

Earth, Air, Fire, and Water

POETRY

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"Today I brought free life to many frogs. That certainly is good karma for me and for the frogs." Immediately Kyong Ho Sunim said, "That's wonderful action but you will go to hell!"

Yong Song Sunim was very surprised, "You said it's wonderful action. But why do you say I will go to hell?" "Frog is free but you will go to hell," said Kyong Ho Sunim. Yong Song Sunim begged him to explain. Kyong Ho Sunim said, "You keep saying 'I' brought free life to frogs; this 'I' will go to hell." Then Yong Song Sunim understood and bowed to him.

Therefore, anytime you have "I," you have a problem. Our teaching is only do it. Don't make I. When you do a good action, it's not "I make good action"; it's your original job as a human being. It's your payment to the four elements, to the sun, the moon, the stars, the universe. A helping action is not good, not bad. Nature does its job without making good or bad. Water is flowing; is that good or bad? Sky is blue, tree is green; is that good or bad?

Don't make anything. Just do it.

Bowing in Korean

National Treasure Number 49

Your cracked face

Roof curves ancient as

Synclines

Standing 1200 years

of wind strain, frost

And mending human love

For no one in particular

Wider than both arms' circumference

Your great limbs, columns,

Dry cracked from centuries

Of bowing

As I do

For no one in particular

Jan Sendzimir

The Whole World is a Single Flower

Korea trip leaves August 16, 1990



Ellen Sidor

The seasons are changing . . . soon it will be time for the second triennial visit to Korea of School members world-wide. Tentative schedule includes: depart for Seoul Thursday, August 16 from New York/Los Angeles; second **Whole World is a Single Flower** ecumenical gatherings August 20-23; tour of Korea's temples August 24-30; leave Korea Saturday, September 1.

Korea's temples are a unique cultural, historical and architectural testimony to a glorious Buddhist civilization. This year's tour will include three days in the rarely-visited Eastern part of the country. This region includes the spectacular Sorak mountain range; Shi-nungsa temple, which lays claim to being the oldest Zen temple, predating even Hui-neng; and Naksan-sa temple, with its majestic statue of Kwan Seum Bosal right on the edge of the sea. We will conclude with a journey to the central and southern part of Korea, home to, among others: Haein-sa temple, site of the "Tripitaka Koreana", the entire Buddhist canon carved in 1251 A.D. on 81,137 blocks of wood; Sokkuram Buddha, one of the finest achievements of Buddhist sculpture in the Far East; and the great temples of Pomo-sa and Bulguk-sa.

The cost of the trip is estimated at \$1250, subject to change depending on group size. Price includes: Round-trip airfare; all meals; tour buses and guides; group accommodations at the host temples; and visa preparation. This extraordinary price is possible because of the hospitality of Korean Buddhism. Please let us know your plans as soon as possible; a \$600 deposit is due by **June 1, 1990**; full payment will be due by **July 1, 1990**. Your cooperation is essential to reserving group-rate seats. For further information, please contact:

The Kwan Um  School of Zen

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