

擁護法王城

Protecting the City
of the Dharma King: (Continued)

A good disciple is not afraid of working.

No matter how much work there is, he would not flee.

好徒弟不怕工作 多少工作也不跑

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Excerpts from the lectures of the Venerable Master Hua during a
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梁鴻 英譯 Translated into English by Liang Hong



師父也是做苦工的工人

我不是單單叫你們做工，我也一樣陪著你們做工，並且我這個工程師還要各處去看工，看做的是怎麼樣，這個看工比做工更辛苦。我昨天到Chinatown去念經，站著念經，覺得腳痛得不得了，只好坐在那兒念經。我那麼樣子，回來還是一樣來做工，雖然說我是你們的師父。我原本也不願意做工，因為一做工，腳就要不幫忙，腳說：「我辛苦了，我很痛苦！」為什麼腳痛？因為這個腳負擔這個身體是很費力的。所以希望大家共同來做工，成就道場。我們都是一個法會的人，你能做什麼就做什麼。

今天我不知道你們各位做工怎麼樣，我站也站不住，坐也覺得不好受。我今天雖然說不做很多工，但是也不比哪一個人少，每一塊木頭我也都拿過。今天做得很辛苦，在這兒念佛、念「大悲咒」的時候，因為我知道我站不住了，各位也都是差不多的。你們雖然比我年紀輕，可是身體都是血肉之軀，我辛苦，也知道你們各位也都辛苦。所以我們方便一點，坐著念「大悲咒」。

你們各位可以想一想，你現在拜一個師父，你這個師父也是做苦工的工人，也在搬運材料。我很願意做這種的工作，雖然沒有人給我錢，但是我覺得從心裡邊歡喜。不單我願意這樣給道場做工，就是過去這些大善知識，好像最近的善知識虛老造叢林，他每一天都要去監

Your Teacher Is Also a Hardworker

Not only do I ask you to work, but I work alongside with you as well. In addition, as an engineer, I go around and examine your work. It takes more energy to examine work than to do labor. Yesterday I went to Chinatown to recite sutras. My feet ached so much from standing that I had to sit down. Although I was tired, and despite the fact that I am your teacher, I still worked when I came back. Originally, I wasn't planning to work because my feet did not cooperate with me. They said, "I feel tired and have a lot of pain!" Why were my feet painful? It is because the feet must endure the burden of supporting the body. Therefore, I hope all of you will come to work, and we can complete the monastery together. We belong to the same Dharma congregation. You may do whatever you can.

I don't know how much each of you worked today. I can't stand up, but I don't feel comfortable sitting down either. Though I didn't work much today, I didn't do less than any of you; I touched every piece of wood. Actually, I worked quite hard. While reciting the Buddha's name and the Great Compassion Mantra, I had to sit down. You are more or less the same as me. Although you are younger, your bodies are also made of blood and flesh. Since I'm exhausted, I know that you're also exhausted. So we'll be a little flexible and sit down and recite the Great Compassion Mantra.

Think about this. You've followed a teacher who does hard labor and handles the materials. I am willing to do this kind of work. Even though no one pays me, I feel joy from the bottom of my heart. I am not the only one who gladly works for the monastery;

工；就是一根木頭，他也把它收起來，留著慢慢用，不隨便浪費。我現在到美國，美國不單壞的材料不要，好的材料也隨便把它丟到垃圾裡去。我們能用舊的東西，造出新的道場，既節省金錢又莊嚴道場，這是最好的辦法。凡是不怕辛苦的人，大家不妨一起來「玩一玩」，一起從困難中把道場莊嚴成功，這是我對你們的希望。

