

**SGI-UK Study Department
Introductory Study Programme**

Unity and Oneness of Mentor and Disciple

NOTES

Aims of the meeting

There are two principles here which are very important for the development of our individual faith, as well as the development of our organization.

The principle of ‘many in body, one in mind’ teaches us how to transcend the differences we see in other people, and learn to be more tolerant of things that perhaps at first we do not understand. Please encourage people to see that we all have our own individual characteristics, and that we come together in front of the Gohonzon with the one mind of revealing our Buddhahood and working towards kosen-rufu.

The principle of the oneness of mentor and disciple is at the heart of the heritage of the eternal Law of Nam-myoho-renge-kyo and is often a hard element for people to grasp, especially in the West, where it can be misconstrued.

The important point is that we are not told to be disciples; rather, we choose to be disciples. Then since it is our choice, we work at ‘sharing our mentor’s heart’ and working towards the common goal of world peace and kosen-rufu.

Further Materials

The World of the Writings of Nichiren Daishonin series parts 7 and 8 deal with the question of Unity and the mentor/disciple relationship respectively.

The Gosho *The Heritage of the Ultimate Law of Life* [WND p216] contains passages which deal with both of these principles.

Also *Many in Body, One in Mind* [WND p618] explains what can be achieved by a group or organization of people united in spirit.