漢堡大學學生訪聖城

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS VISIT CTTB

禪心朗照千江月 眞性清涵萬里天

THE CHAN MIND SHINES LIKE THE MOON UPON A THOUSAND RIVERS THE TRUE NATURE IN ITS PURITY ENCOMPASSES TEN THOUSAND MILES OF SKY

■恆古 文 By Heng Gu

he last weekend of February (Feb. 24 - 26, 1995) Father John Rogers brought a group of about forty students from Humboldt State University to visit the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB). Some students from Mendocino College and the University of California, Berkeley, also joined in. Most of the students had decided to join this weekend in order to deepen their own spiritual awareness and search for their spiritual path. The visit also gave them a chance to see Buddhism in practice, not just in theory.

During their two-day stay, the students joined in many CTTB activities, listened to lectures and participated in discussions, and meditated and received personal meditation instruction-patience being the key word. Many visitors especially enjoyed the taiji class that was organized for them. The students heroically got up at 3:30 A.M. to participate in the morning ceremony and attended meal offering and evening ceremony as well. These ceremonies made a strong impression on the visitors. The vegetarian food at the CTTB dining hall got rave reviews, and eating in silence was a new and a valuable experience. Saturday evening some of the students attended the Sutra lecture, while others listened to a panel discussion on prayer and the spiritual life.

As on his previous visits, on Sunday morning Father John Rogers conducted a simplified Roman Catholic Mass at the Hall of Ten Thousand Buddhas. This also provided a chance for CTTB residents to expand their understanding of other religions. The weekend brought a lot of sincere seekers together at CTTB, and was a stimulating and enriching experience all round.

一 月二十五日與二十六日,這是二月的最後一個週末, 羅吉斯神父帶領了四十位漢堡大學的學生來訪,其中 也有來自曼度西諾學院及加州柏克萊大學的學生。絕大多 數的學生是為了追求精神上的成長而來。這次來訪給他們 一個實際體驗佛教的機會,使他們對佛教的了解不再只局 限於理論。

學生在這兩天的行程中,參與很多萬佛聖城的活動,聽 經、討論、靜坐。並接受靜坐個別指導 - - 要訣在一「忍 ,字。很多人特別喜歡為他們開的太極拳課。這些訪客在 清晨三點半時,就很勇敢地起床,開始一天的活動,參加 早課、午供及晚課。他們對於這些日課都留下深刻印象, 齋堂的素菜亦極獲好評。用餐時不說話,對他們來說,是 個新鮮而寶貴的經驗。星期六晚上,有些學生參加聽經活 動,其他則聆聽一有關精神生活與祈禱的討論會。

羅吉斯神父按往例,星期天早上在萬佛殿舉辦簡化了的 天主教彌撒,萬佛城的住眾也經由這機會得以擴展他們對 其他宗教的了解。這個週末,很多虔誠的精神尋求者同聚 萬佛城。各方面來說,這也是個使人感覺振奮、充實的週 末。

法界佛教總會 ♦ 萬 佛 聖 城

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