



上宣下化老和尚新年開示

過新年發大願

Make a Great Resolve to Start the New Year

THE VENERABLE MASTER'S NEW YEAR'S TALK
編輯部 英譯 ENGLISH TRANSLATED BY EDITORIAL STAFF

我們過新年，要發大誓願，一定要改過遷善。改過自新怎樣呢？要「諸惡莫作，眾善奉行，自淨其意，是諸佛教。」自己淨其意，就是收拾乾淨你內部的這些毛病。你不收拾乾淨，就會又爭、又貪、又求、又自私、又自利、又打妄語！尤其這打妄語，你日用行爲，一舉一動都會打妄語。好像有什麼過錯，自己不承認，推到旁人身上去，往旁人身上推，這就是打妄語，你自己不老實，想要得到便宜，得到利益，這都是邇邇東西。所以你要是沒有邇邇東西，就會不爭、不貪、不求、不自私、不自利、和不大妄語了。

我講六大條款，是給要成佛的人講的，要成菩薩的人講的，要成聲聞羅漢的人講的，給天人講的，給鬼神講的，凡夫聽到這個道理啊！你不要把它看輕了，說：「喔！我們作生意，不爭又不行，不貪不行，不求不行，不自私不行，不打妄語不行，不自利不行，」天天就做一個財迷，財迷買彩票，想中第一，這都離道太遠了。你放著真正值錢的東西不學，盡找那些污濁邇邇，不值錢的東西。人世間的財是最邇邇的東西，它把人支配得顛顛倒倒，煩煩惱惱，爭爭吵吵，都是爲了這個東西。

你看看！那有錢的人，他也不會用錢，他用什麼呢？吃喝嫖賭，吃喝玩樂。以爲這是快樂，結果就造地獄的深因，絕天堂的道路，這是很危險的。你有錢不會用錢，這是很苦惱的一件事，就拿錢來造罪業，以爲這是便宜，這是好事啊？這是吃大虧的。消耗你的智慧光明，法身慧命，都因爲你盡貪玩樂，所以把自己前程都耽誤了。你本來應該成佛的也不成了，本來應該成菩薩也不成了，應該成聲聞緣覺的也不成了，甚至於連天也不

To celebrate the new year, we have to make a great resolve to definitely change and become good. How do we wipe the slate clean? "Do no evil, and practice all good. Purify your own mind. This is the teaching of all Buddhas." Purifying your mind means wiping clean the bad habits inside you. If you don't clean them up, you will contend, be greedy, seek, be selfish, pursue personal advantage, and tell lies. If you tell lies, you lie in every action and deed in your daily life. For example, if you make a mistake, instead of admitting it, you put the blame on someone else. By shifting the blame to others, you are telling a lie. If you are dishonest and you try to get personal advantage and profit, your behavior is filthy. If you didn't behave in such a filthy way, you wouldn't contend, be greedy, seek outside, be selfish, seek personal benefit, or tell lies.

The Six Great Guidelines were spoken for those who want to become Buddhas, Bodhisattvas, Hearers, Arhats, heavenly beings, and ghosts. Ordinary people shouldn't look down on them and say, "Oh! We do business, and it's not possible for us to not contend, not be greedy, not seek, not be selfish, not want personal profits, and not tell lies." Craving money all day long, and buying lottery tickets in the hope of winning first prize, you are simply too far from the Way. Putting aside the really valuable principles, you always try to find contaminated and worthless things. The dirtiest thing in the world is money. Money causes people to be muddled and afflicted, so that they quarrel constantly.

Take a look at rich people. They don't know how to spend their



能上了。

一般凡夫修十善法，就是不犯殺、盜、淫，不犯貪、瞋、癡，不犯綺語、妄言、惡口、兩舌，這十惡。你若能不這樣子，就會升天的；你若盡這樣子做，這一定墮地獄。

今天是新年的第二天，我一再向你們說這個至理名言，你們要記得，不要忽略。我今天講的是最要緊的道理，你們若能身體力行，終身用之，則不能盡之矣！都用不完的。就是這麼很淺的一句話，我也不願意說出來的話，令人聽了格格不入，不明白，所以我講話都用很淺顯的文字，來對你們大家說。

money. What do they spend it on? They spend it on eating, drinking gambling, patronizing houses of prostitution, and buying stocks, living a dissipated life. They think these things bring happiness, but they are actually planting deep causes for falling into the hells, and cutting off their path to the heavens. This is really dangerous. If you have money but don't know how to make good use of it, you are in a vexing situation. When you spend money to create karmic offenses, do you suppose you are getting a bargain? Do you think it's a good thing? You are actually taking a big loss. It exhausts your light of wisdom, your Dharma-body and your wisdom life. Greedy for enjoyment, you ruin your own future. Originally, you should have become a Buddha, a Bodhisattva, a Hearer, or One Enlightened by Conditions, but you didn't and you can't even go to the heavens.

Ordinary people cultivate the ten good deeds: no killing, no stealing, no sexual misconduct, no greed, no hatred, no delusion, no frivolous speech, no false speech, no harsh words, no divisive speech. If you don't violate the ten good deeds, you will be born in the heavens. If you constantly violate them, you will surely fall into the hells.

This is the second day of the new year. I have talked about these true principles over. You must remember them; don't ignore them. These principles are of the utmost importance. If you can put them into practice and uphold them all your life, you will enjoy the benefit forever! What I said was superficial and obvious. I don't want to say something that nobody can understand. That's why I always talk in plain language to all of you.

反璞歸真

Return to a State of Innocence and Truth

(一九八九年三月八日宣公上人率團至 Pendle Hill, a Quaker center for study & contemplation 及 Philadelphia Buddhist Association, Pennsylvania 弘法中的問答)

問：如何保護我們的生態及地球環境？

上人答：人法地，地生萬物，如動植物等。地又法天，所謂：「天覆我，地載我。」最近北極圈部份臭氧層被破壞了，導至該處周圍溫度非常的高！這一點是人類破壞生態平衡的例證，也因此破壞了天地對我們保護的功能。天法自然，所謂『自然』是指一切現象真理。這永恒的生命力本來是不增不減，也可以稱為佛性，是一切眾生皆平等本具的。佛並非本來就比眾生高，全看個人有智慧否？佛已返本還原，而眾生尚為慾所蔽，忘了本有的智慧。

挽救環境最究竟的方法就是：反璞歸真——不爭、不貪、不自私、不妄語。

Q: How do we protect our ecology and the global environment?

A: People should model themselves after the earth. The earth produces the myriad things: animals, plants and the teeming creatures. The earth, on the other hand, models itself after heaven. It is said, "Heaven covers me from above, while the earth sustains me from the below."

Recently a section of ozone has been destroyed in the Arctic Circle, and there is incredible heat all around that area. That is a case in point of humans destroying the ecological equilibrium and the protective function of heaven and earth.

Heaven goes on to model itself after nature. Here, "nature" means the intrinsic truth that underlies all phenomena. As the eternal life-force, it is neither increased nor decreased. You could call it the Buddha nature, which is found equally and pervasively among all living beings. The Buddha is not essentially superior to living beings. Rather, it's a question of whether one has wisdom or not. The Buddha has returned to the source and recovered his original nature; living beings are covered over by desire and so have lost touch with their original wisdom.

The ultimate way to rescue the environment is to return to a state of innocence and truth, and not engage in fighting, selfishness, avarice and deceit.