

# When humaneness is perfected, Buddhahood accomplishes itself

## — In memory of Shramanerika Jin Dao

本刊編輯部整理  
李海昱 英譯

Written by the Editorial Staff  
English Translation by Lotus Lee



DHARMA REALM NEWS | 法界音

定居萬佛聖城廿一年的近道師，於2013年9月27日晚間，在眾人助念聲中安詳往生，享壽九十五。火化後，得十二顆舍利，其中五顆為牙齒舍利，其餘七顆呈翡翠、紫、粉、黑、白、天藍等不同顏色，大者如同大拇指蓋，小者彷彿紅豆，均供於萬佛聖城往生堂。

近道師於1916年農曆9月19觀音菩薩出家日當天，出生於中國黑龍江省五常市拉林鎮西黃旗村，是宣公上人俗家的三嫂。出家前是傳統的家庭主婦，育有六名子女，三男三女。

她的俗家兒子白景學回憶指出，近道師生前十分節儉，對爺爺奶奶極為孝順。當年教導子女，總說：「你們要好好學習。」此外不多言，也從不打孩子。白景學說：「近道師一生沒脾氣，從不與人爭吵；最特別的是，她一輩子沒花過一毛錢。」

上人開始為母廬墓守孝時，近道師初嫁入白家不久。與大嫂共同操持家務，照料十七口人，從未發生妯娌不合的問題。近道師負責為上人送飯，風雨無阻。每趟單程走一里多的路，飯送到了，擺著就走，因上人不與人講話。白景學說：「近道師是師父上人的第一位護法。」

人道盡

佛道成

追悼沙彌尼近道師



On the evening of September 27th, 2013, Dharma Master Jin Dao, who has lived in the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas for the past 21 years, peacefully passed away in the midst of the sound of reciting the Buddha's name. She was ninety-five years old. After cremation, twelve shariras were found in her ashes. Five of them were from her teeth, and the other seven were multicolored with shades of royal green, purple, pink, black, white, and sky-blue. The large ones were as big as a thumb joint, and the small ones were the size of a red bean. All of them now reside in the Rebirth Hall at CTTB.

Jin Dao Shi was born on September 19th of the lunar year in 1916, on Guan Yin Bodhisattva's leaving home day, in Huangqi Village, Lalin County, Wuchang City, Heilongjiang Province in China. She was the Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's third sister-in-law. Before she became a monastic, she was a traditional housewife and had six children, three sons and three daughters.

Her son Bai Jingxue remembers that Jin Dao Shi was extremely frugal in her daily life, and very filial to her parents-in-law. When she taught her children, she would always say, "You should study and learn well." Other than that, she rarely said much and never punished her children. Bai Jingxue said, "Jin Dao Shi never lost her temper or argued with others. The most special thing is that she never spent a penny in her life."

When the Venerable Master began his

過了一段時間，上人交代家人別再送飯。他自己每天就著冷水吃一把生米，不久方圓百里內風聞「白孝子」孝行大受感動，其中馬春陽與唐玉明每天專程送飯給上人。

1992年4月，因緣成熟，近道師和上人三哥白玉堂老先生來到萬佛聖城定居。接觸佛法後，近道師即以念佛、拜佛為常課，經年累月勤行不輟。1999年出家前曾罹患膽結石，經醫師會診，確定需手術治療。

當時在病房裡，曾有兩次出現無數的蒼蠅飛來飛去。因從前在大陸時，打死過許多蒼蠅，近道師唸〈六字大明咒〉為牠們迴向始消失。

病中整整一個半月不能吃飯，身上插了七根管子，在鬼門關前徘徊。手術後近道師復原得很快，1999年4月三老爺白玉堂往生後，近道師萬緣放下，落髮出家。從此一心念佛，了無牽掛。

白景學表示，近道師出家後甚少生病，但三年前開始腳腫，須用熱水加艾草或海鹽泡腳，才能消腫。枇杷葉煮水喝，也頗有助益。2013年6月中旬再度腳腫，這回，從前管用的方子都不見效，服用西藥亦未能根治。8月上旬摔倒地上，雖無骨折或外傷，但食量自此銳減。

