

【宣公上人百歲誕辰紀念活動】

【Events in Commemoration of Venerable Master Hua's Centennial Birthday】

在天成象，在地成形——妙覺山工程啓動了

When There Is an Image in Heaven, It Will Take Shape on Earth—The Wonderful Enlightenment Buddhist Institute Project

編輯部文 / 黃果儀 英譯

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2018年為萬佛聖城開山祖師上宣下化老和尚誕辰100週年，老和尚生前為培育僧才而規劃的妙覺山建設計劃恰於今年上半年有了重大進展。第一期工程於2018年5月7日開始整地，並於6月26日獲得曼都仙諾縣府批准第一期工程的建築施工許可（building permit），可正式開始施工。

妙覺山建設計劃位於萬佛聖城東區，此區原為農業用地，占地153英畝。歷經多次公聽會後，才得以將其中26英畝改為教育用地，並以「國際哲學倫理研究院」名稱，獲曼都仙諾縣議會通過。目前規劃之建地為24

As we have been observing the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas' founder Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's 100th birthday, the Wonderful Enlightenment Buddhist Institute Project that he modeled to develop the sangha has seen major developments in 2018. The grading to prepare for phase one of construction work started on May 7, 2018. The building permit was then obtained on June 26, 2018 for phase one construction work to officially begin.

The building project will be located towards the east of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas on the 153 acres originally designated as agricultural land. After multiple public hearings, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors gave the green light for using 26 acres of the land to be utilized for educational purposes. This project has been named "International Institute of Philosophy and Ethics (IIPE)." The current plan is to divide the 249,000 square feet of the interiors of the buildings into three separate phases of construction. The first phase will include the men's area, with a precept

萬9000平方呎，將分三期施工。第一期工程為男眾區，包括禪堂、戒堂、教室、寮房。第二期工程為大殿區，計有大殿、圖書館、齋堂、教室、辦公室。第三期工程為女眾區，建築物類似男眾區。因建築用地位於妙覺山麓，故冠以「妙覺山建設計劃」之名。

「妙覺山建設計劃」工程監督委員會於2018年6月16日晚間在萬佛聖城大殿簡報，指出2016年因溼地面積擴大，因此申請將工程預定地向北移400呎，於該年11月獲縣議會通過此項建地許可（use permit）修正案。

第一期工程與新大殿用地經北移後，得以位於工程預定地的最高點而遠離溼地，更符合環保精神。2017年8月17日獲得整地許可（grading permit）。但因雨季將臨，而曼都仙諾縣政府規定每年10月中旬至次年4月中旬之雨季期間不得整地，因此將整地工程延至2018年5月。

多年來眾所期盼的「妙覺山建設計劃」之興建，在法界佛教總會四眾弟子一心一德共同努力下，終於得以在2018年展開第一期工程的施工，逐步實踐「為法界眾生興建一座智慧與慈悲燈塔」的願景，並以此初步成果作為宣公上人百歲聖誕之獻禮。✿

hall, classrooms, and dormitories. The second phase will include the Buddha Hall, library, dining hall, classrooms, and offices. The third phase will include an area for women with buildings similar to those of the men. Since these buildings will be built at the foot of the Wonderful Enlightenment Mountain, it has and will continue to also be referred to as the Wonderful Enlightenment Buddhist Institute (WEBI) project.

On June 16, 2018, the oversight committee for the Wonderful Enlightenment Buddhist Institute project gave a short presentation in the Buddha Hall. They informed the assembly that in 2016 there was an expansion of wetlands that required the team request the county to move the project 400 feet north. This was approved. The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors voted and passed to issue a revised use permit in November of 2016.

Buildings for the first phase of construction and the new Buddha Hall will now be located on the highest ground of the proposed construction area which is far away from the wetlands and therefore will help protect them. The grading permit was received on August 17, 2017, but as the rainy season drew near, Mendocino County specified that no grading work would be allowed from mid-October to mid-April during the rainy season. Hence, the grading work was delayed until May 2018.

The Wonderful Enlightenment Buddhist Institute Project has been highly anticipated for many years. With the combined efforts wholeheartedly made by members of DRBA and the disciples of the Venerable Master, the first phase successfully began in 2018. Step by step, we are realizing the vision of “building a beacon of wisdom and compassion for all living beings of the Dharma Realm,” and present our initial progress as an offering in honor of the centennial of Venerable Master’s birthday. ✿



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