

## Lecture 17

### Kamakura Buddhism: (P)reaching the Masses

#### 0. Intro

Revitalizing & Making Buddhism meaningful to the masses

Main aspects about Kamakura Buddhism compared to Heian Buddhism:

- a) in theory, it included all for salvation
- b) **tariki**: reliance on other power (of **Amida**), not self power (**jrjiki**)
- c) concrete rewards of faith: rebirth in Amida's Western Paradise **Pure Land**
- d) on institutional level, support for temples and clergy expanded rapidly

#### 1. Religious and economic conditions for revitalization of Buddhism

- a. Commoners in need of salvation
- b. Shōen income no longer reliable
- c. Successful temples had to adapt to changes

#### 2. Social conditions for revitalization of Buddhism

- a. The role of unattached (muen) individuals
- b. **Hijiri** (wandering ascetics, holy men) as agents for popularization of Buddhism
- c. **Kanjin** (charitable donation) campaigns

#### 3. Doctrinal/ideological conditions for revitalization of Buddhism

- a. **Mappō** (*Topics*, p. 101ff)
- b. **Tariki** and **nembutsu**
- c. **Rokudō** ("Six Courses/Paths/Realms" of existence; p. 103, **web site**):
  - deities
  - warring spirits (or humans)
  - humans (or warring spirits)
  - beasts
  - gaki\*
  - hell\*