



## 宣公上人涅槃廿週年紀念法會

# Dharma Assembly for the Memorial of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Venerable Master Hua's Entering Nirvana

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DHARMA REALM NEWS | 法界音

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紀念法會前一天，已有來自世界各地的善信一千餘人抵達萬佛聖城。由於人數眾多，佛殿容納不下，因此法會改在大帳篷內舉行。當天清晨四時，參加早課的僧俗二眾逾千人，自寶鼎讚、楞嚴咒、大悲咒、十小咒、心經等經咒一路唱誦，祝禱世界和平、天地增加正氣，並迴向一切眾生。清晨五時傳授八關齋戒，幫助受戒的佛弟子清淨自心，止惡防非。

清晨6時50分，近千人聚集在萬佛聖城山門，分列八排前進，展開三步一拜的朝山之旅。朝山開始後，大帳篷內於清晨7時舉行剃度典禮。這次共有三名善男子親賢、親揚、親基，兩位善女人近乘、近蘊披剃出家。

剃度儀式由法界佛教總會會長恆實法師、萬佛聖城方丈恆律法師、比丘尼恆良法師、恆信法師共同主持。巧合的是，1968年第一批在宣公上人座下出家

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The day before the big event, more than a thousand people from all over the world had already arrived. Due to the inordinate amount of people, the Buddha Hall was not large enough, so all Dharma assemblies were held in the big tent outside. The day of the ceremony, there were over a thousand monastics and laypeople attending morning recitation, chanting and reciting the *Jeweled Censer Praise*, the *Shurangama Mantra*, the *Great Compassion Mantra*, the *Ten Small Mantras*, and the *Heart Sutra* to pray for world peace, increase the positive energy in the world, and dedicate the merit to all living beings. The eight precepts were transmitted at 5 AM to enable disciples of the Buddha to purify their minds, prevent wrongdoing, and do good deeds.

At 6:50, about a thousand people gathered at the mountain gate and, in eight long lines, began a three steps one bow pilgrimage towards the Buddha Hall. Afterwards, a leaving home ceremony was held at 7 AM in the big tent. Three laymen, Qin Xian, Qin Yang, Qin Ji, and two laywomen, Jin Bing and Jin Yun, left the home life.

The ceremony was hosted by DRBA president Dharma Master Heng Sure, Abbot of CTTB Dharma Master Heng Lyu, and Bhikshunis Dharma Masters Heng Liang and Heng Xin. Coincidentally, the first group of people who left home under the Venerable Master's guidance in the United States was also comprised of three men and two women. Twenty years after he entered Nirvana, the five newest additions to the Sangha come from such countries as Malaysia,

的美國弟子，同樣是三男兩女。而在上人涅槃20週年之際，跟隨上人座下僧團出家的五位佛門新血輪，則分別來自馬來西亞、波蘭、紐約、台灣等地，象徵正法走向世界各地，影響更多人。



上午八時，朝山信眾與剃度儀式觀禮人群會合，在法師帶領下，列隊走向萬佛聖城東區的妙覺山。由於時序入暑，紀念法會前數日，白天已酷熱難當，但法會當天卻是晴朗又涼爽的好天氣。一朵朵白雲聚集在法會現場上空，灑進陽光，但擋住炎熱，使得千餘人能夠在一小時內輕快來回妙覺山。

萬佛聖城方丈恒律法師在灑淨儀式前致詞指出，念誦大悲咒要迴向這片土地的地神、山神、以及一切眾生，希望他們擁護這項工程順利推動，利益世間。法會當天上午並有普佛與傳供儀式，精心準備的香花素果等多道供品，由大眾以至誠懇切的心，一一捧至額前，並依次傳遞至佛前供桌上，表達對宣公上人最深刻的禮敬與追思之意。

午齋中，恒實法師首先開示說，宣公上人留下四大遺產：建立僧團、翻譯經典、推行教育、宗教交流，現在已經開花，期待未來結果。

這項紀念法會的貴賓之一南傳比丘阿姜帕沙諾是北加州無畏寺的方丈，他感謝當年宣公上人捐贈土地，使無畏寺得以在北加州成立。帕沙諾法師並表示，上人生前提倡的六大宗旨：「不爭、不貪、不求、不自私、不自利、不妄語」更是無形的遺產，無論出家眾或在家人，但能躬行實踐，就是感恩宣公上人的具體方法，我們自己在佛法上也都會進步。

Poland, New York, and Taiwan. They represent the fact that the right Dharma is spreading to various countries and influencing more and more people.

At 8 in the morning, the people who had just finished the bowing pilgrimage and the people attending the leaving home ceremony met up, and with the Dharma Masters at the lead, walked to Wonderful Enlightenment Mountain. Since summer had just begun, the days before the ceremony had been very hot, but the day of the ceremony, the air was clear and cool. The sky was filled with clouds that let the sun shine through but blocked the heat, so that people were able to walk to and from Wonderful Enlightenment Mountain in relative comfort.

Before the purifying boundaries ceremony, CTTB's abbot Dharma Master Heng Lyu said that the merit from reciting the Great Compassion Mantra should be dedicated to the earth and mountain guardians of the area, as well as all living beings, in the hopes that they will support the completion of this project which will benefit all living beings. Afterwards, there was bowing and passing of offerings, which consisted of meticulously arranged food, fruit, and flowers. With sincere hearts, the assembly passed the offerings from person to person, with the train ending at the altar, to show deep reverence and respect to the Venerable Master's memory.

During lunch, Dharma Master Heng Sure said that the Venerable Master left behind four great legacies: establishing the Sangha, translating sutras, developing education, and holding religious dialogue. These projects have already begun, and we look forward to their fruition.

