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Eido Shimano's lineage...

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So-on Mann
Global Moderator

Posts: 3658
Joined: Thu Feb 05, 2009 8:43 pm
Location: Portland, OR
antispam: No

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by **So-on Mann** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:07 am

Nonin wrote:
genkaku said:

Of course, as I said, there is always Option No. 1 -- to dismiss the whole matter and return to our regularly scheduled programming.

Finally, a sensible course of action!

Hands palm-to-palm,

Nonin

PLEASE.



Facing a precious mirror, form and reflection behold each other. You are not it, but in truth it is you.

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by **Gregory Wonderwheel** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:12 am

Nevermind wrote:
It seems remarkable that you could know that these conclusions are projections. You must know these people extremely well.

Well, there is simply nothing at all remarkable in it. Except in the way that clouds, daffodils, pill bugs, etc. are remarkable.

One doesn't have to know another person "extremely well" to know them and to know their exceptional qualities.

It is simply axiomatic Psychology 101, that any conclusion about the Dharma heirs in Shimano Roshi's lineage based only on Shimano's transgressions--rather than upon the Dharma heir's own manifestation--is a projection.

Gregory

The Blessed One said, "The recognition of the one vehicle (一乘) is obtained when there is no rising of discrimination by doing away with the notion of grasped and grasping and by abiding in the reality of suchness." -- From the Lankavatara Sutra

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by **Genjo** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:13 am

Nonin wrote:
What is the motivation behind all this interest in Eido Shimano's lineage?

Shinge: "I wonder if you could check something for me? ... I am grateful to be informed about the consensus and any other things you think I need to know. ... This is my vow, to cut all delusive chains, and this is what I teach my students. If what I have been given is based on dishonesty I want to know that, and act accordingly. ... My core value for turning around ZSS is that we must live and train in integrity. I'm afraid this organization has hidden behind 'authentic Rinzaï Zen training.' Authenticity? If it's a charade, we need to say so, and with utter humility, make it real."

Last edited by **Genjo** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 5:20 am, edited 1 time in total.

Abbot of Dai Bai Zan Cho Bo Zen Ji (Chobo-Ji) temple, Seattle, USA; psychotherapist and certificated spiritual director.

<http://www.choboji.org>

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by **Shodo** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:19 am

Unsuï said:

"I was referring to his "verdict" about Zen in the West. "

I see what you mean, but I think his "verdict" was just the problem of teachers who lack valid transmission.

"We really have no idea who Jeff contacted. I find it puzzling that people who haven't met Roko will nullify her as a teacher - and people who have met her as a teacher apparently also find that just as puzzling. If Jeff - and respected Zen Masters in Japan - wish to evaluate those in Eido Shimano's line who currently are teachers, why have they not investigated these people directly? Uff- this is beginning to sound like the Inquisition (and: "Nobody expects the Spanish Inquisition!")."

I think it's really quite simple... In Japan, you cannot be considered a lineage-holding, transmitted teacher if your teacher wasn't transmitted to... And that goes double if the teacher was a teacher as infamous as Eido Shimano.
My personal opinion (which is my own, and I hold it tentatively) is that Jeff Shore's strong language is a reflection of what he was told by whoever he talked to in Japan.

Let's not forget, this is just the karma of Eido Shimano's many lies at long last playing itself out.

Last edited by **Shodo** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:50 am, edited 1 time in total.

The Dude: Yeah, well. The Dude abides *nowhere*.

The Stranger: The Dude abides *nowhere*... I don't know about you but I take comfort in that. It's good knowin' he's not out there. The Dude. Takin' 'er easy for all us sinners.



Gregory Wonderwheel
Global Moderator

Posts: 2999
Joined: Wed Feb 04, 2009 3:07 am
Location: Santa Rosa, Calif.
antispam: No



Genjo

Posts: 157
Joined: Mon Aug 30, 2010 5:57 pm
Location: Seattle, WA USA
antispam: No



Shodo

Posts: 139
Joined: Thu Nov 11, 2010 8:17 pm



unsui

Posts: 348
Joined: Tue Feb 10, 2009 5:46 pm

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by unsui on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:23 am

Nevermind wrote:

unsui wrote:

Nevermind wrote:

unsui wrote:

I don't see how this is preventing further harm to people and I don't see it as a natural progression.

To question or carefully review, not judge prematurely.

Here we agree entirely - and yet I have read "conclusions" about Shinge, Denko, and Genjo - both here, in the archive, and in blogs - that are based on projecting "the sins of the father." And that is prematurely judging.

It seems remarkable that you could know that these conclusions are projections. You must know these people extremely well.

Yes, I know Denko extremely well, so I can sort stuff out here.

I have read Genjo's answers and reactions to some of these things here at ZFI - and even with all the grains of salt I have - the projected "accusations" I have read have satisfactorily been put to rest by Genjo's brutally honest words. Nonin and others have been able to answer for Shinge - and I have chosen to trust them.

