

## 大寶鼎 The Great Jeweled Censer

摘自宣公上人《大般涅槃經淺釋》

晨譯 英譯

An Excerpt from Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Commentary on the *Great Nirvana Sutra*  
English Translated by Early Bird Translation Team

洛杉磯來這麼多的人，正趕上我們這個寶鼎。[編按：1984年3月，萬佛聖城大香爐正式坐落]

古人說：「一言重於九鼎」，這個鼎啊，是很沉重的；它也可以說是個「定」，就是戒定慧的那個定，因為它在那兒不動的。你們這回到這兒來，也可以說是因緣很殊勝的、很巧的。昨天才把這個鼎請回來，今天就把它裝好了，你們都能遇到這種的殊勝的因緣。

怎麼樣殊勝法呢？這個鼎來

Many disciples came from [the Gold Wheel Branch at] Los Angeles. Coincidentally, they happened to be here (the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas) when the jeweled censer arrived. [Editor notes: The Great Censer arrived at CTTB in March, 1984]

The ancients said, "One word of promise weighs more than nine censers combined." This censer is quite massive; "censer (鼎 dǐng)" is similar in pronunciation to "samadhi (定 dìng)" — as in precepts, samadhi, and wisdom. Because it is in samadhi, it sits there unmoved. This gathering of disciples is due to wondrous, supreme causes and conditions.

Last night, we received the censer and today we have assembled it. It was all due to such superb causes



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了，可以說是驚天地、泣鬼神的。十方諸佛菩薩都在那兒，很高興的。這個大地也六變皆震動，天雨寶花繽紛而下，你們聽不見的。

虛空裡頭，飛神夜叉互相傳報，就像那種電報，打得好像雷那麼響，天鼓也鳴了，所以這是驚天動地的一個事情。我們人間有這麼一個鼎，天上也有一個，地下也有一個，不過他們那個是因為我們這兒有了，所以他們才有了。

咱們這要沒有，他們不會有的，說這有什麼證據呢？你要證據，我不能給你看，沒有證據的，這是我這麼說。你信，你就信；不信，那就我沒有說。你相信不相信這個鼎有個影子？

這個影子就是那個相片，天上有相片，人間也有這個相，那麼地獄裡也有。咱們這鼎啊，將來是那四個字——「法界蒙薰」，咱們在這個鼎裡燒香，盡虛空遍法界的諸佛菩薩都來享受你的恭敬供養。

所以，各位不要把這個事情看得很簡單的。你們都是有大善根，這回才遇著這種殊勝的因緣。你看多巧，昨天才請回來，你們今天就看見了。如果不是有特別的因緣，早你們也不來，晚也不來，偏偏等我們這個鼎請回來了，你們就來了。這多巧！你相信也好，不相信更好。✻



and conditions that you were able to encounter it.

How is it superb? When this censer arrived, you can say that it had the far-reaching effect of startling Heaven and Earth, and causing ghosts and spirits to wail. All Buddhas and Bodhisattvas of the ten directions were really delighted. The great Earth shook and trembled in the six ways, and celestial flowers rained profusely from the heavens. And yet none of you felt or heard them!

In empty space, flying spirits and yakshas reported to each other like sending telegrams, making noises as loud as thunder. The celestial drums also started to beat.

Therefore, the arrival of the censer is an event that startles Heaven and Earth. We have a censer in the human realm, and correspondingly, there is also a censer in Heaven — one in Heaven and one on Earth; however, the censer in Heaven only came about after the censer in the human realm came into being.

If we don't have one, then they (the heavenly beings) won't have one either. Where is the evidence? You want evidence? I can't let you see it, because there is no evidence. It simply came from my mouth. If you believe it, then believe it. If you don't believe it, then treat it as though never said anything. Do you believe that

this censer has a shadow?

This shadow is just like a photo. There are celestial photos in the heavens in the same way that we humans have them. Just as there are photos in the human realm, there are also photos in the hells. This censer that we have now is so significant that in the future, once you chant the four words in the Incense Praise: **"...all the Dharma Realm receives the fragrance,"** all Buddhas and Bodhisattvas will come to receive your offerings.

So, each of you should not treat this as a simple matter. All of you have great roots of goodness that enabled you to have such special affinities with this event. You can see how coincidental it was — yesterday it arrived, and today you saw it. Without special affinities, you would not have come at such a special moment — neither too early, nor too late. It is quite a coincidence! If you believe what I said, that is fine. If you disbelieve, that is even better. ✻