

華嚴法會 心得報告

A Report on the Avatamsaka Sutra Recitation Session

2009年六月二十日 講於萬佛城大殿

Talk given at the Buddha Hall of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas at June 20, 2009

編輯部編輯整理 Edited and Compiled By Editorial Staff

這次在萬佛聖城的華嚴法會很殊勝，與會者對整個大環境都滿懷感恩，也法喜盈臆；六月廿圓滿日當晚，有六位佛友出來和大家分享經驗與感懷。

The Avatamsaka session at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas was really wonderful. All attendants were grateful for the entire environment and their hearts were full of dharma joy. On the evening of the last day, June 20, there were six Dharma friends who shared their experiences and feelings with everyone there.

【第一位分享者】林春香。她在不到一歲的時候，就隨父母搬去英國，一直住在倫敦；目前在英國的財政部當經濟學家。此次她是預支她所有的年度假期來萬佛聖城的，她和母親都是第一次來。她表示，她一定把此行的法益回饋給在倫敦的每個人；也希望下次再來時，可以從倫敦帶更多的人來。

#1 Speaker - Katherine Lam. When she was less than a year old, she moved to London with her parents and has lived there ever since. She currently works as an economist in the British Treasury. In order to come to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, she used up all of her vacation leave. This was her first visit to CTTB. Her mother accompanied her and it was her first time here too. Katherine mentioned that she will definitely give positive feedback to everyone in London and she hopes to bring more people with her the next time she comes.

我第一次知道萬佛聖城，是從我的弟弟那兒聽到的；因為他花很多時間在研究佛法，特別是上人的教法。他也沒有來過萬佛聖城，但是他說有一天他會來；所以他是介紹我上人教法的人。我讀過很多上人的開示和經典淺釋；我讀得越多，就越想學佛。尤其從閱讀〈金剛菩提海〉月刊，關於萬佛聖城這個地方，有許多感人的故事很吸引我。譬如關於法師跟在家人往生淨土的故事，還有天空出現的祥雲等等。特別是今天下午，當我們在天空中看到觀世音菩薩跟一些龍，真是太興奮了。有一些人在這裏住了很多年，可能感覺這些故事很平常；但是對於我來講這是第一次，我覺得很有意思。我回去後一定要和法友們分享！

I first found out about this place from my younger brother. He spends a lot of time exploring Buddhism, and particularly the Venerable Master's teachings. He too has never been to CTTB but he said he will come here some day. So, he was the one who introduced me the Venerable Master's teachings. Subsequently, I read a lot of his lectures and sutra commentaries. The more I read the more I became inspired to practice Buddhism. I also encountered many fascinating stories about this place, especially from reading the monthly journal Vajra Bodhi Sea. For example, stories about Dharma Masters and laypeople attaining rebirth in the pure land and auspicious clouds appearing in the sky. Particularly this afternoon, when we saw Guan Yin Bodhisattva and a dragon in the sky, it was very exciting. Some of you who have been living here for so long may find these stories quite common, but for me, it is something I have never experienced before. Moreover, it's something I'll definitely tell my Dharma friends about back home.

我的母親也是第一次來，她來這兒，也是聽到宣公上人的開示後被啓發的。我們還沒有來以前，她就夢見宣公上人在一個很大的

I came here with my mother. This was also her first time here. She was also inspired to come after listening to the Venerable Master's lectures. Before this visit, my mom dreamt of the Venerable Master talking to a disciple while walking on a huge lawn. Another time when she was reciting one of Guan Yin's mantras an image of a Thousand Hands and Eyes Guan Yin Bodhisattva appeared before her. This

草地上走著，一面跟一個弟子講話。另外一次，當她在唸觀世音菩薩的一個咒時，她突然看見她兩眉之間有一尊千手千眼觀世音菩薩出現，她這個時候是醒的。最特別的是，她夢中宣公上人在走的草原，跟萬佛聖城齋堂對面的草原非常像；她所看到的千手千眼觀世音菩薩，也正是大殿的千手千眼觀世音菩薩，只不過她醒著時所看到的菩薩手臂在動。我的母親沒有見過任何萬佛聖城或這尊觀音像的照片，這真是不可思議的事！

我覺得生活在這裏非常平靜、非常舒服，在這裏很多人都爲了佛法工作；我成長於一個大城市裏，在那兒，自私和賺錢是日常生活的一部分。當我看這裏的修行人，我深深覺得很感動；聖城的人真是善良、誠心與慈悲啊！在這裏，大家從早到晚非常的用功，沒有一天的休息；我看到這個，我反省自己，感覺非常的慚愧，因爲我還有很多的貪瞋癡。另外一個經驗是，讀誦《華嚴經》時，它令我心胸開敞；我確定在回家以後，我會研究這部《華嚴經》，並修習這個法門。

