靈 光獨耀 照 法界(續)

A Spiritual Light Illumines the Dharma Realm (Continued)

宣公上人於一九七0年十一月十五日至一九七一年二月二十日百日禪開示選輯 Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Talks during the Hundred Days of Chan from Nov. 15, 1970 to Feb. 20, 1971 比丘尼近廣 英譯 Translated into English by Bhikshuni Jin Gwang

是真精進,是名真法供養

我們三個禮拜以後,有一個新的菩提道場,在那個道場會造就出很多佛教的聖人來!

為什麼我們可以有這個道場呢?因為我們中美 佛教總會和佛教講堂、金剛菩提海雜誌社中有很 多真正發菩提心的人,所以才能感應出來這個真 正的道場!這個道場,在美國佛教可以說是一個 也不太大、也不太小的地方!

為什麼我們能把這一個很大的樓房買妥了? 這就是十方諸佛菩薩的感應,也是你們各位每 天念〈大悲咒〉的感應,也是現在來參加打禪七 這些個人的感應。這些個人沒有多少人,為什麼 說這些個人也有感應呢?這不必多,好的一個也 不少;不好的呢,一萬個也不多!那麼因為我們 這有真正修道的人,早晨三點鐘就起來,晚間十 二點鐘才休息,這樣子發這種大精進心、大勇猛 心,這叫真正發大菩提心!這在《法華經》上正 是說「是真精進,是名真法供養」,我們雖然沒 有把我們這個身體燒了來供佛,但是不怕辛苦來 用功修行,這也等於用身體來供佛一樣。而且我 們這是一方面來供佛,一方面又是自己能以明心 見性,能以真正認識自己了!

因為有真心修道的人,所以我們這個道場一定會給預備好了的,在幾十年以前就造這棟樓房,預備給我們這些真正修行的人到那兒去用功修行。在這個禪七沒有開始以前,我們就想買這棟樓房,買了半年多,甚至於將近一年了,就想要買也沒有成功。可是這個冬天坐禪班昨天一開始,今天就成功了,你看這事妙不妙?所以我說這是我們這個坐禪人的感應,這是有點意思了。

True Vigor Is the True Offering of Dharma

We will have a new Bodhimandala three weeks later. That place will create many Buddhist sages! This true Buddhist facility came into being because of the Bodhi resolve on the part of many members of the Sino-American Buddhist Association, the Buddhist Lecture Hall, and Vajra Bodhi Sea Journal. This facility is neither too big nor too small in the American Buddhist world.

How is it possible that we can successfully purchase this big facility? It is due to the response of all Buddhas of the ten directions and the daily Great Compassion Mantra recitation by everyone. It is also a response of a handful of people who participated in the Chan Session. Why do I say that even a few people could invoke a response? It does not take a lot to do it. Even a single dedicated person is not too few; even ten thousand people who are not dedicated, are not many! It is because we have true cultivators here who would wake up at 3 a.m. and rest when it's 12 a.m. In this way, they brought forth great vigor and great courage. This is to truly make a great Bodhi resolve! The Dharma Flower Sutra says: "This is true vigor; it is a genuine Dharma offering." Although we have not burned our bodies as an offering to the Buddha, we fear no suffering in our cultivation. It is just the same as using our body as an offering to the Buddha. Moreover, we are making offerings to the Buddha on one hand, and we are also able to understand our mind and see our nature on the other hand. We are able to truly recognize ourselves!

Our facility will definitely be ready because there are true cultivators. Several decades ago, the preparations for this building began so that true cultivators like us may cultivate and work hard there. Before this meditation session began, we had wanted to purchase this building. After more than half a year or nearly a year, the purchase fell through. However, the Winter Chan Session began yesterday and the deal succeeded today. Is this amazing? I find it interesting and say this is a miraculous response due to us meditators.



