

For Women: Creating Indestructible Fortune
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Nichiren Daishonin once wrote to Nanjo Tokimitsu, "Just as flowers open up and bear fruit, just as the moon appears and invariably grows full, just as a lamp becomes brighter when oil is added, and just as plants and trees flourish with rain, so will human beings never fail to prosper when they make good causes" (*The Major Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, vol. 7, p. 191).

Once again this year, we have an opportunity to make good causes by supporting the kosen-rufu movement in America through financial contributions.

In volume 4 of *The New Human Revolution*, Mr. Ikeda explains how in 1961 he went through an intense inner struggle over whether to expand the number of financially contributing members. To build new temples and community centers, more donations were required, but President Ikeda was of two minds over what to do.

On the one hand, he did not want to burden the members. On the other hand, he wanted them to have the opportunity to contribute and receive benefit from doing so. Through studying the Goshō, he realized that by supporting kosen-rufu activities, members could create indestructible fortune.

Indeed, innumerable members have gained great fortune through their causes for kosen-rufu, including monetary donations. An experience of a Korean woman encouraged me recently. When she first came to America, she worked as a masseuse. The work was not steady, so she prayed to the Gohonzon for a better job and determined to change her financial karma. She found encouragement from her favorite Goshō, "Winter Never Fails To Turn to Spring." Based on her consistent practice to the Gohonzon and after making special efforts to increase her daimoku, she was offered a job as a sample patternmaker.

Three years later, however, she still had not received a raise. With a refreshed attitude, abundant prayer and unconditional trust in the Gohonzon, she decided to challenge herself and joyfully increased her financial contribution. A year later, her hard work and dedication were rewarded with a substantial raise, significantly more than that received by other staff. This experience reinforced her confidence in the Gohonzon.

Naturally, our attitude in making financial offerings is crucial. We make them out of appreciation and not simply so we'll gain conspicuous benefit. Moreover, the benefit we do gain from joyful, spontaneous offerings is immeasurable and manifests in various ways, not always monetarily.

The Goshō refers to the Shinjikan Sutra, which states: "If you want to understand the causes that existed in the past, look at the results as they are manifested in the present. And if you want to understand what results will be manifested in the future, look at the causes that exist in the present" (MW-2 [2nd ed.], 172).

Let's create indestructible fortune for the future through our offerings for world peace.

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