

## **側記台灣寬謙法師萬佛聖城之行** Dharma Master Kuan Qian's Visit to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas from Taiwan

石義環文 / 李佼 英譯 By Yihuan Shih /English Translation by Angela Morelli



台灣覺風佛教藝術文化基金會、楊英風藝 術教育基金會董事長比丘尼寬謙法師,接受法 界佛教大學的邀請,從7月17日到7月20日之間 造訪萬佛聖城並進行了兩場演講,講題分別是 《阿彌陀經暨經變圖》,以及《法華經暨經變 圖》。

寬謙法師的父親是法界佛教大學前藝術學院 院長楊英風居士,因此法師除了公開演講,還 從台灣帶了一支專業的影視團隊,目的是紀錄 楊英風居士生前為聖城所造的佛像,包括萬佛 殿的藥師佛、往生堂的地藏菩薩,以及五觀齋 堂的千手千眼觀世音菩薩畫像;並專訪宣公上 人來美後的早期僧俗二眾弟子。

寬謙法師出生於藝術家庭,在享譽國際的 雕塑大師楊英風的教養之下,奠定了深厚的美 學素養;萬佛聖城的因緣,亦是透過父親而產 生連結。在專訪恒實法師的過程中,寬謙法師 透露,她從小聽聞父親講述在萬佛聖城修行的 Venerable Bhikshuni Kuan Qian from Taiwan, at the invitation of Dharma Realm Buddhist University, visited the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas from July 17 to July 20, 2017. Dharma Master Kuan Qian is the chairperson of the Chue Feng Buddhist Art and Culture Foundation and the Yuyu Yang Art and Education Foundation in Taiwan. During her visit to CTTB, she delivered two lectures on Buddhist Art on the topic of the pictorial illustration of *Amitabha Sutra* and the pictorial illustration of *Dharma Flower Sutra*.

Dharma Master Kuan Qian's late father, Yuyu Yang, was Dean of Dharma Realm Buddhist University School of Fine Arts. Therefore Dharma Master Kuan Qian also brought with her a professional film crew to document Professor Yuyu Yang's art work in CTTB, namely the image of Medicine Master Buddha in the Buddha Hall, the image of Earth Store Bodhisattva in the Rebirth Hall and the painting of the Thousand Hands and Eyes Guan Yin Bodhisattva in the Five Contemplations Hall. The film crew also interviewed senior monastic and lay disciples about the Venerable Master Hua after he came to the United States.

Dharma Master Kuan Qian was born into a family of artists. Her artistic talents and foundation were also nurtured and influenced by her 種種經驗,以及聖城出家人日中一食, 夜不倒單的苦行,她因此對修行心生仰 慕,並興起出家之念。

經變圖,意調從佛經經文變化而來的 圖像。簡言之,是以圖畫藝術展現佛教 經典的義理。寬謙法師強調,欣賞經變 圖前,必須先認識經文中的道理。所以 在兩場經變圖的演講中,法師會以她建 築學上解構及架構事物的專長,先用科 判表講解兩部佛經的內容,之後才以生 動活潑的敦煌石窟經變壁畫,帶領大眾 瀏覽經典裡的豐富內容及譬喻故事。

寬謙法師以推動佛教藝術為誓願, 她在演講中提到,修行人若有文學及藝術的修養,可以幫助我們更深入理解經 文。在與上人早期弟子的訪談中,法師 更反覆提到佛教藝術是助道之器,是接 引初機、利益眾生的權巧方便。她希望 將來在佛法西傳的工作上,也能夠盡到 一己之力。@ father Yuyu Yang – an internationally well-known sculptor; and it was also because of her father that she had tied affinities with CTTB. During the interview with Rev. Heng Sure, Dharma Master Kuan Qian mentioned that, as a young child, she often listened to her father describe his experience of cultivating in CTTB, as well as many stories of the austere practices of the monastics in CTTB such as eating one meal a day and sleeping sitting up. Through her father's stories, she aspired to cultivate and also resolved to leave the home life.

Sutra illustration is the artistic and pictorial depiction of Buddhist Scriptures in order to explain the Buddha's teaching. Dharma Master Kuan Qian emphasized that to be able to appreciate Sutra illustrations, one must first understand the principles taught in the Sutras. In the two lectures she delivered at CTTB, she first explained the Sutras by using the traditional classification framework and then showed the vivid depiction of the ancient paintings from the Caves of Dun Huang.

Dharma Master Kuan Qian has resolved to propagate the Dharma through Buddhist Art. In her lectures, she said that cultivators will be able to deepen their understanding of the Sutra texts with the aid of literary and artistic training. During the meetings with the Venerable Master's senior disciples, Dharma Master Kuan Qian often talked about how Buddhist Art is a great expedient to gather in living beings. She also wishes that she will be able to contribute to bring the Dharma to the West. <sup>(\*)</sup>



這次萬佛聖城的朝聖之旅,非常感謝您們聖城僧俗四眾的竭盡心力協助我們,不僅感受到聖城修行的 道風,更感受到聖城未來無限無量的發展。讓我們能順利地將近四十年前,楊教授受宣化上人的精神 感召,僕僕風塵於台美雨地間,為成立法界大學佛教藝術學院的悲心與弘願,作一追憶與錄製。感恩 您們!代為問候大家! -- 寬謙 合十

We very much appreciate the tireless efforts made by the Sangha and the laity on our behalf during our pilgrimage to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Not only did we feel the serenity of devoted cultivation, we could also foresee limitless possibilities with regard to future development of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Professor Yang, inspired by the Venerable Master Hua, brought out his compassionate and vast vows to help establish Dharma Realm Buddhist University School of Fine Arts. With your help, we might smoothly recollect and record the footsteps that he traveled tirelessly between Taiwan and CTTB 40 years ago. I would like to express our gratitude and my personal regards to each and every one of you. - Kuan Qian, with palms joined