

因華

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因



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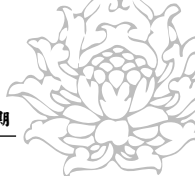


心無罣礙



- 以美好的心 欣賞周遭的事物
- 以真誠的心 對待一切人事物
- 以負責的心 做好份內的事
- 以謙虛的心 檢討自己的錯誤
- 以愉悅的心 分享他人的快樂
- 以喜捨的心 幫助需要幫助的人
- 以不變的心 堅持正確的理念
- 以寬闊的心 包容對不起自己的人
- 以感恩的心 感謝所擁有的一切
- 以無私的心 傳承成功的經驗
- 以平常的心 接受已發生的事實
- 以放下的心 面對最難的割捨





華嚴經法要新解

天因法師

華藏世界品第五之一、二、三 (卷八、九、十)

接著第六期的「世界成就品」後，華嚴經以三卷經文的內容來介紹華藏世界，原來這個世界是由毘盧遮那如來累劫累世在因地修行時所薰習得來的菩薩行，毘盧遮那如來並且發願親近諸佛，又發大悲心，而很不容易的成就了如此莊嚴清淨的境界。在〈華嚴經·華藏世界品〉中講出了整個華藏世界的結構，簡單的說，華藏世界最下面，是依空輪而住，空輪上面有一個接一個的風輪，風輪上面有香水海、朵朵蓮華，四周是以金輪山圍繞著，作用是保護著這個世界。依經所說整個華藏世界分為三類：

一、就佛來看

蓮華華藏世界為十身具足圓滿的盧舍那佛所居住的佛自境界，一切佛國土都含攝在此世界中，此為「證入生所見」。根據本師毘盧遮那如來的依報具足三世間，不但互不妨礙，反而互為融攝，無窮無盡的，這是佛果的成就。就佛的依報而言，此華藏世界安立得非常莊嚴，是佛成就清淨功德所得來的莊嚴相狀，而這些莊嚴處處充遍了整個法界，目的是

讓我們對佛法生起堅定的信心，從而了解個中的義理，繼而把佛法實踐於生活中，直到修成證果。

二、就眾生來看

是雜類世界，為盡虛空徧法界的無數雜類世界，也為「見聞所生見」。據佛經所說：以須彌山為中心，外周圍為八山八海，其海水皆為八功德水，有清香之德，故稱香水海。而山高為八萬由旬，深入海底下也是八萬由旬，其底為四方形，如大銅盤，四周共三十二萬由旬，無比廣大。其中第七山外有鹹海，其外有鐵圍山，形成了須彌四大洲：東勝神洲（弗婆提）、南瞻部洲（閻浮提洲）、西牛貨洲（瞿陀尼）、北俱盧洲（鬱單越）。吾等眾生均住於南面的閻浮提洲。

南瞻部洲又名閻浮提。閻浮乃樹之名；提，梵語洲之意。故又作閻浮洲。此洲盛產閻浮樹，又出產閻浮金，即好金土之意。此洲位於須彌山四大洲之南洲，故又名南閻浮提、南瞻部洲。佛經記載，此洲南狹北廣，縱廣七千由





旬，人面亦像此地形。四大洲中，唯此洲中有菩薩將登正覺，結金剛座。

三、二十重華藏世界

即無邊際的國土，重重無盡國土，為「解行生所見」。二十重華藏世界，華藏世界的第十三重是毗盧遮那如來所證得的國土，名娑婆世界，十方三世一切諸佛都住此國，如：西方極樂世界、東方藥師琉璃世界、兜率淨土等。記得這是第十三「重」的世界，不是第十三「層」，因為層是一層是單一層的，而重是重疊、重重無盡之意。所以娑婆世界以外，還有很多重華藏世界，

每一個世界都有一個佛國，都有不同的教化主，教化不同的眾生。又可以了解成因為眾生不同的業報或因為是佛所發的不同的願力，以其願行所成就的不同國土，在經書中陳述很多。

結語

總括而言，形成華藏世界，除了上述所提的空輪、風輪、香水海、大蓮華、輪圍山之外，還有輪圍山的台面、寶地、香海、香河、林樹，總共十種莊嚴相狀，如是十種相狀成就了一乘佛果。下期將會詳盡分析一乘佛果的毗盧遮那佛，華嚴經以一品一卷經文盡述。☸





大方廣佛華嚴經卷第五十三·離世間品第三十八之一·第5問何等為菩薩摩訶薩勤精進

華嚴經問答與內容

〈離世間品〉是《華嚴經》中的二千個修行法門，由普慧菩薩為當機眾代眾生向普賢菩薩發問，總共發出了二百個問題，而普賢菩薩於每個問題中說出了十個答案，即十個修行法門，故全品經一共有二千個法門，成為了「普慧二百問，普賢兩千酬」的佳話，給後人研讀華嚴經的一個重要指南。

第五問～何等為勤精進？

經文（P151LL1）：佛子！菩薩摩訶薩有十種勤精進。何等為十？所謂：

1. 教化一切眾生勤精進；
2. 深入一切法勤精進；
3. 嚴淨一切世界勤精進；
4. 修行一切菩薩所學勤精進；
5. 滅除一切眾生惡勤精進；
6. 止息一切三惡道苦勤精進；
7. 摧破一切眾魔勤精進；
8. 願為一切眾生作清淨眼勤精進；
9. 供養一切諸佛勤精進；
10. 令一切如來皆悉歡喜勤精進；

是為十。





釋文(V17P55LL1):

華嚴經中，所提及的精進總括有三種：

- 一、被甲精進：意謂菩薩所修善行，發起大誓願的意樂，勇悍不退，如古人作戰上陣打仗，先行被著鎧甲，鼓起勇氣，威力十足，不生畏懼，不生退心。
- 二、攝善法精進：意謂菩薩修諸善法時進趣不息、從不退轉。
- 三、利樂有情精進：即利樂一切有情作諸事業，勸化眾生，勤策不懈，勤修佛道。

精進者，行者已具此德，但必須策勤不懈。於以上十事而言，倘若離身離心，不能說是勤修佛功德；但菩薩把本有的精進德相，加以上述三心的策勵，則可以教化眾生、可以深入一切法、可以嚴淨一切世界、可以滅除一切眾生惡、也可以止息一切三惡道苦；又為了修行一切菩薩所學、又為了摧破一切眾魔而行精進；且願為一切眾生作清淨眼、欲想供養一切諸佛、更希望令一切如來皆悉歡喜，所以菩薩一定要安住此精進法門，才得以具足如來無上精進波羅蜜。

其實，菩薩修行，常行勇猛精進，堅定不移，這種毅力及決心，能對治懈怠的習氣，是學佛者慎之學之。☸





臘八粥的由來

農曆十二月初八日是佛陀成道日。在這一天，寺院都會舉行紀念法會，並以「臘八粥」供佛供眾。

佛陀成道日為何要用臘八粥呢？其緣由要追溯到佛陀成道之前的悉達多太子，他曾修苦行六年，日食一麻一麥，以淡泊物質來砥礪求道的心願。漸漸地太子覺悟到：世間的人追逐物欲，沈迷於聲色犬馬之中；過份享樂、固然不易達到解脫，如果執著於苦行，徒使身心受苦，形同枯木死灰，也不能證悟菩提，最好是捨棄苦樂二邊，過著不苦不樂的中道生活，才能進趣解脫之道。太子有了這一番體悟，了解苦行的不究竟，即離開苦行的生活，走下尼連禪河，讓清淨的流水，洗去身上的垢穢。由於太子形體瘦弱，竟疲乏無力的倒在尼連禪河邊，過了一會，太子手攀岸上垂下的樹枝方站起來，走不了幾步，又癱倒在岸上。這時，河邊有一個名叫難陀波羅的牧女，在河畔的草原上放牧，她忽然看到一位瘦弱的青年沙門橫臥在河岸旁，好像毫無氣力似的，她立時生起同情的心，手捧乳汁前來供

