

# *Bodhi Stand*

*PRESENTS UPASIKA KUO BEN*



JEWELLED BOWL HAND AND EYE

*The Jeweled Bowl sweet dew can extricate you from  
Entanglements with eighty-four thousand sickness demons.  
The Bodhisattva who contemplates in comfort can,  
With universal compassion, save all with whom he has conditions.*

Twenty years ago, Venerable Master Hsuan Hua came to the hospital where my mother Kwo Huan was admitted for surgery. Her illness was cancer. Kwo Huan did not ask for her life. She only asked that Master Hua accept her as a disciple of the Triple Jewel, and administer the Three Refuges to her. Master Hua compassionately agreed to let her take refuge. He also told her at that time to recite "Namo Gwan Shr Yin Pu Sa." Gwo Huan obediently did so and cherished great faith in the Bodhisattva. She recovered with amazing speed. Soon after, my dad, brother, aunt, cousin, and I took refuge with the Triple Jewel.

Over twelve years ago, my parents, upon their return from the Orient, brought me a statue of Gwan Yin Bodhisattva. Their gift pleased me very much. While I was transporting the Bodhisattva's statue to my home, cherishing her carefully in my arms, she felt very much aglow. Gwan Yin Bodhisattva has always given me strength to cope with the difficulties of life. Drawing near to a bright-eyed good knowing advisor has made my faith in the Bodhisattva and in the efficacy of the Dharma grow even more solid and sincere.

MU DI LI

*When a single thought does not arise, a wonderful mysterious penetration occurs.*

*Aided by samadhi, the light of wisdom appears*

*All Buddhas call out in praise, "Good men, good women!"*

*Close your eyes, clear your mind, and recite the True words.*

In the summer of 1982, my mother, Kwo Huan, again became seriously ill and was hemorrhaging. Her physician advised that immediate surgery was necessary to remedy her grave illness. Master Hua explained that this sickness was due to all the sea food eaten throughout her years of eating meat. This illness was a means by which the sea creatures (crabs, lobsters) were taking revenge on her. Again, Gwan Yin Bodhisattva compassionately protected Kwo Huan as she suffered this retribution and led her to a speedy recovery. Her illness had been so serious that we expected it to be fatal. Her recovery has been truly like a miracle!

#### WHITE WHISK HAND AND EYE

*With karma of past killing heavy as a mountain,*

*You wish to practice the Sagely Way, but obstacles are unbounded.*

*How fortunate to have the Great Compassion White Whisk Hand.*

*Again sweep lightly, and again, so that piled-up hardships vanish.*

Through my mother's suffering, we in the family realized that we must stop eating meat altogether to end suffering. It has been well over a year since my mother, Kwo Huan, my son, Kwo Ah, and I have converted to being vegetarians. I feel that being a contributor and a good supporter for our Buddhist Bodhimandas and studying the Buddha's texts to learn the principles and their functions is a joy and a must. It is very fortunate for us to be able to attend lectures and to receive guidance from Master Hsuan Hua who is so willing to enlighten us in learning the Proper Buddhadharma and the pure Path to take through life.

#### WILLOW BRANCH HAND AND EYE

*The Willow Branch Hand and Eye ripens all the seeds.*

*The sick and suffering, fever-stricken, then find relief.*

*The withered branch encounters spring: chance to thrive renewed.*

*Mortal and yet undying: glorious eternal life.*