth-less and obtaining the *dharanis* (magic spells) by which they could memorize all that they had heard. These are the merits for a Bodhisattva himself but not for the sake of others.



The Buddha now taught the merits for others: The Bodhisattvas obtained the faculty of turning the irrevocable wheel of the Dharma. The merit they can expound the Dharma for others eloquently and make any other people listen joyfully. Bodhisattvas obtained the faculty of *dharani* spells for others to be spread to all corners of the world to save suffering people.

The Bodhisattvas, numbering as many particles that make up the earth, obtained the faculty of expounding the Dharma with firm faith even though they were persecuted and other Bodhisattvas obtained pure and strong faith like a white lotus flower and obtained the ability to expound the merit of the pure Dharma.

## **B) Spiritual Merit of Birth and Death**

Other Bodhisattvas, numbering as many particles that make up the earth of the four continents, obtained the faculty of attaining Buddha-hood after eight rebirths. The Buddha revealed that many other Bodhisattvas obtained the faculty of attaining Buddha-hood after seven, six, five, four, three or two rebirths, or immediately after this life depending on each individual's good roots.

At the end, Sakyamuni Buddha looked around the great multitude in the sky above Mt. Sacred Eagle and was relieved. Why is that? It was because the congregation was able to understand the real meanings of what He said. The real meaning of rebirth eight, six, four or two times does not mean to be born again physically, but it means to be refreshed spiritually. All people in the congregation understood that.

It is very important for you to be obedient and have faith in the Lotus Sutra. When you feel sad or face hardship or have suffering, you should take the wonderful medicine of the sutra and shine your mind, then you will be reborn spiritually. When you have a gentle mind and strong determination, you will be able to live peacefully and happy so that you will behave as a human being and will attain Buddha-hood as a Buddha's child. In other words, you just have pride as a Buddha's child and behave responsibly as His child. Then you will attain Buddha-hood for sure.

## **C) How to Behave as a Buddha's Child Is the Teachings of the Buddha**

Nichiren Dai'Shonin says, "The major reason why Sakyamuni Buddha appeared is to teach us how to behave daily!" He teaches us that even though someone gives a great speech or lives in a huge estate, if he does not behave righteously, he should be very shameful as a Buddha's child. That is the main reason Sakyamuni Buddha was born on this earth, cast away his status, led a homeless life of a monk and attained Buddha-hood to show us that we are also able to become a Buddha.

If you have real pride and responsibility as a child of the Buddha, you can give tender care to the animals, the plants, the grasses, and the insects. You will speak gently to old people or handicapped people. Then the Buddha will be glad to see you.



## Chapter 3

# The Worlds of the Ten Directions of the Universe Are Joyful

Having heard from Buddha Sakyamuni about His Eternal Life, the innumerable number of the assembly were filled with joy and inspiration that was hard to explain with words.



The gods rained down beautiful lotus-flower-petals from heaven upon the two Buddhas in the great stupa and upon the Bodhisattvas from the ten directions and upon the heads of the congregation.

Heavenly drums automatically sounded wonderful music in the sky. The solemn sound echoes through the assembly. It made the congregation purified in their minds.

The gods burned priceless incense which was put in wonderful incense burners made of many treasures. The scent automatically went around and was offered to the world-honored ones. The powder of the incense came down fluttering just as birds fly down from the sky. Thousands of billions of heavenly garments whirled down like rain. Billions of lofty and beautiful canopies and streamers made of seven treasures decorated and surrounded the assembly.

## **A) The People in the Assembly, too**

Looking at these phenomena with joyful emotion, the great Bodhisattvas in the assembly also burned the best incense that they had in their own incense burners decorated with seven treasures and offered the scent to the Buddhas. The smell of the incense drifted in the sky.

The Bodhisattvas who accompanied the replica Buddhas from their assigned Buddha-Lands of the ten directions of the universe held canopies to their master Buddhas lined up vertically one upon another and went up to the Heaven of Brahman. The

