

Excerpt from Dogen's Genjokoan

たき木 は ひ と なる、さらにかへりて たき木と なるべき

takigi wa hai to naru, sara ni kaerite takigi to narubeki
Firewood (sb.) ash (ob.) become, again change/return firewood (ob.) can become
[When] firewood becomes ash, it cannot become firewood again.

にあらず。しかあるを、灰は のち 薪 は さきと 見取

ni arazu. shika aru o, hai wa nochi takigi wa saki to ken-shu
is not. However, ash (sb.) after firewood (sb.) before perceive/view - grasp
However, [we] should not view ash as after and firewood as before.

すべからず。しるべし、薪は 薪の 法 位 に住して、

subekarazu. shirubeshi takigi wa takigi no hou I ni juu shite
(should) not. Know (should) firewood (sb.) firewood 's dharma position in reside/live,
[We] should know that firewood lives in the dharma position of firewood

さき あり のち あり。前後 ありと いへども、

saki ari nochi ari. zen-go ari to iedomo
before is/exist after is/exist. before-after are although,
[with] before and after. Although before-and-after exist,

前後 際断せり。灰は 灰の 法 位 にありて、

zen-go sai-dan seri. hai wa hai no hou I ni arite,
before-after limit/time/side - cut/decide/sever (do). Ash (sb.) ash's dharma position in is,
before-and-after are cut off. Ash is in its dharma position

のちありさきあり。かのたき木、はひと なりぬる のち、

nochi ari saki ari. kano takigi hai to narinuru nochi
after is/exist before is/exist. That firewood ash (ob.) has become (completely) after
[with] before and after. Like firewood cannot become firewood again after it has become ash,

さらに 薪と ならざる がごとく、人のしぬる のち、さらに

sara ni takigi to narazaru ga gotoku, hito no shinuru nochi sara ni
again firewood cannot become like this, person die (completely) after again
a person cannot become alive again after they have died.

生と ならず。

shou to narazu
life doesn't become.

しかあるを、生の 死に となると いはざるは、佛法の

shika aru o, **shou no shi ni** naru to iwazaru wa, **buppou no**
However/so, **life (sb.) death (ob.)** become (ob.) say not, **Buddha dharma (sb.)**
However, the established teaching of the Buddha Dharma is not to say life becomes death.

さだまれる ならひ なり。この ゆゑに 不生 といふ。

sadamareru narai nari. kono yue ni **fu - shou** to iu
determined/decided teaching/custom is. This therefore **no/non/not - birth/life (ob.)** say.
Therefore, say [we] say not-life.

死の 生に ならざる、法輪の さだまれる 佛轉なり。

shi no shou ni narazaru, **hou rin no** sadamareru **but-ten nari**
Death (sb.) life/birth (ob.) cannot become, **dharma wheel** determined/decided **Buddha turn/transmission** is.
The established way of Buddha's turning the Dharma Wheel is [that] death cannot become life.

この ゆゑに 不滅 といふ。

kono yue ni **fu - metsu** to iu
This therefore **no/non/not - death/destruction (ob.)** say.
Therefore, say [we] say not-death.

生 も 一時の くらゐ なり、死 も 一時の くらゐ なり。

shou mo ichi-ji no kurai nari, **shi mo ichi-ji no** kurai nari.
Life also **one - time 's position** is, **death also one - time 's position** is.
Life is one time's position, and death is also one time's position.

たとへば、冬と 春 の ごとし。冬の 春と となると おもはず、

tatoeba, **fuyu to haru no** gotoshi. **fuyu no haru to** naru to omowazu
For example, **winter and spring 's** like. Winter (sb.) spring (ob.) become (ob.) don't think,
For example, winter and spring are like this. [We] don't think winter becomes spring,

春の 夏と となると いはぬなり。

haru no natsu to naru to iwanu nari
spring (sb.) summer (ob.) become (ob.) don't say.
[and] we don't say spring becomes summer.