法 鼓 山 Dharma Drum Mountain The universe may one day perish, yet my vows are eternal!

What I am unable to accomplish in this lifetime,

I vow to push forward through countless future lives.

What I am unable to accomplish personally,

I appeal for everyone to undertake together.

----Bhikshu Sheng Yen

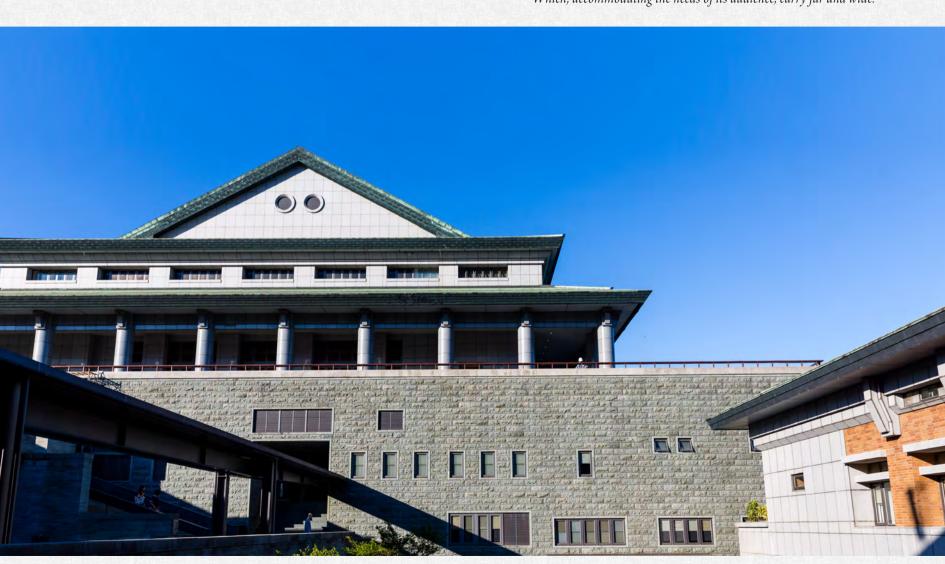
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-Past, Present, and Future ----

A Brief History of Dharma Drum Mountain

Halfway up the hills in Jinshan,
A great drum springs up majestically from the ground.
There, many drummers are beating out rhythms that purify the mind.
Melodious, they are the pure Dharma sounds of Chinese Buddhism,
Which, accommodating the needs of its audience, carry far and wide.





- ■A charity event held by Ven. Master Dongchu
- ▼The look of Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Culture's exterior in its early days



▼The Nung Chan Monastery in its early days



The Origin

DDM developed from Nung Chan Monastery and the Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Culture in Taiwan, both founded by Ven. Master Dongchu. In 1978, Master Sheng Yen succeeded Ven. Master Dongchu as abbot of both organizations. In order to accommodate growing numbers of followers and for long-term development, a piece of land up in the hills of Sanjie Village, Jinshan District, New Taipei City, was purchased in 1989, which was subsequently named "Dharma Drum Mountain." More than just a place

name, DDM is a spiritual educational center based on the ideal of Protecting the Spiritual Environment and dedicated to promoting spiritual practice, spreading the Dharma, as well as undertaking educational, cultural and charity work, both at home and abroad.

In 1992, DDM announced its core ideal of Protecting the Spiritual Environment, which was well received by the public. By promoting the Protecting the Four Environments movement and the Fivefold Spiritual Renaissance campaign, as well as organizing various events and camps for people to experience Chan practice, it encourages everyone to put the philosophy of Protecting the Spiritual Environment into practice in their daily life.



- ▲The inauguration ceremony of DDM, with The Rising Great Compassion as its theme, where the participating guests made a joint prayer
- ▶The meaning of inauguration, composed by Master Sheng Yen and written in calligraphy by Zhan Wufa

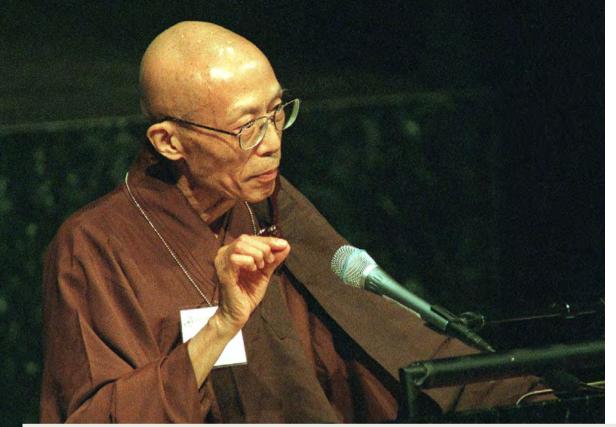
DDM's Inauguration— The Rising Great Compassion

After 16 years of construction, DDM held its inauguration ceremony on October 21, 2005, symbolizing the significance of this modern Dharma center dedicated to Guanyin Bodhisattva and its function in inspiring people's minds. During the ceremony, participants prayed that every individual worldwide would generate great compassion and develop their inner treasure.

Our Name

The term "Dharma drum" appears in Buddhist scriptures. The *Lotus Sutra* says, "We entreat you, the most honored of heavenly and human beings, to turn the wheel of the highest Dharma, beat the drum of the great Dharma, blow the conch of the great Dharma, rain the rain of the great Dharma everywhere, and save incalculable sentient beings." To beat the drum of the Dharma is to purify people's minds. The shape of Dharma Drum Mountain resembles a drum lying on its side, hence its name.

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▲ Master Sheng Yen giving a speech at the UN Headquarters on the topic of Religious Violence and Terrorism, 2003



▲ Master Sheng Yen in the Israel-Palestine Peace Conference interacting with other religious leaders, 2003

■Master Sheng Yen giving a speech at the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders

Global Involvement in the Spirit of Protecting the Spiritual Environment

Since the 1970s Master Sheng Yen had travelled all over the world giving lectures, holding retreats and sharing Chan teachings. Besides engaging in dialogues with other religious leaders such as Pope John Paul II and the Dalai Lama, the Master also attended international conferences, bringing the idea of Protecting the Spiritual Environment onto the world stage, which has been widely valued and recognized. DDM hopes that genuine peace and happiness can be achieved through substantial interaction and dialogue that transcend nations, religions, and concepts, on the foundation of mutual trust and respect.



Our Emblem

Symbolizing the care for the world by means of Buddhist teachings, the emblem was inspired by the hand gesture of a Buddha giving a discourse, called the "Dharma-preaching Mudra". It represents the Buddha explaining the Dharma in order to dispel the mental afflictions of sentient beings. Its left part resembles a mountain, representing Dharma Drum Mountain, while its right part is a monastic sitting in meditation facing a wall, embracing serenity and calmness. The three peaks symbolize the Three Jewels of Buddhism—the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha.





