



功圓果滿 ——紀念比丘尼恆益法師

In Memory of Elder Dharma Master Heng Yi

恆貴師2004年1月10日講於九龍世界堂

A TALK BY BHIKSHUNI HENG GWEI ON THE EVENING OF JANUARY 10, 2005

AT UNIVERSAL FUNERAL PARLOUR, KOWLOON

仁德 英譯 ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY REN DE

上人常教導我們「受苦了苦，享福消福」，恆益法師經過兩年多的病苦，把該受的苦受了，於今年的彌陀聖誕中午12：30安祥示寂。今晚，在這個告別法會上，希望借用大家一點時間，介紹老法師的生平，和一些修行的體驗；除了讓我們大家跟益法師學習，並且也表達我們對老法師最深的感念與致敬。

恆益法師出生於1924年，祖籍廣東省順德縣。1954年，便到大嶼山慈興寺學習佛法；37歲出家，40歲受具足戒。

出家初期，益法師非常惦念俗家父親；蒙上人開示她說：「阿彌陀佛就是你父親！」良師一語，她如夢初醒，恍然有悟，從此一心繫念法親眷屬；終其一生，身在道場，心在道場，護持道場。

回想益法師出家不久，上人便去美國弘揚正法，一去十多年。益法師以一個剛出家的行者，如同嗷嗷待哺的嬰兒，一面要奮力學習出家人的行儀，一面要帶領師兄弟及居士們學佛修行、開荒耕種，還得帶領法會。當時上人在香港有三個道場：「西樂園寺」、「佛教講堂」及「慈興禪寺」；特別是「慈興寺」，可說是頹垣敗瓦、屋漏牆傾，百廢待興。所謂「葦路藍縷」，老法師就以她爽朗的性格、堅強的毅力、一顆向道的堅決心、勇猛心，及對三寶、對師父的感恩心、孝順心，而能一一克服萬難，一肩挑

The Venerable Master taught us that “to endure suffering is to end suffering; to enjoy blessings is to exhaust one’s blessings.” As it is said, “They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.” After being ill for the past two years, Dharma Master Heng Yi (Ever Benefiting) experienced tremendous suffering, thereby repaying her debts. She entered the stillness at 12:30 p.m. on Amitabha Buddha’s birthday (December 28, 2004). Tonight in this simple and solemn ceremony, I would like to share Elder Dharma Master Yi’s story and some of her experiences in her Dharma practice. May we emulate D.M. Yi and in this way show our deepest remembrance and respect.

D.M. Yi was born in 1924 in Shunde County, Canton Province, China. In 1954, she came to Cixing Chan Monastery to learn Buddhadharma. She entered the monastic life at age 37 and was fully ordained at 40.

After she became a nun, she still thought about her father very much. The Venerable Master told her, “Amitabha Buddha is your Father!” Upon hearing this advice from her wise advisor, she came to her senses and ever since then was always mindful of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas. Throughout her life, she was physically and mentally at the temple, giving it her full support.

Shortly after she became a nun, the Venerable Master left for the United States to propagate the Orthodox Buddhism for over ten years. Having just entered the monastic life, Dharma Master Yi was like a hungry baby crying and waiting to be fed. On the one hand, she strove to learn the monastic deportment and on the other hand she had to guide her fellow cultivators and the laypeople to study and practice. She had to till the fields to grow crops, and lead the ceremonies. At that time, the Venerable Master had three temples in Hong Kong: Western Bliss Gardens Monastery, the Buddhist Lecture Hall, and Cixing Chan Monastery. Cixing Monastery was particularly rundown with collapsing walls and rotten tiles; everything in the temple needed to be repaired or renovated. Based on her resolute commitment to the Path, and her gratitude and filial respect towards the Triple Jewel and the Venerable Master, Dharma Master Yi was able to overcome all difficulties and shoulder the Thus Come One’s business by virtue of her



