

宣公上人涅槃廿五周年線上紀念法會

Online Commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hua's Nirvana

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2020年6月30日（農曆五月初十）是上人涅槃廿五周年紀念日。今年受新冠疫情影響，法界佛教總會各道場大都改為內部舉行紀念法會。有數座道場特別提供信眾參加線上紀念法會。

萬佛聖城

6月28日（週日）。清晨七時起，開始念誦《華嚴經·普賢行願品》。《華嚴經》是上人在遺言中，交代弟子們要念誦的大經。《普賢行願品》念誦圓滿後，

June 30, 2020 (the tenth day of the fifth lunar month) was the 25th Anniversary of the Venerable Master Hua's Entering Nirvana. As all the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association branch temples affected by the pandemic this year, plans were changed to observe commemorative ceremonies. There were several branches that provided disciples the opportunity to participate in the ceremonies through livestream.

The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB)

On June 28 (Sunday), the recitation of the *Avatamsaka Sutra* —“Samantabhadra Bodhisattva's Conduct and Vows” began at 7 a.m. The Venerable Master told his disciples in his last words that the *Avatamsaka Sutra* is a major sutra that all his disciples must

是梵音清遠的「華嚴字母」。唱誦「華嚴字母」的力量不可思議，可以消滅罪業。

延續歷年傳統的是前往「無言堂」繞塔，「無言堂」內有釋迦牟尼佛、虛雲老和尚以及宣公上人的舍利。今年無法進入「無言堂」內，大家互相保持六呎距離，輪流在門外致敬。當天並有普佛、華嚴懺等禮佛拜懺儀式，迴向眾生消災減難、解除痛苦。

午齋前的上供儀式，可看到不同部門精心準備的各色供品。每一份供品，都蘊藏著弟子們對上人的深深懷念與感恩。

在遭逢百年大疫的此刻，大家份外懷念上人的大慈大悲與大誓願力。「願將法界眾生所有苦難，悉皆與我一人代受」，正是宣公上人十八大願中的第十二大願。

柏克萊佛寺

柏克萊佛寺於周六（6月27日）晚間舉行紀念上人涅槃廿五周年法會，方便亞洲信眾上網參加。法界佛教總會主席恒實法師邀請多位上人的老弟子，一起回顧宣公上人的弘法教化事蹟。

宣公上人座下第一批美國出家弟子之一恒持法師，已成為全美出家受戒時間最長（五十一年）的西方比丘尼。她應邀首先發言，指出宣公上人總是要弟子們積功累德、行菩薩道、幫助眾生、蓮花化生、讓明鏡般的智慧映照出人人本具的佛性。

比丘恒來法師回憶起上人無量

recite. After the recitation of the “Samantabhadra Bodhisattva’s Conduct and Vows” Chapter, the clear melody of *Avatamsaka Syllabary* was sung. The power of singing the *Avatamsaka Syllabary* is incredible, and can eliminate one’s karmic offenses.

Continuing the tradition over the years is to visit and circumambulate the “Wordless Hall.” The “Wordless Hall” contains the sharira of Shakyamuni Buddha, the Elder Master Xuyun, and the Venerable Master Hua. This year, while people could not enter the “Wordless Hall,” everyone took turns paying their respects at the door while keeping six feet apart from each other. On the same day, there were also other rituals and repentance, which included universal bowing and the Avatamsaka Repentance, to pray for all living beings in order to quell disasters and relieve suffering.

During the meal offering ceremony before lunch, we could see various exquisitely prepared offerings from many different departments. Each and every offering showed the gratitude of the disciples towards the Venerable Master, and that they deeply cherished their memories of him.

At this moment of suffering from this once-in-a-century pandemic, everyone misses the Venerable Master’s great kindness and great vows even more. “I vow to fully take upon myself all sufferings and hardships of all living beings in the Dharma Realm” is the twelfth great vow of the Venerable Master’s Eighteen Great Vows.

