

全輪通訊

Gold Wheel Sagely Monastery Newsletter

235 North Avenue 58, Los Angeles, CA 90042 Tel: (323) 258-6668 www.goldwheel.org

宣公上人-修菩提道

道(一)

自性如虚空 真妄在其中 悟徹本來體 一通一切通

Cultivating the Bodhi Path

Composed by Venerable Master Hsuan Hua

Dao - The Way (1)

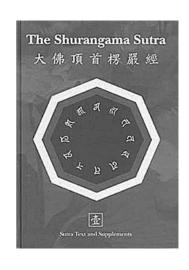
Self-nature is like an empty space wherein dwell the real and the illusory.
Being awakened to the original substance,
Breaking through one, and breaking through all.

本期内容

- 2 大佛頂首楞嚴經淺釋
- 7 六祖法寶壇經淺釋
- 10 早起晚睡為誰忙
- 13 人生一場夢

Table of Contents

- 2 The Shurangama Sutra
- 7 The Sixth Patriarch's Dharma Jewel Platform Sutra
- 10 Rising Early and Sleeping Late, for Whom Are We Busy?
- 13 Life is but a dream



The Shurangama Sutra

A Simple Explanation by Venerable Master Hsuan Hua



(接上期)

(Continued from issue #236)

鳥萇國沙門·彌伽釋迦譯語

這位般剌密諦法師主持翻譯 的工作,當時還有一位助手,他是 鳥萇國沙門:「烏萇國」也是印度 的一個國名,「烏萇」又叫「烏場」, 以前是一個國王的花園。這位沙門 是這個國家的高僧到了中國來,他 的名字叫什麽呢?叫彌伽釋迦: 這個名字翻譯到中文就叫「能降 伏」,他能降伏一切的煩惱,也可 以說能降伏一切的魔障;總而言 之,什麼他都可以降伏。這個法師 他是譯語:他翻譯、修正這個語 言。像是在中文要用什麼話來翻譯 印度話,這位法師做一個譯語,所 以當時也是這個譯經場裏邊最高 的一位法師。

羅浮山南樓寺沙門 • 懷迪證譯

像這本經上,普通都沒有現在 我寫這位法師的名字,你們可以加 上他,因爲古本上都有這一個「證 譯人」。這位是什麼地方的人呢? 他是**羅浮山南樓寺沙門**:這羅浮 山,是廣東的一座名山;南樓寺, 就是懷迪法師住的廟。

Reviewed by Shramana Meghashikara from Uddiyana.

When Dharma Master Paramiti was conducting the translation task, Shramana Meghashika of Uddiyana was his assistant. Uddiyana was a place in India. It used to be an imperial garden. Meghashika means "Able to Subdue", which indicates that he could subdue afflictions, demon-obstacles, or anything of the sort. Having left Uddiyana for China, Meghashika revised the translation, paying particular attention to what expressions in Chinese would be used. He was one of the highest Dharma Masters to take part in the work.

Certified by Shramana Huai Di from Nan Luo Monastery on Luo Fu Mountain.

Often copies of the Sutra text do not list this Dharma Master's name, but his name is listed in earlier editions and should be added to later ones if it has been omitted. **Luo Fu Mountain** is a famous mountain in Guang Dong Province. **Nan Luo Monastery** is the place where **Shramana Huai Di** ("Cherishing Progress") dwelt.

 $Gold\ Wheel\ Sagely\ Monastery\ Newsletter,\ Issue\ \#237,\ September/October\ 2014$

懷迪證譯:他做這個證明;怎麼證呢?「說是保證的意思。這「點」,就是保證的意思。這「的他起名字的師父給他起名字的師父給他起名字他精進用功「她是給他,就希望他精進的「迪」字構作。可以是他,不要關係。不要關係。不要關係。不要關係。可以與其常的學問,不可以與其一個一個證單的,於是在當時譯經度。

菩薩戒弟子·前正議大夫同中書門下 平章事·清河房融筆受

菩薩戒弟子:這個菩薩戒,出家人也應該受,在家人也應該受。《菩薩我經》上說,無論國王、大臣就位的時候--就是國王就職的時候,都應致苦薩戒;大臣去做大臣的時候,都應受菩薩戒。房融因爲明白佛法,就佛做爲他的父親,以菩薩做他的兄弟,所以説他是「菩薩戒弟子」。菩薩戒

Certified by Huai Di: How did he endorse and guarantee? Probably when Huai Di's Master gave him that name, it was in the hope that he would work hard and vigorously. The "Di" of his name means to "Progress", the meaning being that he should continually be vigorous in his cultivation, that he should not rest, that he should not be lazy. This Dharma Master was extremely well-educated. He concentrated on the study of the teachings of the sutras, so he was very clear about the doctrines contained in them. Because he also understood Sanskrit, he was the Dharma Master appointed to certify the translation.