養太子。太子接受牧女的一杯乳汁，其中的美味實在無法譬喻。飲後，五體通暢，漸漸的恢復了氣力。於是涉河過岸，走到伽耶山的一棵繁茂的菩提樹下金剛座上，端坐思惟，終於在十二月初八日夜睹明星而開悟證道，成就正等正覺。由於牧羊女供養乳糜的典故，後來中國的佛教徒乃起而效之，於每年農曆十二月八日當天，以五穀及諸果物煮粥供佛，稱為「臘八粥」。





開經偈的由來

無上甚深微妙法
 百千萬劫難遭遇
 我今見聞得受持
 願解如來真實義

這首開經偈是唐代女皇武則天所寫，其文筆之暢順及精簡，且意義深奧，千多年來雖有後人欲將它修改，但亦無法取代之。

據說武則天做皇帝的時候，由於她是一個非常虔誠的佛教徒，她對於華嚴經非常地愛好。在那個時候就禮請了實叉難陀法師來主持翻譯華嚴經，譯成之後，武則天給這部大經，題寫了這一首開經偈。

而相傳佛陀在世時，有一天托鉢行化，在路上遇見一位女孩子，與一班小孩子在路中堆沙嬉戲；她遠遠看見釋迦佛率領弟子們魚貫而來。她就半開玩笑半認真的

用雙手從地上捧了一捧土沙，走到佛陀面前，往世尊鉢內一放，世尊居然接受她的沙土供養，大弟子舍利弗實在看不下去，心想這女孩豈有此理，怎可以用沙土向世尊開玩笑。在路上實在忍不住，就問世尊道：「世尊，剛才那個女孩子，把沙土放進你鉢內，你為什麼讓她胡鬧？」世尊微笑的說：「你們不知道，此女千百年後，因緣成熟，要在東震旦國為王，這時如不受她沙土供養，她將會破壞佛教的，這樣讓她種此善根因緣，她將來做皇帝時，會保護佛教弘揚佛法的」。由此因緣，所以在武則天王朝時對佛教盡力推動與弘揚。 ☸





唐·黃蘗傳心法要

菩提卽本源清淨心，
常自圓明遍照，
世人不悟，
只認見聞覺知爲心，
爲見聞覺知所覆，
所以不睹精明本體，
但直下無心，
本體自現，
如大日輪升於虛空，
遍照十方更無障礙。





會勝集 法殊雲 終緣會 年因海

本年度年終梁皇法會在十二月二十日至二十七日舉行。是次活動，除了常住諸位法師外，本社又邀請了多位法師來參與支援。當中有來自休士頓的見石法師，星加坡的傳智法師、法詮法師、洛杉磯的滿冠法師、開見法師、屋崙的達堅法師與及主持三時繫念的主法來自奧瑞崗洲（OREGON）的慧解大和尚。

是次法會參與的信眾異常踴躍，法會的第一天，早上九時，洪鐘三叩，當主法見石法師站在大殿中央的蒲團時，鼓聲敲響，法會開始，鈴聲輕輕的敲打著〈大方

廣佛華嚴經，華嚴海會佛菩薩〉三陣後，維那傳智法師雄渾而深沉的聲音，緩緩地唱出〈南無普賢王菩薩〉的聖號時，全場信眾莊嚴地和唱著，法會序幕隨即展開！

由於法師們都是來自不同地方，在唱誦佛號時，由於演譯的不同，也帶給信眾們另一番的體會與法喜，佛號音聲充塞整個殿堂。

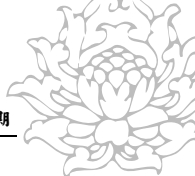
每天晚課，蓮社安排了持誦《地藏菩薩本願經》及《蒙山施食》同時作功德迴向。信眾熱誠參



後排左起：天寧、傳智、滿冠、天因、天融、達堅等諸位法師
前排左起：見石法師、慧解大和尚



典座師姐們正趕著為大眾準備子齋



與，氣氛祥和。

法會最後一天，下午二時恭請慧解大和尚作三時繫念的主法。由於殿堂的擺設有別於梁皇法會，因此中午利用用餐的時間，機動組的義工菩薩在法師們的指導下，張羅準備各種供品與法物。同時我們又恭請見石法師在過堂時為大眾開示，好讓信眾們能飽餐甘露法味。除了長養色身，也能滋潤法身。

由於信眾們熱烈的參與，齋堂座位也不敷應用，臨時的餐桌佔據了整個會客室，在典座法師及行

堂師姐的帶領及協助下，秩序井然；信眾們又供養不同的食品，除了供佛、供僧外，也能供眾，廣結善緣。

一連八天的年終梁皇法會，最後在一片綿密的佛號聲中，圓滿結束！祈願佛陀的慈光接引，使往生者能早生淨土，健在者能福慧綿長，如意自在！



功德主在蓮位前上香



信眾在齋堂過堂，秩序井然





十月十七 聯歡聚餐

齋堂啓用 嘉賓滿堂

美國華嚴蓮社經過了多年的集資興建與修建，終於在今天劃下了一個句號。為了感謝過去到現在一直出錢出力全力護持蓮社的信眾朋友，本社住持天因法師藉著大寮與齋堂的竣工，遂發起了聯歡聚餐。

十月十七日，本社邀請了接近一百四十位嘉賓來參加「齋堂啓用，聯歡聚餐」，香積廚的義工師姐們大清早就來準備。

中午十二時正，行堂打板後，齋堂大門隨即大開；在住持天因法師，天融法師引領下大眾魚貫進入齋堂，聚餐是以採用自助的方式進行。當天聚餐的菜單如下：

- 一、老少平安(蒸豆腐)
- 二、六時吉祥(蓮藕蒸糯米)
- 三、眾緣和合(海帶捲)

- 四、法海蒲團(冬瓜雜菜)
- 五、滿地法寶(炸南瓜筍頭泥)
- 六、法輪常轉(髮菜滷金針)
- 七、功德無量(生菜三菇)
- 八、法水長流(蕃茄麵)
- 九、佛種不斷(炒烏冬)

在用餐進行中，首先由住持法師發表了感謝詞後，我們也邀請了張志禹工程師，楊良淵設計工程師為大家綜合報導成一樓的重建過程以及遇到的困難；另外我們也邀請了本社的護法（悟修）陳潤吾居士、胡憲文居士；資深義工法文（賀玉章）居士，喜慶（溫彬僖）居士，新一代年青義工心智（區志揚）居士，香積廚主廚心清（司徒玉蘭）居士等為大家分享他們與蓮社的點滴，大眾在輕鬆愉快的環境下，圓滿了是次聚餐。





我媽咪也是香積組的義工呢!



青年會成員Matthew, (心智) 區志揚居士致詞



本社護法悟修(陳潤吾)居士致詞



喔! 這湯看起來好好喝



大眾一起向佛前問訊



慢慢來! 還有很多呢!



快點坐下來, 好好吃!



成果展出來了, 忙了一個早上也是值得的!





