

2019年萬佛聖城盂蘭盆法會 2019 CTTB Ullambana Festival Celebration

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2019年8月11日，萬佛聖城隆重舉行盂蘭盆法會。

上午法會大眾在佛殿中念誦《佛說盂蘭盆經》。目連尊者的孝心，流傳數千年至今，令無數聽聞者深受感動，也留下「盂蘭盆節」這項傳統。

萬佛聖城方丈恒律法師在盂蘭盆法會前晚開示指出，佛陀降生人間有五件必做之事：大轉法輪、度化父母、令不信佛法之人生出信心、令未發菩薩心者發菩薩心、為未來將成佛者授記。其中「度化父母」既是佛陀出現人間必做之事，我們身為佛教徒就要注重孝道。

On August 11, 2019, City of Ten Thousand Buddha held a grand celebration for the Ullambana Festival.

In the morning, the great assembly recited *The Buddha Speaks the Ullambana Sutra* in the Buddha hall. Venerable Maudgalyayana's filial heart touched countless listeners deeply in the past thousands of years, and left behind the tradition of Ullambana Festival.

Abbot Heng Lyu of City of Ten Thousand Buddha gave a Dharma talk on the evening before the Ullambana celebration. He said the Buddha was born into this world with five tasks to complete: to turn the Dharma wheel, cross over parents, inspire faith in nonbelievers, help those who have yet realized Bodhi resolve realize Bodhi resolve, and give predictions for all future Buddhas. "Crossing over parents" is among those five tasks he must complete while he is in this world, therefore, we as Buddhist disciples must place great emphasis on filial piety.



在盂蘭盆法會午齋中，方丈又說：「今天我們共聚一堂，以一顆感恩的心供養僧眾，將功德迴向給我們今生和過去生的父母及眷屬，幫助他們脫離三惡道的痛苦，長養他們的善根福德，即是孝道的表現。孝順——是一切美德的基礎，令冥陽兩利，十方諸佛都會十分歡喜。」

比丘恒順法師表示，許多佛菩薩都將「孝」當作修行中最重要的一部分。釋迦牟尼佛入涅槃前，到忉利天為母說法三個月。地藏菩薩為救度母親，發下「地獄不空，誓不成佛」的大願。宣公上人在母親生病時悉心照顧，母親過世後，上人廬墓守孝三年，更是恪盡孝道。



During lunch, Abbot added: “Today, we gathered here with a grateful heart in making an offering to the Sanghas and transferring merit to our parents and relatives of this life and past lives. In doing so, this will help them escape the sufferings of three evil paths; nourish their good roots, blessings, virtues, and causal connections; and that’s how we show our filiality. Filial piety is the foundation of all virtues, it benefits both the living and those of the underworld, and delights Buddhas from all of the ten directions.

Dharma Master Shun shares that many Bodhisattvas regard “Filial Piety” as the most important part of their cultivation. Before Shakaymuni Buddha entered Nirvana, he ascended to the Thirty-Third Heaven to speak Dharma to his mother for three months. While rescuing his mother, Earth Treasury Bodhisattva made a vast vow that, “I will not accomplish Buddhahood before the hells are emptied; I will only realize Bodhi when all living beings have been saved.” Venerable Master Hua took care of his mother when she was sick and then after his mother passed, he resided next to his mother’s grave and mourned for three years to fulfill his filial duties.

Dharma Master Shun specifically told the story of Buddha’s disciple Shariputra before he entered Nirvana. Shariputra knew he only had one week to live, therefore he returned home with 500 disciples to share Dharma with his mother. Shariputra talked about the Four Noble Truths and the Buddha’s virtuous conduct. His mother, after hearing the Dharma, became enlightened and achieved first fruition. This is the way Shariputra repaid kindness to his mother—“Among all offerings, the offering of Dharma is the most supreme. Among all good deeds, filial piety comes first.”

