

BODHI FIELD 搭提田

Don't Be Afraid of Change (by Bhikshuni Heng Liang)

Several days ago, we completed the 17th Commemoration of the Venerable Master's Nirvana, along with a celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Ven. Master's arrival in the U.S. This was a bittersweet occasion, in that we naturally feel sad that the Ven. Master is not physically here with us. But on the other hand, the result of his coming to the U.S. that was evident throughout this event is certainly something to celebrate.

To be very honest with you, as the time for this event drew closer and closer, and I became more and more aware of its significance and what a huge event it would be, I couldn't imagine how everything could get done in time. Even just a few days before the event, there was so much to do that it seemed daunting, and plans continued to change even up to a few days before the event.

Certainly it could not have been accomplished without invisible aid, and so I would first like to express my deep gratitude to the kindness of the Buddhas and Bodhisattva, not to mention the Venerable Master for helping us not to fall on our faces.

Of course, the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas and Ven. Master are constantly watching over us all and helping us. But unless we ourselves bring forth a mind to cultivate, to propagate and protect the Triple Jewel, and to exert ourselves on behalf of all living beings, there is nothing for them to respond to. And so I also wish to express my gratitude to all of you who supported this event with your diligence, enthusiasm, positive thinking, creativity, and so on. It would be impossible to acknowledge everyone individually, it took the effort of so many people. I would just like to comment that the general spirit and energy before, during, and after the event was harmonious, public spirited, generous, and inspired. I believe that everyone worked so hard that we got past the point of being tired and entered another dimension.

I must say that that kind of spirit and energy was so much like it was when

不要害怕改變(比丘尼恒良)

前幾天我們完成了上人涅槃的17週年 紀念,以及上人來美國50週年慶典。這是一 個苦樂參半的時刻。上人色身不在,我們自 然會感到傷心;但另一方面,他來美國之舉 的明顯結果,卻是值得慶賀的。

老實說,距離活動時間越近,我越知道 它的重大意義,這將是何等的一件大事,我 無法想像如何能及時完成。快開始的幾天, 還有很多事要做,實在令人捏把冷汗;甚至 直到事前,計畫還在繼續改變。沒有無形的 援助,是絕對不可能完成的。所以首先我要 感謝佛菩薩的慈悲,更不用提上人給我們的 幫助,他讓我們這次沒倒架子。

當然佛菩薩和上人一直都在幫助我們,但 除非我們發心去修行、去弘揚和護持三寶, 為一切眾生努力,否則也沒什麼可以讓他們 來感應的。因此我要感謝各位的勤奮、樂觀 與創造力支持了這次的活動,雖然無法一一 列舉每個人的努力。這個活動所凝聚的精神 和氣氛,從開始之前到結束之後,是既團結 和諧,又具有啟發性。大家這麼賣力工作, 已將身體的疲憊昇華為一種修行。

這種精神和氣氛,很像當年上人還和我們 在一起時的樣子。私底下我聽到有些人說, 他們覺得上人和我們在一起。當然,他是和 the Master was here with us. In fact, I heard that several people reported that they were sure the Master was with us. Of course he was! There's no doubt at all about that. And I believe he was happy to see his disciples working together for the sake of the Dharma and all living beings. The result of everyone's work was an incredible, magical event. I believe that many living beings—both visible and invisible—were crossed over and that the entire world was invisibly influenced and benefited by this event.

When people are working frantically under pressure of time and become exhausted, it is difficult not to make mistakes and it is difficult to treat each other with patience and kindness. So I hope that if any mistakes occurred they will be taken as lessons of experience.

In closing, I would like to make two comments. I heard many people say that this should not be the last time we do something like this. CTTB was able to attract so many people to experience the benefit of the Dharma; it is really our responsibility to continue this work. Now here is my comment. We need to be more prepared next time. We need to plan much further in advance. Venerable Master used to often say, "Don't wait until it rains to fix the roof," "don't wait until you're thirsty to dig a well," etc.

Now that we have had a glimpse of how hungry people are for the Dharma and what joy they derive from an event like this, it doesn't take much imagination to understand what Master always said: "The CTTB belongs to the world. Although you might think that CTTB is too big, it's actually much too small." So many living beings are waiting for us to prepare for them to come; having the privilege of living at CTTB carries with it a profound responsibility. Let's not be afraid of change and growth, but embrace it and change and grow with it. In that way, I believe we will repay in some small measure the kindness of our teacher.

