



2007年萬佛聖城彌陀七記實



特別殊勝

Supreme and Remarkable

---A Report on the CTTB Buddha Recitation Session, 2007

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2007年底萬佛城的彌陀七有將近四百人參加，自12月25日起，晚間加上精進佛七，每天多了一個半小時的念佛、繞佛和止靜，直到29日晚間圓滿。這次的彌陀七，大眾同誦佛號的聲音和諧安詳，很多人都感到特別殊勝。不只一位親眼目睹過阿彌陀佛，來自溫哥華的周居士更在止靜中見阿彌陀佛大放光明，令他感動不已。

今年參加萬佛城彌陀七的善信當中，還有來自臺北的十四歲小朋友皓翔，他已經熟背《楞嚴經》，《法華經》，現在正在背誦《華嚴經》。家住聖荷西的九歲小朋友明光不僅全程參加這次的彌陀七，而且唱誦「阿彌陀佛」佛號聲音特別有精神，這些善根深厚又信心具足的小小善信為今年的彌陀七增色不少。

來自臺灣的陳居士參加過多次彌陀七，她說有的彌陀七氣氛會讓她甚至起了不想念佛的心，而這次到萬佛城參加彌陀七，她覺得特別能夠收攝心神，念佛效果奇佳。

萬佛城開山祖師宣公上人人生前曾經指出，念佛要念到佛號成片，不起妄念。這可不是一般人能夠輕易做到的。宣公上人因此特別指點魏可正老居士念佛成片的訣竅(詳見本刊2006年二月第429期從容自在赴蓮邦一文第35頁)，那就是以十念為一句，要訣在於第一念「阿彌陀佛」較大聲，第二念和第三念小聲，第四念較大

There were nearly 400 people in attendance at the Amitabha session at the City of 10,000 Buddhas (CTTB) in late December 2007. An intensive schedule in the evening starting Dec 25 added another 1.5 hours each day for circumambulation, sitting recitation, and sitting meditation to this session which ended on Dec. 29, 2007. The sound of the recitation during this session was harmonious and peaceful, and many people felt that this session was especially supreme and remarkable. More than one participant witnessed the manifestation of Amitabha Buddha. Upasaka Chou from Vancouver even saw Amitabha Buddha emitting bright light during a meditation period and was deeply moved.

Among the participants was a 14-year-old boy named Hao-Hsiang from Taipei. He has already memorized the *Shurangama Sutra* and the *Dharma Flower Sutra* and is currently memorizing the *Flower Adornment Sutra*. The 9 year-old Ming-Guang from San Jose not only attended the whole session but his voice during this session was especially energetic. These children with deep good roots made this session a livelier one.

Upasika Chen from Taiwan has attended many Amitabha sessions in the past. She said that the atmosphere of some Amitabha sessions was such that she didn't even want to recite Amitabha Buddha's name. But coming to CTTB for this session, she could calm down and gather her thoughts easily. She felt that the effects from reciting Amitabha Buddha's name were especially wonderful for her this time around.

The founder of CTTB, Venerable Master Hsuan Hua instructed when he was alive that we should recite Buddha's name to the point where we are continuously and constantly reciting, without false-thinking. This is not something ordinary people can easily achieve. So the Venerable Master gave old layman Wei Ke-Zheng some pointers for reciting the Buddha's name (please find the article--Enter the Lotus Land at Ease, VBS #429, February 2006 issue on page 35 for your reference). Each phrase in one's recitation is composed of 10 recitations of the Buddha's name. The first



聲，第五念和第六念小聲，第七念「阿彌陀佛」較大聲，第八念，第九念和第十念小聲，這時撥動一顆念珠，或按一下念佛計數器，這樣念下來108句的十念佛號，實際上是念了1080句的佛號，每天如此念佛八遍(1080 x 8，亦即108顆念珠八串)，往生有份。

宣公上人對老人家特別強調念佛。比丘尼恒寂法師說，十多年前她曾經每天念108遍大悲咒，7遍楞嚴咒，外加早晚42手眼。但宣公上人看到她卻只說「念佛！念佛！」因此近年來她改以念佛為每日主要功課。

「念佛自可消舊業，竭誠當能轉凡心」，讀者諸君意在求生淨土者，不妨練習宣公上人親傳的十念佛號成片法，也許您也有機會進入念佛三昧，得大法喜，能夠幫助利益眾生的力量也更大了。

time is louder, and the second and third times are lower in volume. Then the fourth time is louder again, and the fifth and sixth times are lower. The seventh time of reciting Amitabha Buddha's name is louder and the eighth, ninth, and tenth times are lower. At this point, either go on to the next recitation bead or click once on the recitation counter. So 108 phrases of recitation make 1080 times altogether. Repeat this way 8 times (1080 x 8 which is 108 recitation beads for 8 times) a day and one will be able to be reborn in the Western Pure Land.

Venerable Master Hsuan Hua taught seniors to focus on reciting Amitabha Buddha's name. Dharma Master Heng Ji used to recite every day the Great Compassion Mantra 108 times, the Shurangama Mantra seven times, and the 42 Hands and Eyes twice a day. But when the Venerable Master saw her, he just told her, "Recite the Buddha's name! Recite the Buddha's name!" So she changed her daily practice to reciting Amitabha Buddha's name.

Reciting the Buddha's name eradicates our past karma, and utmost sincerity changes our worldly minds. If your goal is to be reborn in the Western Pure Land, you may want to practice the method of reciting Amitabha Buddha's name taught by the Venerable Master. You may have the opportunity to enter the Samadhi of Reciting the Buddha's Name and obtain great Dharma bliss, and you will have more power to help/benefit all living beings.