Since both Dharma Master Paramiti and Dharma Master Meghashika understood Sanskrit thoroughly, why did someone else from China certify the translation? Although these two Dharma Masters had mastered both Sanskrit and Chinese, they had just come to China, and it was feared that they did not completely understand Chinese, so someone from China was called upon to certify the translation. This was Dharma Master Huai Di. I haven't looked into why his name was excluded from modern editions of the Sutra. and not from earlier publications. Nevertheless, I just wanted to bring to light his prominent role in certifying the translation.

Edited by Bodhisattva-precepts Disciple Fang Yong of Qing He, former Censor of State, concurrently Attendant and Minister, and Court Regulator.

The **Bodhisattva precepts** should be taken by both monastics and laity. The Sutra that sets forth the Bodhisattva precepts, the *Brahma Net Sutra*, says, "Whether as king of a country or as a great official, when one is initiated into one's position, one should take the Bodhisattva precepts." Because Fang Yong understood the Buddhadharma, he took the Buddha as his father and the Bodhisattvas as his brothers. The Bodhisattva Precepts consist

有多少呢?有十重四十八輕;有十種特別重要的,四十八種是輕一點。 所以他受這個菩薩戒之後,自己就稱 「弟子」。

他又做過**前正議大夫**:「前」, 就是以前,不是他現在做。「正議」, 《史記》上就稱「正諫」,叫「讓 表大夫」。諫議是管什麼事情的官呢? 就是「言官」。怎麼叫言官呢?就是 無論國家有什麼不對的地方,他就去 無論去批評。有的朝代叫「御史」, 就是這個國家什麼事情做錯了,他就 要來批評。「大夫」,就是官的一個 名稱。

同中書門下:「中書、門下」,都是 丞相府的一個名字。「中書」,是管 皇帝的一切書札、詔書之類的,一切 一切皇帝所出的號令,都由中書丞相 這兒來管理;「門下」,就是管理政 務的行政長官。門下就管理政府的事 情,中書就管理皇帝的事情; 所以這 兩個丞相,一個管發號施令的,一個 就奉行這號令的。這個「同」有兩種 解法。一種是説左、右丞相由都他一 個人兼了,所以就叫「同中書門下」。 又有一種解法是他和中書、門下是同 僚;同僚,就是同等的、共同來做事 情的人。平章事:「平」,就是平均; 「章」,就是顯著、彰顯。彰顯這些 個事,就是對朝廷裏邊所有的事情, 要把它平均一下。

清河房融:他是清河人。名字呢?他姓房,叫融。融,就是很圓融的。筆受:就是他用筆寫出來這些文章,他是潤色的,這叫「潤文人」。潤,就是把它修飾更美好一點。所以《楞嚴

of Ten Major and Forty-eight Minor Precepts. After Fang Yong took the Bodhisattva Precepts, he referred to himself as a *disciple*.

In the past, he had been a Censor of State, whose duty was to keep watch of state affairs and criticize any misconduct. "Of State" affirms his official authority. The text says **former**, meaning that at the time he edited the *Shurangama Sutra* translation, he was no longer in that position.

Concurrently means that he held two positions: Attendant and Minister. These are names from the Prime Minister mansion. As attendant, he looked after the Emperor's affairs and carried out imperial commands. As minister, he was involved in the government of the country and in that capacity issued his own commands. His duty as Court Regulator was to make sure the affairs of imperial court were in equilibrium.

His family name was Fang; his given name was Yong. Yong means "perfectly fused." He was from Qing He. **Edited by** means he used his brush to write out the text. He polished the language, making it even more eloquent, so that the style and technical perfection of the writing is of unsurpassed excellence.

Why? Official Fang Yong was a great writer, an extremely well-educated man. That he himself, with his own brush, polished this text makes the *Shurangama Sutra* text particularly fine. If you wish to study Chinese, you can memorize the *Shurangama Sutra*; it is a paragon of Chinese compo-



【編按】以下錄自一九八七年六月八日「主觀智能推動力」講座

你們看這地方,前邊有三位法師,後邊有位居士;本來那位居士應該放到「證譯」的法師前邊,但是因為他是居士,所以就把他放到後邊懷地法師是當時的證譯,他不一定之一,不過他就證明所翻出來的「證」。那麼這四個人,可以用我們翻譯的這「四步」來把它說明了—

- (一)翻譯:這是「初譯」,也就是 草創。
- (二)譯語:這就是「修改」。
- (三)筆受:也就是「潤色」。
- (四)證譯:也就是「證語」。

這和我們現在翻譯的這四步正相合。你們各位不知有沒有看到這個地方?為什麼要房融筆受呢?這個房融是當時一位很有學問的文學家,也是一個達官貴人,他有地位,又有學問,又信佛;因為這樣,他也是願

sition. Even many Chinese are unable to read and understand it.

