



Drawing Near to Mother Nature at the Third Buddha Root Farm in Kalumpang

馬來西亞卡龍邦的第三次佛根地之行

By Karuna Chong

張果娥 文

Chinese Translated by Bhikshuni Jin Nan

比丘尼近南 中譯



Photo by Yong Weng Soon.

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This is a report of our third Buddha Root Farm Retreat in Kalumpang, Malaysia, December 24-30, 2019.

It was such a joy when I first learned that the Buddha Root Farm had finally arrived on Malaysian shores after having heard the great stories from the session at the Buddha Root Farm in Oregon over four decades ago. I realised that we are also blessed to have such a “farm” to allow our Buddha Root (nature) to be nurtured and to grow.

Although it was the third Buddha Root Farm in Malaysia; it was my very first time and there are so many wonderful thoughts and experiences share.

First, the close contact with Mother Nature with the beautiful, starry night sky, cool breezes, clear gushing water in the river, and many other wonderful sights would take pages to describe.

The beautiful starry night sky was such a wonder

在此報告我們於2019年12月24日至30日到馬來西亞卡龍邦的第三次佛根地之行。

當我第一次得知馬來西亞海岸終於也成立了佛根地，我真是太高興了。聽說了不少四十年前奧勒岡州的佛根地所發生的種種精彩故事後，我意識到我們很幸運在馬來西亞也能擁有這樣的「農場」，可以長養我們的佛根（自性）。

雖然這是馬來西亞第三次舉辦佛根地之行，但我卻是第一次參加。儘管如此，我有很多精彩的經驗和心得要和大家分享。

首先，與大自然的接觸：其美麗的星空、清涼的微風和湧出的清澈河水，還有許許多多奇妙的景點和奇遇，都不是三言兩語可以描述得完全的。

那美麗的星空令人難以相信自拔地欣賞著，這樣的夜空令我想起了萬佛城近在眼前的

to gaze at and it reminded me very much of the low hanging stars at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. They really were like diamonds glittering in the sky. To add to this splendour, we were rewarded with another wonderful sight on the last day of the retreat. Just before the morning recitation, the fireflies, as if it not wanting to be outshone by the stars, decided to put on a light show for us to gawk at by lighting up in the trees.

Most days, after our lunch and community activities, many of us took the opportunity to go to the river. The water was so clear and cool and had a soothing effect on the body. The sound of water gushing and flowing over and between the rocks was wonderful. I could just soak in the cool, refreshing water and listen to the wonderful sound of it flowing past.

The quiet serenity of the night oftentimes was broken by the sound of insects and other night creatures which was a drastic contrast to the hectic, hot days and nights in the city.

This opportunity to be “immersed”, and closely connected with nature was a serene experience. Being so caught up in my normal daily routine, I had forgotten about the beauty of nature and its presence in my everyday life. I have been too busy and blind to appreciating the many wondrous things around me.

However, this Buddha Root Farm session has provided me with an opportunity to “really” delve into my own nature and nurture it. It has aroused the desire to make this retreat a “must attend” annual event in order to help my Buddha Roots grow.

My sincerest appreciation to all of the Dharma masters and those who made this wonderful experience possible. ❀



卡龍邦一景
By the river at Kalumpang.

星星。它們真的就像無數顆鑽石，在天空中閃閃發光。在佛根地的最後一天，我們猶如獲得了獎賞般，還看到另一個奇妙的景象，更為壯觀，那就是在早課之前，好多螢火蟲似乎不甘落後於星光的璀璨，決定為我們作一場燈光表演，把幾顆樹給點亮了。

大多數時候，很多人藉機在午餐和出坡結束以後去河邊。那河水是如此清澈涼快，很是舒服。而河水衝過岩石，發出了非常好聽的聲音。我可以泡在涼爽的清水中，聽聽美妙的流水聲。

夜晚的寧靜，經常被一些昆蟲和其他夜間活動的動物聲所打破。這與繁忙又炎熱的城市的白天和黑夜，形成了鮮明的對比。

有機會與大自然有這種樣的密切聯繫，完全沉浸在大自然的環境中，是很棒的經歷。一直以來，我都在忙於每天我認為是很正常的日常活動，我已經忘記了大自然的美麗。因為處於這種過於忙碌的狀態，我似乎「瞎」了，無法欣賞周圍美妙的事物。

但是，這次的佛根地之行為我提供了一個「真正」研究和培育自性的機會。為了可以增長我的「佛根」，此行激起了我發了一個願望——將來佛根地之行會是我每年必參加的年度活動。

我衷心地感謝所有的法師和所有成就我的這一次美好經歷的人們。❀