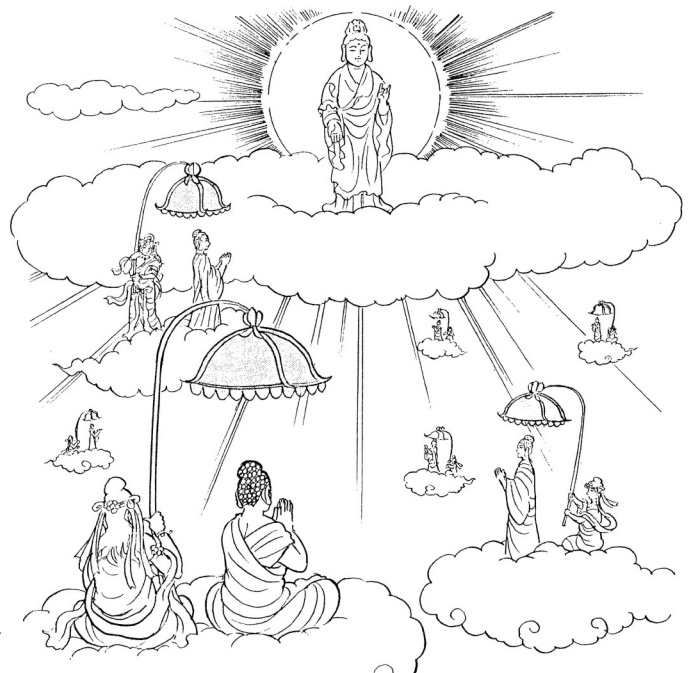
Heaven of Brahman was the god who requested Sakyamuni to expound the Lotus Sutra to save all living beings in Volume Three, "Everyone Is a Buddha." He is the most powerful god to protect the Buddha Dharma.

## B) The Replica Buddhas and Other Gods

It is very important to know that the significance of the replica Buddhas who accompanied their Bodhisattvas and went up to the Heaven of Brahman means that all gods and other Buddhas on this Saha-world will protect the Lotus Sutra and the people who practice the sutra. They showed their power of protection by going up to the Heaven of Brahman. All gods have their own appearances in their original Buddha-Land.

Therefore, Japanese gods such as Tensho Daijin and the great Bodhisattva Hachiman were also among the assembly in the sky. They vowed to protect the Lotus Sutra and the people who practice the sutra together with these replica Buddhas and heavenly beings. All of them feel it is their mission to do so.

Such matters were proved by Nichiren Dai'Shonin throughout his life. Those deities, replica Buddhas, Bodhisattvas and Buddha's disciples were really lucky to be able to witness these impressive phenomena.





## Chapter 4

### The Four Faiths in the Present

I think that they were really lucky but we are lucky too. Because Sakyamuni Buddha has three virtues: The lord, the master and the parent. The Buddha revealed the Four Faiths for the people in His Time and the Five Stages for the people after His extinction. Sakyamuni Buddha explains about the virtues in detail for us who did not attend the assembly in the sky.

#### A) Bared the Right Shoulder and Joined the Palms together

Maitreya Bodhisattva, seeing the replica Buddhas and their accompanied Bodhisattvas going up to the Heaven of Brahman and vowing to protect the Buddha Dharma, rose from his seat, bared his right shoulder, joined his palms together toward Sakyamuni Buddha, and sang in *gathas* to express his gratitude:



“You expounded a rare teaching.  
I have never heard it before.  
You have great powers.  
The duration of Your life is immeasurable.  
The innumerable sons of Yours  
Were filled with joy.  
Your fame is extended over the worlds of the ten quarters.  
You benefit all living beings in these worlds.  
The roots of good which they have planted  
Will help them aspire for unsurpassed enlightenment.”

Thus, Maitreya Bodhisattva expressed honestly his joyfulness.

## **B) Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow**

Now Sakyamuni Buddha talks about “The Four Faiths in the Present and the Five Stages in the Future.” We must realize the time of “Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.” Time never stops. It continues yesterday, today and tomorrow. Because there is day and night and because we sleep at night, we say, “Yesterday, today and tomorrow.” There was yesterday, so there is today, so there is tomorrow.

The time when Sakyamuni Buddha was alive and the time after His death are the same continuation of time. We must realize it; otherwise, you may fail to understand what the Buddha tried to explain.

## C) The Merit of Understanding by Faith in a Single Moment's Thought

Thereupon the Buddha said to Maitreya Bodhisattva:

“Anyone who hears that My life is so long, and understand it obediently by faith even at a moment's thought, will be able to obtain innumerable merits.” He emphasized to be obedient!

“The first merit of (1) understanding by faith in a single moment's thought” means that it is greater than any other long practices. The Buddha continued: “Suppose good men or women practiced the Five *Paramitas* such as making offerings, keeping precepts, continuing to be patient, endeavoring and meditating for many years. These merits of the good men or women are far less than one hundredth or one thousandth of the merit of the person who understands My longevity by faith even at a moment's thought.”

## D) A Vain Person Has No Faith

Nichiren Dai'Shonin disliked an arrogant person who disrespected his master whom he had learned the Buddha Dharma like “Worldly Scholars.” On the other hand, the Buddha will place His hand on a person's head who trusts the Buddha and other people with clear and pure hearts.