9月21日因喉嚨卡住，呼吸困難而住院。23日起不再進食，當天侄孫女白明霞探病時說：「記得念佛，阿彌陀佛！」近道師回了一聲：「阿彌陀佛！」這是近道師生前最後一句話，此後即陷入半昏迷狀態。

白景學指出，27日近道師的五臟均衰竭，法師與居士多位輪流助念。當日晚間八時，葉祖堯教授問白景學，近道師最放不下心的是什麼？白景學說：「最放不下心的就是我。」

葉教授當即建議白景學跟近道師說：「別擔心我，也不要擔心別人。放心去極樂世界，阿彌陀佛的地方。」當時近道師雖已重度昏迷，但白景學感覺近道

vigil of filiality by living next to his mother's grave, Jin Dao Shi had just married into the Bai family. She shared the responsibility of taking care of the household of 17 people with her sister-in-law, but neither of them ever had conflict with each other. One of Jin Dao Shi's duties was to bring food to the Venerable Master, which she did regardless of the wind or the rain. The trip to the grave entailed walking for more than a *li*. When she arrived, she would leave the food and walk right back, because the Venerable Master did not speak to anyone. Bai Jingxue said: "Jin Dao Shi was the Venerable Master's first Dharma Protector."

A while later, the Venerable Master told his family not to bring food to him anymore. Every day, he ate a handful of raw rice soaked in cold water. When the reputation of "Filial Son Bai" was renowned throughout a radius of 100 square *li*, many people were greatly moved by his actions, and two people named Ma Chunyang and Tang Yuming brought food to him every day.

In April 1992, Jin Dao Shi and the Venerable Master's elder brother Bai Yutang to come to live at CTTB. After learning the Buddhadharma, Jin Dao Shi concentrated on reciting the Buddha's name and bowing to the Buddha, and was never lax in her practice. Before leaving the home life in 1999, she was diagnosed with gallstones and had to undergo surgery to remove them.

When she was in the hospital, there were two occasions where her room was filled with countless flies. This was because she had killed many flies when she was living in China. However, after Jin Dao Shi recited the Great Bright Six Syllable Mantra and transferred the merit to them, they disappeared.

During this period of illness, Jin Dao Shi could not eat for a month and a half, and had seven tubes inserted in her body. The situation was critical, but she recovered quickly after the operation. In April 1999, Bai Yutang passed away, and Jin Dao Shi let go of all attachments and left the home life. She then recited the Buddha's name single-mindedly without any worries.

Bai Jingxue said that after Jin Dao Shi became a monastic, she rarely got sick, but three years ago, her feet started to swell, and the swelling would only go down if she soaked her feet with an infusion of moxa grass or sea salt in hot water. Cooking loquat tree leaves and drinking the broth helped as well. In June 2013, her feet began to swell again, but none of the said methods had any effect, and western medicine could not cure it either. In August, she had a fall, and although she was not injured, her appetite decreased drastically.

On September 21st, Jin Dao Shi was sent to the hospital because she had trouble breathing, and by the 23rd, she was no longer able to eat. Her grandniece Bai Mingxia went to see her and said, "Remember to recite the Buddha's name, recite Amitabha!" Jin Dao Shi replied, "Amitabha!" This was the last thing she said in her life, for she fell into a coma soon after.

Bai Jingxue said that on the 27th, Jin Dao Shi's organs began to fail, and numerous Dharma Masters and laypeople took turns to recite the Buddha's name for her. At 8 PM that night, Professor Raymond Yeh asked Bai Jingxue what was it that Jin Dao Shi was most unable to let go of. Bai Jingxue said, "She is unable to let go of me."

