

Meeting with Roshi in Roshi's apartment in Rinzaï-ji

Date: October 5, 2013, 4:13pm

Meeting length: 1:49:00 minutes

Attendees: Roshi, Hosen, Eshin (witness), Gento (witness), Myoren (translator)

The following are transcription from the recording of the meeting.

Roshi: Ohayo Gozaimasu. At the moment, Ohayogozaimasu. When <pause> at the moment <pause> you, Hosen and Who is it? <Roshi looking at everyone> and You (Gento), Hosen, Roshi and you, a translator. Where have you been? Where have you been? <Roshi getting upset>. I've been enduring, enduring and enduring. Where have you been? <pause> Where is this you? How dare did you think you have qualification of Rinzaï-ji's Abbot. Therefore I'm upset right now when I never needed to be upset before. Where are you, in the heaven, in the hell or Rinzaï-ji?

Hosen: Can I say something?

Roshi: It's not a matter of "Can I say something?" You're already saying something. <pause> When you look at me, then you're with me then there is no problem. Superficially you say easily I die with you but you never die. All bullshit! <pause> However I thought I captured your good quality. That's how I based my conversation with good quality part of you.

<Long pause>

Ohayogozaimasu. I accept Good morning. At this moment where have you been? <Hosen bowed> Don't fake it! You're still sitting. That's not how I'm sitting, on this current matter. Where have you been? You just talk and talk. Where have you been? <Roshi asks Myoren "Do you understand?" Myoren answered "I'm translating simultaneously." > <Roshi continued to talk to Hosen> Where have you been? Please answer me.

Hosen: I'm here with you.

Roshi: It's no joke. (*Jodanjanai*) You're not together with me. If you're together with me then you're expected to show me the same courtesy shown to you. There are four of us sitting here together right now. Where are you? <pause> You say, "Kessei" but are you attending Kessei's ceremony without mistakes? Do you realize seriousness of Kessei? Answer clearly. <pause> You must be aware that I have given you a position of Shika (vice-abbot) only on a temporary basis <back then>. Not a full position. So if anything changes / happens, at once you should ask me questions, right? You're not qualify to be full Shika (vice-abbot). I've received information from my attorney about your bullshit statements (*hogen/detarame*). Why can't you honestly say what you already know.

Myoren in Jpnse clarifying: Roshi say one more time?

While you may be sincerely saying, "I'll die with you" but then how on earth you could dare to say such thing as, "I am the Abbot!" <Roshi getting upset> How dare you say such thing! Even though I told you to read "Diamond Sutra" but you never studied sutras. That is why you have no understanding. (*chittomo wakattena!*) You keep claiming, "I'm the Abbot." I just kept quiet because that's bullshit. (*hogen*) <Roshi pretends to be Hosen and says> "I am not Roshi's Abbot, I'm not Abbot. I'm not Roshi's true representative." I was repeatedly informed that you claimed to be the Abbot. Why can't you just say honestly "I'm not the Abbot." 12:19

Isn't that so? *<asked to Eshin>*

Eshin: I understand.

Roshi: *<Roshi says to Eshin and Gento>* She just kept saying, "I'm the Abbot!" but she is not. I told you so. *<Roshi turned to Eshin and said>* You're also not true Abbot. If you're true Abbot, then I no need to scold / shout at you. *<pause>* For some reason, you confuse yourself. (sakkaku wo okoshiteru) however if I say so you will probably tell everyone that Roshi is confused.13:15

I have talked to you about the handling of cash long ago. You cannot hold over \$200 freely without my permission. When it's over \$200, inevitably you must get my permission. I've mentioned this many times but you still don't understand. I know you've heard of this before. *<Hosen nodded>*

<Long pause>

Roshi: At this moment, where have you been? Please tell the truth. This is very important. To cultivate a true Zen in America, this is an essential issue. 17:08

<Long pause>

Roshi: Where have you been?19:20

<Rooshi expresses he is tired> 21:00

Myoren in Jpnse to Roshi: Would you like to rest, Roshi? 21:23

Roshi: No, I need to hear her response. Where have you been? I have communicated with you recently a few times. Do you remember what it is? 21:41

<Long pause>

Myoren in Jpnse to Roshi: Is this about your letters? <Roshi nodded> 24:49

<Long pause>

<Hosen whispers><Eshin told her"...Roshi just wants your reply.">

Hosen: I'm sorry I have nothing to say for now. 27:00

Myoren in Jpnse to Roshi: Hosen says, She has nothing to say.

