



【法國巴黎】

比丘尼近藏文 / Sally Shih 英譯

經過波蘭機場冗長的等待後，大夥終於登上班機，飛往訪問團的下一站——法國巴黎。兩個小時的航程裏，大部分的人都小憩了一會兒，恢復精神。班機在將近晚上九點時落地。提取完行李踏出機門，等候多時的巴黎居士正列隊歡迎我們，他們看起來高興極了，因為終於又見上人的座下僧團重訪法國。

繼續趨車兩個小時，來到下榻的粵海大酒店，這是巴黎中國城內一座歷史悠久的飯店。法國的居士中有很多熟悉的面孔，萬佛城每年四月的萬佛寶懺法會上，都必定有他們的身影。這回訪問團也是應這些居士們誠心的邀請，決定在法國舉辦一週的觀音法會。

在法國，法總並沒有分支道場。雖然長久以來在此有一群景仰上人德行的弟子，但卻始終沒有具足成立道場的因緣。然而在當地居士盡心的籌備下，一處樸素莊嚴的臨時道場卻從地湧出，那就是飯店一樓的宴會廳。經灑淨後，在佛像、蓮花、綢緞的布置之下，儼然成為誦經禮懺的清淨壇場。不禁在稱歎居士巧手神工之餘，亦有「輪迴生死，唯汝六根；寂靜妙常，亦汝六根」的體悟。

法會時間表除了例行的早晚課和上供儀式外，早課後還增加「打坐」及「太極」的課程，參加的人都覺得獲益良多。上午恭誦一部《觀世音菩薩普門品》，下午禮拜〈大悲懺〉及《普門品》講座。講座由訪問團的十一位法師輪流主講，各人就對觀音法門的認識與因緣，講解《普門品》中讚歎觀音菩薩的二十六首偈頌，並與聽眾分享許多觀音菩薩的感應事蹟。這些感應故事，無論是發生在何時何地，每當被人們傳頌時，依然是如此地精彩，如此地令人深歎不可思議，也應驗了觀音菩薩「千處祈求千處應」的悲願。聽眾聽得法喜充滿，也增強了他們對觀音菩薩的信心。

晚課後是方便開示時間。正如一九九〇年上人訪歐時提出「南北團結，宗教互融」的理念，此次訪問團的法師也以許多生動幽默或溫馨寫實的故事，提醒聽眾佛法是圓融無礙的，尤其現在

DELEGATION TO PARIS

BY BHIKSHUNI JIN CANG, ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY SALLY SHIH

After waiting at the Polish airport for an extended period of time, the delegation finally got on the plane and headed for the next destination, Paris. Most people felt refreshed after taking a nap during the two-hour flight. Upon our arrival, we were greeted by Parisian disciples who appeared very happy to see the Venerable Master's Sangha disciples once again.

It took about two hours in the car to arrive at Chinagora, a historic hotel in Paris' Chinatown. We saw many familiar faces among the French laypeople, including those who joined the Ten Thousand Buddhas Repentance at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas in April. Due to the sincerity of these disciples, we decided to hold a Great Compassion Guan Yin Dharma Assembly in France.

Although there is a group of disciples who admire the Venerable Master's merit and virtue, the conditions for establishing a monastery in France have not yet ripened. However, the local disciples managed to transform a banquet hall in Chinagora Hotel into a beautiful and yet simple place of practice. Purified by great compassion water and adorned with Buddhist images and decorations, the banquet hall was transformed into a pure practice site for sutra recitation and repentance. We were amazed by and praised their wonderful handiwork, while realizing that "it is the same six sense organs that experience samsara and experience eternal tranquility."

The participants enjoyed the activities of the Dharma assembly, including meditation, Tai Qi, morning recitation, evening recitation and meal offering, as well as the recitation of Guan Yin Bodhisattva's Universal Door Chapter in the morning and the Great Compassion Repentance in the afternoon. Following the repentance, the eleven Dharma Masters took turns lecturing on the Universal Door Chapter, sharing their understanding and personal responses while explaining the twenty-six verses from the chapter. Even though these response stories occurred a long time ago, they were as vivid as ever. They illustrated Guan Yin Bodhisattva's vow to fulfill a myriad wishes. The audience was filled with the joy of Dharma and grew in faith towards Guan Yin Bodhisattva.

