

CERTIFICATE OF INITIATION

Certifying that

who shall hereafter be known by the Dharma name of

which in English translates as

has undergone Initiation into the Community of all Buddhists
and has thereby formally become a Zen Buddhist on this day,

This ceremony was officiated by

under the auspices of the

ATLANTA
SOTO
ZEN
CENTER
www.aszc.org

INITIATION CEREMONY

Zaike Tokudo
Receiving the Precepts

ORDER OF LAY INITIATION CEREMONY: Zaike Tokudo (Jukai)

Celebrant bows to altar and Initiate; addresses assembly

You are here to witness (Initiate)

undertake the Zen Buddhist path; joining the Sangha

INVOCATION: The Great Heart of Wisdom Sutra

All chant Heart Sutra (sans Devotional)

INCENSE OFFERING: The Three Treasures

Initiate in gassho bows before altar;

offer 3 pinches incense; one bow

Please offer three pinches of incense for the Three Treasures

Buddha — the Founder and our Self-nature

Dharma — the Compassionate Teaching

Sangha — the Community of Trainees

Celebrant offers 1 pinch

This is my seal of approval of this Initiate

SERMON: Entering the Stream

Celebrant explains meaning and significance of ceremony

Tokudo: Attainment of Going Beyond; Experience of Enlightenment

PURIFICATION: Mind to Mind (Shasui)

Celebrant & Initiate repeat three times

Celebrant asperges air and temple of Initiate

Water represents purity — non-duality — of the Dharma

Please repeat after me:

Namu Shakyamuni Butsu — I take refuge in Shakyamuni Buddha

HEAD SHAVING: Leaving Home (Tei Hatsu)

Celebrant trims hair or otherwise symbolizes shaving

Symbolic shaving of the head represents leaving behind the past
and entering the Path: Tei Hatsu — I shave your head

ATONEMENT: Acknowledgement of Karma

Initiate and Attendants respond (refer to card)

Please repeat after me:

THREE REFUGES

Please repeat after me:

Initiate and Attendants respond (refer to card)

PRECEPTS: Guideposts

Initiate and Attendants respond (refer to card)

VESTMENTS: Clothes of Enlightenment

Attendant presents wagesa and juzu to Initiate

while Celebrant explains significance

INCENSE OFFERING: Equal Before Buddha

Celebrant: Please offer one pinch of incense

Initiate, hands in gassho, bow before altar, offer 1 pinch incense, bow

Celebrant offers 1 pinch incense

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

Celebrant offers statement — putting on a new life

DHARMA NAME: Rebirth

Celebrant presents Dharma/Zen name certificate and meaning

DECLARATION

Celebrant declares that Initiate formally become Zen Buddhist;

charges the Sangha to welcome new member

PROCESSION: Welcome

Celebrant announces, leads all in procession around Zendo and exit

● Acknowledgement of Karma ●

Celebrant chants; Initiate responds after small gong

All the karmic action ever committed by me since of old †

Arising from beginningless greed anger and delusion †

Born of this body mouth and mind †

I now acknowledge

and accept all † consequence with equanimity †

● Three Treasure Refuges ●

Celebrant chants; Initiate responds after gong

I take refuge in BUDDHA — fully Awakened One †

I take refuge in DHARMA — compassionate Teachings †

I take refuge in SANGHA — † harmonious Community †

Receiving the Precepts

Celebrant speaks; Initiate responds after each phrase

Please repeat after me:

I have taken refuge in Buddha — Dharma — Sangha

The Tathagata realized true Enlightenment and is my Great Teacher

I have taken refuge in the Tathagata

Please look with compassion upon my humble vows

Three Pure Precepts

Now the Three Pure Precepts

Please respond “Yes sensei” if you agree:

First Pure Precept — not creating evil — **Do no harm** ■*

Second Pure Precept — practicing good — **Do only good** ■*

Third Pure Precept — purifying intentions — **Do good for others** ■*

You must not break these precepts.

Please observe these precepts as you have promised

Celebrant and Initiate bow

Five Grave Precepts

You have received Three Pure Precepts; now Five Grave Precepts

these are Precepts of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas:

Affirm life — **Do not kill** ■*

Be giving — **Do not take what is not freely given** ■*

Honor the body — **Do not engage in sexual misconduct** ■*

Manifest truth — **Do not speak falsely** ■*

Proceed clearly — **Do not cloud the mind with intoxicants** ■*

You must not break these precepts.

Please observe these precepts as you have promised

Celebrant and Initiate bow

*(*Celebrant*: Will you observe this Precept until you realize Buddhahood?)

Initiate after clackers: Yes Sensei)

Celebrant: You have received Three Refuges; Three Pure Precepts;

Five Grave Precepts

Will you observe these precepts until you realize Buddhahood?

You must not break these precepts.

Please observe these precepts as you have promised

Celebrant and Initiate bow

On Receiving the Precepts

Celebrant: When sentient beings receive the Precepts

they enter the realm of the Buddhas

which is none other than the Great Enlightenment

Truly they are the children of Buddha