



Staying with the Buddha and Bodhisattvas of Tien Jing Dao Yuan Temple, Taiwan

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My name is Yola Wong K and I have come from America to learn more about I-Kuan Tao from its origins in Taiwan. Three years ago, I received the Tao in Los Angeles and have been studying it ever since, continuously learning how to effortlessly effectively implement its teachings. However, as a student, I sometimes found it quite challenging to be diligent with myself and desired to have more self-discipline. Thus, when I learned about the Great Tao Foundation of America, Ten Day Temple Tour to Taiwan, I was overjoyed to join, as I love to travel. I also could not resist to seize the opportunity and request for an extended stay to truly practice the Tao, feel the culture, and learn Chinese. I have much appreciation to Master Cheri for catering this request.

I am also thankful to Master Wang and Kathy Chen for providing me the facility to accommodate me for six weeks at Tien Jian Dao Yuan Temple. The temple is very beautiful, the people are very friendly and loving, and the experiences/events memorable. It was a wonderful time for me to witness the essence and cultivation of Tao in Taiwan. This article will provide a glimpse of my experience and highlights on Tao lessons I've gained from Tien Jing Dao Yuan.



台灣天淨道院見習

◎中譯 陳慧芬

後學名叫 Yola Wong K（中文名為永樂），從美國來台灣從源頭了解一貫道。三年前，後學在美國洛杉磯求了道，自此就一直在學習如何輕鬆、有效率地實踐其教導。然而，身為學生，後學有時覺得自己不夠精進，期盼能多點兒自律。因此，當後學得知美國全真道院有回台訪道 10 天的行程，真是滿心歡喜及期待，因為後學也很喜愛旅遊。藉著這難得而殊勝的機緣，後學忍不住要求延長留在台灣的時日，學習道、感受台灣道場的文化及學習中文，非常感謝徐翠好點傳師成全後學這樣的要求。

後學也要感謝王雲瑛點傳師及陳慧芬講師，讓後學能無後顧之憂地在天淨道院待了 6 個星期。天淨道院非常莊嚴，道親們更是親切無比，而且這些經驗和事物都很值得回憶。這是一段美好的日子，讓後學見證道的本質及台灣的修道文化。後學想在接下來的文章裡，與大家分享在天淨道院所見所聞以及很重要的事情的片段。

Temple

Tien Jing Dao Yuan is a public temple located in the countryside of Wuchi near Shalu not far from Taichung City, Taiwan. The weather is very nice, not too hot with cool wind always blowing from the port and not too many mosquitoes. The temple is small in comparison to the grandiose temples that were visited on the ten day tour but larger than the Los Angeles temple. Typically only the master resides in the temple and Tao members take shifts during the day to assist with the maintenance. Thus, I am very grateful for Kathy to voluntarily live with me during my stay. During the day it is quiet and can be peaceful. However, in the evening there are classes such as Adult Filial Piety reading, English reading/singing, Children Filial piety class, Yoga. The main Tao weekly class is on Saturday night, of course in Chinese. There are many activities from weekly classes mentioned above to bi-weekly youth Saturday morning program, to monthly visits to other temples and new Tao member classes. In between it all, they make time to visit Tao member's home to inquire and encourage them in their Tao cultivation with advice to reduce their troubles and to continue strong providing prescriptions such as: invite 10 people to receive Tao, recite sutras 3,600 times, or it's time for you to be vegetarian, all dependent on the state of the individual. Being in such an atmosphere I'm able to view the quintessence of the Buddha and Bodhisattvas of Tien Jing Dao Yuan.

People

With language being a great barrier, I've learnt to understand from the heart and observe with the eyes. At most times, I don't really understand what someone is telling me if Kathy isn't around. Kathy's English is really good as she has done much business and Tao propagating in the Philippines. She has helped me tremendously with translations which I have utmost gratitude. Otherwise, my form of communicating has been like playing charades using body language and hand gestures. The language of the heart surmounts the words of the tongue. The hearts of the Tao community at Tien Jing Dao Yuan from the master to men, women, young adults, teenagers and children have communicated many lessons and lots of love.

