

(10) Treating spirits with a feeling of awe

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I witnessed countless situations in which spirits set off for the world of light after they felt better and were freed from their pain and agony by receiving a lot of Shinkiko energy. About one year after I had started going across the country to practice Shinkiko therapy as the chairman, that kind of thing became quite common for me. I focused too much on helping ki receivers feel better and on letting the spirits set off for the world of light quickly and ended up with no time to give thought to the spirits. But it was a spirit of a samurai who taught me the importance of thinking of them.

One time, I was transferring ki to a woman, and then a spirit inside her started telling me that one of his (her) shoulders hurt putting his hand over it. I wondered what was wrong with him and continued sending the energy. Then he complained, "My arm is gone, my arm is gone." I asked him what happened; it seemed that one of his arms had been cut off. I thought he could go to the world of light when his pain was gone, so I did not pay much notice to his response and just concentrated on sending the energy. After a while his pain seemed to have gone, but he relentlessly complained of the loss of his arm. I asked him, "Why are you weeping over it so much?" "Because I can no longer hold a sword," he answered. To me it sounded ludicrous that he was despairing over the loss of his arm although he was already in the world of spirit where no physical bodies exist. So I said to him, "This is an age when no swords are needed. You're dead, and have no body; just forget about it and go to the world of light." Then he said, "You never know what it is like for samurai to be unable to hold a sword. You never know," and started telling his story. At first I thought he was just moaning, but soon I realized what he was trying to tell me and the importance of it.

In his time, the life of samurais and their families were guaranteed by swordplay. Their wives and children and their future offspring were all dependent on their sword skill. But the spirit lost not only his family's life and expectations from their ancestors but also dreams and hopes for the future. Come to think of it, his time must have been really tough. In those days there were not as many occupations as there are now. It is beyond our imagination, how desperate it was to lose his job as a samurai. More importantly, thanks to those who survived such hard times, we live in a more peaceful and freer time where swords are unneeded. I had forgotten that each spirit had an irreplaceable life and the accumulation of every spirit's life was forming

our modern life. If every one of us truly understands it, we can treat spirits with a feeling of awe. <To be continued>

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