



*During the Ashes Ceremony there were a number of audible statements made by Baker-roshi. Here are parts of several of them.*

*Opening:*

Suzuki-roshi said, "Which do you prefer, the whole earth or a small stone?" And then he answered himself, "I rather prefer a small stone which we can carry or move."

Suzuki-roshi! We have assembled the disciples, assembling your Great Body. We have moved here for you this favorite stone. But we know your true stupa is hard to see, that your Great Spirit is reflected everywhere.

*Middle:*

This stupa is the body of the Tathagata. Do not try to see it! If you desire to see Shogaku Shunryu-roshi's body: Look here! Just in front of you! By your own Great Vow you will hear his Lion's Roar.

Suzuki-roshi, from now on make this rock your peaceful home. Receive the offers that are flowing from every direction, returning from your own kind heart. Please protect endless generations of practice here.

*End (Eko):*

We have offered light, incense, flowers, something from the sky, something from the earth, something from the sea to this mountain stone, this formless tree, your pure body that we may continue to serve you. Farewell. May we meet you always before us in the light of your wisdom that shines from everything.