

Thank you for your letter

From: Shohaku@aol.com

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Subject: Thank you for your letter

To: gpatchey@sonic.net

Dear Petchey-san,

In the beginning of May I went back to Japan to attend the first memorial service at Antaiji. Uchiyama Roshi's ash was buried both at Antaiji and Nokein in Uji where Uchiyama Roshi lived for a long time until his death. It was so nice to visit Uchiyama Roshi's grave and meet many of my old dharma friends. Now, I strongly feel my responsibility to continue to practice and transmit Uchiyama Roshi's practice and teachings in this country.

Thank you very much for your letter regarding "The Bridgeless Bridge." I deeply appreciate your interest in establishing a practice place where people can experience the simple and deep zazen practice. Since I started to work for Soto Zen Education Center two years ago, I have a difficulty to work on my vision of Sanshin Zen Community because of busy schedule. I hope three years later, when my tenure at SZEC is over, I will be able to work on the vision of Sanshin practice place.

The office of SZEC will move to Sokoji in S.F. in the end of July. I am going to move to S.F. Zen Center on the last week end of June (26th or 27th).

I am going to Japan on June 30th and will be in Japan in the first half of July and start to live at the Zen Center from the second half of July. I am looking forward to work at Sokoji and practice at the Zen Center with the people in the Bay Area.

Recently, I read the book "Crucked Cucumber" and understood the many links which have been connecting my practice at Antaiji and other places to many people and many things happened at San Francisco Zen Center. If you didn't go to Antaiji, I didn't study English at ILC, I didn't come to this country and I will not move to Sokoji and the Zen Center. I feel this is a very deep connection of Dharma.

I look forward to meeting you in San Francisco.

Gassho,

Shohaku Okumura

