

Kangetsudo (Moon-Viewing Hall)

This relatively small wooden building is said to have been part of the Yi dynasty palace in Hanyang (present-day Seoul), and was most likely constructed in the mid-fifteenth century. A wealthy businessman moved the hall to his Tokyo mansion during the period of Japanese rule in Korea (1910–1945), before donating it to Kotokuin in 1924. The building now enshrines a late Edo period (1603–1868) image of a standing Bodhisattva Kannon. Kannon is one of the principal attendants of Amida, and an object of great devotion throughout the Mahayana Buddhist world.

The Kangetsudo (Moon-Viewing Hall) is 7.45 meters wide. Its pillars bear traces of paint in traditional Korean colors, while other wooden portions of the building are elaborately carved in decorative motifs.