

青黃赤白妙蓮華

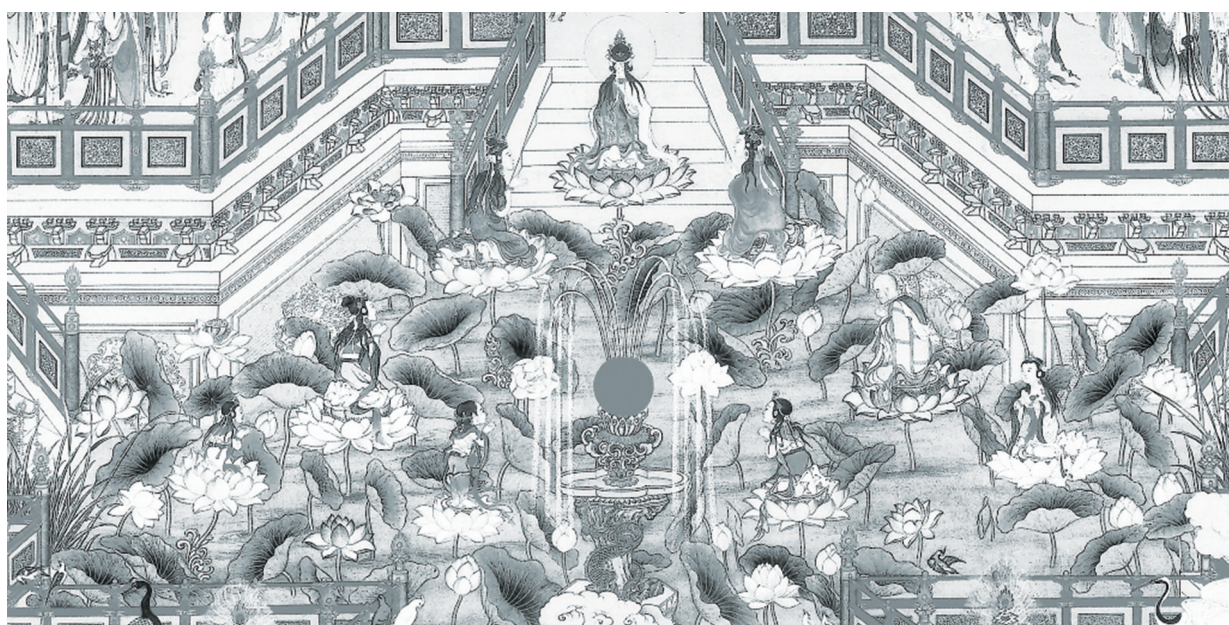
Wondrous Green, Yellow, Red, and White Lotus Flowers

宣公上人開示於一九七二年冬季佛七開示

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An Instructional Talk by Venerable Master Hua during the 1972 Winter Buddha Recitation Session

English Translated by Wu Lianlian



「青黃赤白妙蓮華」：「青」就是青色青光的蓮華，「黃」就是黃色黃光的蓮華，「赤」就是赤色赤光的蓮華，「白」就是白色白光蓮華，這四色的花有四種的光；這個蓮華放出四種的光，所以叫「妙蓮華」。不像我們這個世界的蓮華不放光，西方極樂世界的蓮華都是放光的。

那麼說，西方極樂世界這個蓮華是放光的，這與我們又有甚麼關係呢？不錯，西方極樂世界離這兒有十萬億佛土，ten million, ten million

When referring to green, yellow, red and white wondrous lotuses: “Green flowers” means green lotuses with green light, “yellow” means yellow lotuses with yellow light, “red” means red lotuses with red light, and “white” means white lotuses with white light. These four colors of flowers have four kinds of light, or you could say that this lotus emits four kinds of light. So they are called “wondrous lotus flowers.” They are unlike lotus flowers in our world that can’t emit any light; all lotuses in the Western Pure Land emit light.

So do the lotuses in the Western Pure Land that emit light have anything to do with us? Yes, they do. Despite

million 那麼遠，比到月球更遠；月球還是在這個世界，沒有到其他世界。到西方極樂世界啊，要經過十萬億佛土，那麼遠。有人說：「那麼遠，有這四種蓮華，與我們現在念佛，沒有甚麼關係。」不是的，是有關係的。我們這兒一念佛，在我們這個金山寺裡邊，就變成極樂世界這種境界。

昨天沒說嘛，「七重行樹，七重羅網，啊！都是念佛、念法、念僧這個聲音」；我們在這兒一念佛啊，我們金山寺這個佛堂，也就有青黃赤白的這個蓮華現出來了，這個蓮華是重重無盡的，沒有數量那麼多。我們現在念佛的人，每個人就現出一朵蓮華來；你發大的心，那個蓮華就大一些；你發心發得小，那個蓮華就小一點。隨你的心量，而蓮華有大有小。這個蓮華是無窮無盡的，非常之多，都在我們這個佛堂裡現出來了；喔！我們這個佛堂這種境界，也變成七寶莊嚴的世界，所以說「妙蓮華」。