Dharma Master Heng Sheng first explained the word Ullambana meant “rescuing those who are hanging upside down.” He recalled there were disciples who asked Venerable Master Hua, what kind of merit and virtue should the families do and transfer to the deceased that is most effective in helping them have a better rebirth, and not fall into the three evil paths? In response, Venerable Master Hua mentioned that there was a Thai colonel who had died three times and he knew when he was going to die the last time. When the Thai Colonel came back from the dead the second time, he told people about his experiences in the heavens and hells. He further stated that the merit and virtue of making

順法師特別講述佛陀弟子舍利弗入滅前，觀到自己只能再活一週，因此專程帶著五百常隨眾返鄉為母說法。舍利弗講四聖諦、佛陀的德行等，母親聽聞後，隨即開悟證到初果。這是舍利弗報母恩的方式——「諸供養中，法供養為最。諸善行中，孝為第一。」

比丘尼恒聲法師首先解釋「盂蘭盆」即為解倒懸之苦。她回憶，曾有信眾請問宣公上人，家人應為亡者做何功德最為殊勝，使其往生善處，不墮三惡道？宣公上人回答時，提到一位泰國上校死了三次，最後一次他知道自己何時死亡。這位泰國上校在死而復活後，對大家說明去天堂和地獄的情形，還說供養三寶的功德無量，且可超度六親眷屬。

恒聲法師記得上人說，餓鬼吃不到食物，僧人因借佛光而得美食，就要思地獄苦、發菩提心，則能令餓鬼解除痛苦。萬佛聖城年年不遺餘力舉行盂蘭盆法會，就是令人改惡向善、超度同胞、過去父母、祖先、六親眷屬。

當天也舉行三皈五戒，這是2019年萬佛聖城自5月11日浴佛節、7月21日觀音菩薩成道法會以來，三個月期間，第三度舉行三皈五戒。三次加總，共有109人參加。

洛杉磯信眾組成的香積組，自備食材，烹調出美味可口的齋菜，供養法師並和與會大眾結緣。✿



offerings to the Triple Jewel are infinite and can save close relatives and family members.

Dharma Master Heng Sheng recalled that Venerable Master Hua spoke about how Hungry Ghosts are unable to eat food. Sanghans are able to obtain food because of the blessings from the Buddha. Therefore, the Sangha must contemplate the misery of the hells and bring forth the Bodhi Resolve in order to help relieve hungry ghosts from suffering. Year after year, CTTB continuously holds the Ulambana celebration to help people turn evil into good, and help cross over their parents, ancestors, and relatives from the past.

This year's program also included a transmission of the Three Refuges and Five Precepts ceremony. This is the third time within the last three months in 2019 that CTTB has held this ceremony. In addition to the ceremony today, one took place on Shakymuni Buddha's birthday celebration on May 11, and another one took place on celebration of Guanyin Bodhisatva's Enlightenment Day on July 21. A combined total of 109 participants in these ceremonies took refuge and precepts over the past three months.

Devout laypeople from Los Angeles also offered their skills in the kitchen, bringing and preparing delicious vegetarian dishes to offer to the Dharma Masters and tie affinities with the great assembly. ✿

BUDDHISM A TO Z

四無量心是(1)慈、(2)悲、(3)喜、(4)捨。沙門以慈悲喜捨四無量心充遍世界的東方、西方、南方、北方；並持續將善意（毫無瞋恨及惡意的心）充遍四維、上下，世界各處。

The Four Unlimited Aspects of Mind are: (1) kindness, (2) compassion, (3) sympathetic joy, and (4) giving (also renunciation.) Herein a monk lets his mind pervade one quarter of the world with thoughts of benevolence, compassion, sympathetic joy and poise... and so the second, the third and fourth quarter; and thus the whole world, above, below, around and everywhere does he continue to pervade with a heart free from anger and ill-will.



**2019年
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**THE 2019 EARTH STORE
SESSION AT THE CITY OF
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