



我從越南來

—介紹比丘尼曇和師

I Come from Vietnam

—Introducing Bhikshuni Tan He

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我出生在越南北方，媽媽生我不久就每天帶我去廟裡聽經、參加法會，所以我一歲就皈依三寶，法名明心。因為每天跟著母親去廟上誦經，我三歲就會背《彌陀經》、晚上叩鐘偈，也會念佛，法師和居士看到我跟著念誦都很驚訝。六歲時，我請求母親讓我住在廟裡。她說「妳還太小，又不會工作。想要出家，妳要先學掃地、洗碗，等妳能做得好，我就帶妳去。」從此，我就每天早起掃地洗碗，做好才去上學。我七歲的那個夏天，媽媽一清早就送我到鄉下的一個廟裏（離家75公里），除了她，家裡沒有人知道。媽媽拜託法師收留我、照顧我，第二天早上，她就回去了。剛開始師父擔心我會想念媽媽跑回家，沒想到我在廟裏好像回到老家似的，既不想媽媽，也沒有想回家。

這間廟叫多寶寺，在當地很有名，越戰前以印經為主。戰後因村民很窮，也不懂供養三寶，所以出家人日用品很缺乏，因此廟上種了二畝地的稻子。我年紀小，除了上學，還必須幫忙煮飯、劈柴、耕田種菜。

當初我去的時候，環境雖然很艱難，可是我師父還是讓我讀書。她說「以前我自己不能上學，既然我養妳

I was born in North Vietnam. Ever since I was born, my mother took me to listen to the Sutras and attend ceremonies everyday. When I was one year old, my mother took me to the temple to take refuge. My Dharma name is Ming Xin (“understand the mind”). When I turned three years old, although I didn’t know how to write or read, I accompanied my mother daily to the temple to recite sutras and thus memorized the *Amitabha Sutra* and the evening bell recital, and learned to recite the Buddha’s name. The Dharma Masters and the lay people were very surprised to see that I could follow along with the reciting.

When I was six, I asked my mother to let me to live at the temple. My mother said, “You are still young and don’t know how to work yet. If you want to leave home, you must learn how to sweep the floor and wash the dishes. When you can do them well, I will bring you to the temple to live.” I listened to my mother and I got up early every morning. I swept the floor and washed the dishes. After I had finished, I went to school. The year I turned seven, in the summer my mother sent me to a temple in the countryside (75 km from home). Besides my mother, no one else in my family knew of my leaving. My mother asked the Dharma Master at that temple to accept and take care of me. The next morning my mother returned home. My Master was very worried that I would miss my mother and want to go back home. However, the temple was the home I longed for. For this reason, I did not miss my mother or wish to go back.

The temple is called Duo Bao (Many Treasures) Temple and is well known locally. Before the war broke out, this temple specialized in printing Sutra texts. After the war, the villagers were very poor and did not know how to make offerings to the Triple Jewel. Therefore, the temple had to plant two acres of grain. When I was young, aside from going to school I had to help cook, chop wood, plow the fields and plant vegetables.

When I first went there, even though it was difficult, my Master still tried to provide for my schooling. She said, “I didn’t have the chance to go to school; now if I am to raise you, I will try to support you to study. If one