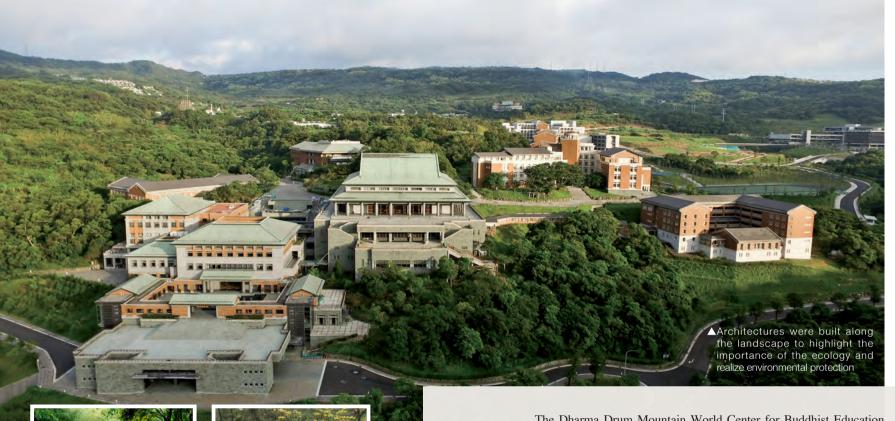
Nature and Simplicity—the Original Face

DDM World Center for Buddhist Education

"To make a construction meaningful and functional is to make it beneficial to society and the world."

The Center incorporates the ideals of Protecting the Four Environments—the spiritual, the social, the living, and the natural—in fulfilling its educational function through environmental influence.





▲Gently sloped trails in the Center's complex are friendly for practicing walking prostration and walking meditation

▲The Center features landscape design for visitors to experience spiritual environment protection

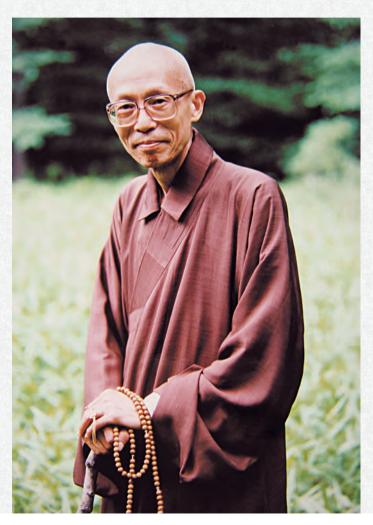
The Dharma Drum Mountain World Center for Buddhist Education is located in the Jinshan District of New Taipei City. Incorporating a humanistic spirit while merging with nature, the buildings in the Center were designed in harmony with the contours of the mountain. With brown, gray, and white as their main color, tucked in greenery and embraced by two streams, they feature a simple and moderate architectural style, making the whole environment and the complex itself a means of teaching.

In constructing the buildings, it sought to keep the original landscape and fit in the natural surroundings, to show respect to the original ecoenvironment. To make best use of natural resources, rooftop gutters made of copper were used to collect rainwater as a substitute for running water and ground water, in an effort to realize environmental protection.

A Spiritual Navigator

DDM Founder — Master Sheng Yen

"The Dharma is so good, yet so few people know about it and so many people misunderstand it." It was based on this belief that Master Sheng Yen founded Dharma Drum Mountain.



Master Sheng Yen liked to call himself "an itinerant monk pressing forward in snow and wind". He was selected as one of the 50 most influential people in Taiwan in 400 years. His life was full of trials, tribulations, and twists.

The Master was frail in his childhood years. He became a novice in the Wolf Hills, Jiangsu, in China. Afterwards, he spent years performing deliverance rituals, then serving in the army, before finally being re-ordained in Taiwan. During his solitary retreat, studies in Japan, spreading the Dharma in the USA, and founding DDM, he had always been able to find a way out when there seemed to be none. His compassionate vows revealed more clearly through hardship, while his Chan wisdom shone through his perseverance. To him, life was a process of realizing the Dharma.

In order to raise the status of Buddhism and the quality of monks, the Master, then 40, decided to go to Japan for further studies. After receiving a doctorate degree, he started traveling between Taiwan and the USA sharing Buddhist teaching, as well as teaching Chan practice worldwide. To more widely spread the Dharma, he dedicated himself to writing in accessible language and was an author of more than 100 books.

An erudite scholar himself, the Master established the Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies, Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts, and Dharma Drum Sangha University to cultivate high caliber talent for Buddhist research and propagation. Since 1998, he began to engage in public dialogues with leading figures in the fields of technology, art, and culture, and also collaborated with other religions. His expansive mind and international outlook earned him worldwide recognition.

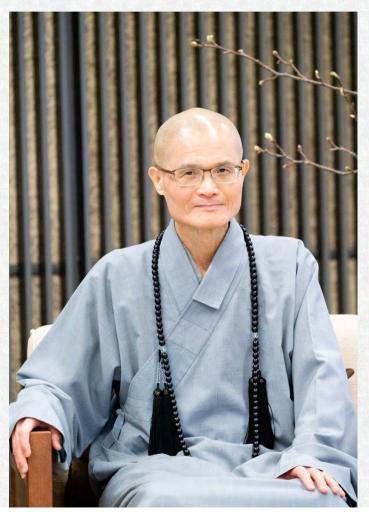
In 2006, the Master handed over the position of Abbot President to Ven. Guo Dong, indicating the passing on of the DDM lineage.

The Master passed away on February 3, 2009. DDM inherited his vision and spirit, adhered to Chinese Buddhism as the basis, and continued its efforts toward uplifting the character of humanity, building a pure land on earth.

Inheriting the Past and Ushering in the Future

Current Abbot President — Venerable Guo Huei

He has endeavored to uphold the DDM founder's ideals and teachings, giving of himself to benefit others, continuing to share Chan Buddhism worldwide.



Ven. Guo Huei was born in Yunlin County in 1958. He was ordained in 1985, as a first-generation DDM Sangha member. A PhD from Japan's Rissho University, he has served as Master Sheng Yen's attendant and secretary, Monastic Advisor of DDM Meditation Group, Director-in-chief of the DDM Sangha, President of Dharma Drum Sangha University, DDM Vice Abbot-President, and Director of the Buddhist Studies Department of Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts. He was selected by the Master to become one of his Dharma heirs in 2005. In 2018, he became the sixth Abbot President, and in 2022 the seventh Abbot President.

The venerable aspired to become a monastic when studying at National Taiwan University. He participated in Chan practice activities at Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Culture, and subsequently confirmed his direction of life. After discharging from military service, he moved into Nung Chan Monastery as a postulant, and became ordained the following year, with the Dharma name Guo-Huei Zheng-Yuan.

Born in a farming family, the venerable's first assigned duty as a monastic was growing vegetables. Afterwards, he consequently served as a member of the General Affairs Department, disciplinary monk, attendant, secretary, and monastic advisor for DDM Meditation Group and Engineering/Maintenance Office.

In 1997, he went to Rissho University. He obtained the doctorate in Buddhist literature, with the dissertation entitled "A Study on the Path of Meditation Practice: Focus on the *Foshuo Da Anban Shouyi Jing T602*. After returning to Taiwan, he has dedicated himself to DDM's Extensive Academic Education.