【第二位分享者】張文星，法名果星。來自臺灣，這是他第四次到聖城。

這次前來聖城最大的因緣，就是想來這裏受菩薩戒。剛開始學佛的時候，想要知道怎樣成佛？就看上人《法華經》的淺釋。在法華經裏面，講要如何修菩薩道？如何才能夠圓滿成就？還是不清楚！後來又讀誦了《華嚴經》，才了解到菩薩要修種種的法門，要經過無量劫的時間，要內施、外施、無畏施，所有都要施捨，包括：國城妻子，身心骨髓血肉都要施。而且有人來乞求的時候，菩薩還要發歡喜的心、讚嘆的心，認爲來乞求的人是善知識。覺得這個修菩薩道實在是太苦了，自己認爲：那守五戒就好了。

後來聽到師父上人的錄音帶—《楞嚴經》淺釋，才了解到我們心、佛、眾生都是一樣的。爲什麼會成眾生呢？就是因爲一念的無明。因爲無明才會墮落到這裏，將來還是要回歸到我們的自性。所以這次來受菩薩

image was just between her eyebrows while she was completely awake. The strange thing was that the lawn that the Venerable Master walked on in the dream was very similar to the lawn opposite the CTTB's dining hall. Moreover, the image of the Thousand Hands Guan Yin Bodhisattva was exactly the same as the one in this Buddha hall (except that the Guan Yin Bodhisattva she saw had the arms moving). Since she'd never seen any pictures of CTTB before, or seen pictures of the Guan Yin statue here, it was a truly amazing experience.

Life here is very peaceful and tranquil; many of you live here and work for the Buddha Dharma. I grew up in a big city, where selfishness and making money is part of everyday life. When I observe the cultivators here, I'm deeply moved by how kind, sincere and compassionate people are at CTTB. People work hard from morning to night and never have a day's rest. With that, I reflect upon myself and I feel deeply ashamed because I still have selfishness, greed and delusion. Another experience is that reciting the *Avatamsaka Sutra* has broadened my mind and vision. I will definitely go back home and investigate this sutra and practice this Dharma door.

#2 Speaker – Wen Xing Zhang. His Dharma name is Guo Xing. He came from Taiwan. This is his fourth visit to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

The biggest reason for coming to CTTB was because I wanted to take the Bodhisattva Precepts. When I just started learning the Buddha Dharma, I wanted to know how to become a Bodhisattva first and then a Buddha. Therefore, I read the commentaries of the *Avatamsaka Sutra* by the Venerable Master. I was trying to figure out how to practice the Bodhisattva Path since I was still not very clear about it.

So while reading the *Avatamsaka Sutra*. I started to understand that actually Bodhisattvas need to cultivate all sorts of Dharma doors for limitless number of eons. First, they need to practice all kinds of giving: internal giving, external giving, and the giving of fearlessness. This includes giving to your country, your cities, your wife, your sons, and it even includes giving away your brain, your marrow, your blood, and everything. Not only that, but when people come to beg for anything, Bodhisattvas actually have to give rise to a happy mind, a happy attitude and to praise the person who comes to seek these things. So then I thought that learning to practice the Bodhisattva Path was just too much work. As a result, I decided to just hold the five precepts which was good enough for me at the time.

Still later, however, I listened to the taped lectures of the *Shurangama Sutra* wherein the Venerable Master said that the mind, the Buddha, and living beings are all one and the same. The reason why we become living beings is due to a single deluded thought. But we still have the opportunity to return to our full, intrinsic Buddha-nature. Therefore, I am now more confident to take the Bodhisattva Precepts. I realized this confidence while reciting the *Avatamsaka Sutra* this time. The sutra describes the Bodhisattva Path as the one that we all walk to Buddhahood. If we wish to realize Buddhahood, it's best to practice the

戒，就有這個信心。這次誦《華嚴經》，有一個感想，就是《華嚴經》裏所敘述的，是我們大家未來一定要走的路，沒有離開我們自己。我們要成佛的話，一定要照著《華嚴經》教導的方式去修，才有可能修到圓滿。

