

January Discussion Topic - Changing Poison into Medicine

To change poison into medicine means using the power of the Mystic Law to change loss, pain or failure into happiness and benefit.

How do we react to life's unavoidable sorrows and setbacks? That is what counts. If we deal with difficult circumstances in a negative or destructive way, the original "poison" is not transformed, and it remains poison.

Nichiren Daishonin teaches us that by activating the power of the Mystic Law, we can change the three paths of earthly desires, karma and suffering into the three attributes of the Buddha.♥

This means that we can create value from every difficult situation. In the depth of every negative situation resides this positive force. At a more profound level, this means that the process of challenging and winning over difficult circumstances makes us grow as human beings.

President Toda often said, "You have to decide: I am Myoho-renge-kyo! The Mystic Law is the 'highly effective medicine' (LS16, 228) that relieves the suffering of all human beings."

- ✓ Do you have an experience of changing poison into medicine with the help of your practice?
- ✓ Have you ever managed to create value by changing your response to a negative situation?

♥ The three attributes of the Buddha: the Dharma body, wisdom, and emancipation are virtues that a Buddha possesses. The Dharma body means the truth that the Buddha has awakened to; wisdom is the capacity to realize this truth; and emancipation means the state of being free from the sufferings of birth and death.