

## *The Bodhi Mirror*



### *Introducing Shramaneri Heng Lan*

沙彌尼恆蘭

Shramaneri Heng Lan ("Constant Orchid" 恆蘭, Dharma name Gwo Sying "Fruit of Fragrance" 果馨) was born in Yi Lan County, Taiwan, over seventy years ago. Her robust constitution and dynamic personality keep old age at bay. She is also adept in Tai Chi Chywan, having practiced the art for several decades. When Dharma Master Heng Lan was twenty years old she started to study Buddhism. She went to Fu Tsang Monastery to study for three months. At age thirty-eight she took refuge with the Triple Jewel. One time while staying in a temple, she heard the large bell being rung. She had not been feeling well that day, but when the sound of the bell reached her ears, her sickness melted away and she felt bright and happy. This and other experiences brought her closer to Buddhism.

At fifty she became a full-time vegetarian, and after half a year of this practice she took the Bodhisattva Precepts under the Elder Master Bai Sheng. Four years ago she came to the United States and, together with a friend, paid a visit to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. She liked the atmosphere of the City and stayed for three months. Thereafter she often went to Gold Mountain Monastery in Chinatown, San Francisco, to listen to the Sutras. In 1987, she came to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas to bow the Ten Thousand Buddhas Repentance. One night right after the bowing session, she had a dream. A car drove by, and someone waved at her from the car. She hopped in. It was a big and bright car. Then she dreamed of huge, white flowers—six blossoms in all. She bent down and

just as she was about to pick the flowers someone said to her, "Don't pick the flowers. Don't pick the flowers." The flowers were extremely large and beautiful.

Dharma Master Heng Lan wanted to leave the home-life for over twenty years. When she heard the Sutra of the Eight Enlightenment of a Great Person being lectured at Gold Mountain Monastery, she was determined to transcend the five desires and find a way to end birth and death. In 1988, six laywomen, including Heng Lan, left the home-life in the same ceremony.

Dharma Master Heng Lan is an asset to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Her bright and ready smile and cheerful attitude help draw people to the Buddhadharma. At present she teaches Tai Chi and studies the Buddhist Sutras, classical Chinese, Chinese Ethics and philosophy at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

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Upcoming Special Events at the  
Sagely City of Ten Thousand Buddhas

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- Aug. 13 Sunday Celebration of Great Strength Bodhisattva's Anniversary and of Ullambana
- Aug. 14 Great Strength Bodhisattva's Anniversary (actual day)
- Aug. 16 Ullambana (The Buddha's Happy Day—actual day)
- Aug. 25 evening through Aug. 28 evening Three days of recitation of Earth Store Bodhisattva's name
- Aug. 27 Sunday Celebration of Earth Store Bodhisattva's Anniversary
- Aug. 30 Complete Precepts Ordination for Bhikshus and Bhikshunis; Earth Store Bodhisattva's Anniversary (actual day); Venerable Master Yun's Birthday