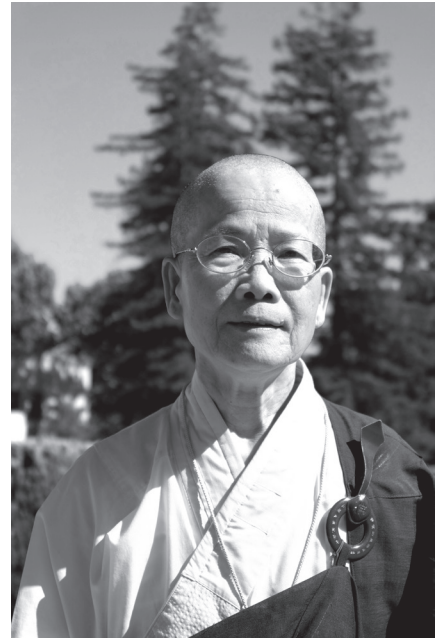


觀世音菩薩來接引 --介紹比丘尼近剛

Embraced by Guan Yin Bodhisattva
-Introducing Bhikshuni Jin Gang

編輯部採訪
黃燕、李紹綱英譯
By the Editorial Staff

English Translation by Wendy Huang and Benny Lee



雖然出生於台灣台北的一個基督教家庭，但在1993年一場大病中，聽到空中飄來的聲音卻是「南無觀世音菩薩」。萬佛聖城比丘尼近剛法師說，她當時在朦朧中也跟著念了十幾聲菩薩聖號，忽然聞到一陣清香，病隨即不藥而癒。

三週後，有朋友邀她到台北法界印經會參加浴佛節慶典。她好奇前往參加。當天看到佛像，覺得親切又清淨，眼淚不禁奪眶而出，一週後開始擔任台北法界的義工。

近剛法師當時在一家國際企業從事稅務工作，工作雖忙碌，但從不耽誤義工重任。1995年皈依、受五戒，同年到萬佛聖城受在家菩薩戒。當時台北法界的法師即鼓勵她出家，只是近剛法師的家人全體反對。1998年女兒出車禍腦震盪，情況危急。近剛法師在上人塑像前發願，只要女兒痊癒，她一定全力說服家人，讓她出家。

女兒果然平安脫險，近剛法師也如願報名出家。但在住進道場前，又遇到障礙，她決定回到原來的高薪工作。當晚在家中閱讀上人法語，映入眼簾的竟是：「我辛辛苦苦建立萬佛城，希望每個人到這裡來，成為萬佛的一份子。居然有人就只想上班、賺大錢...」。近剛

Although born into a Christian household in Taipei, Taiwan, during an occurrence of a severe illness in 1993, a voice was heard: “Na Mo Guan Shi Yin Pu Sa” which is Guan Yin Bodhisattva’s name in Chinese. Bhikshuni Jin Gang of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB) recalled she was in a relatively unconscious state at that moment, but she recited Guan Yin Bodhisattva’s name several times along with the voice. Suddenly she smelled a sweet fragrance, and her illness was cured without taking any medicine.

Three weeks later a friend invited her to the Bathing of the Buddha Celebration at the Dharma Realm Buddhist Books Distribution Association in Taipei. She attended the celebration out of curiosity. When she saw the statue of the Buddha, she thought it was familiar and pure, and tears began to fall uncontrollably down her face. A week later she began to volunteer at the Dharma Realm Buddhist Books Distribution Association.

Dharma Master Jin Gang used to work in the tax department of an international corporation. Although she was very busy, it never prevented her from fulfilling her volunteer duties at the Dharma Realm Buddhist Books Distribution Association. In 1995, she took Refuge and the Five Precepts and in the same year, she went to CTTB to take the Lay Bodhisattva Precepts. A Dharma Master at the Dharma Realm Buddhist Books Distribution Association encouraged her to leave home to become a nun; however, Dharma Master Jin Gang’s whole family was strongly against the idea. In 1998, Dharma Master Jin Gang’s daughter suffered a severe cerebral concussion as a result of a car accident which left her in a critical condition. Dharma Master Jin Gang knelt in front of the Venerable Master’s statue and vowed, as long as her daughter was able to recover, she will do everything in her power to convince her family to allow her to leave home.

