



台灣雷藏寺

Taiwan Lei Tsang Temple

Tel:886-49-2312992 Fax:886-49-2350801

<http://www.tbsec.org>



Dharma Talk By Grand Master – Tonsure

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“Today is very special, actually I didn’t plan to come up to the mountain, due to three students said that they want to have ordination. They are coming from Taipei.

Suddenly they decided to have ordination, and this must be proceed in front of the Buddha, the Bodhisattvas, the Golden Mother, the Dharma Protector, the Dakinis and all the deities. This is the right procedure for tonsure. Tonsure must be perform in the ordination shrine. There are also convenient tonsure, in other case if he is a very good master, he do not need to be in the ordination shrine. The universe will then be the ordination shrine, everywhere (universe) is the ordination shrine, but if we held it here it will be more appropriate/gracious. There is a procedure. In front of the ordination shrine, there’s also everyone to witness it. For instance , if someone tonsure themselves and said Shi Zun tonsure for them but actually i didn’t, there are cases like that. And over here we have the Shakyamuni to be the witness, and we have Maitreya, with Shi Zun, with Masters, with reverends and all the student s to be the witnesses. This is a procedure.

The procedure of tonsure must have witnesses, just like marriage If a man and a lady say, “we’ll get married.” This is not considering the proper procedure. The proper marriage procedure is to have solemnization witnesses and everyone that attend the wedding ceremony. Beside that, if you register for marriage, you must have the judge to witness your marriage. In America, you’ll need two witnesses to be present in front of the judge, and also announcing the wedding ceremony , held a wedding dinner ceremony for everyone to celebrate together. This is then consider appropriate procedure for the whole event.

Today we are in front of the ordination shrine, being here we have the right procedure. So today , you are not here for nothing. Later everyone will be the witnesses (audience laughing). Be their witness, you see it, see it with your own eyes. If you ever see them growing their hair, not wearing the monk’s/nu n’s robe means they want to return back to a mundane life. And if you ever see them, you can said, “ Oh, you return back to mundane life.” So this is the procedure, the ordination vows will always take place in the ordination shrine. And we have the Three Jewels to witness it and everyone here to witness it, just like that. Do you understand? (audience applause)

“Wow, this is really rushing. (audience laughing) This afternoon I went to XiangHua Lei Tsang Temple for homa, after homa, I went to JueXin Lei Tsang Temple and come back to the mountain. This is my fourth trip coming up to the mountain.” (audience laughing and applause very loudly)

“Did everyone heard the news and rush back or are you always in the mountain?”

Grand Master asks. (some students response : heard the news and rush back , others answer : always in the mountain. And one of the student answer : both are the answer.) (audience laughing)

At that moment, reverend LianYun invited Grand Master to stay back for the Lunar New Year’s celebration. (audience applause very loudly)

“I thought I celebrated the new year (1st Jan) with you already ...” (everyone laugh) (Reverends and students response: For the Chinese New Year)



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“This is what happened, when I came back to Taiwan from Singapore, I did plan to stay longer (every one is listening attentively) I have two passports, an America and a R.O.C. When I came back the last time, I’m using the passport from R.O.C. With this you can stay for very long, is not a problem even you stay till old (audience applause very loudly). But this time, I went to Singapore with the America passport .When I came back, I can use the R.O.C. passport but I thought of getting a stamp on the America passport, it means when I fly out from Taiwan I’ll get a stamp, and in the America’s immigration they will know that I just came back from Taiwan when they saw this stamp, that’s a departure stamp from Taiwan, it’s very important. That is the reason why I’m using the America’s passport to enter Taiwan. And in the Taiwan’s immigration, they will give you a stamp to stay for one month. You must leave within a month, when I came in to Taiwan from Singapore, I can only stay for one month even with one day of delay, that will make me an illegal immigrants. This is the same in other country, you can stay for one month in Taiwan but you must leave within one month, otherwise you will be considering as illegal emigration. Because you came in as a American citizen, that’s why they only let you stay for one month. So this is why I can’t claim my \$3600.(Grand Master and audience laughing) Because if you enter with the passport from R.O.C., than you can claim the \$3600. Actually I thought of going back (America) after Chinese New Year, but I didn’t know they only give one month, I thought they are giving three months, who knows they only give one month. If it’s one month, it means I can only stay for one month, as now the day is very near, the time to leave is getting near, that’s why I’m rushing. First to XiangHua then JueXin, now here.”

“As for New year, there’s no New year in America. I will still go to Seattle Lei Tsang Temple , to work, even on the New Year day. Because by going to work than we are like human beings. In America I only know one route, from my house to South Mountain Retreati, to Seattle Lei Tsang Temple. From my house to Rainbow Lei Tsang Temple. I only know this three places, Rainbow Lei Tsang Temple, South Mountain Retreati and Seattle Lei Tsang Temple. Just these three places, I’ve not being to other places. If you plan to stay at home for the Lunar New Year, it’s as good as retreat. Americans do n’t celebrate Lunar New Year. By going to Seattle Lei Tsang Temple than you can feel the atmosphere of celebrating Lunar New Year. Only by going to Seattle Lei Tsang Temple, then you will see people around/you will see crowd. The life in America is very simple, which is South Mountain Retreati, Seattle Lei Tsang Temple, and Rainbow Lei Tsang Temple. Just like that.”

“When I’m back to Taiwan, busy, busy, busy. In America, quiet, quiet, quiet. Back to Taiwan, busy, busy, busy. (audience laughing) This is balancing.

Grand Master ask, “Are they here ?” Reverend LianJin response “ Shi Zun, they are on their way. Shi Zun.”
“Okay, thank you everyone” (audience applause)

“... will come back any time” Grand Master said. “There are some Master held a ceremony and said that Grand Master is coming, and a student ask “Why Grand Master is not here?” The Master will answer, “ Who said Grand Master didn’t come? Isn’t he there?” (pointing at the statue of Grand Master) (audience laugh ing)
“If they are still not here, I’m going down for my dinner.” Grand Master said it humorously. (audience laughing)

Suddenly, a student stand up and rise a question regarding receiving blessing empowerment and the way to prolong this “blessing empowerment”.



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“You must always keep the blessing in you heart, if you always protect the blessing, and the blessing will become real/truth. After receiving the blessing, you must always visualize your Lineage Root Guru sitting on your crown, that is also giving you blessing everyday. Your daily practice is also a way of giving you the blessing. Your daily practice also means receiving empowerment daily. This is what it meant. (audience applause)

Grand Master personally performed the ordination ceremony for Lian Dian, LianZheng and Lian Ya, the three reverends to be.

The ceremony ended in great joy.

(This article are being translate as close as the origin, regardless of grammatical error. As the purpose is to share Grand Master's Dharma Talk with everyone. Any inconvenience is very much regretted. Thank you.)