The venerable observes the precepts purely with strong faith. He works in harmony with people, cultivates good relationships with others, upholds the ideals of Master Sheng Yen, and is committed to the DDM Sangha, winning high acclaim.

His authored books include A Study on the Dharma Drum Lineage of Chan Buddhism Established by Master Sheng Yen, The Chan Practices of Zhi and Guan: A Key to Opening Up Our Spiritual Mind, and Inner Peace Leads to a Blissful Life.



Spreading Chinese Buddhism —

Spirit of the Dharma Drum Lineage

Chan Buddhism at DDM inherits the legacies of both the Linji and Caodong schools and integrates the features of different schools in Indian and Chinese Buddhism. While committed to tradition, it is also innovative.







- ▲ Master Sheng Yen and Venerable Master Ling Yuan (left)
- Master Sheng Yen and Venerable Master Dong Chu (right)



▲The records of ancestors for the Linji Lineage, which shows Master Sheng Yen's Dharma name and title as "Zhiqang Weirou"

Inheriting Both the Caodong and Linji Schools

Master Sheng Yen was a Dharma heir of Ven. Dongchu in the Caodong lineage, as a 53rd-generation heir of the Caoxi Chan tradition and a 48th-generation heir of the Caodong orthodox tradition, of which the spirit is "relaxing the body and mind, living in the present." He was given the Dharma name Hui Kong ("wisdom emptiness") and the Dharma title Sheng Yen ("sacred solemnity"). He was also a Dharma heir of Ven. Lingyuan in the Linji lineage, as a 62nd-generation heir of the Linji Chan teaching and a 57th-generation heir of the Linji orthodox tradition, of which the spirit is "taking up and letting go at any time." He was given the Dharma name Zhi Gang ("knowing to be resolute") and the Dharma title Wei Rou ("remaining soft").

Master Sheng Yen revived the Caodong silent illumination, and also substantialized the Linji Huatou. Creating a unique modern Chan teaching by integrating the practices of both lineages, he established the Dharma Drum Lineage of Chan Buddhism.

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Dharma Drum Lineage of Chan Buddhism

Rooted in Indian Buddhism, Dharma Drum Lineage of Chan Buddhism affirms the positive aspects of Tibetan Buddhism and is based on Chinese Buddhism. It features inclusiveness, tolerance, and adaptability, and can accommodate the needs of contemporary people and society. The Master drew on Indian (including the tradition of the Pali Canon) and Tibetan Buddhism for inspiration, seeking to enhance the development of Chinese Buddhism in the world of today and tomorrow.

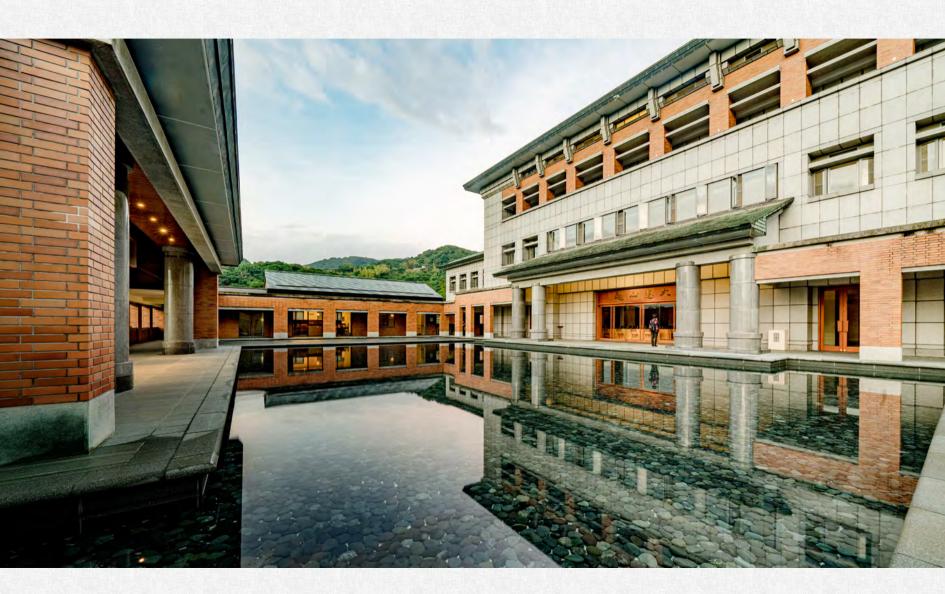
The Master proposed the Dharma Drum Lineage to encourage DDM's monastic and lay practitioners to take up the mission of reviving Chinese Chan Buddhism, as well as the responsibility of connecting the past with the future, so as to benefit people in the world.

▲Master Sheng Yen giving a Dharma talk for a 49-day Huatou Chan retreat

◆Master Sheng Yen giving a Dharma talk for young people at the meditation hall of the Dharma Drum Mountain headquarters complex Starting from the Mind and Based on Humanism

Ideals and Methods

DDM promotes Protecting the Spiritual Environment as its core ideal, with conceptual guidance to purify people's minds and uplift the character of humanity. Only through the purification of the mind at the level of the individual can genuine peace and harmony be achieved.



Core Value—Protecting the Spiritual Environment

Master Sheng Yen had been promoting this value since 1992, in the hope to guide people's way of thinking, enabling them to face and handle problems with a healthy mindset. With the methods of spiritual defense, we are able to stay calm, stable, and at ease in any situation, while showing care and concern for people and the world around us, remaining hopeful for the future.

The Mission of Dharma Drum Mountain

To spread Chinese Chan Buddhism, with Protecting the Spiritual Environment at the core. To achieve the purification of the world through the Threefold Education.

The Common Ethos of DDM

Vision: Uplifting the Character of Humanity and Building a Pure Land on Earth

The starting point is uplifting every individual's character in terms of integrity. When this is achieved, our world will naturally become a pure land.

Spirit: Giving of Ourselves for the Benefit of All

By giving of oneself for the benefit of others, one will not only benefit himself but also grow in wisdom and blessings.

Direction: Returning to the Original Intention of the Buddha and Working for the Purification the World

By emulating the Buddha's kindness and compassion, everyone can improve their own mindset and actions, and further help purify society, people's mind, and the world.

Approach: Promoting Comprehensive Education and Extending Loving Care to All

Our aim is to provide education and cultivate talent of all kinds



▲ Outdoor walking meditation to practice awareness of the changes in our body and mind

in a systematic and comprehensive manner. Education and care are two sides of the same coin: To provide loving care is to realize the purpose of education.

The Four Kinds of Environmentalism

Based on Protecting the Spiritual Environment, the Four Kinds of Environmentalism require one to start with the mind and from within, then extend to society, humanity, environment, and nature as a whole.

Protecting the Spiritual Environment

This DDM guiding principle teaches people to maintain a pure and stable mind.

Protecting the Social Environment

This aims to foster interpersonal harmony by purifying bodily action, speech, and thought.

