

The Whole World is a Single Flower

ZEN MASTER SEUNG SAHN

**Edited by Jane McLaughlin JDPSN and Paul Muenzen.
Tuttle, Boston and Tokyo, 1992. ISBN 080483456-3**

This remarkable book is of great importance not only for the variety of the 365 kong-ans, but for Zen Master Seung Sahn's own questions and commentary which accompany each kong-an. This prodding and guidance serve as guideposts along a difficult road to enlightenment. The kong-ans themselves are practice for life — practice for answering the profound and practical questions arising every day.

"...the collection itself is terrific and reveals the incomparably profound, minutely subtle, and disarmingly humorous mind of the master... this is unquestionably one of the finest collections to have appeared since the dawn of Zen in the West." — Tricycle (Buddhist Review)

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An Extract from "The Whole World is a Single Flower"

BY ZEN MASTER SEUNG SAHN

When you try a kong-an, if you don't attain it, don't worry! Don't be attached to the kong-an, and also, don't try to *understand* the kong-an. Only go straight, don't know; try, try, try for ten thousand years, nonstop. Then you attain the Way, the Truth, and the Life, which means from moment to moment keeping the correct situation, correct relationship, and correct function. That is already Great Love, Great Compassion, and the Great Bodhisattva Way.

Not dependent on words,
A special transmission outside the sutras,
Pointing directly to mind,
See your true nature, become Buddha.

If you wish to pass through this gate, do not give rise to thinking. The Buddha taught all the Dharmas in order to save all minds. When you do not keep any of these minds, what use is there for Dharmas?

I hope that every day you don't make any thing, just do it, from moment to moment, attain the 365 kong-ans, get enlightenment, and save all beings from suffering,

The high sky is always blue. Water always flows into the ocean.

— from the introduction by Zen Master Seung Sahn

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