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**Date:** September 25, 2012 4:31:21 PM GMT+02:00

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Next Jukai Class with Shinge Roshi

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## THE ZEN STUDIES SOCIETY

Dear Sangha Members at ZSS and Hoen-ji,

Several people have asked me about taking the precepts. I would like to begin a new jukai class combining both Sanghas. The Jukai ceremony is one in which the student receives the Buddhist precepts, which serve as the basis for how we live. While in the absolute, undifferentiated realm of true realization there is no good or bad, no right or wrong, we conduct our lives in the relative realm, in which we must have full awareness of the karmic consequences of each thought, word, and deed. So to receive and live by the precepts means to commit to living the life of a Bodhisattva, deepening our insight and compassion through dedicated practice. "Ju" is a synonym for "kaku," "to realize." "Kai" means "precepts," but is also a synonym of Buddha-nature. So in the most profound sense, Jukai means "to realize Buddha-nature."

Those who would like to apply may contact me either through [Hoen-ji](#), or [Dai Bosatsu](#).

The requirements are: a curriculum of study; at least one year's consistent Zen practice at and support of one of our temples; participation in at least two three-day sesshins at Hoen-ji, six all-day sittings at Shobo-ji, and at least one five- or seven-day sesshin at DBZ; and attending this fall's Harvest Sesshin at DBZ (Nov. 3-10). Those who apply will receive a reading list and information on sewing (or purchasing through the DBZ office) a rakusu. Jukai will take place at Holy Days sesshin, DBZ, April 6-13, 2013.

Deadline for applications will be October 8.

Gassho,



Shinge

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