



覺海慈航度香江（續）

Crossing Hong Kong on the Ship of Compassion in the Sea of Awakening (continued)

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Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Biography
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11. 講《地藏經》

1951年11月，陳瑞昌等居士邀請上人到香港通善壇講《地藏經》。法幢高樹，開方便門，一講就講了四十多天，每天前往聽講的信眾不下百人。

上人自述：

如1951年冬天，羅果明、陳果發（陳瑞昌）、袁果林（陳瑞昌夫人）、唐果善、麥果蓮等居士為發起人，請我於通善壇講《地藏經》；次年秋天，又在那兒講《金剛經》，也在寶覺寺講過《彌陀經》。你們都知道，我什麼時候都是講經的，因為我不講經就不能活著，所以有這一口氣在就要講經，除非這口氣斷了就不講了。你若問：「你會講嗎？」我不會講。不會講，可是我練習講，我學著講。香港有人傳說：

11. Lecturing on the Earth Store Sutra

During November of 1951, Chan Sui-Cheong and other laypeople invited Venerable Master to lecture on the *Earth Store Sutra* at Tung Sin Tan in Hong Kong. Raising a Dharma Banner and opening this expedient Dharma Door, Venerable Master lectured more than forty days to an audience of over a hundred Buddhists every day.

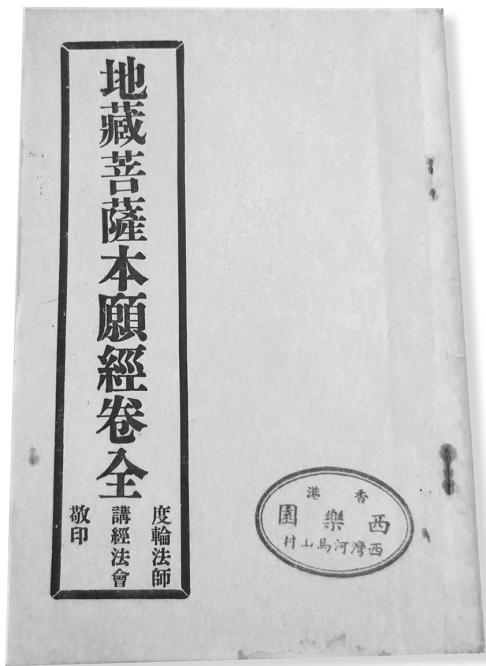
Narrated by Venerable Master Hua:

During the winter of 1951, Loh Guo Ming, Chan Guo Fat (Chan Sui-Cheong), Yuen Guo Lam (Chan Sui-Cheong's wife), Tang Guo Shin, and Mak Guo Lin along with other laypeople invited me to lecture on the *Earth Store Sutra* at Tung Sin Tan. The next autumn, at the same place, I lectured the *Vajra Sutra*, and subsequently the *Amitabha Sutra* at Poh Kok Temple. As you all know, I lecture sutras all the time since I cannot live without lecturing sutras. As long as I have a breath, I will give lectures on the sutras; I will only stop lecturing the moment my breath ceases. If you ask me, "Are you capable of lecturing sutras?" Well, I am not capable of it, but I am practicing and learning how to lecture. Some people in Hong Kong rumored: "He lectures sutras? How can he lecture sutras when he is illiterate? How does he know how to

「他講經？他連字都不認識，怎麼會講經呢？」我在臺灣講經的時候，也有人這麼講我：「他連個字都不認識，他怎麼會講經？不要去聽！」叫人不要去聽，人就愈好奇，愈想看看不識字的法師講一個什麼經？我也覺得很奇怪：「我連字都不認識，為什麼要講經呢？」

我寫的字也寫得不好，雖然有人看師父的字寫不好，但是他想留下來將來當古董賣。我很坦白、很清楚地告訴你們，我不願意寫信，因為第一是忙，第二是我的字寫不好，我不願意我的字將來作為古董。我在香港住十多年，很多出家人都說我不認字，我就承認我不認字；我不認字，但是願意學。這個文字般若雖然不是真的，但是也要知道一點點。

你們不要以為我所講的就是對的，我所講的或者有錯誤的地方，為什麼呢？因為在沒講經之前，這個經我連看一遍都沒看過，我現在在美國給你們講《華嚴經》，這是我頭一次拿到手裡看《華嚴經》。雖然我在香港佛教講堂打過「華嚴七」，大家念《華嚴經》二十一天。我當時因為管理事情的緣故，這二十一天我連一個字也沒有看過，所以我沒有看過《華嚴經》、也沒有念過。一般來說，法師講經之前看註解，看了註解再看經文，來回研究



**Sutra of the Past Vows
of Earth Store Bodhisattva**

were aware that their Master's calligraphy was poor, they still wanted to keep his works as antiques. I tell you honestly and clearly that I am unwilling to write letters. First, this is because of my busy schedule. Second, I know that my calligraphy is poor,



蔡果夙
Choi Guo Su.

and therefore, am unwilling to have my poor calligraphy kept as an antique in the future. I lived in Hong Kong over ten years, and many left-home people claimed that I was illiterate. I admitted that I was illiterate, but I was willing to learn. Even though the literary prajna is not the real, [true actual inherent wisdom], one still needs to know a little bit of it.

