

# *News From the Dharma Realm*

## *AUSPICIOUS AUTUMN*

### *1982 at the City of 10,000 Buddhas*

On October 24th the Sino-American Buddhist Association's Third Precept Platform will culminate with the transmission of the Vajra Brilliance Jeweled Precepts. On October 31st the Opening of the Gate of the City and of the Hall of 10,000 Buddhas will be celebrated, simultaneously honoring Kuan Yin Bodhisattva's Leaving Home Day (actual date November 4th). On the evening of October 31st, a one-week Kuan Yin Bodhisattva Recitation Session commences. On the evening of November 7th, when the Kuan Yin Session ends, a ten-week Chan Session will begin. People interested in joining these auspicious events and participating in these coming sessions can contact the Sino-American Buddhist Association nearest them for detailed information. (See addresses of centers on inside front cover.)

## *A FEW WORDS ON THE PRECEPT PLATFORM*

*-by Venerable Abbot Hua, 1976*

Our Precept Platform which will last for one hundred eight days will begin soon. All the people who want to receive the precepts should not be afraid of suffering. If you want to receive the precepts but you don't want to endure a little hard work, then your heart is not really sincere. People who cultivate and study the Buddhadharma have to be true in everything they do. You cannot be sloppy or careless. That is why our Precept Platform runs so long and is so intense. You should realize that receiving the Precepts is like laying a foundation for a house. If a house doesn't have a sound foundation, it will become dilapidated very quickly. If the foundation is sound, however, one can erect a skyscraper that will last for an eternity here on this earth.

Receiving the Precepts is the foundation for becoming a Buddha. If your foundation is not strong, you will not find it easy to become a Buddha. So don't try to skimp on materials and save on labor like construction companies often do when building houses. Those kinds of houses never do last long. By having a Precept Platform of one hundred eight days, you have the opportunity to study the material thoroughly. You should memorize the Shramanera Vinaya, the Daily Vinaya, the Bodhisattva Precepts, and the Bhikshu or Bhikshuni Precepts. Don't cheat yourself. Don't try to slip off to be lazy and steal a little relaxation. Don't try to skimp on materials and save on labor. If you act like that when you're just a beginner, you're not going to be successful within Buddhism. So during this time of the Precept Transmission, everyone involved should take the bowing of vows seriously. During these periods of bowing you are seeking to repent and reform before the Buddhas. You are hoping that the Buddhas will emit light and bless you so that your karmic obstacle will go away and your good roots will increase, so that eventually you can perfect the enlightened result of Bodhi. This is extremely important.

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*The Precept Platform, an International affair to be held this fall at the City of 10,000 Buddhas, will be the third of its nature. (The first was in 1974, the second in 1976.)*

*It will begin on July 8, 1982, and will continue for one hundred eight days during which rigorous training will include study of the rules in the SHRAMANERA VINAYA, the BHIKSHU and BHIKSHUNI PRECEPTS, the TEN MAJOR and FORTY-EIGHT MINOR BODHISATTVA PRECEPTS, as well as bowing of repentance ceremonies and Universal Vows. The session will culminate with the Platform itself on October 24, 1982, during which the Vajra Brilliance Jeweled Precepts will be transmitted.*

## **THE DHARMA IS SPOKEN ON REQUEST**

Faith and Sincerity bring a True and Actual Response with the Way

Dharma Protectors from Gold Wheel Temple made a purposeful pilgrimage to the City of 10,000 Buddhas early in May. Leaving directly after work on Friday, several tens of devotees drove throughout the night and arrived at the City to join in the morning worship at four a.m. Later that day, in the Kuan Yin Hall of 10,000 Buddhas, the group united in faith and sincerity as they circumambulated the Venerable Abbot and the two cultivators Bhikshus Heng Sure and Heng Ch'au. Kneeling before the serene Kuan Yin Bodhisattva, the Los Angeles Dharma Protectors requested the monks of Three Steps, One Bow, to lecture the *Flower Adornment Sutra* at Gold Wheel Temple for the sake of beings in the Los Angeles area, the entire country, the whole world, and throughout the Dharma Realm. Consenting, the two Dharma Masters responded to the request and began the lecture series at Gold Wheel in late May. The Sutra is explained each evening.