

2023年萬佛聖城地藏菩薩聖誕法會暨地藏七

2023 Celebration of Earth Store Bodhisattva's Birthday at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas

晁山 文/譯

Written and Translated by Chao Shan



萬佛聖城於2023年9月10日舉行慶祝地藏菩薩聖誕法會，當天起展開「地藏七」，至9月16日圓滿。這是萬佛聖城今年5月27日全面重新開放後的第一次「地藏七」，每天上午念誦《地藏菩薩本願經》上卷和中卷，並有繞佛、坐念、止靜。下午念誦下卷後，繞佛、坐念、止靜各兩次。在大眾共修中，細細體會地藏菩薩「地獄不空、誓不成佛；眾生度盡，方證菩提」的大願大力。

在「慶祝地藏菩薩聖誕法會」午齋開示中，萬佛聖城方丈恒律法師指出：三年疫情後，我們

The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB) celebrated Earth Store Bodhisattva's birthday on September 10, 2023. A seven-day Earth Store session started the same day and went until September 16. This was the first Earth Store session since CTTB fully reopened on May 27 this year. The first and middle volumes of *Earth Store Sutra* were recited every morning, and there were also alternate periods of walking recitation, sitting recitation, and silent recitation of Earth Store Bodhisattva's name. In the afternoon, after reciting the third volume, there were additional recitations of Earth Store Bodhisattva's name in walking, sitting, and silent modes. During the group practice, the power of Earth Store Bodhisattva's great vow: "If hell is not empty, I will never become a Buddha; only when all sentient beings are saved can I attain Bodhi" was experienced and realized by the participants.

都經過種種不同的困難。例如有的人必須找新工作，如果沒找到新工作，怎麼辦？請不要自我懷疑，認為自己被時代淘汰了。宣公上人常說：「無有定法。」又說：「你若是憂愁，就是種地獄的因；你若是笑一笑，就是種天堂的因。」

如果生活中出現意想不到的問題，方丈給大家的建議是：可以微笑對自己說：「無有定法。不管發生什麼，我總能想出辦法，因為辦法總比困難多。」佛教徒經常發願說：「眾生無邊誓願度」。我們無法認識所有眾生，但可以慈悲心度化我們身邊的眾生，這就是度無邊眾生。如果我們能夠鼓勵自己放下憂愁煩惱，就是度化自性中的無邊眾生。這樣我們不但種下而且長養未來成佛之因，我們的生活也會越來越來越好。方丈說：「相信地藏菩薩會非常高興，因為我們減輕了他的負擔。宣公上也會非常歡喜，因為上人總希望我們在他之前成佛。」

比丘近修法師則說：地藏菩薩的願力不可思議，尤其在東南亞，真是家喻戶曉。《地藏經》中說，若能誠心讀誦這部經，並且恭敬禮拜地藏菩薩，不僅可得大智慧、增福、延壽，還能得到二十八種難遭遇的特殊福德利益。若為亡故的家人親友持誦《地藏經》，更能幫助他們消除業障、往生善趣。地藏菩薩不僅幫助地獄眾生，更幫助娑婆世界所有眾生，因為這是釋迦牟尼佛賦予祂的責任。地藏菩薩幫助我們消災免難、衣食無虞、讓我們願望成真。地藏菩薩的慈悲也幫助惡道

At the lunch lecture time on the celebration of Earth Store Bodhisattva's birthday, Dharma Master Heng Lyu, the abbot of CTTB, pointed out that after three years of the pandemic, we have all gone through various difficulties. For example, some people have had to find a new job. What should they do if they don't find a new job? Please don't doubt yourself and think that you have been eliminated by the times. Venerable Master Hua often said, "There is no fixed dharma." He also said, "If you are sad, you are planting the cause of falling into the hells; if you smile, you are planting the cause of being born in the heavens."

If unexpected problems arise in life, the abbot's advice to everyone is: you can smile and say to yourself: "There is no fixed dharma. No matter what happens, I can always find a solution because there are always more solutions than difficulties." Buddhists often make vows such as: "Even though sentient beings are limitless, I vow to save them all." We cannot know all sentient beings, but we can save the sentient beings around us with compassion. This is to save boundless sentient beings. If we can encourage ourselves to let go of our worries and troubles, we can save the boundless sentient beings within our own nature. In this way, we not only plant and cultivate the causes of future Buddhahood, but our lives will also become better and better. The Abbot said, "I believe Earth Store Bodhisattva will be very happy because we have lightened his burden. Venerable Master Hua will also be very happy, because the Master always hoped that we will become Buddhas before him."

