

SUMMARY

This thesis is focusing on Hakuin Ekaku and his Chat on the Evening boat seen in the frame of medical discourse in the Tokugawa period. Key points are seen in mutual and multilevel interaction among Japanese surrounding and so called Dutch studies (rangaku) and Sino-Japanese medicine.

Hakuin Ekaku has not been, as far as we know, situated into the Tokugawa medicinal history discourse. Mostly he is discussed separately either within individual frameworks of Edo-buddhism rinzaï sect revival or within frameworks shaped by his healing methods which are described mainly in his works *Yasen kanna* and *Oradegama*. Our question is how much, if ever, Hakuin was involved in scientific changes of his period and to what degree he was aware and familiar with undergoing shifts of medical paradigms.

Based on descriptive analysis of Tokugawa shogunate medical background which unifies western and eastern medical knowledge together with absorbing vital changes undergoing in social and cultural history itself we are discussing *Yasen kanna* as a part of shifted narrative paradigm, concluding in attempt of Hakuin's role re-definition as a unifying force of various voices coming from different sources with a one goal – personal happiness and health.