Professor Yeh immediately suggested that Bai Jingxue tell Jin Dao Shi: "Don't worry about me or anyone else, and just go to the Land of Ultimate Bliss, where

師聽到了。兩分鐘後，近道師即安詳往生。

奇妙的是，一位護士原說只能助念四小時，便須搬動遺體。但近道師往生時刻，該護士恰好不在。值班護士同意助念八小時後再更衣，因此大眾得以圓滿助念功德。

近道師的追思儀式於10月8日舉行，比丘尼恒良法師指出，她雖與近道師不熟，但看到近道師晚年來到言語文化大不同的美國，非常有勇氣。其後又能出家修行，更是福報具足。

比丘尼恒賢法師對白景學說，近道師走得安詳自在，「希望未來能與近道師在極樂世界相會。」

比丘尼恒信法師表示，近道師總是念佛，很少講話，口業十分清淨。也不願麻煩人，很早就預備好往生資糧。

比丘尼恒茂法師說，近道師總是出來參加晚課，並留在念佛堂念佛。在蒐集上人事跡時，曾訪問近道師。問起她當年為上人送飯的往事，近道師微笑說：「應該的。」

比丘尼近柔法師指出，近道師晚年常推著助行器，在福居樓走廊上走動。背雖駝，但頭常抬。臉上有光澤，那是內在德行的顯現。

萬佛聖城方丈恒律法師說，希望我們一起學習近道師的美德、寡言、節儉、與誠心念佛。「相信近道師會往生淨土，與諸佛和宣公上人在一起。」 ❀

Amitabha Buddha is.” At the time, Jin Dao Shi was severely comatose, but Bai Jingxue felt that she heard his words. After two minutes, Jin Dao Shi passed away peacefully.

One of the nurses said that the recitation of the Buddha's name could only go on for four hours, and then they would have to move the body. Incredibly, this nurse was not present at the time of Jin Dao Shi's passing, and the other nurses agreed to wait for eight hours before changing Jin Dao Shi's clothes, letting the assembly finish the merit of Buddha recitation.

The memorial for Jin Dao Shi was held on October 8th. Bhikshuni Heng Liang said that although she did not know Jin Dao Shi very well, she thought that Jin Dao Shi was very brave to come to America, a country with different language and culture, in her later years. She was even luckier to have the opportunity to become a monastic and cultivate.

Bhikshuni Heng Hsien said to Bai Jingxue: “Jin Dao Shi passed away peacefully, and I hope that in the future we will see her again in the Pure Land.”

Bhikshuni Heng Syin said that Jin Dao Shi always recited the Buddha's name and never talked very much, and her mouth karma was very pure. She was never a burden to anyone; her resources for rebirth in the Pure Land had been prepared a long time ago.

Bhikshuni Heng Mao Shi said that Jin Dao Shi always went to evening recitation and would stay in the Buddha Recitation Hall to recite the Buddha's name. When they were compiling materials and information about the Venerable Master's life, she interviewed Jin Dao Shi, and asked her about bringing food to the Venerable Master. Jin Dao Shi smiled and replied, “It was my duty.”

Bhikshuni Jin Rou said that in her later years, Jin Dao Shi needed a walker to support herself, and would walk around the halls in Tower of Blessing. Although her back was hunched, her head was always held high. Her shining face was a sign of her virtue and practice.

The Abbot Dharma Master Heng Lyu hopes that we will all learn from Jin Dao Shi's virtue, reticence, frugality, and sincerity in reciting the Buddha's name. “I believe that Jin Dao Shi will be reborn in the Pure Land and will be together with all Buddhas and the Venerable Master.” ❀

我們行、住、坐、臥都要少講話多念佛，少說一句話，多念一聲佛。所謂「念得念頭死，許汝法身活」，你能把你的念頭念死了，這時候你的法身就會活了。所以修道的人，時時都要管著自己，「但念無常，慎勿放逸」，任何時候都不可以放逸的。

——宣公上人法語

In walking, standing, sitting, and lying down you should talk less and recite the Buddha's name more. Speak one less sentence and recite the Buddha's name one extra time. Recite until your thoughts die and you Dharma body comes to life. So, cultivators should always watch over themselves. Always remember impermanence and take care not to be lax.

— Talks by Venerable Master Hua