

**National Treasure Hall**  
***Nihon Ryoiki* Manuscript**  
**National Treasure**

This is a manuscript copy, dated to 904, of the *Nihon Ryoiki*, which has been translated as *Miraculous Stories from the Japanese Buddhist Tradition*. It is an example of *setsuwa*, a genre of folktale, myth or legend that can be religious or secular. Written by the monk Kyokai sometime between 787 and 824, the *Nihon Ryoiki* is a collection of 116 Buddhist tales and is Japan's oldest *setsuwa* anthology. Five fragmentary manuscript copies of the *Nihon Ryoiki* exist today; two of them—including this one—are listed as National Treasures.