

華嚴寺大雄寶殿佛像開光大典暨卅週年慶

Inauguration of Buddha Statues in the Great Jeweled Hall and Celebration of 30th Anniversary at Avatamsaka Monastery



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• 開光大典

加拿大卡加利規模最大的佛教道場華嚴寺，於2017年9月9日舉行大雄寶殿佛像開光大典暨卅週年慶祝法會，由法界佛教總會會長恒實法師，以及恒來法師、恒山法師、恒興法師、恒江法師等五位比丘，帶領逾一千三百名善信共同為佛像開光。卡加利市長納希德·能施蒞臨參加剪綵儀式，並指出：「此地（華嚴寺）將成為未來世世代代的信仰中心以及社區中心。」

當天剪綵儀式由三頭祥獅在鑼鼓聲中開場獻瑞，當祥獅在大雄寶殿的佛像前安靜跪下致敬時，市長納希德·能施應邀致詞說：「將信仰帶到本市中心非常重要，尤其是當憤怒、仇恨、不耐與霸道的聲音似乎不斷

• Inauguration Ceremony

Avatamsaka Monastery is the largest Buddhist monastery in Calgary, Canada. On September 9, 2017, the Ceremony for Inauguration of Buddha Statues in the Great Jeweled Hall and Celebration of the 30th Anniversary was held. Five bhikshus of Dharma Realm Buddhist Association (DRBA), Reverend Heng Sure, Dharma Master Heng Lai, Dharma Master Heng Shan, Dharma Master Heng Hing, and Dharma Master Heng Chiang, led over 1,300 renowned and good devotees to inaugurate the Buddha statues. Naheed Nenshi, Mayor of Calgary, participated in the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and expressed, "This place should be a center of faith, a center of community for many, many generations."

On that day, for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, three auspicious lions in the midst of energetic sounds of gongs and drums started off the events. When the auspicious lions were in the Great Jeweled Hall kneeling quietly and paying respects in front of the Buddha statue, Mayor Nenshi, upon invitation to make a speech, said, "Bringing faith into the heart of our city

增強之際……今天看到各位善信雲集於這座莊嚴的大殿，適足以提醒我們——我們的角色就是為每一個人建設更好的社區。」

恒實法師則向現場所有人士解釋「華嚴寺」的涵義。梵文中的「華嚴」是指花繖，將各色美麗的香花串在一起，也是一部佛教大經的名稱，「寺」則是讓



華嚴三聖像前有三盞大型水晶吊燈，燈上鐫刻華嚴四十二字母梵字，映入眼簾晶瑩璀璨，為這座寶殿更添莊嚴氣象。

In front of the Three Avatamsaka Sages statues were three grand crystal chandeliers. The 42 Avatamsaka Syllabary in sSanskrit were engraved on the chandeliers and one would see the resplendent, sparkling, and translucent light causing the Jeweled Hall to be even more adorned.

人（修行）開悟的地方。因此他歡迎不同國家、不同背景、不同語言的人，都能來到這裡開發智慧與慈悲。同時祈願佛光普照照耀本市，照耀這個省份，照耀這個國家，乃至照耀全世界。

在比丘、比丘尼和卡加利市長共同剪綵後，祥獅繼續演出，市長對此顯得極有興趣，特地拿出手機拍照。市長離去後，五位比丘為大雄寶殿的華嚴三聖毘盧遮那佛、文殊師利菩薩、普賢菩薩，還有佛殿東側的藥師佛、毘盧遮那佛背後的十八羅漢像，以及一樓進門處的彌勒菩薩像開光。五位比丘每人各持一鏡，帶領大眾齊誦咒願三遍：「晝吉祥，夜吉祥，晝夜六時恒吉祥；毘盧遮那佛入此殿，是故此處最吉祥。什佛囉什佛囉，陀囉陀囉，頻陀囉頻陀囉，瞋

is very important when the voices of anger, hatred, intolerance and bigotry seem to be growing louder and louder... To be here today, the sight of this awesome room, this amazing room of worshippers, really reminds us that our roles are to build a better community for everyone.”

