



Genjo

Posts: 56

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antisipam: No



Re: Sexual misconduct by Buddhist teachers (was Eido Tai Shi

by [Genjo](#) on Mon Oct 10, 2011 6:28 pm

genkaku wrote:

For further elucidation, courtesy of The Rev. Nonin Chowaney and Genjo Marinello Roshi, it might be useful to consider the following assertions within past presentations:

http://www.shimanoarchive.com/PDFs/20100522_Nonin_Declarations_ZFI.pdf

and

http://www.shimanoarchive.com/PDFs/20100609_Marinello_AZTA.pdf

These too might be well-served with some version of "I'm sorry."

Dear all,

As for my AZTA post it should never have become public, but I referenced my own post trying to support the claim that Eido Roshi had truly reformed and that there had been no report of any sexual misconduct for 15 years. I now know differently, I was wrong, but at the time I really believed this with all my heart. However, within hours of posting it, I realized I should not have referenced an AZTA post at all, even mine, and withdrew it, but not before Kobutsu got a hold of it. He is quick! Which I love, but also hate because there is no room to rethink or reconsider.

I also said, Eido Roshi's previous bad behavior was "not even illegal just unconscionable by our standards, still it is not like he forced, bribed, coerced or paid anyone to have sex with him." On this claim, I was wrong again, I have heard credible accounts that Eido Roshi did indeed coerce and even force sexual relations with students, and there are credible claims he has indeed paid for sex off campus. I also said of sexual relations with students that "the power dynamic is totally lopsided and his responsibility for these actions is 80% or more, but not all his." This too is partially in error, because it is incomplete. As I have previously said on this forum, Eido Roshi was 100% responsible for the ethical breach. If he had been adequately held responsible for these earlier breaches, many lives would have been spared great psychological damage. I've also said here, "age difference, depth of professional relationship, who pursues whom, and recidivism does matter in determining the severity of the ethical breach" and "I completely agree that the power dynamic can sometimes be so great between a spiritual teacher and their students, that if it is the case that the teacher is pursuing aggressively a much younger vulnerable student, such actions are so lopsided as to border on rape."

I also said in my AZTA post which was written in June of 2009, "This current controversy, over old material, has been and continues to be fanned by four men with old grudges, intent to 'bring him down,' as one said directly. By the way, none of the four men I am referring to are members of AZTA, but please be aware that a man who was declined membership in AZTA, in part because Eido Roshi would not acknowledge him as a Dharma Teacher, started the current wave of vilification."

I never named the four men, but people have correctly guessed three of the four I had in mind, Kobutsu Malone, Adam Genkaku Fisher and Stuart Lachs. Many have suggested that the fourth unnamed man was Robert Atken, but he was not who I was thinking of. I never thought the release of the Shimano Archive kept at the University of Hawaii was a bad thing, in fact I said in this same AZTA post, "We should remember the past so that we learn not to repeat old errors. It's true that among the many transgressions of many teachers, Eido Roshi's history makes a good case study.", which turns out to be a gross understatement.

Anyway, I hereby publicly apologize to these four men, they have done a great service in exposing Eido Roshi's miss use of power and position. I particularly apologize to Rev. Kobutsu Malone for so doubting his motives based on the information I had at the time, much of it I now know was either in error or minimally incomplete. Having some idea of what he and his family have suffered at the hands of Eido Roshi or others associated with ZSS, I am so very saddened by his experience, and have worked as hard as I can to keep Eido Roshi away from new students and to turn the organization he helped birth to a profoundly new course.

With palms together,

Genjo

Last edited by [Genjo](#) on Tue Oct 11, 2011 2:13 am, edited 3 times in total.

Abbot of Dai Bai Zan Cho Bo Zen Ji (Chobo-Ji) temple, Seattle, USA; psychotherapist and certificated spiritual director.

<http://www.choboji.org>