Editor's Note: The following is an excerpt from the 'Driving Force of Subjective Intelligence' Seminar on 6/8/1987.

Take a look at this: There were three dharma masters listed in the front and one layperson at the back. The name of a layperson usually preceded that of a Dharma Master who certified the translation. But, because he was a layperson, his name was listed at the back. Dharma Master Huai Di was the certifier at the time. It was uncertain that he knew the Sanskrit. However, he could certify that the meanings of the translated Chinese text are completely accurate. Hence it was said that he was the certifier. With regard to these four people, we can use the four -steps in translation to explain it:

Translation: This is the initial translation, or the preliminary translation.

Edit: This is to correct or modify the translated text.

Refinement: This is to polish the text.

Certification: This is to authenticate the text.

These four-steps are consistent with our current translation process. Did anyone see this point as to why Fang Yong was needed to do the text polishing? At that time, Fang Yong was a very well-educated scholar, a high official and a noble person. He had a high social status, he was erudite and he believed in the Buddha. Because of these, he was also willing to join in and investigate the Buddhadharma together. This was



意一起來研究佛法。這不是說可靠、不可靠,或可依賴、不可依賴的問題,這就是他是一個很相信佛的人,學問又好,又和當時的達官貴人有平等的Level(階級)。所以你就是翻譯經典的也要有國家政府的力量才可以完成。好像那時候,有幾百個人、幾千人翻譯經典,如果沒有國家的力量,誰也做不到的。

我們現在在西方翻譯經典,這正是 一個開始,是第一步;將來若有大力 量,有大善知識,會有很多人共同來做 這個事情,不是我們現在這麼小規模 的。大家對這種情形都要認識清楚!所 以現在「歷明傳譯」有這四個步驟,有 四個人,各位應該知道。

- 「主觀智能推動力」講座至此

拾 · 别解文義

【編按】從第二册開始,分别逐句解釋 經文。

(下期待續)

not the issue of trust or distrust, accuracy or inaccuracy. Rather, it was his Buddhist faith, his good educational background, and his status being the same level as other high officials during that time. Translating a sutra also requires the mandate and support from the national government before the work can be pursued. At that time, they had several hundreds and thousands of people working on the translation. Without the support from the country, no one could succeed doing it.

We are now translating the sutra in the West. This is just the beginning. This is a first step. In the future if we have more support and more great good and wise advisors, there will be a lot more people helping to do this work together. It will not be the same as this small scale process we are having now. Everyone should realize this clearly! So far, we have four people working on the translation guided by the four-steps. You should all know this.

End of 'Driving Force of Subjective Intelligence' Seminar

The specific explanation of the meaning of the text

Editor's Note: From volume two, each sentence of the text proper will be explained.

(To be continued ...)



金輪寺將於 2014年 11 月 23 日 (星期日)至 11 月 30 日 (星期日) 啓建梁皇寶懺慈悲道場 11 月 22 日 (星期六)晚上七時半灑淨,歡迎佛友信眾報名參加。

From November 23 to November 30, 2014, Gold Wheel Monastery will be holding the Compassionate Dharma Assembly - the **Jeweled Repentance of Emperor Lyang**. All faithful ones are welcome to participate.

The Sixth Patriarch's Dharma Jewel Platform Sutra

A Simple Explanation by Venerable Master Hsuan Hua



(接上期)

(Continued from issue #236)

法達聽此偈後,就懺悔謝罪 說:「從今以後,我應當謙恭一 切。過去弟子讀誦妙法蓮華經, 惜未明瞭經中的義理,故心中常 有懷疑。大和尚您的智慧廣大, 請為我略說經中的道理。」

六祖大師説:「你的名字叫法達,法本來是很通達的,可惜你的心迷昧而不通達。在經上本來沒有可懷疑的地方,而是你的心自己起懷疑。你念妙法蓮華經,知道其宗趣是什麼嗎?」

法達答:「學人根性愚鈍, 只按照經文誦念而已,那能知道 經的宗趣呢?」 Hearing the verse, Fa Ta was remorseful and said, "From now on I will respect everyone. Your disciple recites the *Dharma Flower Sutra* but has not yet understood its meaning. His mind often has doubts. High Master, your wisdom is vast and great. Will you please explain the general meaning of the Sutra for me?"

