

## *News From the Dharma Realm*

### *"Opening of the Light" Ceremony of Earth Store Bodhisattva Image*



On the thirtieth day of the lunar month (September 10), an Opening of the Light Ceremony for a bronze Earth Store Bodhisattva image was held in the Hall of Ten Thousand Buddhas at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Hundreds of friends and guests attended the ceremony. The seated bronze image of the Bodhisattva was sculpted by the well-known artist Yang-feng, of Taiwan. On that day, in order to show their sincerity and devotion, the donors of the image, Mr. and Mrs. Tsai Rung-kwun and Mr. and Mrs. Chen Jing-gwang, bowed once every three steps from the Main Mountain Gate all the way to the Buddhahall. The Venerable Master Hua spoke the following verse while "Opening the light" for the Bodhisattva:

*Homage to Earth Store King, King of Great vows,  
Who toils from morning to night, saving living beings.  
At the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, he extends his teaching and  
transforming,  
So that sentient beings throughout the Dharma Realm  
Can quickly return to their homeland.*

During lunch, the Venerable Master lauded the qualities of Earth Store Bodhisattva, who is known as the filial Bodhisattva in Buddhism. The following are excerpts from the Master's speech:

Earth Store Bodhisattva has measureless light, measureless wisdom, measureless eloquence, and measurelessly many spiritual penetrations. Why do we open the light for the Bodhisattva? It is because we each have measureless light, measureless wisdom, eloquence, and measurelessly many spiritual penetrations. However, right now we are covered over by the seven emotions and six desires so that our wisdom and light do not

shine through. Therefore, we have to rely on the opening of the light ceremony for Earth Store Bodhisattva to help us bring forth our own light, wisdom, eloquence and spiritual penetrations. In what ways can we open up our wisdom? By observing the Six Great Principles. If we honor the Six Principles of no fighting, no greed, no seeking, no selfishness, no striving for personal advantage, and no lying, then at all times we will speak words that are true and actual, and never lie.

Earth Store Bodhisattva is a most filial person. If you wish to obtain the Bodhisattva's aid, you should practice filial piety. When your parents are alive, you should be filial to them. After they have passed away, you should regard all elder people as you would your own parents. This is called, "Cherishing others' parents as one would cherish one's own parents." Then Earth Store Bodhisattva will certainly look upon you as a close friend, and aid you with his spiritual penetrations. As a result you will obtain measureless light, measureless wisdom, measureless eloquence, great bliss, and self-mastery. Then all of your wishes will be fulfilled."



*Dr. Tom MacMillan, Professor of English and  
Philosophy at Mendocino County College.*

Among the honored guests who spoke were Chancellor Ho Pai-cho and professor Men Yi-ping, both of whom are experienced educators, and are particularly concerned with moral and ethical education. They stressed the importance of introducing the virtue and practice of filial respect to Western society; maintaining that this will rectify the sad situation of broken homes and the current high divorce rate and also alleviate the suffering of children who do not get the opportunity of living together with both parents in a wholesome and supportive home environment. Dharma Master Heng Chau, who teaches at Instilling Goodness and Developing Virtue Boy's Schools, raised the alarming issues of how far people have strayed from the roots of humanity when they are content to make children without using parents, such as in the case of test tube babies. Dr. Tom MacMillan, Professor of English and Philosophy at Mendocino County College, brought up the deeper meaning of "opening the light." When opening the light within, also open the light outside by sharing the City's rich resources with friends of the community. Dharma Master Giac Luong who came with his delegation from San Jose, spoke about the inconceivable power of Earth Store Bodhisattva's vows:

*Until the hells are emptied,  
I will not become a Buddha.  
Until all living beings are saved,  
I myself will not accomplish Proper Enlightenment.*

Mr. Hector Wong again brought up the Six Principles as being the most effective way for opening wisdom.

A three-day session of reciting the Bodhisattva's name was held to celebrate the auspicious occasion of Earth Store Bodhisattva's Birthday.

### ***Presidential Candidate George Bush Tours Chinatown, San Francisco***

*Greeted by Venerable Master Hua and Asian Community Leaders*

In a recent campaign tour, on September 14, 1988, American Vice-president and Republican Presidential Candidate, George Bush, was welcomed in Chinatown, San Francisco, by the Asian-American community. After touring the main thoroughfares of Chinatown, Mr. Bush made his way to Portsmouth Square, where he was greeted by close to two hundred leaders of the Asian community, representing those of Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Korean, and Philippino origin. The gathering, several thousand strong, clapped and cheered and gave Mr. Bush, his wife Barbara, and California Governor Mr. Deukmajian an exuberant welcome.

