

The Six Paramitas Applied to Translation: Simultaneous Teamwork Translation as a Dharma Door

由斯諸佛希有法·陀羅尼句義深邃 ——翻譯中的六波羅蜜

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張親法 中譯



It was through reading Buddhist texts in English, that I became inspired and passionate about the Dharma. In my first semester of graduate school, I was so enthralled by the publications of the Buddhist Text Translation Society (BTTS), that I would spend all my time reading them, forgetting about my classes and homework.

I decided to move to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, where I soon entered the monastic order.

Right away, because I knew English and a little Chinese, I was asked to translate and interpret. Fellow nuns would sit next to me on stage and whisper into my ear to tell me what a sentence meant in simple Chinese or English, before I translated that sentence orally or on paper. Thanks to my fellow nuns, I received hands-on training on until I could translate solo. However, I still did not have any clue how to pass that knowledge on to others.

Later, the method of team translation became popular.

透過閱讀英文佛教書籍，我受到啟發並且對佛法產生濃厚的興趣。就讀研究所的第一個學期，我深深地被佛經翻譯委員會的出版物吸引。我所有的時間都在閱讀這些書籍，甚至連上課和寫作業都忘了。

我決定搬到萬佛城，並且很快就在此出家。

因為我懂英語和一點中文，很快地，我被要求擔任翻譯和即席口譯。上台翻譯時，其他女法師會坐在我旁邊，悄聲告訴我，一個句子在簡單的中文或英文中是什麼意思，然後我將該句口譯或筆譯出來。感謝其他女法師，在我能獨當一面之前這樣訓練我。但是，我仍然不知道該如何將這些知識傳授給其他人。

後來，團隊翻譯的方法風行起來。藉由團隊合作，大家可以培養自己的語言能力和翻譯技巧。目前我們有很多譯經群組，他們正在做英語、西班牙語和波蘭語翻譯，或者是越南語、韓語、日語、法語、意大利語、德語、俄語、印度尼西亞語和波斯語（現代波斯語，伊朗語）的翻譯。

我們的願景是讓許多人可以一起共修、貢獻專長、發展技能，同時也能在翻譯佛經的過程中修行。

Working in teams, people can develop and hone their language and translation skills. Now we have many teams translating Buddhist texts into English, Spanish, and Polish. We also have translators working on Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese, French, Italian, German, Russian, Indonesian, and Farsi (modern Persian, a language spoken in Iran) translations.

The vision is for many people to work together, contributing and developing their skills and doing spiritual practice as they translate the Buddhist canon into the languages of the world.

There are many ways to support translation. There are the main Four Committees: Primary translation, Bilingual review, Editing, and Certification. However, additional roles are also available, such as: checking for consistency, researching terms in different languages, compiling glossaries, rough renderings, polishing, copyediting, proofreading, book design, layout, publicity, designing and managing websites, getting the word out through social media.

There are also opportunities to translate liturgy, to adapt the teachings for children of all ages, young adults, and to create music and videos.

For me, translation is an excellent opportunity to practice of the six paramitas of the Bodhisattva path (giving, morality, patience, vigor, concentration, and wisdom).

1. Giving/generosity—Which includes the giving of material wealth, fearlessness, and Dharma (the highest form of giving).

Translating Buddhadharma into all of the world's languages is key to saving the world from ignorance, hatred, violence, greed.

Even more than our personal spiritual attainment, the gift of Dharma is of lasting benefit, because it can give endless generations the chance to attain liberation from suffering.

Each translation/publication is the collaborative effort of dozens of people in many roles; there is no individual fame to be earned.

2. Morality/Precepts —When we are concentrated on translating a sacred text, we invoke the aid of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, and naturally enter a state of reverence and awe. Inspired by the magnanimity of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas and by our innate potential for awakening, we naturally refrain from selfish acts of killing, stealing, promiscuity, lying, or taking intoxicants. When we work in a team, the whole room or hall is filled with sacred presence and joy.