The Master said, "Dharma Penetration, the Dharma is extremely penetrating, but your mind does not penetrate it. There is basically nothing doubtful in the Sutra. The doubts are in your own mind. You recite this Sutra, but what do you think its teaching is?"

Fa Ta said, "This student's faculties are dull and dim. Since I have only recited it by rote, how could I understand its doctrine?"

Upon hearing the verse, Fa Ta became remorseful and soon professed, "From this day forward, I will respect everybody. This disciple of yours has recited *Dharma Flower Sutra*, but still couldn't comprehend the principles encompassed in the sutra. Because of this, his mind often has doubts. High Master, your wisdom is vast and great. Will you please explain to me the general principle of the Sutra?"

The Master said, "Your name is Dharma Penetration. Dharma is fundamentally all-pervading. But your mind is muddled and non-discerning. There is absolutely nothing doubtful about the Sutra. These doubts you have are in your own mind. You recite this Sutra, but what do you think its teaching is?"

Fa Ta replied, "This student's faculties are dull and dim. I have only recited it by rote. How could I understand its doctrine?"

師曰。吾不識文字。汝試取經誦一 遍。吾當爲汝解說。

法達即高聲念經至譬喻品。師曰止。此經元來以因緣出世為宗。縱 說多種譬喻亦無越於此。何者因 緣。經云。諸佛世尊。唯以一大事 因緣出現於世。一大事者。佛之知 見也。

世人外迷著相。内迷著空。若能於 相離相。於空離空。即是内外不迷。 若悟此法一念心開。是為開佛知 見。

世間人在外邊著到相上,內裡又著到空上。假設能在相上就離開空上。假設能在相上就離開空,這就是不會就是不落於有之意。也就是內外不迷就是不會執著,不迷就是不會執著,不逃有迷了。你若是能明白這種妙法,那在一念之間心就開朗、開悟了。這個名為「開佛知見」

佛猶覺也。分爲四門。開覺知見。示覺知見。悟覺知見。入覺知見。

The Master said, "I cannot read. If you take the Sutra and read it once, I will explain it to you."

Fa Ta recited loudly until he came to the "Chapter of Analogies." The Master said, "Stop! This Sutra fundamentally is based on the principles underlying the causes and conditions of the Buddha's appearance in the world. None of the analogies spoken go beyond that. What are the causes and conditions? The Sutra says, 'All Buddhas, the World-Honored Ones, appear in the world for the causes and conditions of the One Great Matter.' The One Great Matter is the knowledge and vision of the Buddha.

The Master said, "I cannot read. If you take a roll of the Sutra and read it once, I can explain it to you." And so Fa Ta recited the sutra loudly until he was asked to stop after reciting the Chapter of Analogies. The Master then explained, "This Sutra fundamentally is based on the principle underlying the causes and conditions of the Buddha's appearance in the world. None of the analogies spoken go beyond that. What are the causes and conditions? The Sutra states, 'All Buddhas, the World-Honored Ones, appear in the world for the causes and conditions of One Great Matter.' The One Great Matter is the knowledge and vision of the Buddha."

Worldly people are entranced and attached to the external world of appearances and the internal world of emptiness. If you can live among marks and yet be separate from it, then you will be confused by neither the internal nor the external. If you awaken to this Dharma, your mind will instantly open to enlightenment. This is 'Opening to the Knowledge and Vision of the Buddha'.

Deluded by the external world, worldly people attach themselves to marks. Deluded too by the internal world, they attach themselves to emptiness. Dwelling on marks, but being apart from them, and dwelling on emptiness, but being apart from it depict the qualities of a person who is neither attached to emptiness nor attached to existence. Therefore, one would not be confused both internally and externally. Being not confused is being not attached. Without attachments, there is no confusion. If you can understand this wonderful dharma, you will be enlightened. Your mind will open up. This is called 'Opening to the Knowledge and Vision of the Buddha'.

The Buddha is enlightenment. There are four divisions:

- 1. Opening to the enlightened knowledge and vision;
- 2. Manifesting the enlightened knowledge and vision;

Gold Wheel Sagely Monastery Newsletter, Issue #237, September/October 2014

若聞開示便能悟入。即覺知見 本來真性而得出現。

佛就是覺,它分有四門,就 是開啓你覺的知見,指示你覺 的知見,要你契悟自己覺的知 見,又要你入你自己覺的知見。

若你聽聞經的道理,而悟 入明白 這就是覺的知見 他就 是本有真如自性,就現出來了。

(下期待續)

- 3. Awakening to the enlightened knowledge and vision;
- 4. Entering the enlightened knowledge and vision.

