



THE ZEN STUDIES SOCIETY
DAI BOSATSU ZENDO KONGO-JI

SHINGE ROKO SHERRY CHAYAT ROSHI, ABBOT

Dear Sangha,

After deep reflection on all the painful events, discussions, and decisions that have occurred over the past year or so, I have requested that the Board of Directors bring in a professional mediation group, called An Olive Branch. They can help us in a process of open listening, which I feel is the only way we can begin to heal and restore trust.

It is my profound wish that we bring this about, so that we can go forward in a positive way at Dai Bosatsu Zendo Kongo-ji, the New York Zendo Shobo-ji, the Zen Center of Syracuse Hoen-ji, Seattle's Chobo-ji, and other associated practice centers, creating an atmosphere of openheartedness, kindness, and mutual respect. These attributes are integral to authentic Rinzai Zen practice, in keeping with the compassionate and noble teachings of the Buddha.

A first mediation meeting with Eido Roshi and members of the Board occurred in early May. A Council meeting with Dai Bosatsu Zendo residents and near-residents and the entire Board occurred in early June.

An all-Sangha meeting with the mediation team will take place on the weekend of August 26-28 at Dai Bosatsu Zendo. We thought this would be a good place to meet, since a large group, including those from out of town, can be accommodated here. To register, please contact the DBZ office (office@daibosatsu.org).

Every single person who has been part of the Zen Studies Society family must have the opportunity to be heard. Please come and share your experiences and feelings, so that we can create and uphold a healthy and inspiring practice environment for us and for future generations.

Gassho,

Shinge Roko Sherry Chayat, Abbot