

和尚法語

100 Master's Teachings

法雲



佛陀教育基金會 印贈

願以此功德 普及於一切

Due to this merit may all good Dharmas
permeate among all beings

我等與眾生 皆共成佛道

So that we and all sentient beings
can ultimately become buddhas.

上_抄下_境老和尚開示

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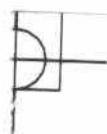
100 Master's Teachings



本書摘自 妙境老和尚生平講經開示中之簡短文句，旨在強調修學道次第及大乘止觀禪修之重要性；底圖大多以美國法雲寺暨法雲禪寺之大自然風光作為襯景。英文部分由謝志欣教授主譯，經智悅法師、智觀法師檢校，及智雲法師、Michael、Lucita、Patty、Annie、Mona、余淑芳、葉東等人協助核對，於此專申謝意。

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***Brief Introduction of the Founder,
Venerable Miu King (1930-2003)***



Born in the northeastern part of China, in Longjiang Village of Heilongjiang Province on January 1, 1930, the Venerable grew up in a simple farming village. His family was generous in giving and was also devout in the Buddhist belief.

He passed away on April 17, 2003. Having lived 73 years, he enjoyed 57 years as a monk, including 56 years living by the Bikshu precepts.

1948 - 1956

**Intensive and Rigorous Study,
Wholehearted and Joyous Aspiration
for the Noble Path**

At the age of 18, he enrolled in the Buddhist Institute of Guanyin Temple Monastery in Jilin City. He was fully ordained as a Buddhist monk later that year with Master Xingru. Due to the turmoil of war, he moved on to Qingdao Zhanshan Temple Monastery. There he furthered his Buddhist studies under the tutelage of Master Tan Xu. During this time, his heart was full of joy and anticipation. He made earnest vows to have complete and ultimate understanding of the Buddha Dharma, to attain equally the wisdom of the masters of the thousand sutras.

In 1949, with the nation's political change-over, he traveled southward to Hong Kong and continued his studies in Hua Nan Buddhist Institute. "Lotus Sutra Textual Explanation" and "Maha Zhiguan," etc, were among his courses of study. Also under the instructions of Master Tan Xu, he copied and recorded a detailed outline onto the "Lotus Sutra Commentary" by Master Ouyi, now widely circulated as "Lotus Sutra Infrastructure."

This marked the beginning phase of Venerable Miu King's learning, with his main focus of study being Tien Tai's Doctrine. In addition, under the guidance of Master Tan Xu, his first direct experience with meditation began.

1956 - 1981

**Time of Self-Cultivation: Penetrating the
Dharma and Imparting the Dharma**

During this period of intensive study, Venerable Miu King embraced a broad range of the following Doctrines: Tien-Tai, Middle Path, Mind-Only, Mahayana and Hinayana Buddhism. Through continuous meditation, contemplation, and cultivation, the concepts of these teachings gradually ripened. In this way, the Venerable fully understood the truth of "emptiness" from the Middle Path Doctrine, the teachings of Tathagatha Garba, and the true meaning from the Mind-Only Consciousness teachings. As a result, his confidence became firm that the Mahayana teaching was indeed Buddha's teaching. With his

deep faith and understanding in Chinese Mahayana Buddhism, the Venerable affirmed the Four Foundations of Mindfulness as the main focus of practice. From learning and practicing the Four Foundations of Mindfulness, one can learn to regulate ones own afflictions. It is the base for attaining the Noble Path in Mahayana and Hinayana Buddhism. "For those who delight in the true path of a Bodhisattva, one's thoughts and actions arise accordingly with Buddha's wisdom. The most important thing is compassion, seeking to save all suffering, along with asking for nothing in return." This is what one undoubtedly encounters in attaining the forbearance of no dharma arising, and ultimately, Buddhahood. It is a path worth dedicating one's whole lifetime, and all future

lifetimes in learning.

From 1980 onwards, the Venerable started receiving numerous invitations and requests for Dharma talks. Venerable Miu King concentrated on explaining the Buddha's Dharma in the hope of benefiting as many people as possible. He sometimes held meditation retreats, Amitabha Chantings, and the Great Compassion Repentance services.

1981 -1995

Transmitting the Dharma and Establishing Fa Yun Monastery

In February of 1990, he established Fa Yun (Dharma Cloud) Monastery near San Francisco in Danville in order to provide a suitable environment to educate Buddhists to

learn the Dharma and to propagate the teaching. Thereafter, he has been invited to give lectures in Canada (Vancouver), Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, and New Zealand, all of which he accepted without any hesitation or reservations.

In 1993, he was invited to lecture on the Lotus Sutra in Taiwan by Puli Zheng Jue Temple during the three months Summer Retreat. The following summer he completed the lectures. The response was simply overwhelming as the Dharma hall was at its fullest on both occasions. From this event, Venerable Miu King remarked: "After I finished the lecture, I felt my meditation practice improved one big step."

1995 - 2003

**Guiding Monastics and Upholding True
Dharma**

Venerable Miu King had the deep compassion for those who has not learned the Buddha dharma. It was unbearable for him to see the true spirit of Buddhism wane. He often lamented upon how rare it is in the present day those who aspire for the Noble Path, and always wished that more people could learn and practice Buddhism. In 1996, Venerable Miu King founded Fa Yun (Dharma Cloud) Buddhist Institute, both in Danville and Lafayette, in California. The monks and nuns have their own separate place to practice and meditate. He hoped it could also be a center where Mahayana Buddhism could

spread, allowing others to be able to learn it as well. The Institute subsequently moved to New Mexico for a quieter place to concentrate on the studies. Venerable Miu King had dedicated all his time and energy in educating his monastic disciples. He taught that one must have a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the Sutras and Discourses to establish right thinking and right views. Thus one can practice correctly the Four Foundations of Mindfulness in order to attain the Noble Path. To him, it was the way in which one could begin to practice meditation and overcome one's own afflictions to ultimately attain the Noble Path.

Venerable Miu King was 68 years old when he started the Buddhist Institute. However, he personally dealt with all the various

matters from general administration, educational courses, and finances, etc. Whatever requests were made from either his monastic or layperson students, he obliged to them all with a generous and compassionate heart. During the spring and fall breaks, he would travel widely to give Dharma talks and lead meditation retreats and Amitabha Chantings.

On April 17, 2003, the Venerable passed away unexpectedly. As one does not often think about impermanence, suffering, emptiness, and selflessness - his sudden death was a demonstration of these facts of life.

His body was cremated seven days after his death; countless colorful relics appeared among his ashes. His set of teeth and jawbone also remained in fine condition, a sign that his teaching was truly pure and correct.

Although Venerable is no longer with us, his wisdom and unique virtues continue to be a guidance. In his whole life he searched earnestly for the truth of the Dharma. He prized wisdom and taught the true way of meditation (i.e. Samatha and Vipassana) by keeping pure precepts. He encompassed both wisdom and compassion and lived daily in such manner, treating everyone as equals and with utmost sincerity. Humble, mindful, and reserved, he beheld truly the inconceivable virtues of the Buddha dharma. Even though he is not with us anymore, we can still follow his teachings. There were many video and audio recordings of Venerable Miu King's Dharma lectures. As the students and disciples of the Venerable are spread out in different parts of the world,

they still continue to transcribe his teachings, and making them into selected works. Hence the Dharma can continue to benefit others.

"Master's Teachings" is a selection of the Venerable's most essential knowledge and wisdom. With this publication we hope to share them with many readers.

Fa Yun
Editorial Group