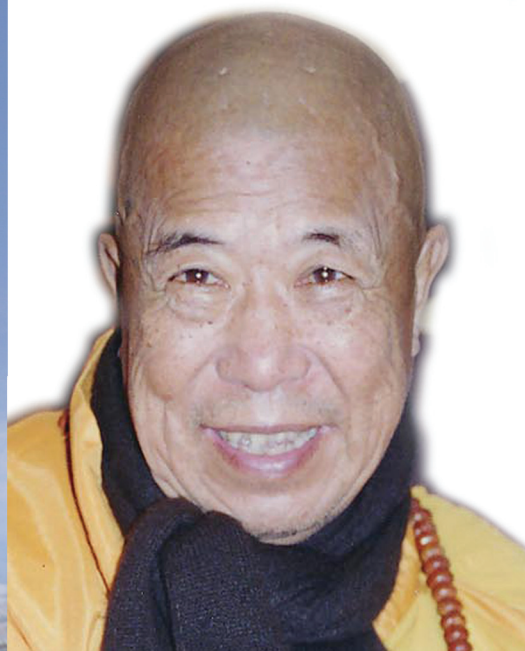


# 念佛法會超薦亡靈



# 紀念宣公上人涅槃十三週年



由於世界各地天災地變頻仍，造成無數人的傷亡，法總本著上人悲憫眾生的偉大胸懷，紀念宣公上人涅槃十三週年的法會，改成念佛方式舉行。六月八日（星期日）上午八時，萬佛聖城大帳篷內，已聚集了數百名由各地前來緬懷上人德澤的信眾，在誦完一卷《阿彌陀經》後，「南無阿彌陀佛」的聖號響徹了天際，把慈悲的訊息傳播到全世界，來超薦受難的亡靈。

今年入夏以來，中國四川的大地震，在剎那間造成數萬人罹難，無數的人家破人亡，整個災區滿目瘡痍，慘不忍睹。緬甸的風災和水災，所造成的傷亡更是難以估計，舉世為之震撼；乃至美國本土的龍捲風，令很多人無家可歸。災害除了帶來有形人命和財產的損失外，更造成了受難者在心靈上巨大的創傷和恐懼，這些傷害已非一朝一夕所能平復。

上人生前，洞知世界天災人禍之根源，肇因於世風日下、人心不古，以致天地間充滿了戾氣，因此畢生到處奔走，弘揚佛法，並大聲疾呼，積極提倡道德教育，翻譯經典，希望喚醒已日漸澆薄之人心，使人人皆能向善，來彌補天地間正氣之不足，則一切災難將消彌於無形，人類得以安居樂業，世界將轉趨於和平。法總秉承上人之遺志，在上人入涅槃十三年以來，齊心合力地繼續朝此目標努力。而正值上人涅槃紀念前夕，四川、緬甸及各地之災難頻傳，法總因此一改傳統之紀念法會方式，以念佛來迴向給受難者，希望所有亡靈皆能消彌心中怨氣，藉著阿彌陀佛的慈光與願力，往生西方極樂世界。

中午舉行傳供大典，此時陸續而來的信眾已達千餘人，午齋時大齋堂、小齋堂、道源堂皆坐滿用齋之信眾，並由法師開示上人生前之行儀。齋後無言堂開放，供四眾弟子瞻仰佛陀、虛雲老和尚及上人舍利。下午一點半，念佛法會繼續開始，直到晚上九點五十分大迴向後圓滿。

# Amitabha Session to Liberate the Deceased – To Commemorate the 13th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hua's Nirvana

An Amitabha Recitation Session was held at CTTB to commemorate the 13th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Nirvana. This was in the spirit of the Venerable Master's compassionate teaching, in the hopes of liberating the numerous victims of the disasters that struck the world recently. By 8 a.m. on Sunday, June 8, hundreds of faithful from all over the world had gathered under the big tent at CTTB to commemorate the Venerable Master's virtue and kindness. Immediately following the recitation of the Amitabha Sutra, the sound of Amitabha Buddha's holy name filled the air, spreading the message of compassion throughout the world to cross over the souls of the victims of disasters.

The recent major earthquake that struck Sichuan, instantly took the lives of tens of thousands of people and destroyed countless houses and buildings. The scenes of the disaster area are too miserable to view. The world was also shocked by the deaths and damage left in the wake of the hurricane and flood that struck Burma. Tornadoes also caused many Americans to lose their loved ones and homes. Disasters caused not only loss of life and property damage but also serious trauma and fright deep in the victims' hearts that will take a long time to heal.

The Venerable Master fully understood that the fundamental cause of disasters in the world lies in the decline of morality, which allows negative energy to fill the



world. Hence, he devoted his life to propagating the Buddhadharma throughout the world, advocating ethics-based education, and translating sutras, in hopes of encouraging people towards wholesome living and thus increasing the positive energy in the world. In that way, all calamities will

disappear, people will live happily, and the world will be peaceful. During the thirteen years after the Venerable Master's entering nirvana, DRBA has followed his teaching and advanced towards this goal. Just before the anniversary of the Venerable Master's Nirvana this year, disasters struck Sichuan, Burma and other places; DRBA thus held the Amitabha recitation session to help the victims in lieu of the traditional memorial ceremony. May the merits of the recitation quell the enmity of the deceased, and by the virtue of Amitabha Buddha's kindness and vows, may the deceased be reborn in the Land of Ultimate Bliss.

Over a thousand faithful participated in the Passing of Offerings Ceremony before noon, and the crowd filled up the dining halls and Daoyuan Hall at lunch while two Dharma Masters and the Abbot shared their experiences of the Venerable Master's deeds with the assembly. After lunch the Hall of No Words was open for the public to pay respect to the sharira of Shakyamuni Buddha as well as Venerable Masters Xu Yun and Hsuan Hua. The Amitabha recitation session resumed at 1:30 p.m. and finished with the Great Transference at 9:50 in the evening.

