

DEVELOPMENT OF NEMBUTSU DOCTRINE AMONG THE DISCIPLES OF HŌNEN.

In the beginning of the Kamakura Period, Hōnen who was to become the father of Japanese Pure Land Buddhism taught the sole practice of the Nembutsu among the suffering people of the time. Various kinds of hard religious works recommended by the old institutional Buddhism were abandoned. This sole practice of the Nembutsu is what is selected by Tathāgata as the right work. This was plainly described by Hōnen in his *Senjaku Hongan Nembutsu-shū*. This latter was the butt of criticism of old school.

In my thesis, first, I have treated this criticism in its various aspects; its the second, I have made a research into the situation in which the oppression of Old Buddhists and the resistance of Nembutsu followers made the Nembutsu doctrine develop among the disciples of Hōnen.

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