Roshi: Things that you cannot answer, you should never claim. 27:46

Roshi: It's not clear what she's saying to me. *<to Hosen>* I've been informed by others and by you (from the letter) that you've been telling people, Roshi is not the Abbot but the true Abbot is Hosen as if someone told you so. Didn't you say so? I didn't make an issue of it and I kept it quiet but now I'm faced with death. Besides, my condition is very bad today. 28:45

Hosen: I only consider myself as Administrative-Abbot not the spiritual Abbot. 29:55

Myoren translated in Jpnse

Roshi: Managing is okay. It is important. To manage nation and to manage a company if you use such language then it becomes clear.

<Long pause>

Myoren in Jpnse to Roshi: Hosen says, She has nothing to say.

<Long pause>

Hosen: I have just acknowledge that there are people creating rumors that I consider myself as the Abbot, the spiritual Abbot. I've never done that. I've only supported Bodhi Manda Zen Center as a care taker. 33:22

<Myoren translated in Jpnse to Roshi>

Roshi: Where is such evidence? 34:26

Hosen: Business aspect of the Zen center is in order. There was a statement about that, but everything is in order. This kind of legal discussion right now. I don't understand it because I studies with the Roshi all my life and took care of Bodhi. 34:40

<Myoren translated in Jpnse to Roshi>

Roshi: Since you're saying such thing, it indicates you have not studied Buddhism at all. 35:40

Hosen: I am sorry. *<Myoren translated in Jpnse to Roshi>* <pause> That's a pretty harsh statement.*<Myoren translated in Jpnse to Roshi>* 36:08

Roshi: Tell me about it. It's harsh that you don't understand. 36:38

<Eshin interrupted and made a comment to Hosen "I think it is a terrible statement you made. Roshi's words are more realized than us that is coming from wisdom."> 37:04

Roshi: Sutra is emptiness. Do you understand? You don't have to be shocked. You don't need to say anything that doesn't need to be said. Buddhism is emptiness. <pause> That's why once you meet the emptiness, everything will be saved.

<Long pause>

*<Roshi asked Myoren, Eshin and Gento: Is it clear now? Tell her, talk to her if not yet clear to her. I will bear it and I will talk more if you don't get it<to Hosen>>*41:23

<Eshin says to Hosen that I think you've been asked to answer quickly>

Hosen: I am trying to the best of my ability. 42:17

<Eshin clarified with Myoren if they should talk to Hosen>

Hosen: I can come back tomorrow.

<Myoren repeated what Roshi said, "I will bear it and I will talk more if you don't get it" so perhaps Roshi wants to keep talking until you get it>

Hosen: I have to contemplate what Roshi is saying. *<Myoren translated in Jpnse to Roshi>*
44:40

*<Roshi asked Myoren, Who is saying this? Myoren answered, "It's Hosen">*44:45

Roshi: You're not qualified to do so. Say more whatever gibberish. Don't bullshit (Tawaketa koto iuna) *<Roshi raised his voice upset>* You idiot! I will raise my hand! (Bunnaguru zo!) Well, I will not and I never raise my hand but at least that's how it's making me feel. I never hit you before. You idiot! How did I compliment you that night when there were people talking downstairs? Do you remember? That is your good traits. I captured your good quality and made compliments. You don't remember such distinct occasion clearly but you only remember bullshit. Not good at all. (Totemo damedayo) You must stop practicing Zen, okey?

However once I made you my disciple. You have no idea how dear my disciples are to me. Once you have true disciples of your own, you understand.

That's why, Gento *<to Gento>*, please have your own disciples.

Please talk about the time you went downstairs to check to see who's talking late at night. I asked who is talking? You came back and said those are students. You forgot? You must remember. *<Hosen indicated she doesn't remember>* I do remember. That's strange you don't remember. That's why no good. There is no time to think about other things. Please pay attention to time. As a conclusion, what I'm saying is because you treated time poorly, all these issues came up. *<pause>* If you analyze time, as past, present, future, these three worlds, you begin to see this is how time is circling around but you have no grasp of that. Then some smart people captured this activity of time as activities of three. *<Long pause>*

(タイムを分析して、過去、現在、未来、といふに、そういう三つの世界を、タイムというものはグルグルとまわっていることだと言う事が、お前にはちっともわかっていない。そこで賢い人達はタイムと言う物を三つの働きだ、働きとしてタイムと称しているのである。)

*<Hosen whispers, "Thank you.">*45:38 *<Myoren translated in Jpnse to Roshi>*

Roshi: What are you thanking me for? 55:54

Hosen: I'm leaving now.