None of our teachers are without fault, of course, but I have never experienced Denko mirror Eido Shimano's arrogance or sociopathic tendencies.

May we extend This Mind over the whole universe so that we and all beings together may attain maturity in Buddha's wisdom

Nevermind

Posts: 56
Joined: Thu Oct 11, 2012 5:01 pm

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by Nevermind on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:33 am

Gregory Wonderwheel wrote:

One doesn't have to know another person "extremely well" to know them and to know their exceptional qualities.

Indeed. Or it can take decades.

It is simply axiomatic Psychology 101, that any conclusion about the Dharma heirs in Shimano Roshi's lineage based only on Shimano's transgressions--rather than upon the Dharma heir's own manifestation--is a projection.

Assuming the conclusion is based only on that. Should we so readily assume that?

Last edited by Nevermind on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:34 am, edited 1 time in total.



Spike

Posts: 55
Joined: Thu Aug 19, 2010 7:15 pm

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by Spike on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:34 am

Genjo wrote:

Nonin wrote:

What is the motivation behind all this interest in Eido Shimano's lineage?

Shinge: "I wonder if you could check something for me? ..."

It is the abbess herself who asks, indirectly, about her own lineage legitimacy. It is beyond me how "some people" do not respect the irony in Genkaku's offering of 'option 1', ie., to refrain from rigorous examination of the matter. By all means, let's hem and haw about the humdrum.

Carla Jean Moss: "You don't have to do this."
Anton Chigurh: [smiles] "People always say the same thing."
-- No Country for Old Men

genkaku

Posts: 3843
Joined: Sun Feb 08, 2009 2:24 am

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by genkaku on Thu Oct 25, 2012 1:53 am

Nonin wrote:

I personally know three of Eido Shimano's dharma heirs: Shinge, Denko, and Genjo. None of them will have anything personally to do with him.



Shinge Sherry Chayat (left) and Eido Tai Shimano, Aug. 11-12, 2012

Nevermind

Posts: 56
Joined: Thu Oct 11, 2012 5:01 pm

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by Nevermind on Thu Oct 25, 2012 2:07 am

unsui wrote:

Nonin and others have been able to answer for Shinge - and I have chosen to trust them.

Well, knowing extremely well doesn't seem to be the case. However I don't mean to stir suspicions. The so called sins of the father may make the children more virtuous than might otherwise be the case. It often works out that way.



Michaeljc

Posts: 1335
Joined: Fri May 06, 2011 3:36 pm
Location: Raglan New Zealand

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by Michaeljc on Thu Oct 25, 2012 8:04 am

How important is this formalised, institutionalised lineage when push comes to shove? My observations indicate that in Japan, and for some people in the west - very. However I would make 2 points:

- Evidence substantiating that unbroken lineages glued by face-to-face transmission back through the prior millennium actually exist is not compelling.

- In Japan being a Zen teacher often results in a secure career for life. In contrast the financial consequences of becoming a teacher in the west are often precarious.

As Meido pointed out we don't know what has been transmitted. But, we do know what is supposed to be transmitted: continuity of the thread, (Dogen's iron rod).

What is being overlooked (IMO) is that the thread (or rod) cannot be broken. It may go into a period of quiescence when authentic transmission is absent but will pop up again all in good time. It does not need face-to-face transmission. Therefore, lineage - aside from authentic transmission - is a quant trapping. We can never know when authentic transmission took place.

So what does this all mean for us students? Well, I will speak for myself. I could not give two hoots about the lineage of a teacher. I'm looking for the Z factor at face value only. If a teacher has a deep relationship with his/her teacher, that is nice but of little importance. Moreover, I don't care if the teacher is Soto, Rinza, or Chan. Just give me the real deal.

Just a view in this moment of time

m

partofit22

Posts: 2402
Joined: Fri Oct 09, 2009 2:36 pm

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by partofit22 on Thu Oct 25, 2012 2:14 pm

Carol wrote:
how we treat each other in troubled times.

this goes to the heart of the matter for me too- Linda once mentioned, in so many words, that there's an art to correcting mistakes by way of making the effort to correct them- however, sometimes in certain situations such efforts can be viewed as arriving too late to alter outcomes- like when a mistake is clung to, or the idea of one, rather than make an effort to arrive at the truth- in this way the mistake is the truth- and that's all there is to it- it's an immortal offense, or dead horse, never to be forgiven or laid to rest even after being beat to a pulp- or glue- and if the horse were to be removed, the remover stands a good chance of becoming the next best thing to beat on-

this whole lineage thing reminds me of how an illegitimate child might possibly be treated as not real-

partofit22

Posts: 2402
Joined: Fri Oct 09, 2009 2:36 pm

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by partofit22 on Thu Oct 25, 2012 2:27 pm

genkaku wrote:
Nonin wrote:
I personally know three of Eido Shimano's dharma heirs: Shinge, Denko, and Genjo. None of them will have anything personally to do with him.



