

# 精進念佛的 恒惠老法師

## Dharma Master Heng Hui: Reciting the Buddha's Name with Vigor

編輯部文 / 葛漢卓 英譯

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恒惠老法師出生於1919年12月9日，中國四川省忠縣人，俗名陳德澤。青年時期正值抗日戰爭，發心從軍報國，1949年隨政府播遷臺灣，在憲兵部隊服務，官拜中校。退役後在國民中學教授中文，65歲退休。育有二子——陳威宏（果威）及陳慶鐘（果慶），皆專攻音樂，擔任教職。

夫婦倆退休後，精進學佛，在1990年於高雄同時皈依宣公上人，並於1992年到萬佛聖城長住。機緣成熟，雙雙於1993年在金山聖寺上人座下剃度出家，當時老法師已74歲高齡，並在1995年9月23日受具足戒。

雖然上人明訂超過70歲的常住法師可自行用功，但是老法師堅持每天上供過堂，參加晚課。90歲左右時，體力漸差，由大兒子果威或義工以車接送到大

Dharma Master Heng Hui was born on December 9, 1919, in Zhong County in Sichuan Province, China. His name was Chen De-ze. In his youth, during the Second Sino-Japanese War, he resolved to join the army and serve his country. After he fled to Taiwan with the Nationalist government, he served in the military police and was given the rank of a lieutenant. After his retirement from military service, he taught Chinese at a secondary school until retirement at age 65. He had two sons, Chen Weihong (Guo Wei) and Chen Qinghong (Guo Qing), both of whom were accomplished musicians and teachers.

After he and his wife retired, they diligently studied the Buddhadharma, and in 1990 in Kaohsiung both took refuge with the Venerable Master Hua. In 1993, when the time was right, they left the home life under the Venerable Master at Gold Mountain Monastery in San Francisco. That year, the elder Dharma Master was already 74. In 1995 he received the full precepts.

Although the Venerable Master allowed fully ordained monastics over the age of seventy to cultivate on their own, the elder Dharma Master Heng Hui was intent on attending the meal ceremony and evening ceremonies. When he was about 90 years old, his body started to become weaker, so he was driven to and from the ceremonies in the Buddha Hall by either his older son or a volunteer. On July 20 this year, he passed away without illness. He was 99 years old. He

殿和齋堂，參加功課。今年7月20日上午無疾而終，世壽99，僧臘24，戒臘22。

老法師深感萬佛聖城清淨如極樂世界，因此告知在法國專攻中提琴的長子，來聖城男校教音樂並負責照顧住宿生，同時服侍兩位老法師，從1993年至今，24年如一日，孝心令人感佩。

老法師的修行，除了堅持到大殿參加共修外，早中晚精進念佛不綴，做為定課，也勤練書法。凡來探望者，老法師都以所寫的「阿彌陀佛」墨寶結緣，除了感受到他的精進外，也種下念佛的善緣。老法師剛出家時有兩個宏願——長壽及往生西方極樂世界；他謹遵上人的教導，必能遂心滿願。

老法師一生，無論從軍，擔任教職，及出家修行，皆中規中矩，剛正不阿；嚴以律己，寬以待人。凡事不做則已，做則堅持到底，有始有終，這種恒心毅力是後人學習的好榜樣。謹以此聯表達對老法師的敬意和祝福：

恒修淨土無空過；  
惠我同聲念彌陀。✽

had lived the left-home life for 24 years and been a fully ordained monk for 22 years.

He felt strongly that the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas was as pure as the Western Land of Ultimate Bliss. Therefore, he advised his older son, who was at the time studying the viola in France, to come to the City to teach music and help supervise the boys' dormitory. At the same time, he would also be able to take care of his parents. From 1993 until the present, for 24 years, his son's filial devotion has been touching and admirable.

The elder Dharma Master's cultivation consisted not only of going to the Buddha Hall for the ceremonies, but also reciting the Buddha's name. He also practiced calligraphy in his free time. Whenever he had guests, he would give them a copy of his calligraphy, with the Chinese words "Amitabha Buddha." This was not only a reflection of his diligence but also a reinforcement of the affinities he had with reciting the Buddha's name. When Dharma Master Hui first left the home life, he had two main vows: live until a very old age and be reborn in the Western Pure Land. He followed the Venerable Master's teachings closely, and surely was able to fulfill both vows.

Throughout his entire life, regardless of whether it was serving in the military, being a teacher, or, finally, leaving the home life to focus on cultivation, Dharma Master Heng Hui respected the law and exhibited uncompromising propriety. He was strict with himself but had a big heart for others. Furthermore, anything that he began, he would finish. His perseverance is an example that all of us should follow and emulate. We would like to express our respect and our best wishes through the following matching couplets:

*Constantly cultivating for the Pure Land, he didn't pass the time in vain,  
An inspiration for all in unison to recite Amitabha Buddha. ✽*