Protecting the Living Environment

This encourages contentment and a simple, natural way of life with few desires, as a way to realize the Chan teaching that spiritual practice lies in everyday life.

Protecting the Natural Environment

We have to cherish blessings, be grateful to the Earth, and protect the environment from pollution and destruction.





▲The Praying-for-Wishes Altar for the Great Compassion Liberation Rite of Water and Land

The Fivefold Spiritual Renaissance Campaign

Proposed subsequently by DDM to realize Four Kinds of Environmentalism, this campaign has five focus areas, each with four concepts or methods for developing our spirituality.

Four Fields for Cultivating Peace: A Proposition for Uplifting the Character of Humanity

Cultivating a peaceful mind. Cultivating a peaceful body. Cultivating a peaceful family. Cultivating peaceful activity.

Four Guidelines for Dealing with Desires: A Proposition for Living a Carefree Life

Our needs are few. Our wants are many. Pursue only what you can and should acquire. Never pursue what you can't and shouldn't acquire.

Four Steps for Handling a Problem: A Proposition for Resolving the Difficulties of Life

Face it. Accept it. Deal with it. Let it go.

Four Practices for Helping Oneself and Others: A Proposition for Getting Along with Others

Feeling grateful for the chance to develop. Feeling thankful for the opportunity to hone our practice. Reforming ourselves through the Dharma. Influencing others through virtuous action.

Four Ways to Cultivate Blessings: A Proposition for Increasing Blessings

Count our blessings. Cherish our blessings. Cultivate our merit. Sow the seeds of merit.

The Six Ethics of the Mind

Master Sheng Yen initiated this campaign in response to the needs of our era, by proposing six aspects of ethical principles to address the diverse interpersonal relationships in modern society.

Family Ethics

Family members should take care of and look after each other, ensuring that their family can live peacefully and enjoy well-being.

Daily Life Ethics

Live a simple and organized life; try to accommodate others while we try to make things easier for ourselves.

School Ethics

Teachers, students, and parents must all fulfill their own duties and take responsibilities.

Environmental Ethics

We should cherish the Earth's resources by refraining from wastefulness and avoid any act of destruction of natural resources.

Workplace Ethics

We should do our duties and fulfill our responsibilities.

Ethics between Ethnic Groups

We should respect and accommodate for people of diverse ethnic backgrounds and groups, by coexisting with each other peacefully.

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Giving of Ourselves for ____

Our Approach

DDM's Threefold Education includes the Extensive Academic Education, Extensive Public Buddhist Education, and Extensive Social Care Education, to realize its goal of Protecting the Spiritual Environment. With its efforts in international propagation, exchange, and collaboration, it aims to achieve purification of the world.



Extensive Academic Education

DDM's academic education endeavor stresses practice and contribution as a basis. It aims to train specialized talent in the areas of research, teaching, Dharma propagation, and social service, who are able to guide and inspire people from all walks of life.



▲CHIBS holding the Young Scholars' Chinese Buddhism Forum to facilitate a cross-disciplinary and intergenerational inheritance and exchange of experience



▲CHIBS holding the Forum on Chinese Buddhism in Recent and Modern Times to discuss the diversity of Buddhism in Taiwan from different aspects, and its unique development in the global Buddhist world

The Chung-Hwa Institute of **Buddhist Studies**

Established in 1985 by Master Sheng Yen, it is an internationally renowned Buddhist institute that has nurtured outstanding Buddhist talent for the Buddhist higher education in Taiwan. In 2007, the Dharma Drum Buddhist College was established on the foundation of CHIBS. With its tasks for the previous stage completed, it has transformed into a Buddhist research institute. dedicating to academic Buddhist research and publication as its mission. It publishes journals and essay series on Chinese Buddhism, and established the Scholarships and Stipends for Post-graduate and Doctoral Studies in English to encourage international young scholars to do academic research in Chinese Buddhism, in an effort to deepen the imprint of Chinese Buddhist research on the global level.



Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts

The Institute was founded in 2014, with Compassion, Wisdom, Harmony, and Respect as its school motto, with Protecting the Spiritual Environment as its ideal, and with liberal arts education as its direction. It emphasizes the training of humanistic care and personal character cultivation, with an aim to nurture leadership talent and to address the spiritual needs in modern world.

Department of Buddhist Studies

The Department offers undergraduate and post-graduate programs. Based on Chinese Buddhism while incorporating Theravada and Tibetan Buddhism, it aims to nurture religious teachers and academic talent strong in both theory and practice, with a global perspective and vision.

Master of Life Education

The program features reflective contemplation, settling the body and mind, and developing a cross-cultural outlook. By incorporating experiences in helping disaster-stricken people to rehabilitate, it has constructed a comprehensive study system integrating theory and practice, to train future experts in calming people's minds.

Master of Social Enterprise and Innovation

The degree offers three groups of studies: Social Enterprise and Innovation; Community Empowerment; and Environment and Development. The program displays the caring spirit for social well-being, strengthens students' ability to learn by doing; nurtures talent to help create communal environments beneficial for people's body and mind; and nurtures students strong in theory and practice by enhancing their ecological knowledge for environmental ethics.



Dharma Drum Sangha University

Founded in 2001, with its school motto of "Compassion, Wisdom, Harmony, and Respect", written in calligraphy by Master Sheng Yen, the University adopts the semester system and includes the four-year Department of Buddhist Studies and the six-year Department of Chan Practice. Based on the Chinese Buddhist tradition, its curriculum is divided into two major categories: study and practice. The University emphasizes the spirit of devotion and

combines the learning of wisdom, merit, and virtue. It stresses the skills in independent thinking and foreign languages, for students to realize the Buddhist teaching in daily life, with the goal of nurturing them to become religious teachers of modern time well trained in Buddhist studies, with both theoretical study and actual cultivation practiced in equal measure.



Master Sheng Yen explaining the Buddhist codes of conduct for students



▲The special exhibition marking the 20th anniversary of the Sangha University, for people to have a glimpse of its monastic education

▶ Focusing on both study and practice, the University also organizes workshops on world citizenship, enabling students to develop a broad international perspective



Extensive Public Buddhist Education

It guides the public to start from within, promotes the concept of purifying the mind, and offers modern people the ways to attain peace of mind.



▲ Dharma Drum Mountain Chan Hall organizes various kinds of intensive Chan practice activities

Dharma Practice and Propagation

Chan Meditation

DDM offers a comprehensive variety of Chan practice activities, at the entry-level: the beginner meditation class and one-day FUN Chan; at the basic level: 1, 2, and 3-day Chan meditation retreats; at the beginner level: the 7-day beginner meditation retreat; at the intermediate level: the intermediate 7-day Chan meditation retreats, and the 7-day Buddha-name recitation retreat; as well as the advanced level: the 7-day silent illumination retreat, and the 7-day huatou Chan retreat. They help people relax their body and mind, while awakening their original wisdom and compassion through methods of Chan practice.

