

持戒，做末法的清流

Uphold Precepts Like A Clear Stream in The Dharma-Ending Age

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六年前，我還是十六歲的學生時，在馬來西亞道場舉辦的「法華研習班」裏，聽到法師提起菩薩戒，當時是我第一次聽說菩薩戒。當下我就起了非常大的好奇心：「哇！原來菩薩戒這麼厲害，菩薩戒這麼棒！」心想有機會，我一定要受這個菩薩戒。！

一年後，也就是2009年，萬佛聖城真的準備傳授菩薩戒！當時我興奮得不得了，馬來西亞有很多居士報名參加，法師們也開始上課介紹菩薩戒，當然我也聽得法喜充滿。但是現實終究是現實，其實我知道我不可能去受菩薩戒，因為買不起飛機票去萬佛城。當時我很羨慕他們，也隨喜他們。

但是我對菩薩戒還是很有興趣，很想了解多一些，所以打算請一本菩薩戒的戒本。但是法師不讓我請，擔心我年紀輕，反而用戒尺來衡量別人。但是我還是很想看，於是就向那些報名受菩薩戒的居士借來看，而且把它抄了下來。戒本看完後，我覺得其實菩薩戒也沒有很難嘛，有機會我一定要受！

當時我也對萬佛聖城充滿了憧憬，一直很想要到聖城。但是這一趟路的旅費，就算我不吃不喝，把所有零用錢存起來，也要五年才存夠這筆費用，所以看來真的是要讀完書，開始工作掙錢之後，才有可能存夠錢去萬佛城。當時我覺得萬佛城是有錢人才能去的，但是現

When I was sixteen, I got an opportunity to learn about the Bodhisattva precepts from a Dharma Master in his class on the *Lotus Sutra*, conducted by MDRBA. That was my first time learning about the Bodhisattva Precepts and it perked my interest and curiosity. I told myself that if I were given the chance, I must uphold the Bodhisattva precepts because I know that they are supreme and wonderful.

One year later, in 2009, I felt really excited when I learned that CTTB was transmitting the Bodhisattva precepts. At that time, many Malaysian lay people registered for the transmission and the Dharma Masters also started giving lectures on the Bodhisattva precepts. I truly rejoiced in the Dharma bliss after attending the lectures; however, I could not receive the precepts at that time as I was unable to afford to go CTTB. I was envious of those who were able to do so and at the same time, I also felt truly happy for them.

Although I was not able to go, my interest in the Bodhisattva Precepts remained strong and I wanted to know more about them. Hence, I requested a book on Bodhisattva Precepts from the Way-place. However, as I was still young that time, the Dharma Master did not allow me to request for the Precept book, because she was afraid that I would be use the precepts to judge other people. Even so, I really wanted to read the book and so I managed to borrow the Precepts book from one of the laywoman who registered to take the Bodhisattva Precept and copied them down on my notebook. After reading it, I felt that it was not that difficult to uphold the precepts and decided that if I am given a chance to do so, I must uphold them.

在我知道，只要有願力、有誠心的人都能去。

沒想到佛菩薩和上人真的很慈悲，這麼快就滿我的願。當時大學正好有一項學生交換計劃，聽到這個計劃我眼睛就亮了，心想：「機會來了！」於是我挑了一間加拿大的大學，因為靠近美國我才能找機會去萬佛城一趟。但我也知道美國的簽證不好拿，一定要有很好的理由，簽證才不會被拒絕，否則簽證費就白白浪費。所以只要拿到加拿大的學生簽證，拿美國的簽證就有比較大的勝算了。

佛菩薩加持，一切都很順利，很快就拿到美國的簽證了。就這樣，我到加拿大念了半年的書。有一天，突然在華嚴寺看到萬佛聖城傳授菩薩戒的通告，當時我好興奮、好開心！佛菩薩太慈悲了，真的滿了我的願。我本來只是希望到聖城看看就好，或者能參加一、兩項法會，萬萬沒想到佛菩薩竟然給了我這麼大的bonus（額外獎勵）——在我能到萬佛聖城的這一年，竟然碰上聖城傳授菩薩戒。

拿了報名表格，我有點擔心父母可能不同意，因為之前要受五戒也是苦苦哀求了一年，他們才願意讓我受戒。但是一切順心滿願，他們竟然奇蹟般地答應了。於是，我就來到了夢寐以求的萬佛城受菩薩戒。老實說，到現在我都不敢相信，還沒有開始打工賺錢，我就有能力去萬佛城，而且還受了殊勝的菩薩戒，一切真的太不可思議了！

上戒律課的期間，我每天都法喜充滿，也明白了很多道理。菩薩戒主要是心戒，一切都從心念為出發點，心量一定要大。戒律的精神就是不自私，要站在眾生的角度想，不要以「我」為出發點。戒律不是那麼死板板的，有它彈性的地方，但是要明白佛陀制戒的緣由，不是「戒守你」，而是「你守戒」。當明白這道理，守戒其實並不難，而且是很自然的事情。戒尺是拿來量自己，不是量別人，持戒不能讓身邊的人起煩惱，要時時刻刻站在別人角度著想，要學會對自己說：「千錯萬錯都是

I have always longed to go CTTB but the cost to go there was unimaginable for a student like myself; even if I did not spend my pocket money and save it up, it would take me five years before I could have enough to go CTTB. Therefore, I have always thought that I might have to wait until I completed my studies and started working before I could afford to travel to CTTB. My thoughts initially was that CTTB is a place where only the rich could go, but now I think that anyone who has the vow to go and sincerity can go there.