佛堂

天淨道院這座公共中堂座落於梧棲區的鄉下，靠近沙鹿，離台中市也不遠。氣候非常好，不會太熱，港口常吹來徐徐涼風，蚊子也不多。中堂的佔地空間比起 10 天訪道時參訪的道場，算小的了，但又比洛杉磯的中堂大。基本上，只有點傳師住在道院，其

他道親則是白天來輪值服務。所以，特別感恩陳慧芬講師，自願陪後學住在道院。白天的時候，道院非常地寧靜，而晚上則有不同的課程，如成人讀經班、英文班，兒童讀經班及瑜珈等。主要的道學課程則是在每週六的晚上，當然是中文班。還有許許多多上述班次舉辦的活動，及兩週一次的週六早上的青年班、每月到其它中堂參訪、新道親班等。在閒暇之餘，也會去拜訪道親，善言鼓勵道親勤修，以減少碰到困境，和持續積極提供解決方法，如：度眾（10 眾）、多持誦經典（3,600 遍），或者立清口愿，讓每位道親自行量力而為。在這樣的氛圍當中，後學能夠體會天淨道院所展現之仙佛菩薩的精神。

當地人

由於語言的隔閡很大，後學只能用心靈體會及用眼睛來觀察。大部份的時間，如果陳慧芬講師不在後學身邊時，後學真的不清楚大家在跟後學說什麼。因為工作上及到國外（菲律賓）開荒的緣故，陳講師的英文很好；她當翻譯，真的幫了後學很大的忙，後學心中十分地感激；不然的話，後學的溝通方式就像猜謎遊戲般地，得用肢體語言及手勢來表達。心靈的語言超越口說的溝通，天淨道院的道親，從點傳師、乾道、坤道成人、青年、青少年，還有小孩們，都傳達給後學許多的道理及愛心。



▲ Yola 在文物館國外道場分佈圖中，指著自己的國家貝里斯。

Master Wang dedicated his life to the Tao mission, he is not married nor does he have any children. However, he has a large family of ten siblings with expanding families who all contribute greatly with the temple activities. Master's mother has the strongest faith, although blind and elderly, she makes her way to worship & kowtow daily. His sisters are great bodhisattvas who also worship 1000 or more kowtows morning, noon and night. They are always assisting with the rituals and upkeep of the temple. The master has been the person that established the temple for the public but I can see that it's through the combined efforts of his wonderful family that helps it to flourish. The public community that the temples serves in turns become a part of the family. They have all welcomed me with warm smiles and many lessons. These lessons range from games and one word Chinese vocabulary with the children, dancing and Chinese conversation with the teenagers, cooking and reading Chinese with the adults, to cleaning and Chinese charades with the seniors. However, the most significant people of my stay at the temple were Kathy and Master Wang.

Master embodies the Buddha at times with his jovial character encouraging one to smile and bring out our childlike essence. Kathy is like a Bodhisattva never ceasing an opportunity to speak of Tao and encouraging all, from young to old and all in between to worship (baibai) or visit the temple. She provides great information and resources to everyone who crosses her path. I have learned a lot from her about I-Kuan Tao: history, rituals, offerings, and uplifting others.



▲ 回台參加老前人成道五週年感恩追思會。

王雲瑛點傳師奉獻了他的一生，承擔道的使命；他沒結婚也沒有子女，然而，他有個大家族，十個兄弟姐妹都參與道場的修辦。點傳師的母親——阿嬤，道心堅定，雖然眼睛視力不好，年紀也大，但她依然每天都設法來道院獻香叩頭；點傳師的姐妹們有如菩薩般地，每天早、午、晚都叩頭 1,000 下或更多，她們也常常協助禮節以及維護中堂。點傳師是這公共中堂的創辦人，但後學可以了解到也是因為他有這麼棒的家人共同協助、幫忙，道務才如此宏展，這裡的道親也因此成為這家庭的一份子；他們都非常歡迎後學，給後學很多溫暖的微笑及教導。教導範圍之廣，從與小朋友們的遊戲和單一個中文字的對話、和青少年們一起跳舞與中文會話、與廚師媽媽們一起做料理、閱讀中文，也跟阿公、阿媽們一起打掃和玩猜字遊戲。無論如何，後學在天淨道院的這段時間裡，最重要的人是王點傳師及陳講師了。

