



聞思修居士林走向雲端

Bodhi Way Association (Wen Si Xiu)

Moves to the Cloud

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1994年宣公上人在胡大文居士家車庫前
Venerable Master Hua in front of the house of
Upasaka Darwin Hu, 1994.

位於美國矽谷重鎮聖荷西的「聞思修居士林」，於2020年10月23日宣佈，因受疫情影響，決定結束聚眾共修，今後只有網上講經與共修。

追溯聞思修居士林成立的因緣，最早是在1980年代，透過廖果紳居士的安排，宣公上人經常至矽谷地區聖塔克拉拉市的米慎社區大學講法開示，吸引了許多矽谷高科技界人士前往聽講。

Wen Si Xiu Dharma Association, also referred to as Bodhi Way Association, located in San Jose, California, in the heart of Silicon Valley in the United States, announced on October 23, 2020, that due to the impact of the pandemic, it has decided to end group gatherings for cultivation. In the future, it will only offer online lectures and forums.

This association for lay cultivators was founded in the early 1980s — as the necessary causes and conditions came together. One of the primary causes was that through the arrangements of Upasika Emily Liao (Liao Guoshen), Venerable Master Hua often went to Mission College in Santa Clara to give lectures and Dharma talks, which attracted large crowds from Silicon Valley's high-tech circles.

Another condition was that the Venerable Master had a senior disciple from Hong Kong, Upasaka Hector Wong (Huang Guo Jun), who happened to immigrate to the U.S. in the 1980s and settle down in Silicon Valley. Hector's mother, Luo Guo Ming had been Venerable Master Hua's disciple since 1950 when Hector was only eleven years old and still attended primary school. Later, he and Guo Sen, who was older than Hector, took refuge with the Venerable Master and also became his disciples.

After Hector Wong entered junior high school in Hong Kong, which was only a five-minute drive from the Venerable Master's Western Bliss Monastery, he took a bus every day at noon to the monastery for lunch. After lunch, he meditated for half an hour under the guidance of the Venerable Master for before returning to school to continue his classes. From the time he attended middle school till the Master left Hong Kong, Hector Wong often helped translate the Venerable Master's Dharma talks into Cantonese, and the Venerable Master trained Hector to lecture Dharma.

Then, Hector came to the U.S. in the early 1980s, he was

宣公上人在香港的老弟子黃果君（黃可泰）也恰於1980年代來美，定居矽谷地區。黃果君的母親羅果明於1950年即在香港皈依上人。同年，黃果君11歲，還是小學生，他就與年長的果森居士稍後一同皈依上人。

黃果君上初中後，因為學校距離上人道場西樂園只有五分鐘車程，因此他每天中午都搭巴士前往西樂園用午齋，飯後在上人指導下，打坐半小時再回學校繼續上課。從中學時期，一直到上人離港前，黃果君經常為上人講法翻譯成粵語，上人也訓練黃果君學習講法。

1980年代初，黃果君赴美，上人不時讓果君居士在金山寺講經。黃果君笑着回憶，有回原本預備講《金剛經》，當天上人臨時要他改講《六祖壇經》，「就是這樣被上人『逼』出講經的經驗。」當時隸屬金山寺的舊金山吉利旅館要成立餐飲部，上人指定由黃果君負責，餐廳名稱也根據他的法名而命名「君康素菜館」。

1992年，位於西沙加緬度的法界聖城開幕後，宣公上人在矽谷的弟子們就經常請示：何時能在矽谷地區也成立道場，接引當地善信？1993年1月，上人赴台弘法，矽谷地區許多弟子都到舊金山機場送行。當時他們再度請示上人：什麼時候在舊金山南灣（矽谷地區）成立道場？

因為之前上人已指定幾座分支道場分別訓練男女出家眾，但這群居士為做生意或上班工作，而無法住進道場參加僧伽居士訓練班，因此他們希望在矽谷成立一座居士共修中心。上人當時說：「你們去辦吧！」並說這個中心可稱為「居士林」。

often asked by the Venerable Master to lecture sutras at Gold Mountain Monastery in San Francisco. Hector always smiled when reminiscing about this period. One day, after he had prepared to lecture on the *Vajra Sutra*, the Venerable Master suddenly told him to lecture on the *Sixth Patriarch's Platform Sutra* instead. In this way, he was taught to give sutra lectures on demand. At that time, Gold Mountain Monastery was managing the Geary Hotel in San Francisco and about to build a restaurant in the hotel. The Venerable Master put Hector Wong in charge of this project; this is why the restaurant's name — Jun Kang (to your health) Vegetarian Restaurant — included one character from Hector's Dharma name: Guo Jun.

