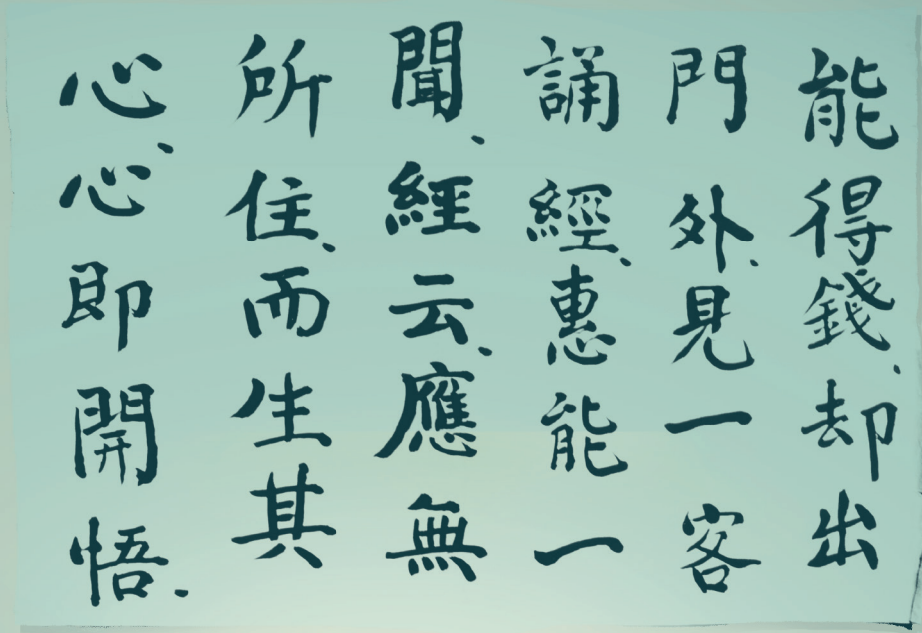


佛法注重真實的行持

Buddhism Emphasizes Genuine Practice



宣公上人《六祖壇經》墨寶

The Venerable Master's calligraphy of the *Sixth Patriarch's Platform Sutra*

宣公上人開示
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An instructional talk by Venerable Master Hsuan Hua
English Translation by Lotus Lee

佛法不一定注重讀書、不讀書這個問題，注重有沒有真實的行持，有沒有真正的功夫。中國的六祖大師，他不單沒有讀過中學，他就小學都沒有讀過，連自己的名字都不會簽，但是他又會講經，又會說法。

他講經怎麼樣講呢？叫旁人給他念出來這個經，念一句他講一句，念一句他講一句，但是和佛所說的意思完全相同，沒有不合乎佛法的地方。為什麼六祖大師不認字就可以講經，就可以說法呢？就因為他得到佛祖的心印，以心印心的妙法。這心印的妙法得到了，所以他所說出來的法都是妙法。

六祖大師得到五祖的心法之後，和打獵的人在一起住了十六年。這段時間他在幹什麼呢？他就是用功修行，經過十幾年的功夫開大智慧，但是要用苦工，要下真工夫才可以。

Learning the Buddhadharma is not necessarily dependent on whether one has had an education or not; the emphasis is placed upon actual practice and attaining true skill. For example, the Sixth Patriarch in China, the Great Master Hui Neng, never went to school and couldn't even write his own name, yet he was able to lecture on the sutras and teach the Dharma.

How did he lecture on the sutras? Other people would read the text aloud and he would explain it, sentence by sentence. However, what he said matched the Buddha's intent perfectly, and never strayed from the meaning of the Dharma. Why was he able to explain the sutras even though he could not read? It was because he had obtained the wonderful Dharma of the Mind Seal of the Buddhas; as a result, anything he said was wonderful Dharma.

After the Sixth Patriarch obtained the Mind Dharma from the Fifth Patriarch, he lived with hunters for sixteen years. During that time he worked hard at his cultivation and eventually developed great wisdom. However, this took an incredible amount of work.