Ver 4.0

51-1 Sakado-shi Saitama-ken, Japan
tel: 049-281-1161 web@seitenkyu.com

About Daoism

The three major religions of China are often referred to as Confucianism, Buddhism, and Daoism, but Confucianism is a philosophy, Buddhism was introduced from India, and Daoism is the only religion that originated in China.

The "religious" aspect of Daoism, the belief in the god(s), has been around since ancient times whereas the "philosophical" aspects of Daoism, expressed by LaoZi through the DaoDeJing dating back to around 5th century BC.

Currently, the religious facet of Daoism is mainly practice by the Chinese people, while the philosophical facet of Daoism based on the "Dao" described in the Daodejing has permeated in the West as "Daoism."

6 陽鐘 the "Yang Bell"

Symbolizes the beginning

Taoist temple bells are more flared than Chinese Buddhist temple bells therefore have more of a ring. Symbolizes the Yang as the sound lingers.

Where to find: East tower.

Assembled form curved wood-parts embedded in a spiral, very big & rare.

9 太極 the "TaiChi"

The "Amalgam" that encompasses all-extremes of all-things/phenomenon in Chinese mythology. Swirling as it divides into the Yin and the Yang.

Where to find: Ceiling of the main hall.

7 陰鼓 the "Yin Drum"

Symbolizes the ending.

A large bass drum. Absorbs the energy of the pounding and sounds with a low thump therefore symbolizes the Yin. Same with temple wood blocks.

Where to find: West tower.

carved from a single stone

8 九龍綱 "Nine Dragon Web"

Nine is an auspicious number as explained earlier in #3 of this pamphlet. Symbolizes the expanse and the reach of the Divine.
"Dragon ball", symbolizes the power granted by gods. Dragons are not gods.

Where to find: inner courtyard.