Professor John B. Tsu, National Chairman of the National Republican Asian Assembly and an administrator at John F. Kennedy University, Orinda, introduced the Venerable Master Hua, who had been especially invited up to the podium to welcome Mr. Bush. Professor John Tsu introduced the Venerable Master as follows: "Right now in the world, there is a holy man, who by means of the silent power of his teaching, imperceptibly turns around the tide of adversity that is upon us. Quietly he puts a stop to disasters, which would otherwise devastate the world, so that we can still enjoy peace and prosperity. The General Abbot of the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas and Gold Mountain Monastery has taught in America for many years. He is someone who has the greatest wisdom and intelligence in the world. If he supports you in his campaign, you will certainly win."

Amidst loud applause and cheering, the Venerable Master addressed the crowd: "All of you fellow overseas Chinese, we are living in America, and we should elect the President who is the most intelligent and has the greatest wisdom; one who is public-spirited and unselfish; one who is fair and unprejudiced. Someone who is President should not fight, should not be greedy, should not seek, should not be selfish, should not pursue personal

advantage, and should not lie. Someone who can meet those conditions is the best-qualified person to be President."

In a similar vein, during the recent Graduation Ceremony of the Dharma Realm Buddhist University and the Sangha and Laity Training Programs, and the Conference, "Tapping the Potential for Inherent Wisdom" held at the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas on August 20-21, the Venerable Master made the following statement: "Whoever is elected as American President, and this includes other government officials as well, should be incorruptible and not take bribes. In fact, they should not even take a salary. They should never lie or try to cheat the people. If the leaders of a country engage in fraud and corruption, the people and the young will certainly follow suit. The leaders of a country should act in a completely just, public and unselfish way. That way, they can become living examples of virtue. That is truly serving the people. Anyone who can do that, without having to resort to campaign tactics, will surely win the trust and support of the populace. Such a person will win the election."



*Official welcome. of the Vice-president of the United States George Bush to San Francisco's Chinatown. Shown from left to right are: the Venerable Master Hua (speaking), Barbara Bush, California Governor Deukmejian, and the Vice-President.*

Although those were brief words, for those who attended the Conference, they constituted a powerful statement. Many professors and scholars went away inspired, convinced that there is still hope and that we can still find ways to rectify educational trends and restore the crumbling social structure. This has been the goal of Dharma Realm Buddhist University and all the other educational institutions sponsored by the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association: to foster the development of a lofty moral character, upright citizenship, and academic excellence, so as to provide the world with genuine leadership. For this reason, all the students at Dharma Realm Buddhist University adhere to a strict code of honor and observe a high level of moral behavior. Faculty and students do not smoke, drink alcohol, take drugs, gamble, or engage in promiscuous and improper behavior. By emphasizing ethical structure in the family and introducing ethical and

moral standards in every aspect of academic and social life, the University hopes to exert a positive influence on social trends and education worldwide.

## **Commencement Speeches**

*Dharma Master Heng Sure*

In the primary school of the Dharma Realm education system, children learn filial devotion for parents, respect towards teachers, and how to get along with peers.

This firm foundation in filial respect is expanded in the secondary school, where students learn to fulfill their responsibility as world citizens. This means they learn to respect others' cultures as their own.

For example, in Developing Virtue Secondary School, students train in a bilingual environment, where both Mandarin Chinese and English are used inside and outside the classroom. Students who make the most of this opportunity can expect a bright future as translators, they can become the most useful of people: bridges for cultural exchange between East and West. They can make a genuine contribution to understanding among nations and to world peace.



*Friends share warm laughter after Commencement Exercises. From left to right: Father John Rogers, Dr. Tom MacMillan, Prof. Wang Ling, and Dr. Donald de Martini.*

In the third stage students at Dharma Realm Buddhist University expand the principles of respect and service to include integrity and humaneness. We emphasize that the value of education lies not in its power to bring wealth and pleasure, but in its ability to develop the wisdom inherent in every individual's mind. This ideal takes shape naturally as

students memorize the wisdom texts they investigate, and then in class, with the guidance of good knowing advisors, exchange ideas about the important truths that the texts contain.

Students gain the tools and practices that will continue to mold their thinking and habits into proper knowledge and vision, thinking and habits that are fundamentally honest, free of contention, free of the drive for material gain, free of selfishness and profiteering.

We emphasize that all true learning and every religion or philosophy that lasts, stands on virtue and morality. We wish to preserve and to dignify these standards and to make them the basis of our students' education. Our goal is to forge new people who recognize and embody the wisdom innate in every living creature.

*Dharma Master Heng Chia*  
***Women's coordinator of the Sangha and  
Laity Training Programs***

During the last fifty years, there has been a growing interest in and practice of Buddhism in the United States and other Western countries, as well as a renewed interest in Buddhism in Asia. However, there are few institutions qualified to provide service to individuals who wish to study and practice.

The Sangha and Laity Training programs at the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas have attempted to meet these demands for training by providing Buddhist education and training of the highest calibre, one embodying lofty, moral ideals.

