

## ***Precepts Ordination for Bhikshus and Bhikshunis: August 30, 1989***

The Fifth Complete Precepts Ordination for Bhikshus and Bhikshunis sponsored by the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association will be held on August 30, 1989, at the completion of a 108-day precept training period for candidates. The first ordination ceremony for Bhikshus and Bhikshunis held in the United States was sponsored by the Association in 1972 at Gold Mountain Monastery in San Francisco. In 1976, 1979, and 1982, ordinations were performed at the international headquarters of the Association, the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas in Mendocino County, northern California.

Since the previous ordination ceremony in 1982, novice monks and nuns have been preparing for the upcoming ordination by practicing a rigorous way of life in accordance with the Sangha Training Program at the City. They have been investigating the Vinaya code, bowing about three hours of repentances each day, and putting the moral precepts into actual practice. In this way, the Fifth Ordination is the culmination of many years of discipline and hard work.

Individuals who have been undergoing training in other monasteries, and those who are interested in receiving information on the procedures for going forth from the home-life and becoming an orthodox Buddhist monk or nun, may write to the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, Talmage, California, 95481-0217.

August 30 is also the day of the Venerable Master Hsú Yün's Nirvana and the anniversary of the great Bodhisattva, Earth Treasury (Sanskrit: Kshitigarbha) who has vowed throughout all time to rescue innumerable beings undergoing suffering in the lower states of existence. An Earth Treasury Bodhisattva Recitation Session will be convened prior to the ordination ceremony at the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. It will extend from August 25 to August 28. All are welcome to participate.

On September 2 the Bodhisattva precepts for monastics and laypeople will also be administered. Those who wish to receive them should apply early by writing to the Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.