



歲末澳洲行記實

A Report on the DRBA Trip to Australia

By Bhikshuni Jin Xiang and Staff 比丘尼近翔師等人合撰
Translated into Chinese by Chen Guo Pu 陳果璞中譯

The Parliament of the World's Religions

In December 2009, 24 monastic and lay members of Dharma Realm Buddhist Association gathered in Melbourne, Australia, to take part in the Parliament of the World's Religions, held from December 3-9, 2009. The Parliament has only been held five times, in 1893, 1993, 1999, 2004, and 2009. The 2009 Parliament's theme "Make a World of Difference: Hearing each other, Healing the earth," speaks of "the urgent need for religious and spiritual communities and all people of goodwill to act on our concern for the environment, peace, and for overcoming poverty."

One reason the Parliament planners chose Melbourne, Victoria, which is home to aboriginal communities, is that they wanted to provide a forum to explore new approaches to the pressing issue of aboriginal reconciliation through dialogue with indigenous peoples from other countries. While

世界宗教大會

2009年12月，法界佛教總會24名僧伽居士代表聚集在澳洲墨爾本，參加自12月3日至9日舉行的世界宗教大會。這項世界宗教大會迄今總共舉辦過五次，分別於1893、1993、1999、2004、2009年。第五屆2009年的大會主題是：「世界大不同：聆聽彼此，療癒地球」，探討宗教及具有信仰、靈性和善心的人們共同面臨的緊急需要，針對我們所有人息息相關的環保、和平、克服貧窮等議題尋求解決。

本屆世界宗教大會籌備小組選擇在澳洲原住民匯聚的維多利亞省墨爾本市開會，原因之一是希望透過和其他國家原住民的對話，提供論壇為原住民和解的緊急議題找尋新的途徑。本屆世界宗教大會讓

raising awareness about the terrible ordeals that the Aboriginal Australians underwent, including having their children taken away from them by force and suffering the loss of their culture as a result of the “stolen generations”, the Parliament also honored indigenous spirituality as an invaluable source of wisdom in the face of climate change and planetary crisis.

Over 6,000 participants attended 660 programs from 220 traditions. The daily schedule started at 8:00 a.m. with a one-hour observance or ritual from different spiritual traditions. This was followed by intrareligious sessions, interreligious sessions, engagement sessions, and open space—each session lasting 90 minutes with a 30 minute break in between. Major subthemes included Healing the Earth with Care and Concern, Indigenous Peoples, Overcoming Poverty, and Building Peace in the Pursuit of Justice. The sessions were organized in program clusters such as interreligious movements, interreligious education, women in leadership, youth, and family.

The DRBA delegation, led by DM Heng Sure, was comprised of four Bhikshunis from Gold Coast Dharma Realm, six Bhikshunis from California, two Bhikshunis from Taiwan, 11 laypeople from the U.S., and Ms. Rosaline Kang, the primary delegation sponsor, from Australia. Among them were one 2009 graduate of Developing Virtue Boys School and five seniors from Developing Virtue Girls School, who had a unique opportunity to see and meet people of many different religions at the Parliament.

Jin Gwo Shr and Jin Shun Shr, flew from Taiwan to Melbourne especially to help set up and staff one of the 64 booths at the Melbourne Convention Centre, which DRBA shared with United Religions Initiative (URI). Besides featuring brochures, books and CDs published by the Buddhist Text Translation Society in multiple languages, the DRBA booth also sold T-shirts with Dharma messages and other Dharma items. The Shurangama mantra pendants were the first items to run out, while almost all of the 2009 edition of the English translation of Shurangama Sutra were sold. Delegation members took turns staffing the booth and getting to meet interesting passersby from diverse faith backgrounds.

