

2010 Yin Shun Foundation Summer Dharma Retreat English Program Speakers

Venerable Bhikkhu Bodhi is an American Buddhist monk from New York City. He obtained a BA in philosophy from Brooklyn College and a PhD in philosophy from Claremont Graduate School. He received ordination as a novice monk in Sri Lanka in 1972 and full ordination in 1973, both under Ven. Ananda Maitreya (1896-1998). From 1984 to 2002 he was the editor for the Buddhist Publication Society in Kandy, Sri Lanka. He returned to the U.S. in 2002. He currently resides at Chuang Yen Monastery and teaches there and at Bodhi Monastery. He is the chairman of Yin Shun Foundation and Buddhist Global Relief, an organization dedicated to relief from poverty and hunger. Ven. Bodhi has many important publications to his credit, either as author, translator, or editor, including *The Middle Length Discourses of the Buddha* (Majjhima Nikaya, 1995), *The Connected Discourses of the Buddha* (Samyutta Nikaya, 2000), and *In the Buddha's Words* (2005). He is now in the last stages of a complete translation of the Anguttara Nikaya.

Venerable Guo Chan has been studying under the late Most Venerable Master Sheng Yen, founder of Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association since 1991. She received full ordination as a Buddhist nun of the Chinese Mahayana tradition in 1992. She served as a director of the Anhe branch in downtown Taipei for more than 3 years since 1996. Throughout these years of service, she has demonstrated great flexibility as an open-minded administrator and creativity in developing new programs for Buddhist practice and meditation. She also served as executive secretary to the Venerable Master Sheng Yen for six years since 2000. Venerable Guo Chan participated in many international conferences on the themes of Spiritual Environmentalism, peace, education and youth in the countries of Jordan, USA, Africa, India and Europe. Currently she works with Venerable Chang Ji in the fields of interfaith and NGOs to continue the legacy of the late Venerable Master Sheng Yen in sharing the wisdom and compassion of Buddhism with people around the world.

Venerable Di Hsuan, a Mahayana Buddhist nun in the Chan tradition, has grown up in an environment where Buddhism is profound. She is primarily specialized in Chinese Buddhism, including Buddhist doctrine, history, scripture, and ritual studies. In 1999, she participated in the graduate program at the Yuan-Kuang Buddhist Studies Institute, where she learned Sanskrit, Pali, and Tibetan. Additionally, she studied a great diversity of cultures and religions in the Religion Department of National Cheng-Chi University from 2002 to 2006. Learning tirelessly, she is studying the Ph.D. program in the Department of Religion at the University of Florida. Hoping to improve the world through the practice of Buddhism, Ven. Di Hsuan is guiding the Bodhi Buddhist Association, a nonprofit organization in the United States dedicated to inspiring people to transform difficulties into the path of awakening.

Venerable Chang Ji is an ordained nun in the Chinese Mahayana tradition of Buddhism since 2004. In her role as the International Affairs Special Assistant to the late Most Venerable Master Sheng Yen, founder of Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association, she participated in many international conferences, including the World Economic Forum in New York, World Bank World Faiths and Development Dialogue in Ireland, as well as gatherings at the United Nations headquarters in New York, Thailand and Jordan. Over the years, Venerable Chang Ji has built her knowledge of international development affairs while attending the Earth Charter +5 conference in the Netherlands, Quest for Global Healing in Bali, the United Nations Global Youth Leadership Summits in Japan and New York, all on behalf of Dharma Drum Mountain. She is committed to teaching the tenets of contemplative action to young adults worldwide and has led several workshops and 1 day meditation retreats to this effect. She has been a participant and facilitator in programs organized by the Global Peace Initiative of Women for young leaders in conflict and post-conflict areas from Iraq, Afghanistan, Sudan and Cambodia, and works to spread awareness of Spiritual Environmentalism as taught by her teacher, the late Most Venerable Master Sheng Yen.