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Reciting Bodhisattva's Name Sincerely Can Eradicate Karmic Obstacles

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直心是道場,不論出家人在家人,在什麼情形 之下都應該老老實實的,不可以打妄語,不可 以行險僥倖,不可以投機,或者拍馬。在什麼 情形之下都要用真實的心,不用委屈求全的 心。真實的心,就是要修行,要不妨礙其他的 人,不障礙其他的人。我們人造的業都因爲妨 礙其他的人,障礙其他的人,傷害其他的人, 所以就造成一種業。造了業就要受果報,等受 果報的時候,還不知道懺悔,還是盡量去欺騙 人,那將來是越造越深,這個業報是不容易了 結的。

好像這次(一九八一年)到亞洲去,在檳城遇到一個女孩子姓黃,這個女孩子在往昔中專門歡喜吃熊掌,吃猴頭。把猴子的頭打破,喝猴子的腦髓;把熊腳給割下來,用鍋煎它,吃這個熊掌。這是往昔所造的惡業,所以今生墮落變成女身,變成女身,還不知道改過自新,還是繼續造業,甚至於就墮胎殺了兩個人——墮了兩個小孩子。因爲這兩個小孩子——這兩個小鬼,就把以前生生世世這些個業障鬼都給召來了,於是乎就生了cancer(癌)病。

在檳城的時候,她生大懺悔心,當時這cancer病就好了。好了,等到兩個多禮拜,她又舊情復發,對她這個男朋友又是藕斷絲連的,甚至於有一些不合法的行爲,於是乎她這個cancer病又發作了。她這種病——這個業障,你若真痛改前非,在萬分中有一分的希望可以好;你若不痛改前非,不能改過自新,根本就沒有藥可救的,也沒有佛菩薩可以救得了的。「罪從心起將心懺」,心裏若不懺悔,這個業障就又來了,所以她的cancer病又發作了。

It is said, "A straight mind is a place for awakening." In other words, we must be honest and truthful in any situation, whether you are a Sanghan or a lay person. Do not lie, do not be an opportunist and take great risks for self-benefit, do not cut corners, and do not engage in flattery. We must have a truthful mind in all circumstances, instead of a mind that makes great comprises in order to accommodate others. To have a truthful mind means to cultivate the Path of Bodhi, and to never harm or obstruct others. If we harm or obstruct others, we create causes for negative retribution. When our retribution is upon us, if we don't repent and instead continue to deceive others as much as we can, we will be creating even more negative karma, which is difficult to eradicate.

This time (1981) when I went to Asia, I met a young woman Ms. Hwang in Penang. In her past lives, she really liked to eat bear paws and monkey brains. She cracked open the heads of monkeys to drink their brain matters. She also cut off paws of bears, pan-fried them, and ate them. Because of these past karmic offenses, she is born as a woman in this life. However, in stead of correcting her mistakes and starting anew, she continued to create negative karma. She even killed two human beings by having two abortions. These two little ghosts of her aborted fetuses summoned all the ghosts of living beings that she had ever harmed in her past lives. Therefore, she ended up with cancer.

During my visit in Penang, this young woman brought forth a great resolve for repentance and her cancer went into remission. Unfortunately, about two weeks later she reverted back to her old ways, renewed her relationship with her boyfriend, and even engaged in acts not in accord with the Dharma. Shortly after that, her cancer came back. Her illness was caused by her karmic offenses. If she truly repented of her past mistakes and reformed, she had a one in ten thousand chance of getting well. Otherwise, there is no medicine that can cure her, and even the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas can't save her. It is said, "Offenses arise from the mind; use the mind to repent." If we don't repent and reform with a truthful mind, our karmic obstacles

發作了,她應該寫信來告訴我,很坦白 地說清楚了,那麼即使她病又發作了,或者 當時還可以想辦法。可是她欺騙我,瞞著 我,就說要來美國;本來我當時吩咐她,等 病好了之後,她能有錢買飛機票,可以到美 國來出家修道,這是要病好了。可是這個女 孩子,她就病又發作了,才要來美國,要來 死到萬佛城。那麼這樣子是一種欺騙的手 段,這個病更不能好了。因爲她的病是不可 救藥了,醫藥無效了,於是她就上個月二十 四號勉強坐飛機到了美國。這種行爲完全是 一種欺騙,不老實、不忠實、不坦白的一種 行爲,所以菩薩也沒有辦法救她。

