

DRBA Observes the 26th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Entering Nirvana

宣公上人涅槃二十六週年紀念

季年文

張敏、葛親慧 英譯

By Ji Nian

English Translated by Min Zhang and Alejandro Gracia-Zhang



「南無上宣下化老和尚……」

2021年6月19日（農曆五月初十）是宣公上人涅槃26週年正日，萬佛聖城清晨七時即飄揚著上人聖號的唱誦聲。城內四眾弟子從佛殿一路繞念，先到1995年上人荼毗處，這個地點位於妙語堂旁邊，斜對角是無言堂。

上人的遺言之一是「我從虛空來，回到虛空去」。上人入涅槃前曾交代，不要為他老人家興建紀念館、紀念塔。雖然上人如此吩咐，但身為弟子的，仍願盡一份心，將上人一生的德行功績呈現，以便後人學習。之前早已有人提議，在上人當年荼毗處成立紀念公園，但最後所採取的折衷辦法就是：以十根圓形短柱圍繞著上人荼毗臺，短柱之間是太陽能的照明燈；另設「宣公上人荼毗處」告示牌，說明文字如下：「宣化上人，一九九五年六月七日於加州洛

“Homage to Venerable Hsuan Noble Hua...”

June 19, 2021 (the tenth day of the fifth lunar month) was the 26th anniversary of the Venerable Master Hua entering

Nirvana. At 7am that day, the great assembly at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB) began chanting the Venerable Master's name. The four assemblies of disciples at CTTB walked from the Main Buddha Hall to the location where the Master was cremated in 1995. This place is next to the Wonderful Words Hall, diagonally opposite No Words Hall.

Some of the Venerable Master's final words were, “From emptiness I came; to emptiness I return.” Before entering Nirvana, the Venerable Master expressed that he did not want people to build memorial halls and pagodas for him. Despite this, we as disciples still want to do our best to make sure people learn of the Venerable Master's many virtuous deeds and achievements. In the early days, there were proposals for establishing a memorial park at the Venerable Master's platform. Ultimately, the final decision was to surround the site of his cremation platform with ten short columns, with solar-powered lamps between the columns. At



萬佛聖城紀念宣公上人涅槃26週年法會

The ceremony of the 26th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Entering Nirvana in the Buddha Hall at CTTB.

杉磯示寂，七月二十八日荼毗於此。」並附有三張當年荼毗大典相片，供大家緬懷上人的教化與行誼。

繞行過上人荼毗處之後，大眾繼續前行，來到「無言堂」，這裡曾是上人生前講課的教室，如今供奉釋迦牟尼佛、虛雲老和尚、以及宣公上人的舍利，象徵著正法從印度東傳中國，又從中國傳到西方。無言堂內也展出上人生前使用的文物，因疫情之故，大眾並未入內瞻仰聖物，而是在無言堂前致敬，懷念上人真修實證、高瞻遠矚、以及「代法界一切眾生受苦；將自己的福報，普施法界眾生」的精神。無言堂重新修繕的屋頂，仍是百年老瓦，今已清洗乾淨，煥然一新。上人創辦的道場，弟子們無不盡力維修，方便四眾修行。

6月19日這天的紀念儀式，在〈華嚴懺〉以及禮敬上人之後圓滿。當天下午，繼續念誦《華嚴經》。宣公上人住世時曾開示指出，在乾旱、野火肆虐時，以及上人涅槃時，弟子們都要念誦《

the entrance, there is a sign with the following explanation, “Venerable Master Hsuan Hua entered Nirvana in Los Angeles, California on June 7, 1995. He was cremated here on July 28, 1995.” There are also three photos of the cremation ceremony, for everyone to cherish the memory of the Venerable Master's teaching and virtuous conduct.

After circumambulating the Venerable Master's cremation place, the assemblies walked to No Words Hall. This hall was a classroom where the Venerable Master taught. Now, it is dedicated to the sharira of Shakyamuni Buddha, Venerable Master Xuyun, and Venerable Master Hua which are displayed here. It symbolizes the spread of Buddhadharma from India to China and from China to the West. No Words Hall also exhibits some of the Venerable Master's personal items such as his books and notes. Due to the pandemic, attendees did not enter the Hall, but paid tribute in front of the opened door, thinking about the Venerable Master's true practice and attainment, his great vision, and his spirit of “suffering for all living beings in the Dharma Realm and offering his own blessings to all beings in the Dharma Realm.” The newly renovated roof of No Words Hall has kept its original tiles which were power-washed clean, giving a new look to the building. Disciples have made every effort to repair the Wayplaces founded by the Venerable Master to facilitate the cultivation of both the monastics and laity.

The commemoration ceremony on June 19, 2021 was completed after the bowing ceremony to the Venerable Master. Then in the afternoon, the recitation of *Avatamsaka Sutra* was continued. Before his passing, the Venerable Master Hua explained that during times of droughts and wildfires, as well as commemoration days of him, disciples should recite the *Avatamsaka Sutra*. From June 13 - July 8, 2021, the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas is holding the Avatamsaka Session Session to help



香港佛教講堂紀念宣公上人涅槃26週年法會

The ceremony observing the 26th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Entering Nirvana at the Buddhist Lecture Hall in Hong Kong.

