

THE BUDDHA OF BOUNDLESS LIGHT

Amitābha, seated cross-legged on a lotus. The cult of this god, of Iranian origin, was brought to China in the second century A.D. by way of Central Asia. He was believed to preside over a paradise located in the west, where his adherents would be reborn from lotuses, and soon became the most popular deity of China and Japan. Bronze image with fine brown polish.

MING, SÜAN-TE PERIOD (1426-35)