If you awaken to the enlightened knowledge and vision after listening to lecture, then your original true nature is becoming manifested.

The Buddha is enlightenment in which there are four divisions: 1. Opening to the enlightened knowledge and vision;2. Manifesting the enlightened knowledge and vision;3. Awakening to the enlightened knowledge and vision;4. Entering the enlightened knowledge and vision.

If you listen to the explanation of the Sutras' principles whereby you understand and awaken to the teaching, then you will open to the enlightened knowledge and vision, manifesting your inherent nature of True Suchness.

Be careful not to misinterpret the Sutra and perceive the wayward path. Think not, "The opening, manifesting, awakening, and entering of which it speaks is the Buddha's knowledge and vision and has nothing to do with me." Saying this is slandering the Sutra and defaming the Buddha. Since the Buddha is already a Buddha replete with knowledge and vision, what is the use of his opening to it again? You should now believe that the Buddha's knowledge and vision is simply your own mind, for there is no other Buddha. However, living beings cover their brilliance with greed and love of states of defilement. External conditions and inner disturbances make slaves of them. This prompted the World-Honored One to rise from Samadhi, and with various approaches and expedients, he exhorts living beings to stop seeking externally. With no external seeking, they are the same as the Buddha. That is called 'Opening to the Knowledge and Vision of the Buddha.'

Take heed not to misinterpret the Sutra. Do not say, "The chapter which talks about the opening, manifesting, awakening, entering into the Buddha's knowledge and vision has nothing to do with me." Such remark is an equivalent to slandering the Sutra and disparaging the Buddha. What is it about the Buddha's knowledge and vision? Shakyamuni Buddha has since attained Buddhahood, already perfect in knowledge and vision. Is there a need for him to undergo another 'Opening to the Enlightened Knowledge and Vision'? You ought to understand that the Buddha's knowledge and vision is simply your own mind's knowledge and vision. So, 'Opening to the Buddha's Knowledge and Vision' is simply opening your inherent Buddha's Knowledge and Vision. Thus, your mind is originally the Buddha. There is no other.

(To be continued ...)

早起晚睡為誰忙

Rising Early and Sleeping Late, for Whom Are We Busy?

宣化上人一九五八年六月十六日上午開示於香港西樂園寺

A talk given by Venerable Master Hsuan Hua on the morning of June 16, 1958

我們要夙與夜寐地去禮佛、念 佛,為求消滅罪障,為法忙。

夙興夜寐為誰忙? 家生難度頗堪傷; 迷諸塵勞性顛倒, 耳提面命化無方。

凤興,是早起;夜寐,是夜 眠,有很多人兢兢業業,早起夜 眠,為的是什麼?究竟是為我忙 呢?還是為你忙呢?還是為他 忙呢?這個問題,我相信很多人 都無法回答,甚至於有人索性就 說:「無事忙!」

啊!那可奇怪了。然而卻偏有人去做連自己也不清楚的事;譬如商人也們一天到晚不到時間,是就是的所有。然而,是就是明明,是就是不知时,是就是人人,是想成功的,是想成功的,便會不知。

《詩經》裏有這麼一段:

雞既鳴矣,朝既盈矣, 匪雞則鳴,蒼蠅之聲。 From morning till night, we should bow to the Buddhas and recite the Buddha's name to eradicate our obstructions from offenses, and we should be busy for the sake of the dharma.

Rising early and sleeping late,
for whom are we busy?
How pathetic that living beings
are hard to save.
Lured to the weary dust,
their natures turn upside-down.
Pulling their ears and scolding at their
faces but to no avail.

Getting up early in the morning and going to bed late at night, many people are busy doing all kinds of work. What for? Is it for my sake, yours or another's? I believe that many people can't come up with a valid answer to this question. Some might say idly "busy doing nothing!"

Ha! That's strange. Indeed, there are people doing things without really knowing the reason. For example, merchants think about their transactions day and night, to the point of having restless sleep. This is being busy from morning till night for the sake of money. The same applies to people with their profession in the fields of academia, finance, farming and labor industry, and so forth. Aspiring to be successful, they are inured to rising early and sleeping late.

A passage from the Book of Odes says,

The cock has crowed!

Morning has dawned!

Oh, that's not a cock's crowing,
but the buzzing of a fly.

