Sailing the Sea of Suffering, Crossing People Over:

True Stories of Guanyin Bodhisattva's Responses

果真老法師 講於2010年7月24日萬佛城大殿 A talk given by Dharma Master Guo Zhen on July 24, 2010 at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas 比丘尼恆異英譯

Translated into English by Bhikshuni Heng Yi

近梵法師:今天是觀音七的前夕,很榮幸請到上果下真老法師為我們開示,老法師是台灣北投明德淨宗學會彌陀佛堂的主持。這幾年來,他幾乎每年都到萬佛聖城來小住幾個月。我記得很清楚,那時候他七十幾歲,全程的萬佛寶懺他幾乎都參加,還曾經擔任過法主。法師今年已經八十三歲了,老當益壯,精神、道心比年輕人還強過好幾倍。現在就恭請老法師為我們開示。

果真老法師:很高興有這個因 緣,跟大家分享大悲觀世音菩薩感 應的真實故事。有一位廣化老法 師,在台灣大家都知道這位高僧。 他有一個時期在台中霧峰萬佛寺, 當佛學院的院長。老法師平常有痣 瘡的毛病。那一年痣瘡發作,發作 的第二天是佛學院的畢業典禮,很 多貴賓長官都會來參加,怎麼辦 呢?老法師心生一念,就到觀音 殿,跟觀世音菩薩說:「明天有重 要的典禮要主持,像今天這樣流 血,明天會很難堪。虔誠祈求菩薩 慈悲加持,讓我明天主持畢業典禮 能夠很順利。今天晚上不睡覺,就 從現在開始,一直唸觀世音菩薩的 聖號。」

從五、六點鐘開始,他在觀音 殿唸觀世音菩薩,唸到清晨一、兩 點,不知不覺地睡著了。睡了不知 道有多久,聽到打板聲,老法師 趕快起來。頓時感覺痣瘡有一點不 一樣,就到洗手間看看。很不可思 議!痣瘡竟然掉下來,好了。他高



苦海常做渡人舟—觀音菩薩感應真事

Dharma Master (DM) Jin Fan: Today is the day before the Guanyin Session. We feel honored to have Dharma Master Guo Zhen to give us a talk. DM Guo Zhen is the abbot of the Amitabha Hall of Mingde Pure Land Society in Beitou, Taiwan. In recent years, he has been coming to CTTB for a few months almost every year. I remember clearly that he was in his seventies those years. Despite his old age, he participated in nearly every session during the Repentance before Ten Thousand Buddhas. On top of that, he served as the Dharma host during the session. Now he is eighty-three years old. But the older he is, the stronger he becomes. His energy and resolve for bodhi are several times stronger than those of young people. So now let's respectfully invite him to give us a talk.

DM Guo Zhen: I'm very happy to have this opportunity to share some true stories

興地趕快到菩薩面前,痛哭流淚, 感恩觀世音菩薩的加持,讓他能夠 順利主持畢業典禮。這是老法師親 自跟我講的真實故事。

我的道場有一位信徒王金環, 王金環的先生姓劉,喜歡唸觀世音 菩薩。他在大陸投資,不久中風 就送回台灣治療。劉先生經過一年 多以後,一邊唸觀世音菩薩,一邊 復健,健康慢慢地恢復,只是走路 不是很方便。有一天早上,王金環 去上班。他八點多到洗手間,一不 小心跌倒,頭部碰到水槽,第二次 的中風又發作了,身體沒有辦法起 來。這時候也沒有用力氣叫救命, 只有心裡趕快唸觀世音菩薩;從早 上八點多,唸到晚上七點多王金環 回來。經過這樣十幾個小時,躺在 洗手間裡,不能動也沒有東西吃, -心唸觀世音菩薩。王金環回來, 嚇了一跳,以為他往生了,再看看 還活著,趕快找救護車送到榮總 經過好多醫生會診以後,緊急開刀 又活了!他能逃過這個生死關,是 唸觀世音菩薩的誠心所致,他現在 已經好多了。