## E) Understanding with Faith rather than the *Paramitas*

Sakyamuni Buddha repeated this matter again in *gathas*:

“Suppose someone practiced  
The five *paramitas*  
For eighty billion *nayuta kalpas*  
In order to attain the wisdom of the Buddha.

Throughout these kalpas he offered  
Wonderful food and drink,  
Excellent garments and bedding,

And monasteries made of *candana*,  
And adorned with gardens and forests  
To the Buddhas, to the *Pratyeka-buddhas*,  
To the *Sravakas*, and to the Bodhisattvas.

He was patient, gentle,  
And friendly with others.  
Even when many evils made him trouble,  
His mind was not moved by his emotion.

He endured all insults and disturbances  
Inflicted upon him by arrogant people who thought  
That they had already obtained the Dharma.

He lived in a retired place  
For innumerable kalpas.  
He sat or walked to avoid drowsiness  
And to concentrate his mind.

By doing so, he was able to practice  
Many *dyana*-concentrations.  
His mind was peaceful, not distracted  
For eighty billion kalpas.

The good men or women who believe My longevity,  
Of which I told you,  
Even at a moment's thought  
Will be able to obtain more merit than he.

Those who firmly believe My longevity,  
And have no doubts about it

Even for a moment,  
Will be able to obtain more merits than he.

They will receive this sutra on their heads and wish:  
‘May we live long and save all living beings  
Just as the World-Honored One of today,  
Who is the King of the Sakyas, save them?  
By expounding the Dharma without fear  
At the place of enlightenment  
With a voice like a lion’s roar!  
When we sit at the place of enlightenment,  
Respected by all living beings,  
May we preach that we also shall live  
As long as Sakyamuni Buddha!’”

Thus, the Buddha reveals how important it is to have Understanding by Faith in  
a Single Moment’s Thought.

## F) Reality of All Things

The Buddhas are always watching all living beings on this earth with deep compassion day and night. It is just like the sun that disappears in the night while the moon disappears in the day. They seem to have disappeared, but they are up there even though clouds cover the sun and the moon. This is called the Reality of All Things.

It is very important to believe that the life of the Eternal Buddha is forever and the

compassion of the Buddha always pours on us. If you have no faith like this, you are just an arrogant person even if you have studied and have a lot of knowledge. If you have an obedient mind, your knowledge and wisdom will benefit others and purify the society.



## **G) Understanding the Meaning and Disseminating it to Others**

At this time Sakyamuni Buddha explained the second and third merit of (2) understanding the meaning of the sutra and (3) expounding the Dharma to others.

“Furthermore, Ajita! Those who hear of My longevity I told you, and understand in general even if you do not understand word by word will be able to obtain innumerable merits. Needless to say, those who hear this sutra, cause others to keep it, copy it, cause others to copy it, or offer flowers or incense will be able to obtain immeasurable merits.”

Thus, the Buddha explained the immeasurable merits by understanding the meaning of the sutra and disseminating the sutra to others. Both understanding the meaning and preaching it to others are not possible without the next merit of (4) entering into firm faith. When you have deep faith in the Buddha’s longevity revealed in the Lotus Sutra, you will have immeasurable merits for sure.

## **H) What Is the Merit of Entering into Firm Faith?**

Sakyamuni Buddha told to Ajita (Maitreya Bodhisattva):

“The good men or women who hear of My longevity and understand it by firm faith, will be able to see that I am expounding the Lotus Sutra at Mt. Sacred Eagle, surrounded by great Bodhisattvas and Sravakas. They also will be able to see that the ground of this Saha-World is made of lapis lazuli, divided by the eight roads (Right





Thus, the Buddha explained about Firm Faith.

## I) Truth Is in a Faithful Mind

The Pure-Land divided by the eight roads is not the physical place that you can see, but it is a spiritual place in your mind. Nichiren Dai'Shonin said that the physical world is explained with spoken words and written words, but the spiritual world is different; therefore, it is important for us to sense something in your minds and learn the teachings. The impressed feeling in our minds is hard to explain with spoken words or with written words.

View, Right Thought, Right Speech, Right Behavior, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness, and Right concentration) marked off by ropes of gold and that the jeweled trees are standing in lines, and that the magnificent buildings are made of treasures. They will become like Me with joy and peace because they understood My longevity by firm faith."