Bhikshu Jin Xiu said, The power of Earth Store Bodhisattva's vow is beyond imagination and he is well-known by almost everyone in the Southeast Asia region. It is stated in the *Earth Store Sutra* that if one can sincerely recite this sutra and respectfully worship Earth Store Bodhisattva, one can obtain great wisdom, increase blessings and prolong life. One will also obtain twenty-eight kinds of special benefits and merit that are difficult to encounter. Moreover, if one recites the sutra for their loved ones who have passed away, it will get rid of their karma and help them to obtain a good rebirth. Earth Store Bodhisattva not only helps the sentient beings in hell, but also helps all sentient beings in the Saha world, because this is the responsibility given to him by Shakyamuni Buddha. Earth Store Bodhisattva helps us avoid disasters, provide food and clothing, and makes our wishes come true. The compassion of Earth Store Bodhisattva also helps all sentient beings in the lower paths to be liberated, ensuring that all sentient beings are reborn in the good path and receive unlimited blessings.

眾生解脫，確保眾生往生善道，得到無限的福報。

比丘尼恒教法師代表不在場的恒持法師發言，指出《地藏經》的宗旨，據宣公上人說，在於孝道、度生、拔苦、報恩。其中孝道又分小孝、大孝、近孝、遠孝。小孝就是只在家裡孝順自己的父母；大孝孝於天下，以天下的父母為父母，這叫「老吾老以及人之老」。近孝是仿照近代孝順父母的人，去學孝順父母的方法。遠孝，是效於萬古。立志修道，將來成佛，超越以上這四種孝，是真孝，「真正能研究佛法，能行持佛法，這才是真正的孝順父母。」教法師呼籲大家：今天我們慶祝地藏菩薩聖誕，就要把地藏菩薩孝順的精神身體力行，代代延續下去。

16日晚間的心得報告中，近愚法師分享了一則真人真事，是一對從中國到加拿大留學、結婚的年輕夫妻，先生不久罹患髖關節腫瘤，行動不便。他們回到中國檢查確認，決定動手術。有位法師勸那位年輕太太誦《地藏經》，她不會誦，因此改為誦地藏菩薩聖號。手術當天，她恰好誦滿十萬遍地藏菩薩聖號。本來預計七、八個小時的手術，竟然四十五分鐘就完成了，因為她先生的髖關節腫瘤已經消失。近愚法師的結論是：地藏菩薩不會介意你信不信佛，或者認識不認識祂，只要你真誠地向祂祈禱，祂就會幫助你。

邢恩然博士則分享他對孝道的體會，從小長輩都誇他孝順。但發心學佛後，最疼他的姥姥責備他不吃肉，他就心生瞋恨。這次地藏七的最後一天，念誦地藏菩薩聖號時，他忽然體會到姥姥對他的愛。邢恩然說：「在面對冷酷無情的業果時，

Bhikshuni Heng Jiao delivered a talk by Dharma Master Heng Chih who was not present, pointing out that the purpose of the *Earth Store Sutra*, according to Venerable Master Hua, lies in filial piety, saving lives, eliminating suffering, and repaying kindness. Among them, filial piety is divided into small filial piety, great filial piety, modern filial piety and distant filial piety. Small filial piety means being filial towards one's own parents of this present life; great filial piety is filial piety to the world and treating others' parents in the world as our own parents. This is called "take care of your own elders and extend the same care to others." Modern filial piety is to imitate people who were filial to their parents in modern times and learn how to be filial to their parents. Distant filial piety lasts forever. Dedicating oneself to spiritual practices and resolving to become a Buddha in the future, surpassing the above four kinds of filial piety, is true filial piety. "Really being able to study the Buddhadharma and put the Dharma into practice is the real filial piety to one's parents." Dharma Master Jiao called on everyone: Today we celebrate the Earth Store Bodhisattva's birthday, we must practice Earth Store Bodhisattva's filial spirit and continue it from generation to generation.