Open the Heart to Do the Buddha's Work (by Bhikshuni Heng Yin)

In general, what I kept being impressed by was the measure of the Venerable Master's mind. Many disciples from the early days shared how, when they first saw the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, they would say, "Shr Fu, it's so big!" And the Master would say, "No, it's your heart that's too small." The Master hoped to welcome all living beings to CTTB. This time an unprecedented number of people came—over 2,600 guests came for lunch on Sunday, and 1,000 of them spent the night here. I asked the guest prefect whether we actually had that many beds, and she said that in some cases, three people shared two mattresses or four people shared three mattresses. It was extremely crowded, but people were extremely sincere. I heard that the hotels in Ukiah were all fully booked, too.

The reason for such a large turnout may have had to do with the full program that was planned—the 17th anniversary of the Ven. Master's Nirvana, combined with the 50th anniversary of the Master's coming to the West, plus the Precepts for the Deceased, the summer camp, and the piano

我們在一起!那是毫無疑問的。我相信他很 高興看到弟子們為了佛法、為了眾生而一起 努力。大眾和合的力量,成就了這個殊勝、 不可思議的成果,也令許多有形和無形的眾 生因此得度,同時影響利益整個世界。

當然在時間壓力以及體力有限的情況下工 作,難免會犯錯誤,或失去耐心和慈悲。希 望如果有發生任何錯誤,我們都能吸取成為 日後的經驗與教訓。

結束前個人想提出兩點建議。我聽到許多 人說,以後要繼續舉辦類似的活動,這不應 該是最後一次。萬佛城能接引這麼多人得到 佛法的利益,我們是真的有責任繼續這份工 作。另一個建議是,下一次我們應該準備得 更充足。我們必須早早提前計劃,就像上人 常提醒我們的「不要天雨補漏」、「不要臨 渴掘井」。

看到了眾生對佛法的渴望,以及這種活動 帶給他們的法喜,因此不難想像為什麼上人 總是說:「萬佛城是屬於全世界的。雖然你 可能認為萬佛城太大,但實際上是太小了。 」那麼多的眾生等著我們準備他們的到來, 因此當慶幸自己住在聖城之餘,我們也肩負 著這份深遠的責任。不要害怕變化和成長, 應該去接受它,跟著一同成長與改變,這樣 才能略報上人的恩澤於萬一。

放大心量做佛事(比丘尼恒音)

最大的體會就是,一直記得上人的心量。 很多老弟子都說當初萬佛聖城剛買下來時, 大家都說:「師父,這麼大!」師父就回 答:「是你的心量太小。」上人歡迎所有的 眾生來這裡,而這次我們真的超過以往的人 數——星期天2600多人用齋,星期六1000人 過夜。我問知客師我們有那麼多床嗎?她說 有三個人睡兩張床,或者四個人分三張床。 所以大家都非常擁擠,但是非常誠心。聽說 外面瑜珈鎮的旅館也都爆滿了。

這麼多人來,可能也是因為很多活動在一 起。17週年涅槃紀念、50週年的紀念,還有 授幽冥戒、夏令營,還有鋼琴演奏。大家都 很發心護持,所以就很多人來參與。 concert. Many people joyfully supported the event, and as a result many more people came to attend.

Our Arts Program was exceptionally rich as well. DM Sure explained that the Venerable Master was also an artist who used the arts as an effective medium to bring the Dharma to the West. Of course, as was mentioned the previous evening, our planning was not done as well as it could have been, resulting in various hiccups and conflicts. However, at the end, after each of us passed through many tests, I felt that everyone was very joyful, and many old disciples were happy to come back and share their experiences. Longquan Monastery from Beijing also came at this time for a learning exchange.

There was, of course, a core planning team, and DM Sure invited many young people to participate. They all spent many, many hours meeting and working out all the logistical details. Our own resident monastics were already very busy with other duties and did not have too much time to get involved in the planning until the very end, and by that time, more and more people were signing up to come. This caused various departments to be under a lot of pressure. Many of the volunteers also had little time to actually participate in the activities, because they were busy preparing. I believe that although they were very exhausted, they were also filled with Dharma joy. Approximately 250 to 300 volunteers and alumni came back to help, making the event go much more smoothly. One alumna commented that these few days of work have been more stressful than college exams, and afterwards, she slept for several days and also fell ill. Her mother, however, was very happy to see her contribute so much. Other alumni said they felt very happy, felt a sense of team spirit, and learned a lot.