週六佛學班圓滿 學員獲益笑開顏

美國華嚴蓮社本年度最後一期的佛學班課程在十月三十一日圓滿。是次講者是本社住持天因法師，主題是：「佛法生活自由談」課程由九月十二日起一連八課，法師以輕鬆、深入淺出的方法為為大家介紹一些佛教的道理，也為一些初學佛者了解人死

後的現像。又再引用《佛說四十二章經中的人有二十難》。讓學員能夠從中明白人身難得，佛法難聞的重要思想，同時更鼓勵大家應該明白既得人身，又得聞佛法，應該專心學佛，行佛所行；又提醒大家；此身不向今生度，更待何時度此生。☺



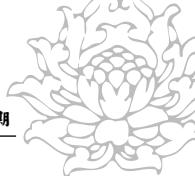
學員聆聽法師開示



法師說：
應該專心學佛，行佛所行



法師開示輕鬆活潑



青年會關懷探訪

美國華嚴蓮社於八月份成立的青年會於2009年12月13日首次出外探訪位於聖荷西市的SAN TOMAS CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL，對象是各種族的長者。

當天在住持天因法師領導下，除了常住法師及青年會的會員外，剛從休士頓來支援梁皇法會的見石法師及一些義工菩薩一行約二十六人於下午二時，在蓮社大殿集合，分乘多部汽車出發；在目的地集合後，青年會的負責人心誠(丁聖剛)、心程(李忠霖)及林珮君(MEG)與院方聯絡後，分成多組，每組三人，帶備了蓮社為長者準備的氈子作為禮物，進行關懷探訪，每組負責三至五個病舍，每一病舍一至三人不等。

當進入病舍時，老人們眼中都綻放出一種歡悅的光芒！當收到禮物時，有人珍而重之地把它收藏起來，有些即是使用，亦有愛不釋手！

由於身處西方國家，有些病者對於法師們的裝束感到新奇，對於佛教更是一無所知！幸好青年會的成員幾乎都懂多種語言，在他們簡單扼要的介紹下，他們才恍然大悟！

探訪活動大約在四時結束，我們在拍了團體照後，就圓滿了這一次的探訪活動。也展開了青年會的活動，日後此會將於月舉辦一次類似這種活動，願佛菩薩加被青年會會員能發長遠菩提心，服務社會，造福人群，廣種福田，成就功德！



青年會成員與見石法師合照



慈善關懷 愛心盡顯





冤冤相報何時了



過去有個男子娶了兩位太太：大太太膝下無兒，小太太則生了一個容貌端正的可愛男嬰。由於丈夫非常喜歡這個小兒子，大太太因此心生嫉妒，但她對外卻宣稱自己疼愛這小兒猶勝於親生骨肉。因此，家人也都認為大太太將小兒視如己出，根本不會想到大太太有意圖傷害小兒。

就在小兒一歲時，大太太找到下毒手的機會。她用針刺入小兒的腦門，而且沒入皮肉。小兒因此生病，啼哭不止，也不再吃奶，一家大小都不知道原因。過了七天，小兒便命終了。大太太啼哭不已，小太太更是傷心欲絕，肝腸寸斷。

過了一段時日，小太太在各種查證下，逐漸懷疑大太太是真正的兇手。由於喪子之痛，加上有仇未報之感慨，尋即命終。心懷怨恨而死的小太太，為報殺子之仇，投生為大太太的女兒，長得容貌端正，大太太自然對她疼愛有加。但女兒長到一歲就命終，令大太太每天愁苦不食，悲慟號哭更勝於過去的小太太。

其後小太太連續七次投生為大太太的女兒，或二、三年，或四、五年，或六、七年便往生。最後一次投胎時，她長得比過去更端莊，可是在她十四歲正當出嫁的晚上，又不幸死去。大太太憂傷悲惱，終日啼哭，將女兒停屍在棺中，也不肯蓋棺，終日看著棺材中的屍體，不食不語。奇怪的是，已死去的女兒，居然容顏氣色比生前更加煥發，使得大太太更加依戀不捨。

過了二十幾天，有一位已證阿羅漢果的聖僧，與大太太宿昔有緣，知道了此事，想度化二人。

於是聖僧來到這戶人家乞食，大太太命婢女盛一鉢飯供養他。聖僧不肯接受，並求見女主人。大太太自忖容貌憔悴，不想見人，故命婢女供養僧人後便請他離開。但婢女數次請求，聖僧仍不願離開，堅持要見女主人。大太太見僧人不肯離去，無奈只好接見。

聖僧看見大太太蓬頭垢面、憔悴不堪，並試圖用手遮掩，於是問她為何如此？





選自《雜譬喻經卷下》

大太太告曰：「我前後生了七個女兒，都非常點慧可愛，卻一個個死去。最後這個女兒，在要出嫁時也死了！實在令我愁憂悲惱，痛不欲生。」

聖僧問道：「您丈夫的小太太是為何而死？」

大太太聽了非常震驚，心想：「他為何會知道這件事？」

聖僧對她說：「待您梳理完畢，再告訴您。」

當大太太梳理完後，聖僧又追問：「小太太是為何而死？」

這時，她緘默不語，心中感到慚愧萬分。

聖僧說：「妳殺了小太太的兒子，讓她愁憂悲惱至死。因此，她成為妳的冤家，前後七次投胎為你的女兒夭折而死，欲令妳悲慟憂傷而死。妳現在去探視棺中女兒的屍體，看看是否完好如初？」

大太太一看，屍身已經壞爛臭

穢，令人難以靠近。

聖僧問大太太：「如此不淨之身，妳何以貪念不捨？」

大太太感到慚愧至極，便立刻將她埋葬，並請求聖僧為自己受戒。

次日，大太太依聖僧指示，前往寺中受戒。但小太太怨恨未消，化為毒蛇，擋在路中，欲咬死大太太。大太太為毒蛇所擋，無法前行，而天色已漸晚，她不禁心生怖畏：「我欲至寺中受戒，此蛇為何一直擋我去路？」

聖僧知道此事，即前往排解。大太太見到聖僧到來，即歡喜地恭敬頂禮。

聖僧對蛇說：「妳為報殺子之仇，前後投生作大太太的女兒已經七次，彼此互結冤仇，來生勢必又將互相仇害，冤冤相報無有了期……儘管如此，這些罪過，尚可度脫；但是，如果妳現在障礙她受戒，障人受戒惡報甚大，將生生世世墮入地獄，無有出期！」





毒蛇聽聞聖僧開示後，知道宿世的因緣果報，心中的怨恨委屈剎時冰銷，低頭思惟不已。

聖僧觀察得度因緣已經成熟，隨即為兩人祝願：「妳們兩人由於宿世惡業，互相惱害報仇。現在彼此應當解冤釋結，不要再惡意相向，過去所造的種種罪過，從此悉數滅除。」

最後，一人一蛇互相懺悔前愆，蛇因聞法功德，旋即命終，捨去蛇身，投生人道。

大太太聽聞聖僧開示，亦心開意解，立刻從聖僧受戒，此後精進修行，證得須陀洹果。

省思

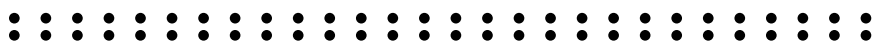
古德云：「冤冤相報何時了？」大太太、小太太不明因果，仇恨未消，因而彼此冤冤相報，生生世世承受無量苦果。幸好有阿羅漢為二人開示化導，教令懺悔宿業，方能前嫌盡釋，轉惡緣成善緣、法緣。

一切眾生都是我們過去的親眷，皆有佛性，皆當成佛。所謂「未成佛道，先結人緣。」我們應當學習菩薩慈心廣大，不念舊惡，不憎惡人。以冤親平等的心量，化解惡緣，廣結善緣！
☸





