News From The Dharma Realm

ANNOUNCING FORTHCOMING NEWSPAPER: THE PROPER DHARMA SEAL

Vajra Bodhi Sea Publication Society announces the forthcoming publication of a new newspaper, "The Proper Dharma Seal." Its purpose will be to shed the light of wisdom and true principle on trends and problems in contemporary society. Its perspective will not be taken from any single profession or discipline. Rather, it will weigh matters of current import on the scales of the true and simple values that are common to all humankind. It will be addressed both to young people and to people of responsibility in religion, education, government, and the professions, to encourage them to be protectors and practicers of goodness and wisdom. The newspaper will be distributed without charge.

In order to offer sound and principled evaluations of contemporary concerns in a way that can awaken readers to a clearer understanding, a newspaper must be written without any thoughts of greed, anger, self-seeking, selfishness, or desire for self-benefit. To ensure that "The Proper Dharma Seal" is free of such influences, its preparation and publication will be overseen by four separate editorial committees. Each committee takes its name from one of the Four Wisdoms of the Buddha: The Wisdom That Accomplishes What Must Be Done, The Wisdom of Wonderful Contemplation, The Wisdom of the Equal Nature, and the Wisdom of the Great Perfect Mirror. The functions and members of the four committees will be introduced in this and forthcoming issues of Vajra Bodhi Sea.

The Buddha achieves the Wisdom That Accomplishes What Must Be Done by the purification and transformation of the five senses: vision, hearing, smell, taste, and touch. In ordinary living beings, these five are open conduits through which living beings, out of desire, pour out their precious essence and energy into the outside world in greedy search for pleasure and sensation. The Buddha, too, sees, hears, smells, tastes, and has tactile sensation, but he has ended his desire and greedy searching outside, and so his sensations and his activities amidst sensation are functions of pure wisdom and compassion for all beings. Liberated from greed and outflow, his senses function at a level of efficiency, effortlessness, and power, which is far higher than that known by ordinary beings; yet his senses are never abused, but are always directed to the well-being of the universe and of all its life-forms.

Taking this first of the Buddha's Four Wisdoms as its guide, the Editorial Committee of the Buddha's Wisdom That Accomplishes What Must Be Done will observe and test every word and sentence of "The Proper Dharma Seal" to ensure that none contains any thought of greedy seeking outside--especially seeking for wealth, fame, or personal pleasure or benefit. Every article written by the committee's members will be trustworthy, honest, and true. None will reflect a dust-mote's worth of desire to confuse, deceive, or beguile its readers. The committee's motives, modeled after the Buddha's motives in using his purified and transformed five senses, will be to help people understand true principle and to encourage them to apply true principle in their judgment of the world around them.

The staff of the Wisdom That Accomplishes What Must Be Done Editorial Committee of "The Proper Dharma Seal" is as follows:

Editor: David Rounds. Assistant Editors: Susan Rounds & Douglas Powers. Editorial Staff: Terri & Alan Nicholson, Phillip & Linda Cole, John Scroggs, Peter Schmitz, Maria Wong, Chi Sheng & Dr. Grace Liu.