

## The Message of Kotokuin Temple

Kotokuin (full name: Daiizan Kotokuin Shojosenji) is a temple of the Pure Land (Jodo) school of Buddhism founded by Honen Shonin (1133–1212). Honen placed his faith in Amida Buddha, the Lord of the Pure Land, who vowed countless eons ago to save all persons without regard to their gender, age, social status, or moral standing. All those who invoke Amida's name (the *nenbutsu*, usually in the form "Namu Amida Butsu") are accepted by the Buddha, who will come at the time of their death to take them to the Pure Land. This is the essential teaching of Pure Land Buddhism.