

# SHINJIN AND SATORI

*Milton Moon*

What's in a name?

Shinjin? Satori? Enlightenment?

A flash of something

not realised before?

A sudden 'Awakening'

a sudden 'ahh'-ness

lasting a moment?

or a whole day?

a sudden earth-shaking week?

or even more?

that you have hidden inside

surprised everyone can't see

plainly and obviously

for all the world to see.

Satori or Kensho is an awakening

for Zen is most famous,

more famed are the books

that are written

that unavoidably compete

with the last one read.

Awareness, enlightenment-ness

means a heightened

even superior human-ness

that one so blessed

is of god's-like status and bearing.

Not so, not so.

Shinjin!

When someone is ready?

not always?

not ever?

some would say

the wisest keep it hidden,

but only the wisest.

There are no rules

some would say

but only that is

a ploy that isn't a ploy,

but teachers, real teachers

are rare and real students

are rarer still and

patience is patience

is rarely understood.

Only, but only, when you are ready.

Many Buddhists there are,

in the cosmic realm

Some have made vows

to save beings

from birth and death.

Some too are upon a celestial

path of buddhahood

like those that they follow.

There are two paths

that can be followed,

both different at different times,

each will have teachers and pupils;

paths of the 'self'

or 'faith'

in Japanese

*jiriki* or *tariki*

self-power

or other-power.

The Power of the Vow.

Amida will show you

when it is time

and you are ready.

Shinran (1173-1263) the founder of Shin Buddhism never described *shinjin*,

leaving all to Amida and the Vow.