After the opening of the Sagely City of the Dharma Realm (CDR) in West Sacramento in 1992, Venerable Master Hua's Silicon Valley disciples often sought his Dharma instructions. They asked him when a bodhimanda would be established in Silicon Valley where local disciples could go to study Dharma. In January of 1993, when the Venerable Master went to propagate the Dharma in Taiwan, many of his Silicon Valley disciples went to the San Francisco Airport to see him off. While there, they requested once again to know when he thought a DRBA Branch might be established in Silicon Valley, south of San Francisco.

The Venerable Master had previously indicated that in the future, several branch monasteries should offer the Sangha and Layity Training Program (SLTP). However, most of the laypeople were preoccupied with their careers in order to earn a living. Thus, they could not afford to move into the monasteries to join SLTP. They wished a Dharma association accessible to laypeople would be established in Silicon Valley where they could cultivate. The Venerable Master told them to “go ahead and do it” and said that this association should be called “Jū Shì Lín” (“Jū Shì,” means laypeople; in Chinese “lín” means a ‘grove’ or ‘forest’; here it is rendered to mean an association for lay cultivators.)

Hector asked the Venerable Master if the association could be named “Sān Hùì (Threefold Wisdom),” since the *Shurangama Sutra* says that Guanyin Bodhisattva entered samadhi by listening within, contemplating, and practicing accordingly. The wisdom of listening, contemplating, and practicing is the threefold wisdom that is the prerequisite for attaining samadhi and realizing liberation. The Venerable Master replied, “There is already another place named Threefold Wisdom Lecture Hall, so why not call it ‘Wén Sī Xiū Center’ (ie, listening, contemplating, and practicing) instead?”

Hector Wong, Sam Jinq, Darwin Hu, Weifu Hsu, Joseph



1994年宣公上人於聖荷西聞思修居士林
Venerable Master Hua visiting Bodhi Way Association
(Wen Si Xiu) in San Jose, CA, 1994.

黃果君請示是否可命名為「三慧居士林」？因《楞嚴經》經文提到觀世音菩薩修行「從聞思修入三摩地」，聞慧、思慧、修慧這三慧是證入解脫所需的智慧。上人則說，別處已有「三慧講堂」，不如就取名「聞思修居士林」吧！

黃果君、章先慶、胡大文、許維夫、王鴻義、涂果福等人聞言大喜，隨即展開籌備，兩個月之內（1993年3月）即已完成向加州政府註冊登記的程序，但直到1994年2月17日才正式對外開幕，並邀請宣公上人開示。上人當天指出：「有了聞，就要思；有了思，還要修。所以聞思修這三種的智慧，也就是戒定慧。戒，就是止惡防非……歸根結底，眾善奉行就是要你修清淨行。你若不清淨，這就沒有善了；你若清淨，這就是善。所以諸惡莫作，就是沒有淫亂的行為；眾善奉行，就是清淨的行為。」

Wang, Hendrik Santo, and others involved in the project were overjoyed at the Master's approval, and immediately started preparations. Within two months by March of 1993, the association was officially registered with the state of California, and officially opened to the public on February 17, 1994. The Venerable Master was invited to speak on the opening day. During his speech, he said, "After you have listened (wén), you need to contemplate (sī). After you know how to contemplate, you need to practice (xiū). This is the threefold wisdom of listening, contemplating, and practicing; all of which are included in precepts, samadhi, and wisdom. The precepts are meant to help prevent you from doing evil. As long as you are doing good, you are cultivating purity. If your mind is impure, then you are not doing good. If your mind is pure, you are doing good. Doing no evil means that you are not engaged in sexual misconduct. Doing good means that you uphold pure conduct."

