佛 Latest Publication from Buddhist Texts Translation Society 譯委員 會 新 發 行 Chinese Translation by Yihuan Sh

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本會新譯之《六祖法寶壇 經》將於8月27日正式發行, 適逢六祖惠能大師涅槃(713 年)之1301週年紀念日。

「佛知見者,只汝自心, 更無別佛。」惠能大師直指人 心的教法,使其成為影響中國 禪宗最為重要的人物之一。六 祖大師生前不立文字,圓寂之 後,弟子們才將其一生的事蹟 與言教整理而成《六祖法寶壇 經》。除了佛說的經典以外, 這部《壇經》是中國佛教著作 唯一被尊稱為「經」者。

今次,法界佛教大學教授 恒實法師及馬汀梵赫文博士全 新重譯並校注《六祖法寶壇 經》,其首要之務便是以英文 呈現惠能大師語言淺白易曉及 真率的特質。馬汀博士(在序 文中)寫道:「許多傾向將佛 教經典視作高深玄妙、形上哲 學的讀者,將驚豔於《壇經》 的平易近人與樸實;那些以為 佛經是鑽研超自然現象以及謝 絕塵囂(凌越凡塵)的閱眾,也 會訝異於《壇經》的務實性及 當代性。《壇經》在本質上其 實是徹底的人文主義。誠如惠 能大師偈中所言:『佛法在世 間,不離世間覺,離世覓菩 提,恰如求兔角。』六祖哲理 的精髓是一切眾生皆有佛性, 皆堪作佛。成佛不是一個未來 的狀態,也不在遙遠的他方, 而是「盡在自心」,當下即 是。《壇經》經文以強而有力 及振聾發聵的洞察力,說明人 類潛力的無限可能,它正等待 著我們去圓證一只要我們願意 看見。」 鏺

背景照片Genie Tang提供 Background Photo courtesy of Genie Tang

A new translation of The Sixth Patriarch's Dharma Jewel Platform Sutra will be released on August 27, 2014, the 1,300th (plus one year) anniversary of passing of the Sixth Patriarch (713 AD).

"The knowledge and vision of the Buddha is just your own mind; there is no other Buddha." Such is the teaching of Master Huineng (638-713), the most important and most revered figure in the Chan (Zen) School of East Asian Buddhism. Huineng left no written record, but his students compiled accounts of his public lectures and one-on-one exchanges, together with the dramatic story of his life. The resulting volume was Liu zu fa bao tan jing, The Sixth Patriarch's Dharma Jewel Platform Sutra. Master Huineng's Platform Sutra is so highly regarded in Buddhist Asia that it is called a Sutra, a term otherwise reserved for texts spoken by the Buddha himself.



In presenting this entirely new English translation of The Sixth Patriarch's Dharma Jewel Platform Sutra, the editors, Professors Heng Sure and Martin Verhoeven of Dharma Realm Buddhist University, have aimed above all to bring across into English Master Huineng's plain-spoken, forthright style. As Professor Verhoeven writes, "Readers inclined to see Buddhist writings as abstruse metaphysical treatises will find The Platform Sutra refreshingly artless and spare. Those expecting a sutra to delve into the supernatural and otherworldly will be surprised at how down-to-earth and here-and-now this text is. The Platform Sutra is humanistic to its core. As Huineng says in a verse, 'The Buddha Dharma is right here in the world. There is no awakening apart from this world.' The essence of the Sixth Patriarch's philosophy is that all beings have the buddha-nature; all can become Buddha. Full awakening is not a future state or a distant place, but exists 'right within your own mind,' directly and immediately available. The text presents a powerful and resounding vision of unbounded human potential waiting to be fully realized—if only we could see it." 63