



KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM

Vol. 157

850th Anniversary Special Exhibition
Shinran
The Life and Legacy of the Founder
of Shin Buddhism

Feature Exhibition
New Acquisitions



NEWSLETTER

APRIL TO JUNE 2023

850th Anniversary Special Exhibition
Shinran
 The Life and Legacy of the Founder of Shin Buddhism
 March 25–May 21, 2023, Heisei Chishinkan Wing

2023 marks the 850th anniversary of the birth of the priest Shinran (1173–1262), founder of the Shin (Jōdo Shinshū) school of Japanese Pure Land Buddhism. Shinran's dramatic life story has long captured the imaginations of people in and outside of Japan. Born in Kyoto, Shinran first trained at the nearby Buddhist center of Mt. Hiei and studied under the Pure Land master Hōnen (1133–1212) before being exiled to Echigo province in current Niigata prefecture. He thereafter traveled to the Kanto region before eventually returning to Kyoto, where he died at the age of ninety. This exhibition tells the story of Shinran's remarkable life and teachings through objects preserved for centuries in temples belonging to the various branches of Shin Buddhism. It features a wide range of works, including Shinran's writings, self-inscribed icons in praise of the buddha Amida's name (*myōgō*), portraits, and illustrated handscrolls. The ancient capital of Kyoto, where Shinran began and ended his long and storied life, is a fitting venue for this tribute to the legacy of one of the most influential figures in the history of Japanese Buddhism.

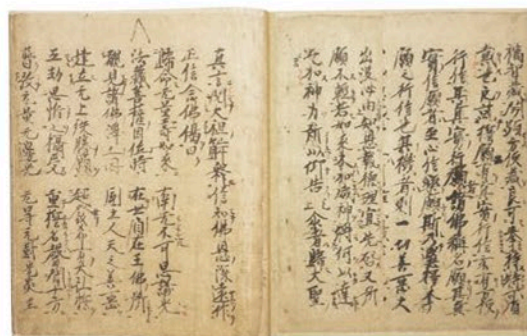
(By Uesugi Tomofusa, Associate Curator of Buddhist Manuscripts; translation by Daniel Borengasser)



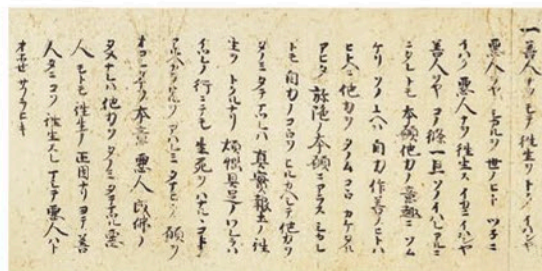
National Treasure
Portrait of Master Shinran, Known as Anjō no goei ("Anjō Portrait"), (Reproduction of 1255 Version), detail
 Hymns and inscriptions on reverse by Rennyo (1415–1499)
 Hanging scroll; ink and colors on silk
 Nishi Hongwan-ji Temple, Kyoto, on view March 25–April 2, 2023



Important Cultural Property
Illustrated Biography of the Master of Hongan-ji Temple (Shinran) (J: Honganji Shōinden), Kōei Version, Volume I-1, detail
 Inscribed by Kakunyo (1270–1351), illustrated by Kōrajuji Enjaku (n.d.)
 Handscroll; ink and colors on paper
 Higashi Hongan-ji Temple, Kyoto, on view May 5–21, 2023