Rev. Heng Sure explained the title of “Avatamsaka Monastery.” “Avatamsaka” is a Sanskrit word meaning ‘flower garland’ which strings together various beautiful, fragrant, and colorful flowers. It is also the name of a main Buddhist scripture. Monastery in Sanskrit is ‘Bodhimanda,’ a place for awakening. Therefore, he welcomed people from different countries, different backgrounds, with different languages to come here to have their wisdom and compassion open and expand. At the same time, a prayer that the Buddha’s light shines everywhere—to the city, to the province, to the nation, and to the entire world.

After the bhikshus, bhikshunis, and Mayor of Calgary had cut the ribbon, the auspicious lions continued their performance. The Mayor seemed very intrigued and even took out his camera to take pictures. After the Mayor left, five bhikshus inaugurated the statues of Three Avatamsaka Sages in the Great Jeweled Hall—Vairocana Buddha, Manjushri Bodhisattva, and Samantabhadra Bodhisattva; in addition, the statue of Medicine Master Buddha on the east side of the Buddha Hall, the 18 Arhat statues behind Vairocana Buddha and the Maitreya Bodhisattva statue on the first floor at the entrance were all inaugurated. The five bhikshus each held a mirror and led the great assembly, altogether, to recite the mantra three times: “*Lucky by day and lucky by night, Always*



目前法界佛教總會各道場中，華嚴寺大雄寶殿為最高的一座，總高度62呎。毘盧遮那佛18呎（含背光），佛像的蓮花座下還有義工自製的10呎高檯，必須抬頭仰觀才能瞻仰佛像。

Currently, the Great Jeweled Hall of Avatamsaka Monastery is the tallest Buddha Hall among DRBA monasteries, totaling 62 feet in height. The statue of Vairocana Buddha is 18 feet in height, including the halo; beneath the lotus dais of the Buddha statue is a ten-foot high counter made by the volunteers. One must raise one’s head in order to behold the Buddha statue.



寶殿四壁供奉11,888尊自製的石膏佛像，每尊佛像至少經過30雙手的打琢。石膏佛像內有27個國家善信的手抄佛經或咒文，使得這座寶殿充滿大眾齊心協力凝聚的正能量。

On the four walls of the Buddha Hall are 11,888 handmade plaster Buddha statues. Each Buddha statue passed through at least 30 pairs of hands in order to be made. Inside each plaster Buddha statue was a handwritten copy of Buddhist sutra or mantra by devotees from at least 27 countries, which made this Jeweled Hall be filled with the proper energy of a concerted effort by the great assembly.

陀唵陀，虎鉢虎鉢。」接著將鏡往前向上推出，與眾同聲喝道：「開！」

每尊開光的佛菩薩像均獲大眾齊誦咒願，在「開！」聲之後，實法師為每尊佛菩薩各誦一首開光偈，完成該佛菩薩的開光儀式。實法師說這套開光儀式是宣公上人入涅槃前所傳，咒願中的咒語出自〈楞嚴咒〉。開光大典在大眾齊心共同參與中圓滿。

晚間則是大眾期待已久的「幽冥戒」，由恒實法師傳戒，受戒亡靈法名均為「法嚴」，共有731個牌位，捧牌位者分散在三樓佛殿與四樓大雄寶殿。由於規劃得當，法會進行井然有序，圓滿成功。所有參加開光大典的來賓與信眾，都獲贈華嚴寺自製的袖珍版小佛像一尊，以及介紹製作萬佛的「萬佛一心」紀念書刊。

• 法筵盛會

開光大典次日有上堂齋，共有12位齋主請法。實法師舉上堂法語道：「智慧無分東西，苦難遍處皆是。誰能指點我們離苦之道？佛陀大覺者，找到跳出輪迴之門。三藏法師宣公上人為我等大開此門，教導我們如何了苦，並與所有能聽聞之眾生分享其道。」

實法師指出，上人提出的六大宗旨：不爭、不貪、不求、不自私、不自利、不妄語，正是帶領我們從無邊煩惱中解脫之道。實法師問大家：「如此法門在握，何愁菩提路遙？善

lucky by day and night, Vairochana Buddha enters our hall, That is why this place is most auspicious. Shi fo la. Shi fo la. Tuo la tuo la. Pin tuo la. Pin tuo la. Chen tuo chen tuo. Hu xin hu xin.” They held the mirror forward-facing and pushing it upwards while, in unison with the assembly, saying loudly, “Open!”

