

## 要 旨

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## Daigu Ryōkan and the Lotus Sutra

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In this paper we attempt to make clear the relation of Daigu Ryōkan (1758-1831) to the Lotus Sutra. Ryōkan, who is now wellknown for his poetry and calligraphy, was a Zen master of the Japanese Sōtō sect which belongs to Zenshū. Zenshū, which is the school of Buddhism based primarily on the practice of *dhyāna* (meditation), puts emphasis on *kyōge betsuden* (special transmission outside the written scriptures). Therefore this school generally attaches little importance to reading or studying Buddhist sutras including the Lotus Sutra. But there were a few exceptions. One of them was Eihei Dōgen (1200-53), the founder of the Japanese Sōtō school. Strongly influenced by Dōgen's *Shōbōgenzō*, Ryōkan himself wrote *Hokke-ten* (*Preaching the Lotus Sutra*) and *Hokke-san* (*Admiring the Lotus Sutra*). But the question is this : Did Ryōkan finally remain under the influence of Dōgen? Or did Ryōkan surpass Dōgen even in enlightenment? In order to answer this question we will interpret some of his Chinese poems in *Hokke-san*.