

2016年實法師與來法師南加州弘法

Reverend Heng Sure and Reverend Heng Lai Bring Buddhadharma to Southern California, 2016

謝惠英文

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8月23日，法界佛教總會的兩位資深比丘實法師、來法師應邀前來南加州弘法，同時福祿壽聖寺當家恒山法師，也帶領萬佛聖城的兩位新戒比丘近幸師、近孝師，一同為信眾開示，真可謂「佛光普照南加州」。

法會開始，實法師首先介紹金輪寺的歷史，一一道來，十分熟悉，足見和金輪寺極深的淵源。金輪寺成立的第二年（1977年），實法師便從金輪寺出發，三步一拜，祈求世界和平，前後歷時兩年半，抵達萬佛聖城，完成美國佛教界的壯舉。

成立於1976年的金輪寺，是與萬佛聖城同歲數的老道場。當年上人不論寒暑，每月固定來洛杉磯講法，南北往返，不計舟車勞頓，一心為弘揚佛法，度化眾生。故道場取名「金輪寺」，象徵法輪常轉、永不止息之意。

實法師接著介紹上人的四大志業建立僧團、翻譯經典、提倡教育、宗教交流。上人於1995年入涅槃，在西方弘法三十年，提倡四大志業，身為弟子的我們，應當繼續努力完成上人的志業。

跟隨師父多年的來法師，分享許多

On August 23rd, Dharma Master Sure and Dharma Master Lai, two senior bhikshus from Dharma Realm Buddhist Association, in response to the laity's request for Dharma came to Southern California. The manager of Blessings, Prosperity and Longevity Monastery in Long Beach, Dharma Master Shan, brought two young bhikshus from the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, Jin Xing Shr and Jin Xiao Shr, to join this special Dharma event. The Buddha's light was truly shining in Southern California.



1977年5月7日，恒實法師（前）與恒朝法師（後）從金輪寺出發，朝拜萬佛聖城。

On May 7, 1977, Dharma Master Heng Sure and the former Dharma Master Heng Chau started their three-step-one-bow pilgrimage from Gold Wheel Monastery to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

Dharma Master Sure began his Dharma talk with the history of Gold Wheel Monastery, and he was very clear about of all the details, which demonstrates his deep affinity with Gold Wheel Monastery. When Dharma Master Sure began his pilgrimage to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas in 1977, his starting point was

上人的故事：在舊金輪寺，每一次師父講經完，很多人會上前頂禮師父，供養師父。有一次我站在師父身旁，一位老婦人和一位年輕人正給師父磕頭。

師父看著我說：「你知道嗎？我根本沒注意到他們是男的還是女的，是老的還是少的，我只看他們的佛性，其他的我都不注意。看到他們的佛性，我心裡就想，怎麼樣能令他們開悟，讓他們認識自己內在的佛性？」

如果我們仔細地讀佛經，會發現每一部經都指出這一個道理——一切眾生皆有佛性。那麼，怎樣開發這個佛性呢？師父說，這就是他來的目的。這也是菩薩發的願，菩薩所在之處，就是要眾生認識自己內在的佛性。

還有一次，有人請師父到金門公園，師父說：「好。」於是到了公園，我們又去參觀水族館。我不知道師父為什麼要去水族館，可是就跟著去。到了那兒，大家就欣賞魚啊、鱷魚、各式各樣的海底動物。我覺得很尷尬，因為我們不是觀光客，這成何體統？出家人不應該這樣的。可是師父不是在觀光，他看著每一種動物，然後一一為牠們念咒迴向。

於是我明白了，師父不是趁機放假去觀賞動物，而是藉著這個因緣度化這些眾生，為牠們種下將來成佛的種子。這就是師父做的工作，也是我跟隨他多年所學到的教化。我們凡人看到某條魚會說：「哇，好漂亮的魚！」可是像師父這樣的明眼善知識，他看的不是這條魚美麗的外表，而是牠美妙的佛性，願意為牠種下未來開悟的種子。師父讓我明白菩薩就是這樣。

實法師和我是1976年在萬佛聖城受具足戒的第一批比丘，但是我確實花一段時間才發心出家。1971年我住在金山寺，隔一段時間就有法師問我：「你什麼時候要出家？」但我始終沒想過。直到1974年，我感覺時候到了，就

Gold Wheel Monastery. He made the heroic Three Steps One Bow pilgrimage, seeking world peace. It took two years and six months to reach his final destination, the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

Gold Wheel Monastery was established the same year as the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, in 1976. During those early years, Venerable Master Hua came to Los Angeles monthly. Undaunted by the constant travel, he came to propagate the Buddhadharma and to teach and rescue living beings. Neither the winter chill nor summer heat could shake his resolve. Gold Wheel Monastery was given its name to signify the perpetual and constant turning of the Wheel of Dharma.

Next, Dharma Master Sure talked about Venerable Master Hua's four great goals, which are to establish the Sangha, to translate the Buddhist sutras into all the languages of the world, to support education and to enhance interfaith exchange. When Venerable Master Hua entered stillness in 1995, he had been propagating the Buddhadharma in the West for over thirty years, during which time his resolve to accomplish these four great goals never waned. As his disciples, we should carry on the task of fulfilling these four great goals.

Dharma Master Lai, who followed the Venerable Master for many years, shared many stories about the Master. "Every time when we finished listening to the Master's talk at the previous Gold Wheel Monastery, many people would come and bow to Master and make offerings to him," Dharma Master Lai told us. "Once an old woman and a young man were bowing to Shi Fu, and I was standing next to him.