Each of the statues of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas equally received the great assembly’s recitation of the mantra in unison. After saying, “Open!”, Reverend Heng Sure recited an inauguration verse for each Buddha and Bodhisattva statue to complete the inauguration ceremony of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas statues. Reverend Heng Sure stated that this process for inauguration ceremony was transmitted by Venerable Master Hua before he entered nirvana. The inauguration mantra lines came from the *Shurangama Mantra*. The Inauguration Ceremony in the great assembly’s mind, for those who participated together, was completed to perfection.

Next, in the evening was the much-awaited transmission of the “Precepts for the Deceased”, the Precepts was transmitted by Reverend Heng Sure. The Dharma name for all the deceased was “Fa Yan” (Adorned Dharma). There was a total of 731 plaques. Those holding the plaques were divided among the third floor Buddha Hall and the fourth floor Great Jeweled Hall. As a result of appropriate planning, the Dharma Assembly went according to plan and was very successful. All guests and devotees who participated in the Inauguration Ceremony received Avatamsaka Monastery’s handmade, small, pocket-sized version of the Buddha statue, as well as a commemoration book, *A Myriad Buddhas, A Unified Resolve*, about making the ten thousand Buddha statues.

• Dharma Assembly

The day after the Inauguration Ceremony, there was the High Meal Offering with twelve donors requesting Dharma. Reverend Heng Sure ascended the hall to give this Dharma talk: “Wisdom knows no East or West. Suffering and misery are universal. Who can show us a road to freedom from pain? The Buddha, the Awakened Human Being found a door that opened to a realm beyond Samsara. Holding that door open for us even today in Calgary, Tripitaka Master Hsuan Hua, taught us how to end suffering for ourselves and share

男子、善女人，若非即刻自此下手，又將從何覓菩提？」

恒來法師也分享他第一次到加拿大道場參加開光大典，是在溫哥華的金佛寺，當時有700多位善信前來。上人讓來法師領眾到寺廟外繞佛，才走了一段路，上人就派人告訴來法師：「太快了。」來法師調整步伐後，上人又派人告訴來法師：「太慢了。」回到金佛寺時，上人站在大門口對來法師說：「你現在懂了嗎？」來法師當下明瞭：修行用功的訣竅正是要「不快，也不慢」。

來法師以前曾住過華嚴寺，領教華氏零下40度的低溫，很不容易。有一次來法師要去文殊山，上人說那裡有條赤龍，等待佛法已有多劫，上人要來法師去跟那條赤龍講講話，可是來法師擔心路上可能會碰到兇猛的大灰熊。上人說：「大灰熊脾氣很大，你只要不生氣就行，生氣就會招來大灰熊。你要是發脾氣，連赤龍都不理你。」

華嚴寺開光大典前，自8月24日至9月7日，相繼舉行楞嚴咒七與梁皇寶懺法會，由恒興法師擔任法主。興法師介紹〈楞嚴咒〉的五大心咒，指出五大心咒由佛心與修法人的慈悲心流露出來，可降伏天魔，化解外道咒術的力量，但不害人。無論什麼魑魅魍魎，遇此心咒，其氣自散。興法師並強調，修行必須不任性，不要任著自己的習性，貪圖輕鬆快樂。

8月30日楞嚴咒七圓滿後，8月31日舉行三皈五戒。共有卡加利當地25位善信報名參加，年紀最小的皈依者是四歲的李親成，年齡最大的是兩位75歲的長者。9月1日清晨傳八關齋戒，為梁皇寶懺掀開序幕。此次兩週法會，楞嚴咒七約有150人參加；梁皇寶懺則有300餘人一同拜懺。兩週法會至開光前，總計約有45位法師自法總各分支道場前來，支援法會或共襄盛舉。

the Path with every living being who can hear.”