Shinge Sherry Chayat (left) and Eido Tai Shimano, Aug. 11-12, 2012

what's going on in those photos?



Denko

Posts: 181
Joined: Tue Feb 10, 2009 8:55 am
Location: 55.1534 North 15.0193 East
antispam: No

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by Denko on Thu Oct 25, 2012 2:41 pm

partofit22 wrote:
genkaku wrote:
Nonin wrote:
I personally know three of Eido Shimano's dharma heirs: Shinge, Denko, and Genjo. None of them will have anything personally to do with him.



Shinge Sherry Chayat (left) and Eido Tai Shimano, Aug. 11-12, 2012

what's going on in those photos?

Looks like O-Bon to me - &/or opening/dedicating the new gate?

Abbot of Egely Monastery - Talkyoji in Denmark. Head Teacher of Buddhist Society (Denmark). Transmitted Dharma Heir of Eido Shimano. Student of H. E. Kilung Jigme Rinpoche. Member of American Zen Teachers Association

<http://www.talkyoji.dk>

genkaku

Posts: 3843
Joined: Sun Feb 08, 2009 2:24 am

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by genkaku on Thu Oct 25, 2012 3:27 pm

The photos, which are in fact from Obon at Dai Bosatsu, are posted on the Shimano Archive [What's New Page](#) (scroll down). Besides Obon, there was a celebration of the opening of the pricey Sanmon Gate that included many of its benefactors.



Genjo

Posts: 157
Joined: Mon Aug 30, 2010 5:57 pm
Location: Seattle, WA USA
antispam: No

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by Genjo on Thu Oct 25, 2012 3:36 pm

Denko wrote:
partofit22 wrote:
what's going on in those photos?

Looks like O-Bon to me - &/or opening/dedicating the new gate?

Yup, see 8/18/12 about half way down @ <http://www.shimanoarchive.com/NEWindex.html>

Abbot of Dai Bai Zan Cho Bo Zen Ji (Chobo-Ji) temple, Seattle, USA; psychotherapist and certificated spiritual director.

<http://www.zhoboji.org>



Nonin
Global Moderator

Posts: 3949
Joined: Wed Feb 04, 2009 3:30 pm
Location: Omaha, Nebraska, USA
antispam: No

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...

by **Nonin** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 7:46 pm

A short time ago, I spoke with Roko Shinge Chayat, and she asked me to post here that she was shocked to hear that her private e-mail exchange with Jeff Shore, which she regarded as privileged information, was published without her permission. She also said that she hadn't known that it had been published before I told her, for she doesn't read publications that would concern themselves with and publish something like this. Also, she doesn't intend to respond in any way.

Hands palm-to-palm,

Nonin

Solo Zen Buddhist Priest. Transmitted Dharma Heir of Dainin Katagiri Roshi.
Abbot and Head Teacher, Nebraska Zen Center / Heartland Temple, Omaha, Nebraska, USA
<http://www.prairiewindzen.org>

genkaku

Posts: 3843
Joined: Sun Feb 08, 2009 2:24 am

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...

by **genkaku** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 9:20 pm

Nonin -- Thanks very much for what I am forced to assume is Roko Shinge Chayat's authentic transmitted response. It is good to know the emails were indeed hers.

As a matter of honest curiosity regarding the OP, I would be interested in your personal feelings about the matter of lineage. I would like to pose the same question to Denko and Genjo as well. Both you and Denko seem to put some store in lineage since you both mention it in the signatures that are appended to all your posts. You are a "Transmitted Dharma Heir of Dainin Katagiri Roshi" while Denko is a "Transmitted Dharma Heir of Eido Shimano," according to your respective signatures. Genjo does not mention the fact that he received transmission from Eido Shimano in his signature, though I've never thought him purposeful in the omission since, when asked, he is free enough to say the truth.

Based on this small bit of information, I really would like to know what any or all of you thought of transmission/lineage and its usefulness or meaning. Clearly it doesn't mean anything to the cash register attendant in Wal-Mart -- s/he's just waiting for the \$3.12 that will cover the can of tuna fish. And the same is true for the plumber or stock broker or traffic cop any of you might come in contact with. And from this I deduce that Zen transmission and lineage means something only to those people who interest themselves in Zen Buddhism... or perhaps, more broadly, Buddhism in general.