Her daughter successfully recovered and Dharma Master Jin Gang also applied to leave home as she had vowed to do. Prior to moving into the monastery, she encountered obstacles which weakened her determination to leave home, and she decided to return to her high paying job. That same night while she was home reading Venerable Master Hua’s instructional talk, she came across the following

法師看後嚇一大跳，趕緊返回道場，並於2003年出家，2009年受具足戒；出家後，先後在美國法界聖城、台北法界服務，目前在萬佛聖城功德部服務。

近剛法師在皈依前，第一次念誦《金剛經》，在誦到「一切有為法，如夢幻泡影，如露亦如電，應作如是觀」時，經本上現出宣公上人的影像。出家時所獲法名與法號正是親金、近剛。但她最喜歡持誦的除了觀世音菩薩聖號、〈大悲咒〉之外，就是《地藏經》。一方面深受地藏菩薩「地獄不空誓不成佛」的大願所感動，另一方面，她的許多經歷在在印證《地藏經》上所說的因果報應。例如學佛前好吃生魚卵，後來耳朵內長出多顆小瘤，形狀恰如魚卵，經歷多番周折才得以摘除。年輕時也曾買活白帶魚現烤來吃，一次拜懺中，白帶魚竟自動浮現眼前，提醒她努力懺悔迴向。

2013年，哥哥病重進加護病房，近剛法師虔誠祈求上人加被。旋於夢中見上人著紅祖衣，為她摩頂並要她誦《法華經》迴向，哥哥果然很快就平安出院。近剛法師每日持誦的經典也自此改為《法華經》。近剛法師表示，未來的目標是往生極樂世界，相信觀世音菩薩必會滿願，接引她到極樂世界。❀

text, “I worked tirelessly to establish the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas in the hopes that everyone will come to cultivate and be part of CTTB’s community. Surprisingly, some people just want to work and make big money...” After reading the text, Dharma Master Jin Gang became startled and she rushed back to the Monastery. She left home in 2003 and became fully ordained in 2009. Since leaving home, she has served at the City of Dharma Realm and Dharma Realm Buddhist Books Distribution Association, and presently she serves in the Donation Department at CTTB.

Prior to taking Refuge, the first time she recited the *Vajra Sutra* and came across this phrase, “All conditioned phenomena are like dreams, illusions, bubbles, shadows, like dew drops and a lightning flash. Contemplate them thus.” Suddenly, an image of Venerable Master Hua appeared over the sutra text. The Dharma names that she received after leaving home was, “Qin Jin” and “Jin Gang”. She likes to recite Guan Yin Bodhisattva’s name and the Great Compassion Mantra. In addition, she recites the entire *Earth Store Sutra* on a regular basis. She was inspired and moved by Earth Store Bodhisattva’s great vows. Additionally, she has many experiences that confirm the causes and effects as stated in the *Earth Store Sutra*. For instance, prior to learning Buddhism, she loved to eat fish roe. As a result, she developed many fish roe shaped lumps inside her ears, which were extremely difficult to remove. When she was young, she also purchased live Hairtail fish to roast. One time when bowing a repentance, a Hairtail fish appeared in front of her to remind her to repent vigorously and transfer the merit.

In 2013, Dharma Master Jin Gang’s brother fell ill and was sent to the intensive care unit. She sincerely pleaded to Venerable Master Hua for his blessing and help. In her dream, Venerable Master Hua came forth in a red robe, patted the top of her head, instructed her to recite the *Dharma Flower Sutra*, and transfer merit to her brother. Sure enough, her brother recovered quickly and left the hospital. Since then, Dharma Master Jin Gang changed her daily recitation to the *Dharma Flower Sutra*. She expressed that her goal is to be reborn in the Pure Land. She believes that Guan Yin Bodhisattva will for sure fulfill her wish and welcome her to the Pure Land. ❀