

## Kamakura Buddhist Reformers

	Name (dates)		Buddhist Sect	A few main points
Grace "Other power" <i>tariki</i> 他力	Hōnen 法然  (1133–1212)		Pure Land  Jōdō shū 浄土宗	Recite the <b>nembutsu</b> ( <i>namu amida bu[tsu]</i> ) "total reliance on the compassion of Amida Buddha" [the coming Buddha] with all one's heart, constantly. Link to chant (see pic at bottom of page): <a href="http://www.jodo.org/teachings/nembutsu.html">http://www.jodo.org/teachings/nembutsu.html</a>
Grace "Other power" <i>tariki</i> 他力	Shinran 親鸞  (1173–1263)		True Pure Land  Jōdō shin shū 浄土真宗	Disciple of Hōnen but gradually diverged from him. Promotes <i>nembutsu</i> as well, but marriage OK.
Meditation "Self power" <i>jiriki</i> 自力	Myōan Eisai 明菴栄西  (1141-1215)		Rinzai Zen  Rinzai shū 臨済宗	Brought Rinzai Zen (and green tea according to legend) from China to Japan. Rinzai emphasizes the study of <b>kōans</b> . Link to <i>The Gateless Gate</i> , a classic collection of koans studied by Rinzai monks: <a href="http://www.ibiblio.org/zen/cgi-bin/koan-index.pl">http://www.ibiblio.org/zen/cgi-bin/koan-index.pl</a> Example: A monk asked Fuketsu: 'Without speaking, without silence, how can you express the truth?' Fuketsu observed: 'I always remember spring-time in southern China. The birds sing among innumerable kinds of fragrant flowers.' <i>Mumon's Comment:</i> Fuketsu used to have lightning Zen. Whenever he had the opportunity, he flashed it. But this time he failed to do so and only borrowed from an old Chinese poem. Never mind Fuketsu's Zen. If you want to express the truth, throw out your words, throw out your silence, and tell me about your own Zen.  <i>Without revealing his own penetration, He offered another's words, not his to give. Had he chattered on and on, Even his listeners would have been embarrassed.</i>
Meditation "Self power" <i>jiriki</i> 自力	Dōgen 道元  (1200-1253)		Sōtō Zen  Sōtō shū 曹洞宗	Disciple of Eisai, and also traveled to China. Brought Sōtō Zen to Japan. Disenchanted with kōans, and felt there should be more emphasis on studying the sutras. <i>Shikan taza</i> ("just sitting"). Wrote in the vernacular rather than Chinese. Death poem:  Fifty-four years lighting up the sky. A quivering leap smashes a billion worlds. Hah! Entire body looks for nothing. Living, I plunge into Yellow Springs.
Grace "Other power" <i>tariki</i> 他力	Nichiren 日蓮  (1222-1282)		Nichiren  Nichiren Shō shū 日蓮正宗	Convinced of the preeminence of the <b>Lotus Sutra</b> and that his sect is the only correct Buddhist sect.