Reverend Heng Sure pointed out that Venerable Master proposed the Six Great Guiding Principles: do not fight, do not be greedy, do not seek, do not be selfish, do not pursue personal advantage, and do not lie. It truly leads us to the path of liberation from our boundless afflictions. Reverend Heng Sure asked everyone: “With this method in our grasp who can fear the road to Bodhi is too far from us? Good men and women, if it doesn’t start with your very next step where will you find it?”

Dharma Master Lai also shared his first experience of coming to Canada to attend the Inauguration Ceremony which was at Gold Buddha Monastery in Vancouver. There were over 700 devotees who attended. Venerable Master let Dharma Master Lai lead the assembly to circumambulate around the outside of the monastery. After only a short distance, Venerable Master sent someone to tell Dharma Master Lai: “Too fast.” After Dharma Master Lai adjusted his pace, Venerable Master again sent someone to tell Dharma Master Lai: “Too slow.” When he got back to Gold Buddha Monastery, Venerable Master was standing outside of the entrance and said, “Do you understand now?” At that moment, Dharma Master Lai understood that the secret to applying effort in cultivation is precisely to be “not too fast and not too slow.”

Dharma Master Lai had resided at Avatamsaka Monastery in the past and experienced the -40°F temperature which wasn’t easy. Once, when Dharma Master Lai went to Castle Mountain, Venerable Master said there was a red dragon there waiting for the Buddhadharma for several eons. Venerable Master wanted Dharma Master Lai to go there and speak with the red dragon but Dharma Master Lai was worried that he would encounter big, ferocious grizzly bears. Venerable Master said: “You will be fine as long as you don’t get angry. Grizzly bears have big temper. They get attracted to angry people. If you get angry, then even the red dragon will also ignore you.”

Before the Inauguration Ceremony at Avatamsaka Monastery, from August 24 to September 9, there was, consecutively, the *Shurangama Mantra* Recitation Session followed by the Emperor Liang Jeweled Repentance Dharma Assembly; Dharma Master Heng Hing was the Dharma Host. Dharma Master Hing explained the Five Great Heart Mantra of the *Shurangama Mantra* and pointed out that the *Five Great Heart Mantra* flows out from the compassionate heart of the cultivator of this Dharma and the heart of the Buddha. It can subdue celestial demons and dissolve the power of incantations of externalists, yet it would not harm people. Regardless of whether it is a ghost, spirit, or goblin, upon encountering this Heart Mantra, that energy will disperse. Dharma Master Hing also emphasized that in cultivation one should not be unruly and do not follow one’s habits seeking ease and bliss.

On August 30, the *Shurangama Mantra* Recitation Session was completed and on August 31, the Transmission of Three Refuges and Five Precepts was held. There was a total of 25 Calgary residences who registered and participated. The youngest to take Refuge was four-year-old Lǐ Qīn Chéng and the oldest were two 75-year-old elders. On the morning of September 1, there was the Transmission of the Eight Fasting Precepts which was the prelude to the Emperor Liang’s Jeweled Repentance. In these two weeks of Dharma Assembly, there were approximately 150 participants for the *Shurangama Mantra* Recitation and about 300 bowing the Emperor Liang’s Jeweled Repentance together. The two weeks of Dharma Assembly and up until before the

• 精采慶典

華嚴寺此次開光大典與30週年慶的活動，還有兩大亮點，就是著名的國際鋼琴家陳毓襄演奏會，以及文殊山與金鎮道場朝聖之旅。陳毓襄演奏會於9月10日下午舉行，演奏曲目包括巴哈的法國組曲，舒曼的托卡塔曲，拉曼尼諾夫的作品，蕭邦的小夜曲和叙事曲。在全體觀眾起立熱烈鼓掌下，陳毓襄又演奏了兩首安可曲：蕭邦的華爾滋舞曲，以及佛洛都斯改編的莫扎特土耳其進行曲。

