

二〇〇九年

三壇大戒誌

(續)



Remembering the 2009 Precept Platform (continued)

寥寥數語勉新人

比丘近巖 講於2009年10月25日萬佛聖城大殿

如法傳戒，如法受戒，能夠這樣圓滿，個人恭喜各位戒子們。〔各位曾經〕面對過多少考驗，歷經過多少掙扎——這一天的到來實在是來之不易，希望大家能一鼓作氣，不要中途懈怠；不要像近巖，時間久了就變老油條了，菩提心也疲軟無力了。人，往下走，真的很容易，真的很快……。

另外，個人希望戒子們能在語言方面下點功夫，諸如英文、中文、法文，或者日文，這對聖城未來的遠景將會有很大影響。



A Few Words of Encouragement

Spoken in CTTB Buddha Hall by Bhikshu Jin Yan on Oct.25,2009

Precepts were transmitted and received in accordance with the Dharma. Hence I congratulate all the preceptees. This day doesn't come easy; you have gone through many tests and struggled through many difficulties. I hope you can cultivate continuously and vigorously without let up. Don't turn out like me, becoming slipshod and weary in my spiritual aspirations. It is easy to go downhill....

My second wish for you is that you as the new preceptees can work on your language skills, such as English, Chinese, French, or Japanese... . Having language skills will have a very far-reaching impact on the CTTB—especially in terms of realizing its vision for the future.

永銘在心

近山師

二〇〇九年的戒子們是親字輩歷屆以來，戒子平均年齡最高的一屆。也許就是因為年齡大，我們幾位都格外珍惜這期生命中絕無僅有的一次受戒機會，背戒、出坡與學習的精神都不亞於年輕人。

這次戒期共有十位教導法師：持法師、良法師、雲法師、貴法師、是法師、讓法師、泰法師、茂法師、薰法師和齋法師等。每位法師傳授她們研究佛法或戒法的精髓，修行的經驗，並分享當年上人住世時受教的點點滴滴，令戒子們受惠無窮。法師們都是我們的善知識，除了指導身之威儀外，並教我們如何在心性上用功夫，收攝六根，不要在八識田到處收集垃圾。戒師們也一再提醒我們，學戒是戒自己，而不是去審查別人的行為。自己要盡最大的能力去做，去守戒。

這108天的戒期，戒子們真的獲益良多；對我個人來說，就有很大的好處。第一是背戒，以前背過沙彌十戒、五十三小咒跟菩薩戒，戒期最大的挑戰就是在限期裡，背出比丘尼三百四十八條戒。我沒有想到在我這個年齡還可以如期背完，帶給我很大的信心，以後也較有勇氣嘗試背經了。第二個好處是大家同住在一起，一天除了睡覺以外，其他時間都在一起，很明顯的看到自己的習氣毛病，以後我在這方面要多努力，希望缺點能夠減少。第三個好處是戒期裡要準時結齋，以前用齋的時候，常常都會多拿食物，這一次養成了節量食的好習慣。

也在錄音帶中，聽到上人一再開示我們做事都要步步認真，不可馬虎空過，否則差之毫釐，失之千里。我們出家須忍苦耐勞，修行路沒福報是修不成的。所以法師們鼓勵我們「該做能做儘量做，把握因緣莫空過！」並叮嚀我們拜願時要真誠地在佛前懺悔，祈求佛放光加被，令我們業障消除，善根增長。

Forever in Our Memory!

Bhikshuni Jin Shan

The 2009 preceptees have the highest average age of all the Jin generation Bhikshunis. Because of our advanced age, several of us especially cherished this singular opportunity to receive the full precepts in this lifetime. Whether we were memorizing precepts, doing community work, or studying, we had as much stamina and enthusiasm as the younger preceptees.

There were ten teachers who taught us during the Precept period. They were Dharma Master Chih, Dharma Master Liang, Dharma Master Yun, Dharma Master Gwei, Dharma Master Shr, Dharma Master Rang, Dharma Master Tai, Dharma Master Mao, Dharma Master Syun and Dharma Master Jai. Every teacher shared with us the essence of their understanding of Buddhism, precepts, cultivation, and the teachings they had received from Venerable Master. They were all good spiritual mentors. They taught us not only about deportment, but also how to discipline our minds, how to gather in our six senses and not let our conscious mind go around collecting garbage everywhere. The precept teachers reminded us over and over that learning precepts is about self-evaluation, not examining the behavior of others. We should try our best to uphold the precepts.

