

# 法雨心燈照古今(二十七)

## THE DHARMA-RAIN AND LAMP OF THE MIND ILLUMINATES THE PAST AND PRESENT (Part XXVII)

上宣下化老和尚於 1974 年冬至 1975 年春亞洲之行開示精華

SELECTED TALKS FROM THE VENERABLE MASTER HSUAN HUA'S VISIT TO ASIA

FROM WINTER 1974 TO SPRING 1975

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你們有什麼問題可以提出來，我們大家研究研究，把它寫在黑板上。

問：為什麼越來越多人常常生病，是否業障重？

上人：因為人殺生殺得多。

問：可是現在好像沒什麼殺生…

上人：啊！現在人不殺生嗎？這是哪一個問的？哪一個問的？妳問的。妳說它是假的？

問：想不通！

上人：怎麼樣想不通呢？妳這個意思是不是佛不公道？是不是菩薩不公道？是不是閻羅王不公道不平等？

問：我的意思是說假如六道輪迴是真的話，做壞事的人一定是墮落三惡道。現在人口越來越多，但是做壞事的人很多，人怎麼還那麼多？

上人：妳不要問做壞事多少，妳就問問妳自己的思想，妳打的妄想是好的妄想多，是壞的妄想多？妳算一算自己的，妳算一算妳自己這個六道輪迴怎麼樣？

問：不懂！

上人：不會不懂！這個人，我講過多少次，人就是個怪物，人就是一個很奇怪的怪物，你教他做好事，他不聽；你不教他做壞事，他一定要去做。舉例子來講，你教美國人學佛法，那比登天都難；你教他去吸毒，不用教，人人都會，這是一個例子。六道輪迴一定是真的，不會是假的。妳說做惡事的人一天比一天多，做惡事的沒

If you have any questions, bring them up and we can discuss. Write it on the blackboard.

**Q: why do more and more people get sick, is it because of their heavy karma?**

Venerable Master: It is because too much killing is happening.

Ask: but it seems now there aren't that many killings going on?

Venerable Master: Oh, do people not kill anymore? Who asked this? You? Are you saying it's false?

Q: I can't figure it out!

VM: How come? Do you mean that the Buddha is not fair? Bodhisattvas are not fair? Or King Yama is not fair?

Ask: If the reincarnation in the Six Paths is real, people who do evil things for sure will fall into the three evil paths. Now, the population of people is bigger and bigger; however people who do evil things are many and why are there still so many people?

I just don't understand how many bad deeds those people who plunder to hell have committed?

Venerable Master: Don't ask about the bad deeds one is engaging in. Just count your thoughts. Among the idle thoughts you have, how many of them are wholesome and how many of them are evil? Keep your own books on your own reincarnation of the Six Paths.

Venerable Master: I have told you many times that human being are just monsters. They are very strange beings. When you tell a person to do good deeds, he will not listen. Without giving any instructions on doing bad deeds, he has to do it anyway. Take Americans for example. When you teach them Buddhism, it is harder than ascending to the heavens.

有到三惡道裡去。他入三惡道的時候，並不會再給妳打個電報，或告訴告訴妳，或者打個電話來說：「至親居士，我現在墮落三惡道了。」你們各位想是不是呀？因為他沒有自由了；沒有自由了，他也沒有資格打電報，或者打電話，或者寫封信，所以他到了三惡道，你是還不知道。

善有善報，惡有惡報，這個絕對是種因結果，不會錯的，你對六道輪迴絕對不可以懷疑的。你要是懷疑這個六道輪迴，根本就不需要信佛了；你信佛，佛就講六道輪迴的，佛會騙你嗎？佛說六道輪迴怎麼樣怎麼樣，給你個假設的名詞來欺騙人，不會的。你沒有看見，那是因為你凡夫肉眼沒有法子看得見，沒有法子看得見。你不要說旁的，在五百年以前，你要對人講有一個美國，美國那個地方很富有的，有很多金子，有金山，土地也非常肥沃，那個地方沒有人住，你對人講這話，沒有人相信的，沒有人相信有美國。可是哥倫布發現新大陸了，人才知道有一個美國。在我們不知道有美國之前，美國並不是沒有，我們只是沒有看見而已；我們沒有看見，所以我們以為沒有。這不是哥倫布發現新大陸之後，美國才有的。為什麼我們現在說它有了？我們現在看見了。這個六道輪迴，妳因為沒有得五眼六通，妳不相信；妳要得了五眼六通，六道輪迴是宛然的，都在這兒擺著清清楚楚的，一點不騙妳。不過妳沒有這種的神力，沒有得五眼六通，妳看不見；妳不能說看不見，就好像人沒有發現美國似的，就說沒有美國，這不可以的。妳的意見怎麼樣？



Regarding taking drugs, you don't need to teach them, everyone knows how. This is an example.