Now when we go to Ukiah, sometimes people say, "Your program was great." Especially after the piano concert, some said, "We never came to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas before, but we really like it." Because we wanted to include all four legacies in the Arts Program, including the Sangha legacy, the monastics also chanted and sang. In the early days when the Ven. Master went out to give Dharma talks, he would ask everyone to sing Dharma songs.

An interesting anecdote during Gwhyneth's concert was that someone at the wowen side smelled a special fragrance, the kind associated with gandharvas (music spirits). We saw that Gwhyneth Chen was able to bring people who knew nothing about Buddhism, but loved Western classical music, to the monastery where they got to see the Buddha images and the Sangha and even hear some of the Venerable Master's Dharma. That is because, while she was playing the Liszt Etudes, her Buddhistrelated interpretations, which included lines from "The White Universe," the law of causality, and the concept of compassion, were shown on the screens in front.

I heard several people comment that the two-day program opened their hearts. Some of the earlier disciples who are no longer living here were

這次的藝文活動內容非常充實。實法師說上 人也是藝術家,也用藝術在西方弘揚佛法,是 很有效率的。當然像昨晚提到的,計劃得不夠 圓滿,所以很多地方有些壓力與衝突,但是最 後每個人過了很多考驗。我感受到大家是很快 樂的,而且很多老弟子也很高興能回來分享他 們的經驗,北京龍泉寺也同時前來交流。

這次有個主要小組在負責籌備,實法師也 鼓勵很多年輕人來參與,他們花了很多小時開 會,把所有的細節做出來。聖城的常住眾,特 別出家眾因為忙於其他的執事,所以沒有太多 參與,到最後才開始參與多一點。那個時候越 來越多人報名,所以很多部門受到很多壓力, 很多義工也因為忙著各項準備工作而無法參加 這些慶祝活動。我相信大家都非常累,但也非 常法喜。另外有250到300位義工跟校友回來 幫忙,所以辦得比較成功。有一個校友說,這 幾天比在大學考試還難,她過後就睡了幾天, 也病倒了;但是她媽媽很快樂看到她這樣發 心。其他的校友也說,她們很高興有這種團隊 的精神,也學習到很多。

現在到瑜伽鎮上,有些人會對我們說:「 噢,你們的活動辦得很好。」特別星期天晚上 的鋼琴演奏結束後,他們說以前從沒進來過, 現在真的很喜歡聖城。這次的藝文活動因為希 望能涵蓋上人的四個志願,所以有邀請出家眾 出來唱誦。早期上人帶大家出去弘法的時候, 也會教大家唱歌,唱佛法的歌。

一個有趣的事就是在陳毓襄表演的時候,女眾這邊有人聞到一股異香,像乾闥婆(帝釋的 樂神)聞的那種香。我們也覺得,陳毓襄讓對佛 法完全沒有認識的人,透過因為喜歡西方古典音 樂而來到道場,見佛睹僧,甚至聽聞到上人的法 ——因為當彈奏李斯特的曲子時,現場的轉播螢 幕也撥放著她對上人〈宇宙白〉、因果和慈悲的 文字詮釋。

這兩天的活動,敞開許多人的心扉。一些離開 我們很久的老弟子,還有很多年輕人都很歡喜地 回來支持這個活動。而瑜伽鎮的居民也因為這次 的活動,跟聖城有了交集與連結,成為我們的新 朋友。

真心做事才能感動人(王親藝)

法師要我講一講對夏令營的感受。今晚就跟大

happy to be back. Many alumni and DRBYers were also glad to come and support this event. And we gained some new friends in the local community.

Sincerity Moves (by Qin-Yi Wang)

Dharma Master asked me to share my experience in the summer camp. So I want to share how the two-week summer camp changed my life.

