

FEEL

This booklet introduces several hidden charms of Kiyomizu-dera, its origin, and the teachings of Kannon, together with information about annual events.

KIYO MIZU DERA

2015, SPRING

CALLIGRAPHY OF KIYOMIZU-DERA

http://feel.kiyomizudera.or.jp/

FEEL KIYOMIZUDERA



清水寺の日々を切り取った写真アーカイブもぜひご覧ください。 Check our photo archive page to show every impressive moment of Kiyomizu-dera.

tumblr. http://feel-kiyomizudera.tumblr.com/

☐ Instagram http://instagram.com/feel\_kiyomizudera

Otowa-san Kiyomizu-dera Temple boasts a history of over 1200 years. Although a great number of people visit this place every year, the Kannon worship relating to the origin of this temple is not well known. The special website, "Approaching Kiyomizu" was created to convey various aspects of the teachings of Kannon worship, along with a stunning video capturing the areas where access is ordinarily restricted which can be found at "Feel Kiyomizu" and also the "Words of Wisdom" preached by Seihan Mori, the chief abbot of Kiyomizu-dera.

SPECIAL WEBSITE

清水へ参る道

http://feel.kiyomizudera.or.jp

#### [成就院 月の庭]特別公開 Special Opening of the Moon Garden, Jojuin

■2015年4月25日~5月13日 April 25 – May 13, 2015



清水寺の本坊塔頭、成就院庭園(名勝)の特別公開をいたします。「月の庭」と評される 清麗な庭園美をお楽しみください。また、日本画家の箱崎睦昌氏による「清水寺平成縁 起絵巻」も同時公開いたします。

The garden of Jojuin hall, which is used as the chief priest's living quarters in Kiyomizu-dera, will be opened to the public for a limited time. Come and enjoy this exquisite garden, a cultural treasure that is also renowned as the "Moon Garden." The Heisei picture scrolls depicting the origins of Kiyomizu-dera by traditional Japanese style painter Mutsumasa Hakozaki will also be exhibited.



#### [観音さまをもっと知る 北法相宗 仏教文化講座]

#### Learn more about Kannon

A lecture on Buddhism and its culture (Kita-Hosso sect)

- 例月第二·第四日曜日
- ■午前7時半(冬期8時)から大講堂の円通殿にて開催 ※同日午前7時(冬期7時半)から観音経読誦会を本堂にて実施

良慶和上が昭和41年(1966)年から開講された仏教文化講 座。観音さまをもっと知り、身近に感じていただける機会で す。どなたもご参加、聞法(もんぽう)していただけます。

Date: The second and fourth Sunday of every month

Time: 7:30 a.m. (8:00 a.m. in winter)

Place: Entsu-den in the lecture hall (Daikodo)

\*The meeting for Kannon Sutra chanting is held at 7:00 a.m. (7:30 a.m. in winter)

The late Ryokei Wajo (a Buddhist priest) gave his first lecture here in 1966. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about Kannon worship and to become more familiar with Kannon. Anyone can participate and listen to this lecture.

お届けします。



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本紙は清水寺の催しや縁起を通 して、まだ知られていなかった清 水寺の魅力や観音さまの教えを



水



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祉施設の開設や児童

Ryokei Wajo first became a priest of Kiyomizu-dera in 1914, a time of upheaval with the anti-Buddhist movement (haibutsu kishaku) in the Meiji era. Kiyomizu-dera was no exception, with a number of Buddhist images and altar fittings destroyed and scattered around its compound, and the temple buildings left beyond repair. It is said that even Jojuin, a monks' living quarters where Ryokei Wajo lived, was devastated to the point that its inhabitants needed umbrellas on rainy days even while inside the building.

In those harsh times, Ryokei Wajo started

devotedly practicing the teachings of Kannon with this motto in mind: "Buddhism should contribute to society." He began numerous charitable activities, such as establishing the first nursing facilities for the elderly in Kyoto and running children's institutions. He also prayed for the souls of victims of the Great Kanto Earthquake and volunteered in reconstruction efforts, as well as aiding in the revival of Kiyomizu pottery. His contributions are innumerable. In the end, his continual and enthusiastic endeavors would lead to the revival of Buddhism as a whole.

One of the calligraphic works he left, Yuishinzo (page 04), represents the teaching of the Hosso school (whose alternate name is the Consciousness-Only school), to which Kiyomizu-dera belongs. These three Chinese characters, meaning "all things are the reflection of our consciousness," embody Ryokei Wajo's principle of working for the public good.