佛學常識 知多少？



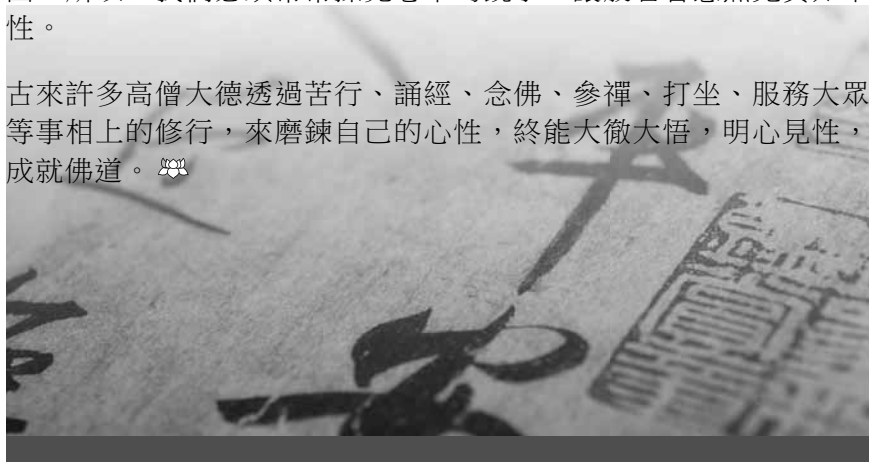
甚麼是明心見性 見性成佛

人類的行為往往受著自己內心的心識變化而影響。所謂心生萬物，為善為惡都是一念間。其實人人都具有清淨無染的自性，可是，我們的心往往被貪、瞋、無明等煩惱蒙蔽著，於是便不得自在，只有經常活在痛苦煩惱中。

「明心見性」是要我們好好地認識和了解自己，觀察自己的起心動念和種種思想心念的變化，若能明悟自心，就能徹見自己的本來佛性而成佛道，便可「見性成佛」。

佛教的經典中常用一面鏡子來譬喻我們的心，若鏡子明亮，其功能可以照見萬物，但如果鏡子被沙塵蒙蔽了，則不能照見真實的東西。所以，我們必須常常擦亮心中的鏡子，讓般若智慧照見真如本性。

古來許多高僧大德透過苦行、誦經、念佛、參禪、打坐、服務大眾等事相上的修行，來磨鍊自己的心性，終能大徹大悟，明心見性，成就佛道。🙏





缺點與優點的界線

有個老富翁在臨死前，想把財產分給個性、行為最成熟的孩子，於是他想了一個法子，把三兄弟召來床前說：

「我想決定遺產的分配，但不知道該怎麼分比較好，能不能請你們幫個忙？每人拿兩張紙，一張寫下自己的優點，一張寫下另外兩個人的缺點，然後再把兩張紙拿給另外兩兄弟簽名，不管是優點還是缺點，寫得愈多，且愈快完成這件事的人，就能分得最多的財產。」三兄弟聽到指示急忙照辦，並與父親約定隔天早上在他的房間揭曉結果。

第二天一大早，三兄弟就聚集在老富翁房前，只見老

大、老二仍在為簽字與否爭論不休，老三卻坐在一旁氣定神閒，父親於是問他情況如何，老三說已經獲得兩位哥哥的簽名同意了，父親非常驚訝，問他是怎麼辦到的？

老三說：「我寫自己優點的那張是空白的，寫哥哥缺點的那張紙也是空白，我認為自己沒有優點，他們沒有缺點，他們接受起來一點也不困難，當然非常同意，就幫我簽字了。」

老富翁接著叫兩位哥哥拿出他們的優點與缺點清單。老翁看了一下笑了笑，兩人所寫的自我優點與寫別人缺點





文章出處：網上流傳

的數量剛好一樣多。有趣的是，大哥自認為的優點卻是二弟眼中的缺點；相反的，二弟自認為的優點，正是大哥所列舉的缺點。兩人看自己的觀點剛好南轅北轍。

老富翁見老大、老二爭執不下，於是又再問老三，有沒有什麼好建議能幫他們解決。

老三說：「我建議他們先簽下寫自己缺點的那一張紙，如果先承認自己的缺點，對方也會同意你有優點。」

兩位哥哥聞道，便照著小老弟的話試試，結果果然皆大歡喜，寫下缺點和優點的兩張紙都順利獲得簽名同意。

老富翁微笑地點點頭，比對著三兄弟的清單，其中三弟

的兩張清單上的簽字時間分別是十點一分及十點二分，差距只有一分鐘。與兩位哥哥清單上別人簽字的時間整整差了24小時以上。

老富翁拿給三兄弟一人一個信封，裡面放有一張紙條，上頭寫著：「原來要別人接受你的邏輯很簡單，先承認自己有缺點，優點才有成長的空間。原來要別人接受你的方法是那麼的簡單，先體會別人的感受，不是先保護自己的感受。」原來優點和缺點的界線並不在我們身上，是在別人心上。





小 故 事

一體兩面

父子二人經過五星級飯店門口，看到一輛十分豪華的進口轎車。兒子不屑地對他的父親說：「坐這種車的人，肚子裏一定沒有學問！」父親則輕描淡寫地回答：「說這種話的人，口袋裏一定沒有錢！」

註：你對事情的看法，是不是也反映出你內心真正的態度？

先入為主

晚飯後，母親和女兒一塊兒洗碗盤，
父親和兒子在客廳看電視。

突然，廚房裏傳來打破盤子的響聲，然後一片沉寂。

兒子望著他父親，說道：

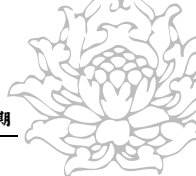
「一定是媽媽打破的。」

「你怎麼知道？」

「她沒有罵人。」

註：我們習慣以不同的標準來看人看己，以致往往是責人以嚴，待己以寬。





文章出處：網上流傳

小
故
事
大
啟
示

輕鬆一下

在故宮博物院中，有一個太太不耐煩地對她先生說：

「我說你為甚麼走得這麼慢。原來你老是停下來看這些東西。」

註：有人只知道在人生的道路上狂奔，結果失去了觀看兩旁美麗花朵的機會。

兩隻口袋

我們每人脖子上掛了兩只口袋，一隻裝別人的缺點，另一隻裝自己的。

那只裝別人缺點的口袋掛在胸前，另一隻則掛在背後。

因此我們總是能夠很快地看見別人的缺點，而自己的卻總看不見。

註：人們往往喜歡挑剔別人的缺點，卻無視自身的缺點。





特別活動

1) 傳授三皈五戒

佛誕日傳授三皈五戒，由本社住持天因法師為三皈本師，發心皈依受戒者請與本社查詢。

日期：觀音菩薩誕辰法會 2010年3月28日 下午1:30

佛陀誕辰浴佛法會 2010年5月16日 下午1:30



2) 幽冥皈依

幽冥皈依對象是已經往生之先人，由親屬帶領代為皈依，使亡者能不墮三惡道，來生不失人身。

日期：2010年 4 月10日 下午4:00

2010年 8 月28日 下午4:00

歡迎投稿

「華嚴園苑」歡迎大家投稿，分享心路歷程，學佛心得。來稿可以中英文撰寫，字數不超過五百字為限。可用以下電子郵箱或郵寄到本社：

E-MAIL: LING.ABLS@GMAIL.COM

請連同姓名、電話，以便聯絡。

請註明：華嚴園苑

銘謝啓事

特別感謝參予本期之中、英文撰稿、翻譯、潤筆、校對、設計等義務工作人員：

區志揚(心智, MATT)居士、胡心圓居士、邱召傑、林佩君(MEG LIN)、林宗君(ALEX LIN)、江常生居士。

編輯部謹啟





活動預告

1. 觀音菩薩誕辰法會

日期: 2010年3月28日 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

2. 春季法會禮拜梁皇寶懺

日期: 2010年4月4日至11日 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

3. 佛陀聖誕浴佛法會

日期: 2010年5月16日 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

4. 觀音菩薩成道法會

日期: 2010年7月25日 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

5. 秋季盂蘭盆法會誦華嚴經一部

日期: 2010年8月15日至29日 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

每月定期共修會

活動項目	日期
虔誦華嚴經	每月第一個星期日
慈悲三昧水懺	每月第二個星期日
華嚴佛一	每月第三個星期日
禮拜藥師寶懺	每月第四個星期日
禮拜金剛寶懺	每月第五個星期日