Therefore, the Lotus Sutra is the teachings spurted out by only one of the thousands of Sakyamuni Buddha's profound and compassionate feelings at the time of enlightenment. The Lotus Sutra is His enlightened thought and senses but also his logic. Nichiren Dai'Shonin discovered the doctrine mysteriously buried in the words of the Duration of the Life of the Tathagata and showed it to us. He is considered the rebirth of Superior-Practice Bodhisattva who came out of the ground. Therefore, you must have firm faith in it, but you must continue to study.

The children trust his or her parents while the parents trust their children. The disciples respect their masters while the masters give compassion and lead his disciples.

I wish all human beings would trust each other and countries honor other countries, so all the people on this Saha-World help each other as the Buddha's children practicing the Eight-fold Path and walk through the golden eight roads leading to the Buddha-Land hand in hand.

## **J) All Human beings are brothers and sisters.**

When it becomes reality, there will be no more war on this earth. There is no difference between the advanced countries and under-developed countries. This earth is the Buddha-land and the people are all Buddha's children, so they are all one family.

Although we are different in skin color, have different hair color and speak different languages, all of us have two eyes and one nose and a mouth. Even if we cannot un-

derstand the different languages, everyone laughs when they are happy, and cries when they are sad. It is easier to be friends. We are all the same human being.

The earth floats in the universe. It is a beautiful planet. There is no divider between the big nations and smaller nations. Let us take care of our home-land, the earth!



# Chapter Five

## The Five Stages after Buddha's Extinction

Finally, Sakyamuni Buddha began to talk about the Five Stages after His death for us in the *Mappo* Era.

### A) The First Stage, Rejoicing on Hearing the Sutra

“Furthermore, the good men or women who rejoice at hearing the Lotus Sutra after My extinction, should be considered to have their souls met with Me, listened to Me, and had firm faith. It is needless to say those of you who not only rejoice with tears at hearing this sutra but also read, recite and keep it even if they were persecuted. They also should be considered to have the merit of the same soul with the Tathagata.”

“Ajita! They need not build a stupa or a monastery in My honor, or make the four kinds of offerings to the Sangha because they keep, read and recite the Lotus Sutra. They should be considered to have already built a stupa or a monastery or made offerings to the Sangha because their existence itself has the same value as building a stupa or a monastery or making offerings to the Sangha.”

Thus, the Buddha explained the merit of rejoicing on hearing the Lotus Sutra.

## B) The Second Stage, Reading and the Third Stage, Preaching the Sutra

“Ajita! After My extinction, anyone who not only keeps the sutra at the risk of one’s life, but also copies respectfully one character after another as if each word is a Buddha or causes others to copy it, should be considered to have already built many buildings of monasteries. Each of them will be installed with thirty-two beautiful halls made of red candana (incense wood with good fragrance), spacious enough to accommodate countless number of monks living, reading and reciting the sutra, meditating, or soaking in the water for purification. He also should be considered to have already furnished those monasteries with gardens, forests, pools for bathing, and filled with clothing, food, drink, bedding, medicine, and offered to Me and to the Sangha in My presence.”



“In the Mappo Era, anyone who expound the sutra filled with the Buddha’s compassion to others should be considered to be more important than building stupas and monasteries decorated with seven treasures.” So the Buddha told us to have strong determination to teach as many others as you can and save them from sufferings with the wonderful medicine. It is the real practice of the Way of Bodhisattvas.”

The Buddha said anyone who rejoiced to hear the Lotus Sutra, to keep it, to read or recite it, and to teach it to others even a single phrase or a sentence after His extinction will be considered to have the same soul with the people who had rejoiced one moment’s thought by hearing the sutra, understood the meaning of it, and expounded it to others during the era of the Buddha’s existence.

## **C) Our Souls Were Chosen**

The Buddha says that we were not born as sinful people but we were born at the house with our own wish! All human beings appeared on this earth with a task while we are alive on this planet. So please think about what you must do. Face the Buddha and ask continuously, “What shall I do?” When you continue the practice, you will understand the way you should do it someday.

Even if you are a handicapped person, you are the chosen soul. One’s appearance is just temporary but your soul is the real existence!



## D) The Fourth Stage of Practicing the Six Paramitas\*

Sakyamuni Buddha revealed the Six *Paramitas*, the Way of the Bodhisattvas.

