

delivered reflections from the perspectives of their respective faiths, expressing contemplation on the act of violence and leading the public in shared prayers and blessings. Among them, Reverend Heng Sure spoke on behalf of the Buddhist community, offering brief remarks. He emphasized the Buddhist principle of the Great Compassion of Oneness, affirming the equality and interconnectedness of all beings. He called upon the community to unite with one heart, to counter violence and fear with wisdom and compassion, to dissolve hatred through inner awareness, and to soothe social suffering through collective wholesome intention.

Following his remarks, Reverend Heng Sure led the assembly in prayer and a dedication of merit, offering blessings for the departed to rest in peace, for their families to receive comfort, and for society to return to stability, with lasting peace in the world.

This prayer vigil reflected the spirit of cooperation, mutual respect, and shared responsibility among multiple faiths on the Gold Coast in response to a major public tragedy, and also highlighted the positive role of the Buddhist community in public care and social healing. ❀

關懷與團結，回應社會創傷。

儀式中，多位宗教領袖分別致詞，從各自信仰的角度，表達對暴力事件的反思，並帶領大眾共同祈禱與祝願。其中，恒實法師代表佛教團體發表簡短致詞。法師指出，佛教強調同體大悲的精神——眾生平等，呼籲大眾團結一心，以智慧與慈悲對治暴力與恐懼，以內心的覺照化解仇恨，以集體的善念撫慰社會的傷痛。

恒實法師隨後帶領現場大眾共同祈禱，並將功德回向予遇難者及其家屬，祈願亡者得安息，生者得安慰，社會重歸安定，世界長久和平。

此次祈福守夜活動，體現了黃金海岸社會在面對重大公共事件時，多宗教攜手、彼此尊重、共同承擔的精神，也彰顯了佛教界在公共關懷與社會療癒中的積極角色。❀

## Dharma Realm Buddhist University Autumn 2025 CEI on Avataṃsaka Syllabary

### 法大2025年秋季班華嚴四十二字母實修週

By CEI Volunteer  
實修週義工 文

Every semester, DRBU faculty and staff, students pause classes and regular school activities to participate in a four-days of practice retreat. It is a combination of textual study and practice, combining different parts together, for example, lectures, meditation, chanting, and discussion. This CEI's main theme was called, "Turn inward, tune in: from the Avataṃsaka Syllabary to Prajna wisdom."

The Avataṃsaka Syllabary is a practice mentioned in Chapter 39 of the *Avataṃsaka Sūtra* (Roll 76), Entering the Dharma Realm. When the youth Sudhana met one of his teachers, the youth "Mastering All Arts" (Skt. Silpābhijña), he was taught

每學期，法界佛教大學的全體師生都會暫停日常課程與學務，參與為期四日的實修禪修。這場名為「共同教育體驗」的活動，融合經教研讀與實踐修行，結合講座、靜坐、誦持、討論等多種形式。本學期的主題定為「向內觀照·深度契入——從《華嚴字母》到般若智慧」。

《華嚴字母》出自《華嚴經·入法界品》第三十九（卷76），記載善財童子參訪善知眾藝童子時，所受教導的修行法門。四十二個字母，每一字皆是通往般若智慧的門徑。

此活動屬於課程必要環節，所有學生均需參與，而學員信仰背景多元。若有其他宗



this Dharma door. There are forty-two syllables, and each syllable opens a gate to prajñā wisdom.

The CEI is part of the curriculum and students are required to participate. While they come from diverse faith backgrounds, those from other religious traditions who prefer not to join the main practice are given the option to opt out or to design their own practice under the guidance of their teachers. Because of this diversity of assembly, on one hand, it poses some challenge to design a CEI centered on the Avatamsaka Syllabary, which is recognized as one of the Mahayana esoteric practices. At the same time, the uniqueness of the Avatamsaka Syllabary practice offers a broad appeal, making it accessible and to people of different backgrounds. This CEI aimed to give students a flavor

