



## 覺海慈航度香江（續）

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

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#### 37. 求雨解旱

上人所到之處，沒有水的地方就有水。有一次香港乾旱，連續六個月沒有下雨，很多道場、寺院、精舍都在求雨，乾旱依然持續加重，甚至連從不缺水的西樂園也快要斷水了。上人命老弟子劉果娟念佛三天求到雨……

##### 上人自述：

有一年，香港乾旱得不得了，由春天到夏天六個月沒有下雨，因此天天都限制用水。所有佛教道場寺院、佛堂、精舍都在求雨。有這麼多人求雨，所以我就不管這個閒事。我從來就不願意管閒事的，有這麼多人求雨，這麼多人比我一個人的力量一定大的，所以我就不管了。等過了五、六個月，想不管也不可以了，為什麼？因為西樂園的水也要乾

#### 37. Pray for Rain to Solve the Drought Problem

Wherever the Venerable Master went, water was available even in areas where it was dry. Hong Kong once suffered a drought so severe there was no rain for six straight months. Although many Wayplaces, monasteries, and viharas prayed for rain, the drought worsened. Even Western Bliss Garden, where there had always been plentiful water, was on the verge of running dry. The Venerable Master asked his old disciple, Liu Guo Juan (劉果娟), to recite the Buddha's name for three days to pray for rain.

##### The Venerable Master's Own Words:

There was a year when Hong Kong suffered from a drought with no rain for an entire six months. As a result, water for daily use was restricted. Consequently, the Buddhist Wayplaces, monasteries, Buddhist centers, and viharas prayed for rain. Since so many people prayed for rain, I did not interfere. I was never intent on interfering in other people's business. Because there were so many people praying for rain, their collective power was more than sufficient. I did not want to get myself involved. After five or six months went by, I figured not interfering was not an option. Why? Because the Western Bliss Garden was also about experience a shortage as very little water trickled from the mountain. There was also a heavy smell of sulfur that made the water barely drinkable. At this time, I instructed Liu Guo Juan, "You need to pray for rain for three days. You must recite



宣公上人在西樂園寺

Venerable Master Hua at Western Bliss Garden Monastery.



了；山上來的水很少，而且硫磺味很重，簡直不能吃。在這個時候，我給劉果娟下個命令：「在三天之內，妳要給我求雨。妳要天天念佛，如果不下雨，那妳以後就不要再來見我了！」其實她也沒有本事，我是故意這樣對她說的。

劉果娟這會兒可慌張了，她最怕的就是不能見到師父；不見什麼都可以，她天天都要來見師父。她真的好老實的，拿著一串念珠在那兒猛念佛，連飯也都忘了吃，就怕不下雨。我對程果成講：「他們求雨，求了幾個月也沒有下雨。現在我限劉果娟三天求雨，我想大約兩天半就有雨下。」她念了兩天半，果然下起大雨，香港因此不限制用水了。

這個雨一來，所有的寺廟佛堂就登報紙賣起廣告，大家都來邀功，說這都是他們的功勞。這個說我們拜懺拜靈了，雨是我們求來的；那個說他們念佛念靈了，這個雨是他們佛堂求來的；實際上，怎樣下的雨，他們都不知道！所有的佛堂都有了功，就是西樂園沒有報功，也沒有報德；我這個老徒弟念佛念

Buddha's name daily, and do not come to see me in the future if it does not rain!" I knew she could not make it rain, but I deliberately made her ask for it anyway.

Liu Guo Juan was really in panic, as not being able to see Shifu was the thing that frightened her most. It was all right if she could not see anyone else, but she had to see Shifu every day. Liu Guo Juan was well-behaved. She rigorously recited the Buddha's name with recitation beads in her hands. She was so afraid it would not rain, she even forgot to have her meals. I also told Cheng Guo Cheng (程果成) to pray for rain for months, but no rain came. So then, I gave Liu Guo Juan a limited amount of time, only three days, to pray for rain. But I estimated that it would rain in only about two and a half days. As it turned out, the rain fell after she recited the Buddha's name for two and a half days. Subsequently, Hong Kong did not have to restrict the use of their water anymore.