To meet the characteristics and needs of various different groups, DDM organizes more diversified and lively Chan practice activities, including Chan practice camps for young people, Chan practice in the school settings, and Chan practice in the workplace. In response to our digital era, online Chan practice sessions and the on-line version of Dharma Drum Eight-Form Moving Meditation are provided, to encourage more people to practice Chan at all times and places, finding delight in the Dharma and realizing Chan practice in daily life.

Buddha-name Recitation

DDM regularly holds one, three, and sevenday Buddha-name recitation retreats, and the Eight Precepts Observance retreat, among other group practice sessions.

Dharma Assembly

Regular Dharma assemblies include pilgrimages, as well as repentance and deliverance rituals. A revamped version of a Chinese Buddhist ritual, the Dharma Drum Mountain Water and Land Dharma Service is an integration of modernized humanistic elements, and has environmental and aesthetic appeals for today's society.

Sutra group practice

Besides traditional Dharma assemblies, there are also group practice activities that combine Chan practice, actual experience, and Dharma explanation, for Buddhist scriptures such as the Heart Sutra, the Chapter on the Universal Gate of the Bodhisattva Avalokitesvara in the *Lotus Sutra*, and the Diamond Sutra. They include sessions for silent sitting, sutra recitation, and Master Sheng Yen's explanation of the Dharma.

Learning through visiting

The DDM complex incorporated the ecofriendly construction methods, and adopted the architectural esthetics featuring majestic grandeur and harmony, with its landscape design inspiring visitors to experience the environment as an education tool, realizing the joy of Chan and appreciating how humans should live in harmony with nature.



▲The sprinkling ceremony for the 7-day Buddhaname recitation retreat at Nung Chan Monastery during the Tomb Sweeping Festival

▼The Dharma Drum Mountain Water and Land Dharma Service



Popularizing Buddhist Learning

Promoting the Learning of Buddhism

To offer systematic Buddhist courses on various levels, DDM has organized various Buddhist learning courses, by giving classes on a regular basis. It aims to help people gain a correct understanding of the Buddha's teaching with a clear knowledge, sowing the seeds of bodhi in them by clarifying their concepts and views.

Be a Happy Buddhist

This is a practical and lively course for beginners who want to have a general idea about the Buddhist teaching.

Sheng Yen Academy

The Merit Field Program: An introduction of DDM's ideals in detail, with courses on both Buddhist study and practice. By engaging in volunteer work, participants can deeply understand how to put the ideals into practice, thereby developing their bodhisattva spirit of benefitting self and others.

The Buddhist Studies Program: A comprehensive introduction of Mahayana Buddhist doctrines.

The Chan Studies Program: A course on Chan Buddhist studies based on the philosophy of the Dharma Drum Lineage of Chan Buddhism.

Advanced programs for Buddhist studies

It is a course on specific topics especially designed for members of Sheng Yen Education Academy who have finished the previous courses, for example, the History of Chinese Chan Buddhist Philosophy.

Programs combining both study and practice

The course helps the public enhance their actual practice of the Buddha's teaching in daily life, and focuses on group discussion and self-reflection, with sharing sessions and hands-on experience opportunities.



▲ Elderly citizens enjoying learning the Dharma through various activities and courses



▲The Chan Studies Program puts equal emphasis on theoretical study and actual practice, helping its members build a good foundation in Chan practice

Courses for different age groups

Evergreen Class

This is a diverse course for the elderly, to take care of their bodily well-being and spiritual life.



Members of the Buddhist Studies Program receiving their certificates happily after finishing three years' of intensive learning



▲The Be A Happy Buddhist course allows learners of all ages, genders, ethnic groups to know about and experience Buddhist teachings in a relaxed and lively manner

Children's Class

This is a course with games and interactive activities designed to encourage children to acquire Buddhist compassion and wisdom from an early age.

Digital learning

Digital tools are applied, either through a cable or wireless network, to break the limitation of time and space, allowing people to access Buddhist wisdom whenever and wherever they are.

The DDMTV

A live-streamed course available on Wednesdays to offer online Dharma talks for members from around the world, with on-line interaction and discussion.

The Dharmaschool (https://www.dharmaschool.com)

Adopting the idea of the knowledge bank, it uses internet platforms to give various on-line programs, including Chan practice, Buddha-name recitation, sutra study, daily life Buddhism, and Dharma assemblies, to share DDM's learning resources with global users via the Internet.

Podcast

In response to the trend of learning through hearing and listening, the three main channels currently available include:

Master Sheng Yen's audio-books: allows readers to read and listen to the Complete Works of Master Sheng Yen

Master Sheng Yen's lecture series: the soundtrack of Master Sheng Yen giving a lecture brings you back to the venue, as if you are an audience member

Master Sheng Yen answering questions from the guests: excerpts from Master Sheng Yen's words spoken during Q&A sessions with other monastic teachers and lay practitioners

The Protecting the Spiritual Environment Study Group

It focuses on the reading and study of Master Sheng Yen's works. Through the process of reading, idea exchanging, and actually putting what has been studied into practice, members get to learn from and care for each other, thus realizing the Buddha's teaching in daily life. Besides the study groups currently available at DDM's monasteries and branch practice centers, there are also ones organized by individual aspirants that take place in homes, schools, and workplaces, for more people to share the benefit of the Dharma.

In addition, to more widely promote group learning and group study, there are training courses provided annually for prospective study group leaders, with hands-on practice opportunities for members to hone their technique and knowledge in leadership skills.



▲ Training courses for prospective study group leaders, to hone their technique and knowledge in leadership skills

Publishing

Dharma Drum Corporation

Publications include printed and audio books and audio-visual products, with topics ranging from spiritual, self-help, to everyday Buddhist practices. The most representative among these is the Complete Works of Master Sheng Yen comprising 108 books. It also plans the production of items that facilitate people's Dharma practice, Buddha statue replicas, and eco-friendly commodities, to echo the spirit in the Four Kinds of Environmentalism.



▲The effort to share the Buddhist teaching through publication and film production



▲A special anniversary issue of The Complete Works of Master Sheng Yen, 2020



◆Eco-friendly
Dharma products
echoing the spirit
of Protecting
the Spiritual
Environment enrich
people's Chan
practice in daily life

The Humanity Magazine

Started in 1949, Humanity was the first Buddhist magazine in Taiwan and is a benchmark Buddhist magazine of great influence in Taiwan's Buddhist circles. From an ever innovative and fresh perspective, the magazine continues to present readers with topics on life, Buddhist teachings, and the latest Buddhist events around the world.

The Dharma Drum Monthly

Founded in 1989, this is DDM's internal publication reporting on people and events related to DDM, as well as its global efforts to spread the Dharma.





Overseas Publishing

The English Quarterly-*Chan Magazine*, has been published since 1977, to promote and share Chan teachings. Established in New York

City in 1982, Dharma Drum Publications mainly publishes Master Sheng Yen's works in English.

Dharma Books for Free Distribution

Publications include Master Sheng Yen's Pocket Books of Wisdom, a series of 11 pamphlet books for free distribution with topics on introduction to Buddhism.



spiritual growth, meditation practices and wisdom dialogue, as well as the Master Sheng Yen's 108 Adages of Wisdom in different languages, to inspire people to learn about Buddhist teachings and develop in wisdom.