這幾句話,如果照普通的口氣 來說,就是「雞好像已經啼了吧! 現在已是早上了嗎?啊!原來不 是雞在啼,只不過是蒼蠅的聲音罷 了! | 這段《詩經》是形容古代的 賢明君主。你看,身為皇帝,晚上 尚且不得好睡,整晚惦記著只要天 亮了便應臨朝理事,以致神經過敏 地把蒼蠅的聲音聽為雞在鳴叫,這 就是夙興夜寐爲「民」忙了。所謂 「一人有慶,兆民賴之。」若是遇 著了這樣賢明的仁君,老百姓就可 以過著刀槍入庫、馬放南山的幸福 生活。那麼,身爲君主的,難道可 以不夙興夜寐地爲人民謀幸福 嗎?

至於我們修道的人,也要夙興 夜寐,既不是爲利忙,也不是爲名 忙,而是爲「法」忙。我們要「夙 興夜寐,以事諸佛。」要朝起早、 夜眠遲地日日禮佛誦經,表示我們 是個忠實、誠摯的佛教徒,並不是 口是心非,能説而不能做的。

况且禮佛,又包含了專一其 心,恭敬其身的意思,並且禮佛更 能消除業障,所謂「佛前頂禮,滅 罪恆沙。」罪,幸虧是無形的東西,便會把恆河沙那麼 是有形的東西,便會把恆河沙那麼 多的世界都充滿了,所以,我們要 別興夜寐地去禮佛、念佛,爲求消 滅罪障,爲法忙。

可是眾生的品性,是極其難測的,譬如他歡喜吃甜的,給他酸的 便不高興;歡喜酸的而給他甜的, 他也不高興。諸如此類,若是不認 識眾生的性,就無法去度眾生了。

The passage would simply mean to say that "the cock has crowed; is it morning already? Oh! That wasn't the cock crowing, but the sound of a fly buzzing." This reflects the virtuous and wise rulers of ancient times. Let's make a case in point. There's an emperor who has trouble sleeping. All night he thinks nothing but the tasks at hand. He is constantly preoccupied with the affairs of his crown. When the day breaks, he mistakes the buzzing of a fly for the crowing of a cock. Such is the effect of the emperor's being busy day and night for the sake of his throne. There's a saying, "the masses will entrust their livelihood to a leader who has blessings." When humaneness and wisdom are found in a ruler, blessed is the populace living in peace and joy. Weapons are nowhere to be found; and horses are seen grazing in the pasture. Then again, can a ruler not 'rise early and sleep late' for the sake of his people?

As cultivators of the Way, we should also rise early and sleep late for the sake of the Dharma, neither for fame nor for gain. We should 'rise early and sleep late' doing the Buddhas work. Early to rise and late to sleep, every day, we should bow to the Buddhas and recite sutras to show our sincere devotion as Buddhist disciples. We should walk our talk. Do not contradict your own words.

When bowing to the Buddhas, we should concentrate single-mindedly. Our bodies should be respectful. It is said "Bowing before the Buddhas can eradicate offenses as numerous as the grains of sand in the Ganges." Offenses, however, are of empty form. If they were tangible, they would have filled up worlds 'as numerous as the Ganges' sands.' So, from morning till night, we should bow to the Buddhas and recite the Buddhas' names to eradicate our karmic obstructions made by our offenses. We should be busy for the sake of Dharma.

But, the character of sentient beings is extremely difficult to fathom. For instance, those who have palates for sweet treats get angry when they are given something sour. Conversely, those who like tartness become upset when something sweet is served. Given the circumstances, their character must first be understood prior to saving

為了眾生的顯倒,一切聖人、 善知識都苦口婆心地諄諄勸導我們這般可憐的眾生,像長輩提著小 輩的耳朵來當面訓導一樣,可是 呢?眾生卻置若罔聞,甚至還千方 百計地隱瞞自己的罪過,不被師長 們知曉,這真是「耳提面命化無方」 了。

啊!眾生犯罪的本領,可謂至 矣!盡矣!連佛、菩薩也感到難以 化度我們這般可憐的眾生,你說這 不是很值得悲哀嗎? them. It is why the Buddha has the wisdom to penetrate deeply into their character; thence apply what is expedient that conforms to their nature. Alas, ignored is his all-out energy to rescue every being as he ceaselessly roams the world. Sentient beings remain blind to the teachings of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas. Thus, this brings us to the introductory verse, "How pathetic that living beings are hard to save." "Pathetic" means deep regard to the point of grief. Even when these people are stupid, the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas always have a great compassion for them.