整部《華嚴經》，每一品都好像一朵花串起來的，它是非常殊勝的。其中第八十一品〈普賢菩薩行願品〉，它告訴我們諸佛菩薩的功德是不可說盡的。修普賢十大願王，才可以成就這種功德；這一品裏面，就告訴我們如何修普賢十大願王。在經的最後有個偈頌，就是：「若人於此普賢願，讀誦受持及演說；果報唯佛能證知，決定獲勝菩提道。若人誦此普賢願，我說少分之善根；一念一切悉皆圓，成就眾生清淨願。」他所得的福德，只有佛才能夠說盡。我們如果修行讀誦普賢行願品的話，我們「一念一切悉皆圓」，即便想生到極樂世界也可以去，因為你有很大的福德。《阿彌陀經》裏面講：「不可少福德因緣得生彼國。」那你誦持讀誦〈普賢行願品〉或者演說的話，就能夠很快成就我們的清淨願。

【第三位分享者】林廷亮，來自新加坡。他2000年前，在進入新加坡工藝進階證明學校之前，至馬來西亞的紫雲洞皈依，之後就回到新加坡，每個週末在佛教流通處和大家共修。從那開始，完全改變他的人生。他在此簡單講幾個感應。

2000年時，四十五歲的我再回到學校進修。信不信由你，我可是班上最老的學生！從那時候，我開始學佛，大部分的時間都在新加坡佛教流通處。在我期末考期間，不可思議的事發生了。那天當我拿了「船隻穩定力」的考卷坐下，一股冷氣一直吹向我，非常地冷，而且那天我正患重感冒。我對自己說：「冷氣一直吹著我，我怎麼能坐這兒考試？」我才唸了三聲：「南無觀世音菩薩。」忽然，那個吹著我的冷氣壞掉了，考場裏其他的冷氣是正常的，只有那個壞掉。我說：「老天！太不可思議了！」因此那天就順利的完成了考試。

Way according to the methods described in the *Avatamsaka Sutra* in order to perfect our cultivation.

Considered chapter-by-chapter, the entire *Avatamsaka Sutra* is like a garland of flowers. It is so special and wonderful. The Fortieth chapter, Universal Worthy Bodhisattva's Conduct and Vows, tells us that the merit and virtue of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas is inexhaustible, and cannot even be expressed in words, and that by cultivating the Ten Great Kings of Vows we can realize the very same kind of merit and virtue. In this particular chapter, it tells us how to practice the Ten Great Kings of Vows. At the end of the sutra, there is a verse that says, "If someone reads, recites or proclaims these vows, the fruition and retribution this person reaps is known only by the Buddhas. One will definitely obtain the highest path of bodhi. If one recites Universal Worthy's vows, even with just a small portion of one's good roots, everything is perfected in a single thought, and the pure vows of living beings will all be fulfilled." The reward we obtain can only be known by the Buddhas. If we cultivate and recite Universal Worthy's conduct and vows, all practices are perfected in a single thought. Even if we wish to be reborn in the Land of Ultimate Bliss in the West, our wish will be fulfilled due to our great blessings from accepting, reading, reciting, and maintaining Universal Worthy's Conduct and Vows. Remember, the *Amitabha Sutra* says, "One cannot have few good roots to be born in that land." If we recite, uphold and read Universal Worthy's Conduct and Vows, or even proclaim them, we will quickly realize bodhi's highest path.

#3 Speaker – Andrew Lin. He came from Singapore. He took refuge at Zi Yun Dong Temple, Malaysia in year 2000 before going back to school at Singapore Polytechnic for an advanced degree. When Andrew went back to Singapore, he found a Way-place there called BBDC, Buddhist Book Distribution Center, so he took his written recitations, sutras and mantras there to practice. His entire life changed from there. Here he briefly shares some of his responses.

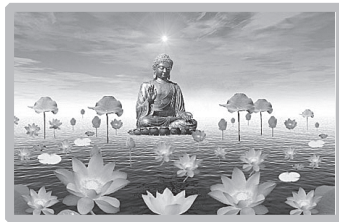
Believe it or not, I went back to school at the age of 45 in year 2000. I was the oldest in the class, and there I learned how to study Buddhism. So then I began to spend most of my time at the BBDC in Singapore. During my final term exam, inconceivable things happened. When I took my Ship's Stability written exam, for example, the air conditioning kept blowing towards me. It was so very cold and on top of that, I was having a very bad flu that day. I said to myself, "How am I going to sit here for the entire exam when the air conditioning keeps blowing at me?" Then, I said, "Okay fair enough." I will just recite three times Namó Guān Shì Yīn Pú Sà. Then all of a sudden the air conditioner completely failed, and only the normal air blew towards me. Meanwhile, the whole examination hall was looking perfectly fine, except for the one air conditioner that was blowing towards me. I said, "Oh dear! This is inconceivable! So that day I successfully finished my paper without a hitch.

