

2024年度大学院博士前期課程学内選考試験問題

研究科名	科目名
文学研究科 人文学専攻	英語

次の英文を和訳しなさい。

Nichiren's private life was the simplest that could be imagined. Thirty years after he had established himself in the straw hut in Kamakura, we find him in a similar structure in Minobu, when wealthy laymen were his disciples, and ease and comfort were at his command. Very intolerant to what he called "Buddha's enemies," he was the mildest of men when he dealt with the poor and stricken. His letters to his disciples breathe the softest of tempers, in great contrast to the fire in his memorable "Treatise¹." No wonder that they thought so much of him.

Indeed, Nichiren's life always reminds me of Mahomet without the concupiscence² of the latter. The same intensity, the same insanoid fanaticism³, yet withal the same sincerity of purpose, and much of inward pity and tenderness, in one as in the other. Only I believe the Japanese was greater than the Arabian, in that the former had more confidence in his Sutra than the latter in his Koran. Physical force was not a necessity to Nichiren, seeing that he had such a book to trust in. It alone without any human agency is a power enough, and no force is needed to establish its worth.

Divested therefore of his thirteenth century garb, of the aberration of his critical knowledge, and of a little taint of insanity that might have dwelt in him (as it dwells in all great men, I suppose), there stands before us a remarkable figure, one of the greatest of his kind in the world. No more independent man can I think of among my countrymen. Indeed, he by his originality and independence made Buddhism a Japanese religion. His sect alone is purely Japanese, while all others have had their beginnings either in Hindoo⁴, or Chinese, or Corean⁵ minds. His ambition, too, embraced the whole world of his time. He speaks of the eastward march of Buddhism from India to Japan till his time, and of the westward march of its improved form from Japan to India from his time on. He was therefore an exception among passive receptive Japanese, not a very tractable fellow no doubt, because he had a will of his own.

出典：Kanzo Uchimura “REPRESENTATIVE MEN OF JAPAN”

(注)

¹ Treatise : 論文 (ここでは立正安国論をさす)。

² concupiscence : 欲情。

³ insanoid fanaticism : 極端な狂信。

⁴ Hindoo : Hindu と同義。

⁵ Corean : Korean と同義。