I have nothing for or against transmission/lineage, but I would be interested in your straightforward assessment -- your own personal take, so to speak. Clearly lineage or transmission doesn't mean "nothing" because if that were true, there would be no point in mentioning it. So if it means something, what do you personally think it means? Is it like the sign outside the gas station that advertises a "certified mechanic" -- the one who may fix the car or, on occasion, replace the alternator when the water pump is busted? Is it a means of reassuring newcomers and if so, in what way and how truthful do you think such reassurance is? Is the mention of it (whether written or verbal) a means of asserting your own doubts or certainties? Is it a reminder of the wonderful training you received at the hands of those who 'raised' you in Zen? Is lineage/transmission on a par with the importance of "Buddha, Dharma, Sangha," as in, perhaps, "Buddha, Dharma, Lineage?" Is it all too mysterious and mystical to explain ... and if this is so, why dangle it in front of those who are not yet in a position to plumb its mysterious and mystical depths?

I am seriously not trying to make light of any of this. I am just honestly interested in the straightforward, personal assessments of people who seem in a good position to explain forthrightly what this segment of their professional lives might mean.

Thanks very much for any honest responses.

Last edited by **genkaku** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 9:57 pm, edited 1 time in total.

Nevermind

Posts: 56
Joined: Thu Oct 11, 2012 5:01 pm

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...

by **Nevermind** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 9:29 pm

Not sure how this fits with "transmission" but it struck me as meaningful and honest.

Meido wrote:

Inka in Rinzaï Zen does not signify that a person has finished training at all (and the documents often have words within them affirming that). It only affirms that a person is ready to be responsible for his/her own practice going forward...and hopefully will continue onward diligently.

It may include permission to teach others to some degree. Or prohibitions or conditions on doing so. Permission to train others is not something that is automatically granted with inka, and is not something that is given as a document in my experience.

Incidentally, Inka may also be given to anyone, not just priests. There are many laypersons who receive this recognition as well, and may have no responsibility or authority attached to it since they already have full lives, careers, family and so on.

The title "Roshi" (or "Rokoji" for a layperson) also does not automatically come with inka.

English terms like "Zen Master" are thrown around, of course, which is unfortunate.

Expectations that Zen priests or teachers are necessarily qualified to provide professional pastoral care, spiritual direction, or therapy are also unfortunate. And we should state clearly that we aren't these things (except of course in those cases where a teacher might well be).

I recognize the way in which these things have been manipulated and misinterpreted. It is important for us to clear this up whenever we can. At our place we do so frequently and openly, and do our best to affirm that Zen teachers are to be viewed as nothing more than experienced peers.

—Meido

genkaku

Posts: 3843
Joined: Sun Feb 08, 2009 2:24 am

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...

by **genkaku** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 9:35 pm

Thanks Nevermind. I agree -- Meido's description is nice. I do sort of hope that others will give a more this-is-the-way-I-personally-see-it approach.



Spike

Posts: 55
Joined: Thu Aug 19, 2010 7:15 pm

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...

by **Spike** on Thu Oct 25, 2012 11:41 pm

Nonin wrote:

A short time ago, I spoke with Roko Shinge Chayat, and she asked me to post here that she was shocked to hear that her private e-mail exchange with Jeff Shore, which she regarded as privileged information, was published without her permission. She also said that she hadn't known that it had been published before I told her, for she doesn't read publications that would concern themselves with and publish something like this. Also, she doesn't intend to respond in any way.

Hands palm-to-palm,

Nonin

Shocked that her email was published? As if we've never heard exactly this from her before?

Shore and Malone did everyone a favor, particularly prospective students who might otherwise not know the apparent insincerity of Chayat's resolve, her fear of the appearance of lineage illegitimacy (in light of the Shimano rapes, now there's an irony), and the outright lie that she has nothing to do with Shimano, the latter disputed by August pictures from the Archive honoring the 'risen phoenix' and his hellish gate, and the dutiful daughterly storage of rooms of his stuff that (is it close to two years yet?) remain on site at DBZ and NYZ.

Of course she won't respond. How could she? Really, is there anything more she could possibly say? But we all should be glad that a zen master like Nonin is one of those who would concern themselves with ... this, because it is a true public service, especially to those who would otherwise be uninformed.

Carla Jean Moss: "You don't have to do this."
Anton Chigurh: [smiles] "People always say the same thing."
-- No Country for Old Men

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Eido Shimano's lineage...

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So-on Mann
Global Moderator

Posts: 3662
Joined: Thu Feb 05, 2009 8:43 pm
Location: Portland, OR
antispam: No

Re: Eido Shimano's lineage...
by **So-on Mann** on Fri Oct 26, 2012 2:35 am



MODERATOR'S NOTE:

This thread seems to be stirring the three fires and has needed heavy moderation since its inception. I'm closing this topic down so that I can discuss the appropriate moderation approach to this difficult subject with the other moderator (Pedestrian) who has not been involved in the topic, as well as the rest of the moderation team.



Facing a precious mirror, form and reflection behold each other. You are not it, but in truth it is you.

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