

税告(显态) 再於禹佛城20099月地藏七圓海日 A talk by Arthur Naumowicz (Chin Shan) on the last day of the Earth Store Session in September 2009, at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas 佛子 中譯 Translated into Chinese by Fo Ze

My name is Arthur Naumowicz and I come from Augustow, Poland. The *Earth Store Sutra* was the first sutra that I read in Poland six years ago. At that time, I was looking for a meditation teacher and met a man who recited Earth Store Bodhisattva's name as his practice. He encouraged me to cultivate this practice. I read the *Earth Store Sutra* on the ten vegetarian fasting days every month and drew a lot of Bodhisattva images. I bowed to Earth Store Bodhisattva and kept his name in mind all the time for at least three years. I made offerings to Earth Store Bodhisattva every day as well.

One winter a few years ago, I placed some work wanted ads in the newspaper, but nobody called me. The situation made me worry more and more because it was time to pay rent and I had no money to buy gifts for my daughters for Christmas. I remember going to a bus station and feeling a little bit hopeless, and asked Earth Store Bodhisattva for help. I explained to him my situation and immediately my cell phone rang. I received good news about a job offer.

Three years ago, I went to London. Before I left, I recited the name of Earth Store Bodhisattva 10,000 times, and I prayed to him and asked for protection. I don't remember the date, but it happened somewhere in London. Some people put bombs in four cars of the subway and one bomb on a bus. It was an attack on the public transportation system.

The first explosion, if I am not mistaken, happened in the morning on the Central Line. I had been traveling on the Central Line maybe 15 or 20 minutes before it happened. It was a very 我的名字叫亞瑟,來自波蘭一個叫奧古斯圖 夫的城市。《地藏經》是六年前在波蘭接觸的 第一部經典。當時正在尋找教導禪修的老師, 卻碰到一位專持地藏菩薩聖號的人,他鼓勵我 可以試著修行這個法門。從此,每個月的十 齋日都會念《地藏經》,也畫了許多菩薩的法 相。我頂禮地藏菩薩,時時持誦聖號,這樣持 續至少三年以上,並且每天供養地藏菩薩。

記得幾年前的一個冬季,登報尋找工作,但 遲遲都沒人與我聯繫。我開始慌了起來,因為 繳房租的期限快到了,手頭上也沒有多餘的錢 替女兒們準備耶誕節禮物。還記得自己帶著些 許絕望的心情走向車站,心中祈求著地藏菩薩 的幫助。我向菩薩訴說自己的處境,就在同一 時間,口袋裏的手機響了——話筒中傳來工作 有著落的好消息!

三年前去了倫敦。在啟程以前,念了地藏菩 薩聖號一萬遍,祈求菩薩保佑。我不記得當天 的日期了,但是那一天有人在倫敦地鐵的四台 列車,及一輛公車上放置炸彈。這是一個襲擊 大眾公共運輸系統的恐怖事件。

如果沒記錯的話,第一個爆炸發生在早上的 「中央幹線」上。而就在爆炸前的十五至二十 分鐘,我還在這條列車線上。對倫敦而言,這 是非常艱難與困苦的一天。許多人要求協助,

菩提田 Bodhi Field

hard and difficult day for London. Many people were looking for support and it was not easy to get back home because all public transport was stopped. I had to walk for more than five hours, but nothing happened to me. I wasn't even scared. I was just mindful of Earth Store Bodhisattva's name.

Around two years ago in Poland, I had been working on construction with some people. One guy was wondering how I could stand to be vegetarian. We were sitting on scaffold, a few meters above the ground. I spoke to him a little bit about Earth Store Bodhisattva, who is the one rescuing us from the hells. I told him as well the benefits of vegetarianism and its positive effect on nature. If we do something very good for nature, then nature will do the same for us. When I started to talk more, he fell asleep. It became too dangerous to continue sitting on the scaffold, so I ended our conversation.