演奏會之後，主修古典音樂的電子琴演奏者凱瑟琳·噶蒂娜說，陳毓襄的演奏出奇地好，實在難以置信，太神奇了。肯娃·阿羅拉更直接表示，這是她聽過最棒的鋼琴演奏會，她很希望加入華嚴寺，定期前來參加活動。陳毓襄本人則讚嘆大雄寶殿的場地非常好，原本沒有預料到，一彈才發現挑高的天花板帶來十分理想的音響效果，令她很滿意。

9月11日至12日的朝聖之旅，分為爬山團與輕鬆團，吸引300多人參加。兩位曾在文殊山第一座湖附近，目睹金色阿彌陀佛現身山頂的居士，這次也歡喜報名重遊文殊山。兩團都在文殊山與金鎮道場拍攝許多形似佛菩薩以及宣公上人的石像照片，這些照片和這次的開光大典，都將留在大家的記憶深處，成為生命發光的一部份。

• 禪三圓滿

華嚴寺於9月14日至16日舉行禪三，為開光大典與慶祝30週年劃下圓滿句點，由恒興法師主三。興法師提到當年香港慈興寺開光時，上人送給每位來賓一本「博山和尚超脫真詮」作為紀念品。書中指出，修行人若看不破就放不下，用功時便會有種種妄想，這是根本毛病；興法師認為此書對參禪打坐的幫助很大。❀

Inauguration Ceremony, there were about 45 Dharma Masters from DRBA branch monasteries who came to support the Dharma Assembly or to join in on this great undertaking.

• Brilliant Celebrations

There were still two highlights to the Inauguration Ceremony and the 30 Anniversary Celebration of Avatamsaka Monastery this time which were the piano concert featuring world renowned pianist, Gwhyneth Chen and a pilgrimage trip to Castle Mountain and Golden City. The piano concert by Gwhyneth Chen was held in the afternoon of September 10. The performance program included Bach's French Suite No. 5 in G Major, BWV 816; Schumann's Toccata in C Major, Op. 7; Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C-Sharp minor, Op. 3, No. 2 and Prelude in G Minor, Op. 23, No.5; Chopin's Nocturne in E-flat major, Op.55, No.2, Nocturne in G Minor, Op.37, No.1, Nocturne in C Minor, Op. 48, No.1; and Chopin's Ballade No.4 in F Minor, Op.54. After rounds of applause and standing ovations, she played two en core pieces: Chopin's Waltz in A Minor and Mozart's Turkish March with the arrangement by Volodos.

After the piano performance, Catherine Gardiner, electric keyboard pianist majoring in classical music, expressed that Gwhyneth Chen's performance was surprisingly good, really incredible, and amazing. Kanwal Arora directly stated that this was the best piano performance she had heard and really wanted to join Avatamsaka Monastery to regularly come and participate in the activities. Gwhyneth Chen personally praised the Great Jeweled Hall saying it was an exceptional place. Originally, she did not expect it but once she started playing, she discovered that the high ceiling brought about the perfect sound effect which made her very pleased.

From September 11 to 12 was the pilgrimage trip which was divided into two groups, mountain climbing group and easy group. It attracted over 300 people to participate. Previously, two laypeople near the first lake at Castle Mountain saw a golden Amitabha Buddha manifest at the top of the mountain. They were happy to register and take the trip to Castle Mountain again. Both groups took many pictures at Castle Mountain and Golden City of stone statues that resembled Buddhas, Bodhisattvas, and Venerable Master. These photos and the Inauguration Ceremony will stay deep within everyone's memory to become one of life's shining moments.

• A 3-day Chan Session as the Perfect Ending

A 3-day Chan session was held after the inauguration ceremony at Avatamsaka Monastery from September 14 to 16 which was a perfect ending for the inauguration ceremony and the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Avatamsaka Monastery. Dharma Master Heng Hing was the Dharma Host. He mentioned that Venerable Master Hua gave every guest a book as the souvenir when the Ci Xing Chan Monastery in Hong Kong held an inauguration ceremony. The book was titled "Monk Boshan's True Principles of Transcendence" in which it talked about cultivators would have all kinds of discursive thoughts if they couldn't look beyond and let go. This is a fundamental problem (for cultivators.) Dharma Master Heng Hing felt that this book is very conducive to Chan meditation. ❀

