

**KYOTO PRIEST SECEDES FROM NICHIREN SHOSHU**  
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Another priest seceded from Nichiren Shoshu on Sept. 4. Rando Shuho, chief priest of Kenmyo-ji temple in Kyoto, says in his notice to High Priest Nikken Abe, “The critical situation that Nichiren Shoshu finds itself in today is solely due to your distorted faith.”

He adds: “There is no denying the fact that, in excommunicating the Soka Gakkai—an act that hardly seems Buddhist—you have committed one of the five cardinal sins in Buddhism: disrupting the unity of Buddhist practitioners.”

Mr. Shusho further resolves: “It is my duty to point out your grave sins as high priest, so that I can atone for the sins I have committed as your disciple. I thus demand that you resign from the position of high priest immediately.”

In 1972, Mr. Shuho, then a teenager, joined the priesthood. Early in his career, he was assigned to Heian-ji temple in Kyoto, where the chief priest was Nikken Abe, future high priest.

Two Nichiren Shoshu priests have seceded this year: Mr. Shuho and Endo Ishida, who left the Overseas Bureau of Nichiren Shoshu in July.