Digital Archive dedicated to Master Sheng Yen

Its website (https://www.shengyen.org)features "His Life Stories", "The Legacy of A Chan Master", "Video and Audio Dharma Talks", "A Digital Collection of Items", "The Complete Works of Master Sheng Yen" and "Dharma Books for Free Distribution". Nearly 10,000 items, including hand-written notes, manuscripts, and correspondents, have been put on line, open to the public for people to know about the history of Master Sheng Yen's thought and the development of contemporary Buddhism.





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▲ An exhibition at the Hall of Lineage Patriarchs of the Founding History Memorial Hall, with items and the legacy related to the Dharma Drum Lineage of Chan Buddhism on display

DDMTV

The website (http://ddmtv.ddm.org.tw) features video resources for Chan practice and Buddshist study. It also serves as a platform to live stream DDM's large-scale events, and play video and audio recordings of Master Sheng Yen's legacy and teachings, as well as keynote speech videos.

Arts Exhibition

Significant cultural relics and historical materials of DDM are displayed in the Founding History Memorial Hall at the DDM headquarters complex. Special exhibitions of various themes are also held from time to time at DDM's practice centers.

Dharma Drum Community College

The College offers diversified learning channels for local residents. Currently available in the Beihai, Xinzhuang, and Beitou Districts, a variety of learner-oriented courses are provided to promote lifelong learning and enhance people's well-being of body and mind. The outdoor classrooms located in Shimen and Sanzhi allow members to experience growing plants and flowers by applying the methods of ecological farming, as an effort to realize natural environmentalism.



- ◆Besides diversified courses for spiritual growth, it also organizes learning outcome exhibitions, to share with the public the joy of lifelong learning
- ▼The outdoor classrooms in Sanzhi reflect natural environmental principles, for members to connect with nature in ecoprotection activities



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Extensive Social Care Education

It addresses different kinds of people's difficulties, and meets the needs of every stage of life, reflecting the idea of bodhisattva practice by transforming the world with an engaging spirit.



▲The Educational Grants for Brightening the Prospect of Needy Students helps many students concentrate on their study

Social Service

Dharma Drum Social Welfare and Charity Foundation

Inheriting the basis of DDM's Merit-Field Society with its decades of experience in social support work, the Foundation was established in March 2001, in order to provide a much wider service, promote social welfare, and engage in charitable efforts at home and abroad. Its areas of service include:

Emergency Relief

Its efforts include providing relief and paying care visits to the disaster-stricken people at home and abroad. The Foundation has helped those affected in the 921 Earthquake in Taiwan, the 88 Flood, the South Asia Tsunami, and the Sichuan earthquake. It upholds the ideals of Protecting the Spiritual Environment and applies the approach of Four Fields for Cultivating Peace, in helping them to rebuild their lives.

Peace-of-Mind Care for Needy Families

It cares for families desperate for financial help due to social changes by providing them with support and life-education services; and also offers community services and care visits on a long-term basis.

Educational Grants for Brightening the Prospect of Needy Students

Initiated as an effort to help school children affected by the Taiwan 9/21 Earthquake to resume schooling, this is a fund donated by the public that has extended its aid to children in need throughout Taiwan.

Charity Distribution

Continuing a more than 60-year tradition of organizing winter relief distribution, the Foundation pay visits to and care for low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled, providing them with monetary and material aid, as well as spiritual accompaniment, especially on traditional holidays.

End-of-Life Care

This effort includes funeral consulting, death-bed care, chanting for the deceased, paying care visits, rituals for public memorial ceremony, ash burial, and follow-up care services. By providing solemn Buddhist funeral services, DDM hopes to achieve its goal regarding public Buddhist education and care service, for the purification of human minds and society.

Funeral consulting

It answers questions in terms of Buddhist doctrines and concepts, about family members should face the death of their loved one, as well as issues regarding funeral arrangement.

Deathbed care

The service offers Buddhist guidance and blessing to people critically ill or at the deathbed, and leads their family members to practice Buddha-name recitation for calm and peace of mind.

Chanting for the deceased

By reciting Amitabha Buddha's name and giving Buddhist guidance to calm the dying person's mind, the service hopes to help them let go their attachment and clinging to the world and



▲The Jinshan Eco-friendly Memorial Garden, where the practice of ash burial returns the ashes to nature

seek rebirth to the Western World of Ultimate Bliss (Sukhavati), enabling them to face and reach the end of their life peacefully.

Chanting for the Buddhist-style funeral ceremony

DDM advocates Protecting the Social Environment, and promotes the idea of keeping funeral ceremonies pure and simple, to reflect modesty and moderation. Holding a heartwarming, peaceful, and solemn funeral ceremony as a process has a significant meaning for social education; meanwhile, it maintains dignity for the dead they deserve and provides profound comfort for their family members, thus representing a memorial and blessing for both the living and dead.

Jinshan Eco-friendly Memorial Garden

In 2007, DDM donated a piece of land to New Taipei City government to establish the Eco-friendly Memorial Garden, as an effort to promote ash burial. The returning of ashes to nature signifies the transformation and extension of life into spiritual eternity, realizing the ideals of environmental protection and the essence of life and death education.

Caring for children/youths/the elderly

Education for children

During summer vacations, DDM's branch monasteries and practice centers will hold special camps designed for children, such as the Protecting the Spiritual Environment Camp for Children, and the parent-child camp. During semesters, various chapters of the Association of Dharma Supporters also organize the Awakened-Treasure Children's Camp, with courses and activities that guide school children to learn about the Buddha's teaching, experience Chan practice, and realize the concept of Protecting the Four Environments.

Youth growth

Chan practice events, courses, and group practice activities are provided for college students and young professionals to learn about concepts and methods of Chan practice, relaxing their body and mind while being the master of their minds. They are encouraged to join volunteer work for personal growth by giving of themselves.



- ▲Young Buddhists happily participating in work practice after the Universal Inviting ritual at the end of the Water and Land Dharma Service
- ▼Children's camps of Protecting the Spiritual Environment with fun activities to expose youngsters to the concept of an environmentally friendly way of life



Caring for the elderly

The Evergreen Class was launched to encourage elderly people to engage in life-long learning to enrich their later years. For the Double Ninth Festival, the "Family-Treasure" Buddhist-style joint birthday celebrations for the elderly are held in different venues to promote filial duty, respect for senior citizens, and family ethics, as a blessing in the Dharma and a gesture of gratitude for our older generation family members.

Caring for life

The Cherishing Life series of events

To provide active care for those at their lows in life or in their emotional troubles, Dharma Drum Humanities and Social Improvement Foundation has, starting from 2006, presented a series of events on cherishing life, launched the Caring for Life Hotline, and held the Spirituality Lecture.

The Caring for Life Award

To help members of the public maintain a healthy lifestyle and promote right values of life, DDM established the Caring for Life Award to encourage individuals and groups who have long engaged in the caring for life endeavor. By setting a positive example for society, it aims to further advocate the idea of living our life with a proactive attitude.

