

做過情報員的比丘尼 — 恒樸法師

Once An Intelligence Agent
Now A Buddhist Nun
—Dharma Master Heng Pu

鮑晴文

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菩提鏡 BODHI MIRROR

老法師出生於越南農家，六個孩子中是老么。從小沒機會上學，但仍在一星期內學會了24個越南字母。稍長，幫忙家裏耕田農作。15歲時，父母在一個月內相繼去世，她就照顧姊姊的孩子。

1942年老法師19歲，日本侵占越南。她帶頭打聽消息，只要得知日軍進攻路線，立即想辦法通知當地民眾撤離。

1945年日本投降後不久，法軍攻陷河內。老法師有朋友為法國軍部打工，提供消息讓她轉給越南政府，她因而成了法軍要捉拿的通緝犯。

直到老法師和越南移民局高級官員結婚後，這位移民官員因公務而熟識法國駐越官員，想辦法幫她從法軍通緝名單除名，她的情報生涯也就此結束。

婚後育有六名子女，生活寬裕。越南全面赤化後，老法師一家於1979年置船，與親友共28人離開越南。以難民身分，全家移民加拿大。

在加拿大卡格利定居大約一年，同修往生了。所幸加拿大政府照顧難民，因此她得以安心撫養孩子。1984年卡格利華嚴聖寺開光，老法師去參加了開光典禮，這是她第一次接觸法界佛教總會的

This senior Dharma Master was born to a peasant family in Vietnam. She is the youngest among the six siblings. In youth, she didn't have the opportunity to go to school; however, she managed to study the 24-letter Vietnamese alphabet in one week. When she grew older, all she did was help her family till the field; and plant crops and vegetables. Both of her parents passed away within one month when she was fifteen. Her job then became taking care of her nephew and nieces.

In 1942, when she was 19, Japanese troops invaded Vietnam. She led the local people to collect information about Japanese troops. Whenever she learned about the route of Japanese troops' invasion, she would always try her best to inform people living along the route so that they could leave as soon as possible.

Not long after Japan surrendered in 1945, French troops attacked and took over Hanoi. One of her friends worked for the French army headquarters in Vietnam and he would leak information to her, which she would pass on to the Vietnamese government. Later on she was on the "Most Wanted" list by French army.

She later married a Vietnamese high official in charge of immigration affairs. This high official had to contact French officials in Vietnam frequently for his work. Through his connection with French officials, her name was removed from the "Most Wanted" list issued by French troops. Her career of collecting information ended at this point.

She led a decent life after marrying her (now) ex-husband. They gave birth to six children. After Vietnam was completely occupied by the communist party, her family bought a boat and carried a total of 28 family members to leave Vietnam. They ended up being in Calgary as Canadian refugees.

After staying in Calgary for around a year, her husband passed away. It was lucky for her that Canadian government was supportive of refugees so she could

分支道場。老法師自此常到華嚴聖寺幫忙，也協助打法器。她學法器很快，一聽就會。

1987年第一次見到宣公上人時，上人打了她的頭三下，要她好好用功，多誦《地藏經》，將來救度受苦眾生。老法師當場要求出家，上人表示，她還有三個孩子未成年，等他們都長大後再出家。

1994年因緣成熟出家，派到溫哥華金佛寺常住；每天念誦《地藏經》。心願是將身心奉獻給佛菩薩，任何時候都要度眾生。

1995年受具足戒，一切順利，從此沒有憂愁煩惱：「時間一到我就誦經，生死都是跟著佛，跟著地藏王菩薩法門，學習地藏王菩薩『地獄不空誓不成佛』的精神。」

近年因視力較差，還打盹，誦經速度變慢。現在每天功課就是念佛，誦《藥師經》與《地藏經》。每當眼前模糊不清時，她立刻求地藏王菩薩，就感覺眼睛明亮起來，看得到經文。

現年93歲的老法師對後輩修行人的忠告是：要用功，放下自我，不自私，不想著吃好東西。要做事，不怕苦不怕難，不偷懶，什麼時候都要度眾生。✻

raise her children peacefully. Later in 1984, when the Avatamsaka Monastery in Calgary held a grand opening ceremony, she attended the event. That was the first time she encountered a branch monastery of the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association. Since then she often frequented Avatamsaka Monastery and helped with many chores as well as playing Dharma instruments. She was quick in learning Dharma instruments after just hearing them being played once.

She first met the Venerable Master Hua in 1987. Master Hua patted her head three times and told her to be diligent in spiritual cultivation. He also told her to recite the *Earth Store Sutra* so that she could help save living beings in suffering. She asked Master Hua to allow her leave the home life, but Master Hua rejected her request saying that she had to wait until her three minor children reached adulthood.

The causes and conditions for her to leave the home life ripened in 1994 and she was assigned to stay in Gold Buddha Monastery in Vancouver, Canada. She still recites the Earth Store Sutra every day. Her wish is to give her heart and body to Buddhas and Bodhisattvas and cross over living beings at all times.

She was fully ordained in 1995. Everything has gone smoothly for her and she has had no worry or afflictions since then. "I recite sutras when time is up. I follow Buddhas whether I am alive or dead. I also follow the Dharma method of Earth Store Bodhisattva and his spirit of not realizing buddhahood as long as the hells are not empty."

Her eyesight has become blurry in recent years and she would doze off so the speed of her Sutra recitation has slowed down. Her daily practice now is to recite the Buddha's name and the *Medicine Master* and *Earth Store Sutras*. Each time when she cannot see clearly, she will immediately pray to the Earth Store Bodhisattva and then her eyes will become brighter so that she sees the Sutra text clearly.

The 93-year-old senior nun's sincere advices for younger cultivators are: Be diligent, let go of your ego, don't be selfish, don't think of having gourmet food, don't be afraid of hardship or difficulties, don't be lazy, and cross over living beings at all times. ✻



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