法財侶地

那麼樓房有了,這有一種基礎了。修行要「法財侶地」,「法」,你先要明白佛法,怎麼樣修行。所以我們就講經說法、說法講經,就是叫你明白這個法。有法了,又要有「財」,要有錢,來供養佛、供養法、供養僧。所以現在果護發護法心,他不但今生發護法心,他護法我很久很久了,所以你們不要從旁的地方來看,就從去年十二月初八,各個人都發願,他就先發願:無論如何受什麼苦,也要跟著這一個很不明白佛法的師父來修行。你看,這就是多生的這種習氣!

但是雖然有多生了,他最初看見我很怕的,啊,就往遠的跑!跑來跑去,沒有地方跑了, 又跑回來了,是不是這樣子?這回跑夠了,就 不願意跑了。不願意跑,等我有機會,我要打 他一頓,看他跑不跑?前幾次他被我罵了幾 次,沒罵跑,等慢慢的打,打他幾次看看怎 麼樣?這個是你看他,他能在往昔就發心 我願意生生世世都要拜這個不太聰明的人做師 父。所以令我很感動的,我說:「喔,他現在 認識師父了,再不會往遠的跑了!那麼我就要 打了。」打完了,再不跑,打不退,罵不退 那才是佛教的真寶貝。所以你不要笑,誰要真 信師父了,就有苦頭吃了。現在打這個禪七, 也是因為你們對師父有一點信心,叫你們打禪 七,就來打禪七。

有了法財,又要有「侶」,這侶就是侶伴,就是大家共同聚會在一起來修行,你也修行這一條路,我也修行這一條路,共同修行,這叫侶伴。那麼法也有,財也有,侶伴也有了,你若沒有一個地方,也不能修行。說:「我們跑到山上去,不要房子,就在山上打坐修行。」那是臨時的,暫時可以,如果天天那樣子,下起雨來,你怎麼辦?說:「我預備一件雨衣,我把頭一包,在那個地方也一樣可以修行。」但是那你心裏就很多妄想了,哎喲,下這麼大雨!就妄想很多了,所以要有一個好的地點,保護著你這個身體——這個臭皮囊去修行,所以我們現在於是就找著這麼一個聖地。

約待續

Dharma, Wealth, Companions, and a Place

We have some sort of foundation now that we have a building. Cultivation requires the Dharma, financial support, companions, and a location. You must first understand the Buddhadharma and how to cultivate. We speak the Dharma and lecture the sutras to make you understand the Dharma. Once we have the Dharma, we need money to make offerings to the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. For instance, Guo Hu made the resolve to be a Dharma protector—and not only in this life; he has been my supporter for a long time. No need to look elsewhere, just take how he was the first to make vows on December 8th last year. No matter what kind of suffering he has to bear, he insists on cultivating with a master who does not understand the Buddhadharma at all. See, these are habits from many lifetimes!

Although it's been many lifetimes, he was very scared when he first saw me. He wanted to run far far away. He ran all over the place until he had no place to run and ran back. Isn't that right? Now that he has run around enough, he doesn't want to run anymore. That being so, I am going to beat him when I get a chance just to test and see if he runs away. He didn't get chased away by my scolding the last few times, but let's wait and see what happens after a few more times. In the past he made this resolve: I wish to take this not-too-intelligent master as my teacher for life after life. I was extremely moved. I thought, "Oh, now he recognizes his master and will not run away anymore! I must hit him some more." Someone who doesn't run away after a beating and refuses to retreat after being beaten and scolded is Buddhism's true gem. Don't laugh; someone who truly believes in his master will experience more hardship. The reason that we are holding this meditation session now is also because you have some faith in your teacher. You come and meditate when you were told to come and meditate.

Once we have the Dharma and financial support, we must then have companions. Companions are those who gather together to cultivate. You cultivate this path and I cultivate this path too; cultivating together makes us companions. Once we have the Dharma, wealth and companions, we still couldn't cultivate without a place. "We can go into the mountains; there's no need for a house. We can meditate and cultivate in the mountains," you may say. That may suffice temporarily, but what happens if it rains every day? "I will cover my head with a raincoat so that I can cultivate there." But that way you will have so many false thoughts, "Such a huge downpour!" This is why we need an excellent location to protect our stinking skinbag of a body as we cultivate. We are now looking for such a holy site.

∞To be continued