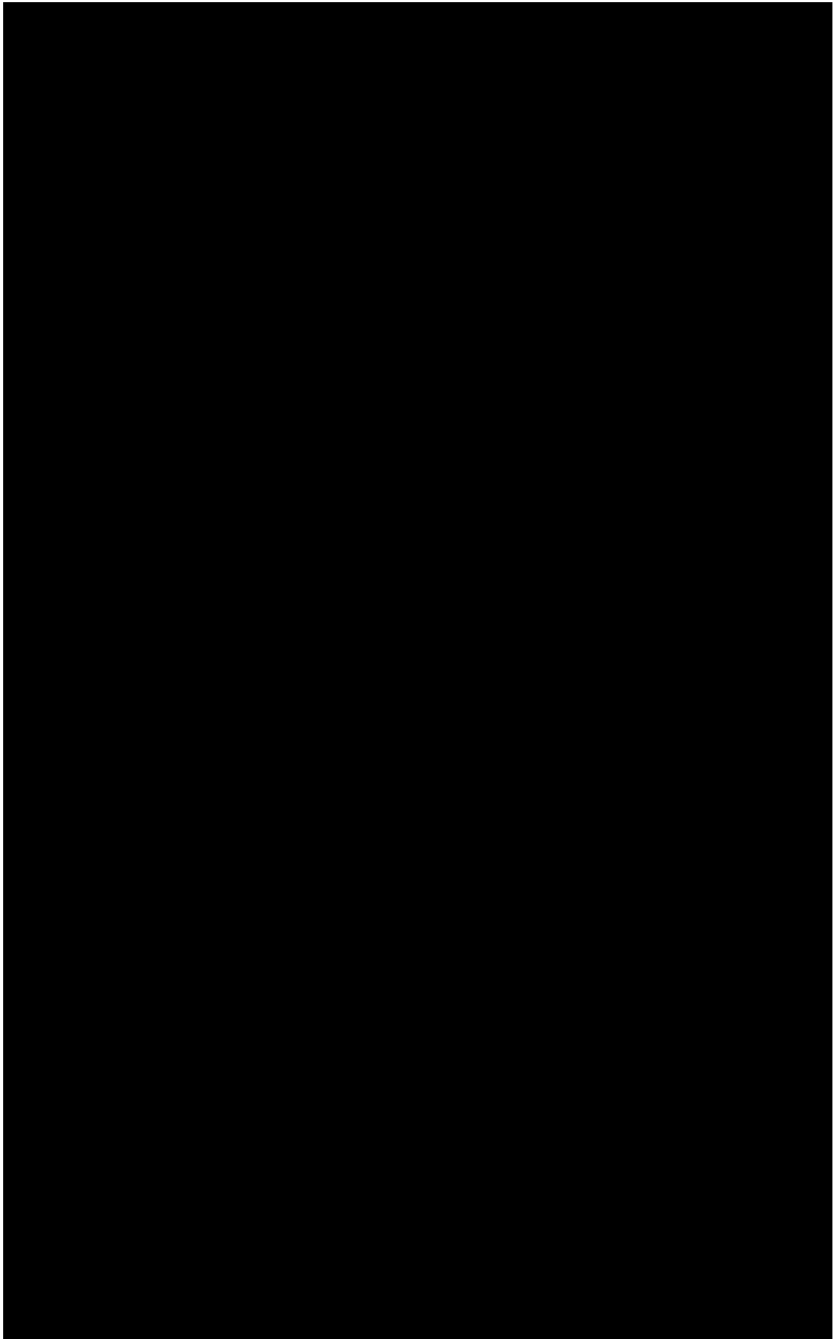


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BRONZE STATUE OF SHINRAN

This image of Shinran 親鸞 (1173–1262) was cast in 1937 at the behest of the industrialist Hirose Seiichi 広瀬精一 (1895–1979). It was originally installed in Hiroshima, a mere 2.5 kilometers from the epicenter of the atomic bomb that was dropped on 6 August 1945. The statue was damaged by the blast, as evidenced by the red corrosion on the skirts of the robe, but survived basically intact. In 1955, Hirose arranged to have the statue installed in front of the American Buddhist Academy (currently, the American Buddhist Study Center) in New York so that it could transmit a message concerning the necessity for world peace. Suzuki Daisetsu 鈴木大拙 (1870–1966) delivered an address at the ceremony to consecrate the statue at its new location which is referred to in the article by James C. Dobbins, below.

Photograph by Hoshin Seki

Courtesy American Buddhist Study Center