After a while he chose to be vegetarian, and his wife was happy about that. She tried to be vegetarian with him for two months, but it was too difficult to cook two vegetarian meals and so she gave up. But during the two months she was really happy. They were not able to conceive for three years since they were married. After being vegetarian, one day he told me, "You know what? My wife is pregnant!" They were extremely happy.

He told me this was too difficult to believe to be true, and no one would believe what he said. He asked me one more time if it was really because of his vegetarian diet and what I had told him before. I answered, "I don't know; find out for yourself."

Sometimes it is hard to believe what is before us. Overall, before I started to cultivate, I always had troubles. For the last six years it has not been easy, but nothing bad has happened to me.

To attend the Earth Store Bodhisattva Session was a great, incredible blessing to me. I dedicated all the merit and virtue to my grandparents.

One of my grandfathers was killed during World War II. One day in July of 1966, the Soviet Army arrested a few hundred men from a few villages. My grandfather, who was among them, was caught when he was heading home. Until today, nobody knows where my grandfather was taken to and where all the people were buried. My grandmother raised five children alone. She had a very difficult life, and she never got married again. She was cheerful and a very good person. She is the most important person in my life. When I was a child, she taught me fundamental moral values and empathy.

During the Earth Store Session, I sincerely repented for all the evil I have done in the past, and I was acutely aware of impermanence. I hope that Earth Store Bodhisattva will compassionately rescue my grandparents and that they will be born in the Pure Land. 而且無法回家,因為整個交通運輸系統都癱瘓了。 而我步行了約五個多小時,且身上毫髮無傷,甚至 一點也不覺得害怕。當時我只是一心持唸地藏菩薩 的聖號。

約兩年前在波蘭,跟一些人在工地做工,有個人 很好奇我怎麼受得了吃素?當時我們兩個人坐在離 地面幾公尺的鷹架上,我跟他提一些關於地藏菩薩 的事,就是那位發大願要把眾生從地獄中拯救出來 的菩薩。也告訴他吃素的好處,如果我們善待大自 然,大自然也會以相同的方式回報。當我開始談到 佛法時,他竟然睡著了,因為我們還坐在鷹架上, 如果再說下去就太危險了,所以只好停止。

過了一段時間,他居然告訴我,他決定吃素。而 且他的太太非常高興,也跟著一起嘗試了兩個月, 後來因為每天要準備兩餐素食有點困難,於是她放 棄了,但這段時間她過得挺快樂的。另外就是他們 兩人婚後三年,都一直沒有孩子,但在吃素過後他 告訴我:「你知道嗎?我老婆懷孕了!」他們夫妻 倆高興極了!

他告訴我,實在難以相信這些事情;如果他跟別 人說,沒人會相信他的。他再一次問我,這真的跟 我告訴他的種種感應或誠心有關嗎?跟他吃素有關 嗎?我回答:「我不知道,你自己去體會吧!」

有時,真的很難相信發生在眼前的事。大致上來 說,在開始發心修行以前,老是有一堆麻煩事;但 是最近的六年,雖然日子過得不輕鬆,但也沒什麼 不好的事情發生。

參加這次的地藏法會,對我來說是件很不可思 議、有大福報的事。我願將一切的功德,悉皆迴向 我的祖父母們。

我的一位祖父在二次世界大戰中喪生。在1966年 七月的某一天,蘇聯軍隊從一些村莊裡逮捕了數百 名的男子,而祖父就在那群人當中;他那時正在回 家的路上。一直到今天,沒人知道我祖父的下落, 也不知道其他人葬在何處。我祖母獨自辛苦撫養五 個孩子長大,日子雖然過得很辛苦,但她也沒有再 婚。她是個非常好又樂天的人,也是我一生中最重 要的人;因為當我還是個孩子的時候,她教導我人 生最重要、最基本的道德教育。從她的身上,我學 到了什麼叫「同理心」。

在地藏法會期間,我誠心地懺悔過去所做的一切 惡業,同時也感悟到人生的無常。希望地藏菩薩能 慈悲攝受我苦難中的祖父母們,並度脫他們往生西 方極樂世界。