

2017年萬佛聖城浴佛節

Bathing the Buddha Ceremony at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas 2017



編輯部文 / 黃燕英譯

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「這是我第一次浴佛，感覺能量很好。」來自波蘭的網路安全律師安娜·沃蒂嘉微笑描述在萬佛聖城參加浴佛的感受。

「我們大都是基督徒，但是願意深入探索人類的性靈。」同樣來自波蘭的凱洛琳娜·布莉紫娜是女演員兼瑜珈老師，帶著好奇心來浴佛，小心翼翼地將浴佛水從小佛像的肩上淋下，感受佛教徒清淨身語意的用心。

2017年4月30日北加州瑜伽山谷的上空現出龍形祥雲，增添吉祥氣氛。來自世界各地的佛教徒數百人，包括十餘位波蘭基督徒，齊聚萬佛聖城一同浴佛，歡慶釋迦牟尼佛聖誕。

“This is my first time bathing the Buddha; I can feel the good energy.” Anna Wojdyga, a cybersecurity lawyer from Poland, describes with a smile on her face her experience in participating in the Bathing the Buddha Ceremony at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

“Most of us are Christians, but we are willing to explore human spirituality more deeply,” says Karolina Brzezina, also from Poland, an actress and a yoga instructor who with curiosity attended the Bathing the Buddha Ceremony. She carefully pours the water down the shoulder of the little Buddha statue, while trying to feel and understand the intention of the Buddhists’ concept of “pure body, speech, and mind”.

On April 30, 2017, dragon shaped clouds appeared in the sky of Ukiah Valley in Northern California, making the atmosphere ever so auspicious. Hundreds of Buddhist practitioners from all over the world, and more than ten Polish Christians, gathered together at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB) to celebrate the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha through Bathing the Buddha Ceremony.

當天早課後，上百位居士受八關齋戒。清晨七時，信眾從山門三步一拜並口誦「南無本師釋迦牟尼佛」的佛號，拜向佛殿。同時間在佛殿有誦《華嚴經·普賢行願品》法會。

聖誕祝儀自上午八時起，在大帳篷展開。從舊金山灣區、聖塔蘿莎等地前來的信眾，也陸續抵達。萬佛聖城福居樓的資深比丘尼亦全體出動參加浴佛。

遠自波蘭前來的一群人士，包括大學教授、律師、工程師、經濟學家、化學家、電腦繪圖專家、瑜珈教師、演員等12人，加上在舊金山灣區的家人共14人，特別前來萬佛聖城參加浴佛。

帶隊的克里斯多夫·斯特克指出，他曾於1980年代末期，前來萬佛聖城參加感恩節的禪三，當時對萬佛聖城的道風留下深刻印象；另一項難忘的經驗則是因他習瑜珈多年，可感受到萬佛聖城齋堂的食物，簡單但能量高，可快速補充身體所需。因此這次波蘭專業人士團赴美的性靈與觀光之旅，他特別安排到萬佛聖城。不但浴佛，也聆聽法師開示。

方丈和尚恒律法師在午齋中講述了佛陀面對一位婆羅門的辱罵而不動怒的故事，提醒大家在有人誹謗或誤解我們時，應學習佛陀的精神。方丈和尚強調：「因為一旦生氣起來，平時學習的佛法都忘了，而做出令自己後悔的事。不管出家眾或在家居士，身為佛教徒就要不生氣，才能回到本具的清淨安詳、本有的智慧…經常發菩提心，保持平靜不生氣，這是獻給佛陀最好的生日禮物。」

比丘近湛法師則指出，釋迦牟尼佛在菩提樹下悟道時即已說過，所有眾生皆可成佛，只因妄想執著，不能證得。既然人人可成佛，我們該如何做才能早點成佛？近湛法師說：「佛法浩瀚，上人

After morning recitation that day, over a hundred laity participated in the transmission of the Eight Fasting Precepts. At 7:00am, devotees began the “Three Steps One Bow” pilgrimage from the Mountain Gate entrance towards the Buddha Hall, while chanting Shakyamuni Buddha’s name, “Na Mo Ben Shi Shi Jia Mo Ni Fo”. Meanwhile in the Buddha Hall there was recitation of the Chapter on the Practices and Vows of Samantabhadra Bodhisattva of the *Avatamsaka Sutra*.

The Celebration of Shakyamuni Buddha’s Birthday began at 8:00am inside the big tent. Devotees from San Francisco Bay area and Santa Rosa arrived one after another. All the senior nuns from Tower of Blessings also attended Bathing the Buddha Ceremony.



