

學佛行儀（爲官第十）

Department Guidelines for Buddhist Practitioners (10. Serving as Official)

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【白話】居士擔任官職，既然有了權勢地位，就更應該廣泛推行佛法教化。可以公告大家說：「某某學習佛法，因此不吃葷腥、不喝酒、不接受私人賄賂、不壓制是非、不妄加獎懲。所有軍民，應當了解這些。」

在處理案件時，待雙方對質清楚是非曲直後，就以佛法中關於因果的道理進行開導，並勸導他們從今以後應該了解因果報應，依循佛法和國法，成為安分守己的良好公民。

接待來訪的客人時，除了針對來意進行問答外，都應以佛法來對客人進行交流。

部門中的官員，可以在每週晚間舉行一次佛法因緣的開導會，各位官員無不遵從，這樣還能使他們避免詭詐行為。軍官對待士兵時，也應該如此，一方面使士兵心志純正，另一方面避免擾亂百姓。

上級官員面對下級官員時，最好在任命之前詢問他是否能依照佛法行事。在出巡或者外出辦案時，如果見到有適合教化的人，就以佛法教導他們。

待續

When holding a position of authority, a layperson should use their influence to promote the widespread practice of the Dharma. It may be appropriate to publicly declare one's principles, stating:

“As a practitioner of Buddhism, I abstain from consuming meat, pungent food, and alcohol. I do not engage in unethical dealings such as accepting bribes. I refrain from meddling in personal disputes over right and wrong and avoid arbitrarily bestowing praise or punishment. I wish for all citizens, both military and civilian, to be aware of these commitments.”

When presiding over trials or cases—whether overseeing court proceedings, evaluating evidence, or ensuring fairness by protecting the legal rights of all involved—a virtuous lay practitioner (serving as a judge) should maintain an impartial mindset. Beyond interpreting and applying the law to deliver just rulings, such a judge can demonstrate compassion by explaining the universal Law of Cause and Effect and its corresponding retributions. This guidance can inspire all parties involved to reflect on their actions and strive to become virtuous, law-abiding citizens.

When greeting visitors, in addition to extending basic courtesies, one can engage guests in meaningful conversations grounded in the spirit of Buddhadharma. For those in leadership positions, opportunities such as weekday evening gatherings can be used to provide subordinates with guidance on the Law of Cause and Effect, as appropriate to the circumstances.

When such teachings are well-received, subordinates are more likely to become conscientious and dedicated in their duties, reducing the likelihood of fraud or deception.

This principle applies equally to military officers, encouraging discipline and focus among their subordinates while minimizing disruption to civilians.

Before appointing a subordinate, it is advisable for the officer in charge to assess whether the candidate can abide by the principles of the Dharma. This ensures that those selected are more likely to perform their duties ethically and effectively.

To be continued