

ABOUT MIKKYO

A lot of mystery surrounds the teachings of mikkyo, just as it once surrounded the art of ninjutsu. Just as one can penetrate the mystery of taijutsu and come to understand its true magic as a very efficient and comprehensive warrior science, one can penetrate the mysteries of life itself through the science of mikkyo. The teachings of mikkyo (tantra) are of the Vajrayana ("the vehicle of the diamond thunderbolt"), and were designed to produce personal enlightenment in this very lifetime.

The word mikkyo can be translated literally as "secret teachings." The teachings are secret not because a select few hoard them for their own private benefit, but because the power of the method is transmitted by means of "under the surface" expressions. The ultimate meaning is not readily obvious with a surface reading. The words of the teachings themselves have little value on the surface. The true value has to be realized by deeper interpretation.

If one were to come across the phrase "reality has no meaning," one might be filled with despair, or brush it off as an ignorant utterance. However, this "secret teaching" contains a profound truth. Words have meaning because they imply a thing beyond themselves, but in the absolute ultimate suchness of things, there is no beyond. Here it is!

The Ultimate Secret reveals all...

It is only secret because it cannot be expressed by anything but itself.

Words are used simply as guide- posts. They are, after all, nothing more than than varying vibrations, just as the words on this page are of themselves nothing more than ink on paper. It is the ideal beyond that words are designed to invoke in the recipient mind.

A common analogy is a man uses his finger to call the attention of another man to the bright full moon in the sky. Instead of looking at the moon, the observer looks at the finger. Not only does he miss the moon, but he misses the finger, because he mistakes the finger for the moon. The same sort of misconceptions occur in idolatry. Idolatry is not the use of images, but mistaking them as being what they represent. (It is true that symbols themselves can be very powerful, but such concepts are too advanced to detail here.) Words by themselves can tend to confuse more than clarify, and most people find the truths of reality to be stunning and shocking. This is the main reason the teachings are passed privately from teacher to student.

Even though the student will experience radical changes in perspective, and may even feel himself pushed beyond what he thought to be his limits, the teacher knows what the student is ready for and is well aware of what he is doing. Words are only one of a number of tools with which the teacher guides his student.

Integral to the study of mikkyo is the knowledge of sanmitsu, "the three secrets," namely thought, word, and deed. The mikkyo practitioner seeks to purify each of these and harmonize them to facilitate the accomplishment of his goals in a powerful and efficient manner. Within the three secrets lies one of the most profound teachings: every thought one thinks, every word one speaks, and every action one makes has an effect upon oneself and the environment (if we can indeed speak of the two as separate). This truth should be obvious, but few of us seem to really consider this in our daily lives.

Science knows that for every action there is a reaction. Physics is discovering that everything is made of vibrations. A particle can have an effect upon another particle without regard to their relative distances from each other. Just as a small pebble tossed into a lake sends ripples over the entire surface, every thought, word, and action sends out its own vibrations, subtle as they may be. Since you cannot not interfere, the key is to use all three skillfully.

You must therefore strive to be aware. Take a close look at your own life. What sort of things do you do, think, or say that may serve to create undesirable situations? Try not to label them as "good" or "bad," just be aware of your thoughts, words, and actions, and observe how their results are made manifest.

In mikkyo, the goal is to consciously control the aspects that determine the effects in your life. This is accomplished through symbolic visualizations, words of affirmation, and actions that serve to bring about the desired results. The formula that must be followed is the same regardless of whether the goal is lofty or mundane.

To put it in everyday terms, to effect a change you must: (1) have the desire to change, (2) obtain the knowledge of how to change, and (3) do it.

These steps are simple, but many of us fail because (1) we don't really want to change, (2) we don't find out what we need to know to effect the change, and/or (3) we don't physically do what needs to be done.

Oftentimes, if we look at ourselves with complete honesty, laziness is a major cause of failure.

Be aware. You may be surprised by how you actually use sanmitsu against yourself. Don't judge, simply observe the effects of such things as thinking with scattered thoughts, shouting at a fellow human being, or tossing litter on the ground.

The many and diverse teachings of mikkyo are wonderful methods of discovering the truths of life and developing love for (harmony with) this universe from which we are never separated. Every moment and every experience leads us further to understanding. We ourselves choose whether our lessons will be painful and difficult, or exciting and joyous.