3. Patience —When working solo on translating a line of text, we must keep in mind the rest of the text and the rest of the Buddhadharma that we know, to help us interpret this line correctly. We gather input from multiple resources including, Buddhist dictionaries, multiple

支持翻譯的方式有很多。我們有四個委員會：初步翻譯、雙語校對、編輯、印證。其他相關的工作有：檢查文稿的一致性、不同語言的術語研究、詞彙表編輯、粗譯、潤稿、編輯、校對、書籍設計、排版和宣傳（包括網站和社交媒體）。

此外還有翻譯佛教儀規以及編輯成適合各年齡層兒童和青少年的教化，還有創作音樂和視頻。

對我而言，翻譯是修習菩薩行六波羅蜜的絕佳機會（佈施、持戒、忍辱、精進、禪定和智慧）

佈施——可分為財施、無畏施和法施（即最上等的布施）。

將佛法翻譯成各國語言是拯救世界免於無知、仇恨、暴力和貪婪的關鍵。

超越個人的修行層次，法佈施的利益可以幫助世世代代的人們從痛苦中解脫。

每一份翻譯和出版品都是許多人分工合作努力的成果；沒有關乎任何的個人名譽。

持戒——當我們專注於翻譯的經文中，我們會得到佛菩薩的加被，自然會生起恭敬心。當我們感受到佛菩薩廣大的心量，會讓我們內在的覺性被啟發，我們自然不會殺生、偷盜、邪淫、妄語、飲酒或吸毒。當我們進行團隊工作，整個房間或廳堂會被佛光和喜悅包圍。

忍辱——當我們獨自翻譯一句經文時，必須把整部經文和我們所知道的佛法謹記在心，以幫助我們做正確地詮釋。我們也收集各方面的參考資料，像是佛教詞典、各種數位佛教經典淺釋、中文和梵文詞典以及其他翻譯版本。

團隊工作的時候，我們將每個人對經文不同的看法融合。這份工作需

commentaries in the Buddhist digital canon, Chinese and Sanskrit dictionaries, and other translations of the text.

When working as a team, we create a lively synergy as multiple voices offer their understandings of each line. It takes patience and a big, big mind to appreciate the many voices, all the textual sources, and to work harmoniously when there are different viewpoints. This is cultivation – it shows us how much attachment we have or how arrogant or egotistical we might be.



A well-facilitated team of diverse members of different cultural/language backgrounds can ensure faithfulness to the original meaning and connotations, while creating a fluent translation with appropriate cultural nuances in the target language.

Venerable Master's guidelines:

When we translate the sutras, our hearts should be filled with the joy of the Dharma

Use wisdom, not emotions. Refrain from aggrandizing your own work and putting down others work. Do not take yourself as the standard of correctness and suppress the work of others with fault-finding. The measure of our minds should encompass all of space and pervade worlds as numerous as grains of sand. We are here to discuss and investigate together; there's no need to argue. No one wins and no one loses. United and equal, we advance together.

Vigor —Translation involves a tension between the original text in its own language and culture, and that of the target

要有極大的耐心 and 心量去欣賞各個不同的看法和文稿，並能融洽的共事。這就是修行——它讓我們看到自己的我執、貢高和我慢。

一支由不同文化、語言背景的成員所組成的良好團隊可以確保譯作保持原意，同時又兼具平衡文化差異的流暢翻譯。

上人的指導方針是，在譯經的時候，我們的心應該法喜充滿，是用智慧，而非感性。不誇大自己，詆毀別人。不要自以為是，而對他人的工作吹毛求疵。我們應該心包太虛，量周沙界。我們在這裡一起討論和研究，不需要爭論。沒有贏家，也沒有輸家，大家團結而且平等，共同前進。