- ► At the Buddhiststyle joint birthday celebrations for the elderly, the younger generation family members offer tea for their elderly ones
- ▼The biannual Caring for Life Award honors the recipients for their good deeds that benefit others





The Six Ethics of the Mind Campaign

With the deterioration of people's ethical standards, Master Sheng Yen in 2007 initiated the Six Ethics of the Mind campaign, which is an extension of the Five Ethics of ancient Confucianism. The Six Ethics of the Mind consist of Family Ethics, Daily Life Ethics, School Ethics, Environmental Ethics, Workplace Ethics and Ethics between Ethnic Groups. By promoting the values of the campaign through digital media and publications, and establishing the Six Ethics of the Mind Proclamation Team, it urges the public to adopt a giving and responsible attitude in life as well as to realize the merits of living ethically.



- ▲ Realizing School Ethics and Environmental Ethics at elementary and high schools by promoting courses on herbs, guiding students to learn about respecting life through observation of herbs and how they grow
- ◆The Six Ethics of the Mind campaign launched by Dharma Drum Humanities and Social Improvement Foundation urges the public to adopt a giving attitude to realize the value of ethics



Dharma Drum Mountain Fellowship

A DDM-affiliated organization devoted to supporting the Dharma and fund-raising, the Fellowship includes the Dharma Practice Society, the Dharma Affinity Society, the Volunteers Group, and the Buddha-name Chanting Group, to provide service to the public of different characteristics to grow together in the Dharma. It has branch chapters and practice centers throughout Taiwan, to extend its care activities to its fund-raising members and local people, facilitating their access to the Buddha's teaching.

Its branch chapters also serve as venues for administrative office work, group practice activities, and liaison events. Its group practice activities include sitting meditation, Buddha-name recitation, Dharma instruments practice, study groups, Buddhist study programs, and courses on the art of Chan. Its other endeavors include providing grants for students in need, and organizing the Buddhist-style joint birthday celebrations for the elderly and end-of-year care programs; it also provides volunteer workforce for large scale events such as the Liberation Rite of Water and Land Liberation Rite.





- ▲Courses on the arts of Chan offered by various branch chapters
- ◆The Happiness to Your Home event co-organized by branch chapters and local district offices
- ▼A special exhibition organized by the Xindian Chapter to mark the 30th anniversary of the Protecting the Spiritual Environment movement



Global Dharma Propagation

It shares Chinese Buddhism and advocates Protecting the Spiritual Environment. Transcending gender, race, religion, and nation, it is dedicated to international interaction, dialogue, and collaboration, endeavoring to create a serene and peaceful pure land on Earth.



▲DDMBA attending the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, sharing the idea of Protecting the Spiritual Environment and how it could help sustain the world's future

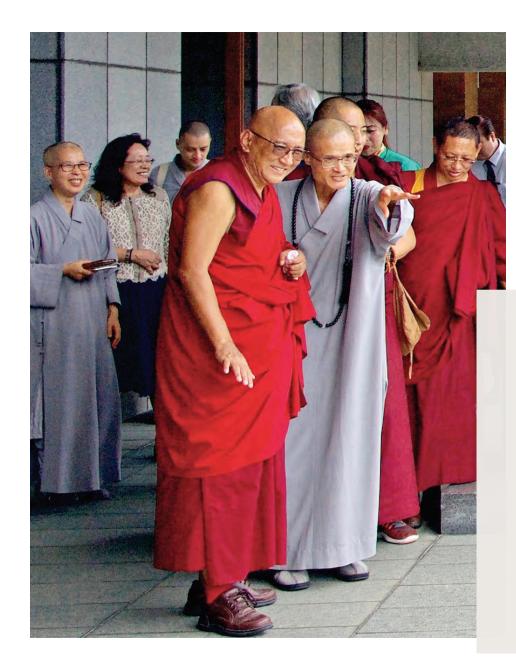
DDMBA as a member of the UN Non-Governmental Organizations

In 2014, the Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association (DDMBA) was granted special consultative status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council, and became a member of the UN Non-Governmental Organizations.

In 2000, Master Sheng Yen represented the Chinese Buddhist traditions to give a speech at the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders, proactively engaging in actions that promote world peace, global ethics, and spiritual protection.

The Master also attended and sponsored the Global Young Leaders Conference in confrontational regions, as well as held the Youth Peace Dialogue, and the Global Peace Initiative of Women Religious and Spiritual Leaders.

Upholding its initial aspiration to benefit the world with Chinese Buddhism based on the core value of Protecting the Spiritual Environment, its work focuses on four areas — inspiring the youth, cross-religious efforts, environmental protection, and promoting peace — in order to facilitate spiritual awakening in people, for the benefit of international society.





- ▲The cross-cultural exchanges organized by the Chinese Buddhist tradition as a platform of dialogue for different religious faiths
- ■Exchanges in Buddhist cultures and Buddhist studies between the Chinese and Tibetan Buddhist traditions to enhance further mutual understanding

Religious Dialogue

Dharma Drum Mountain frequently interacts with other religions and international organizations through religious dialogues, exchanges, and visits, for the sharing of experience and mutual learning. In religious dialogue, DDM's monastics traveled to the Vatican to visit the head of the Catholic Church Pope Francis, met with Islamic representatives for a Dialogue Between Buddhists and Muslims, engaged in interactive exchanges with other Buddhist and religious groups from different regions to eliminate barriers while enhancing mutual respect and tolerance. In exchange visits, Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh, His Holiness the 100th Ganden Tripa Lobsang Nyima, and Michael Slaby, the former international Youth Coordinator for the Earth Charter Youth Initiative, also visited Dharma Drum Mountain, as an effort to establish mutually beneficial interaction for religious and peaceful exchanges.

▲DDM's monastic delegates taking part in various cross-religious dialogues and conferences



International conferences

Dharma Drum Mountain maintains a proactive connection with the international society, cares for global issues, and participates in international conferences, including the International Conference on Cohesive Societies, the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the Inner Dimensions of Climate Change, the United Nations Day of Vesak, the Buddhist Summit for supreme Buddhist leaders, the International Seminar on Biodiversity, the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change. Through exchanges and dialogues, it shares Buddhist diversity and tolerance, and continues to show concern over peace, environmental protection, and ecology.



- ▲DDM's monastic delegates at the COP of UNFCCC offering the Buddhist perspective on climate change
- ■DDM Abbot President Ven. Guo Huei attending the International Conference on Cohesive Societies, representing the Chinese Buddhist tradition to give a speech



▲ A seven-day Huatou Chan retreat in Switzerland

▶Dharma Drum Retreat Center

Sharing Chan teachings worldwide

Every year, DDM's monastics travel to different countries to lead Chan retreats and share Buddhist concepts, including various places in North America, Mexico, the UK, Germany, Switzerland, Luxemburg, Poland, Russia, Indonesia, and Australia, to promote Chan teachings worldwide. Also, its overseas practice centers hold regular Chan practice events and lectures on Buddhist teachings. These lectures on Buddhist teachings, activities on the art of Chan, and programs for personal spiritual growth help local citizens to experience the wisdom and methods of Chan practice, while allowing the Buddhist teaching to further take root in international communities.

