



KORYU SHUGEN HONSHU



INTERNATIONAL SHUGENDO ASSOCIATION



KORINJI MONASTERY

### EVENT INFORMATION

**OCTOBER 20-22 EVENT WITH KAKUDO MITSUNAGA DAI-AJARI  
and SHOKAI KOSHIKIDAKE SOKE  
at  
KORINJI - S470 Hirst Road, Reedsburg, Wisconsin USA**

Thank you for your interest in joining us for this remarkable event. Please read the following information carefully!

#### What is this Event?

Kakudo Mitsunaga Dai-Ajari, the great Tendai Buddhist master and a “marathon monk” of Mt. Hiei, will be visiting Wisconsin to give empowerments and teachings. Joining him will be his student, and the Headmaster of the Mt. Koshikidake tradition of Shugendo, Shokai Koshikidake Soke. Also present will be Jun Kawamura Sensei, who is a Shugendo practitioner as well as a teacher of Chanoyu, tea ceremony.

Mitsunaga Dai-Ajari is one of the most respected Buddhist teachers in Japan, and this is his first visit to the United States. Remarkably, while here he will conduct *kechien kanjo* for us. Kechien kanjo is an extremely important empowerment ritual in Japanese esoteric Buddhism. During this ceremony, participants will learn mudra and mantra and, while blindfolded, each toss a flower onto a mandala of buddhas and bodhisattvas spread out upon the floor. Depending on where the flower lands, an affinity link is created between the student and that enlightened being. This ceremony is ancient, and its blessings are immense. Mitsunaga Dai-Ajari does not often perform this ceremony in Japan, and this is the first – and, we believe, only – time he will perform it in the West. Truly, it is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to receive this empowerment from such an eminent master.

The event is sponsored by Koryu Shugen Honshu and its affiliated org International Shugendo Association. It is hosted by Korinji, which is a Rinzai Zen monastery as well as Shugendo training center near Reedsburg, WI. We are grateful to our teacher Koshikidake Soke for organizing this precious opportunity.

You may learn more about Mitsunaga Dai-Ajari, and the kaihogyo (“marathon monk”) training he completed, in this documentary featuring him: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gq3O1g6\\_9Os](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gq3O1g6_9Os)

#### General Information

- ATTENDANCE is limited, please apply asap by filling out and submitting the application form to [info@korinji.org](mailto:info@korinji.org) (you may fill it out digitally - or print it, fill out by hand, and email photos of each page). At that time, you should also submit your 50% deposit as directed on the application form.
- HOTEL: The event donation includes four nights (Thursday-Sunday) accommodation at the Fairfield Inn in the town of Wisconsin Dells. We will be pairing participants in rooms, separating by gender as much as possible. Note: If you are attending this event with someone you wish to room with, if you want to request a solo room, or if you

are a local participant not requiring accommodations, you may make these requests. In those cases, after receiving notification that your application has been accepted, please email Korinji's Project Manager, Greg Dekker, [gregdekker@earthlink.net](mailto:gregdekker@earthlink.net). (There will be an additional charge for solo rooms).

- GROUP TRANSPORTATION: We will arrange transportation for you to and from the hotel each day.
- MEALS: Breakfast each morning is included at the hotel. A simple monastery-style lunch (vegetarian) will be provided at Korinji on Friday-Sunday. Dinners are your own responsibility after returning to the hotel each evening. Sunday we will have a group dinner (location TBA).
- There is no particular physical condition required to attend. We regret that Korinji's rugged terrain does not allow wheelchairs. The minimum age for well-behaved children to participate is 8.

### **Daily Schedule**

The event begins 9am sharp each morning. Departure times from the hotel will be announced. We expect to finish at 6pm on Friday and Saturday, but later – likely 9pm – on Sunday.

*The program during the event includes (subject to change):*

*Friday October 20:*

- Mitsunaga Dai-Ajari will conduct an opening ceremony and blessing for the event.
- There may be a tokudo (ordination ceremony) for a few persons, which all can witness.
- Koshikidake Soke will perform Hashiramoto Shinpo, an important Shugendo ritual, and explain about the deep meaning of Shugendo.
- During the day, instruction in various practices will be given to fit the participants.

*Saturday October 21:*

- Mitsunaga Dai-Ajari will perform Fudo goma.
- After lunch, Dai-Ajari will talk to the participants about his life and training experiences, and take questions.
- Kawamura Sensei will perform Chanoyu, tea ceremony, for the group.
- In the evening, Koshikidake Soke will give a talk, to help the participants understand the profound meaning of kechien kanjo.
- After that, we will start to prepare the hall for kechien kanjo the next day.
- During the day, instruction in various practices will be given to fit the participants.

*Sunday October 22:*

- In the morning we will complete the preparations.
- Mitsunaga Dai-Ajari will perform kechien kanjo.
- Instruction in various practices will be given to fit the participants.
- In the evening, we will have a group dinner party (location TBA).

### **Please Bring the Following**

- Formal practice garments (gi, obi and hakama for laypersons, robes for ordained) are the norm at Korinji. Samue are also fine. But if this is your first event with us, please just wear whatever practice clothing you normally wear...or else any modest clothing (no shorts or tank tops).
- White tabi (or clean white socks): these should be worn at all times during the formal events.

- Outdoor sandals or shoes that can be quickly slipped on and off, for walking between buildings.
- Flashlight or headlamp: useful for walking Korinji's trails after sunset.
- If you are an ISA member or other practitioner, bring your juzu, wagesa, any practice materials, etc. You may have the chance to receive instruction from Koshikidake Soke in various things, so please be prepared. Bring a notebook and pen.

### **What Not to Bring**

- Personal phones, computers, and other electronic or entertainment devices of any kind should be left in your hotel room.
- Cameras. Taking photographs at Korinji is not permitted without prior approval. We will be taking event photos and sharing them.
- Intoxicants or recreational drugs.
- Firearms and other weapons.

### **Rules of the Host Site**

In general, it will help to remember that Korinji is a Buddhist monastery. We ask that you be respectful and careful as you move about. The Korinji residents will be working very hard to host you, so please be ready to lend a hand. Please dress appropriately. Note that romantic display and sexual activity are not appropriate on the Korinji grounds. If you wish to smoke during breaks, there will be a designated area away from the building available to you.

### **Traveling and Arriving**

The closest airport to Korinji is Madison, Wisconsin (MSN). This is about 50 miles away. We regret that we cannot provide transportation from and to the airport, so please determine the best way to arrive at the hotel on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup>, on your own: 511 Wisconsin Dells Pkwy, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965. You will depart the hotel on Monday morning the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Donation**

The donation for the event, which includes all of the above, is \$970. Please see the application form for full information regarding the donation and how to submit the 50% deposit with your application.

**QUESTIONS?** Please contact us: [info@korinji.org](mailto:info@korinji.org).