

# News From the Dharma Realm

The Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas  
Dharma Realm Buddhist Association  
Talmage, California 95481-0217  
Telephone: (707) 462-0939  
October 18, 1988



万佛圣城  
法界佛教总会  
美国加州达摩镇九五四八一  
电话: (七〇七) 四六二 • 〇九三九

## 华严法会楞严坛场四十二手眼安天立地

*The Flower Adornment Dharma Assembly, the Shurangama Platform, and the 42 Hands and Eyes establish the Heavens and the Earth.*

## 妙觉世尊等觉菩萨千百亿化身变海为山

*The World Honored Ones of Wonderful Enlightenment and the Bodhisattvas of Equal Enlightenment, with a billion transformation bodies, can turn oceans into mountains.*

Dear Senator,

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves to you. The Dharma Realm Buddhist Association (established in 1958) is a federally-approved, non-profit educational and religious organization, with branches in northern and southern California, Seattle, Vancouver, and Calgary. Our international headquarters at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, Talmage, Mendocino County, is the site of Instilling Goodness Elementary School, Developing Virtue Secondary School, and Dharma Realm Buddhist University. The Association also sponsors the Sangha and Laity Training Programs, four-year vocational religious programs for the Buddhist clergy and laypeople who, upon completion of their training, return to their own countries to serve at Buddhist temples and educational and social-service facilities.

The Buddhist Text Translation Society, founded in 1969 and now under the auspices of the University, is the most active Buddhist text translation center in the world. The Society is dedicated to producing accurate and readable translations of classical Buddhist texts into English, other Western languages, and modern Chinese. To date, over one hundred volumes have been published, including translations of major Sutras and Vinaya (Canon law) works from the Buddhist canon.

The World Religions Center at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, has been established for the purpose of promoting research, interchange and dialogue among the world's major faiths. By sponsoring conferences, courses of study in comparative religious philosophies, and ecumenical gatherings, the Center's programs foster mutual understanding, good will and unity of purpose among world religions as a way to achieve world peace.

As a response to the sad degeneration of social mores and the painful situation of worldwide educational bankruptcy, the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association has dedicated itself to supporting educational endeavors that stress not only academic excellence, but equally as important, the formation of upright, moral character. This enables young people to activate their potential for the highest wisdom, to serve society,

and to help improve declining social trends. The educational facilities at our international headquarters at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, as well as the schools in our branch-societies, are tuition-free, thus making education available to serious-minded students who wish to nurture good character and academic excellence. The boys and girls attend separate classes. Right from the beginning and throughout the entire course of their education, the development of honesty and forthrightness are stressed above everything else. In grade school children are taught filial respect towards parents and elders. In high school they are taught how to be responsible citizens and how to live in harmony with their siblings and peers. They are also encouraged to preserve the purity of their bodies and minds by observing a high standard of moral conduct. At the university level, students are trained to become the kinds of people who can be inspirational role-models for society and the world at large. The qualities of humaneness, filial respect, responsibility, and righteousness are emphasized. In addition, members of the entire Association honor Six Guiding Principles of not fighting, not being greedy, not seeking personal gratification, not being selfish, not striving for personal advantage, and not lying. Although the faculty and students come from many countries and diverse backgrounds, they all abstain from drinking alcohol, taking drugs, gambling, and promiscuity.

For over ten years, the schools have, and are still in the process of, evolving a comprehensive ethical program that extends through all aspects of the student's life: in the family, at school, in society, and, later on, in his or her professional life as well. We have found that by teaching moral discernment to children at an early age, and by providing them with living examples of upright conduct, young people are able to arrive at intelligent and proper choices when faced with the many dilemmas and decisions which confront them as they step out into the world. The school's special approach and curriculum are earning the recognition of local and overseas communities, not only Buddhist, but from other religious disciplines as well. The enclosed newspaper articles and essays offer details of the impact of these programs.

The Dharma Realm Buddhist Association is one of the major Buddhist institutions in the world. It maintains centers for the practice of orthodox Buddhist tradition not only in America but throughout East Asia. There is growing recognition of the excellence of the University and Training Programs as well. At Dharma Realm Buddhist University's recent graduation ceremony, diplomas were presented by March Fong Eu, the Honorable California Secretary of State, who herself was granted an Honorary Doctorate Degree in "Social Service in Education" from Dharma Realm Buddhist University. Also participating were representatives from local government, other religious organizations (such as the Catholic Archdiocese), and officials from the local Community College and public school system. Because of the rapid downhill trend toward amorality and irresponsibility in today's youth, we feel that we should share with you some of the fruits of our educational experiences in the teaching of ethical ideals in the Association's schools as described above. We hope the enclosed articles will be of some interest and offer food for thought. We would be more than happy to discuss important issues in education with you at your convenience, for we are sure that we share much common ground, and we hope that we can learn from you. We are looking forward to hearing from you about these important issues.



Sincerely yours,  
Ronald Epstein, Chancellor for the Americas

*Ronald Epstein*

Douglas M. Powers, Chancellor for the European Region

*Douglas M. Powers*

Ho Pai-cho, Chancellor for the Asian Region

*Ho pai-cho*

### 金山寺

Gold Mountain Monastery  
800 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

### 金輪寺

Gold Wheel Monastery  
1728 West Sixth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90017

### 金佛寺

Gold Buddha Monastery  
301 East Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C., V5A 1P3 Canada

### 金峯寺

Gold Summit Monastery  
1431 Minor ave, Seattle, WA 98101

### 華嚴寺

Avatamsaka Monastery  
1159-10th Street S.E. Calgary, AB T2G 3E4, Canada



## **REPENTANCE BEFORE THE TEN THOUSAND BUDDHAS**

The most important annual spiritual event sponsored by the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association--the Repentance Before the Ten Thousand Buddhas--will take place from April 19 to May 13 or 14, 1989, at the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. This repentance ceremony involves bowing to and reciting the names of the more than ten thousand Buddhas in the Sutra of the Buddhas' Names. These Buddhas represent the infinite number of Buddhas in world-systems throughout the universe.

The Sunday celebration of the Anniversary of Shakyamuni Buddha's Birthday, will be on May 7 at the Sagely City. Celebrations will also be held at all Dharma Realm Buddhist Association monasteries on May 12, 1989, the actual day of Shakyamuni Buddha's Birthday.

Other 1989 Upcoming Events

February 3 (evening) to February 6 (eve.) Three days of Mantra Recitation for the Lunar New Year

February 5 Sunday Celebration of Maitreya Bodhisattva's Birthday

March 24 (eve.) to March 31 (eve.) One Week of Recitation of Gwan Shr Yin Bodhisattva's Name

March 26 Sunday/Actual Day Celebration of Gwan Shr Yin Bodhisattva's Birthday