華嚴經》。今年因全球多地乾旱，萬佛聖城特別於6月13日啟建「華嚴法會」，預計7月8日圓滿誦完81卷《大方廣佛華嚴經》，不僅紀念宣公上人涅槃26週年，也祈願風調雨順、國泰民安、世界和平。除了中文念誦之外，每週日至週五的上午8時起，都安排兩支香的時間念誦英文《華嚴經》。

萬佛聖城週日晚間的線上講座，於6月13日安排了「上人圓寂26年後，回顧上人對西方的影響」論壇，恒實法師指出上人生平事蹟中國篇、香港篇都已出版（《宣化禪師事蹟》、《白山黑水育奇英》、《覺海慈航度香江》），唯獨上人離開澳洲回港赴美後的事蹟尚待整理出版。因此首先要整理上人年譜；其次是2003年展開的口述歷史計劃，由上人

relieve disasters around the world. This is not only to celebrate the 26th anniversary of Venerable Master's Nirvana, but also to pray for timely rain, favorable weather, and peaceful daily life in countries all around the world. In addition to Chinese, there will also be English recitation from 8 am to 10 am, Sunday to Friday.

CTTB's online lecture series on Sunday evenings held a special forum on June 13 to commemorate the Master's influence in the West, twenty-six years after the Venerable Master's passing. Reverend Heng Sure pointed out that *biographical sketches of the Venerable Master, China and Hong Kong volumes (Records of the Life of the Venerable Master Hsuan Hua; Records of the Life of Ch'an Master Hsuan Hua, Part II; White Mountains and Black Waters Nurture A Rare Talent; and Crossing Hong Kong on the Ship of Compassion in the Sea of Awakening)* have all been published, but events during the periods between Australia and Hong Kong and later the United States have yet to be compiled and published. Therefore, we should first sort out the chronology of Venerable Master, and then continue with the oral history project launched in 2003, where the Master's disciples in the United States each describe the influence of their real spiritual teacher on them. In addition, a film of Venerable Master's life is also being produced. We hope that books and videos can show the Venerable



台北法界紀念宣公上人26週年涅槃法會

The ceremony of the 26th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Entering Nirvana at Dharma Realm Buddhist Books Distribution Society in Taipei.

在美弟子分別述說這位真正的大善知識對他們的影響。另外，關於上人生平的電影，目前正在錄製中；希望書籍及影音都能將上人生前致力建立僧團、講經說法翻譯經典、推行教育、宗教交流等方面的成果呈現出來。

年輕一代的比丘近傳法師則朗誦了他寫給上人的信：感恩上人關於心地法門的教化，他自己高中時即萌生出家之念，但父母當時無法接受。上人教他要聽父母的話，因此他順從父母的意思上大學，還唸了碩士班。十年後終獲父母同意支持，完成出家的夢想。回想起來，十分感恩上人的智慧指引，讓他在因緣具足的情況下出家修行。

比丘尼恒音法師回憶上人對她的種種教化，其中一次是上人講經時，由她負責現場口譯。為了翻譯正確起見，她請求上人在唸過經文後，先講解一段，這樣她就能更了解經文的意思。上人當場告訴她：「我上午吐了好幾

Master's achievement of establishing the Sangha, translating the classics, and promoting education and interfaith dialogue.

Dharma Master Jin Chuan read aloud a letter he wrote to the Venerable Master on behalf of the younger generation. In the letter, he thanked the Venerable Master for the teachings about the mind-ground. He wanted to leave the home-life when he was still in high school, but his parents would not allow it at the time. The Venerable Master instructed him to listen to his parents, so he obeyed his parents' wishes to go to college, even earning a master's degree. Ten years later, he finally obtained the support of his parents and fulfilled his dream of becoming a monk. In retrospect, he was very grateful to the Venerable Master for his wisdom and guidance, allowing him to become a monk when the conditions ripened.

Bhikshuni Heng Yin recalled the various teachings the Venerable Master had given her. Once, the Venerable Master was to give a lecture and she was responsible for on-site translation. In order to translate properly, she asked the Venerable Master to provide an explanation for each paragraph of the scripture, so that she could better understand the meaning of the scripture. The Venerable Master told her, "I vomited a few times this morning, but I still came down to give a lecture, just to give you a chance to practice translation." Dharma Master Yin was very moved and plucked up the courage to complete the interpretation on the spot. Dharma Master Yin also remembered that the Venerable Master often reminded everyone not to lose their temper; he would chant, "If there is no fire in the liver – no temper, you will never get sick. Alas! This magic medicine has been placed on a high shelf. Svaha!"



華嚴精舍紀念宣公上人26週年涅槃法會

The ceremony of the 26th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Entering Nirvana at Avatamsaka Vihara in Bethesda, Maryland, USA.