Shi Fu looked at me and said, 'You know, when I see people coming to bow to me, I don't even distinguish whether they are woman or man, I don't pay attention. In fact, I don't pay attention to whether it is a little child or a very old person. What I look at is the person's Buddha Nature. And then the next thing I would consider is how I can get this person to see that Buddha Nature. That's what I do. That's why I am here.'

If we study the Buddhist sutras wisely, we will find that every single one of those sutras always point to this fact—All sentient beings have Buddha Nature. We all have this Buddha Nature, and our job is to open up to it. But how? Our Master said that it was the only reason he was on this earth. This is also what Bodhisattvas do. Bodhisattvas go around making Buddhas, because all people have the Buddha Nature.

One time, people invited Shi Fu to Golden Gate Park. Shi Fu said, 'Okay,' so we went to look at the aquarium, where the event was to be held. I couldn't understand why Shi Fu would want to go there, but, we all just went along. People looked at the fish, crocodile, and other creatures. I thought, 'We are not tourists, so what are we doing here? We're supposed to be monks.' Shi Fu, though, was not there as a tourist. He looked at each different animal. He looked at the crocodile, and he was reciting. Actually, he was reciting a mantra for it.

Then I understood. He was not there to look at the animals and have a nice day off. He was there to teach them, to help them plant seeds of enlightenment, so that later they can become Buddhas. And that was exactly what he did. That's the kind of teaching I got from being around him. In Buddhism we call him a



上人無時不刻都在為眾生迴向，迴向眾生早成佛道。照片中，上人正用觀音菩薩的42手眼加持水鴨。

At all times, the Venerable Master dedicated merit to living beings, wishing them to realize ultimate Buddhahood. In this photo, Venerable Master was blessing the dabbling ducks with Guanyin Bodhisattava's 42 hand-and-eyes Dharma.

問師父：「師父，我可不可以出家？」

師父說：「你出家幹什麼？」我以為師父會很高興聽到我要出家，但他沒有。他說：「你不出家不重要，你成佛比較重要！你必須在對的事情上用功。首先，你很景仰虛老，是吧？你很喜歡他，但是你知道他做的事嗎？他可以打坐兩個禮拜都不動，儘管那時候他還沒開悟。他為什麼要這麼辛苦？」

「不知道，師父！」我回答。「他要眾生看到他的行為，對佛法生恭敬心，對修行人恭敬心，所以他願意受苦。虛老是真正的菩薩，即使沒有開悟，沒有嘗到禪悅為食，可是願意為眾生受苦，這才是真正菩薩的行為，你應該這樣發心來修行。」

恆山法師也分享：「我跟隨師父多年，師父上人一向以六大宗旨來教化弟子，師父自己也時時刻刻遵守六大宗旨。這讓我學習到師父的身教重於一切，是我們的大善知識。

來自台灣的近幸師，分享了自己出家的因緣，並且鼓勵大家學佛要有精進心和長遠心。近孝師來自西雅圖，深諳中、英、越三種語言，他鼓勵大家要孝敬父母，認真學佛，盡人的本分。

兩個小時的開示很快就過去了，人人法喜充滿，最後在悠揚的「迴向偈」合唱聲中圓滿結束。✿

good and wise advisor, someone who really understands things. Everybody else went up to the fish tanks and said, 'Oh, look at the beautiful fish!' Shi Fu didn't look at the beautiful fish, instead he looked at the beautiful Buddha Nature! He looked at each fish's Buddha Nature and planted seeds of enlightenment for the future. This really taught me all about what real Bodhisattvas do.

In 1976, Dharma Master Sure and I were the first ones to get ordained at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. It took me a long time to get to that point. I moved to Gold Mountain Monastery in 1971. Every once in a while other monks asked me, 'When are you going to leave home?' I did not have the nerve to ask Shi Fu. Finally, in 1974, I got up the nerve, bowed to Shi Fu and said, 'Shi Fu, I'd like to leave home.'

Shi Fu said, 'What do you leave home for?' I thought it would make Shi Fu happy that I wanted to leave home, but it didn't. He said, 'You want to leave home? I don't care. What I care about is if you will become a Buddha!

You need to focus on the right things.' He said, 'First of all, you like the Venerable Xuyun. You like him so much, but do you know what he used to do? There was a time when he sat, and he didn't move for two weeks. That was before he got enlightened. Why did he do such a stupid thing?'

'I don't know, Shi Fu!' I said. 'The reason he did that was so that people would respect the Buddhadharma and respect their own cultivation. He worked so hard. He was a true Bodhisattva. That's a Bodhisattva's deed. Even though he did not have the joy of Samadhi, he had not attained it yet, he still did that for living beings. That is the kind of mind he had. That is the kind of mind you must have for cultivation.'"

Heng Shan Shi said, "I followed the Venerable Master Hua for many years. Not only did he educate and transform his disciples with the Six Great Principles, but he himself also followed these Six Great Principles. This helped me realize that Master taught by example. He is our great advisor."

Jin Xin Shi is from Taiwan. He shared his story of becoming a monk, and encouraged everybody to study Buddhism with vigor and persistence. Jin Xiao Shi is from Seattle and knows Chinese, English, and Vietnamese. He encouraged all of us to be filial to and to respect our parents, and to study Buddhism diligently so that we can fulfill our responsibility as human beings.

When the two-hour long Dharma talk ended, everyone was filled with Dharma bliss, and the verse of *Dedication of Merit* was sung by a beautiful chorus. The sound reverberated around the entire Buddha Hall. ✿