



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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46. 慈興禪寺 (三)

上人自述:

我這個師父也是個做苦工的工人,自己搬運材料。有人說:「你是歡喜做工吧?」不是的!我和你們是一樣,也不願意做工,一做工也感到很疲倦的;但是為了建立道場,我不怕辛苦。我修大嶼山的時候,費神費力,頭髮全都累白了!那時候沒有徒弟幫我,只好叫工人了。

我就得揹米揹油揹鹽,在香港是搭下午兩點鐘的船,晚間五點鐘到大澳,揹著五、六十斤的米或者油、鹽,走兩個鐘頭到山上。在山上那兒有很多人做工,揹這些給他們吃。晚間七點鐘到山上,第二天一早三點多再趕著下山,因為還要到香港西樂園講經。雖然可以雇人送上去,但是要花錢,我是一分錢也也要留著來買建築材料,一分錢也不浪費!就這樣,我在兩年半的時間,建了三個地方。為什麼兩年半就有這樣的成績呢?也就因為我苦

46. Tze Hing (Cixing) Chan Monastery (III)

Venerable Master's Account:

I, a teacher, was also like a hardworking laborer. I carried the materials myself. Someone commented, "You must have liked working, right?" Not really! Like all of you, I also do not want to work. I feel very tired when working. However, if it is to build a place of cultivation, I am not afraid of hardship. I spent a lot of energy building the place of cultivation on Lantau Island. My hair turned white due to tiredness! At that time, there were no disciples to help me and I could only seek help from workers.

I carried bags of rice, oil, and salt, took a boat at 2:00 p.m. in Hong Kong, and arrived at Tai-O at 5:00 pm. I carried between sixty-five and seventy-eight pounds of rice, or oil and salt, and walked for two hours up the mountain, bringing food for those who worked in the mountain. I arrived at 7:00 pm, and then rushed back after 3:00 am the next day, because I had to give a Dharma lecture at Western Bliss Garden Monastery in Hong Kong. Although I could have hired someone to carry this food, it would cost money. I did not want to waste a single cent as every cent saved would be used to buy construction materials! In this way, I could build three places in two and a half years. How could there be such an achievement in two and a half years? This was because I worked hard and was not afraid of all the hardships, and personally worked on it.



1956 年慈興寺西方三聖開光
The Opening Ceremony of the Three Sages of the Western Pure Land: Amitabha

The Opening Ceremony of the Three Sages of the Western Pure Land: Amitabha Buddha, Avalokiteshvara (Guanyin) Bodhisattva, and Great Strength Bodhisattva at Cixing Chan Monastery in 1956.

幹,不怕一切的困難,我自己親身這麼去做去。

在雲門山大覺寺舂米,是用水力舂米,舂的米足夠廟上用,附近的鄉人也到那個地方去舂米。大嶼山那兒也有確,我舂過米,不是常常舂;有的時候舂一、兩個鐘頭,有其他人來替換。當時大嶼山的草很多,有的草長得比人還高;我見過有三、四寸那麼長的百足(蜈蚣),在西樂園也見過,在那以前我沒有見過那麼大的百足。

那時候有很多廢棄的磚瓦和石頭, 堆積在預定蓋大殿的地方,想造大殿 得先清理掉。果利(恒益師)在那兒 幫著做工、種田、管理地方,我叫她 把石頭磚瓦搬走,叫她三次她也不 理,我就自己來搬。那兒沒有推車, 我用兩個大竹筐挑在局上來回擔。我 平常都是揹米、揹麵、揹油的,在山 上很少做工,果利她們看我也來做就 都慌了,大家趕緊過來一起清理。如 果叫她們做,五天也做不完;我帶 著她們一起做,怎麼樣?半天都做完 了。 At Yunmen Temple, rice was pounded by using a hydraulic power, and the pounded rice was sufficient for the temple. The neighbouring villagers also went there to pound rice. In Lantau Island, there was a pestle which I used to pound rice, though I did not do it often. Sometimes, I would pound for one to two hours, then other people would take over. At that time, grasses were everywhere in Lantau Island, and some grasses were taller than a human. I came across three to four inches long centipedes, and I had seen such long centipedes in the Western Bliss Garden too. Before that, I had never seen such large centipedes.

At that time, there were quite a lot of abandoned tiles, bricks and stones piled up at the site identified for building the main hall. If the main hall was to be built, the place must first be cleared. Kuo Lei (Heng-Yi Shr) was there helping out. She was working, farming and managing the place. I told her to carry away the stones, tiles and bricks, and though I had told her three times, she still ignored me. I had to clear them myself. There were no carts, hence I used two large bamboo baskets and a pole and carried it on the shoulder back and forth. I usually carry rice, flour and oil, and would rarely work on the mountain. When Kuo Lei (Guo Li) and others saw me working, they were flustered and quickly came to clear up the abandoned materials. If they were told to do it, they could not even finish the job in five days. However when I led them to work together, what was the result? The work was done in just half a day.

約待續

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