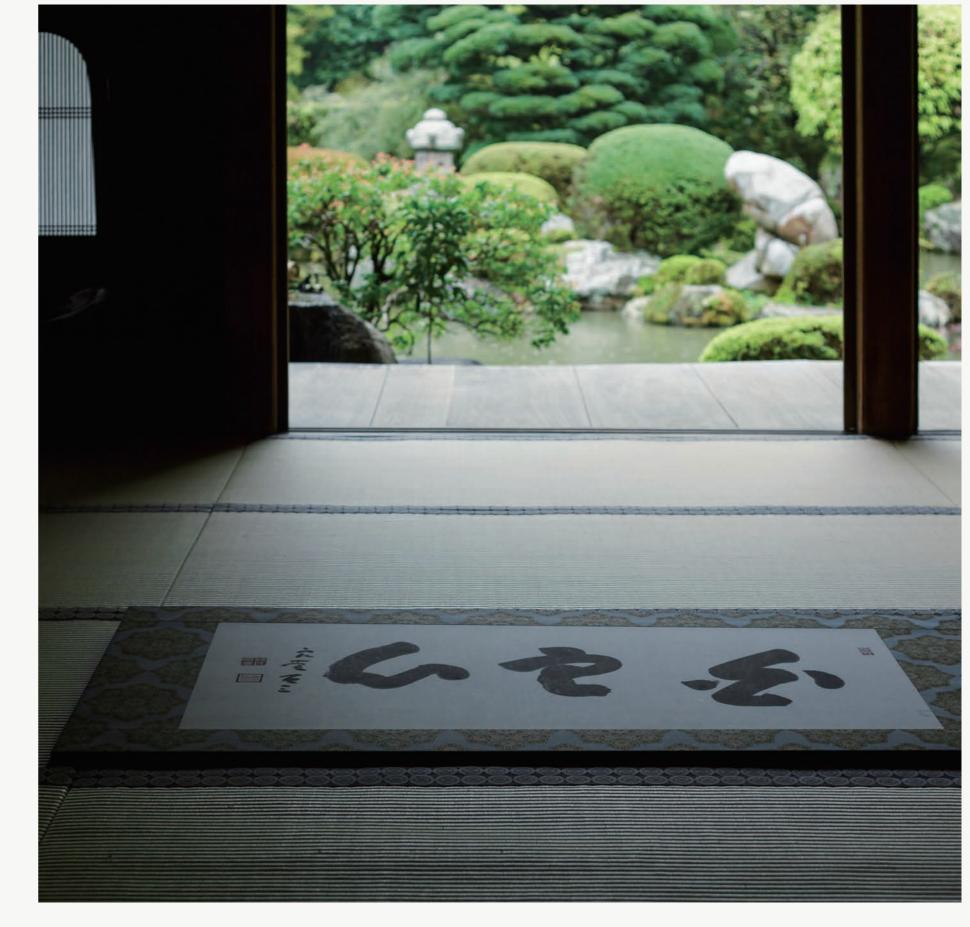
Inside the buildings of Kiyomizu-dera hang many calligraphic works by Ryokei Wajo and other Buddhist leaders. As you visit the temple, feel the spirit within their heartfelt writings.

Haku-Un-Shin

白雲心

唯心蔵 Yui-Shin-Zo





Ryokei Onishi —— Born in 1875 in Nara Prefecture. After working as the head priest of Kofuku-ji temple, he entered Kiyomizu-dera and became its chief abbot. He passed away in 1983 at the age of 109.

大 西 良 慶 (おおにし・りょうけい) ――― 明治8年、奈良県生まれ。興福寺住職を経て清水寺に晋山、貫主となる。昭和58年、109才にて没。

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### Ryokei Wajo's Essence and Works of Calligraphy

Seihan Mori, chief abbot of Kiyomizu-dera







## 清水寺貫主 北法相宗管長

【森 清範】

昭和15年、京都・清水生まれ。昭和30年 に清水寺に入山し、大西良慶和上のも とに得度。昭和60年より現職。

Chief abbot of Kiyomizu-dera Chief administrator of the Kita-Hosso school Seihan Mori

Born in 1940 in Kiyomizu, Kyoto. In 1955, he entered Kiyomizu-dera temple and became a monk under Ryokei Onishi Wajo. He has held his

-Seihan Mori looks back the life of spare time, rubbing down a Chinese ink Ryokei Wajo, a priest devoted to preaching and calligraphy.