起如來的家業；其中的艱辛，不難想像。相信凡是認識老法師為人，及追隨益法師多年的人，對於老法師護持道場的赤誠真心，都毫無置疑；對於老法師為佛教、為道場、為度化眾生的心血付出，也都肅然起敬；也是後生晚輩的一個很好的學習模範。

上人圓寂的時候，曾對弟子們說：「你們不用難過，每個人都會有這一天的。」生死大事，是我們每一個眾生的重要課題，也是諸佛、菩薩、祖師大德的萬般叮嚀，更是我們要努力的功課。老法師肉身雖然離開，她一生勤苦工作、為法忘軀的精神，正是鼓舞著我們在菩提大道上繼續勇猛向前。

現在，老法師已經做完了她的工作，功圓果滿；剩下來的，應該是我們大家要繼續的工作。無論出家、在家，都應該本著前人辛勤有成的基礎上，團結一致，努力不懈；這樣，才是對老法師的真正感念與尊敬。

恆益老法師告別和荼毗法會感想

恆日法師：人生如戲，一切無常故不必執著，臨終什麼也帶不去，唯剩八識和佛性。學佛念佛是了生脫死最好的靈丹。在道場大家要互相鼓勵。

恆貴法師：上人到美國時，叫我婆婆教恆益師做賬，她說都沒時間修行，還算什麼錢？若沒錢就找韋陀菩薩。

恆實法師：下一個燒的就輪到我。

恆興法師：益法師經歷很多艱苦，所以才有堅毅的性格。她給我的印象是不怕艱難。她說種菜要用心，若不理它就會生了很多野草。從她生活言談中，可以知道她的修行。

恆禪法師：益法師多年來修苦行，故後期上人教她每日打坐兩小時，如此用功修行就會成佛。她沒有倚老賣老，依然好學不倦。

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straightforward disposition and perseverance. It's not hard to imagine the toils and hardship she went through.

I believe that whoever knew Dharma Master Yi and followed her for years did not doubt her sincerity to support the monasteries. Everyone admires the efforts she made to benefit Buddhism, monasteries and living beings. She certainly serves as a good role model for all those junior to her.

When the Venerable Mater was about to enter Nirvana, he said to us, "Don't be sad. This day will come for everyone." The great matter of birth and death is an important lesson for every living being. It's also a matter that the Buddhas, Bodhisattvas and Patriarchs constantly remind us about, regarding which we should practice. Elder Dharma Master Yi physically left us, yet her lifelong hard work and her spirit of forsaking herself for the Dharma will continue to inspire us to advance vigorously along the Path to Enlightenment.

Elder Dharma Master Yi has finished her "work and perfected her merit and virtue". It is now our responsibility to pick up where she left off. All of us, whether monastic or lay, should diligently work together to build upon the foundation she so painstakingly laid. That is the true way to show our remembrance and respect for the Elder Dharma Master Yi.

Thoughts on Dharma Master Yi's Funeral and Cremation

DM Re: Life is like a play—everything is impermanent so don't get attached. There is nothing that we can take away from this world except the eighth consciousness. To study Buddhism and recite the Buddha's name is the best medicine to end birth and death. We have to encourage everyone in the Way-place.

DM Gwei: When the Master was leaving for U.S., he wanted my grandmother to teach Heng Yi Shr accounting. Her response was I barely have time to cultivate; why would I want to count money? If we are short of money, then we ask Wei Tuo Bodhisattva for help!

DM Heng Sure: It might be my turn next!

DM Heng Xing: DM Yi went through many difficulties and developed great determination. She was not afraid of hardship. She said that in growing vegetables, one must be mindful. If you don't pay attention, weeds will grow. From her conversation, you can see her cultivation.

DM Chan: DM Yi practiced austerities for many years. That's why the Venerable Master told her to meditate two hours daily and said that if she continued practicing that way she would become a Buddha. She didn't expect any privileges for being a senior, but continued studying diligently.

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