DM Sure spoke in several programs, beginning with “The Breath of Life,” a Buddhist-Catholic observance co-presented by Benedictine monk William Skudlarek. DM Sure also co-presented an interactive workshop entitled, “Interfaith and Multinational Reflections on Aging and the Human Spirit,” which focused on the responsibility of elders, who embody the collective wisdom of humanity, to mentor the younger generations and sustain healthy communities. The hall was packed with young people for his lecture “Compassionate Eating for the YouTube Generation,” which featured videos and music

大家注意到澳洲原住民痛苦的經歷，包括以遭受武力壓迫讓子女被抱走，由於原住民子孫被抱走造成「被偷走的一代」，使得他們的文化無以為繼。本屆世界宗教大會也表揚原住民的靈性，因為在面對氣候變遷與地球危機時，他們的靈性是無價的智慧泉源。

參加這次大會的人士超過六千人，分別來自220種不同宗教的傳統，他們參加了660場活動。從每天上午八時起展開，第一個小時是不同宗教的儀式，緊接著是宗教內和宗教間的議程，還有參與議程，以及開放空間。每一項議程長達90分鐘，中間休息30分鐘。主要的子題包括以關懷與照顧癒癒地球、原住民各族、克服貧窮、從追求公理建立和平。這些議程分隔為區塊進行，例如宗教之間的運動、宗教之間的教育、女性領導力、青少年、家庭等。

法界佛教代表團由恆實法師率團，成員包括金岸道場四位比丘尼、法總加州道場六位比丘尼、法總台灣道場兩位比丘尼、11位來自美國的護法居士、以及澳洲的黃果玲，她是本次法總代表團的主要贊助居士。此外，還有一位培德中學男校2009年畢業生，5位培德中學女校今年的應屆畢業生，能夠參加世界宗教會議和來自不同宗教的人士會面，對他們而言，都是難得的機會。

近果師和近順師從台灣飛往墨爾本，協助在墨爾本會議中心設立法界佛教總會和聯合宗教研究院聯合書展。除了展出佛經翻譯委員會出版的多種語文書籍、小冊、光碟之外，還出售印有法語的恤衫。楞嚴咒項鍊墜最先全部被請完了，2009年出版的楞嚴經英譯本也幾乎售罄。法總代表團成員輪流照顧書展，因此能夠遇見來參觀書展的人潮，這些人來自不同宗教，頗為有趣。

恆實法師在數項議程中發表演講，首先是和來自梵蒂岡的本篤會教士史葛拉瑞克共同主持「生命的呼吸」，採用佛教與天主教儀式進行。恆實法師也出席互動式的研討工作坊，名稱為「對於老化與人類性靈的宗教間及多國化省思」，內容針對老年人的責任，因老年人具體表現出人類的集體智慧，可以傳授給年輕的世代，使人類社會得以維持健康。

恆實法師主講「視訊網路時代的慈悲飲食」時，室內擠滿了年輕的聽眾。法師以視訊影片和

Welcome to the 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions

that inspire people to align their food choices more closely to their hopes for a healthier, more compassionate world. DM Sure also co-presented “The Gift of Global Community,” featuring the United Religions Initiative, and “Monastic Interreligious Dialogue: Dialogue at the Level of Spiritual Practice and Experience.”

DM Heng Ch'ih, who currently manages Gold Coast Dharma Realm and also teaches Buddhism at the local Bond University, gave an interactive workshop on meditation offering a rich explanation of techniques of practice from various traditions, which was well-attended despite a heavy downpour that morning. Through these presentations as well as our booth and participation, DRBA helped to ensure that Mahayana Buddhism had a much stronger presence in this Parliament as compared to previous Parliaments.

On the theme of healing the earth, the work of the late Thomas Berry, the renowned cultural historian, theologian, and geologist, was highlighted, for he brought hope and inspiration through his articulation of a New Story for our time, based on the principle, “There can be no peace among humans without peace with the planet”. In support of this, Chief Oren Lyons of the Onondaga Nation of the Haudenosaunee, said, “Ten thousand years of good weather is now over.” He warned that there is little time left, for “Nature’s the boss. There’s only one law – natural law.”