*The Six Paramitas\* means to reach the other shore. They are considered to be the fundamental practices of Mahayana Buddhism. They are the Way of Bodhisattva Practice. These are the six methods for attaining the goal of Buddhahood. The six practices are the following ① to ⑥*

“Needless to say, anyone who not only keeps, reads, recites, memorizes, and teaches this sutra after My extinction but also ①gives alms, ②observes the Buddhist precepts, ③practices patience to keep the Buddha Dharma, ④make endeavors day and night, ⑤concentrates his mind in the Dharma, and ⑥seeks Buddha-wisdom, will be able to obtain the most excellent and innumerable merits. His merits will be as limitless as the sky in the east, west, south, north, the four intermediated quarters, the zenith, and the nadir. These innumerable merits of his will help him obtain the knowledge of the equality and differences of all things.”

For the last stage of practicing after the extinction of the Buddha, Sakyamuni Buddha revealed mastering the Six *Paramitas*. Anyone who follows these practices is a real person who has a very strong determination and felt his appointed task as the practitioner of the Lotus Sutra. He practices as the sutra reveals, overcomes all sorts of hardships, has no attachments to worldly matters and expounds the Lotus Sutra to save all living beings. The Buddha explained the merit of this practice next. Such a person lives and sleeps together with the Buddha. That will be revealed next:



## E) The Fifth Stage of Mastering the Six *Paramitas*

At this final stage, one upholds the Lotus Sutra, plumbs its deep meaning, explains it to others, practices the Six *Paramitas*, and begins to realize them naturally in daily life.

“Anyone who reads the Lotus Sutra, memorizes, let others listen to his chanting, causes others to shine their minds with the teachings of the sutra, copies it and cause others to copy it will be able to obtain innumerable merits. Anyone who build stupas, temples and monasteries with the help of others, educates his disciples and honors his master Bodhisattva will be able to obtain innumerable merits. Anyone who knows the causes of other people’s sufferings and tells them gently to keep precepts and keep their minds pure, and practices the Six *Paramitas* together will be able to obtain innumerable merits. Anyone who is very patient in trouble and hardship, has a strong mind, never gets angry, sits in a quiet place and repents his conduct daily, and who expound the Lotus Sutra according to the capacities of the questioners will be able to obtain innumerable merits.”

“You should think ‘Such a person will go to the place of enlightenment before long. He will be free from suffering and free from causality. Ajita! Erect a stupa in the place where he expounded even a *gatha* of this sutra while he was standing, walking, sitting

or reclining! Adorn the stupa beautifully and make various offerings to it! He is my son.  
I will accept his place as Mine. I will be there. I will walk, sit or recline there.”

Thus, Sakyamuni Buddha explained that the person who is in the stage of mastering  
the Six *Paramitas* is the number one Buddha’s son!



## F) The Place of the One Night Stay and One Meal Is His Pure-Land

The Buddha said to erect a stupa where the Buddha's son who strives for mastering the Six *Paramitas*, reads the Lotus Sutra, copies it, and expounds it, even for a moment. Thus, the Buddha clearly gave us a task for the way of the practitioners of the sutra in the *Mappo* Era.

Nichiren Dai'Shonin acted just as the sutra teaches and educated his disciples, explained its teachings for the people in the Kamakura Era. It was just as a mother gives her breast to her baby, so he gave the wonderful medicine called O'DAIMOKU to the people at the street corners of Kamakura



City. Although he was ambushed, exiled, almost executed and his hut was lit on fire; many temples were built at the places where he stayed, slept, had a meal and chanted the O'Daimoku, "Namu Myo-ho Ren-ge Kyo!"

It was Nichiren Dai'Shonin who proved the real teaching of Sakyamuni Buddha had intended to expound. He proved each word of the sutra is a Buddha!

## G) Faith at the risk of His Life

Nichiren's trust in the Lotus Sutra is real faith. He sacrificed his life to prove the sutra is correct, and he returned the favor received from Sakyamuni Buddha.

At first, he wondered how to explain the real enlightenment of the Buddha. He studied hard! We, as Nichiren's disciples, must study hard and teach others how to cause them to soak the Buddha-Dharma deeply into their minds.

## H) No Merit for the Arrogant

If there is a person who behaves greater than the Buddha or Nichiren Dai'Shonin, it will be the heaviest sin of slander. He will be rewarded with a very dreadful punishment. Even if he is a scholar, if he slanders the Lotus Sutra, he will not receive any merits and get into trouble.



Have faith obediently!

If you have no faith in the sutra, it is the same as an ignorant person!

The Four Faiths in the Buddha's Era and the Five Stages of practicing after the Buddha's death,

It is important to rejoice to hear the sutra.

Have joyfulness to hear the duration of the eternal life of the Buddha!

Have obedient faith in the teachings of the Lotus Sutra!

Then you will receive all kinds of merit as the Buddha's children!