



## *News From the Dharma Realm*

### *GOLD WHEEL TEMPLE ENTERS AN INCONCEIVABLE STATE*

*-L.A., February 27, 1982*

*excerpt from the Venerable Abbot Hua's opening lecture on the FLOWER ADORNMENT SUTRA "Entering the Inconceivable State of Liberation of Universal Worthy's Conduct and Vows Chapter."*

"Los Angeles is a big city and now the opportunities are ripe. It is exactly the right time to lecture the Chapter on Universal Worthy's Conduct and Vows. But because when this chapter is spoken the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas of the ten directions as well as the gods, dragons, and the other members of the eight-fold division of ghosts and spirits all come to protect the Bodhimanda where it is being explained, we need a big Bodhimanda in which to lecture it. Now of course the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas is a big Bodhimanda, but the population of that area is not great. Los Angeles, on the other hand, is densely populated and is an ideal place for another big Bodhimanda.

"And now Universal Worthy Bodhisattva's Conduct and Vows have brought a response. Last year the Dharma Protectors found a big Bodhimanda. When filled to capacity it will seat over a thousand people in the main Buddhahall. It seems to have just welled up out of the earth, for if you stop to consider it, in this country Buddhism is just beginning and if it were not for the miraculous power of the vows which Universal Worthy Bodhisattva has accomplished, how else could such a big Way-place rise up here in the West? It's really big and I'm really happy with it. Of course Kuo T'ing pointed out that after this new big Bodhimanda flourishes I will want to find a bigger one and will say that this one

is too small to fit our needs, but no, this time I'm content. I'm completely satisfied. Even if you offered to give me a bigger one I wouldn't take it.

"With just a bit of renovation, this new Bodhimanda is turning into an inconceivable Way-place. So I've composed a very simple couplet in commemoration.

*TURNING THE GREAT FLOWER ADORNMENT DHARMA WHEEL,  
WE ENTER AN INCONCEIVABLE STATE,  
AND ACTIVATE THE WISDOM AND VOWS  
OF MANJUSHRI AND UNIVERSAL WORTHY.*

*PRACTICING THE PROFOUND PRAJNA PARAMITA  
WE ASCEND THE WONDERFULLY HIGH JEWELLED PAVILION,  
AND STUDY THE KINDNESS AND COMPASSION  
OF KUAN YIN AND MAITREYA.*

"As the Way-place nears readiness, with Universal Worthy Bodhisattva's Great Vow-Power as its foundation, Manjushri Bodhisattva raises his hand in salute, Kuan Yin Bodhisattva nods in approval, and Maitreya Bodhisattva laughs with joy. And I am in a big inconceivable state when I lecture this "Chapter on the Conduct and Vows of Universal Worthy." Our new Bodhimanda may not be filled to capacity during this lecture series, but even five hundred in the assembly is a good number. In Southeast Asia several thousand attended our lectures each evening. Although in America we can't expect that many yet, the time is coming when there will be people who come in such numbers to listen to the Dharma. It's just that as of yet they can't find me and I can't find them. That's another inconceivable state!"

*THE LECTURE SERIES WILL RUN MARCH 27-28 and APRIL 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, and  
24-25. Saturdays and Sundays 12:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.--two lectures dally.  
ADDRESS: 1728 W. 6th Street Los Angeles, Ca. 90017  
DIRECTIONS: one block north of Wilshire between Burlington and Union.  
PHONE: (213)483-7497 or (213) 358-6177*



**PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE  
THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS  
of the  
WORLD BUDDHIST SANGHA COUNCIL  
by the  
ORTHODOX AMERICAN BUDDHIST SANGHA  
in the  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**As Represented By Delegation From  
Dharma Realm Buddhist University**

**and**  
**Gold Wheel Temple**

**Taipei Taiwan Republic of China**  
**December 1st through December 8th**  
**Nineteen Hundred and Eighty One**

**Proposal 7**

**That a UNITED INTERNATIONAL SANGHA ORGANIZATION be established, based on commonly accepted standards of conduct and certified transmission of the precepts.**

Submitted by:

Bhikshu Heng Sure, Dean of Buddhist Studies, DRBU  
Bhikshuni Heng Hsien, Dean of Buddhist Studies and Vice President, DRBU  
Bhikshu Thich Hang Dang, Graduate, DRBU  
Bhikshu Heng Ch'i, B.A. Saint Olaf College; Assistant Professor, Buddhist Studies;  
Executive Director, Buddhist Council for Refugee Rescue and Resettlement  
Shramanera Heng Jau, Graduate Student, DRBU; Director of ESL Training, Buddhist  
Council Indochinese Refugee Training Project  
Shramaneri Heng Chia, Student, DRBU  
Upasika Liu Kuo-ai, M.D. Fukien Medical College; Professor, DRBU  
Upasaka Liu Kuo Chi, B.A. Tokyo Imperial University; Instructor, DRBU; Chinese  
Language Secretary, Sino-American Buddhist Association.  
Upasika Kuo Na Koch, Graduate Student, DRBU  
Upasika Yiew Kuo Choo, Student, DRBU

Discussion:

It is proposed that a United International Sangha organization be founded based on the standards of conduct in the Vinaya and certified transmission of the precepts. Since these standards are universally accepted among the orthodox Sangha, the Sangha is able to speak and act with the strength and authority of a common and harmonious intent and purpose. However, the Sangha has not yet so organized itself.

Therefore we propose that an ad hoc committee be formed with representatives from every Sangha group in attendance at the Third World Council. Members of the committee must be able to commit themselves or authorize an alternate member, to participate in a series of plenary sessions of undetermined duration. First there must be a thorough examination of the similarities and differences between the various traditions in their practice of the Vinaya. Then there must be an in-depth investigation of the principles involved, and a discernment must be rendered as to how the Vinaya texts are to be practiced in the present day.

Relying on the wisdom of the Sutras and the Elder Virtuous Ones, a comprehensive document should be compiled to set forth the results of the committee's study. This document would go to all members for their ratification. The document will be designed such that acceptance of it will constitute an international Sangha with the authority to enforce standards of behavior. Hopefully this will include all members of the Sangha and all Way-places.

Once this International Sangha is formed, it can function for: 1) propagation of the Dharma; 2) translation of the Tripitaka; 3) orthodox transmission of the precepts; 4) promotion of world peace, human welfare, non-violence, and so forth.

-Bhikshu Heng Ch'i

Further discussion: Buddhism can learn a lesson from the Catholic Church, which, through its governing body has been able to widely propagate Christianity and keep the Catholic Church united.

-Shramanera Heng Jau

Further Discussion: Buddhism has no fewer believers than any other religion in the world, yet its organizational structure is not strong. Although Buddhism is endowed with a perfect spirit, its effectiveness is limited, and it does not have the influential voice that it could to contribute to the welfare of the world on a significant scale. When the organizational structure of Buddhism is well established, its activities will make a significant contribution to the peace and happiness of living beings. The work to revitalize Buddhism is urgent, however, because destructive forces now abound in the world.

-Bhikshu Thich Hang Dang

*-to be continued next issue-*