現在這個人在醫院裏,這個人的生命只有萬分中半分的希望。今天晚間大家可以誠心一點來給她迴向,希望她病好。雖然她欺騙我,欺騙我們這個道場,也可以說是欺騙大家,但是我們大家都具有慈悲心,既然她這麼遠來了,希望還可以挽回她生命死亡的危險。如果能好呢,我們盡心了;不能好,我們也算是盡心了。我們拿起木魚,念地藏菩薩的名號,大家眾志成城,誠心為她超度業障。

本來我們大家念,她這個業障應該消了;可是我們念,她的罪業隨消隨長。我們給她消的罪障是無窮無盡的,她的業障生出來也是無窮無盡的。我想我們如果想救這個人的話,那麼從明天開始,誠心一點,大家幫她打一個地藏七,念地藏菩薩聖號,爲她迴向,希望她這病好。大家可以願意參加的就參加,不願意參加的就不參加,可是這要大家拿出誠心來,拿出真心來,願意幫助人的人,佛菩薩也一定會幫助你的。

今天大家共同發心爲這個女孩子迴向,那麼是不是他們要求我們做這件事呢?沒有的。雖然她家裏所有的親戚朋友沒有人知道,但我們現在爲她迴向,希望她這個病好。我們佛教做事情,不一定要別人要求才做,我們覺得這個人可憐,就盡盡我們的心;仰仗觀音菩薩的大威神力,仰仗地藏王菩薩的大威神力,幫助這個女孩子。她能恢復知覺當然好了,要是她的業障重,不能恢復,我們也盡到我們一點心了。所以就這一點,各位應該努力!

would return. In Ms. Hwang's case, since she did not truly repent and reform, she had a relapse of her cancer.

She should have written to me when she had the relapse. If she had told me the truth, perhaps there was something that could be done then. Instead, she lied to me and told me she was coming to the U.S. Before I left Malaysia, I instructed her that after she got better and could afford a plane ticket, she can come to America and leave the home life to cultivate. In other words, she was supposed to come to America when she was cured. However, this young woman came to America only after her cancer came back; she came to die at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. It was only when her illness was beyond medical help that she got on a plane with great difficulty, and arrived in the U.S. on the 24th of last month. With this kind of trickery, her illness will be even more difficult to cure. Since her behavior is completely deceptive, dishonest and disingenuous, even the Buddhas and the Bodhisattvas won't be able to help her.

She is in hospital now, and she has a 0.5 in ten thousand chance of survival. This evening, let's sincerely transfer merit to her, hoping that she will recover. Even though she deceived me, deceived this place for awakening, and in a sense deceived everyone here, we all have compassion. She came from so far away, hoping that she could be saved from the threat of death. If she could be saved, we try our best; if she could not be saved, we still try our best. Our collective effort is powerful, as we sincerely help her to eradicate her karmic obstacles. Let's follow the rhythm of the wooden fish, and recite Earth Store Bodhisattva's name on her behalf.

When we recite Earth Store Bodhisattva's name, her karmic obstacles should have been erased. However, as her past karmic offenses are being eradicated, her new karmic offenses are accumulating as fast. Indeed, we are helping her to eradicate endless karmic offenses that she was born with. I think if we want to save this person, we need to begin a seven-day Earth Store Bodhisattva session tomorrow. Let's recite the Bodhisattva's name sincerely and transfer the merit to her, in the hope that she will recover. Whether you want to participate in the session is entirely up to you. However, all of us should use our utmost sincerity. When we help others with a willing heart, the Boddhas and Bodhisattvas definitely will help us, too. ...

Today, we make a resolve together to transfer merit to this young woman. Did her relatives ask us to do so? No, they didn't. However, even if they don't know, we are still transferring merit to her. As Buddhists, we don't need to be asked before we help others. We feel sorry for this young woman, so we try our best to help her. We are relying on the awesome power of Guan Yin Bodhisattva and Earth Store Bodhisattva. It would be great if she regains consciousness; if she doesn't, it's because of her heavy karmic offenses. Either way, we try our best. With this goal in mind, all of us should work hard!

Nowadays, there are more and more calamities in the world, while fewer and fewer people cultivate the Path of Bodhi. In addition, there 現在世界一天比一天災難多,修道的人一天比一天少,犯戒的人一天比一天多。這是什麼原因?從什麼地方來的?爲什麼世界一天壞過一天?我們人應該研究這個根本問題。這根本的問題就是因爲人不守五戒,第一就是不守姪戒,男女認爲姪慾的行爲是人生的一種快樂,所以就背覺合塵,認賊做子,以苦爲樂,以黑爲白,以是爲非,顛顛倒倒,胡爲亂作。男女青年不但不知保持自己的寶貴精神,而且天天都是去做傷自己精神的事;男人也不知道怎樣做男人,女人也不知道怎麼樣做女人,只知道這麼個邪姪。你想知道 cancer 病人這麼多,是什麼樣的來源?這些都是從殺業造成的!