Why are living beings so hard to save? "Lured to the weary dust, their natures turn upside-down." There's your answer. Through many limitless eons, living beings have long been drawn to the six defiling objects, bobbling up and down endlessly in the sea of suffering. They are truly confused. They accept suffering as bliss, and false as true. In fact, people nowadays are so caught up with the so called "trend"; they choose to keep up with it or compete for it even if it is regarded as being inappropriate or harmful. Let's take military weapons for instance. So much effort is expended in building better and stronger weapons that serve no other purpose but to take lives. Not only do people fail to discard the idea of creating massive weapons, they contend for the best weapons ever built. People just don't know that 'the sea of suffering is boundless, but a turn of the head is the other shore'. If that isn't upside-down, what is?

The sages and the wise advisors wish to bear in our minds about their exhortations, admonishing us pathetic creatures to reform. They are like elders pulling the ears of the young and giving them lecture directly. Unfortunately, their teachings fall on deaf ears. Further, people would go as far as keeping their transgressions hidden from their teachers and elders. It is no wonder that "pulling their ears and scolding at their faces are of no avail."

Ah! The talents of living beings for committing offenses is never-ending! Even the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas feel it is hard to save us pitiful creatures. Don't you think this is pathetic?

(The End of the Article)

人生一場夢

Life is but a dream

恒貴法師開示於二〇一三年十二月一日金輪聖寺梁皇寶懺午齋期間

A lunchtime Dharma Talk given by Dharma Master Gwei on 12/01 /2013 at GWM during Emperor Lyang Repentance

(接上期)

(Continued from issue #236)

"人生一場夢,人死夢一場;夢 裏身榮貴, 夢醒在窮鄉。天天在作 夢,不覺夢黃粱;夢中若不覺,枉 作夢一場。"人生就好像一場夢一 樣,但是我們在這個夢裡看到的樣 樣都很直實,我們的感覺也是很直 實的,所以任何人都很難放得下。 在家人有在家人的放不下,出家人 有出家人的放不下。總是妄想執 著,遮蓋我們本來的智慧,讓我們 追逐那些輕妄的東西,後來什麼都 沒有。就好像我們前幾天講到,御 廚果觀居士在他的工作領域餐飲 界可以說名成利就。有御廚的名 聲,只要跟張師傅沾著邊的都有很 好的評價。老闆帶了很多錢上門送 給他們。但是正如他說的,賺的錢 都用來買藥,看醫生去了,而且因 爲做殺生的餐飲業,所以災難很 多,大車禍,從高樹上掉下來,小 兒子從公寓大廈八樓掉下來,種種 人生的不如意都嚐過了。幸好他很 有善根,他的同修對佛法,上人很 有信心,引導全家皈依佛門,相信 佛法,所以到晚年他非常安心,在 道場做義工,他覺得心滿意足了。

我們在生的時候,或者我們有精力的時候,我們覺得外面的東西

"Life is but a dream; death is an awakening from a dream. In this dream, we bask in our wealth. Waking from this dream, we live in poverty. Day after day we dream without realizing how fleeting dreams are. If we do not wake up from our dream, we will have only dreamt in vain." Life is like a dream, yet everything in this dream to which we are attached appears so real, as do our senses. Letting go, however, is never easy; this affects everyone, even the laity and the monastics. With our false thinking and attachments so endless, thus obscuring our original wisdom, we pursue trivial things that are of no worth. A few days ago, we talked about Upasaka Kuo-Guan, a distinguished figure earning the title of "Imperial Chef" in the culinary world. Any recipes associated with him were wellreceived and brought in many profits, but the money his boss delivered to him was used instead to help pay for his medicine. In his profession as a chef, he had had taken many lives. As a result, he encountered many calamities: his involvement in a severe car accident, his fall from a tree, and his young son's fall from an eighth-story building. Misfortune seemed to follow wherever he went. But he is blessed with good roots for having a wife who's a devout Buddhist with a deep faith in the Buddhadharma and in the Venerable Master. She also brought her entire family to take refuge with the Triple Jewel. Upasaka Kuo-Guan soon found not only peace in his old age, but also contentment with his role as a volunteer in the Wayplace.

When we are young brimming with energy, we find it worthwhile to pursue external

都是很有價值的,所以盡我們的精力,腦力去得到這些,但後來剩下的 唯有孑然一身,沒有得到什麼享受。 即便有享受,都是過眼雲煙。

(下期待續)

things. But they are of no benefit to our physical and mental energy, because what we see in the end is not enjoyment, but emptiness. Everything is fleeting.

