

401. An Offering of Rice

I HAVE received the hamper containing one *to* and six *shō* of polished rice. My supply was just about running out and so I was truly delighted. I will have more to say to you when we meet next.

Written on receipt of the above

Nichiren

To Toki

Background

Nichiren Daishonin wrote this letter in 1270 at Kamakura to Toki Jōnin. He thanks Toki for the polished rice he

had sent as an offering, just when the Daishonin's supply had nearly run out.



402. Reply to Hyōe no Sakan

I HAVE received the five thousand coins that you so kindly sent. I chanted Nam-myoho-rence-kyo once to report this.

The eighteenth day of the sixth month

Reply to Hyōe no Sakan

With my deep respect,
Nichiren

Background

Nichiren Daishonin wrote this letter at Minobu on the eighteenth day of the sixth month of 1281 (another view suggests 1277) to express his thanks to

Hyōe no Sakan, or Ikegami Munenaga, the younger of the two Ikegami brothers, who had sent him an offering of five thousand coins.



403. On the One Great Matter

ASSERT it clearly and decisively! The one great matter regarding this person, Nichiren.

The thirteenth day of the fifth month

Respectfully,
Nichiren

Background

This fragment is too brief to surmise much about its background. Because Nichiren Daishonin refers to his essen-

tial teaching as “the one great matter” in other writings, this letter may also have mentioned this teaching.