

Staff Roles

TANTO – Spiritual Leader

INJI – Assistant to Roshi

JIKI-JITSU – Meditation Leader

JOKEI – Assistant to Jiki-Jitsu

JISHA – Caretaker and Assistant(s)

INO – Chanting Leader

GYORIN – Drummer

GYOREN - Drummer

Responsibilities

1. Play the densho for Roshi's formal entrance
2. Play mokugyo for Great Wisdom Heart Sutra and Pure Awareness Dharani in the morning service.
3. Play mokugyo for the closing chant of Heart Sutra Dharani at the end of the evening.

Morning Service

Formal Entrance

As the bonsho finishes with ...*soft... soft... LOUD...* begin the densho: *Loud...soft...soft... Loud... Soft... Loud... Soft...* (continuing with this pattern, slow, spacious, ethereal – as Roshi makes his/her entrance, offers incense, offers the water, and offers the candle).

Roshi stands up, unfolds bowing mat, and ... *soft ... soft...* as zagu is placed on floor.
When Roshi stands with hands in gassho ...**LOUD!**

Great Wisdom Heart Sutra

The Gyoren co-leads with the mokugyo and voice. It is necessary to practice with the Ino in order to synchronize this relationship. The drumming must keep a steady beat to anchor the chanting.

The Ino will establish the beat with his/her announcement. There is a small bell after the announcement; then the drum comes in on the next beat (beat on underlined syllable): "Great Wisdom Heart Sutra" **Ding...** A Va Lo Ki Tesh Va Ra...

This begins quite slowly. The Ino will ring a series of bells during the first section of this chant, which is a progression getting faster and faster. With each bell the pace of the chant picks up. Make this transition as gradually as possible. The chant approaches a cruising speed and levels off at "Shariputra." The Ino strikes a large bell on "Shariputra," and the pace at that point should stay the same through the rest of the chant.

The drum beat changes at the end as it moves into the Dharani. The pace, however, should carry through uninterrupted. The momentum of the chant should be unbroken (drum beat on the underlined syllables): ...pro claim this dha ra ni and a wa ken -Tad yatha gate gate para gate para sam gate bodhi swaha.

On the “Tadyatha” the beat changes. The Heart Sutra clips along at one beat per syllable. There is a double beat on Tadyatha (Tad Yatha), and a half-beat for the rest of the Dharani. **Boom boom** on “Tadyatha,” and then on the top of each “Gate.”

Three times through the Dharani. There is a series of bells at the end of third round ending in a progression. The drum should also end in the progression starting on “Bodhi Swaha” of the 3rd round. The progression starts slowly and gets faster with each strike.

Pure Awareness Dharani

The Ino sets a slow beat with the announcement, strikes one small bell, then the drum comes in on the next syllable. “Pure Awareness Dharani” **Ding Look Look Pure Awareness Pure Awareness Yes** ____ Look Look

Keep a slow to moderate pace as the 1st third of the circle is performing their bows in front of the mirror. Gradually move to a moderately energetic pace as the 2nd third of the circle is performing their bows, and energetic cruising speed for the last third. Again make sure that the beat doesn’t go too fast or pull ahead, or people burn out.

The Ino will strike one bell on the second-to-last round, and a series of bells on the last round, culminating in a progression. The drum also does the progression starting on “Awake Swaha.” This is then completed with the **NO** shout. Let the shout empty out, then sit straight and be silent. Quietly, move the mokugyo behind your cushion just before the Four Bows.

Closing Service

At the end of the last zazen period in the evening, the Jokei gets up to go play the han. As he/she is walking out, quietly bring the mokugyo in front of your seat.

The han plays and the Jiki-Jitsu offers incense with bows. At the end of the han, Jiki-Jitsu strikes the bell and announces the “Heart Sutra Dharani” There is a call and response with the bell and drum. **Ding Ding Ding Dink Thunk** “Heart Sutra Dharani” **Ding**

The bell goes dink, and the drum goes thunk. The bell says are you ready? And the drum says “Yes.”

After the announcement, there is one small bell, and the drum picks up on the next beat. Use a double beat on “Tadyatha” each time. Tad Yatha, Gate Gate Para Gate...

This starts somewhat slowly and gradually speeds up to a very energetic chant, so pick it up without going too fast. There is a series of bells on the last round, finishing with a progression.