The transmigration on the Six Paths is real and not false. The number of people engaging in doing bad deeds increase in number everyday. When they actually plunge into the Three Evil Paths, they will not send you a telegram telling you, "so and so, I have now fallen into the Three Evil Paths." Don't you agree? - Because this person no longer has the freedom to send a telegram, make phone calls or write a letter. So, even if he is in the Three Evil Paths, you will not know about it. However, what goes around comes around; one reaps what one sows. This natural law will never be mistaken.

You must not have doubts about the transmigration on the Six Paths. If you harbor these kinds of doubts, there is no need to learn the Buddha Dharma. If you have faith in the Buddha, what the Buddha teaches is the principle of the transmigration on the Six Paths. Would the Buddha deceive you? Would he come up with phony terminology to tell you what the Six Paths look like. No. It is just that you cannot see it with your human eyes.

Without mentioning anything else, five hundred years ago, if you told someone that there was a rich continent called, America, full of gold with fertile lands and no habitants, none would believe you. However, Columbus discovered the new continent and discovered America. Before his discovery, it is not true that America did not exist. It is just that we had not seen it, so we thought it did not exist. However, it is also not the case that America just came into existence when the continent was discovered by Columbus. Why do we say America now exists? It is because we can see it with our eyes. The same principle applies to the existence of the Six Paths. Because you have not obtained the Five Eyes and Six Penetrations, you don't believe it's there. If you have obtained this power, the Six Paths are just right in front of you - as clear as it can be. You will not be deceived at all. However, you don't have this kind of spiritual power, so you will not see it. You can't say it does not exist because you can't see it. Just like you can't say America did not exist because no one discovered it.

Venerable Master: What do you think?

問：我想問六道輪迴是真的，每個人做惡事的時候，會墮在三惡道，那麼人口一定會減少，因為做壞事的人很多。可是現在的人口越來越多，這多出來的人口是從什麼地方多出來的？

上人：我現在不答覆妳這個問題，我先問妳一個問題，最初這個人從什麼地方來的？最初這個世界是有人沒有人？要有人，這個人從什麼地方來的？要沒有人，怎麼又會有人哪？現在人多，我們不管人多，我們講這個人少的時候。如果妳說最初沒有人，以後怎麼又會有人了？妳要說有人，那個人從什麼地方來的？人常常有這麼一個問題，說：「你說先有雞，還是先有雞蛋？」你要說：「先有雞蛋。」，說：「沒有雞，怎麼會有雞蛋？」妳要說：「先有雞，後有蛋。」，雞要從雞蛋才變出來雞，沒有雞蛋怎麼會有雞？你要說這個人，我們再問一問，說是：「這個世界，男人都從女人生出來的。要沒有男人，女人又怎麼會生人？」問一問這個問題，要說先有個男人，那個男的又怎麼樣生出來的？妳說人多了，我們不要研究人多的問題，就研究最初這個人怎麼樣有？妳要明白最初這個人怎麼樣有的？這個雞怎樣有的？這個問題就都解決了。

至於六道輪迴，這個理論是很淺很淺的，這在佛的十法界裡的六法界，其餘的四聖法界。這是六凡的法界，就是我們凡夫在這兒輪迴。妳說人怎麼還那麼多？因為人沒有一定的數目，所以叫眾生。這個數目可增可減，這個地方去了，那個地方又來了。我現在答覆妳這個問題，妳說入三惡道的人很多，但是妳要知道入三惡道的人不是永遠在三惡道裡，這個人去了，那個人在三惡道又出來了，所以去的人多，出來的人也不少！所以這個世界一天比一天人多。你問他的來歷，那由很多的地方來的。妳看中國有中國的人的種子，

Ask: I would like to ask that if reincarnation on the Six Paths is real, then when people commit evil offenses, they will fall into the Three Evil Paths, and the population will surely decrease. So many people are engaging in evil deeds, why are there still so many people in the world!?

Venerable Master: I will not answer your question just yet. Let me ask you a question first. Where do human beings come from originally? Did humans exist in this world at the very beginning? If so, where do people come from? If there were no human inhabitants, then where do all these people come from? There are many people now but let's not talk about this problem. Instead let us discuss the time when there were only very few people. If you say there were no human beings here originally, why is it that people came into existence later? If you say there were human beings here at the beginning, where do these people come from?

Venerable Master: people often ask: "do chickens come first or do eggs come first?" If you say chickens come first, then how can they exist without being born from eggs?

