

## The Honoring Elders Day of Dharma Realm Buddhist Association 2010: Heartwarming Illustrations of the Great World of Universal Harmony

1991年9月7日地藏法會，上人開示：「不要怕老年人沒人照顧，愈是老年人，我就愈願意照顧。」上人特別叮囑廚房，飯菜要考慮到老人家的需要，飲食要細軟一點。

1992年12月20日法界佛教總會在洛杉磯舉行美國第一次的敬老節盛會，上人親作對聯「尊老重賢耆年壽考福慧雙圓，學佛習聖耄耋齡高道德齊臻。」為長者賀壽。

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On September 7, 1991, during the Earth Store Bodhisattva Dharma Assembly, the Venerable Master instructed, "Don't worry that the elders will be neglected. The older a person is, the more I am interested in taking care of him." The Venerable Master specifically requested the kitchen staff to pay special attention to elders' needs and make sure the foods were prepared with the appropriate sensitivity.

On December 20, 1992, Dharma Realm Buddhist Association (DRBA) conducted its first U.S. Honoring Elders Day gala in Los Angeles. The Venerable Master personally composed a couplet to express his congratulations to the elders: "We honor our elders and revere the worthy for their seniority and longevity. May they perfect their blessings and wisdom. We learn from the Buddhas and emulate the sages. May the seniors' virtues be as lofty as their advanced years." ☞ Continued on page 49

萬佛聖城 The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas

## 二〇一〇年法界佛教總會敬老節 大同世界溫馨畫面







法界觀音聖寺 Dharma Realm Guan Yin Sagely Monastery



法界佛教印經會 Dharma Realm Buddhist Books Distribution Society



金佛寺 Gold Buddha Monastery



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1995年上人圓寂後，福蔭德澤仍在人間。每到秋天，法總各分支道場開始籌辦一年一度盛大敬老節的活動。經過二、三個月的規劃，動員很多人力、物力。在敬老節當天不但有精緻可口的素筵，節目更是年年推陳出新：舞龍、國樂、太鼓、民族舞蹈、話劇、樂器演奏……，還有帶動節目：談古說今、為長者捶背、奉茶等活動，都是讓長者倍感尊重、關懷。在敬老節的會場，不論老少，人人歡顏，令人由衷感受到一幅大同世界的溫馨畫面！

將中國敬老的優良傳統帶到西方，令壯者學習敬老，幼者學習盡孝，是上人教化世人的悲願。今年這場盛會雖然過去了，但上人的身教言教，做弟子都不敢忘懷，一舉一動都本著孝念，努力做好活動，願人人重孝，長者安樂無憂。

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The Venerable Master's virtuous influences and blessings remain unchanged and continue to benefit this world even after he entered nirvana in 1995. Every autumn, all the DRBA branches hold their annual celebration of Honoring Elders Day. The behind-the-scenes preparations may begin two to three months prior to the actual date and involve considerable manpower and material resources. As a result, on the day of the celebration, beyond the delicious vegetarian banquet, elders can enjoy creative entertainment programs including dragon dance, Chinese orchestra, Taiko, ethnic dances, plays, and instrumental performances. Additionally, interactive activities such as engaging talk shows that cover topics from ancient history to modern affairs, serving tea to

the elders, and massaging the elders' backs have also been part of the festivities, all of which serve to express respect and caring to the elders. During the celebration, one can see joy in each person's face, young or old... a vivid heartwarming illustration of what a great world of universal harmony feels like!

It is the Venerable Master's compassionate wish to transform human beings by bringing the fine Chinese tradition of respecting elders to the West, inspiring the young and the strong to embrace the act of respecting the old and to be models of filial respect. This year's Honoring Elders Day celebration may have passed, but I, as the Venerable Master's disciple, shall not forget the Venerable Master's teachings. I shall do my best to base my every move and action on filial respect. May all human beings remember to be filial and help all elders to live in peace and happiness, free from worry.





佛教講堂 Buddhist Lecture Hall



金聖寺 Gold Sage Monastery

華嚴精舍 Avatamsaka Vihara



萬佛聖城 The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas



法界聖城 The City of the Dharma Realm

金輪寺 Gold Wheel Monastery