In his experience sharing on the evening of the 16th, Bhikshu Jin Yu told a true story about a young couple from China who came to Canada to study and get married. The husband soon suffered from a hip joint tumor and had difficulty moving. They returned to China to check and confirm and decided to have surgery. A Dharma Master advised the young lady to recite the *Earth Store Sutra*, but she could not recite it, so she chanted Earth Store Bodhisattva's name instead. On the day of the operation, she happened to recite Earth Store Bodhisattva's name 100,000 times. The surgery, which was originally expected to take seven or eight hours, was completed in forty-five minutes because her husband's hip tumor had disappeared. Dharma Master Jin Yu concluded: Earth Store Bodhisattva does not mind whether you believe in Buddhism or not, or know him or not. As long as you sincerely pray to him, he will help you.

Dr. Xing Enran shared his experience of filial piety. Since childhood, his elders have praised him for his filial piety. But after he decided to study Buddhism, his grandmother, who loved him the most, scolded him for not eating meat, and he became angry. On the last day of Earth Store session, while chanting Earth Store Bodhisattva's name, he suddenly realized

看到自己與他人的痛苦與無助時，如果我們真的能面對且接受這種普世的痛苦，不把頭從他人的苦難中轉開，不因為痛而把自己的心關起來，我們內心深處的大悲，也是可以被觸動的。」

定居瑜伽市的金曉丹，於這次地藏七之前，曾在萬佛殿談到她的同修呂居士。呂居士於2013年診斷罹患第三期大腸癌，放療後腫瘤縮小。但在2017年復發，導致腸道堵塞，其後更出現感染。一年之內，挺過八次化療，動了七次手術。期間，她和呂居士只要有空、有精神時，就誦《地藏經》，沒時間或精神不濟時，就誦地藏菩薩聖號。在其他醫護人員都覺得救不了的情況下，只有主治醫師王恒冰堅持治療。最後成功切除大腸腫瘤時，發現已經沒有癌細胞的蹤影。回顧呂居士多次面臨死亡卻能一再死裡逃生的經歷，金曉丹由衷地說：「當面對生死時，才會發現，佛法是我們唯一的依靠。」

his grandma's love for him. Xing Enran said, "When facing the cold and ruthless consequences of karma, when we see the pain and helplessness of ourselves and others, if we can really face and accept this universal pain, we will not turn our heads away from the suffering of others. If we turn around and don't close our hearts because of pain, the great compassion deep in our hearts can also be touched."

Jin Xiaodan, who lives in Ukiah, talked in the Hall of Ten Thousand Buddhas before this Earth Store session about her fellow practitioner Mr. Lu. He was diagnosed with stage III colorectal cancer in 2013. The tumor shrank after radiotherapy. But it recurred in 2017, causing intestinal blockage and later infection. Within a year, Mr. Lu survived eight rounds of chemotherapy and seven surgeries. During this period, whenever she and Mr. Lu had time and energy, they would recite the *Earth Store Sutra*. When they had no time or were not energetic, they would recite Earth Store Bodhisattva's name. When other medical staff felt that they could not save the life of Mr. Lu, only the attending physician Wang Hengbing insisted on treatment. When the colon tumor was finally removed successfully, it was found that there was no trace of cancer cells. Looking back on the experience of Mr. Lu, who had faced death many times but was lucky to escape, Jin Xiaodan said, from the bottom of her heart: "When facing life and death, we will find that we can only fall back on the Buddhadharma."



萬佛城 金剛菩提海
VAJRA BODHI SEA

訂閱萬佛城月刊〈金剛菩提海雜誌〉
附上支票乙紙，抬頭：D.R.B.A.

I am enclosing a check made to D.R.B.A. for a
subscription to VAJRA BODHI SEA for:

- 一年美金四十五元 US\$45.00 / 1 year
 二年美金八十五元 US\$85.00 / 2 years
 三年美金一百一十元 US\$110.00 / 3 years

歡迎投稿，稿件請寄 vbs@drba.org
 We welcome articles. Please send suggestions
 or submissions for review to vbs@drba.org

歐美地區 In the United States & Europe, please send to:
 Gold Mountain Monastery
 800 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA 94108
 Tel: (415) 421-6117 Fax: (415) 788-6001

亞澳地區 In Asia & Australia, please send to:
 Dharma Realm Guan Yin Sagely Monastery
 161, Jalan Ampang,
 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 Tel: (03)2164-8055 Fax: (03) 2163-7118
 Email: vbs@drba.org

臺灣 In Taiwan 請寄法界佛教印經會
 臺北市忠孝東路六段八十五號十一樓
 電話：(02) 2786-3022 傳真：(02) 2786-2674

訂閱單 Subscription Form

姓名 Name: _____

地址 Address: _____

電話 Tel. No.: _____
