

Transmission Poem for Dae Jin Mu Shim Zen Disciple:

That time which is very quiet and still, is filled with clarity and brightness.
Stillness and brightness are originally not empty.
The Great Truth (Dae Jin) appears in front of you.

May 19, 2002 Man of Duk Seung Mountain Zen Master Seung Sahn

## DHARMA COMBAT

**Question:** Many years ago I sat retreat with you in Korea. You were the head dharma teacher.

**ZMDJ:** Really?

**Q:** Yeah. So last night, there was a lot of dancing and singing, but I didn't see you out there dancing. I want to know, is dancing correct practice?

**ZMDJ:** You already understand.

**Q:** I ask you.

**ZMDJ:** [Gets up and dances]

Q: Good morning.

**ZMDJ:** Good morning.

**Q:** Seven years ago, you asked me, what's the biggest thing in the world? But I'm not asking you about that. Now I wonder, what's the smallest thing in the world?

**ZMDJ:** You already understand.

Q: So I ask you. ZMDJ: Your mouth. Q: I should be so lucky!

**Q:** Mu Shim Su Nim, many years ago, you traveled with Zen Master Seung Sahn to Hong Kong. Then, we had lunch together; then, when you were already full, the Zen Master wanted you to help him finish the food. You said, "Yes, sir," and you continued to eat and eat. Were you practicing no mind, just eat? Or were you with the mind just to help your teacher?

to help your teacher? **ZMDJ:** Today I had Polish cottage cheese for breakfast.

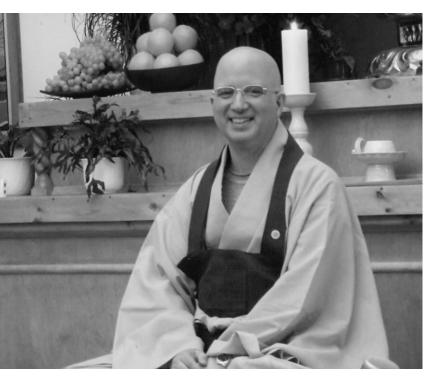
**Q:** Do you like it?

**ZMDJ:** I didn't like it. Do you want more?

**Q:** Are you answering?

**ZMDJ:** I already answered your question. Today, I had cottage cheese for breakfast.

Q: Thank you very much.



On September 21, 2008 Mu Shim Sunim received transmission

at Warsaw Zen Center and became Zen Master Dae Jin.

## DHARMA SPEECH

[Raises the Zen stick over his head, then hits the table with the stick.]

Private is public. Public is private. What's the meaning of this?

Form is emptiness, emptiness is form.

[Raises the Zen stick over his head, then hits the table with the stick.]

What's the meaning of this?!
No private, no public. No form, no emptiness.

[Raises the Zen stick over his head, then hits the table with the stick.]

What's the meaning of this? Private is just private. Public is just public. Form is just form. Emptiness is just emptiness.

So, three statements.

Private is public, public is private.

No private, no public.

Private is just private. Public is just public. Form is just form and emptiness is just emptiness.

So, three statements. Which one is correct? Which one is false? What is the truth?

If somebody says they find which one is correct, this big stick will hit them thirty times.

But, if they cannot find which is correct, also this big stick will hit them thirty times.

Why is that?

KATZ!

Six years ago, one poem in Chinese appeared. Today, here in Falenica, Poland, we have the second day of the Whole World is a Single Flower Conference.

Now my dharma talk is already finished. But, many people don't understand. So I will now explain a little bit. This explaining is a little bit like painting legs on a snake. Actually, the snake is already complete without legs. But, I will put the legs on a little bit.

Six years ago, Zen Master Seung Sahn called me to his room. He said, "Get ready. Soon we have transmission ceremony." At that time, I was not really so enthusiastic about doing this and when I looked at the Zen Master I saw also he was not very well. His body was very sick. So, I only said, "Yes, sir, I will get ready and prepare for that. But soon you go to the hospital for some operation." Then he said, "No problem, I have operation, no problem." But, after that operation, a ceremony was not possible, because the Zen

Master was much more ill after that. So, at that time, inside I had this little question, "Ah, maybe I won't get some transmission because of this, but I will just continue practicing as before."

Then, something funny happened. Maybe six months later, my teacher called me; Zen Master Seung Sahn called me on the telephone and said, "You must go to Mu Sang Sah and become abbot there!" I was busy making a Zen center somewhere else in Korea, but I said only, "Oh, yes, sir, I will go to Mu Sang Sah."

Then, about two weeks after I was at Mu Sang Sah, again I got a call from my teacher. He said, "Please come to Seoul, I have a calligraphy for you." Then he said, "But this calligraphy is very expensive." He said, "You must bring much money." Then I said, "How much money, sir?" "One million dollars!" Then he changed and said, "No, one million Korean Won."

So, I prepared one million Korean Won and put it in an envelope. Then I went to Seoul, and I went to Zen Master Seung Sahn's room and bowed to my teacher. Then he took out this calligraphy that you just saw. Then, also, I took out my money. I kept my appointment. Then he explained this calligraphy to me. He said, "You must understand this very clearly." Then, I looked at this and understood this. Then he said, "Let's go together, we have lunch together." Then we went out for lunch at a restaurant. He said, "Today Mu Shim Sunim buy lunch." So we had lunch together, and that was the last he talked about this transmission thing.

One time, maybe a year later, I went to Seoul and I said to him, "But what about this transmission? When do I become a Zen master?" He just looked at me and he said, "Kwan Um School, Kwan Um School." Then I understood that this was not my private affair. So that's why, when I started this dharma talk, I said "Private becomes public. Public becomes private." So what you think is private and what you think is yours, someday won't be yours. Someday it will be everybody's.

[Raises the Zen stick over his head, then hits the table with the stick.]

So, I got one poem from Zen Master Seung Sahn. What did I get? Certainly not mind.

[Raises the Zen stick over his head, then hits the table with the stick.]

Maybe also not Buddha.

[Raises the Zen stick over his head, then hits the table with the stick.]

Not anything at all.

Is that correct?

Nowadays it's very cold in Poland. Take good care of your health. Thank you everybody.