

Diagram of the Nichikan-Transcribed Gohonzon

The following is the key to the accompanying diagram. The key gives the phoneticized original and English translation of characters on the Gohonzon transcribed by Nichikan.

- 1) *Nam-myoho-renge-kyo*
- 2) *Nichiren*
- 3) *Zai gohan* – Here is Nichiren Daishonin’s personal seal.
- 4) *Dai Bishamon-tenno* – Great Heavenly King Vaishravana (Skt), also called Tamon-ten (Hearer of Many Teachings).
- 5) *U kuyo sha fuku ka jugo* – Those who make offerings will gain good fortune surpassing the ten honorable titles [of the Buddha]. Note: In Buddhism, *make offerings* has a broad meaning; here it means to respect and praise.
- 6) *Namu Anryugyo Bosatsu* – Bodhisattva Firmly Established Practices (Skt Supratishthitaritra). Note: The word *namu* is added to some names in the Gohonzon as a sign of great respect.
- 7) *Namu Jyogyo Bosatsu* – Bodhisattva Pure Practices (Skt Vishuddhacharitra).
- 8) *Namu Shakamuni-butsu* – Shakyamuni Buddha.
- 9) *Namu Taho Nyorai* – Many Treasures Thus Come One (Skt Prabhutaratna Tathagata).
- 10) *Namu Jogyo Bosatsu* – Bodhisattva Superior Practices (Skt Vishishtacharitra).
- 11) *Namu Muhengyo Bosatsu* – Bodhisattva Boundless Practices (Skt Anantacharitra).
- 12) *Nyaku noran sha zu ha shichibun* – Those who vex and trouble [the practitioners of the Law] will have their heads split into seven pieces.
- 13) *Dai Jikoku-tenno* – Great Heavenly King Upholder of the Nation (Skt Dhritarashtra).
- 14) *Aizen-myo’o* – Wisdom King Craving-Filled (Skt Ragaraja). Note: The name is written in Siddham, a medieval Sanskrit orthography.
- 15) *Dai Myojo-tenno* – Great Heavenly King Stars, or the god of the stars.
- 16) *Dai Gattenno* – Great Heavenly King Moon, or the god of the moon.
- 17) *Taishaku-tenno* – Heavenly King Shakra (also known as Heavenly King Indra).
- 18) *Dai Bontenno* – Great Heavenly King Brahma.
- 19) *Dai Rokuten no Mao* – Devil King of the Sixth Heaven.
- 20) *Dai Nittenno* – Great Heavenly King Sun, or the god of the sun.
- 21) *Fudo-myo’o* – Wisdom King Immovable (Skt Achala). Note: The name is written in Siddham, a medieval Sanskrit orthography.
- 22) *Hachi Dairyuo* – Eight Great Dragon Kings.
- 23) *Dengyo Daishi* – Great Teacher Dengyo.
- 24) *Jurasetsumyo* – Ten Demon Daughters (Skt Rakshasi).
- 25) *Kishimojin* – Mother of Demon Children (Skt Hariti).
- 26) *Tendai Daishi* – Great Teacher T’ien-t’ ai.
- 27) *Dai Zojo-tenno* – Great Heavenly King Increase and Growth (Skt Virudhaka).
- 28) *Hachiman Dai Bosatsu* – Great Bodhisattva Hachiman.
- 29) *Kore o shosha shi tatematsuru* – I respectfully transcribed this.
- 30) *Nichikan, personal seal* – Signature of the high priest who transcribed this Gohonzon, in this case, Nichikan, consisting of his name and personal handwritten seal.
- 31) *Tensho-daijin* – Sun Goddess.
- 32) *Butsumetsugo ni-sen ni-hyaku san-ju yo nen no aida ichienbudai no uchi mizou no*

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dai-mandara nari – Never in 2,230-some years since the passing of the Buddha has this great mandala appeared in the world.

33) *Dai Komoku-tenno* – Great Heavenly King Wide-Eyed (Skt Virupaksha).

34) *Kyoho go-nen roku-gatsu jusan-nichi* – The 13th day of the sixth month in the fifth year of Kyoho [1720], cyclical sign *kanoe-ne*.

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