Berkeley Buddhist Monastery

The Berkeley Buddhist Monastery held a commemoration the 25th Anniversary of the Venerable Master’s Nirvana on Saturday (June 27th) evening, in order to facilitate all disciples’ ability to participate online. Reverend Heng Sure, the chairman of the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association, invited many senior disciples of the Venerable Master to share stories of the Venerable Master propagating the Dharma and teaching beings.

Dharma Master Heng Chih, one of the first five American disciples who left the home-life under the Venerable Master, has become the Western Bhikshuni who has been ordained for the longest time in the West (51 years). She was invited to speak first, pointing out that the Venerable Master always advised the disciples to create merit, do virtuous deeds, become Bodhisattvas,

無邊的慈悲與耐性。來法師表示，上人無論見到誰，都是觀其佛性而非外表，並且總是隨緣度化，無論對方是否修行人。

比丘尼恒良法師回憶，宣公上人在帶領萬佛聖城全體住眾研討《楞嚴經·五十陰魔》圓滿的最後一個晚上，對大家說：「你們都等著我講出大家從來沒聽過、最高深的道理，其實我早就講了最高深的道理，但你們得明白、做得圓滿。是什麼呢？就是『不爭、不貪、不求、不自私、不自利、不妄語』。」恒良法師說：「我相信，如果我們每天都能誠心奉行這六大宗旨，將能真正幫助世界，甚至——或可說特別——在目前這段最困難的期間。」

比丘尼恒雲法師在台灣發言，回憶1974年越南淪陷前一年，上人還兩度應邀到烽火連天的越南。上人當時說：「哪裡有苦，就往哪兒去。」1980年到1986年，上人在萬佛聖城響應政府的創辦難民安頓計劃，幫助許多東南亞難民在美國受教育、安身立命。恒雲法師認為，宣公上人以修行道德感召，教化深入人心，從基本做人的道理，直至成佛，無所不教，無所不容。上人留下的教化是珍貴的世界遺產，希望大家珍惜。

來自英國的柯果民在萬佛聖城育良小學、培德中學任教已有三十八年。柯果民指出，由於本校重視倫理道德教育，創辦初期，當時的曼都西諾縣教育局長唐諾·狄馬汀尼即十分讚賞育良小學和培德中學的教育宗旨，認為公立學校因政教分離政策而無法做到。狄馬汀尼認為，我們所教導的倫理道德在某種程度上，可以改善社會問題。

be born from a lotus, and vow to teach and transform all beings. The Venerable Master told his disciples to let the mirror-like wisdom reflect everyone's inherent Buddha nature.

What Dharma Master Heng Lai remembers most is the Venerable Master's boundless compassion and patience. Dharma Master Lai said that, no matter who the Master sees, he always observes his or her Buddha nature rather than his or her appearance, and he would always transform beings in accord to their conditions, regardless of whether they were practitioners or not.

Dharma Master Heng Liang recalled that the Venerable Master had led the entire CTTB assembly in a seminar reviewing the "Fifty-Skandha Demons Chapter" of the *Shurangama Sutra*. On the final night of the series, he said, "Now, I know that you are all waiting with great anticipation for me to deliver a most profound and lofty teaching — something that you have never heard before. However, I have already given you a most profound and lofty teaching, but you have yet to understand and perfect it. What is that? Don't contend. Don't be greedy. Don't seek. Don't be selfish. Don't be self-benefitting. Don't lie." Dharma Master Liang noted, "I do believe, that if every one of us can sincerely practice these Dharmas every day, it will truly help the world, even — and perhaps especially — during this most difficult time."

Dharma Master Heng Yun spoke from Taiwan, recalling that in 1974, a year before south Vietnam fell, the Venerable Master was invited twice to Vietnam, where the flames of war were raging across the regions. At that time, the Master said, "Wherever there is suffering, I will go." From 1980 to 1986, the Venerable Master responded the government's plan of establishing the Refugee Resettlement Project at CTTB to help many Southeast Asian refugees receive an education and settle in the United States. Dharma Master Yun believes that the Venerable Master inspired many through his morality and virtue, and his teachings are deeply rooted in the hearts of many. From the basic principles of being a good human to becoming a Buddha, he teaches everything and gathers in everyone. The teachings left by the Venerable Master is a precious world heritage, and Dharma Master Yun hopes that everyone will cherish it.