我有一位年紀最大的信徒,九 十九歲黃老居士。她是金門人,每 次到台灣兒子家住,一定來共修。 她笑瞇瞇的,不用人扶,自己還可 以走上五樓,我們都稱呼她「金門 阿媽」。這位老居士在金門開雜貨 店,平常唸觀世音菩薩,喜歡布 施,喜歡做功德。有人沒錢欠帳, 也無所謂;遇到貧苦的人,她就免 費送。很多年前,金門「八二三」 砲戰,大陸跟金門打仗,砲彈跟下 雨一樣。這個老居士周圍隔壁的房 子都被燒了,就只有她那一間沒 事,一點損失都沒有,事後大家都 很讚歎她。這是她唸觀世音菩薩, 為人慈悲得到的感應。

大概是十幾年前,報紙登這個 新聞登得很大。有一位王姓建築商 人,年輕有為而且很有錢,被黑 about Guanyin Bodhisattva with everyone. There was an old Dharma Master named Guang Hua. He was a renowned monk in Taiwan. At one point, he was the dean of the Buddhist Institute of Wan Fo Temple at Wufeng in Taizhong. This old Master had hemorrhoids. One year his hemorrhoids broke out in sores right before a commencement. Many distinguished guests and officials were planning to attend the ceremony. The Dharma Master did not know what to do. Suddenly he had a thought. He went to the Guanyin Hall and prayed to Guanyin, "I have a very important ceremony to host tomorrow. If I were to bleed like this tomorrow, it would be embarrassing. I sincerely request that you allow me to host the ceremony without difficulty. I will not sleep today, and from this point on I will continue to recite your name."

He started reciting Guanyin Bodhisattva's name around five or six and continued on until one or two o'clock in the morning. Without knowing it, he had fallen asleep. He didn't remember how long he'd been sleeping, but he was awakened by the sound of the beating board and hurried to get up. Suddenly, he realized his hemorrhoids felt different. He went to the bathroom to check up. Inconceivably, his scabs had fallen off and the skin underneath had healed. He joyfully ran to the Guanyin image. Tears ran down from his eyes. He truly appreciated Guanyin Bodhisattva's aid! Now he could host the ceremony without impediment. This is a true story that the Dharma Master told me in person.

A laywoman called Wang Jinhuan comes to my monastery. Her husband, Liu, loves to recite Guanyin Bodhisattva's name and once had investments in Mainland China. Later on, he had a stroke and was sent back to Taiwan for treatment. For more than one year, Mr. Liu was in the habit of reciting Guanyin Bodhisattva's name while doing his rehabilitation exercises. Gradually, he recovered from the stroke, but he had some difficulties walking. One day around eight o'clock in the morning after Wang Jinhuan had gone to work, he went to the restroom and had a fall. He hit his head on the sink and had a second stroke. He couldn't stand up. At that moment, he was to weak to call for help, so he started reciting Guanyin Bodhisattva's name in his heart. He kept reciting until Wang Jinhuan came home that evening. It was already past seven at that point. He had been on the bathroom floor for more than ten hours without moving or eating, but, still, he recited Guanyin Bodhisattva's name. When Wang Jinhuan came home from work, she went into shock at first because she thought he was dead. When she realized he was still alive, she called an ambulance, which took him to the Veterans Hospital immediately. The doctors met quickly and performed emergency surgery that made it possible for him to survive those critical moments. This was the result of his sincere devotion to the recitation of Guanyin Bodhisattva's name. His health has improved quite a bit.