精進——翻譯牽涉原本的語言和翻譯語言之間文化的差異性，同時也必須考慮翻譯是否信、達、雅。在翻譯佛教經典時，正確性優先，接下來才是考慮文字是否明



language and culture. The goals of faithfulness or accuracy, clarity, and elegance or beauty are simultaneously sought. In the translation of Buddhist texts, accuracy is foremost, and having clear and easy to understand texts is next. Our ordinary minds can hardly hold the web of meaning in both languages/cultures while also considering all constraints and attain all goals. Thus, BTTS translators are asked to use the true mind of the Buddha, which is infinite, all-encompassing, perfect awareness. We strive to understand and practice the Buddhist teachings so as to develop that infinite awareness; that's one form of vigor. Collective vigor consists of constantly nurturing the synergy of collective group wisdom, which can embrace many more perspectives and produce a well-rounded translation meeting multiple goals. Vigor also means that we contribute our time, energy, and talent for the sacred work of translation, working steadily on each sentence, passage, and chapter of each text, without expecting any material rewards.

Meditative Concentration - Venerable Master once instructed a translator to translate for one hour, then meditate for a half hour, then translate for another hour, and so forth. When we meditate and do other practices, not just think and deliberate with our brain, we will have more insight into the Buddha's true intention and meaning. Sometimes we ponder a concept or difficult idea for days, investigating it like a meditation topic.

Wisdom — As we practice taking the Buddha mind as our own mind in translation and immerse ourselves in the Dharma, our minds expand and mature, and we advance more resolutely upon the path to awakening. If we use wisdom to translate sutras, our wisdom will grow day by day.

Master Hua had two and a half years of formal education and did not know any other languages, yet he vowed to translate the entire Chinese Buddhist canon (which contains several thousand texts) into the world's languages— this bold vow may intimidate people, but it makes the Buddhas happy. He said, “We are common people doing the work of sages. We are using everyone's collective wisdom to translate the sutras.”

It has been my experience that translating Buddhist texts together with others inspired by this sacred work is deeply rewarding and joyful, and a wonderful way to cultivate the Bodhisattva's paramitas.

If you are interested in joining a translation team or finding out how you can help support the translation and publication of Buddhist teachings, you can visit www.buddhisttexts.org. ☸

確易懂。一般人的思維很難同時掌握兩種語言/文化的意義，同時考慮到所有的限制完成翻譯。因此，佛經翻譯委員會的翻譯人員要用佛心，因為這是恆常而無所不包的。我們努力理解和實踐佛陀的教導，以早日發展我們的覺性，這也是一種精進。集體精進包括不斷培養集體智慧，這種智慧可以包含更多面向的目標，並產生滿足多個目標的全面翻譯。精進也意味著我們為翻譯這份神聖的工作所投入的時間，精力和才能，在每篇文章的句子，段落和章節上穩定地工作，而不期待任何物質報酬。

禪定——上人曾指示翻譯者工作一小時之後應該打坐半小時，然後再翻譯一小時。我們會打坐和修習其他的法門，而非仰賴大腦思維，我們將更能了解如來的真實義理。有時我們會思考一個概念或困難的想法好幾天，就像參話頭一樣來研究它。

智慧——當我們練習在翻譯中以佛心為己心，當我們沉浸在佛法中時，我們的思想就會擴展和成熟，我們會更加堅定地走在覺醒的道路。我們用智慧翻譯經文，我們的智慧也將日益增長。

上人受過兩年半的正規教育，不懂任何其他語言，但他發願將整個中國佛教經典（包含數千篇文章）翻譯成世界各國語言——這麼大膽的願可能會嚇壞很多人，但這個願讓佛很開心。上人說：「我們是平常人做不平凡的事。大家一起集思廣益來翻譯經典。」

根據我的經驗，和其他人一起接受這份神聖的工作，一起翻譯佛教經文是非常愉快的，也是修行菩薩波羅蜜的美好方式。

如果您有興趣加入翻譯群組，或是了解如何支持翻譯和佛典出版，您可以上我們的網站獲得更多訊息 www.buddhisttexts.org。☸