All the preceptees benefited tremendously during the 108-day ordination training. First, we gained confidence in memorizing the precepts. I had already memorized the ten novice precepts, 53 small mantras, and Bodhisattvas precepts, but having to memorize the Bhikshuni precepts within a limited time frame was very challenging. To my surprise, I was able to finish the memorization in time. This boosted my confidence and I feel encouraged to try to memorize the sutras. Secondly, since we all lived and worked together day and night, my shortcomings and bad habits became obvious and I was able to recognize them. In the future, this is where I will try to improve myself and hope to diminish my shortcomings. Thirdly, because we need to conclude the meal on time, I curbed my old habit of taking too much food and learned to take just the right amount.

Also, in his recorded lectures, the Venerable Master always exhorts us to be sincere and honest in everything we do and every step of our cultivation. We cannot be lax and waste time. Otherwise, if one is off by even as much as a hair's breadth at the beginning, one will miss the mark by a thousand miles at the end. We, as monastics, have to endure suffering and stress. Without blessings, we cannot cultivate. Therefore, the teachers encouraged us, "Try your best to utilize every opportunity to do whatever you should do and whatever you can do. Don't miss the chance." They also exhorted us to sincerely repent before the Buddha and to request that the Buddha bless us by shining his light upon us, eradicating our karmic obstacles and helping our roots of goodness to grow.



沙加緬度的夏天本來是很燥熱的，不下雨，這次戒期正值盛暑，幸好龍天護法很護佑，常有和風飄送，驅走暑氣，所以沒有一位戒子生病；大家都能認真學習，把握沙彌尼階段之最後學習機會。我深信這108天的戒期會永銘在每一位戒子的心中！

Usually, summers in Sacramento are very hot without any rainfall. Unfortunately, that was the weather during our ordination training. However, the dharma protectors, the heavenly dragons, were very supportive. There was always a breeze to chase away the heat. Also, none of us got sick. We could all take full advantage of our final opportunity to learn as shramanerikas. I deeply believe that the memories of the 108-day ordination training will stay with us forever!

把心打開

近開師

我新的法號叫近開，一個禮拜之後，我就要到澳洲的分支道場法界金岸幫忙。在戒期之前很害怕，因為傳聞CDR的生活就像軍事訓練一樣，好像戰鬥營一樣。我非常焦慮，心想：「怎麼樣才可以活下來呢？」等我心定下來的時候，發現CDR的生活不像傳聞中的那樣，剛好跟傳聞中相反，因為我們有最棒的老師。

老師無私的奉獻、慈悲、努力工作，令我非常的敬佩。這些恒字輩的法師，都有直接親近過上人，她們知道很多很多上人的故事。從老師們的身教言教中，學到上人法的精髓。還有，我們好像被送到一個熱帶的島上，師兄弟們一見如故，互相支持，互相幫忙，就算有什麼不好的事情，也沒有辦法來影響我們，整個氣氛非常自在祥和。為什麼我會說熱帶的地區呢？因為CDR有三百多棵很高的棕櫚樹，花園真的很美。我們背戒時，會在戶外背戒，出坡澆水的時候也可以背背戒，也可以觀一下心，整個大自然都是非常好的。

☞ 待續

Opening My Heart

Bhikshuni Jin Kai

My new Dharma name is Jin Kai [formerly Jin Syi]. I will be going off to Australia in a week or so to be at the branch DRBA at Gold Coast Dharma Realm. Before going to the 108 day ordination training held at City of the Dharma Realm, I was scared I wouldn't be able to keep up because I had heard this period of training was super intense. I thought to myself, "How am I going to survive? Do I have what it takes to past the test?" So, I was very apprehensive. But much to my surprise when I settled in at the City of the Dharma Realm, I found it to be very different than what I had expected.

We had an awesome set of precept teachers who were most dedicated, most compassionate, and most hardworking. My heartfelt admiration goes out to these awesome teachers. Through the eyes and views of these teachers, we got to learn the essence of the Venerable Master's Dharma because each of these teachers had direct experience with the Venerable Master. They are from the Heng generation so they know all the stories about the Venerable Master. It felt to me as if I was transported to a tropical island with a group of longtime friends. As for my Dharma sisters, I felt like we have all been friends forever because we feel so comfortable with one another.

They are caring and supportive. The energy of the group was so positive that I think if there were any negatives, it couldn't penetrate that. The reason I said tropical is because CDR is home to over three hundred very tall pine trees, and there are lovely gardens. Part of our community work was tending the gardens, e.g. watering. Sometimes we memorized the precepts outdoors. Sometimes, while we were working in the garden, we had an opportunity to do memorization or just contemplate or communicate with the nature. It was just really lovely.

☞ To be continued