After it rained, all the monasteries and Buddha Halls advertised in the newspapers the rainfall was due to their efforts. Some claimed the credit should go to them because they bowed repentances, while others claimed the credit should go to their Buddha Hall because they recited the Buddha's name. Yet, they did not even know why it rained! All the Buddha Halls took credit except Western Bliss Garden. No one knew that it rained because my longtime disciple recited the Buddha's name. Why? Because she did not announce it in the newspapers, nor did we claim credit for the rain. I rejoiced with the other people only to make them happy. I am certainly not

來的雨，也沒有人知道，為什麼呢？因為她沒有發表新聞，我們沒有宣傳這個雨是怎樣下的。但是，如果這樣能令他們高興，我也隨喜。我說這些話，絕不是炫耀自己有什麼力量，而是說明心誠則靈的道理。

為什麼限劉果娟三天求下雨？我是要這個老弟子多念點佛，為大家求雨，多積點功德。我告訴你們，不要說三天，我叫老天當天下雨，雨就來的，為什麼呢？因為我有十個龍弟子。這十條龍如果不懶的話，我叫哪一條下雨，牠都會下雨的，類似這個事情有好多次。所以你們修行要有誠心，我這些龍弟子都會幫助你們的；你們若不修道，牠們是不會擁護的。

還有一次正月間供天，因為人太多，西樂園裏邊不夠地方，就擺桌子在外邊的空地上。正要供天的時候，這個雲來了就像要下雨，大家都說：「不行了，不行了！要搬到佛堂裏邊去，外邊就要下雨了！」我當時就想，現在不可以下雨的，我就告訴他們：「你們不要搬，不會下雨的。我們供天，天還下雨，那太沒有感應了！供天，天還要哭？沒這個道理。」

總而言之，我這個做師父的，就是這麼很獨裁、很專制的，說什麼就是什麼，說得對也是對，不對也是對，他們也就不敢搬了。這供天用了大約三個鐘頭的時間，因為我不准下雨，天空只是烏雲密布，沒有落雨。等我們供完天，方才把香爐、燭臺，桌子都搬到佛堂裏邊，外面即刻下起大雨，所以我在香港的一些皈依弟子很相信我，知道我講的話好靈的，都有應驗的。

今天我又現個小神通，一早就對果修（美籍比丘尼恒持）說：「果修，妳去告訴神，告訴這個God（上帝），今天在下午四點鐘以前不准下雨；如果下雨，我就要發脾氣了！」你們都知道，今天四點鐘以前果然沒有下雨。果修，我沒有對妳打妄語吧？這是妳親耳聽見的！

showing off my powers by saying this. Instead, I am explaining the truth of how sincerity brings a response.

Why did I give Liu Guo Juan a three-day time limit to pray for rain? I wanted my longtime disciple to recite the Buddha's name more, to pray for rain on behalf of the people, and, also, for her to accumulate more merit and virtue. Let me tell you this: if I asked Heaven to rain on a certain day, it would rain that day, let alone if I had three days. Why? Because I have ten dragon disciples. If the ten dragons are not lazy, whenever I ask for rain, it will rain. Situations such as these have occurred many times. So, if you are sincere in your cultivation, my dragon disciples would help you. Otherwise, they will not support you.

Another similar event happened while we were making offerings to the heavens during the first month of the lunar year. We set up tables on the ground outside because there were so many people, and Western Bliss Garden did not have enough room. When we were about to make the offerings, clouds gathered as if it would rain. Everyone said, "We cannot do it here! We cannot do it here! We need to move inside the Buddha Hall because it is about to rain outside!" At that time, I thought, "It is not OK for it to rain right now," so I told them, "Do not move. It is not going to rain. If it rains while we are making the offerings, the response we get will be too little! It makes no sense if the heavens cry while we are making offerings to them."