If you say chickens come first, then the eggs. Well, chicken must be hatched from eggs. If there are no eggs, how can chickens exist? If you say, "what about human beings?" I will ask and say this again, "All men are born from women in this world. If there are no men, how could women bear children?" Ask yourself this question! At that time, if men existed first, how are they born? With the overpopulation issue you mention, let's not investigate this problem just yet. Let's just try to figure out how human beings originated from the very beginning. If you understand how human beings come to exist originally, and how chicken exist, this issue you asked will be resolved.

As for the reincarnation on the Six Paths, this theory and principle is very easy and shallow. The Six Paths are Six Dharma Realms of the Ten Dharma Realms defined by the Buddha; with the remaining Four Sagely Realms. The six ordinary dharma realms are where we ordinary people transmigrate in and out of. You asked why there are still so many people in the world? Because the population of human beings is not set to a definite number, they are called "living" beings. This number can increase or decrease. As one enters this destiny, others also leave this destiny.

I will answer your question now. For example, you mentioned that there are lots of people who plunge into the Three Evil Paths. By the same token, you also must understand that those who had previously fallen into the Three Evil Paths will not dwell there eternally. There will be people plunging into the Three Evil Paths, but beings will also have the opportunity to leave the evil paths. The number of people entering the evil path is big, but those who leave

外國有外國人的種子，人類是很多，很多的。譬如今天一萬人入了三惡道，妳怎知道以前在三惡道的罪人罪業有滿的時候，滿的時候又出來二萬人，所以一天不比一天人多。這是我的看法！妳覺得怎麼樣？現在妳明白了沒有？現在明白了，那解決妳這個問題了。

問：法師，這兒有一位怕羞的女同學想問法師一個問題，一個不信奉佛教的人，怎樣能夠令他虔誠的信奉佛教？我們應該怎樣做才對？

上人：就要以身做則，你要一切一切都要有好的表現，你有好的表現，自然會影響他生一種信心……

問：現在是自己信佛了，但是我們怎樣影響別人，使別人也能夠像我們一樣的信？

上人：就是要言必忠信，行必篤敬。你所說的話，不打妄語；你所表現的，你不殺生。譬如你吃齋不吃肉，這都是一種表現。不偷盜，所有的東西、無論任何人的我們不去偷人的東西，這也是一種表現；不邪淫，最要緊的就是這個不邪淫。你能以規規矩矩的守護規矩，自然會令其他人對你有一種好感。不要打妄語、不要去欺騙人、不要喝酒、不要抽煙、不要吸毒、不要吃迷魂藥，這都是一種好的表現，都可以影響其他人生一種信心。

問：法師說我們應該從自身做起，但是人家說我是想和人不同，講我不正常，那我要怎樣講？他們不但不信而且誹謗。

上人：不要用言語來爭勝負，你只是堅持你的意志去做去，久而久之，他自然就會投降了。

問：多謝法師！

☞ 待續



will not be few in number either. Therefore, the world population increases day by day. You ask where people came from, they came from various places. You see there are ethnic groups for Chinese and ethnic groups for foreigners as well. Human beings are of many sorts. For example, if 10,000 people plunge into the Three Evil Paths, how do you know that those who are in the Three Evil Paths have not finished undergoing their retribution? When they are finished with their retribution, 20,000 being may leave these destinies. At this rate, of course, the population will increase day by day. This is my point of view regarding this matter. What do you think?

Venerable Master: "Do you understand it now? Understand? Then your problem is solved!"

Q: Dharma Master, there is a shy girl student here. She wishes to ask this question: how can we help a non-Buddhist to sincerely believe in Buddhism? What are the right things to do?

Venerable Master: you must be a good model yourself. You should have good behavior and conduct, which will naturally influence others and give them faith.

Q: I believe in the Buddha Dharma myself. However, how can I influence others so that they will also have faith and believe in Buddhism like I do?

Venerable Master: It is to practice loyalty and trustworthiness in your speech, and respectfulness in your conduct. One will not lie when he/she speaks. You will not engage in killing yourself. For example, being a vegetarian who does not eat meat is also a form of practice. Not stealing - we do not take other people's possession without permission; this is also a form of practice. Not engaging in sexual misconduct is the most important matter. If you can adhere to these disciplines, others will naturally have a good impression of you. Do not lie, do not deceive others, do not drink alcohol, do not smoke, and do not take intoxicants or drugs. All of these are good practices that will influence others to give rise to faith.

Q: From the Dharma Master's instructions, we should practice Buddhism personally. However, others criticize me for being different from them and think I am abnormal. How do I deal with this problem? Not only do they not have faith, but they also slander.

A: Do not contend with them using words. Just by being determined and doing what you should do, they will naturally surrender after a while.

Q: Thank you, Dharma Master!

☞ To be continued