

# 念觀音聖號救世人

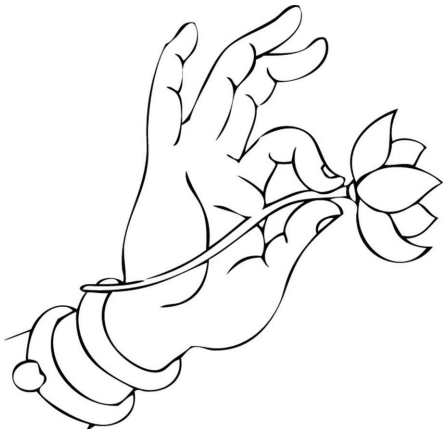
## Recite the Sacred Name of “Guanyin” to Rescue Beings in the World

宣公上人開示

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剛才有人報告從越南逃難，遇到種種險境的經過，可以說是九死一生。她虔誠的念觀世音菩薩，得蒙菩薩的慈悲加被，平安離開虎口，來到萬佛聖城修道。這是現身說法，把她經過的情形，告訴現在住在萬佛聖城所有從越南來的難民知道。希望他們也將身歷其境的險事寫出來，令全世界人知道，將來出版，書名為《難民涉險記》。

我們現在（一九八零年代）於美國，平安無事，不覺得困苦艱難，可是在難民營中的人，才能體會這種痛苦，所以希望大家不要「平時不燒香，

Just now a refugee from Vietnam reported how she encountered various dangerous situations on her escape here — it can be said that she “suffered nine deaths but was eventually spared from the snare of death” — by sincerely reciting the sacred name of Guanyin Bodhisattva and the compassionate blessing and protection of the Bodhisattva. After having a narrow escape, she came to City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB) to cultivate the Way. This is an instance of “manifesting in person to speak the Dharma.” She shared her experiences with all the current CTTB residents who came as refugees from Vietnam. I

hope that all of them can write out their experiences in detail — how they underwent dangers and escaped — so that the entire world can know about these stories. In the future, this book can be published under the title “Chronicles of Vietnamese Refugees.”

We are safe and sound right now (1980s) in America, feeling neither any challenges nor hardships; in contrast, only those who are in the refugee camp can experience this kind of suffering. Therefore I hope that all of us work hard now and not be someone who “usually does not even offer one single stick of incense, but quickly rushes to seek help from the Buddha when faced with a major incident” would be too late! We should have such a mindset that “before the rainy season, we prepare for what is required. Before feeling thirst, we should have already started digging a well.” We are here to recite the sacred name of Guanyin Bodhisattva on behalf of all the refugees in the world, praying that they be spared from suffering, attain peace and happiness, and be free from all types of distress and disasters.

We hold the Guanyin Session in hope that refugees can be rescued

臨時抱佛腳」，那是來不及的，要有「宜未雨而綢繆，毋臨渴而掘井」的準備。我們在這裏念觀世音菩薩，是為全世界所有的難民祈禱，令他們離苦得樂，沒有一切苦厄。我們舉行觀音七的目標，是為拯救難民，出離苦海，這關係全世界人類的生命安全。既然有此使命，必要盡力來念觀世音菩薩。若是誠心地念，則多救一點人；若不誠心，則少救一點人。惻隱之心，人皆有之，站在佛教立場，要廣救眾生，義不容辭，拼命念觀世音菩薩。

萬佛聖城的宗旨，是要拯救全世界苦惱的眾生。每天為苦惱眾生念觀世音菩薩，祈禱觀世音菩薩千眼照見，千耳遙聞，千手護持一切眾生。

我們現在打觀音七，人人應該爭先恐後念觀世音菩薩，不應該躲懶偷安，沒有慈悲心。否則沒有道德心，沒有功德心，將來所成就的果位，也就是有一定限度。

我們修的是大乘法，要有捨己救人的精神，為眾生謀幸福，為眾生求和平。我們念觀世音菩薩，不是為自己而念，乃是為救難民而念。以此宗旨來念觀世音菩薩，一定會有很大的感應。

各位！聽了她的報告之後，知道觀世音菩薩，不但尋聲救苦，而且保護眾生的安全，是眾生的依怙者。在打觀音七的時間，大家真心誠意地念，多一人念，多一分力量，世界多一個地方和平，這是很重要的功德。

我們不要為己所求，為己所貪，應為全世界人類和平祈安寧。凡是真正的佛子，要養成為人不為己的思想和行為，一定會蒙佛菩薩的護佑。✿

from the sea of suffering; this also concerns the safety of all humankind. With such a mission in mind, we must definitely not spare any effort in our recitation of the name of Guanyin Bodhisattva. If we recite sincerely, we will be able to help rescue some more people's lives; if we are not wholehearted, then we will save fewer people's lives. All people are capable of empathy. From a Buddhist perspective, we ought to vastly rescue living beings — this is a mission that we are obligated not to turn down but accept with a sense of honor: We must recite the sacred name of Guanyin Bodhisattva with all our might.

CTTB's principle is to rescue all living beings from suffering. Everyday, the residents of the city recite the name of the Guanyin Bodhisattva for the living beings who are suffering, and they pray that the Bodhisattva can see, hear, and protect them. We are currently in the Guanyin Session, and everyone should recite Guanyin's name with an attitude of "striving forward to be the first and fearing to be the last." We should not shy away from work, becoming slack without a heart of compassion toward others. Otherwise, if we don't have moral virtue, what we achieve in the future will be limited.

We are cultivating the Mahayana Dharma and thus we should have an attitude of giving up our lives to save other people and should have an aspiration to bring peace and happiness to living beings. So, we recite Guanyin Bodhisattva's name not for our own sake, but for the sake of rescuing living beings. With this purpose clear in mind, we will definitely evoke great responses from the Bodhisattva.

All of you have listened to her report, and know that Guanyin Bodhisattva can rescue beings from their suffering and protect them. Guanyin is a "mother-like" figure whom beings can rely upon. When participating in the Guanyin Session, each one of you must sincerely recite, because "with one more recitation, there will be one more share of strength to bring peace to the world." This (participating in the Guanyin Session) helps one attain very important merit and virtue.

We should not pray for our own sake or pray for our own selfish desires. Instead, we should pray for peace on behalf of all humankind. Whoever is a true Buddhist disciple must develop a mindset and conduct to benefit others rather than ourselves. If we have such mindset and conduct, we will definitely be protected by Buddhas or Bodhisattvas. ✿