衆生受佛戒,即入諸佛位 2014在家菩薩戒傳授圓滿 (編)

The Buddha's precepts observed, the Buddhahood realized

-Successful Completion of the 2014 Transmission of the Lay-Bodhisattva Precepts

(CONTINUED)



DHARMA REALM NEWS 法界音

(續封面内頁)

受戒前從七月三十日開始,採男女眾分別授課方式,以五天半時間為戒子們講解菩薩戒。男眾61位戒子又分成中文、英文、越文三個班級,由十一位比丘授課。女眾146位戒子則在道源堂以中、英文統一上課,由多位比丘尼輪流授課,並做越文和粵語的同步翻譯。

戒子們學戒興致高昂,除用心聽課外,並詳做筆記。每位戒子雖都受過 五戒,但透過菩薩戒的課程,更加深 了他們對戒律的瞭解。課程結束後的 問卷調查,反映出戒子們都覺得不虛 此行,獲益甚多,個個法喜充滿。

上課期間正值炎夏,熱浪襲人, 尤其午後氣溫高達華氏104度(攝氏 40度),對戒子們是一大考驗,但沒 有一人缺課。或許受戒子們的誠心所 感,受戒前一天氣溫下降10度,暑熱 頓消。受戒當天,天空佈滿薄薄烏 雲,天氣清涼如秋;正式傳戒時,突 然微降甘霖。儀式圓滿後,大家步行 到五觀堂拍團體照,兩勢有點加大, 竟然得撐起傘來,戒師和戒子們滿心 開懷,齊聚堂前攝影留念,為此次傳 戒寫下傳奇性的一個小插曲!

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Before the actual precept could be transmitted, the laymen and laywomen were separately taught the Bodhisattva precepts. The class started on July 30th and lasted for five and a half days. On the laymen's side, the sixty-one preceptees were divided into three language groups comprised of Chinese, English, Vietnamese, and taught by eleven CTTB Bhikshus. On the laywomen's side, the 146 preceptees altogether attended a class where instructions were given in Chinese and English. Their class was held in the Confucius Hall instead, with several Bhikshunis taking turns in giving instruction and translating into Vietnamese and Cantonese languages simultaneously.

The preceptees expressed great enthusiasm towards learning the precepts. They took good notes and were very attentive to what was taught in the class. Despite the fact that all of them had already received the five precepts previously, through this learning, they actually gained a deeper understanding of the Vinaya rules. In their evaluations at the end of the class, all of them agreed that the experience was very worthwhile as they benefited from the learning greatly and were thus filled with Dharma joy.

This Bodhisattva session took place in the middle of summer and the temperature at times could peak to 104 degrees during high noon. Despite the heat, no one missed any or even part of a class. On the last day of the class, the temperature significantly dropped by ten degrees, likely due to the participant's extreme sincerity which could be felt in all corners of the City. Cool air returned on the day of transmission followed by a few drops of sweet-dew light rain giving it a feeling of a typical autumn day in the midst of summer. At the end of the ceremony, everyone proceeded to the Five Contemplation Hall for a traditional group photo with some seeking shelter from heavy rain under an umbrella. Finally The Dharma Masters and the preceptees happily posed for the camera to mark the success and grand completion of the transmission. Together, they added a new and legendary chapter to the history of Dharma Realm Buddhist Association.