金峰聖寺紀念宣公上人26週年涅槃法會

The ceremony of the 26th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Entering Nirvana at Gold Summit Monastery in Seattle, Washington, USA.

次，還是下來講經，就是為了讓妳練習翻譯。」音法師深受鼓勵，鼓起勇氣完成了那段口譯。音法師也特別記得上人經常提醒大家不要發脾氣，還口唸偈頌：「肝中若無火，何病都能躲，即此妙伽陀，亦被置高閣，娑婆訶！」

譚果式居士多年來在中國廣為推動上人教法，包括印行上人淺釋的經典、開示、和中英雙語經典等；並成立上人法音的微信公眾號，一個宣化上人法匯微站，以及一個全球中英文共修〈楞嚴咒〉和〈大悲咒〉平台，歡迎大家參加。

法界佛教大學2020年畢業生王智通熱心參與上人傳法西方傳記的整理計劃，他表示，年輕一代雖無緣親炙上人，但透過上人傳記計劃，仍可學習上人教法，實現修行了道的目標。王智通也設計了一份參與整理上人傳法西方傳記的報名表，願意謄稿、翻譯、剪輯影音、設計網頁等等的人

Over the years, Madalena Tan has widely promoted the Master's teaching in China, including printing the Venerable Master's simple explanation of the sutras, Dharma talks, and bilingual Sutras in Chinese and English; plus establishing a WeChat site and an app of the Venerable Master's Dharma voice as well as a global platform in Chinese and English to encourage the public to recite the *Shurangama Mantra* and the *Great Compassion Mantra*.

Everyone is welcome to join. Alex Wang, a 2020 graduate of the Dharma Realm Buddhist University, enthusiastically participated in the compilation project of the Venerable Master's biography in the West. He said that although the younger generation did not have the fortune to meet the Venerable Master in person, through this project, they can still learn the Venerable Master's teachings and realize the goal of liberation. Alex Wang has also designed an application form for participating in the compilation of the biography of the Venerable Master in the West. Those who can help with tasks such as transcribing, translating, editing audio and video, and designing web pages are welcome to sign up and be part of this project.

Each branch monastery of the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association held the 26th Anniversary of the Venerable Master's Nirvana in the month of June. Due to the pandemic, DRBA monasteries were not open to the public, but they did invite followers from around the world to participate in online sessions. The Gold Coast Dharma Realm



澳洲金岸法界紀念宣公上人26週年涅槃暨三皈五戒法會

The Three Refuges and Five Precepts ceremony of the 26th Anniversary of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Entering Nirvana at Gold Coast Dharma Realm in Australia.

士，都歡迎報名，發揮各人專長。

法界佛教總會各分支道場在六月份相繼舉辦上人涅槃26週年紀念法會，因疫情之故，無法對外開放，僅能邀請各地信眾線上參加。法界佛教總會在南半球唯一的道場「澳洲金岸法界」在6月19日紀念宣公上人涅槃法會中，特別舉辦三皈五戒，共有20人報名參加，使得澳洲正信佛教徒人數繼續增長。

2021年宣公上人涅槃紀念日有一份特別的獻禮：就是將上人的佛七開示精華分成17集，放到蘋果播客上（<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/宣化上人佛七精華錄/id1572294112>），提供大家親聆上人法音的新管道。音質十分清晰，彷彿就在上人座下現場聆聽他老人家開示似的。

播客裡的上人法語開示，與其說是弟子們獻給上人涅槃26週年紀念日的禮物，不如說是上人從自性流出，送給眾生的珍貴禮物。法界佛教總會中文網站的「線上聆聽」有更多上人的智慧法語開示：http://mp3.drbachinese.org/online_audio/index.asp.html。不過這些法音都是中文，若想聆聽上人開示的英譯，可造訪以下網站：<http://www.cttbusa.org/audio.asp.html>。❀

in Australia, the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association's only branch monastery in the southern hemisphere, held a Three Refuges and Five Precepts ceremony on June 19th in commemoration of the Venerable Master's Nirvana. A total of 20 people signed up. The number of Australian Buddhists continues to grow.

A special gift was presented on the Venerable Master's Nirvana Day—Venerable Master's talks on Buddha's Name Recitation have been edited in 17 episodes and aired on the Apple Podcast (<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/宣化上人佛七精華錄/id1572294112>), providing a new channel for everyone to listen to the voice of the Venerable Master. The sound quality is very clear--it is as if listening to the Venerable Master in person.

Putting the Venerable Master's instructional talks in the podcast is not so much a gift from the disciples for the 26th Anniversary of Venerable Master's Nirvana, but rather a precious gift that flows out of Venerable Master's inherent nature to all sentient beings. The "Online Listening" section of the Chinese website of the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association has more instructional talks by the Venerable Master on wisdom and Dharma: http://mp3.drbachinese.org/online_audio/index.asp.html. However, these talks are all in Chinese. If you want to listen to the English translation, you can visit the following website: <http://www.cttbusa.org/audio.asp.html>. ❀