每月慶生日

本社於每月第四個週日禮拜藥師寶懺之餘，更為當月生日者慶生，歡迎預先報名及參加共修，期仰仗三寶加被，福慧增長，事事吉祥，法會中本社備有生日喜糕供佛供眾，又向當月壽星致送精美而有紀念價值的生日紀念品，歡迎參加，拈香禮佛，供齋結緣，隨喜功德！





助印功德芳名

第六期 助印功德芳名				
\$500	成一法師	賢度法師		
\$300	天因法師	劉寶足	故 陳錦文	
\$200	胡松齡	Allen Xiano	ChunLien Wang	黃鴻欽合家
\$150	Daniel Tang			
\$120	故 韓信謀			
\$100	Jean Huang	盧美茜	華維祺	蘇文隆
\$90	郭俊男			
\$60	Natalie Ko & Francis Yu			
\$50	Solomon Wong	Meiping Chen	黃妙芬	黃偉光
	文國強			
\$40	徐惟桂	陳秀清		
\$30	傅楊春美			
\$20	賴玉英	鄭彩琴	葉麗萍	David Hattersley
	Huang Yu-Wen			

第七期 助印功德芳名				
\$1000	貝彤軍合家			
\$500	成一法師	賢度法師		
\$400	Ivan M. Pesic Family			
\$300	天因法師	陳春善		
\$100	天寧法師	張年素合家	Kenneth Chan	
\$50	天融法師	陳林	黃潤萍	故 蘇鴻炎
	故 蘇林雪霞			
\$30	司徒瑞梅			
\$20	葉美萍	洪鳳竹	林修如	楊陳秀明
	丁聖嘉	丁聖剛	滕灼華	Connie Chan
\$20 以下	徐美馨合家	Hsiao Yun Yang		



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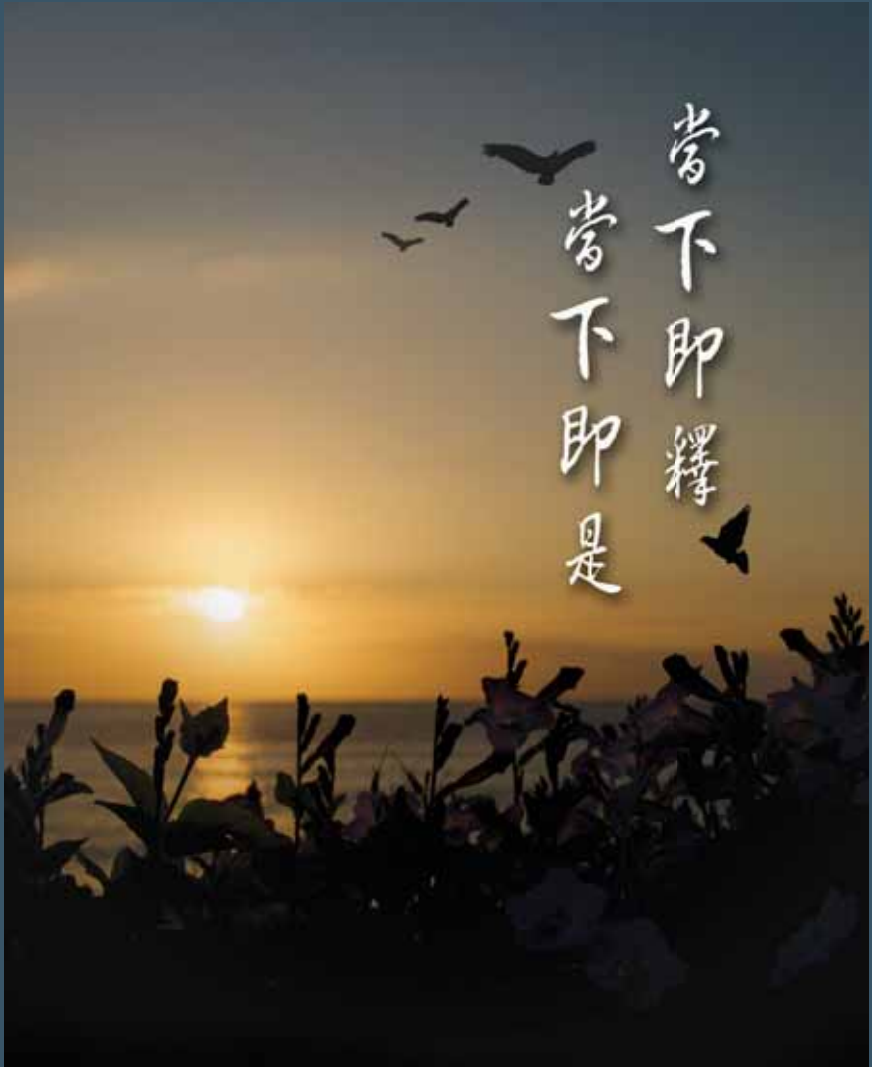
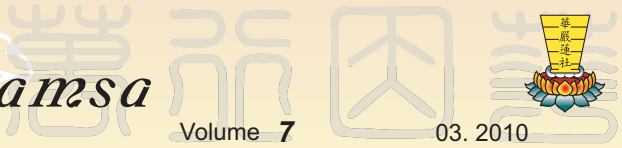


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Volume 7

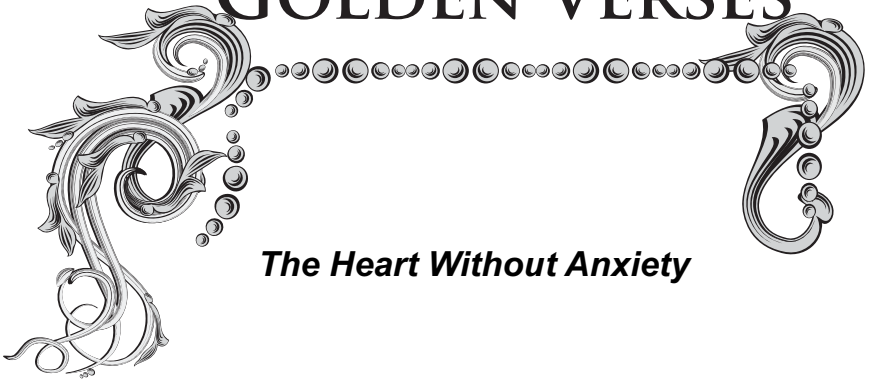
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GOLDEN VERSES



The Heart Without Anxiety

Appreciate surrounding matter with loving heart

Deal with each person or matter with sincere heart

Conduct own duties with obligated heart

Review own mistake with humble heart

Share other's happiness with joyous heart

Help others in need with compassionate heart

Keep up proper ideal with invariable heart

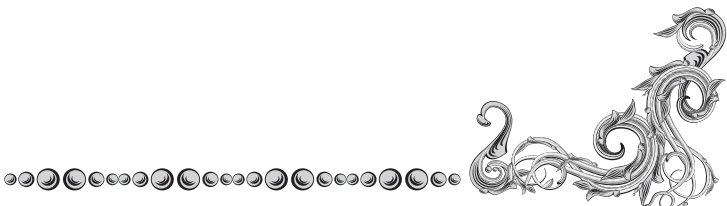
Endure people who have offended us with broaden heart

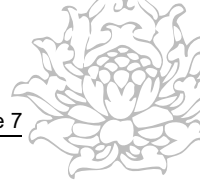
Appreciate every thing we have with grateful heart