All in all, I am a very autocratic and arbitrary teacher. You need to follow what I say, for I am always right, whether or not my words are right or wrong. So, no one dared to move. It took us about three hours to make the offerings to the heavens. Although dark clouds gathered in the sky, they did not rain because I did not allow them to rain. Right after we finished making offerings to Heaven and moved all the censers, candleholders, and tables back inside to the Buddha Hall, it started to rain heavily all at once. Therefore, some of my disciples in Hong Kong sincerely believed in me. They knew that all my words would come true.

Today, I have also revealed one small spiritual power. I said to Guo Xiu (Dharma Master Heng Chih) early this morning, "Guo Xiu, go and tell God that he is not allowed to make it rain before four o'clock this afternoon. I will get angry if he lets it rain!" As you all see, it did not rain before four o'clock this afternoon, "Guo Xiu, I did not lie to you, right? You heard this yourself! Such cannot be a spiritual power at all. It is just that when I say something, things follow according to my words.



我這個不算神通，一通也不通；只不過我這麼說，它就會這麼做。

【後記1】甲午夏（1954年），農曆六月十九為觀音菩薩成道日，上人在西樂園舉辦七天法會（十三日至十九日），十八、十九日兩天，到西樂園的多達數百人。當時正值炎夏，天氣酷熱乾旱，香港政府為節約用水，每天只供水三小時，人民因缺水而叫苦連天。然而，西樂園的水塘，一如平日，毫無旱象，水流卻源源不絕，充分供給數百人飲用及生活所需，堪稱為奇蹟中的奇蹟。

【後記2】梅妙玲居士敘述：

我小時候大約八到十歲，我和我母親（袁果趁）去西樂園，師父都會拿好多東西出來給我吃。有一次下大雨，我母親帶生病的我上山，到用齋的時間，師父叫廚房不要開飯，等我們到了，師父才開始用齋。每次我們上西樂園，我母親都會先告訴師父什麼時候再上來。有幾次，師父叫我母親提早一個小時上山，原來一個小時後就下起了大雨。

☞待續

**[Postscript 1]** In the summer of Jia Wu Year, the year 1954, as the nineteenth day of the sixth lunar month was Guanyin Bodhisattva's Enlightenment Day, the Venerable Master held a seven-day Dharma assembly session at Western Bliss Garden (from the thirteenth day to the nineteenth day of the sixth lunar month). There were hundreds of people who went to the Western Bliss Garden on the the eighteenth and nineteenth lunar days. It was a hot summer. The weather was exceedingly scorching and dry. The Hong Kong government only supplied water for three hours per day, as there was a need to conserve water. People suffered from the shortage of water. However, the pool at the Western Bliss Garden was full of water as usual, and it was sufficient to meet the needs of hundreds of people. It was a miracle of miracles.

**[Postscript 2]** Narrated by Upasika Mei Miao Ling:

When I was about eight to ten years old, every time my mother (Guo Chen Yuan) and I went to the Western Bliss Garden, Shifu gave me a lot of food to eat. Once my mother took me to the mountain when it rained heavily, and I was sick. When it came to mealtime, Shifu asked the kitchen not to serve food until we arrived. My mother would always notify Shifu about our arrival, each time just before we went to the Western Bliss Garden. At several times, Shifu would ask my mother to go up the mountain one hour earlier. It turned out that after an hour, it rained heavily.

☞To be continued

## BUDDHISM A TO Z

### 願

願力能消除重業，在業的源頭掃除掉身心的毛病，可以制服邪魔，感動天人。

人必須發願，一個修道者就像人想要過海，一個修道者的大願就像一條船一樣，可以把人帶離生死，渡過苦海到達涅槃彼岸。發的願必須是堅固耐久的，必須是永恆不變的，必須是不可壞的，必須像金剛一樣。

### Vows

The power of vows eradicates heavy karma, wipes away all illnesses of mind and body at their karmic source, subdues demons, and can move gods and humans to be respect.

One must make great vows. A cultivator is like a person who wants to cross the sea. The great vows of a cultivator are like a boat which can carry him or her from birth and death across the sea of suffering to the other shore of nirvana. The mind which makes great vows must be solid and durable. It must be permanent and unchanging. It must be indestructible. It must be like vajra.