You should not assume whatever I say is always correct. When I have lectured, there may have been some mistakes. Why? Because I have not read the sutras even once before lecturing on them. I am now lecturing on the Avatamsaka Sutra in America, but this is actually the first time I have had the Avatamsaka Sutra in my hands. Although I have participated in the 7-day Avatamsaka Sessions in Hong Kong

lecture on the sutras?" At the time I was lecturing on the sutras in Taiwan, and there were people who made similar comments about me, "He cannot even read a single word, how can he lecture on the sutras? Don't go and listen!" The more these people prevented others from going, the more curious others became as they wanted to see how an illiterate Dharma Master could lecture on the sutras. I was also curious about this; if I am illiterate, then how could I lecture on the sutras?

My calligraphy is also poor. Even though people

很多次。我一次也沒有看過、一次也沒有念過、註解也沒有研究過。所以講的道理或者就有不對、錯誤的地方。為什麼呢？就因為我很愚癡，佛所說的道理我不一定完全都明白。你們各位都是有智慧的人，尤其是青年有智慧的人，比我的智慧高出不知幾千萬丈；就算我講得不對，我也把這個荒地給你們拓開了，讓你們自己去種、去耕耘。我講對的地方，你就照著去做；不對的地方，用你們真正的智慧可以改了它。

【後記】譚果正居士記述：

當時我家並沒有一個真正的宗教信仰，雖然我上天主教英文書院念書，但是聖經說的都不能使我相信、洗禮成為天主教徒。家父譚璞才（法名果璞），他也沒有什麼宗教信仰，但是他喜歡去通善壇；當時許多商人都會參加通善壇的道教團體，家父也常去。那時他年過七十，我通常會陪他去通善壇，但是我都待在外面的露臺那兒，因為他們在裡面會燒很多香，很熏的，而他們做些什麼我也不感興趣。

1951年的冬季，陳瑞昌居士邀請師父講解《地藏經》。陳瑞昌居士有一個賣布料的店舖，二樓住家，三樓有個小閣樓，師父就住那裡。師父講《地藏經》我沒參加，因為我對通善壇的事一向是漠不關心。師父在通善壇講《地藏經》時，十四、五歲的蔡果夙看到法座放光，照耀整個會場，她還看到很多境界；師父說她來自天上，所以有天眼。

☞待續

Buddhist Lecture Hall in which everyone chanted the *Avatamsaka Sutra* for twenty-one days, I had not read a single word of the *Avatamsaka Sutra* due to my administrative duties. Therefore, I have not read or chanted the *Avatamsaka Sutra* before. Generally speaking, before a Dharma Master lectures on the sutra, he will first read the commentaries, then read the sutra text, and then study it many times. However, I have neither read or chanted the sutra nor read its commentary. That's why the principles I have lectured may have some mistakes. Why? Because I am stupid, so I might not fully understand all the principles that was spoken by the Buddha. All of you are wise people, especially the young people. Your wisdom far surpasses mine manifold. Even though what I said was not correct, I have already ploughed the barren field and let you plant and harvest. If what I lectured is correct, then you can follow it; otherwise, you can correct it with your own true wisdom.

【Postscripts】 Laywoman Tan Guozheng wrote:

At that time, my family did not really believe in a particular religion. Even though I studied in an English Catholic school, what the Bible preached did not convince me to be baptized and become a Catholic. My father, Tan (Tam) Pucai (Dharma name Guopu), did not have any particular religious beliefs either, but he enjoyed going to Tung Sin Tan. At that time, many businessmen would attend the Taoist organizations there, and my father often went too. At that time, he was already over seventy, so I often accompanied him to Tung Sin Tan. I always waited on the balcony outside, because a lot of incense was being burnt inside. It made the place really smoky and I was not interested in whatever they were doing.

In the winter of 1951, Upasaka Chan Sui-Cheong invited the Master to lecture the Earth Store Sutra. Layperson Chan Sui-Cheong ran a shop selling cloth; the first floor was for family living, and on the second floor was a loft, where Master lived. I did not attend the lectures when Master gave talks on Earth Store Sutra because I was indifferent to the activities in Tung Sin Tan. When Master lectured *Earth Store Sutra* at Tung Sin Tan, Choi Guo Su, who was around fifteen or fourteen at that time, saw the Dharma seat emit light, illuminating the whole hall. She also experienced many other states. The Master said she came from the heavens and so she had heavenly eyes.

☞To be continued