I never thought that the day where I could fulfill my wish would come in such a short period of time. Buddhas, Bodhisattvas and Shr Fu are really compassionate. Coincidentally, my university was offering a student exchange study program. When I heard about this, my eyes sparked! I thought, the opportunity has presented itself! I picked a Canadian university, because it's near to US and from there I could make my way to CTTB. On the other hand, I know that it's hard to get a US visa, and that I must have a solid reason to ensure that the US visa would not be rejected; if not the application fees would be a waste. The only way to increase the chances of my US visa being approved is by having the Canada student visa which would make the process much easier.

Because of the support and kindness from all the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, everything went smoothly. Soon, I got the US visa. That's how I went to Canada to study for half a year. One day, I happened to see the Transmission Bodhisattva Precepts notice at the Avatamsaka Monastery, I felt so excited and happy! Buddhas and Bodhisattvas are too compassionate; they really fulfill my wish of receiving the Bodhisattva Precepts. Initially, I was only thinking of visiting CTTB or probably just participate in one or two Dharma assemblies. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be able to come across a transmission of Bodhisattva precepts in the year I visit CTTB. The Buddhas and Bodhisattvas really gave me a huge bonus!

After I took the registration form, I was a little worried that my parents would not allow me to take Bodhisattva precepts. Before that, I begged them for one year to allow me to take five precepts. But this time, they agreed readily which was surprising! That's how I came the CTTB to take the precepts. Frankly speaking, even now I still cannot believe that even without the money, I was able to go to CTTB and take the supreme Bodhisattva precepts. This is so inconceivable!

I was dwelling in dharma bliss during the one week of the redundant classes on precepts, and I have a deeper understanding of the principles. Bodhisattva precepts are basically mind-precepts. The mind and heart are our starting points, and we must learn to have a big heart. The essence of the precepts is to be selfless and think from the other people's point of view. Do not let yourself or your ego be your starting point. Precepts aren't fixed, they do have their flexibility, but you have to understand the reason behind why the Buddha wanted to establish them. We need to know that it is not that the "precepts are upholding us," we are "upholding the precepts". When you understand this principle, upholding precepts is not difficult; in fact it is a natural thing to do. You cannot use your precepts to judge others, it is

我的錯，不要埋怨別人。」

在這期間很多人問我：「你這麼年輕，受菩薩戒可以嗎？以後進入社會，持戒就沒有這麼容易啦！」難道要等老了才受戒？受戒不是應該越年輕越好嘛？習氣毛病才容易改過來啊！而且事在人為，不能因為末法時代的環境容易讓我們破戒而不去持戒，反而更加要持戒，這樣至少還有一股清流。

在娑婆世界很多時候我們自己作不得主，可是有了戒律的指引，我們就不容易走錯路。因此，在無法保證下一輩子會去哪裏的情況下，更應該受持菩薩戒，因為菩薩戒，是生生世世跟著我們直到成佛。以後如果不幸墮落了，至少菩薩戒的戒體還在，一定會拉我一把，讓我還有機會聽聞佛法。苦苦等了五年才有這機會受菩薩戒，難得入寶山，當然要領著寶出來啦！

受完菩薩戒後，有一種莫名的喜悅，那種開心是打從心底的，就好像找回了不見好久的東西，很高興很高興的感覺。很珍惜這次得來不易的菩薩戒，也會努力持菩薩戒，利益眾生，也願自己早日離苦得樂，速證菩提。阿彌陀佛！



meant to reflect the judgments of your own-self only. Besides, when you are upholding the precepts, you should not let the people surrounding you be afflicted; you have to always stand in their shoes and think from their point of view. You have to learn to tell yourself: "Every fault is my fault, do not blame others."

During this period of time, many people asked me: "Do you think you would be able to uphold Bodhisattva Precepts at this young age? You will know how hard it is to uphold the precepts once you work in the society!" I thought to myself then: Does it mean that I have to wait till when I'm old and then I can receive the precepts? Isn't it better to take precepts when you're young? It is when we are young that bad habits are easier to change. And I believe in the saying, "If there is a will, there's a way." We should not give up precepts only because that we are currently living in the Dharma-ending age where it is easier to violate precepts. In fact, we should be even more adamant in upholding the precepts, because in this way we can at least become like a stream of purity in the Dharma-ending age.

Sometimes in this Saha-world, we cannot make decisions for ourselves due to various circumstances. However, if we use precepts as our guideline, we would not tread on the wrong path. Therefore, in a situation where I could not guarantee where will I be in the next life, I should uphold this Bodhisattva precepts even more vigorously, because this Bodhisattva precepts will be with you, life after life, until we attain Buddhahood. Perhaps if I fall into evil paths in the future, at least I have the precept substance with me; it will pull me out and I will still have the chance to encounter Buddhadharma again. I have been longing to uphold the Bodhisattva Precepts for five years; with this rare opportunity of entering this Jewel Mountain, I would definitely make use of this opportunity to earn some treasure out of this encounter!

After I have taken the Bodhisattva precepts, I felt an indescribable joy; it is like the type of joy you feel when you found something that was long lost, feeling very blessed and happy. I truly cherish the opportunity to uphold the Bodhisattva precepts, as I know they are not easy to encounter. I will try my best to uphold the Bodhisattva precepts and benefit the living beings. I vow to end sufferings, attain bliss and realize Bodhi as soon as possible. Amitabha!

《金剛菩提海》對於我們近幾個月出刊的延期，向所有的讀者表示最誠摯的歉意！同時感恩您一直以來的支持！

——《金剛菩提海》編輯部

VBS apologizes to all readers for the recent delays in publication. Thank you for your understanding and support.

— VBS Editorial Department