

# *AN EXPOSE OF THE TRICKS OF THE DEMON KINGS*

*-lecture by Venerable Master Hua*

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*-translated by Bkikshuni Heng Ch'ih*

The Dharma Ending Age is the time when the demons are strong and the Dharma is weak. The power of the demon kings grows vaster day by day while the power of the Buddhas diminishes day by day. In talking about Buddhas, we don't use the term "power"--we talk, rather, about their awesome virtue. When living beings have a bountiful reward of blessings, then the Dharma is strong and the demons are weak. But when living beings' reward of blessings lessen then the demons are strong and the Dharma is weak--a complete turn-around. The sum total of all the lives of the people in the world today is analogous to a mountain of eggs--as fragile as eggs piled on top of each other to form a mountain. Consider such a situation: if a single egg were to crack and break, then the whole mountain of eggs would come crashing down. The lives of people today are in just such a precarious state. The whole world is filled with demon denizens. If one speaks true principle, no one wants to listen, but if one speaks of deviant things, it isn't known how many people will latch on to those ideas. For instance, when the Sutras are spoken and the Dharma is lectured, although people might come to listen, their attitude lacks enthusiasm. But whenever a play is being performed or a movie shown or a burlesque held, people all rush to the scene and crowd to be first in line. From this we can see that people don't place much importance on Way-virtue. This is because the demon kings, wielding their power, using their psychic penetrations and changes, can cast a spell over people so that they lose all decency of heart.

The foremost monster of this kind, the weirdest one of all, is the computer ("electric brain"). When the computer was invented, humankind basically ceded its life-force, because people became virtually useless. Whatever matter it is, it has to be checked first with the computer. This is a dharma trick which has been devised by a demon king.

There's another really weird creature at present which terrorizes the world: television ("electric viewing"). This utensil has managed to confuse humankind to the point that people can't distinguish between black and white, between right and wrong, between principle and specifics. Under the sway of T.V., children are brainwashed to the point of being completely upside-down. They are taught to murder, to commit arson, to commit theft, rape, to take dope, and to cheat people on a grand scale. These are the kinds of things that children are instructed in by the T.V.

So the computer and the television are two horrendous freaks. Yet, even though these two are such monsters, people don't recognize them for what they are. In fact, they consider them to be as valuable as jewels. They'll spend a lot of money to buy them and use them in their own homes.

In Chung Wen the word for "computer" translates as "electric brain." Our brains are shocked by the electricity so that we become mesmerized to the point that we don't understand anything anymore. If this "electric brain" isn't a weird creature, how else can you explain why people are so mesmerized by it? How else can it cause people to lose their sense of self-respect? How else can it cause people to be born as if drunk and to die as if in a dream? It's weird creatures like these that undermine the moral fiber and very life-force of people.

There are other weird monsters in the world today, such as rockets. They are shot into outer space; and hydrogen and atomic bombs follow close on the heels of such inventions. And now there's the laser, which in Chung Wen is the "death ray." Even the name gives it away. It's completely inauspicious. Death ray! Death ray! The Chung Wen characters for this term can also be translated as "completely extinguished," and of course eventually it will extinguish us all; the demon kings invent these weapons for massive killing because their aim is to exterminate all of mankind. Now that they have created these monsters, they need to devise all kinds of methods to keep them operational, so they have people work for them who tend upon these creatures, and these people become demonic accomplices. The result is that a tremendous amount of poisonous vapor is emitted into the atmosphere polluting everything. This induces a feeling of dizziness and confusion in people, causing them to lose their sense of direction as if they had taken some kind of drug. This is all the workings of the demon kings.

*note: This important article will be concluded next issue and accompanying it will appear a letter written by Dharma Masters Heng Sure and Heng Ch'au in response to this compassionate exposed.*

## **GOLD WHEEL TEMPLE OPENING AND DEDICATION**

The new Bodhimanda in Los Angeles, GOLD WHEEL TEMPLE at 1728 West Sixth Street, announces the Opening of the Light Ceremonies to be held on January 2, 1983. For details call (213) 258-6177 or (213) 483-7497.

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