Ryokei Wajo's personality can be expressed in just one word: "Effort." He was the most self-disciplined person, always keeping his posture upright. During the time I served him, I can hardly recall seeing him relax. Even in his later years, he practiced writing with the brush whenever he had

stick. If his ink ran low, he added water and wrote with thinner ink. It was impressive how he covered every inch of the backs of used wrapping paper sheets with writing, so as not to waste valuable washi (Japanese paper) on his practice.

姿が思

He wrote his calligraphic work Fukosenri, meaning "wind and light will reach a distant land" (page 01), on New Year's Day when he was 109. Just 良慶和上のお人柄、その書

清水寺 貫主 森清範





passed away. Even though cataracts left him with very little eyesight, his brush strokes are amazingly powerful. It is striking for me to recall that he wrote this vigorous work with his mind's eye. As his signature, he used the name Ryokei "Hyakkyu." "Hyak" means one hundred and "kyu" means nine—a play on the number 109, his age at the time. How playful he was!

Hakuunshin, (page 03) a calligraphic

work he created at the age of 103. A calm and imperturbable state of mind like a white cloud is expressed with these three Chinese characters. His powerful strokes of the brush, sloping from left to right, remind me how indomitable and motivated Wajo was in his twilight years.

the brushes and inkstones he would

水寺貫立 1,

over a month later, on February 15, he wall scroll that hangs in Jojuin, is a use, even now I feel as if Wajo were by my side, talking to me in his sonorous "Human society is complicated. That is

why Buddhism exists." To save those who are in hard times, and to preach the Buddha's teachings, he was constantly on the move. His way of life is the model for following Buddhism.

印

It has been thirty-three years since he left this world. When I have a look at

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も夕陽を浴びて る西門は、 極彩色をい う場所だ るこ

A sunset from the Otowa Mountain looks mysterious and nostalgic, but a little melancholic. Near the entrance to the Kiyomizu-dera compound stands the west gate (an important cultural property), which is one of the best places to view the sunset in Kyoto. Many visitors stop in this area to admire the glowing western sky at dusk and take in the mountains west of Kyoto from the front of the gate. What a generous place Kiyomizu-dera is! Such a splendid structure must have been designed just for enjoying the sunset, I wondered. Yet, surprisingly, such is the

のだが「それ

Among various Buddhist practices is Nissokan, one of the meditation methods for envisioning the Paradise of the Pure Land by watching the setting sun. Sakyamuni (Buddha) explained how to practice meditation on the setting sun in the scripture Meditation on the Buddha Infinite Life Sutra, which teaches the existence of Amida Tathagata as well as the Pure Land.

人物が描か

れてい

釈尊は「夕陽に瞑想す

ば行

ら信仰

Sit in position, turn to the west, and gaze at the sun. Focus your mind, concentrate on the meditation without being distracted, and know that the setting sun is shaped like a drum across the sky. After you finish viewing the sun, that vision will remain in your mind whenever you open or close your

いたが、日想観はその

おこな

釈尊は阿弥陀如来を感じ、

極楽浄土

六の観法を

Excerpted from a classical Chinese-Japanese translation of The Triple Pure Land Sutras vol. 2, translated and annotated by Hajime Nakamura, Kyosho Hayashima, and Kazuyoshi Kino (Iwanami Shoten Publishers)

Sakyamuni preached sixteen methods of practicing meditation to feel Amida Tathagata and to reach the Paradise. Nissokan, "visualizing the sun," is the first of these methods.

映像が眼を閉じて

して動揺しな

に沈

The alternate name of the Paradise of the Pure Land, the "Western Paradise," suggests that the Pure Land, Amida Tathagata's world, is understood to be in the west. According to one theory, it is located ten trillion Buddha-lands away. How immeasurably distant from our world it is! Although it seems impossible to reach, Sakyamuni teaches that it can be attained, but only if you meditate at

る。釈尊(仏

存在を説い

分冗談に考えて

清水寺は

こんなに

Meditating on the setting sun at the west gate has long been a standard ritual among devotees. A figure is depicted sitting and meditating at the west gate in the Mandala of Kiyomizu Pilgrimage (circa 1500). This indicates that the west gate was already a holy place for meditation at that time.

I am quite sure that this historically-developed practice is completely different from my personal pleasure - visiting the west gate to enjoy

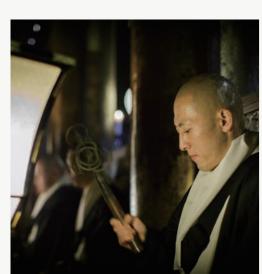
the sunset. But no matter what my intentions are, the Buddha will surely allow me to do as I please, smiling and saying that my pleasure will be blessed. How tolerant the Buddha's heart is.