He recalled how he had gone before the United Nations, saying, “I see no seat for the eagle or the bear,” and how his people had struggled to get representation for the indigenous peoples, so that they could speak on behalf of Mother Earth and all creatures. He said the human race needs to get beyond color and see that we are “one species in dire crisis.” He added that the indigenous peoples of the world have something to offer humanity on how to live sustainably in harmony with the cycles of nature. For example, the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Confederacy of North America has enjoyed 1,000 years of peace and influenced the development of the Constitution of the United States.

音樂啟發聽眾，讓他們在選擇食物時，能更貼近他們所期盼的比較健康慈悲的世界。實法師也和聯合宗教研究所共同主持「全球社區的禮物」，以及「宗教間的道場對話：精神修持與體驗層次的對話」。

目前住持法總澳洲金岸道場，並在當地邦德大學講授佛教課程的恆持法師，在第五屆世界宗教會議中，主持打坐研討班，深入講解指導各種不同派別的打坐技巧。當天上午雖然下著傾盆大雨，但參加打坐研討班的人數依然眾多。透過法界佛教總會法師們的這些演講介紹，以及法總的書展，還有法總代表團的參與，大乘佛教在本屆世界宗教會議中，可以說比前幾屆都要彰顯得多。

就癒合地球的主題而言，已故湯瑪斯貝理，生前是著名的文化歷史學家、神學家、地理學家，他的作品備受重視。因為他的作品——為我們這個時代訴說的新的故事——帶來了希望與啟發，其原則是「人與地球之間若缺乏和平，則人與人之間也將失去和平。」為印證此說，美國原住民豪登諾桑尼酋長李永司指出：「萬年好氣候已結束。」他警告人類剩餘時間無多，因「大自然才是大老闆，天地間只有一種法則，就是自然法則。」他回憶曾在聯合國當眾演說指出：「我沒看到老鷹或熊的席位。」他也回憶他的族人努力爭取代表原住民，才能為大自然和所有生物發言。他表示人類應該超越膚色，將所有人種看成是「處於極大危機中的同一個物種。」他又指出，全球原住民可以提供給人類的貢獻是：如何永續生存、如何與自然循環和諧相處。例如，北美的豪登諾桑尼族聯已享有一千年的和平，並影響美國憲法的發展。



One highlight of this Fifth Parliament was the sharing of wisdom and collaboration among representatives of various Indigenous peoples from nearly every continent, resulting in the drafting of “An Indigenous Peoples’ Statement to the World” read to the assembly at the Closing Plenary. This statement concludes with eight calls to action, including immediate action to be taken on climate change, protection for indigenous sacred sites, and repudiation of the dehumanizing Doctrine of Christian Discovery initiated by papal decrees in 1493, which called for the subjugation of non-Christian nations and peoples.

The members of the DRBA delegation met three times during the weeklong event to touch base and share experiences. Everyone felt the joy of participating in the programs and learning more about the various traditions and projects.

Afterwards, part of the group accompanied DM Sure to Sydney for a week, where he gave several lectures to university Buddhist groups. The rest of the delegation headed to Gold Coast Dharma Realm in Queensland, to participate in the Avatamsaka Dharma Assembly from Dec. 17-28, and for some, the Amitabha Recitation Session from Jan. 1-13, 2010.

☞To be continued

第五屆世界宗教會議的一大重頭戲是，來自各大洲、不同的原住民代表分享智慧與攜手合作，結果起草「原住民世界宣言」，在閉幕大會中公開宣讀。這項宣言最後要求採取八大行動，包括立即針對氣候變遷採取行動、保護原住民聖地、揚棄1493年教皇法諭非人道的「基督教發現教條」，該教條要求征服所有非基督教國家與種族。

法界佛教總會代表團成員在為期一週的會期中，曾經聚會三次，以保持聯繫並分享經驗。每個成員都很高興能夠參加各項議程，更加了解不同的傳統和計劃。

世界宗教會議結束後，部分法總代表團成員隨同恆實法師前往雪梨一週，實法師在雪梨為大學的佛教社團作了幾場演講。其餘成員則前往昆士蘭的法界金岸到場參加12月17日至28日的華嚴法會，還有些人繼續參加2010年1月1日至13日的彌陀七。

☞待續