The oldest disciple at my temple is ninety-nine years old and her last name is Huang. She came from a small island off the coast of China called Jinmen. She always attends the sessions at our temple when she comes to Taiwan to stay with her son. She always wears a smile on her face and can climb up the stairs of our temple on the fifth floor without help. We all call her "Grandma Jinmen." At one time, she owned a grocery stall on the island. She has always recited Guanyin Bodhisattva's name. She is quite generous – fond of giving and making donations. If there were customers who could not pay for their purchases,

菩提田 Bodhi Field

道的人列為下手的目標。有一天晚上,趁他在開車的時候,五、六個人綁架他到深山。他們事先在地下挖一個坑洞,把他丟在裡面,他手腳已經被繩子綁得緊緊的,嘴巴也塞了東西,這幾個惡人就離開了。

住在景美的賴小姐,她的眼睛可 以說差不多百分之九十九失明,只 看到百分之一的光線。但是她很虔 誠,都會搭車到我們的道場共修, 參加佛七、誦《地藏經》。她的爸 爸有心臟病,常常到榮總掛急診, 醫藥根本沒有什麼效果。她忽然間 起個念頭:「我發願持觀世音菩薩 聖號一百萬聲,迴向給父親,虔誠 祈求菩薩加被,滿我報父親恩的 願。」 她發願以後,持了大概一個 多月,快要圓滿的時候,她的爸爸 就不用去急診了。她很高興,繼續 持、持、持,滿一百萬聲以後,她 的爸爸完全康復,心臟病不再發作 **約**待續 了。

she did not mind letting them buy things on credit. When she encounters poor people, she gives her things to them for free. Several decades ago, during skirmishes between the communists and the nationalists, the communists in mainland China were shelling Jinmen island with artillery. Bombs were falling everywhere and all her neighbors' houses burned to the ground. However, her little stall remained intact. There was not a bit of damage. Everybody was very impressed at this and praised her. This was the response from her recitation of Guanyin Bodhisattva's name and her compassionate deeds.

About a decade ago, a big article about a kidnapping case appeared in the newspapers in Taiwan. A young, successful construction business owner named Mr. Wang was targeted by the mafia. One night, out driving, he was taken by five or six gangsters. They took him deep into the mountains, where they had dug a large hole in advance so they could leave him there. Mr. Wang's hands and feet were bound tightly. In addition, they gagged his mouth so he couldn't call for help. They threw him into the hole and left him alone. Mr. Wang knows the Great Compassion Mantra, and he remembered that the mantra could help anyone who was in danger. Even though he couldn't recite the mantra out loud, he tried his utmost to do it in his mind. He kept on reciting and reciting for an unknown period of time. Suddenly, the rope around his hands fell off and the rope around his feet loosened up. Happily, he climbed out of the hole and tumbled down a hill. It was early morning. Hungry and exhausted, he saw a farmhouse ahead. Moving with difficulty, he knocked on a farmer's door for help. The farmer answered the door and, seeing that his face, clothes, and body were all blackened, asked him, "Are you a ghost?" He answered that he wasn't a ghost and gave the farmer a short version of what had happened to him. He asked for food and clothes and said he had to call the police. The farmer kindly gave him some food to eat and let him take a shower and change his clothes. When he had finished eating, Wang called the police and reported the kidnapping. The police were able to catch the kidnappers quite quickly with Mr. Wang's information. A Buddhist reporter made this headline news and demonstrated the miraculous power of the Great Compassion Mantra. So this is an extremely wonderful response that came about from reciting the Great Compassion Mantra.

A lady named Lai, who lives in Jing Mei, is almost totally blind, with about one percent of her vision left. However, she is also a very devoted Buddhist. She regularly takes the subway from her house all the way to our monastery to attend Amitabha sessions and the recitation of the Earth Store Sutra. Her father was suffering from heart disease, and the family was sending him to the emergency room quite often because of his heart problem. As a matter of fact, none of the medications and treatments were having an effect on him. Ms. Lai eventually came up with an idea. She vowed that she was going to recite Guanyin Bodhisattva's name one million times and transfer the merit to her father. Her hope was that the transference would help him recover from heart disease. In this way, her wish to repay her father's kindness might be fulfilled. It took her more than a month to finish the one million recitations. Right before she reached a million, it struck her that her father did not have to go to the emergency room anymore. She continued her recitation, and when she finally reached one million, her father's heart disease was totally cured. **50** To be continued