五濁衆生令離垢,同證如來淨法身 (續)

—萬佛聖城2014年慶祝釋迦牟尼佛聖誕

May Living Beings of the Five Turbid Realms Be Led from Samsara, and Together Realize the Pure Dharma-Body of the Thus Come Ones. (Continued)

—The City of 10,000 Buddhas Celebrated Shakyamuni Buddha's Birthday 2014



DHARMA REALM NEWS 法界音

(續封面内頁)

育良小學與培德中學女校學生,在 法師的指導下,前一天即以鮮花妝點 而成七座浴佛台。浴佛節慶典當天, 適逢天氣晴朗,風和日麗,上千人齊 心同唱《浴佛讚偈》:「我今灌浴諸 如來,淨智莊嚴功德具。五濁衆生令 離垢,同證如來淨法身。」

接著在〈沐浴真言〉祥和的念誦聲中,由學生們引導大衆分列十四行,逐一向浴佛台裏「一手指天,一手指地」的悉達多太子像三頂禮。每座浴佛台前,同時都有兩人手持小勺虔誠為佛浴身,也為自己以及衆生浴心。

瑜伽市長夫婦費爾與阿莉雅鮑德溫應邀前來參加浴佛節,他們在舊金山州大退休哲學教授易果容與劉瑤仙夫婦的陪同下,前往大帳篷準備浴佛時,巧遇法總佛經翻譯委員會工作人員林春香。聽說林春香原為英國財政部分析師,特別辭職加入佛經翻譯委員會的工作,鮑德溫市長頗感驚訝。

林春香當場為鮑德溫夫婦示範浴佛 方式,並告訴他們浴佛時要發願。鮑 德溫市長隨後在齋堂致詞時表示,浴 佛時他希望自己能擁有更大的平靜, 社區也能更加平靜。

鮑德溫市長說:「(美國)憲法前 言提到,政府成立的原因之一,在於

(Continued from the front inner cover)

Students from Instilling Goodness Elementary School and Developing Virtue Secondary Girls School decorated seven bathing-Buddha stands the day preceding the ceremony. The day of the celebration was bright and clear. Over 1,000 people sang the "Praise for Bathing the Buddha," which follows:

I now bathe all the Thus Come Ones

Who are adorned with pure wisdom and perfect merit and virtue.

May living beings of the five turbid realms be led from samsara,

And together realize the pure Dharma-body of the Thus Come Ones.

As the assembly harmoniously recited the "True Words for Bathing the Buddha," students guided people to divide into 14 lines. Each person bowed three times to the figure of the baby Buddha standing with one hand pointing to the sky and the other to the earth. As people bathed the Buddha, they were also bathing their own minds and that of all beings.

The mayor of Ukiah and his wife, Phil and Aleya Baldwin, were present at the ceremony and were accompanied by San Francisco State University's emeritus professor of philosophy Ron Epstein and his wife Ocean. While walking toward the big tent to bathe the Buddha, they met Buddhist Text Translation Society (BTTS) staff member Katherine Lam. Mayor Baldwin expressed his surprise upon learning that Katherine had been an analyst at the British Treasury and had resigned to work full-time for BTTS.

Katherine showed Mayor Baldwin and his wife how to bathe the Buddha and told them that they should make a vow as they did so. Mayor Baldwin spoke to the assembly later at lunch and said that he wished that he could have greater calmness and that the community could also be more calm.

Mayor Baldwin said, "The Preamble to the Constitution says one of the reasons for a government is to ensure domestic tranquility. I believe very sincerely that Buddha, Buddhism and Buddhists represent tranquility. One of the beautiful things about the City of 10,000 Buddhas is that it is the epitome of calmness and tranquility. Popular culture in America today is increasingly, in my opinion, frightening, increasingly loud, and increasingly frenetic. I hope with the influence

確保國内的祥和。我真誠相信,佛陀、佛教、佛教徒正代表了祥和,萬佛城也具體顯現祥和。在當今美國流行文化日益喧囂擾攘,讓人驚懼不安之際,希望萬佛城的影響力能起到示範作用,改變流行文化的走向。」

比丘近幸法師則引用《法華經》的偈頌: 「或以歡喜心,歌唄頌佛德,乃至一小音, 皆已成佛道。」與大衆分享,並表示我們稱 讚佛陀,是對我們自己自性上有功德。讚嘆 佛陀,我們就少打妄想,並和佛的智慧光明 相結合,自性的光明隨著顯現出來,照破黑 暗,讓十方世界呈現一片祥和安樂,這樣浴 佛就有很大的意義。