前幾天我看徒弟「玩」得這麼好玩，我也來試一試。我去拿木頭時碰到欄杆，那個欄杆旁邊放了一塊長木板。我不知道欄杆是鬆的、會動的，後邊這個一丈六尺多長木板就倒了下來，砸到我的頭；幸虧我戴個帽子，不戴帽子可能把骨頭都打傷了。被打了一下，痛是痛一點，但是我不管它，今天也沒事了。所以做工是很危險的，稍微一不小心就會受傷。我們為建立道場受的傷，諸佛菩薩一定會知道的；我們也不希望諸佛菩薩可憐我們，對我們有什麼慈悲，但是他知道我們的苦心，我們為建立道場把生命都忘了，這是我們對佛教一種真心的表現。

永遠的紀念

我今天算一算，這麼多的木頭大約可以省一千塊錢，因為木頭不用錢。我們用這個木頭可以做Ceiling，也不用買防火板，這個又省了兩筆錢。我們現在又有這麼多發菩薩心的人來擁護道場來做工，這也省了很多工錢。在人世間看來，省很多工錢；要在佛法上來看，我們立了很多功，在佛教裏是有紀念性的。

我們建立這個新的道場，人人都有責任，因為我們都是佛教徒，佛教徒就應該建立佛教的道場。在這個國家，真正的佛教的道場是很少的；我們現在在很少有真正佛教道場的國家，建立真正佛教道場。我們現在來做的人都是佛教的基礎的人才，應該有人寫出一篇文章，來紀念我們這個大的道場開始的情形。哪一個人做什麼工？做工成績怎麼樣？這是有歷史性的，可以做後人的一個法則。如果沒有寫，趕快要忙裏偷閒，每一天用一、兩個鐘頭來寫，將來在雜誌上發表。每一天做工的情形，是快的程度、是慢的程度要說一說；哪一個做工做的最快、最巧妙，這都要提出來講一講，在雜誌上發表。這不是自我宣傳，而是做永遠的紀念，因為每一個人在這兒都流血流汗，都用了很多精神在這兒。

待續

other good-knowing advisors from the past did, too, such as the recent Master Xu Yun, who supervised the construction work that went on in the monastery every day. He saved every piece of wood for use later. He did not waste any material. Now that I have come to the U.S., I see that Americans not only throw away bad materials, but also good materials. If we can build a new monastery with old materials, we not only save money but add character to the monastery. This is the best way. Anyone who isn't afraid of toil is welcome to come "play." In spite of difficulty, let's work together and adorn this monastery. This is my expectation of you.

A few days ago, I saw my disciples "playing" so energetically, that I also had a try. When I went to fetch some wood, I bumped into the railing that was loose. A long 16-foot board that was lying beside the railing fell and hit my head. Thankfully, I was wearing a hat; if not for the hat, my skull might have been broken. I felt some pain from being hit, but I didn't pay attention to it. Today I feel fine. Working can be dangerous and you can be injured if you are not careful every minute. If you are injured while working on the monastery, the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas will know. We are not looking for pity and compassion from them, but they can see our firm resolve. Working for the establishment of the monastery, we forget ourselves--a manifestation of our sincerity to Buddhism.

Eternal Memorial

I made a calculation today. By using the wood that we already have, we can save around US \$1,000. We can use the wood for the ceiling and won't need to buy drywall framing, thereby saving another sum of money. Now with so many people with the Bodhisattva resolve who are here to help and support the monastery, we can save the cost of labor. From the mundane point, it saves the cost of labor, but from the view of Buddhism, we create great merit. It's a memorable event in Buddhism.

As Buddhists we share the responsibility of building the new monastery. Buddhists should build monasteries. In this country, there are very few true Buddhist monasteries, so we are here to build a true Buddhist monastery. The volunteers today are the talented builders of the foundation of Buddhism. Someone should write an article to commemorate this monastery's initial happenings. Who did what job? What was achieved by their work? This is historic and can serve as an example for later generations. If you haven't written anything, take some time from your busy schedule, just an hour or two every day, to write. You should publicize your writing in the magazines in the future. We should talk about the daily progress of the work, whether it is fast or slow, and mention who did his work the fastest and most skillfully. Then we will publicize these writings in magazines. This is not for self-promotion but to use it as an eternal commemoration, because everyone here is shedding sweat and blood and putting out energy.

To be continued