殺生哪,你看看,那個小生命還沒有生 出來,你就把他殺了,這種怨氣該多厲害! 所以,這世界一天壞過一天;人呢,也一天 壞過一天。這些都是殺業造成!在萬佛城的 人,因爲知道這種因果循環報應,我們要把 這種業把它挽回來,令這個世界沒有那麼多 的災難,令人類的痛苦減少一點,人類的疾 病也減少一點。所以藉著這位女孩生cancer 這個機會,我們大家誠心誠意念地藏王菩 薩。念地藏菩薩,就能減少眾生的罪業,令 他們無量劫以來的冤親債主,都往生到西方 極樂世界去;令我們所有的人的冤親債主, 也都往生到西方極樂世界去。所以藉著這個 機會,我們大家誠心誠意來念地藏菩薩,一 方面是幫助其他有病、有痛苦的人,一方面 也超度自己過去生生世世的父母祖先、冤親 債主,令他們都離苦得樂,了生脫死。

【編按】

黃姓女孩往昔雖造諸多惡業,但她在檳城的 時候,生大慚愧心,在二千餘位信眾前,竭 誠向佛菩薩及宣公上人發露罪愆,求哀懺 悔,當時癌病就好了。可是,爾後又舊情復 發,接著又以欺騙的手段來到萬佛城。這 樣,她的業越造越深,業報就不容易了結; 即使萬佛城四眾弟子專誠為她舉行兩次地藏 七,並經群醫搶救,數星期後,還是與世長 辭了。此可謂是現身說法,警惕世人!

are more and more individuals who break the precepts. Why is the world getting worse day-by-day? We should examine this fundamental question. The cause of this problem is that people are not upholding the five precepts, especially the precept against sexual misconduct. Men and women mistakenly think that satisfying their sexual desires is a type of pleasure. As it is said, they "turn their backs on enlightenment and combine with the dust," and "mistake the thief for their son." They treat suffering as pleasure, black as white, and truth as falsehood. They are so muddled that they act recklessly and improperly, as if they were up-side down instead of right-side up. In addition, instead of knowing how to protect their precious spirit and vitality, young men and women do things everyday that end up hurting themselves. Man doesn't know how to behave like a proper man, and woman doesn't know how to behave like a proper woman; all they know is how to satisfy their lust. Do you want to know why there are so many people with cancer? This situation is created by the karma of killing. Think about it, by having abortions, you are terminating lives even before they have a chance to be born. Under these circumstances, wouldn't the enmity of these unborn fetuses be incredibly great?! In summary, the world and its people are getting worse day-by-day. All of this is due to the karma of killing. At the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, everyone understands the cycle of cause and effect. Therefore, let's reduce the negative karma in the world, so there will be fewer disasters, less suffering, and fewer diseases. Let's take helping Ms. Hwang as an opportunity to recite Earth Store Bodhisattva's name earnestly and sincerely. Recitation of Earth Store Bodhisattva's name can reduce living beings' negative karma, and let their enemies, relatives and creditors from limitless past lives be reborn in the Western Land of Ultimate Bliss. This recitation will also let all of our enemies, relative and creditors be reborn in the Western Land of Ultimate Bliss. Let's take this opportunity to recite Earth Bodhisattva's name with earnestness and sincerity. While we are helping others who are sick or suffering, we are also crossing over our parents, ancestors, enemies, relatives, and creditors from our every past life, and allowing them to leave suffering and attain bliss, and end birth and death.

[Editorial note]

Although Miss Hwang created much unwholesome karma in the past, she brought forth a great revolve for repentance in Penang . In front of a Dharma Assembly consisted of more than two thousand people, she sincerely discussed her unwholesome deeds, and asked for the compassionate aid of the Buddhas, Bodhisattvas and the Venerable Master as she resolved to repent and reform. At that time, her cancer went into remission. However, she reverted back to her old ways soon after her resolve, and used deceitful means to come to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Since she was committing more and more karmic offenses, it was difficult to eradicate her negative retributions. Accordingly, even though the Fourfold Assembly in the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas organized two Earth Store Bodhisattva sessions on her behalf and many doctors tried to save her, she passed away several weeks later. We can say that Ms. Wang was using her life's story to speak the Dharma and let it be a warning to all of us!