One of the guests to the commemoration ceremonies this year was Theravada Bhikshu Ajahn Pasanno, the abbot of Abhayagiri Monastery in Northern California. He expressed his gratitude to the Venerable Master for giving them the land which later became Abhayagiri. Ajahn Pasanno said that the Venerable Master left behind six invisible inheritances in the form of the six great principles of not fighting, not being greedy, not seeking, not being selfish, not pursuing personal advantage, and not lying. Whether you are a monastic or layperson, if you are able to put them into practice, then you are showing your gratitude to the Venerable Master through action, and you can also improve your own cultivation.

Bhikshuni Heng Liang said that the Venerable Master taught us that the combination of thought and practice results in the creation of both wholesome and negative karma. Therefore, if we change our own minds and vow to do good, conditions will change. Every one of us has the ability to influence and help the world, and reach the other shore of Nirvana.

The abbot, Dharma Master Heng Lyu, started off by welcoming everyone back to their home, the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. He said: "We are very lucky to hear Dharma Master Sure, Ajahn Pasanno, and Dharma Master Liang's talks. When the Venerable Master was in the world, he often said that doing is better than just listening. Therefore,

比丘尼恒良法師指出，宣公上人教導我們，心念加上行為，就會造善業或惡業。我們要做的就是改變我們的心，發願往好的做，因緣就會隨之改變。我們每個人都有能力影響並幫助這個世界，最後到達常樂我淨的彼岸。

萬佛聖城方丈恒律法師表示，歡迎大家從遠地回到我們的家—萬佛聖城。我們很幸運能聽到實法師、帕沙諾法師、良法師的開示，上人住世時，經常說：會聽的不如會行的。因此除了感恩法師們開示之外，還要將他們的教導付諸日常生活去實行，才能得到真正的受用。

午齋後，有瞻仰舍利、三皈五戒、放生儀式等活動。這次無言堂開放時間自中午12時至下午3時，讓參加三皈五戒的善信，也有充裕時間瞻仰舍利。當天報名參加三皈五戒的善信共有74人，其中近60人是初次皈依佛門，發心走向覺悟之路。放生的動物包括雉雞與鸚鵡，合計50隻重獲新生。

宣公上人涅槃20週年紀念法會這天，還有善信提供贈閱品，包括六祖壇經精裝本650套、萬佛城月刊541期（紀念宣公上人涅槃廿週年特刊）400本、以及英文版素食譜Wok Wisely等，跟參加法會的大眾免費結緣。同一排攤位並有素食示範，現場製作素壽司等美味食品，大受歡迎。

為迎接來自世界各地的佛友，帳篷組與大廚房都在紀念法會前兩週就開始為準備工作而忙碌。大廚房在紀念法會當天，前後共有一百多位義工幫忙。大、小齋堂與大悲院的天井，排出2,500張座椅，並有多處上菜的餐檯，如流水席般，供信眾取食進餐。為免大家排隊過久，另準備1,500份午餐飯盒。結果飯盒才推出，立即被索取一空。

知客組則自今年2月即與聖城維修部門合作，換新住宿消防噴水設施。並自法會兩週前開始準備一千餘人的牀鋪，雖然工作繁忙，但想到這麼多佛友能「回家團聚」，所有的辛苦忙碌都化為歡喜甘願。

來自加拿大的善信費瑩表示，參加上人涅槃20週年紀念法會是她第四趟來到萬佛聖城，平日汲汲營營為生計忙碌，來到聖城宛如進入「清涼世界」，身心都感覺淨化許多。住在沙加緬度的吳浦平跟哥哥吳金河、弟弟吳金城一同前來。就讀小學的吳浦平表示，很喜歡參加這項紀念法會，原因之一是：「看到好多朋友」。✿

other than thanking the Dharma Masters for their talks, we should apply what they have said to our daily lives. Only then will you reap its benefits.”

After lunch, there were such activities as sharira viewing, the transmission of the three refuges and five precepts, and liberating life. This year, No Words Hall was open from noon to 3 in the afternoon so that even people who were taking the three refuges and five precepts could have enough time to see the sharira as well. There were a total of seventy-four people attending the transmission of the refuges and the precepts, and sixty of those took refuge for the first time, bringing forth the resolve for enlightenment. There were also a total of fifty pheasants and quail liberated.

For this occasion, there were people who offered to print book for free distribution, including 650 hardcover copies of the *Sixth Patriarch's Platform Sutra*, 400 copies of the 541<sup>st</sup> issue of *Vajra Bodhi Sea* with a special section on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Venerable Master's Nirvana, and the English vegetarian cookbook *Wok Wisely*. In the same row of booths, there was a live demonstration of making vegetarian food, such as vegetarian sushi, which was well-received.

To accommodate so many people from so many places, the kitchen staff and the team in charge of the tent began preparation two weeks in advance. On the day of the ceremony, the kitchen had more than a hundred volunteers. In the big dining hall, small dining hall and in the courtyard behind the dining hall, there were chairs for twenty five hundred people and many food stations throughout the area for people to get food. To prevent people from having to wait too long, 1,500 lunchboxes were prepared beforehand, but they ran out almost immediately after lunchtime began.

In February, the reception department cooperated with the grounds and building, department to replace the sprinkling system in the dorms, and two weeks prior, began preparing bedding and rooms for more than a thousand people. The work was very busy, but for the sake of all these Dharma friends who were able to return home, everything was worth it.

Ying Fei, who came from Canada, said that this was her fourth time coming to CTTB. Having spent most of her daily life working for a living, she said that coming to CTTB was a breath of fresh air for her mind and body. Madeline Wu, an elementary student who came with her brothers Daniel and Ian from Sacramento, said that she really liked attending the ceremony because among other things, she was able to see many of her friends. ✿