Roger Kellerman has been teaching at the Instilling Goodness Elementary School and the Developing Virtue Boys School (IGDVS) at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. He pointed out that since the schools stress great importance in ethics and moral education, in the early days of the schools' establishment, the Mendocino County Superintendent of Schools at the time, Donald DeMartini, appreciated the mission of the Instilling Goodness and Developing

法界佛教大學（法大）校長蘇珊·朗茲表示，宣公上人曾說：「創辦法界佛教大學為的是教育年輕人不要自私……那麼世界自然就能和平。」宣公上人並邀請世界級的領袖擔任本校榮譽校長，包括天主教已故于斌樞機主教、當時的埃及總統沙達特、以及西班牙國王卡洛斯一世，他們也都接受了這項榮譽職。法界佛教大學於2018年獲美西學校和大學協會（WASC）認證通過，自2019年起，可接受來自全球的國際學生申請。教學法類似宣公上人當年提倡的「主觀智能推動法」，課堂上大家積極參與，以啟發人人本具的智慧。此外，課程特別融入冥想修行，這是法大特色。

恒實法師以吉他伴唱，唱出上人親自作詞的英文歌曲「我真幸運」，並朗誦實法師自己撰寫的「給師父的信」，感恩上人教化，在這封感恩信的結尾，他說：「我謹代表您的出家弟子，我要說：我們會『盡最大的努力』，達成您對我們最高的期望。我們非常想念您！」

這群發言的老弟子皈依上人最久的已逾半世紀，最短的也近40年。他們所談對上人的懷念，在網上共有五千多人觀看。今年5月2日，柏克萊佛寺舉行線上浴佛節，也有1500餘人參加。線上法會已成為新冠肺炎疫情期間，大家能夠共修的主要渠道。在法界佛教總會網站www.drba.org中文版（或www.drbachinese.org）點選「法總道場線上共修資訊」，即可參加法總全球多座道場平日的線上法會。❀

Virtue Schools. Mr. DeMartini felt that public schools are unable to achieve this because of the policy of separation of church and state. Mr. DeMartini believed that the ethics we teach can improve social problems to some extent.

Dr. Susan Rounds, president of Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU), noted that the Master had said, “Dharma Realm Buddhist University is being established in the hope of influencing youth not to be selfish...then without effort, this world will be peaceful.” The Master invited world leaders to become honorary chancellors, and they accepted, including His Eminence the late Paul Cardinal Yu Pin, His Excellency the late Anwar El-Sadat, President of Egypt, and His Majesty Juan Carlos I, King of Spain. DRBU became accredited by WASC in 2018 and since 2019, we have been able to accept applications from students all over the world. The pedagogy of DRBU is very similar to the Venerable Master’s pedagogy of developing inherent wisdom through everyone’s active participation in the class. In addition, and unique to DRBU, there is a contemplative component in which aspects of spiritual practice are embedded in the curriculum.

Reverend Heng Sure sang a song originally composed by the Venerable Master in English “I’m Really Lucky to Study Buddhism” with his guitar. He also read out a letter written by himself on behalf of the DRBA sangha, titled “Gratitude to Chan Master Hsuan Hua,” to express gratitude towards the Venerable Master’s teachings. At the end of this letter, he closed by saying, “On behalf of your monastic disciples, I want to say that we will, ‘try our best’ to live up to your highest wishes for us, and we miss you very much.”

This group of senior disciples who have spoke had all been disciples of the Venerable Master for more than three decades. While they were speaking about how much they cherish the memories of the Venerable Master, there were more than 5,000 people watching and listening online. On May 2, 2020, the Berkeley Buddhist Monastery held a livestream of the Bathing of the Buddha ceremony on Shakyamuni Buddha’s Birthday, which also attracted more than 1,500 people. During this COVID-19 pandemic, the online Dharma assemblies have become the main channel for everyone to practice together. To join DRBA’s online Dharma assemblies, please visit www.drba.org (or www.drbachinese.org for Chinese page) and click on “Weekly Online Dharma Assemblies Around the World” under DRBU News. ❀