

移風易俗大道行——

二〇一一年法界佛教總會敬老盛會

**Cultivating
the
Great
Path
to
Improve
Social
Trends:
2011
DRBA
Honoring
Elders
Day**



每到秋天，橘紅橙黃，金桂飄香。世界各地的法總各分支道場動員很多人力、物力，籌辦一年一度盛大的敬老節活動。節目年年推陳出新，素筵更是考慮長者的生理、心理需要，不但精緻可口，更要暖和綿軟易嚼。做為弟子一舉一動都本著孝念，努力做好活動，脈脈傳承上人慈悲的弘願。今年亦如是，有些道場更擴大舉辦。如：馬來西亞法界觀音聖寺（登彼岸）開100桌宴席，邀請近千位長者；臺灣花蓮縣彌陀聖寺與壽豐鄉公所合辦敬老節，當天有250位長者蒞臨。 ➔ 下接48頁

Whenever autumn arrives, the horizon is filled with vibrant colors of orange, red and yellow, and the air is filled with the sweet fragrance of tea olives. It is also the time when DRBA branches all over the world prepare for the annual Honoring Elders Day celebration, often involving many people and physical resources. New performances are introduced every year, and the vegetarian meals are specifically catered to needs of the elders. The meal is not only delicious, but care is given to make sure it is warm, soft and easy to chew. Based on the core virtue of filial piety, the disciples of the Ven. Master put forth their best effort to organize the event, transmitting the compassionate vows of the Ven. Master. It was no different this year. Some of the branches went the extra mile and celebrated on a big scale. Dharma Realm Guan Yin Sagely Monastery (Deng Bi An) in Malaysia hosted a feast that had 100 tables and approximately 1000 elders were invited to the celebration. Amitabha Monastery in Hualien County, Taiwan co-hosted the Honoring Elders Day celebration with the Shou-feng Municipal Administrator Office, and 250 elders participated.

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為移風易俗，令民德歸厚，成就大同世界，宣公上人早於一九九二年首先在西方社會美國發起敬老節。上人開示：「不但這個國家，我們也要全世界各個國家來學習這種風俗。使老有所終，壯有所用，幼有所長，我們的目標是要世界達到大同。所以大家要盡量提倡敬老、懷少風俗。」

十八年過去了，敬老尊老助老社會風氣日漸濃厚；今日世界各地相繼舉辦各種敬老活動，甚至有敬老月、模範老人表揚等等。世人在為長者慶祝節日的同時，更在長輩身上發現維持家庭和諧的溫良品格，進而學習長者豐富的人生歷練和智慧。

熱鬧溫馨的餐會結束了，但留給大家深思的課題是：在充滿災難與暴力的現代社會中，我們要更積極來推動敬老、懷少的風氣，使社會化暴戾為祥和，使天地間自私的凶煞惡氣減少，清明大公無私的正氣增加。家家有老人，人人都會老，人人都敬老，社會更美好。願人人皆知恭敬父母、關懷老者、照顧幼者！

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In order to change prevailing social trends and customs, develop a virtuous community and advocate a harmonious world, in 1992, the Ven. Master established the tradition of Honoring Elders Day in the United States. The Ven. Master said, "In addition to this country, we want all the countries of the world to emulate the custom of respecting elders. This will allow the old to have reliance, the strong and able to be worthy, and the young to be able to grow. Our goal is for the entire world to be in harmony. Therefore, everyone should enthusiastically promote the customs of respecting elders and cherishing the youth."

Eighteen years have passed, and the custom of respecting and assisting elders is growing stronger than before. Today, all around the world there are all kinds of events for honoring our elders; there is even an honoring elders month, acclaiming of model elders, etc. In addition to celebrating elders, people are discovering (from elders) the good character it takes to maintain a harmonious family, and learning from their rich life, experience, and wisdom.

At the end of the warm and cozy feast, we are left with one topic to ponder: In this calamitous and violence-filled society, we should promote the custom of respecting our elders and cherishing our youth. This will transform the ruthless and cruel energy of society to one that is auspicious, minimizing the negative energy of selfishness and allowing the bright, positive, impartial energy to grow. In every home there are elders, and everyone will grow old. If we all respect the elders, the community will be a better place. We sincerely hope everyone will remember to respect our parents, take care of the elderly, and nurture our youth.

Cultivating the Great Path to Improve Social Trends: 2011 DRBA Honoring Elders Day

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法界聖城 The City of the Dharma Realm



金山聖寺 Gold Mountain Monastery



金輪聖寺 Gold Wheel Monastery



金聖寺 Gold Sage Monastery



法界觀音聖寺聖寺 Dharma Realm Guan Yin Sagely Monastery



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



彌陀聖寺 Amitabha Monastery



台中分會 A branch office in Taichung, Taiwan



佛教講堂 Buddhist Lecture Hall

