



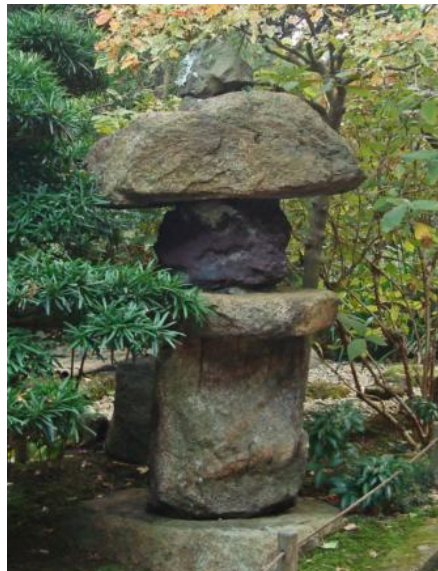
**Yukimi-dōrō**  
雪見燈籠

A small snow-viewing lantern variation. The feet are rounded and form a nearly perfect circle.

## Lanterns, gorintō and Buddha statues

In Hōkoku-ji, a great number of traditional Japanese stone elements is waiting for the attentive visitor. Especially remarkable are the many Gorintō (picture below). They are small pagoda-like towers that serve as gravestones for thousands of warriors that were killed in a battle in Kamakura in 1333.

The name gorintō means five-ring-tower. Each tier has a different shape and represents a different element. The top one is a jewel, representing the ether or void. The second one is a hemisphere which stands for air. The third one has the shape of a pyramid and stands for fire. The sphere below it represents water and the lowest one is the cube which stands for the earth.



**Ishi-dōrō**  
石燈籠

A huge stone lantern in front of the Mountain gate.



**Gorintō**  
五輪塔

Five-ring-towers

In the background you can see one big gorintō. The atmosphere is quite mysterious - knowing that each of the small pagodas represents a gravestone for a warrior who died more than 600 years ago.