

▶ ▶ ▶ **After attaining** total freedom on Duk Sahn Mountain,
Drinking in one gulp all the five oceans.
Black and white are all extinguished in every corner of the world, bringing a fresh breeze to the world of blue eyes.

Korean Buddhist Chogye Order's Great Dharma Master Seung Sahn Haeng Won Dae Soen Sa Nim!

The sun that was bright until yesterday is now dark and cold.
All the surface of the great earth is dark and even celestial beings following the stars lost their light and are timid.

There is nothing higher than original action, and as according to universal law ten thousand things appear and disappear, and all appearances in name and form come and go according to the cycle of nature. Yet your departure leaves us at a tremendous loss.

Attaining so early your true self and the truth beyond life and death, you revealed this to us through your example, only following the teaching of Zen Master Man Gong's "the whole world is a single flower."

Yet, for those suffering beings who still do not understand that life and death itself are emptiness, our minds are full of the tears of sorrow that continue to flow.

Great Dharma Master Seung Sahn Dae Soen Sa Nim!

You are the great pioneer who spread Korean Zen Buddhism in the world in one single lifetime. Starting from Hong Boep Won in Japan to the United States, Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore and to Poland, in 32 countries and over 120 centers, over 50,000 students have appeared. Declaring,

*Bringing the suffering world to substance world,
Substance world to truth world,
Truth world to correct function world,
There is not one minute nor second to waste
In order to save the whole universe through the great bodhisattva way.*

You manifested the power of your great vow, and as Buddha bodhisattva, spread the great power of your dharma. Finding places devoid of dharma, you watered them with the teaching, and opening up the gate of Zen in the materialistic western world, you rang the bell of awakening in order to put out the fire of samsara. Isn't it a wonder that so many people honor you now, yet you are so humble as to say, "I am merely a practitioner who happened to bring Korean Zen to the west."

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Great Dharma Master Seung Sahn Dae Soen Sa Nim!

Looking back, you were born in 1927 in Soon Chon, in Pyong An Do Province, and entered the monastery in Choong Chung Do's Ma Gok Sah temple. You were the disciple of Zen Master Ko Bong from whom you received transmission, and following Zen Masters Kyong Ho and Man Gong, you continued to establish the Lin Chi dharma lineage.

Later, in 1960 at the age of 33, you established the original Korean Buddhist Newspaper, and in 1961 you held the position of Deputy Administrative Director of the Chogye Order, some of the many roles in which you were instrumental for the Chogye Order of Korean Buddhism.

Also in 1962, during the instability of the Comprehensive Order of Bhikkus and Dae Chuhs, you were prominent in leading an interim order.

Your great energy to transmit the dharma and to be the pillar of our Order carrying the teachings, all come from the fact that you are a living Buddha and like no other Zen Master before or after you, your dharma energy commands such great respect.

We bow in deep respect at your never giving up practicing mind and your wisdom sword speech by which you convince all people of this world of the dharma.

Seung Sahn Haeng Won Dae Soen Sa Nim!

Now you are a great free man, having spread the wind of Zen in every part of the world. Your last word before departing is, again, deeply in our hearts; "Don't worry! When mountain is blue and water flows, that is truth." It is the bone of Zen teaching and the face of truth beyond life and death. Yet, your students from all over the world still very much need your compassionate teaching.

*Going into a forest,
Grass does not move.
Going into water
Waves do not appear.*

Seung Sahn Haeng Won Dae Soen Sa Nim!

Though you have left for the world of complete stillness, have mercy on the sentient beings of this world, and please return again in your never changing form to save all beings from suffering.

In hapjang, I humbly offer a stick of incense.

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*Korean Buddhist Chogye Order
Administrative Director
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