Students in the Sangha and Laity Training Programs learn to develop their good characters through the daily practice of the Six Guiding Principles of the City, which include: no fighting, no greed, no seeking, no selfishness, no pursuit of personal advantage, and no lying.

Faculty and students of the Sangha and Laity Training Programs are drawn in from all over the world. The programs provide Orthodox Buddhist religious instruction and training, continuing a tradition dating back to the time of the Buddha, which includes daily ceremonies, recitation of Sutras, bowing repentance ceremonies, meditation sessions, and sessions for reciting the names of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas. Students also attend daily classes covering Buddhist doctrine, the Chinese Classics, and Ethics, and commit to memory selected Sutra and Vinaya texts.

Our goals are: first, to provide the whole body of Buddhist tradition in all its dimensions; and second, to preserve the classical Buddhist languages, thereby making this body of wisdom available to everyone.

The Sangha and Laity Training Programs have been designed to train people of excellent moral character, who can then do their best to help their communities, their countries, and the entire world.

*Terri Nicholson*

### ***Principal of Instilling Goodness Elementary Girls' School***

Instilling Goodness School was first established in San Francisco in 1976 as a full-time primary school. It is, to my knowledge, the first Buddhist primary school opened in California. Later, when the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas was founded, the School relocated to Talmage.

It was founded with the goal of building a firm foundation for American youth in the hope of creating a bright future for both this country and the world.

Although we are a Buddhist school in America, we open our doors to students of all faiths and from all nations. Our goal is to produce good citizens, whose academic training and moral character will be an asset to our world. We believe that the principles we teach are those which all religions cherish.

First and foremost, from the time our students enter our school until they graduate, we emphasize the importance of being filial to one's parents. We try to help the students understand the great debt of kindness we owe to our parents for the enormous amount they have done for us. Although they learn in a school environment, we stress that they must take what they learn and put it into practice at home with their families, and with their friends. If they can be respectful and honor their parents, doing whatever they can to help them, they are able to contribute to the strength and happiness of the family unit, as well as learn to be considerate and caring people. At a time when the family is threatened by divorce and other stresses of the modern world, we believe that training young people to cherish their parents and families is more important than ever.

The community is made up of families. The nation is a group of communities, and the many nations form the world. Along with teaching our students the importance of being filial, we try to help them see themselves as an integral part of the community and nation in which they live. We teach them that all of us should feel a sense of responsibility to contribute to and protect the community and nation in which we live. Our goal is not to educate students to follow blindly, but rather to act as models for others and to always have concern for others as well as themselves. To this end, we teach our students to embody the Six Principles of Not Fighting, Not Being Greedy, Not Seeking, Not Being Selfish, Not Striving for Personal Advantage, and Not Lying. We, as faculty members, work at trying to uphold them as well.

We feel that the work of educating children to grow to be proper and upright citizens is something that all educators and religious leaders find equally important. It is our hope that in the future we can all work together and share this important job and, indeed, create a bright future for our world.

MONDAY,

**COMMUNITY**

5

SEPTEMBER 19, 1988

THE UKIAH DAILY JOURNAL

---

## *All ages study at City of Buddhas*

*By Li BEI WEN  
Journal Correspondent*

Students from kindergarten through university age converge on the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas daily, but much of the activity and learning that goes on there is unknown to the people who live in the Ukiah Valley.

That is about to change, if the teachers and professors at the Buddhist school see their dreams come to reality.

The school is expanding its courses and offering classes to the citizens of Mendocino County. Several visiting professors from other countries are planing to stay on as members of the staff.

The Dharma Realm Buddhist University is emerging into its own, holding its first graduation exercises in July, and now branching out to bring in students and teachers from the five continents of the world.

Prof. Ronald Epstein, who received his Ph.D from the University of California at Berkeley, and an American who has been at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas since 1976, has been named chancellor of the Americas. Prof. Douglas Power, also a Berkeley graduate, is chancellor of Europe, and Prof. Ho Pai Cho of China is chancellor of Asia. Two additional professors will be named to oversee the work in Africa and Australia.

"The University is international in scope. These five will help and consult with each other," said Heng Tao, a teacher at the school, and a spokesman for the City.

The object of this expansion and this emphasis on reaching out into the world is to help bring about world peace.



"We really believe that the unity of world religions would relieve the world of the education crisis. We believe education and religion are two sides of the same coin," said Prof. Ho.

"We are all dedicated to education and we all have the same goal. That is to save from the crisis education in the whole world by any method, but "By using the best of each continent and each religion," he said.

Buddhist schools teach basic education courses, but in addition, stress six principals of the religion which are: No fighting, no greed, no seeking, no selfishness, no striving for personal advantage, and no dishonesty.

