

# Pure Love

*Zen Master Bon Shim*

*Speech given at the funeral ceremony, Paris, April 23, 2013.*



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It's so hard to accept that our teacher is gone, while not so long ago we were sitting, chanting, eating and laughing together.

But to tell you the truth, I am not really worried about him, because he has already entered nirvana. I am concerned about our sangha, about our staying together, keeping together, helping one another, loving one another. That is exactly what our beloved teacher did for so many years: he took care of us—in the spirit of being very tolerant and very open, not rejecting anybody. And I really hope we will continue this way.

On behalf of the European sangha—the whole sangha—I really would like to thank our teacher so much for all those years, for this straightforward, straight-to-the-point teaching, for his wisdom and compassion.

On one side, this last teaching that he gave us is very, very sad. But on the other side, the fact of being here together in this profound moment is an uplifting experience. In this kind of moment there is no life; there is no death; there is no coming; there is no going; there is just pure love.

Thank you. ♦

