

Rev. Kobutsu Malone

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Eizan Goto, Roshi – Abbot
Ryūtaku-ji 龍沢寺 Monastery Sawaji
Mishima-shi Shizuoka-ken 411 Japan

An open letter of inquiry – Shimano Eido. 嶋野栄道

Dear Roshi,

法座下

The recent disclosures about Eido Shimano has raised serious questions in the minds of many American Zen students concerning his background and lineage. We are seeking your assistance in answering two simple questions:

- Is Eido Shimano a recognized Dharma heir of Soen Nakagawa Roshi?
- Do the attached documents constitute proof of Shimano having received “inka” from Soen Nakagawa?
- If so, (a) is there any evidence that Soen Nakagawa ever revoked or otherwise disavowed this “inka” and (b) is this “inka” recognized by Ryutaku-ji or any recognized Rinzai Zen institution.

Of course, many individuals are aware of a purported “transmission” ceremony that took place in the United States in 1972, and that Eido Shimano has claimed to be Soen Nakagawa’s dharma heir (and Yamamoto Genpo Roshi’s dharma “grandson”) since that time.

Available public records of Ryutaku-ji’s lineage, however, do not list Shimano as a successor of Soen Nakagawa.

I look forward to receiving your answer to these questions.

九拜

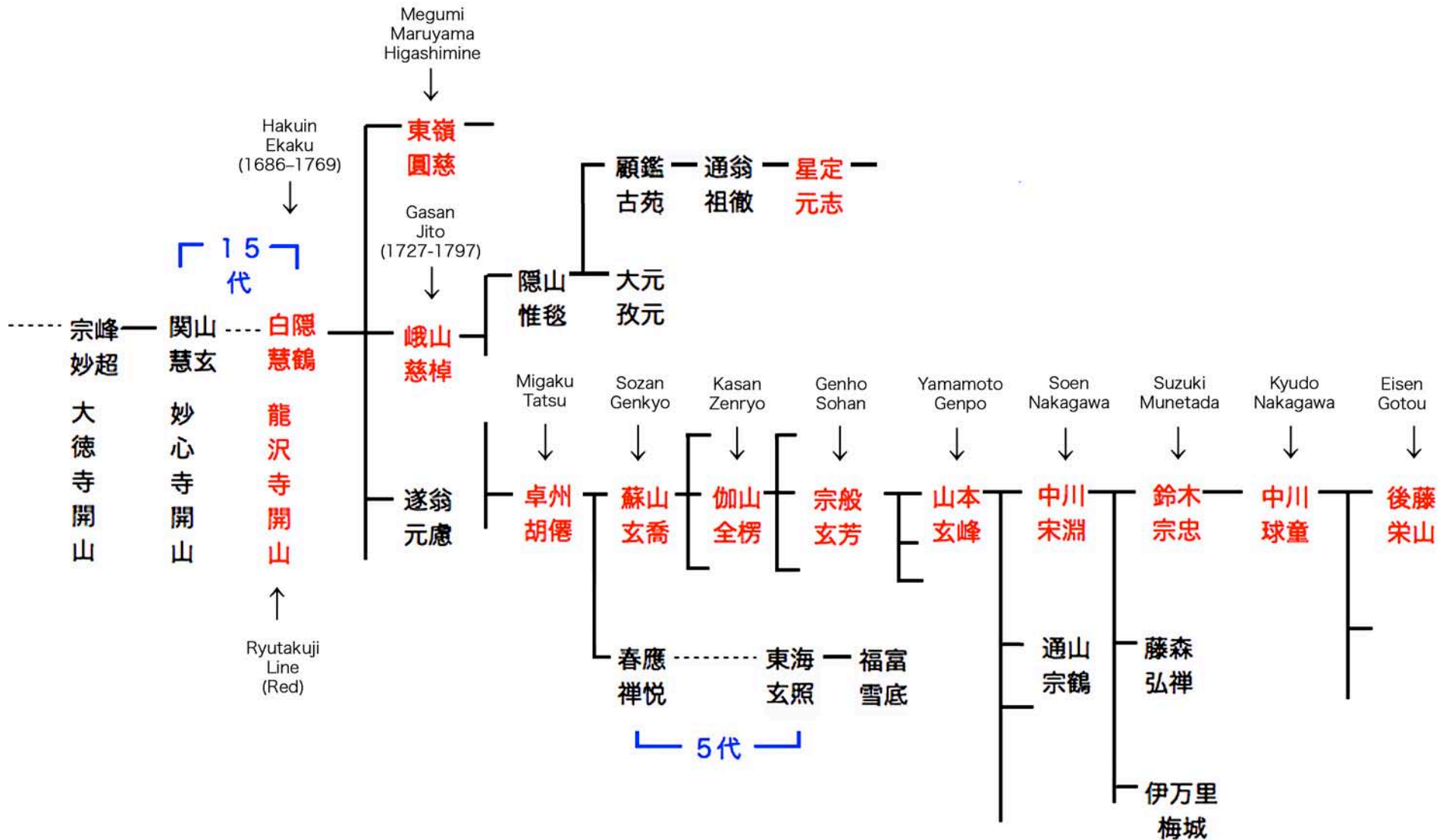
Kobutsu



Kobutsu Malone
古佛新道

Dharma Transmission from the Zen Master Hakuin

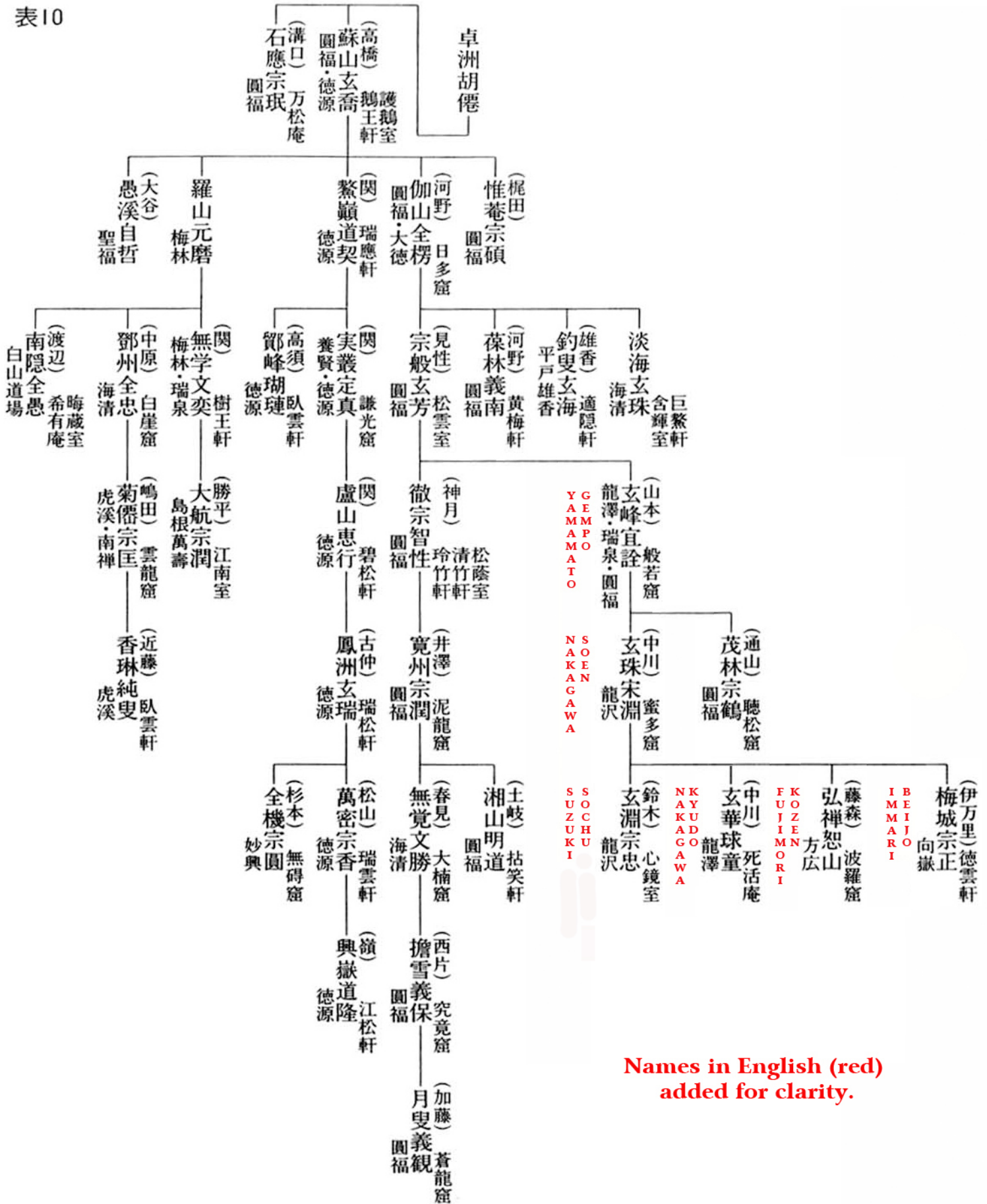
白隠禪師からの法系



From the Rinzai-shu Daitokuji-ha Yuusenji in Shizuoka web site:

http://www.geocities.jp/pycbb333/index_016.htm

表10



無位空



與
榮道人

1972年9月15日

蜜多窟

宋澗焚香





Finished, finished—when it is completely finished—there is nothing to finish

To Mui Shitsu [Eido Roshi] from Mitta Kutsu [Soen Roshi],
September 15, 1972, for official acknowledgment of *inka*