These are all qualities of human relationships that are important in obtaining peace in personal lives as well as throughout the world.

Ho said these concepts are not only those of Buddhism, but Catholic schools also are teaching similar values.

"In Western history, most distinguished institutes of higher learning were religion based, but they began to get away from that as they become more scholastically oriented. Harvard, Yale, and many other famous universities were associated with churches.

"Today we live in a society of high scientific technology. The west leads the whole world. To correspond with this, the spiritual and ethical awareness must be raised.

"The Chinese culture can complement the Western technology, otherwise it will lead to destruction. There must be a balance. Religion is the force to put it all together and give the restraints needed in a technological world," he said.

"Our goal," Ho continued, "is to bring out the best of each continent's culture."

He will be teaching a course on human nature, drawing on the teachings of such Western philosophers as Plato and Socrates in comparison to the Confucian school of the eastern cultures.

Other classes will cover such subjects as philosophy, ethics, language, Chinese culture, and various fine arts subjects, including calligraphy, which will be the first class offered to the public this fall.

Heng Tao said there have been many gifted and distinguished people coming to the grounds of the City in Talmage nearly every summer, and now they are staying.

The calligraphy class is being taught by Lui Tai who has accepted an appointment as full professor at the Fine Arts College of Dharma Realm Buddhist University.

Dr. Men Yi-ping will be teaching classes on ethics. She is in demand as a traveling lecturer, and stresses in her talks, the importance of building strong family units and stopping the trend of broken homes.

We're not interested in money making or people just for their own fame, but in drawing people here for excellence, to pursue learning.

"This is what we have been doing quietly, but now it is making its own impact," Heng Tao said.

Prof. Ho said the university would become one of the forerunners of bringing Eastern culture to the West.

Heng Tao quoted a prediction by Arnold Toynbee, the great English philosopher when he said that the highlight of the 20th Century would be the impact and influence of Eastern culture on the West.



Li BeiWen

*Lui Tal, a noted calligrapher who is offering classes to the public at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, executes a delicate brush stroke, as she demonstrates her art to a group of students.*

And, Ho said what the university is attempting is the beginning of the formation of an international culture.

Buddhism, from ancient times, he said, has been very tolerant of every religion and strives to incorporate the best of all religions.

"We welcome representatives of all religions to come share their truths with us. We would have a world religion here, and religious leaders can change education and social trends and bring about world peace," he said.

Those interested in enrolling in the calligraphy class, or inquiring about other classes, should call 462-0939.

MONDAY,

**COMMUNITY**

5

SEPTEMBER 19, 1988

THE UKIAH DAILY JOURNAL

---

## *Calligraphy forte of Dahrma Realm teacher*

*By Li BEI WEN  
Journal Correspondent*

Lui Tai has a quick, bright smile as she talks about the art she creates, but her face becomes one of serious concentration when she dips her brush in ink and begins the first stroke of Chinese calligraphy.

Calligraphy is her forte, something she has perfected over 30 years of work, and she is teaching this ancient Chinese art at the Dharma Realm Buddhist University in classes open to the general public.

Her brushwork and paintings have been exhibited in galleries and national displays in major European cities in France, Germany, Austria, and England, as well as extensively in Japan, Australia, the Far East, Southeast Asia, the U.S. and Canada.

"She is recognized as one of the most prominent women calligraphers of our era, and is known for her robust and dynamic style as well as her inner strength and boundless energy evidenced in her free-flowing brushwork," said a spokesman at the University.

Lui Tai has been a professor of Chinese calligraphy at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and recently accepted an appointment as full professor at the Fine Arts College of Dharma Realm Buddhist University at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas in Talmage.

Her course will be divided into three stages—a general instruction for beginners that includes introduction in the stroke order and composition of Chinese characters; intermediate or running script in which students will model their writing on samples of the best-known calligraphical styles obtained from stone tablet rubbings, and finally, advanced running script, generally acknowledged as the epitome of Chinese brush writing.

In demonstrating her talents, Lui Tai works very quickly, with strong, yet delicate strokes on the thin rice paper, completing two or three characters with one dip in the ink bowl.

She helps each individual student, assisting them in completing the assigned work, and she does it with patience and care. Lui Tai was born and schooled in the Guangsi Province of China.

After settling in Hong Kong in 1949, she began to study calligraphy and painting. As a writer, she has been a frequent contributor to a major local daily newspaper in Hong Kong.

She made her calligraphy debut in a joint Hong Kong/Japan calligraphy exhibition in 1966. In 1971 she had a one-woman exhibition of her works, which drew praise from the local art community and firmly established for her a career in teaching.

After another highly acclaimed one-woman show in 1975, she began a series of successful tours abroad representing Hong Kong as one of its foremost calligraphers.

Anyone interested in enrolling in Lui Tai's class should call 462-0939.