Roshi: Where to?

Hosen: I have a visitor I must go see today.

Roshi: Who is it?

Hosen: Oh, that's my personal business.

Roshi: Who is that personal self? You cannot talk about it? Who is that personal self?

Hosen: Anyway, thank you.

Roshi: You must make it clear on what stance you're leaving. If not, that will make me unhappy.

Hosen: I am unhappy with you.

Roshi: Stop being unhappy. Stop being such thing! Who makes unhappiness? Who makes unhappiness? Who makes happiness?

Hosen: A human being.

Roshi: You idiot! (Tawake mono!) What do you mean by a human being? What are you pointing and saying, "Human being?" Please stop such bullshit! You just pretend this and that. Even if you pretend so, nobody will understand. *<Hosen tries to leave>* It's difficult for you, isn't it. *<pause>* Stand up. *<Roshi asked Hosen>*

<Long pause>

*<Roshi invited her to come closer. Hosen sits next to Roshi - Begin Sanzen>*1:02:11
Where have you been? You cannot alienate people. You cannot alienate people. Where have you been? *<pause>* I have taught you this much this long. You still don't understand. *<pause>* Good morning. Where have you been? *<pause>* Just good morning exist, nothing else. No emperor, no navy general, no army general nor American president. Nobody is there. Who is there at that moment? Who is there? Who is there? *<Hosen gassho and bows>* You just go like this. I'm being serious. That's why I go like this. *<Roshi makes gesture>* If you understand a little, that's fine. Where have you been? Still don't understand? Where have you been? Still don't understand. *<big sigh>*

<Long pause>

Where are you? Don't steal. *<Hosen was taking Roshi's tissue away>*1:06:50

<Long pause>

Where have you been? Where have you been? 1:09:57

<Long pause>

Where have you been? 1:16:45

*<Long pause>*1:17:00

Where have you been? It is fine. Sure. No? It is fine. Why "fine"? Last night I cried. Why cry? I cried myself. No one was there. You were not there. No one was there. Why cried by myself? Yeah...I didn't eat dinner. I was hungry. Roshi, I am hungry now. Why don't buy something to eat? There was no money last night. Wasn't it? I cried because I did not have any money... *<Myoren confused>* Perhaps borrow some petty money from your husband. I'm sure he's got some money. Borrow enough to buy dinner to fulfill your hunger. However that's fine but who is going to return the money once you borrow money from your husband. Who is going to return the money? *<Roshi loosing his voice and tired>*

<Long pause> 1:22:03

Who returned the money? I'm sure your husband will be happy to lend you money. Since you borrow, you must to return. When? You will return on April 30. Fine.

<Long pause> 1:27:05

Did you understand where have you been? *<Roshi very tired>* Separate. Not separate. Where have you been everybody? Oneness (Ichie) Now we meet here together. It makes sense. No fighting, just being together. Good morning. *<Roshi talks slower>*

<Long pause> 1:29:39

See, no thinking. No thinking. No thinking. Everybody no thinking. Same no thinking. Haa. Then relieved.

<Long pause> 1:42:25

What else should I talk? *<Roshi asked Myoren><Hosen whispers if she can leave. Myoren translated in Jpnse to Roshi>* Once you came here, "May I leave?" you were here for a Long time. You may ask me so. Isn't that so? *<pause>* For old folks, it is difficult to say good bye. I will separate with you in endurance. For old folks, it is hard to say good bye. However if you want to separate, then fine. Thank you. *<pause>* However you must make it clearly what you are going to do. Otherwise it'll make me feel empty.

<Long pause> 1:46:50

Hosen: Myoren, tell Roshi that I will give a letter to Roshi this week. *<Myoren translated in Jpnse to Roshi>*

Roshi: Please do not make mistakes. I said this repeatedly that I do not wish to separate with my disciple. 1:47:43

End