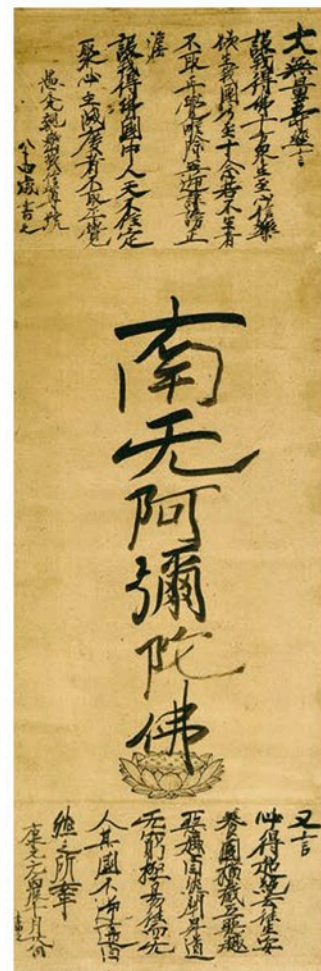
National Treasure
On Teaching, Practice, Faith, and Realization (J: Kyōgyōshinshō), Bandō Version
 By Shinran (1173–1262)
 Book; ink on paper
 Higashi Hongan-ji Temple, Kyoto



Important Cultural Property
Lamentations on Divergence (J: Tannishō), Volume I, detail
 By Rennyo (1415–1499)
 Handscroll; ink on paper
 Nishi Hongwan-ji Temple, Kyoto, on view May 2–21, 2023



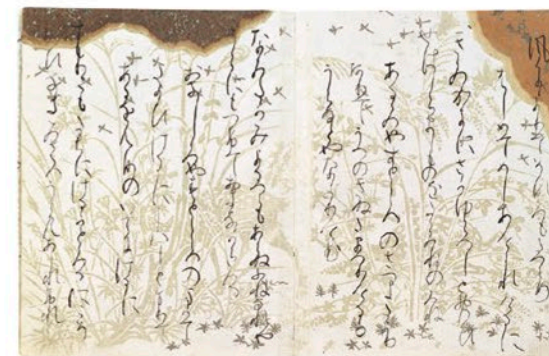
Seated Portrait of Master Shinran
 Wood with lacquer and gold foil
 Senju-ji Temple, Mie
 On view March 25–April 16, 2023



Six-Character Myōgō (Sacred Name of Amitābha Buddha)
 By Shinran (1173–1262)
 Hanging scroll; ink on paper
 Nishi Hongwan-ji Temple, Kyoto, on view May 2–14, 2023



Cherry Blossoms, from Cherry Blossoms; Pine and Wisteria
 By Mochizuki Gyokusen (1834–1913)
 Standing screen; ink, colors, and gold foil on paper
 Higashi Hongan-ji Temple, Kyoto



National Treasure
Anthology of Thirty-Six Poets (J: Sanjūrokunin kashū) Poems by Mibu no Tadami (Tadami shū)
 Book; ink on decorative paper
 Nishi Hongwan-ji Temple, Kyoto, this section on view May 2–21, 2023

Feature Exhibition
New Acquisitions

June 13–July 17, 2023, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-2–5

The Kyoto National Museum regularly purchases artworks and other cultural properties for the purposes of exhibition and research. The museum also receives donations of valuable works from private individuals and entities. This year's exhibition of new acquisitions will feature a diverse range of approximately forty works acquired during the 2021 and 2022 fiscal years, providing a special glimpse into how the museum's collections are expanding.

(By Ishida Yukiko, Chair of the Department of Archaeology; translation by Melissa M. Rinne)



Four-Sided Tea Container
 By Nonomura Ninsei (n.d.)
 Kyoto ware; stoneware with brown glaze
 Kyoto National Museum



Important Art Object
True Views of Sumiyoshi, Vol. 1, detail
 By Okada Hankō (1782–1846)
 Handscroll; ink and colors on paper
 Kyoto National Museum

Museum Collection Exhibitions in The Collection Galleries

3F-1 Ceramics

Feature Exhibition

Tea Bowls for Chanoyu

June 20–September 10, 2023

(Closed June 13–18, 2023)

Important Cultural Property
Tea Bowl with Narcissus Decoration
By Nonomura Ninsei (n.d.)
Kyoto (Ko-Kiyomizu) ware; stoneware
with underglaze iron
Tennei-ji Temple, Kyoto



3F-2 Archaeological Relics

Earthenware Vessels and *Dogū* Figures of the Jōmon Period

June 20–September 10, 2023

(Closed June 13–18, 2023)