這紅蓮華是給誰預備的？就是給你這一個清淨無染污的人預備的。你這個蓮華，你念佛念得越多，它這個蓮華就長得越大；你越虔誠，它這個顏色就越美麗。那麼你誠到極點了，將來你等到臨命終的時候，就無災無病，身無病苦，心不貪戀，就好像入禪定似的，就生到這個蓮華上面去，那麼花開見佛。你念佛，要是念念就不念了呢？你這個蓮華就會乾了，就會枯槁了，就會沒有了；因為你不念佛了，這就好像你種的田沒有水了似的，它一定乾的；你這念佛，就是給這個蓮華上肥料呢。所以你念得

the Western Pure Land being ten trillion, ten million of millions of Buddha lands away from us. The Pure Land is even further than the moon and the moon still exists within this world, and not in another galaxy, or another world. To reach the Western Pure Land, we have to pass through ten trillion Buddha lands—it is that far away. Someone might think: “These four kinds of lotuses are so far away from us that they have nothing to do with our recitation of the Buddha’s name.” No so, in fact it does matter. When we recite the Buddha’s name here at Gold Mountain Monastery, the state of the Western Pure Land will manifest.

Yesterday we mentioned that the “seven rows of trees and seven layers of nettings” are the sounds of being mindful of the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. When we recite the Buddha’s name here, green, yellow, red and white lotuses will appear at Golden Mountain Monastery. These lotuses will be innumerable and incalculable. One lotus appears for every person who recites the Buddha’s name. If your resolve is great, then your lotus will be big; if your resolve is small, then your lotus will be small. The size of the lotus depends on your resolve. These lotuses also are limitlessly appearing in our Buddha hall. And, oh! Our lotus-filled Buddha hall has turned into a world adorned with the “seven precious jewels.” So these flowers are called wondrous lotuses.

For whom does this red lotus bloom? It is prepared just for you, a pure and unstained person. Speaking of your lotus, when you recite the Buddha’s name more, the bigger your lotus will grow; the more sincere you are, the prettier the color will be. If you are extremely sincere, then in the future when you are near the end of your life, you will be free from disasters and illnesses. You will not be sick and you will not be greedy. You will enter the state of Chan meditation and be born from the lotus. When the flower blossoms, you will see the Buddha. However, if you stop reciting Buddha’s name, then your lotus will dry up and wither away. When you stop reciting the Buddha’s name, it would be as if you have no more water in your field; so when you recite Buddha’s name, you are watering

越多，蓮華就長得越大，這叫「紅蓮徧地此時開」。「此時開」，就是從此時你這個蓮華就預備開了，就等著你捨報安詳；把這個報身捨了，安詳生到極樂世界去。

西方極樂世界，那是你真正的家鄉，真正的固有的一個地方。你不要好像一個遊子似的，到外邊東跑西跑，跑得把自己的家也都忘了。有人說：「我沒有忘了家，我家在某某地方。」那個家是你暫時的，你永遠的家是在西方極樂世界的。❀

your lotus flower. The more you recite, the bigger the lotus will grow. This is called “red lotuses blooming everywhere at this moment.” Blooming at this moment means that from this moment your lotus is ready to blossom when you are ready to relinquish your body and leave peacefully. It is waiting for you to get rid of this retribution body and peacefully be reborn in the Pure Land.

The Western Pure Land is your true hometown. There truly is such a place. Don't act like a wanderer who travels so far that you forget your own home. Someone might say, “I haven't forgotten my home. My home is at such and such a place.” That home is temporary. Your eternal home is in the Western Pure Land. ❀

有人說：「那麼我念這麼多天阿彌陀佛，我這業障消了，我怎麼還沒有開悟呢？」

哦，你知道你有多少業障啊？消是消，但是這就好像那個冰要化成水似的，要一天一天的化；不是太陽一照，它完全就化了——就是太陽照，在北冰洋那個地方的冰，永遠都化不了的。為甚麼呢？就因為表示那個地方沒有誠心，沒有誠心就不會化的。所以說「百劫業障盡消化」，你這一百個劫的業障消化了，但是你不知道你有幾千萬萬的劫的業障。

這個業障啊，幸虧它沒有形相；它要有形相啊，一個人的業障就把這個盡虛空徧法界都給裝不下了，虛空都會破了，都爆開了。因為它沒有形相，所以也不用找一個storeroom（儲藏室）把它放下了。❀

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Someone said: “I recited Amitabha Buddha's name for so many days and yet I haven't eliminated my karmic hindrances. How come I am still not enlightened?”

Oh, do you know how many karmic hindrances you have and how many you've eliminated? It is just like ice turning into water. It melts day by day; it doesn't melt completely at once under the sun. Even with sunshine, ice in the Arctic Ocean will never melt completely. Why? Because if you are not sincere, ice will not melt. Hence, we say, “eliminate one hundred lifetimes of karmic hindrances.” Even when one hundred lifetimes of your karmic hindrances vanish, you don't know how many karmic hindrances you still have from thousands of lifetimes.

Fortunately, karma has no form. If it were to take form, then empty space and the dharma realm couldn't even store it. Empty space would burst and break to bits. Because is formless, we don't have to find a storeroom to keep it. ❀

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