Pass on successful experience with selfless heart

Accept the reality has happened with unexceptional heart

Encounter the greatest loss with settled heart





DECONSTRUCTING RELATIVE REALITIES

By : Alex Lin

As we carry on with our daily life, our mind is constantly evaluating differences in our surrounding. For instance, when we approach a drink bar to get a beverage, from afar the mind can already recognize a bunch of objects on the counter that looks like drinking cups. Upon closer inspection, the mind may notice paper cups from glass cups, used cups from clean cups, or bigger cups from smaller cups and so forth. Almost immediately it can decide on the cup we would use for the type of drink we wanted. Our mind does this by differentiating and reducing our preferences at incredible speed. In another example, when we drive a car, our mind continuously tracks our car's distance to the car in front of us. It detects if that distance is short or long and then determines if that amount can sufficiently keep us safe. As it collects more information through various driving experiences, it may incorporate new conditions into the existing. For example, our mind may discover that a safe distance for when we are traveling at 25 miles per hour is very different than at 60 miles per hour. There may also be other factors to consider such as road conditions, weather, etc. Pretty quickly our mind will have formulated complex layers and web of cross connecting conditions just to determine

whether we are maintaining a safe driving distance!

By nature, to differentiate is to create a distinct entity by including or excluding parts from an existing entity. These entities can be as inclusive or exclusive as the mind wants it to be. In the cup example, the mind has worked through the process of identifying an entity of "drinking cups" and created from it a new entity called "my drinking cup". This new entity can be of tangible objects (my drinking cup) as well as intangible concepts and rules (safe driving distance). The new entity is itself an outcome that gets pulled into another process to produce additional layers of outcomes. The "meaningful" outcomes as interpreted by the mind are memorized as experiences and get reused in a future process. This ability to recall an experience is what allows us from having to relearn a task every time we repeat it, such as driving a car.

As we repetitively perform seemingly similar tasks, these "meaningful" outcomes can change and get re-evaluated. At some point, certain outcomes become so predictable that the mind differentiates it as a "real" condition. For instance, no matter how hard you can hit a golf ball, it always falls back to the





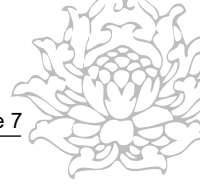
ground after some time. So while the mind has the capacity to imagine a golf ball flying out to space, it is conditioned to not worry at all about losing the golf ball in this way because it is deemed "impossible". Of course, if we were to see a golf ball flying out to space, then that would send a shock through the system, and this pre-conditioned rule will then have to be re-evaluated.

On the other hand, this rule would not apply very well if we were space travelers because in space, the golf ball would indeed fly indefinitely away from us. All of a sudden, this rule that golf ball always falls isn't so "real" anymore. So what has happened? Has our mind disfunctioned and therefore concluded on an incorrect result? Perhaps our mind tricked us? Well the good news is no, the mind is not broken. Here on earth, we and the golf ball are bounded by gravity and physics. Our mind operated within this perspective and differentiated

on what is "real" from what is "not real". Therefore what the mind concluded on is merely one relative reality bounded to earth's perspective. Taking this a step further, are we bounded by other perspectives? Isn't our mind also bounded by our flesh and organs? As such, what information our mind receives is from what our eyes can see, what our ears can hear, and our other sensory abilities. If so, then isn't our sense of reality merely another relative reality bounded by our body on earth?

Every one of us lives in our own unique world of kaleidoscopic perspectives. Undoubtedly we will have formed complex layers of relative realities associated with these perspectives. This paper was intended to raise awareness to such conditioning, but in the process, will inevitably have introduced more. So rather than ending this article with a conclusion and drawing yet another, it shall simply end with this dot.





Story with Inspiration

SEEING THE GOOD AND THE BAD

Translated by : Meg Lin

There once was a wealthy old man with three sons. Nearing the end of his life, he wished to give his inheritance to the son whose personality and behavior was most mature. Hence, he devised a strategy and called his sons to his bedside. "I would like to ask your help in determining how to allocate my inheritance" he said. "Could each of you take 2 pieces of paper and on one piece of paper, write down good traits about yourself. On the second piece of paper, write down bad traits about the other two brothers. Then have both of your brothers sign both pieces of paper. The one who completes the task the quickest, and has the most good or bad traits listed, will receive the most inheritance."

The three brothers immediately set out to accomplish the task, and agreed to meet back at their father's bedside in the morning.

The next morning, the three sons congregated outside their father's room. The two eldest sons were locked in debate trying to get each other to sign their lists. The youngest son sat quietly to the side. Seeing this, the father called the youngest son and asked him what was happening. The third son reported that he had already obtained both signatures from his two elder brothers. The father was very surprised and asked

how he was able to accomplish that so quickly. The youngest son replied, "The paper with my good traits is empty, as I don't think I have any in particular. The paper with my brother's bad traits is also empty, since I don't think they have any bad traits. This was very easy to accept for everyone; hence they signed the papers immediately."

The father then called the two eldest sons into the room and asked to see their lists. He read the lists of good and bad traits each had written and smiled as he saw that what one had listed as his own good traits, were actually listed as a bad trait by the other.

Seeing that the two still cannot reach a consensus, he asked the youngest son if he had any solutions. The youngest brother said, "I suggest that each of them sign the paper listing their own bad traits. If you accept your own shortcomings, it is easier for others to recognize your strengths." Hearing this, the two eldest sons tried what their brother suggested, and was happily able to get both papers signed by the other.

The father smiled and nodded as he looked at the papers from his three sons. It took the youngest son only one minute to obtain the signatures, while it took the two elder sons twenty-four hours to reach an agreement and sign





each others' lists.

The father handed each of his sons an envelope. Inside was a note that said, "To have others accept your reasoning is simple, first accept that you have flaws, so your strengths have room to

grow. To have others see things your way is also easy, first you have to understand other people's perspective and feelings, and not be concerned with protecting your own." Thus, good and bad is relative, and lies not with us but in other people's perspective.

Story with Inspiration

SHORT STORIES

Our Expectations

After dinner, a mother and daughter washed the dishes while the father and son watched television in the living room. Suddenly a boisterous clanging sound of breaking dishes came from the kitchen.

The son then said to his father, "It must have been mom who broke the dishes."

"Why would you say that?" asked his father.

"Because mom didn't yell at anyone", the son replied.

Sometimes we can be hypocrites and have a tendency to judge others and ourselves with different standards. We have high expectations for others while we allow ourselves more leniency.

Two sides to every story

One day, a boy and his father walks past a glamorous five star hotel. The boy notices a man driving a very grand luxurious car.

"That man driving that car must be very rich!" exclaimed the boy.

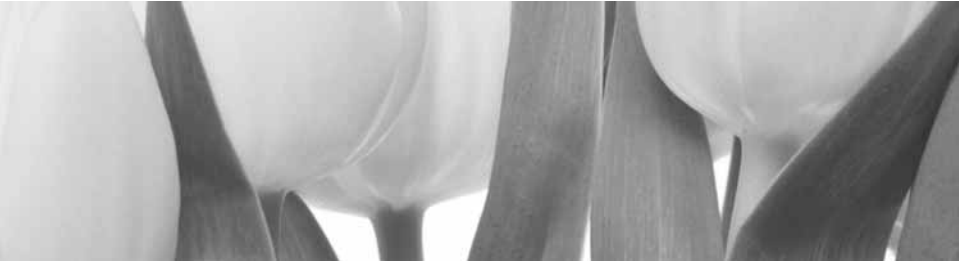
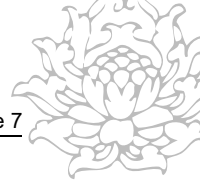
The father took a glance at the driver and explained to his son, "But that man could also be just the chauffeur."

