

東西文化的橋樑

一介紹尹達偉居士

A Bridge between East & West —— Introducing Upasaka David Yin

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達偉居士,法名親偉。出生在美國東岸,兩歲時移居加州。在就讀高中最後兩年時,覺得世界上的事情沒有什麼意義—做同樣的事、說同樣的話,日復一日,生活是如此地虛幻不實,他因而對人生的真義有了強烈探求的意念,自己開始從宗教——基督教、佛教——去尋找答案。

2000年時,到萬佛城參加兩天的萬佛寶懺,這是他第一次來到道場參加法會。那時中文不好,對佛教也不瞭解,所以雖然感覺來萬佛城很有意思,但是跟自己的生命好像並沒有什麼關係。以後佛青會辦了一個由實法師主持的《楞嚴經》的活動,從這個活動他對萬佛城的生活比較了解。後來又參加觀音七、彌陀七及冬季禪七。佛教成了他的信仰,佛法也一點一滴地融入了他的生活中。對於生命中難以明白的問題,從佛教的實際修行中,似乎逐漸解除了他的一些迷惑。

高中畢業後,他上了史丹佛大學。四年的大學生涯,他常去道場聽經,參加法會。每一個週末去柏克萊道場聽《地藏經》。如果萬佛城有法會,他會盡量抽空來參加。雖然在修行上得到了些許滿足,可是卻也招來了一些障礙。

因為個性太極端,讓父母擔心。父母並不反 對他學佛,但這時他們覺得兒子對佛教太過狂 Dasaka David Yin, Dharma name Qing Wei, was born on the East Coast and moved to California when he was two years old. During the last two years of high school, he began to feel that the world was quite meaningless--people just did the same things, said the same things, day in and day out. Life seemed illusory and not real. To find an answer to this sense of meaninglessness, he began studying different religions, namely Christianity and Buddhism.

In 2000, he visited the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas for two days during the Ten Thousand Buddhas Repentance. At that time, his Chinese was quite poor and he had very little understanding of Buddhism. So, although David found his first visit to CTTB an interesting experience, he did not find it very relevant to his life. Later that year, he participated in a Dharma Realm Buddhist Youth retreat led by Rev. Heng Sure on the *Shurangama Sutra*. The retreat allowed him to connect to life at CTTB. From then on, he participated in Guanyin Sessions, Amitabha Sessions, and the Winter Chan Sessions. He became a Buddhist, and the Dharma gradually became part of his daily life. The difficult questions and confusions he had about life were slowly answered through his study and practice of Buddhism.

After graduating from high school, David went to Stanford University. During his four years as a college student, he went to the monastery to listen to sutras and participate in Dharma assemblies on a regular basis. Every weekend he would go to Berkeley Buddhist Monastery and listen to the *Earth Store Sutra*. If CTTB had a Dharma assembly, he would try his best to make time in his schedule to participate. Although he felt that cultivation was very worthwhile, he also encountered some difficulties.

熱了,希望他能理智一點。有一次,他在請 教一位法師的指導時,法師告訴他應該聽母 親的話,不要造成家庭不快樂。這給他一個 很大的改變,開始向應該怎麼當一個好孩子 去努力。因為孝順也是修行的一個基礎。

他得了物理學士學位後,又讀了一年 書拿到宗教碩士學位,但他並沒有去找工 作。2005年,反而以一個完全未涉世俗的年 輕人,全心全意地投入萬佛城義工的行列。 由於學識、能力、熱忱,以及絕佳的人緣, 在萬佛城到處需人的環境中,他參與了許多 不同的工作:法界佛教大學、中小學、佛青 會、聖城辦公室、維修部門、董事會,以及 分支道場。

他說他的個性像水,很容易跟人相處,因 此適合做一些溝通協調的工作。五年下來, 這些工作,讓他學習到很多事情。除了更堅 定自己的修行目標和信念之外,原本蹩腳的 中文,現在已經很流暢了。

由於擁有東西文化的背景,他很願意盡他的能力傳佛法到西方和世界。值得一提的是,他慢慢學習怎麼當一個好孩子,改正自己的過錯,原本讓母親不高興的情況,已經改善,媽媽開始支持他所選的生命目標。不但如此,媽媽現在也會到聖城打七,並加入法大董事會,開始為法大的發展投入一分心力。

Because he was completely immersed in Buddhism, David's parents worried about him. His parents were supportive of his study of Buddhism, but they were concerned that their son was doing too much. They hoped that he would be less extreme. One time, when seeking advice from a Dharma Master, David received the instruction that he should listen to his mother more and not cause unhappiness to his family. From this advice, he changed his focus on just meditation and recitation to trying to be a good son. He learned that filial respect is the foundation for cultivation.

After graduating with a B.S. in Physics, he stayed another year to do an M.A. in Religious Studies. After graduating in 2005, David did not get a job in society. Instead, he dedicated himself wholeheartedly to being a volunteer at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Because of his knowledge, skills, enthusiasm, and good affinities with people, he got recruited for many different projects and areas: Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU), elementary and high schools, DRBY, CTTB Administration Office, Buildings & Grounds, Board meetings, and also the branch monasteries.

He said that his personality is like water, so he gets along with people allowing him to help with communication and coordination. After these five years, he learned a great deal from working in DRBA. In addition to developing a foundation in cultivation and Buddhism, David's broken Chinese became more fluent.

With his background in both Eastern and Western cultures, David would like to help in spreading the Dharma to the West and on to the entire world. It is also worth mentioning that his efforts to be a good son, changing his own faults, caused his mother to have a change of heart about her son's chosen goals in life. Not just that, his mother now attends Dharma sessions at CTTB and serves on the DRBU Board where she joins in the work of developing the university.