比丘尼恒良法師表示,成佛的要件之一, 是要有福報。要享受成佛的福報,須先捨棄 世間的福報。這種福報就是善業的業種,難 積易消,應迴向菩提與所有眾生。佛以一大 事因緣應世教化,以期衆生未來成佛。今天 以最深的感恩之心,希望我們都記住佛陀如 何為法、為菩提、為衆生而捨棄世間福報, 精勤修行成佛。讓我們努力累積福報,並且 要珍惜,不要浪費福報,同時要跟大家分 享。不要忘記我們最終的目標就是成佛。

萬佛聖城方丈恒律法師講述了佛陀弟子— 巴迪亞的故事。巴迪亞出家前是王子,日夜 有許多侍衛保護,仍然擔心會被刺殺陷害。 當時吃的是山珍海味,睡的是豪華大床,但 寢食難安。出家後內心清淨平和,遠離憂 惱,找到快樂的泉源在內心,「內心平靜清 淨時,就可感受到這種人天真正的快樂,這 是世間感官的快樂所不能比擬的。」

恒律法師又說,無論念佛、誦經、拜懺、 禮佛、打坐,只要誠心,就能得到清淨自在 的快樂。但一定要迴向,願衆生早日覺悟, 離苦得樂,世間祥和之氣也會增加,這正是 浴佛的意義。

慶祝浴佛節當天,萬佛聖城也舉行放生法會,多隻雉雞與烏龜被放生到萬佛城葡萄園和池塘裏。同日並為三十四名善信舉行三飯五戒法會,幫助他們起步,學習本師釋迦牟尼佛,走向修行成佛之路。

of the City of 10,000 Buddhas, we can begin to create an example to turn that around."

Bhikkhu Jin Hsing shared a verse from the *Lotus Sutra* with the assembly: "If one uses a joyful mind to praise and sing the Buddha's virtues, even if it is just a single word, one has already realized Buddhahood." He said that praising the Buddha is an act of merit and virtue for our inherited nature. We have less idle thoughts when praising the Buddha and we connect with the Buddha's bright wisdom. Our bright inherited nature will manifest and shine through the darkness so that the worlds of ten directions will all be filled with harmony, peace, bliss and happiness. This is the great meaning of bathing the Buddha.

Bhikshuni Heng Liang said that one of the requirements for becoming a Buddha is to have blessings. To enjoy the blessings of Buddhahood, one must first renounce worldly enjoyments. Blessings are karmic seeds that are the result of wholesome actions. It is difficult to accrue blessings but easy to spend them. We should dedicate the merit to the awakening of all beings. Shakyamuni Buddha came to the world to teach and transform all beings out of the hope that they will realize their own potential for awakening. On the day of the Buddha's birthday we remember with deepest gratitude how the Buddha renounced his blessings for the sake of Dharma, for awakening, and for all beings. Let us not fail to work to create blessings, and then to not squander them but cherish them, share them and keep our eyes on the ultimate goal of Buddhahood.

The Abbot of CTTB, Dharma Master Heng Lyu told the story of a disciple of the Buddha, Bhadrika, who was a prince before leaving the home-life. He ate all kinds of delicacies and slept on luxurious beds. However, he could not enjoy peace of mind because he was worried about possible assassinations or frame-ups. After going forth, he found freedom from worry and affliction. His mind was pure and peaceful and he found the source of happiness within his own mind. Dharma Master Lyu said, "One can feel real happiness in the human and heavenly realms when one's mind is calm and pure. Worldly happiness cannot be compared to this kind of real happiness."

The Abbot also said that whatever practice we do, whether reciting the Buddha's name, reciting sutras, repenting, bowing, or sitting in meditation, as long as we are sincere, we will have pure and liberating joy. However, we must transfer merit and virtue to all beings and dedicate it to their awakening, so that all beings will leave suffering and attain happiness. This will also cause peace to grow in the world, and this is the real meaning of bathing the Buddha.

There was also a Liberating Life ceremony as part of the celebration of Buddha's Birthday, during which pheasants and turtles were set free in the vineyard and at the pond on campus. Thirty-four people took the Three Refuges and received the Five Precepts on the same day, embarking together on the path of spiritual cultivation and awakening, following in the footsteps of the fundamental teacher, Shakyamuni Buddha.