



# 覺海慈航度香江（續）

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

宣公上人事蹟編輯委員會新編

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Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Biography  
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### 17. 開光典禮

辛卯殘臘（1952年1月底），上人在香港胼手胝足建立第一座道場西樂園寺落成，供奉如來三金身。次年壬辰，農曆四月初八（1952年5月1日）佛誕日舉行開光典禮。新寺院的物資極其缺乏，開光典禮就以茶水和花生供眾。

上人自述：

西樂園修淨土法門，所以上聯是「念阿彌陀佛三輩九品從此證」，到極樂世界分出三輩——上輩、中輩、下輩；九品——上品：上上品、上中品、上下品；中品：中上品、中中品、中下品；下品：下上品、下中品、下下品。到極樂世界那兒下下品都算是了生死了，但是還要等九十一個大劫後才成佛，所以說念阿彌陀佛可以

### 17. Opening Light Ceremony

At the end of the lunar year, *xin mao* “the golden rabbit year”, in late January of 1952, the Western Bliss Garden, the first Way-place established by the Venerable Master in Hong Kong that honored and housed the three golden Tathagathas, was completed. The Venerable Master worked very hard to build the temple. In the following lunar year, the *ren chen*, “water dragon year”, on the eighth day of the fourth lunar month, (May 1, 1952), on Sakyamuni Buddha's birthday, Western Bliss Garden held its Opening the Light ceremony.

The new temple severely lacked supplies. They only served tea and peanuts to the people who attended the Opening Light ceremony.

#### Venerable Master Hsuan Hua Narrates:

The Western Bliss Garden is a place to cultivate the Pure land Dharma-door. Hence, the first verse of the couplet is: “*Recite Amitabha's name and the three levels and nine grades can be attained.*” The Pure Land is divided into three levels: the upper level, middle level, and lower level. The levels are further subdivided, making it into nine grades, the upper level contains



1952年宣公上人在西樂園。  
Venerable Master Hua was in Western Bliss Garden Monastery, 1952.

證得三輩九品；下聯「修波羅蜜法六度萬行自茲圓」，波羅蜜就是六波羅蜜，這是我到香港寫的头一副對聯。

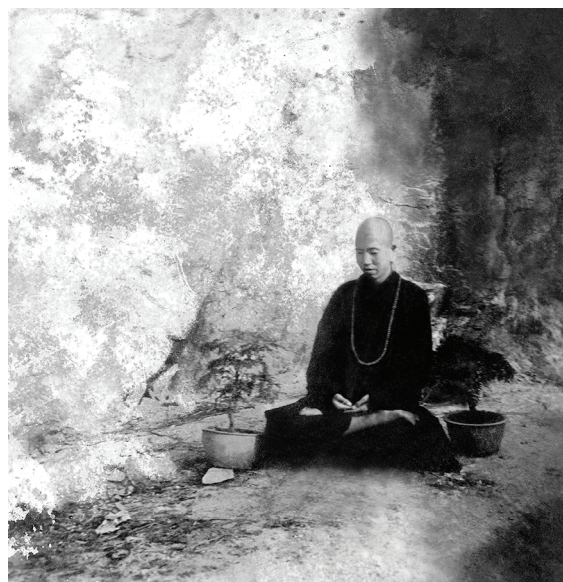
我在香港有一個皈依弟子羅果明，她的手臂經常劇痛，問我要怎麼樣才能好？我說：「妳做功德吧！做多一點功德，就會好了。」那時候廟上開光，盆碗、菜都是她買的。開光後，她問說：「我這胳膊還是痛得動不了。」我說：「你往前提一提手臂。」就這麼一句話，什麼也沒有做，她的手即刻就好了、沒有病了，所以事情有的時候是很不可思議的！

#### 【後記1】譚果璞居士記述：

是歲臘月（辛卯年十二月，1951年12月28日至1952年1月26日），眾居士為護持正法，集款興建道場，卜地於西灣河馬山頂，建立西樂園，懇師闡揚聖教，度迷津而轉法輪。師慨然受任而弗辭。及余皈依也，目睹佛苑落成，莊嚴

three grades: the upper-upper grade, upper-middle grade, and upper-lower grade. The middle level has: the middle-upper, middle-middle, and middle-lower grades. And the lower level has the lower-upper, lower-middle, and lower-lower grades. We could be considered as having ended birth and death when we are born in the Pure Land even at the lower-lower grade, where one must wait for ninety-one great kalpas to become a Buddha. So we say that by reciting Amitabha's name one can reach these three levels and nine grades. The second verse of the couplet is, "*Cultivate the Paramita Dharma so the Six Paramitas and ten thousand practices can be perfected.*" The Paramita Dharma refers to the Six Perfections. This was the first couplet I wrote in Hong Kong.

When I was in Hong Kong, I had one lay disciple Loh Guo-Ming who frequently had an excruciating pain in her arm. She asked me how it could be cured. I said, "You should create merit and virtue. Create more merit and virtue and it will be cured." When the temple held the Opening the Light ceremony, she donated the plates, bowls and dishes. After the ceremony, she said, "My arm is still very painful and I cannot move it." I said, "Lift your arm







upwards,” and with these words, although nothing had been done to it, her arm was immediately cured; there was no more pain. Sometimes such inconceivable things happen.

### [Postscript 1] Upasaka Tan Guo Pu:

During the twelfth lunar month of *xin mao*—“the golden rabbit year”, ( between December 28,1951 to January 26,1952,) many laypeople came to support and protect the Proper Dharma. They gathered funds to build a Way-place and chose a site to build the Western Bliss Garden at Sai Wan, Ho Ma village. They requested the Venerable Master to propagate the teachings of the sages and turn the Dharma wheel to cross over confused beings. Venerable Master gladly agreed to the request. I later took refuge and witnessed the completion of Western Bliss Garden Monastery; however prior to its hand-over, it still lacked stately inspiring Buddha images. Even though I had not practiced Buddhism for long, I knew that seeing Buddha images could cause people to give rise to faith,

make praises and offerings, and obtain limitless merit. Thus, craftsmen were employed to make the three golden Tathagata statues for Western Bliss Garden Monastery. Gradually things were completed from there. Fragrance and light filled the place and people cultivated sincerely, repented, and recited the Buddha’s name together.

### [Postscript 2] Upasika Tan Guo Chen:

My father consulted the Master on some matters. He

asked, “The construction of the temple is almost completed, please tell me what should I donate?” Venerable Master said, “Most of the things are already donated, but you can donate three Buddha statues.” My father then donated them.

佛像，尚付闕如。余雖學佛未久，然亦知佛像能令人見而起信，讚歎供養，獲福無邊，故請匠人精塑如來三金身，以安奉於西樂園，從茲各事完成。香光滿室，禮懺淨修，同稱佛號。



【後記2】譚果正居士記述：

家父請教師父：「寺院即將蓋好，您說我要捐獻什麼好呢？」師父說：「大部分的東西都已經有人捐獻了，你可以捐獻三尊佛像。」家父就捐了。

待續

To be continued