Not only have we discussed about the fleeting nature of earthly blessings, we have also come to know that heavenly blessings too share the same fate. I could still recall in Hong Kong where the Venerable Master once had a young disciple between the age of 13 and 16 to whom he referred her as a celestial being in her previous life. Seeing that she had many good roots, the Venerable Master provided her the needs she would require for her cultivation. During the Seven-day Buddha Recitation Session with a group of people, she was the only one who did not fall asleep during the period of sitting meditation following circumambulation. As soon as she sat in meditation, she entered a state of Samadhi during which the Venerable Master asked people not to disturb her. Even so, she later spawned a single erroneous thought where she would fall prey to emotional attachment. So, she got married at a young age. After giving birth to a baby girl, the young mother stayed at a hospital for three months because of her poor health. But shortly after her discharge, the mother passed away. She was barely 25 years old.

Our inability to turn around a thought often takes us in a different path of our life. The repentance text in Chapter 9 states, "The unbearable sufferings in the three destinies are brought on by one erroneous thought." The importance of a single thought cannot be more emphasized. The Venerable Master said, "We need to be mindful of our thought". We need to keep the study of precepts, obtain samadhi and develop wisdom in our mind, while reminding ourselves the Three Poisons of greed, hatred, and delusion. As a single thought is responsible for the cycle of rebirth in Samsara, we must be vigilant in the arising of our thoughts. And when we do, we will be able to keep them from ever arising. Do not follow our faulty habits that lead us to transgressions. Let our minds be reigned by precept, samadhi, and wisdom to help turn our erroneous thoughts around.

2014年9月法會時間表 Schedule of Events - September of 2014

∃Sun	—Mon	二Tue	Ξ Wed	四Thu	五Fri	六Sat		
	1©	2©	3◎ 初十 宣公上人涅槃 毎月紀念日 Monthly Memorial of Venerable Master Hua	4⊚	5⊚	6⊚		
7 楞嚴法會 Recitation of Shurangama Mantra 8:00 am — 3:00 pm	8◎ 八月十五	9⊚	10©	11⊚	12©	13©		
大悲法會 — 善門品 Dharma Assembly of Great Compassion (Recitation of Universal Door Chapter) 8:00 am — 10:00 am 大悲懺 Great Compassion Repentance 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	15⊚	16⊚	17⊚	18⊚	19©	20⊚		
21 念佛法會 Amitabha Buddha Recitation 8:00 am — 3:00 pm	22©	23⊚	24◎ 九月初一	25⊚	26⊚	27⊚		
28 孔子誕辰紀念日 Confucius' Birthday 地藏法會 Recitation of Earth Store Sutra 8:00 am — 3:00 pm	29⊚	30⊚	◎禮拜大悲懺 Great Compassion Repentance 12:30 pm					



金輪寺將於10月19日舉辦敬老節, 誠摯邀請年滿六十五歲長者蒞臨,請及早報名。



Gold Wheel Monastery will be celebrating Respecting Elders Day on Sunday, October 19. Seniors 65 and above are cordially invited. Due to limited space, please register ahead of time to ensure accommodation.



Dharma Realm Buddhist Association Gold Wheel Sagely Monastery

235 North Avenue 58, Los Angeles, CA 90042 Telephone: (323) 258-6668 (www.goldwheel.org)

金輪聖寺

2014年10月法會時間表 Schedule of Events - October of 2014

∃Sun	—Mon	 _Tue	= Wed	四Thu	五Fri	六Sat
◎禮拜大悲懺 Great Compassion Repentance 12:30 pm			1©	2©	3◎ 初十 宣公上人涅槃 每月紀念日 Monthly Memorial of Venerable Master Hua	4⊚
5 十二 虚雲老和尚涅槃日 Venerable Master Hsu Yun's Nirvana day 念佛法會 Amitabha Buddha Recitation 8:00 am — 3:00 pm	6⊚	7⊚	8◎ 九月十五 常仁大師出家日 Great Master Chang Ren's Leaving Home Day	9◎ 十六 宣公上人出家日 Venerable Master Hua's Leaving Home Day	10◎ 十七 常智大師悟道日 Great Master Chang Jr's Enlightenment Day	11⊚
### ### ### #########################	13©	14⊚	15⊚	16⊚	17⊚	18 ()
19 敬老節 Respecting Elders Day 9:00 am — 2:00 pm	20©	21⊚	22⊚	23◎ 三十 藥師佛聖誕 Medicine Master Buddha's Birthday	24◎ 閏九月初一	25⊚
26 地藏法會 Recitation of Earth Store Sutra 8:00 am — 3:00 pm	27⊚	28©	29©	30⊚	31©	