There are always two sides to the story. Never assume what you see on the surface is what it appears to be. We should not be superficial when dealing with matters; instead we should take a step back and analyze the issue from different perspectives.

Just Five More Minutes

While at the park one day, a woman sat down next to a man on a bench near a playground.





Translated by : Matthew Au

"That's my son over there," she said, pointing to a little boy in a red sweater who was gliding down the slide.

"He's a fine looking boy" the man said. "That's my daughter on the bike in the white dress."

Then, looking at his watch, he called to his daughter. "What do you say we go, Melissa?"

Melissa pleaded, "Just five more minutes, Dad. Please? Just five more minutes."

The man nodded and Melissa continued to ride her bike to her heart's content. Minutes passed and the father stood and called again to his daughter. "Time to go now?"

Again Melissa pleaded, "Five more minutes, Dad. Just five more minutes."

The man smiled and said, "OK."

"My, you certainly are a patient father," the woman responded.

The man smiled and then said, "Her older brother Tommy was killed by a drunk driver last year while he was riding his bike near here. I never spent much time with Tommy and now I'd give anything for just five more minutes with him. I've vowed not to make the same mistake with Melissa.

She thinks she has five more minutes to ride her bike. The truth is, I get five more minutes to watch her play."

Life is all about making priorities, what are your priorities? Nobody can predict what will happen tomorrow or even in the next minute of time. Time is a precious gift and we should cherish every moment we have. Give someone you love five more minutes of your time today!





GRAND OPENING OF DINING HALL

The grand opening of the new Dining Hall at 50 South Main Street took place on October 17th 2009, with a feast to celebrate. After almost twenty years, the dining area is finally reopened to the public with a brand new look. The newly remodeled space can hold a capacity of more than a hundred people, in hopes to accommodate more people with comfortable seating while attaining a more traditional dining manner. Our Grand Hall was also been used as a dining room in the past few years, and attendees have lunch facing our Bud-dhas. At last, we finally have a formal dining room. The attendance was overwhelming, with almost a full house. The guests who were invited were mostly volunteers or people that have been helping assist the temple. Abbess Ven. Tien Inn addressed the guests with a

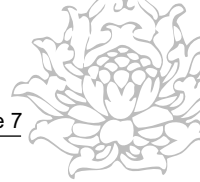
warm welcoming and explained the tough times in which they encountered through the process. She thanked everyone for their help and support.

Following the opening speech, a few guests and volunteers were invited to say a few things about the Avatamsaka Buddhist Lotus Society from the past to present.

Mr. Dennis Jang, who is the construction engineer in charge of the renovation. He has worked closely with the masters to ensure that everything was done to perfection.

Mr. Shien Wen Hu, (胡憲文) has been with the Huayen organization for a very long time. He was involved from the very beginning, playing a part in





By : Matthew Au

planning the Milpitas Temple when it was first built in 1984.

Mr. David Ho, (賀玉章) has also been with the temple for a long time after it was built. His generous donations and time has helped the development of the temple.

Mr. Won Bun Hei, (溫彬僖) is a devoted volunteer, providing the temple with his time to help the daily operations.

Mr. Matthew Au, (區志揚) a recent volunteer amongst the youth group. He is one of the members of the recently formed youth group at ABLs. One of their goals for the future of the group is to reach out to more people in the Chinese-American Community.

In addition, their children can also learn the teachings of Buddhism our youth group program.

Mr. Steve Yang, is an architect who has worked with ABLs for many years. One of the issues he mentioned was the security of the temple. At the moment, people can freely access the property at any time, which can cause a problem for the masters at night. He is working on an agreement with the state government to allow ABLs to build a fence around the property.

The last speaker was Ms. Jenny Szeto, who is the lead chef of the new kitchen. She has dedicated a lot her time preparing and cooking on Sundays and major events.





ABLS YOUTH GROUP VISIT NURSING HOME

By: Meg Lin

The ABLs Youth Group had our first volunteer outing on December 13, 2009. A group of about 26 volunteers gathered at the ABLs after lunch and headed over to the San Tomas Convalescent Hospital. This is a nursing home facility near San Jose, with about 129 long-term and short term care patients. Some of the long-term care patients do not have any family in the area, so we wanted to sit and talk with them, and also give out blankets to many of the patients there to keep warm.



We had asked the volunteer coordinator, Vicky to give us a list of patients without family in the area. When we arrived, Vicky gave us a list of 13 patient rooms to visit. We started unloading and opening the boxes with the blankets. Then, we split into teams of 2 and went and visited each room. We met with the seniors and chatted with them for sometime. Many of them had interesting stories to share while others just

wanted to know basic things like 'what day is it' or 'what is it like outside'. They all seem to really appreciate the blankets and it was very easy to see that they enjoyed having visitors to chat and share stories with.

After talking to the seniors in their rooms, we started handing out blankets to patients that we met in the hallways. The nurses also took us into other patient rooms where we gave out more blankets. All counted, we delivered a total of 60 blankets.

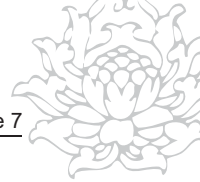
At the end of the visit, it was time for group photos. As we gathered and waited outside, everyone was smiling and happily chatting with each other. I think we all had a lot of fun, and I look forward to our next volunteer event together.



"A generous heart, kind speech, and a life of service and compassion are the things which renew humanity."

-- Buddha





AWARD ESSAY FROM ABLS SCHOLAR 2009

By: Cindy Duong

My name is Cindy Duong, and I am currently a senior at Piedmont Hills High School. I am involved in extra-curricular, and numerous community activities. My parent's are immigrants from Vietnam. My family consists of my father, my mother, and my two older brothers, one who has graduated from San Jose State University, and the other still attending the University of California-Davis, both as computer engineering majors. My father works at an electronic company as a test technician and is the only one working to support our family of four, once five. In addition, my mother is a homemaker and does not drive, which has been extremely difficult to go anywhere or find money to spend leisurely. As a result, I realized how important it is to be conservative and frugal at a young age. As a level-headed person, I rarely ask my parents about going to the movies or the mall on weekends as other students at my age does often.

Because my parents are born in Vietnam but of Chinese decent, I was given the ability of learning five languages as a young child. Therefore, I can speak English Vietnamese, and three dialects of Chinese: Cantonese, Hakka, and Mandarin fluently. From my high school foreign language class, I have taken three years of Spanish in which I have

learned to read and write in the language. I also attended Chinese School every Saturday for twelve years and there, I was taught to read and write in Cantonese and Mandarin. Throughout those years, I have received numerous awards and attended a few competitions. I have participated in the 2003 Northern California Chinese School writing competition, 2007 Nissan Car Company Cantonese Speech contest and won 7th place, and was constantly getting the 1st place award in my class every semester at Chinese School.

With this knowledge, I have encountered many situations in life where I was able to communicate and help translate for others. I have also translated instructions from nurses and doctors for patients after surgery, prior to going home, at the Regional Medical Center of San Jose. In middle school, our orchestra was privileged with the opportunity to go to Japan. There, I picked up a few sayings and I hope to continue to learn the language. I value this knowledge that I have, and I hope to continue more studies of different languages in the near future as well.