I first came to CTTB in 2010. At that time, I was there to accompany my 10-year-old son as he was not old enough to be a boarding student back then. Before I came to CTTB, I was living in an apartment in New York. I unplugged my refrigerator there since I didn't need to cook and went out to eat most of the time. And when I studied at school, my parents didn't let me do much in the kitchen either. Before I came to CTTB, if anyone had told me that "One day, you will find that cooking for someone else is very enjoyable", I actually would have fallen down laughing.

But after coming to CTTB, I was deeply touched by the people and things around me. When we first arrived, a teenager asked "Auntie, would you like help in moving your luggage?" I have heard a lot of horrible stories about teenagers, so when I was asked that question, I was very pleasantly surprised that how much different this teenager was!

The volunteers here also moved me very much. Everyone here does one's own share, and does not talk much. Did you ever notice that many Dharma Masters do not eat until after we've already eaten? Dharma Masters are the most honored people amongst all assemblies; they are even more noble than kings, so how can I let them cook for me without making any contributions myself? When I was bowing to the Venerable Master's Eighteen Vows, I felt greatly ashamed and remorseful. Whenever I do the dedication of merit, I usually just return the merits to myself or to people around me; everything is about me. Yet, in Venerable Master's vows, how many of these vows are for himself? Everything is for others.

I felt that I was wrong. After several days, I started asking to volunteer in the kitchen. Because I haven't done this kind of work in a very long time, I carelessly sliced my fingers the first time cutting vegetables. But during the process, I felt a release that I have never felt before. I think this is the freedom that came from completely destroying my old values.

When you do things from your heart, people around you will be very touched. Just like the four things above: the teenager, volunteer, Dharma Masters and Venerable Master. They moved me so much that even someone like me who seldom cooked actually wanted to cook for others. If the action is from your true mind, with the help from the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, who else wouldn't be crossed over?

I just want to add one more thing. When we do things, the purpose is not to move the others. When we do things for others, it is purely from our minds. I am not doing a good job myself, but I just wanted to share the experience so that we can all advance on the *Bodhi* Path. At last, I wish that everyone will soon realize Buddhahood. Amitabha Buddha.

家分享一下,短短兩星期的夏令營如何改變我的人生觀。

第一次來萬佛城是2010年,我陪10歲的兒 子來參加夏令營,因為他當時還不夠年齡做寄 宿生,所以我必須陪著他。在來萬佛城之前, 我住在紐約的公寓,我把冰箱的電斷了,因為 我不需要做飯,三餐幾乎都在外面吃。以前做 學生的時候,我的父母也不願意我到廚房做粗 重的活。因此在來聖城之前,如果有人告訴 我:「有一天妳會發現為人做飯是一件很好、 很享受的事情。」我可能會當場笑昏的。

但是來到聖城之後,我深深地被周圍的人事 所感動。首先是剛到時有位年輕人就問:「阿 姨,您需不需我幫忙搬行李嗎?」聽到太多青 少年恐怖的行為,因此當下心裡就覺得:「的 確是不一樣的年輕人!」

這裡的義工也讓我非常感動,大家都默默 地做事,不多說什麼話。而這裡的法師,不知 道大家有沒有注意到,很多法師是在我們把肚 子填飽後,他們才去吃飯?法師是眾中尊,也 就是比國王還尊貴的人,我竟然讓法師為我做 飯。當我禮拜上人十八大願的時候,更是生大 慚愧,覺得自己迴向的時候,都是迴向給自己 或是周圍認識的人。但是上人的大願當中,有 多少是關於他自己?全都是為別人。

於是我心中覺得自己好像做錯了,幾天 之後我開始到廚房要求當義工。因為很多年 沒有做過這些工作,第一次切菜就把指頭切 破。但是在工作當中,我感受到一種從未有 過的清涼,我想這是以前的價值觀被徹底摧 毀後帶來的解脫。

因此當行為是從內心發起去做的,周圍的 人會被感動。就像前面的年輕人、義工、法 師和上人,深深感動我之後,讓我這個從不 做家務、不進廚房的人,打從內心想為大家 做飯,為大家貢獻一點微薄的力量。真心的 行動,再加上諸佛菩薩的加持,有什麼度化 不了的人呢?

但是這裡要補充一點。我們做事,不是為 了要感動人而做;為大眾服務,是很單純地 從內心願意去做去。我自己做得還不夠好, 說出來和大家共勉。最後祝各位早成佛道。 阿彌陀佛。參