

Venerable Master Hua's Nirvana Day — Dharma Family Reunion

上人涅槃日——法親團圓

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Namo Shang Hsuan Xia Hua Lao He Shang (Homage to the Venerable Hsuan Noble Hua)” chanted forty volunteers at 7:00 am in our volunteer gathering on Venerable Master Hua’s Nirvana. As we recited, I could feel slight tears forming—many emotions welled up: gratitude for Master Hua, who gave us an opportunity to meet the Dharma; sadness as he is no longer around; a sense of solidarity with good spiritual friends, and unexpectedly, the joy of a Dharma family reunion.

Coming together was like meeting a long-lost family. We are connected, having been nurtured by Master Hua, who created the institutions, facilities, and communities that

上午7點，四十名義工齊聚，同聲唱誦「南無上宣下化老和尚」聖號，恭逢老和尚涅槃紀念日。隨著唱誦，我感覺淚水在眼眶輕輕打轉，千頭萬緒湧上心頭：對宣公上人法乳之恩的感念，對老和尚已不住世的感嘆，對善友們齊聚的感動，以及法親忽然而聚的喜悅。

如同失散已久的家人，宣公上人的教化，讓我們聚首。老和尚所建立的道場、學校和萬佛城，造就了今日的我們。眾人齊聲念誦，感受到彼此更深層的連結，心底的某個部分被打開。一股發自內心的

shaped who we are today. Chanting together, I felt this deeper connection I didn't know existed. Something opened up. There was a visceral sense: "This is the power of Master Hua's field — the synergy of his legacies supporting each other—bringing the Dharma into this world." Looking around the room, I saw Instilling Goodness and Developing Virtue Schools, Dharma Realm Buddhist University, retreat and session participants, and volunteers from DRBA monasteries around the world (even from Australia!). The Venerable Master Hua's Nirvana Day is a fitting event for the younger generation to gather — a day of filiality to honor our roots, remember what we have received, and carry it forward to others. Today, our job was to welcome 1,500 visitors!

During the meeting, one of the volunteer leaders shared how he was sleep deprived, having gone to sleep at 3:00 am the night before working on the logistics and job assignments for the event and woken up at 6:00 am to make it to our morning meeting. But despite his tired state, he was enthusiastic about the day ahead. Another volunteer leader shared some advice from the nuns, "When hundreds of people show up, don't panic. Relax. Greet them with a smile. Everything is OK. No problem. We have each other's backs. We are all in this together."

After the meeting finished, the volunteers spread throughout CTTB with their various jobs: directing traffic, welcoming people, showing them to the restrooms, bringing them to where to stand or sit, ushering during the ceremonies (gently nudging the line stopped moving in the Wordless Hall), passing the offerings, serving the food cooked by dedicated monastics and volunteers, cleaning up, and many other tasks such as AV setup, prepping tables and chairs, and many behind-the-scene tasks of coordination and communication. (As a note, this group was only one volunteer group among many who came up to support the Venerable Master Hua's Nirvana Day.)

After the event, one of the volunteers reflected on how joyful it was to serve with everyone, make new friends, and be part of the event. A Bhikshuni also commented that the event went quite smoothly, with only a few minor mistakes. She asked, "Will you all come back again next year?" Given the feedback from the volunteers, I believe many will want to return and possibly bring their family and friends.

Next year, we might have a bigger family reunion for the 30th anniversary of Master Hua entering Nirvana. ❀

讚嘆——這就是宣公上人道場的力量——他的法脈相互支持，齊心弘揚佛法！環顧四周，有育良小學、培德中學、法界佛教大學的師生，參加法會的佛友以及來自世界各地（甚至來自澳洲！）的法總義工們。宣公上人涅槃紀念日也是年輕世代聚會的好時機——這是一個行孝的日子，藉此追思我們的源頭，並將這份恩德源源不斷的傳遞下去。今天，我們的任務是接待1,500位訪客！

會議中，有位義工組長說自己睡眠不足，為了後勤和工作分配一直忙到凌晨三點才闔眼，早上六點就起床趕來參加開會。儘管疲憊，他依然滿腔熱血地迎接這一天的到來。另一位義工組長分享女眾法師給的一些建議：「當千百人湧進會場，不要急，放輕鬆，面帶微笑迎接他們。一切都會順利的，沒問題。我們互相支援，彼此同心。」

晨間會議結束後，義工們在萬佛城各就各位，開始執行勤務：指揮交通、接待信眾、指引淨房方向、帶領信眾就位以及在法會中引導隊伍（提示隊伍在無言堂停下腳步）、轉遞傳供的供品、奉上典座和大廚房義工們精心準備的齋菜、清理環境以及許多幕後工作，例如設置音響設備、準備桌椅以及各項協調工作（值得一提的是，上述工作只是眾多前來支援宣公上人涅槃紀念日義工群中其中一組的任務。）

活動結束後，一位義工回顧道：「能與大家一起服務、結交法友、參與法會，感到相當開心。」一位女眾法師也表示，儘管有些美中不足，但法會進行相當圓滿。她問道：「明年你們還會再來嗎？」根據義工們的反饋，我相信許多人都願意再來，並且還會帶上他們的家人和朋友。

明年是宣公上人涅槃三十週年，或許我們會迎來更盛大的法親團聚。❀