けは不思議と懐

Nissokan can be practiced anywhere, anytime. Without knowing even a single scripture, you can feel the nature of the Buddha in the glowing sky and picture the Pure Land with the afterimage of the setting sun. Everything depends on your state of mind. The west gate, basked in the evening glow and shining splendidly in full color, remains as such a place.

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る道」の映像で本尊「千手観世音菩薩 像(御前立)」が錫杖を手にしている 様子を公開しています。本尊を守護 する二十八部衆立像とともに立ち並 ぶ清浄なお姿をぜひご覧ください。

The special website "Approaching Kiyomizu" features a stunning video capturing the principle image of Kiyomizu-dera, the Thousand-Armed Kannon Bodhisattva (a replica of the statue), holding a monk's staff. Visit the website and see the virtuous figure, along with the twenty-eight attendants who guard Kannon.

http://feel.kiyomizudera.or.jp/feel/02/

# The sublime tone that leads to spiritual enlightenment

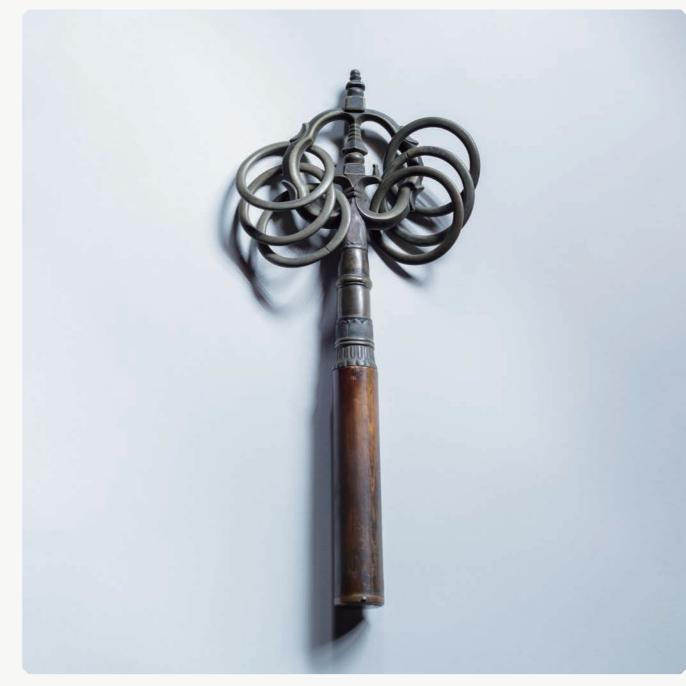
Buddhist altar fittings include "sounding instruments," which are sounded during the chanting of sutras. One of these is the shakujo, a monk's staff that you may have seen being held in Buddhist images. The sacred principal image of Kiyomizu-dera, the Thousand-Armed Kannon Bodhisattva, also holds a long staff in his right hand. The tinkling sound made by the monk's staff keeps the rhythmical pattern during chanting, and also imparts wisdom to listeners to help them renounce earthly desires. The staff is made of a copper-tin alloy, called sahari ("ringing copper") in Japanese, and produces a clear and striking tone. Introduced from India, the birthplace of Buddhism, this type of rod has been handed down from ancient times as a musical instrument. From its Sanskrit name khakkhara, the staff is also known as kitsukira in Japan, a phonetic transliteration into Chinese characters.

The large ring at the head of the staff is shaped like a stupa (Buddhist monument), with three smaller rings attached to both

sides. According to one theory, these six rings represent the "Six Perfections" that a Bodhisattva practices to attain enlightenment.

- Six Perfections
- 1. Giving (donating something significant)
- 2. Morality (keeping the precepts)
- 3. Patience (enduring hardships)
- 4. Effort (endeavoring to practice)
- 5. Meditation (concentrating the mind)
- 6. Wisdom (having great insight)

During a grand ceremony in the temple, the sound created when many monks wield their staffs at once, shake them and strike the ground with them is truly astounding. These sacred staffs play a key role in improving concentration on chants and further purifying the atmosphere inside the hall. For the monks who shake their staffs, each and every tone will serve as a guide to the search for truth that the Bodhisattva indicates.





7 の 音 色 は の 道

Khakkhara





た荘厳仏具の歴史と物語