王點傳師不時如同仙佛般，以他歡樂的個性鼓勵著大家微笑並展現赤子之心。陳講師如同菩薩般，不放棄任何可以傳道度眾的機會，無論是青年人或年長者，她都一直鼓勵大家來禮拜仙佛，或到道院來參訪；對所有她所遇上的人，她都會提供大量的訊息和資源。後學在她身上學習到很多：一貫道的歷史、禮節及獻供，還有成全別人。



▲ 由點傳師帶領遊覽三峽老街。

Events

Not only the individuals associated with the temple are kind-hearted and welcoming but also those outside of the Tao society display genuine warm affection which I've viewed in different scenarios. The friendliness of Taiwanese people and culture reflect the essence of the Tao. I am able to understand why the Tao migrated from China and establish its origins of I-Kuan Tao practice in Taiwan.

Outings experiencing the culture have been wonderful encounters for me to learn and see many aspects of the Tao in Taiwanese culture. For example, from Tai Chi and Calligraphy be soft, slow and relax; from Toastmasters meetings and Tao classes (shang ke) organize and practice makes the implementation and nerves of speaking in front of an audience young/old not so bad; from Administrative government office to Engineering field work truly utilizing college degree, passing by, or just possessing it for a paycheck--the young adult dilemmas are the same across the seas; from traditional Chinese medicine, Master who sees the invisible and Chiropractor to prescriptions, vows and adjustments, the willingness of belief, commitment and practice; from farm life to city life the happiness preference of simplicity or complexity, means and ideals of independence or dependence on land and elements versus man and demands/society; from individual tutoring to summer camp extravaganza the quiet discipline of one to one versus the hip hop horary of many diligence to distractions; from celebrations of birthdays to lamentations of brother and fathers, here today gone tomorrow, joys and sorrows, cycles of life; from hiking the mountain for the sunrise to strolling the shores for the sunset, the large stones to mount your feet on to the small pebbles between your toes, the great mysteries and wonders encompassing the Tao which is everywhere. The amazing synchronization occurs when you're in alignment, the boomerang of a thought/speak it and later see how it revealed. Each one of these can be its own story so this has just been a highlight of my impressions.

Taiwan

Overall, Taiwan has beautiful places to visit, feels safe, and incorporates cleanliness and greenery. All in all, the warm smiles and welcoming hospitality of the people has made the tourism slogan "Taiwan touch your heart" to be true for me. In addition, the phenomenal experience at Tien Jing Dao Yuan of the temple, people, and events has truly touched my soul illuminating the Tao essence--we all have within us.

活動

不只是道場上的每位道親們都很友善，後學觀察到道場以外的人，在不同狀況下也給人真誠的溫暖。台灣人的友善及文化反映了道的本質，後學更能了解為何大道從大陸轉移到台灣，而能在此立基並發展。

外出參訪的經驗也讓後學看到了台灣文化之中多面向的道。像是學習太極拳及書法的溫柔、緩慢及放鬆；或是參與國際英文演講會及道場班程（上課）的準備，學習在大眾面前分享心得時不要緊張；抑或從政府管理部門及到土木工地現場的學以致用、學非所用、或是只為了薪水度日

——年輕人的困境中西皆然；從能看到無形的傳統中醫師兼整脊師所開的處方，到誓願與修行，堅信，承諾與踐行；從農村生活到都市生活，見到對幸福的偏好——是單純或複雜、是依賴土地及自然元素的方式抑或仰賴人及社會的方式；從一對一家教到夏令營的喧鬧，體驗到安靜的一對一訓練對比於長時間的嘻哈喧鬧與分心；從慶祝生日到父兄死別的哀歌唱誦，體會到無常變化之快速，生活中的歡笑和悲傷循環不已；從爬山健行觀日出到海邊散步看日落，從站上大石頭到踩著腳趾邊的小碎石，無所不在的道，周遭充滿奧秘及驚奇。這天人合一的法喜，令人讚嘆。每一項都有說不完的故事，這些是後學印象較深刻的片段。

台灣

整體而言，台灣有很多美麗的景點可看，治安不錯，而且環境清潔並有綠化。總而言之，人們的溫暖微笑及熱情好客，把台灣觀光局的口號——「台灣感動您的心」真實無遺地表露出來了。此外，在天淨道院的日子裡，每位道親、每個活動、每個課程的殊勝體驗，著實地感動著後學，因為展現出每個人身上都有的：道的本質。



▲和美國道親一起到九份山城遊覽。