

This is a brief edited summary of a Suzuki lecture. Corrected by Gordon Geist using the original Shaw translation.

October 1962 Wind Bell

**MODEL SUBJECT NO. 3 FROM THE BLUE CLIFF RECORDS (HEKIGAN ROKU)
SUN-FACED BUDDHAS, MOON-FACED BUDDHAS**

Introduction:

Although you are looking forward to the bliss of teaching, you do not know that you are always in the midst of the teaching. Once you are convinced of your innate holy nature, your true life comes to bloom.

This true life is beyond aspiration or criticism. All the demons may come out from hell, but they cannot touch even one of their strongest fingers to you. All the Buddhas in the three worlds come up to you to honor your supreme life.

The true life is quite personal to you and essential to all existence.

Main Subject:

Baso, the great teacher, was unwell. The temple's chief accountant visited him. "Sir, during these recent days, how is your health?" The teacher said: "Sun-faced Buddhas, Moon-faced Buddhas."

Introduction to the Main Subject:

In the world of wabi and sabi there is no attempt, no attainment, no anger, joy, sorrow, or any waves of mind of this kind whatsoever. Each existence in this world is the fruit of subjective self-training and objective pure and direct understanding. The savor of fruits comes home to our heart, and confirmation of reality takes place. We observe falling flowers at their best. By repeating this kind of direct experience, one may have calm and deep understanding of life and deliverance from it, like a traveling monk who has full appreciation of everything and is nonetheless completely detached from it.

Now may I call your attention to the following subject:

Main Subject:

Attention! Ummon introduced the subject saying: I do not ask you about fifteen days ago. But, fifteen days hence? Come, say a word or verse about this. He himself replied for them: Every day is a good day.

Note:

Today does not become yesterday and Dogen Zenji states that today does not become tomorrow. Each day is its own past and future and has its own absolute value.