So I passed my written. Then followed the oral. The oral is the most

第二個感應：我通過筆試，接下來是口試；在新加坡，考航海員最難的就是口試。口試的日子與紫雲洞要受五戒的時間衝突；所以我就打電話去考官那兒，問是否可以把口試的時間延到下一個星期三，因為五戒是在在那個禮拜五或者禮拜六舉行。最後我告訴自己：「去吧！你讀得差不多了！」可是我從沒想過會美夢成真。等受好戒回來，我也沒有怎麼讀。在考試前一晚，我做了一個很好的夢。有一個人在我背後跟我講：「你不用耽心，你會及格的！」這怎麼可能呢？誰都知道，如果沒讀，是考不過的。考試當天，到了考場，發現考官是我的朋友。他說：「林廷亮，我知道什麼是你不會的；你不會的我會告訴你！」他就問了幾個我會的問題，並教我那些我不會的。最後他跟我講：「你拿兩張照片去給服務台的值務人員。」我就問考官：「你讓我及格啊？」他說：「你及格了！」這個境界和我夢中一模一樣！到今天我還能記得清清楚楚那個夢，夢境是這麼的真實。

第三個感應：我考上執照後，就當了船長，接著被派去臺灣的東部維修海底電纜。海有六千多米深，因為地震，有十多條電纜都損壞了，需要把海底電纜拉上來。我的飛艇應該要修護兩條電纜，那正是冬天刮東北季風的季節。我跟自己講：「這麼壞的天氣，要怎麼樣維修？」在修護過程中，我勾起來一條五十米長的電纜。它怎麼能被勾住呢？真不可思議！電纜竟自己上了勾。一定有人把海底的電纜放到勾子上，所以才這麼容易被拉上來；要不然，因為它本身的重量，電纜一定會滑掉的。那整個星期都下著毛毛雨，有一天，我走上船橋；不可思議的，我看到眼前每面窗都有菩薩盤坐在蓮花上。我眨了眨眼，還是看得見，過了幾分鐘這景象才消失。我的結論是：我們必須相信，修行一定要專一其心，才会有好的感應。

待續



difficult exam in maritime examinations in Singapore. As it turned out, the day that Zi Yun Dong Temple was holding the precept ceremony coincided with my exams. I called the examiner, and asked if I might postpone my exam to the next Friday or Saturday since the precept ceremony was being held on Friday or Saturday of the exam day. So I was telling myself, "Go ahead and take the precepts. Then, along the way, you have some studying to do." But I never thought that it would actually work out. After I finished taking the five precepts successfully, I went back to school but I paid very little attention to my studies. Then on the evening before my exam day I had a very wonderful dream. Somebody behind me was telling me, "Oh, you don't have to worry. You'll pass your exam." How could it be? If you don't study, you will never pass. Everybody knows that if you don't study you will never pass. On the exam day I went to the exam room. To my surprise I saw my friend. He told me, "Andrew, I know what you don't know. So I'll tell you what you don't know." Then he just asked me some questions that I knew the answers to, and taught me what I didn't know. In the end he asked me to send a photograph to the front counter. I said to him, "Are you going to pass me?" He looked at me and said, "You have passed." It was exactly the same scene that I saw in my dream. Even until today, I still can clearly remember that dream. It is so true.

Now, for the third response. After passing my exam, I became captain of a ship. I was deployed to Taiwan to take charge of some cable repairs in the east of Taiwan. The depth of the water was more than 6000 meters when we were given the task of raising some telephone cables for repair due to earthquake damage. There were more than 10 cables which were damaged. My vessel was supposed to repair two cables and it was during the wintertime monsoon season. I was telling myself, "How do I finish the job with such weather?" During the repair process, I had to hook up a fifty-meter cable. How did it manage to stay on the hook? It was really inconceivable. The cable was somehow tied on to the hook! Somebody must have tied it to the hook, so that's why it was so easy to bring up the cable; otherwise it would slip away because of its weight. That very week, it was drizzling. I went up to the bridge one day. To my great surprise, I saw – right in front of my very eyes – that bodhisattvas were there - sitting in the lotus position. Looking out the window, I blinked my eyes and I could still see them for a few seconds. Then, they disappeared. In conclusion, we have to believe that we have to focus single-mindedly in order to have good responses.

To be continued