When it was first established, the association regularly invited the Venerable Master's senior disciples, Reverend Heng Sure and Dharma Master Heng Chih, to come and speak the Dharma. Later, the two masters became too busy with the many duties involved with spreading the Dharma; thus, it has been a long time since they were able to go to the association to give lectures. Therefore, in addition to the regular lectures Hector gave himself, he also invited Dharma Masters from other monasteries to come give lectures and lead group cultivation. For over two decades, Hector has lectured on many Mahayana sutras, including the *Heart Sutra*, the *Vajra*



成立之初，該會定期邀請上人座下的恒實法師與恒持法師前往講法。其後因兩位法師法務繁忙，無法長期分身前來，因此除了黃果君居士本人固定講經之外，也邀請其他道場的法師講法，領眾共修。20餘年來，黃果君講解過《心經》、《金剛經》、《六祖法寶壇經》、《藥師琉璃光如來本願功德經》、《地藏菩薩本願經》等多部大乘經典。

平日專心辦道，甚少出山的萬佛聖城方丈恒律法師，也曾於2012年9月23日應邀蒞臨聞思修居士林，與大眾座談開示佛法，十分殊勝。

黃果君表示，該會以接引初機為主，初創時，無論講經說法、共修、以及辦活動，平均都有數十人參加。聖荷西金聖寺成立後，其他大型佛教團體也相繼在矽谷地區成立分支道場，因而到聞思修居士林的會眾大減。每逢佛菩薩聖誕，或每月初一、十五，大家都到有法師主持的佛寺去參加法會，到居士林的人更少。近年來，黃果君已開始思考聞思修居士林未來的走向。

2020年新冠病毒鋪天蓋地而來，居士林會址因政府規定不能開放，但每月場地租金仍須照付。會長黃果君在結束會務的通告中說明：受疫情影響，不能再聚眾共修，而單純的講經法會，亦可改在網上舉行，故幾經考慮後，決定隨順因緣，將聞思修居士林結束，並不再接受任何捐獻。所有佛像、經書及設備等都已捐贈給萬佛聖城的一座分支道場。待和政府辦理正式停業手續後，亦會將銀行餘款悉數捐給萬佛聖城。

黃果君認為，該會未來從現場聚眾共修走向雲端（網路）講法共修，也許正是菩薩為聞思修居士林所作的最佳決定。❀

Sutra, the Six Patriarch's Dharma-Jewel Platform Sutra, the Sutra of Merit and Virtue of Medicine Master Thus-Come One's Fundamental Vows, and the Sutra of the Past Vows of Earth Store Bodhisattva.

On September 23, 2012, Dharma Master Heng Lyu, the abbot of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, who is ordinarily focused on cultivation and rarely leaves the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, accepted an invitation to go to Bodhi Way Association (Wen Si Xiu) to lecture and give a Dharma talk. It was an extraordinary and auspicious Dharma event during which he gave a Dharma talk to the public.

Hector remarked that the center has mainly been introducing the Dharma to beginners. When it was first founded, dozens of people attended on average, regardless of whether there was a sutra lecture, a group event (such as bowing repentance), or other activities. However, after Gold Sage Monastery was established in San Jose, as well as many other branch temples by other major Buddhist organizations were founded in Silicon Valley, attendance at events at Bodhi Way Association (Wen Si Xiu) drastically decreased over time. Whenever there was a celebration for the birthday of a Buddha or Bodhisattva, or on the first or fifteenth day of the lunar month, people would usually go to a monastery or temple, where there were monastics presiding over Dharma events; thus, attendance at the association decreased further. Therefore, in recent years, Hector Wong began to ponder the future direction of Wen Si Xiu.

In 2020, with the new coronavirus sweeping across the nation, the Wen Si Xiu went into temporary lockdown per government regulations, but still had to sustain the monthly expense. Hector, as the Chairperson for the center, made this following announcement during a conference to close the facility and end all of its affairs: "Due to the pandemic, we are no longer able to offer in person group cultivation; meanwhile, all sutra lectures will be moved online. After much deliberation, we have decided to accord with conditions and close down the physical location of Wen Si Xiu. We will no longer accept any further donations. We have donated all the Buddha images, sutras, and equipment to one of CTTB's branch temples. After going through the formalities of shutting down the association with the government, we will donate all the rest of the funds in the bank to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

Upasaka Wong believes that, in the future, the decision to switch from in-person group cultivation to online lectures is, perhaps, the Bodhisattvas' best arrangement for the future of Bodhi Way Association (Wen Si Xiu) is in the cloud online. ❀