My Reflection of the 2012 English Tao Seminar

Ruby Wu

Thanks to the Grace of Heaven and Virtues of the Patriarchs, I was able to attend the 2012 English Tao Seminar held in San Francisco on the weekend before my planned trip back to Taiwan. I am very appreciated for what I have experienced and learned from all the "Good Knowing Advisors" during this seminar. Thanks to everyone who has made this seminar possible. The entire seminar has proceeded in the atmosphere of love and care. I did not expect that I would be touched and moved so much by the sincerity of both staff and speakers.

The Introduction of Each Speaker and the Closing Remark after Each Speech:

We do find the introduction of the speaker in other seminars but I feel "Tao" in the introduction here, that is, "love" and "trust" toward the speaker. Each introducer's personal touch, understanding and kindness have made me want to listen to the speaker. The closing remark helps to conclude what I just heard and compare notes between the one does the closing remark and me.

Guarding Angels (Temple Staff) on Duty:

This is my first time to learn that my ancestors are also attending the seminar with me. I need to keep awake so that they can hear Tao teachings through me clearly. Thanks to the thoughtful "Angels" spotting me and providing me a fresh towel when I dozed off during each speech. (I have to confess and admit that I used the service five times the first day but improved to none on the second day.)

It is a beautiful and touching scene to see the serving staff standing at the entrance of the lecture hall, cafeteria and the stairs greeting you. It is also my first time to witness the scene of two guarding angels bowing to each other while switching posts. You can tell they took their task seriously and sincerely. They put their tiredness aside with a sole purpose of providing their services, taking care of the attendees, so all of us can focus and benefit from the Tao seminar.

A Seminar of Laughter and Tears:

Usually, a seminar attendee expects to gain knowledge not heartfelt joy or tears. However, "Tao" seminar guarantees you all of them. Thanks to each speaker's hard work and mindfulness that each class is a joy to sit in. Thanks to those speakers who share their personal experience good or sad to touch our souls.

I have shed so many tears that I have never had in other seminars. I spoke to several repeated attendees after the seminar and got to know that several of them were there mainly as devoted serving staff. It is also my goal to come back like them again and again if possible.

2012舊金山 英語法會心得

◎ 無為

感謝 天恩師德,2012年在舊金山忠恕道院舉辦的英語法會,正好在後學十月底回台灣的前一個週末舉行。後學非常感恩在法會期間的所見所聞,和由所有「善知識」處學到的寶貴知識和經驗。感謝為法會付出的每一個人。整個法會在充滿「愛」和「關懷」的氣氛下進行。後學完全沒有想到,工作人員和講員們的誠態會深深地感動後學。以下簡單提出幾點心得分享:

溫馨的講員介紹和結論

在會議中,介紹主講者是司空見慣的;但是在此次法會中,每一位擔任介紹的學長都非常用心,「道氣」十足,並且加入「愛」和「信任」的因素,使得學員迫不及待的想聽。專題結束後,另一個人的總結也是很特別的安排,讓與會的學員馬上有機會反觀自照,檢視心得。

負責的守護天使

在這次的法會,後學才知道後學的祖先也會在場。因此後學必須保持清醒,祖先才能透過後學聽到佛法與真理。感謝盡職的「守護天使」(護壇人員)看到打瞌睡的後學,總是遞來醒臉的毛巾。(後學在此必須承認,第一天就用了這個服務達五次之多,第二天則進步到零次。)後學雖然在聽講,眼角仍然可以看到正在彎腰互相鞠躬、換班的「守護天使」。每位護壇人員忘卻疲勞的身軀,以最恭敬及莊嚴的心,細心及體貼地照顧學員,只希望學員們可以專注聆聽,在心性上能有所體悟。而站在講堂、餐廳和樓梯入口的守護天使,亦是法會中一個令人難忘的貼心安排。

充滿感動、笑聲和眼淚的法會

通常参加研討會的人只期待得到知識,而不是由衷的歡喜和喜悅。然而有「道」的法會保證您擁有全部。感謝主講者們的用心,每一堂課都令人如沐春風。更感謝那些真誠分享他/她們無論好的或不幸的個人經驗,因此換得與會學員的感動、眼淚和笑聲。

在此,後學流了從未在別的法會流的眼淚。後學有幸和幾位曾多次與會的前 賢交談,得知有些甚至是回來服務的。如果可能,後學期許自己將來能盡可能回 來參與並且付出綿薄之力。