教傳統的學生不願參加主修行項目，可選擇退出或在教師指導下自行設計修持內容。這種多元共修的特性，一方面為以《華嚴字母》——此被視為大乘密修法門之一——為核心設計活動帶來挑戰；另一方面，字母修持本身的獨特性卻能跨越文化界線，吸引不同背景的人接觸體驗。本次活動旨在讓學生淺嘗大乘修行風貌，一窺字母法門的堂奧。

這是少數融合音樂與藝術元素的佛教修持。音樂是普世語言，透過音聲實踐，《華嚴字母》得以超越文字觸動人心。當儀式進行時，宛如以法器奏響的交響樂，每個音聲相應和鳴，傳遞深邃神聖之境。活動於地藏殿舉行，唱誦部分則安排在大殿——其絕佳的音場效果，為唱修實踐提供了完美條件。

of this Mahayana practice: a little taste of the syllabary.

This is one of the few Buddhist practices that includes musical and artistic elements. Music is a universal language, and through this practice, the Avatamsaka Syllabary can reach people beyond words. When performed as a ceremony, it feels like an orchestra played with Dharma instruments, each sound harmonizing to express something profound and sacred. This CEI was held in the Earth Store Hall, and the singing part was held in the Main Hall, where the amazing acoustic effect was perfect for the singing practice.

Syllables are the smallest units of language—from syllables come words, from words come phrases, and through language meaning is formed. In Buddhism, the Buddha teaches that each of us already possesses inherent wisdom; it simply needs to be uncovered or activated. Our main obstacle is our own thinking mind—our constant stream of thoughts. When thoughts subside, wisdom naturally reveals itself. But what are thoughts? If we look closely, we see that they are made up of words and language. The mind thinks in sentences and keeps flowing from one to the next. The forty-two syllables are said to be gates to prajñā wisdom. By focusing our attention on these simple sounds, we give fewer chances for wandering thoughts to take over. Eventually, when we let go even of the syllables themselves, a deeper layer of awareness can emerge—that is when true wisdom manifests.

This practice was taught to Sudhana during his journey of seeking good knowing advisors, or wise teachers. Like Sudhana, we are all lifelong learners seeking guidance from good teachers who can help us walk the right path. His spirit of inquiry and humility can inspire us to reflect on how we find and learn from our own teachers in life.

We were very fortunate to have nine teachers in total for this CEI, including Dharma Masters from CTTB. Twelve bhikṣuṇīs helped lead and support the event, whether through chanting, giving talks, or assisting with the Dharma instruments. After the CEI, many students expressed appreciation for the monastic presence—their calm energy helped students feel at ease and connect with the practice more deeply. Some shared that they were grateful for the opportunity to connect with the monastics and see a side of them they don't often get to experience. ❀



字母是語言的最小單位：由字母組成詞語，由詞語構成篇章，意義藉由語言得以呈現。佛陀開示，人人本具智慧，只需拂塵顯明。我們的主要障礙，正是念頭紛飛的意識之流——當妄念止息，智慧自然現前。然而念頭是什麼？細察之下，不過是詞語與語言的組合。心識以句子形態持續奔流。四十二個字母被視為通往般若智慧之門，藉由專注於這些簡淨音聲，我們減少妄念攀緣的機會。最終，連字母本身亦放下時，更深層的覺性將顯發——那便是真實智慧映現的時刻。

這門修行法門，是善財童子參訪善知識、求教賢師途中所得。正如善財童子一般，我們皆是終身求道者，一直在尋覓能指引正途的良師。他那份誠摯探求與謙卑自牧的精神，足以啟發我們反思：在生活中，我們如何尋得良師、又如何從師而學？

此次共同教育體驗中，我們非常榮幸地迎來了九位指導老師，其中包括來自萬佛聖城的諸位法師。另有十二位比丘尼以誦持、開示、護持法器等方式引領並護持整場活動。活動結束後，許多學生表達了對僧眾臨場的感恩——那份安定的能量讓學子們身心舒緩，更能深入體會修持。也有人分享，他們十分珍惜這次與僧眾親近的機會，得以見識到以往較少接觸的僧團風貌。 ❀