International Practice Centers

North America

DDM has six practice centers in North America, including the Chan Meditation Center in the New York City, the Dharma Drum Retreat Center in the New York state, the Dharma Drum Mountain Los Angeles Center, the Dharma Drum Mountain San Francisco Bay Area Center, the Dharma Drum Mountain Massachusetts Buddhist Association, and the Dharma Drum Mountain Vancouver Centre in Canada.

The USA

The Chan Meditation Center was established in New York in 1979; it represents the starting point of Master Sheng Yen's efforts to spread the Dharma in the US and Europe. In 1997,





the Dharma Drum Retreat Center was established in Pine Bush, upstate New York; it serves as DDM's international center for Chan practice. The various practice centers in America hold events for Chan practice, lectures on Buddhist practice, and Dharma assemblies that are inviting to local communities and inclusive of the needs of the generation, allowing peoples of different cultural and religious identities to know about and access Buddhist compassion and wisdom.

Canada

The Vancouver center was established in 2006. Besides holding regular lectures, courses, events, and assemblies for Dharma practice, it also co-organizes Buddhist academic forums and cross-religious exchanges events with many universities in American and Canada. In addition, as a hub for sharing the Dharma along the west coast of North America, it has a study group, a chorus group, and Dharma activities for young people, as an effort to deeply engage with local residents.

Asia

Malaysia

The Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Centre Malaysia holds regular activities for Chan practice, Buddha-name recitation, and study group. Conducted in both Mandarin Chinese and English, these activities provided in culturally diverse Malaysia, which has a huge Chinese population, help introduce South-Eastern Asians to Chinese Buddhist teachings.

Hong Kong

Situated in the downtown area, the Dharma Drum Mountain Hong Kong Centre accommodates to the pace of modern society by designing flexible Chan practice activities, Buddhist study



▲The Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Centre Malaysia, which plays a key role in sharing Chan teachings in Malaysia, a place with multi-religious cultures

programs, and courses on the art of Chan, providing city people with a spiritual home to relax their body and mind, learning about Buddhist teachings.

Other Overseas Dharma Centers

Currently, there are over 20 major branches and liaison offices in Europe, Asia, America, and Australia, organizing meditation classes and group practices for overseas practitioners.

Sheng Yen Education Foundation

With sharing Master Sheng Yen's thoughts and vision at its core, the Foundation sponsors academic research and publications that reflect the Master's thought. It organizes international academic conferences, and has signed academic collaboration agreements with universities from many countries, to promote global exchanges and collaborations on Chinese Buddhism. It has translated *Master Sheng Yen's 108 Adages of Wisdom* into many other languages.



- ◆Scholars and monastics in dialogue on actual Chan Buddhist practice and its experiential expression at the Modern Chinese Buddhist Forum
- ▼The biannual Chinese Buddhism & Sheng Yen International Conference, with experts and scholars participating in interdisciplinary discussion on Buddhist teachings



Dharma Drum Humanities and Social Improvement Foundation

The foundation promotes Caring for Life, an all-age service, by practicing the Six Ethics of the Mind. Its work focuses on the Ethics Project and the Cherishing-Life Activity, including sharing the Six Ethics of the Mind, holding the Caring for Life Forum, introducing schools to herbs, advocating the idea of starting from the mind to cherish and improve interpersonal relationships, and cultivating our mind-fields with peace of mind.

- ▶The Happiness Parent-Children Camp focuses on learning the Six Ethics of the Mind through fun drama activities, for realizing the Family Ethics
- ▼The Caring for Life Forum facilitates dialogues for professionals to share how they break through difficulties and live with inner peace





Stimulation of Thinking and Flexible Application of the Dharma

Vision and Innovation

The Dharma Drum Lineage of Chan Buddhism is based on Chinese Chan Buddhism while incorporating and integrating the different schools and sects of Buddhism, with the significance of both inheritance and innovation. It seeks to apply the Dharma with flexibility, in order to meet the needs of society in today's world.





- ◆The bell-ringing ceremony on Chinese New Year's Eve, with 108 soundings of the Lotus Bell as a prayer for world peace
- ▼At the Water and Land Liberation Rite, monastics circumambulating the bell in prayers for all



DDM is a Dharma center emulating Guanyin (Avalokiteshvara) Bodhisattva's compassion and wisdom. It bases itself on the Buddhist teaching and draws on traditional cultures in order to nurture people's minds and proposes guidance and advice to society.

In face of what the future world needs, Master Sheng Yen established the Dharma Drum Lineage of Chan Buddhism. The Lineage aims to promote Chan practice applicable to different religions and every aspect of life, and establish a spiritual communication platform transcendent of races and generations, so as to reduce indifference and alienation, sow the seeds for world peace, and work together toward a pure land on Earth.

Based on its core value of Protecting the Spiritual Environment, DDM will keep advocating the construction of global ethical standards and dedicating itself to providing humanistic education enriched by Buddhist teachings, in order to take root from the foundation, to be in line with the Buddha's original intentions, and push for the purification of the world.

DDM will stride on the path of "world Buddhism" by engaging in issues of global concern, and applying more internet technology to promote and share Chinese Buddhist traditions, opening up a new prospect of spirituality for the international society.

DDM Worldwide Contact Information

Major Branches and Liaison Offices in Taiwan Northern Taiwan District

Dharma Drum Mountain World Center for Buddhist Education

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Nung Chan Monastery

Tel: 886-2-2893-3161

No. 89, Lane 65, Daye Rd, Beitou Dist., Taipei City 112028, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

No. 112, Dadu Rd., Beitou Dist., Taipei City 112021, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Culture

No. 276 Guangming Rd, Beitou Dist., Taipei City 112006, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

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Yunlai Monastery

Tel: 886-2-2893-9966 (Administration Center/ Public Buddhist Education Center)

Tel: 886-2-2893-9966 (Dharma Drum Mountain Social Welfare and Charity Foundation)

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No. 99, Sec. 1, Sanhe St., Beitou Dist., Taipei City 112057, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Dharma Drum Degui Academy

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Tel: 886-2-2381-2345 (Dharma Drum Humanities and Social Improvement Foundation)

Tel: 886-2-8978-2110 (Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts Center of Continuing Education)

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Tiannan Monastery

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Baoyun Monastery

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Tel: 886-6-220-6329 or 886-6-220-6339

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The Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies

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Dharma Drum Mountain Social Welfare and Charity Foundation

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Dharma Drum Humanities and Social Improvement Foundation

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Sheng Yen Education Foundation

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Dharma Drum Mountain Fellowship

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Edited and produced by Dharma Drum Mountain Cultural Center

Published on December 2023

This booklet is for free distribution. Your donation will be appreciated.

Postal Transfer Account Number: 19078983

Account Name: Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Foundation

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