At my time at Piedmont Hills, I have taken many of the most challenging courses offered at this school: English 1 (Accelerated), English 2 (Accelerated), Calculus AB (AP), Statistics (AP), Chemistry (Honors), Biology (AP), Biology Lab (AP), etc. While doing so, I have been able to place in the top 10% of my graduating class. In extra-curricular activities, I have been a dedicated member of the Key Club, California Scholarship Federation, Spanish Club,





and Red Cross Club. In fact, I enjoy being in the Red Cross club and helping others so much that I am CPR certified for one year and First-Aide certified for three years. As an active member of the most notable community service clubs in the area, I have volunteered at the AIDS walk, March of Dimes, Relay for Life, Pumpkin Patch, baked pies for the homeless during the holiday season, provided presents and activities for disadvantaged children. In addition, I have been elected as the Spanish Club Historian and Publicist as well as California Scholarship Federation's Senior Representative, in which I have kept archives of important events and helped organize and run meetings. In my junior year, I was also a part of the high powered Piedmont Hills' Supreme Court in Leadership. I have taken a pivotal role in writing the school constitution and made rules for the school and entire student body which consist of over 2200 students.

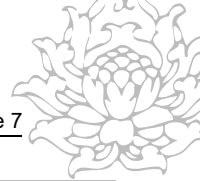
As a future nurse, I have been an essential and active volunteer at the Regional Medical Center in San Jose where I was well trained in the simple hospital procedures such as how to take vital signs, blood pressures and temperatures right after patients come out of surgery and process paperwork. I have shadowed nurses in the Emergency Room, Operation Room, post surgical unit, and post anesthesia care unit and learned how a hospital operates. I am extremely dedicated in helping those who are in need.

Volunteering in the hospital definitely gave me a direct insight of how life will

be like in the medical field in both the day time and in the middle of the night. I realize how fortunate I am every time I reflect upon the things I've experienced in the hospital. Being able to observe normal stitches and staples to Foley procedures done on both adults and children by nurses where they place in a urinary catheter, to observing concussions, gunshot wounds, craniotomy procedure and even an endotracheal intubation. It is because during the time spent, I was able to help people-patients, nurses, and doctors- help make a difference in their lives. I've learned that one must go out and experience new things to be benefited rather than keep ones' distances just to feel safe. That is why even though I am only a volunteer, everyone was very informative whenever I asked a question and taught me as much as possible after seeing that I was genuinely interested in learning.

Everything seen in the hospital was just extremely fascinating. Being able to see doctors interact with different people of various sicknesses each day and trying to help cure them touched me so much that I knew for a fact that this is definitely something I am willing to do for the rest of my life. It is a difficult field to study in, but with dedication and hard work, I am motivated to be able to make a significant contribution. Moreover, my volunteerism at the hospital has further confirmed my interest in pursuing a career in the medical field as a future nurse. Therefore, I will be attending the University of San Francisco in the fall of 2009, in their rigorous four year nursing program.





Growing up in a family with a father who smokes every single day should be quite ordinary after seventeen year, however his addiction has seemed to embarrass and frustrate me more and more as I am getting older. In order for people to stop smoking, one must have the desire to do so. But as for my dad, his stubbornness is irritating because he will not listen and consider quitting. Therefore, this has shaped and influenced me to discover solutions to reach out to smokers who are obstinate. There are so many people in the world who know clearly that their health is at risk, and other lives are in danger. But yet, they continue their daily habits. Tons of money is wasted on tobacco when it can be used on significant causes instead. If a solution is found, think of all the lives that will be saved. There will be less people with lung cancer, mouth cancer, heart diseases, emphysema, asthma etc. Due to this addiction, it has given me the ambition to discover possibilities of saving lives all around the world. If I am not directly involved with the discovery that dramatically helps the health of mankind, I could always make a financial contribution to help promote such potential and useful technologies.

Despite disliking my father's smoking habit, I do however look up to my parents. They are after all, the people who have supported my brothers and me all throughout our lives regardless of our mistakes. They are the ones who have pushed us and taught us to become a good person. For them coming to America, without even knowing one single word in English, without money,

they were able to make a foundation for themselves by going to a community college and vocational schools. My mom has a license for cosmetology, and accounting. My dad studied electrical, and now works at Flextronics, an electronic company. But since my father is the only person who makes the financial contribution in this family, I've learned so much to be conservative and only spend money only on things that are necessary. Now that I'm about to attend college, and given that my other brother is still in college as well, I really don't know how my parents are going to be able to pay for college for the both of us. Therefore, with the help from the Avatamsaka Buddhist Lotus Society, I hope that I will be able to be one of the qualifying recipients of your significant scholarship. Thank you.





ABLS YOUTH GROUP



ABLS has recently formed a youth organization, "Avatamsaka Buddhist Lotus Society (ABLS) Youth Group", a subsidiary of Avatasaka Buddhist Lotus Society. The purpose of the ABLs Youth Group is to support ABLs and help promote Buddhist teaching, conduct charity relief, culture, education, and social services.

We are now recruiting new members who are dedicated and are passionate about charity work to join our Youth Group. Our group consist of people of all ages, so everyone is welcomed. We strongly recommend teens to participate and gain some leadership experience through doing community service, which will definitely prepare you for college and your future.

We hold meetings once a month: usually on the first Sunday of each month. If you are interested or have any questions please feel free to email us anytime.

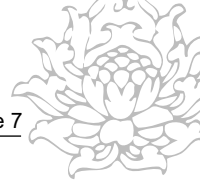
Edward Ting:
edting@gmail.com

James Lee:
wavemanlee@gmail.com

Matthew Au:
matt.au.152@gmail.com

EVERYONE IS WELCOMED!
"Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something."





IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Triple Gem Refuge and Five Precepts Ceremony



When a person wishes to become a Buddhist, the first step he takes is to go to the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha for refuge. Since Buddha's time, taking this Threefold Refuge has identified a person as a Buddhist. The Buddha, Dharma and Sangha also known as the Triple Gem represent qualities which are excellent and precious like a gem. Once a person recognizes these unique qualities after careful consideration and is confident that the Triple Gem can help lead him towards happiness and Enlightenment, he or she takes

refuge. It is, therefore, not out of mere faith but with an open-minded attitude and enquiring spirit that he begins to practice the Buddha's Teachings.

Date: March 28, 2010 at 1:30 pm
May 16, 2010 at 1:30 pm

Refuge Taking Ceremony for the Deceased

A family representative will attend a Threefold Refuge ceremony on behalf of his/her deceased family member. Taking refuge is the first step on the path to Enlightenment. Even if Enlightenment is not achieved in this life, by taking refuge in the Triple Gem, the deceased Buddhist is more likely to have favorable conditions for attaining Enlightenment in a future life.

Date: April 10, 2010 at 4:00 pm
August 28, 2010 at 4:00 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS

Monthly Birthday Blessings

On the last Sunday of each month, there will be chanting of the Bhaiṣajyaguru (Medicine Buddha) Repentance and Offerings to the Buddhas. For those whose birth dates fall within that month, you can participate

by joining in this chanting assembly and receive special blessings of good health and fortune. For more details, please contact our office.





CURRENT & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

1) Celebration of Avalokitesavara Birthday

March 28, 2010

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

2) Dharma Service for Ching Ming Festival

April 4 - 11, 2010

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

3) Bathing the Buddha Celebration

May 16, 2010

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

4) Celebration of Guan Shih Yin (Akalokiteshavara) Bodhisattva Enlightenment

July 25, 2010

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

5) Ullambana and Sangha Day Celebration

August 15 – 29, 2010

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

REGULAR ACTIVITIES: (8AM – 1:30PM)

EVENTS	TIME
Avatamsaka (Hua-yen) Sutra	Every First Sunday
Samadhi Water Repentance	Every Second Sunday
1-day Avatamsaka (Hua-yen) Retreat	Every Third Sunday
Bhaisajyaguru (Medicine Buddha) Repentance	Every Fourth Sunday
Diamond Repentance	Every Fifth Sunday





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The Avatamsa

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The offering of the Dharma excel all other offerings

♥ THANK YOU