2F-1 Illustrated Handscrolls

Hakubyō: Monochrome Ink Handscroll Paintings of the Fifteenth Century

June 13–July 17, 2023

2F-2–5

Feature Exhibition

New Acquisitions

June 13–July 17, 2023

1F-1 Sculpture

Japanese Sculpture

Deities of Buddhist Hell: Jizō and King Enma

June 13–September 18, 2023

1F-3 Calligraphy

The Elegance of *Kana* and Early Japanese-Style Calligraphy

June 13–July 30, 2023

1F-4 Textiles and Costumes

Precious Imported Textiles: Buddhist Robes (*Kesa*) and Celebrated Fabrics (*Meibutsu gire*) for Chanoyu

June 13–July 30, 2023

1F-5 Metalwork

Adorning the Buddha: Exquisite Objects and Implements of Buddhist Ritual

June 13–July 30, 2023

1F-6 Lacquerware

Hidden Treasures from a Merchant's Storehouse III: Lacquerware for the Tearoom

June 13–July 30, 2023

*The Gallery 1F-2 will be closed June 13–August 6, 2023.

Upcoming Exhibition

Feature Exhibition

China and Japan: Masterworks of Calligraphy

August 8–September 18, 2023, Heisei Chishinkan Wing,
Galleries 1F-2–3

Cover: *Illustrated Biography of the Master of Hongan-ji Temple (Shinran) (J: Honganji Shōnin denne), Kōei Version, Volume I-1*, detail. Inscribed by Kakunyo, illustrated by Kōrakuji Enjaku. Higashi Hongan-ji Temple, Kyoto. Important Cultural Property, on view May 5–21, 2023. *Seated Portrait of Master Shinran*. Senju-ji Temple, Mie, on view March 25–April 16, 2023. *Tea Bowl with Narcissus Decoration*. By Nonomura Ninsei. Tennei-ji Temple, Kyoto. Important Cultural Property. *Tenmoku-type Tea Bowl with Tortoiseshell and Phoenix and Plum Décor*. Kyoto National Museum. *True Form of the Kitano Shrine Deity (Fragment)*, detail. Kyoto National Museum. Important Art Object.

ADMISSION

March 25–May 21, 2023:*

Special Exhibition Admission

Adult ¥1800

Univ. Student ¥1200

High-School Student ¥700

Admission is free for junior high school students and other youths age 0–15, visitors with disabilities and one caregiver. Please show ID.

Admission is reduced by 500 yen for Campus Members (including faculty) able to produce ID.

*During special exhibition periods, all visitors must pay special exhibition admission.

May 23–June 11, 2023:

Admission to the Museum Gardens and Outdoor Exhibits

Adult ¥300 Univ. Student ¥150

Admission is free for high school age and other youths age 0–17, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities and one caregiver, and for Campus Members including faculty. Please show ID. Guide booklet is provided with adult admission only.

June 13–September 18, 2023:

Admission to the Museum Collections Galleries

Adult ¥700 Univ. Student ¥350

Admission is free for high school age and other youths age 0–17, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities and one caregiver, and for Campus Members including faculty. Please show ID.

HOURS

March 25–May 21, 2023:

9:00 am– 5:30 pm (Entrance until 5:00 pm)

May 23–September 18, 2023:

9:30 am– 5:00 pm (Entrance until 4:30 pm)

CLOSED ON MONDAYS

*When Monday is a national holiday, the museum remains open on Monday and closes the following Tuesday.

ACCESS

VIA JR OR SUBWAY

Get off at Kyoto Station. From bus platform D2 in front of the station, take City Bus #206 or #208 to the "Hakubutsukan Sanjusangendo-mae" bus stop. One-minute walk to the Museum.

VIA KEIHAN RAILWAY

Get off at Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo/Nanajo Street (about seven minutes) to the Museum.

VIA HANKYU RAILWAY

Get off at Kyoto-kawaramachi Station. Walk east over the bridge to the Keihan Railway Gion-shijo Station. Take Osaka-bound Keihan train to Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo/Nanajo Street (about seven minutes) to the Museum.



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