After dinner, it was time for informal Dharma talks. It followed the same theme as the one advocated by Venerable Master in his 1990 visit to Europe regarding the "coming together of north and south, tolerance and acceptance among religions. During this visit, the Dharma Masters used humor or personal stories to remind the audience that Buddhadharm





各個傳統（南傳、北傳、藏傳）的佛法都匯聚到了歐洲，佛教徒在開闊心量去認識不同的修行之餘，也應該具有擇法眼，選擇正確的法門，腳踏實地的去履行所學的道理，這樣才能安全地到達解脫的彼岸。

另外，開示時間也談到現代素食的觀念。實法師與聽眾分享參加國際健康生活博覽會的見聞，歷年該博覽會的主講者多數是醫學家、運動家、科學家等人士。但自2005年起，主辦單位 VegSource Interactive, Inc 開始邀請宗教界人士參加，希望結合宗教界的力量共同促進人類的健康。因此「素食」不再侷限於宗教徒個人認知的領域，已擴展於增進人類健康，乃至維護地球生態和諧的一項重要工作。

同時，實法師也提到自己當年三步一拜時，從每一份路人的供養當中，學習到知足與感恩。若吃飯時，能善用五觀，那正是

is all-encompassing. During this special period when different Buddhist traditions have arrived in Europe, Buddhists can learn about different paths of practice. However, it is important to also be able to choose the proper Dharma method and to apply these principles in order to reach the shore of liberation safely.

One evening lecture focused on vegetarianism. DM Heng Sure shared his learning from attending the International Healthy Lifestyle Expo. In past years, the participants had mostly been doctors, athletes and scientists. The sponsor of the event, VegSource Interactive, Inc. started inviting religious group to attend in the hope that they would encourage people to live healthy lifestyles. Thus, vegetarianism is not only a religious practice, but is of great importance in improving human health and preserving harmonious ecological systems on planet earth.

DM Heng Sure also mentioned that he learned about contentment and appreciation from each of the offering from bystanders during his journey of three steps one bow. A meal is an important opportunity for practicing the Five Contemplations. Those who can do this properly will have a clear and kind heart that can be felt by all living beings.





個很好的修行機會。善用五觀的人，心地是光明和善的，一切眾生都會感受到的。

值得一提的是，法會期間有幾位培德中學的學生或校友，來自歐洲法國、荷蘭、比利時和美國等國家。這些孩子們在會場內外幫忙著，一點也不遜色於大人。有一天晚間的開示，他們受邀上臺談談自己在培德中學讀書的收穫心得。有一位學生說，上人翻譯經典的弘願令他非常感動，他要好好努力學習自己的母語（荷蘭語），將來也能幫忙實踐上人的願望。法師們聽了之後，特別當場請他用荷蘭語將他的心願再說一遍。這些年輕人活潑爽朗的氣質，與誠實、不加造作的談吐，都令人見到了世界和平的曙光。也想起了當年上人訪歐時，在巴黎聯合國教科文組織發表的談話：

「教育是最徹底、最根本的國防。現在我要用「仁義道德」和「孝、悌、忠、信、禮、義、廉、恥」這八德，來周遊聯合國，來救全世界，全人類青年人的靈魂、生命和本性。」

十七年後的今日，這群孩子正為上人的這番話做了最佳的詮釋。

法會期間有段感人的小故事，即是有對夫妻來自荷蘭，本已聘請律師協議分手了，但因參加了法會，及聆聽實法師的開示後，竟然回心轉意，破鏡重圓，願意再組家庭，終於以喜劇收場，佛法真是微妙不可思議！

一週的觀音法會，在七月廿九日圓滿結束；當日下午的三皈五戒，總共有一百位參加，許多都是初次聽聞上人開示的新面孔，而且多數是年輕的學子，也許這正是上人十七年前默默栽培下的種子。而身為上人弟子的我們，所能做的只是追隨上人的足跡，繼續耕耘正法的種子於歐洲這片新興的土地上。

It is important to mention that while the delegation was in France, there were over a dozen students and alumni of Developing Virtue Secondary School helping out. These students came from France, the Netherlands, Belgium and the United States. Some of them shared their experience in attending the high school. One student from the Netherlands said that he was so touched by the Venerable Master's vow to translate Sutras that he wanted to study his native language, Dutch, in order to help realize the Venerable Master's vow in the future. When the Dharma Masters heard his talk, they asked him to repeat his wish again in his native language. These young people's honest and unpretentious attitude is a bright light of hope for world peace. This reminded me of what the Venerable Master said at UNESCO in Paris, in 1990:

“Education is the the most thorough and fundamental form of national defense. Now, I want to travel among the United Nations with these qualities of humaneness, justice, virtue, filial respect, brotherhood, loyalty, trustworthiness, propriety, righteousness, integrity, and a sense of shame, using this elixir to save the souls, lives, and inherent natures of all young people throughout the world.”

Seventeen years later, these young adults seem to be a fitting manifestation of the speech made by the Venerable Master.

There was a small touching story during the session. A couple from the Netherlands had paid an attorney to process their divorce. However, after attending the Dharma assembly and listening to the lecture by DM Sure, they decided to keep their marriage and their family together. The Buddha Dharma is inconceivable indeed!

The weeklong Guan Yin Session ended on July 29th. Exactly a hundred people participated in the transmission of the Three Refuges and Five Precepts. It was the first time that many of them had heard of the Venerable Master's Dharma. Most of them were actually quite young. Maybe this was the result of the seeds the Venerable Master planted seventeen years ago. As the Venerable Master's disciples, all we could do was to follow the footsteps of the Venerable Master and continue to cultivate the seeds of Proper Dharma where they are just starting to flourish in Europe.