A diverse group of twelve professionals from Poland including a college professor, lawyer, engineer, economist, chemist, graphic designer, yoga instructor, and actress came with family members residing in San Francisco Bay area. A total of fourteen people in all specifically came to participate in Bathing the Buddha Ceremony at City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

The leader of the Polish group, Krzysztof Stec, pointed out that he had visited CTTB to attend the three-day Meditation Retreat during a Thanksgiving long weekend in the late 1980s. The cultivation atmosphere at

CTTB left a deep impression on him. Through his many years of yoga practice, he was able to sense that the vegetarian meals served at the Dining Hall, although simple

yet highly nutritious, could immediately provide nourishment necessary for the body. Due to Krzysztof’s past experience, he specifically chose to come to CTTB for this trip to explore spirituality. Not only is this group able to bathe the Buddha, they can also listen to Dharma Talks given by the Dharma Masters.

Dharma Master Heng Lyu, the Abbot, told a story during lunch about how Shakyamuni Buddha remained unmoved when he was insulted by a Brahman. He reminded everyone that we should learn from the Buddha, when someone slanders us or there is a misunderstanding. The Abbot emphasized that when anger arises, one forgets the teachings of the Buddha, and will react in ways that will make one regret afterwards. Regardless of whether you are a monastic or a layperson, as a Buddhist practitioner, one should not become angry. This way one can return to one’s inherent wisdom which is pure and tranquil. Constantly bring forth the Bodhi mind, remain calm, and not getting angry—this is the best birthday gift one can offer to the Buddha.

Bhikshu Jin Zhan pointed out, when Shakyamuni Buddha became enlightened underneath the Bodhi Tree, he said all beings can achieve Buddhahood. However, due to false thoughts and attachments, enlightenment



教了六大宗旨，若能身體力行，就離成佛不遠了…所以我們就要好好修行，不要讓上人等太久。」

比丘尼恒揚法師表示，我們浴佛也不忘發願，令五濁眾生都離垢清淨，大家都能夠同證如來清淨的法身。恒揚法師特別感受到「師父上人心心念念想要度眾生成佛的悲心，不僅多年精心打造萬佛寶殿的萬尊佛像，還特地安排四眾弟子每年浴佛之前，先禮拜萬佛寶懺，無非是要我們洗滌身心，親近萬佛，直至成佛！」

當天午齋後開放無言堂，供大眾瞻仰釋迦牟尼佛、虛雲老和尚、宣公上人的舍利。下午有35人報名參加三皈五戒，在學習佛法的路上正式登記註冊。平日每天下午的〈大悲懺〉，在浴佛節這天照例舉行。來自波蘭的遠客則獲萬佛聖城的法師教導打坐，另有佛法問答時間，他們提出的問題五花八門，包括「如何才能開悟？」「出家要具備什麼條件？」等等。法界佛教總會未來可望再度前往歐洲弘法，他們也很希望法總訪問團能到波蘭弘法。✽

cannot be attained. If everyone can become Buddha, then how can one attain Buddhahood faster? Dharma Master Jin Zhan said: “The Buddhadharma is boundless. The Venerable Master taught us the Six Great Principles. If we are able to practice according to it, then Buddhahood is not far away. Thus we need to cultivate diligently and not let Venerable Master Hua wait for too long.”

Bhikshuni Heng Yang expressed, while bathing the Buddha, we need to remember to make vows wishing that all beings in the world of the five turbidities leave impurity and attain the pure Dharma body of the Tathagata. Dharma Master Heng Yang strongly feels “Venerable Master Hua’s compassion towards saving all beings in every thought and at every moment and wholeheartedly wants them to attain Buddhahood. Not only did he spend many years making the 10,000 Buddha statues in the Buddha Hall, the Venerable Master specifically arranged for the fourfold disciples to bow the 10,000 Buddhas Jeweled Repentance before the Bathing the Buddha Ceremony. It is so that we can cleanse our body and mind and draw near to the 10,000 Buddhas until we achieve Buddhahood.”

That day, after lunch, the No Words Hall was opened to the public for people to pay respects to the sharira of Shakyamuni Buddha, Venerable Master Hsu Yun, and Venerable Master Hua. In the afternoon, there were 35 people who registered to take the Three Refuges and Five Precepts; this is a formality for those on the path of learning the Buddhadharma. The normal daily schedule of Great Compassion Repentance Ceremony in the afternoon took place as usual on this day of Bathing the Buddha. The visitors from Poland learned meditation from the Dharma Masters at CTTB. There was also a separate Question and Answer period and they asked all kinds of questions, among them, “How can one become awakened? What are the requirements for becoming a monastic?” Dharma Realm Buddhist Association is expected to go to Europe again to propagate the Dharma in the future. The Polish visitors also hope that the DRBA delegation will go to Poland to propagate the Dharma. ✽

