

The background features several realistic water droplets of various sizes, some clustered in the top-left and bottom-right corners, and others scattered across the page. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

Weekly Tao Spiritual Discussion Holy Teachings

Pu-Guang Temple, Plano TX
De-Guang Temple, Irvine CA
August 29th 2020

onegreatdao.org

Four Great Books in Confucius Holy Teaching Important for Our Spiritual Cultivation

Confucius Analects

Book of Great Learning

Doctrine of the Mean

Book of Mencius



Avalokiteśvara or **Padmapani** (English: /ˌʌvələʊkiˈteɪʃvərə/ UV-əl-oh-kih-TAY-shvər-ə; is a bodhisattva who embodies the compassion for all sentient beings.

This bodhisattva is variably depicted, described and portrayed in different cultures as either male or female.

Known in Japan as **Kanzeon** or **Kannon in Japan**.

In Tibet, known as Chenrezig in Tibet.

Known as Jana Baha Dyah, Karunamaya, Seto Machindranath in Nepal.

In Chinese Buddhism, Avalokiteśvara has evolved into the somewhat different female figure **Guanyin**, 觀自在菩薩, 觀世音菩薩 or 觀音菩薩 or 觀音菩薩 (Pinyin: *Guānzìzài Púsà*, *Guānshìyīn Púsà* or *Guānyīn Púsà*).

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One Life Journey of Guanyin Bodhisattva 觀世音菩薩



A long time ago, a king was longing for a baby boy, after having two beautiful daughters.

During pregnancy, the queen developed and sustained a strong liking and consumption of all non-meat diet.

On the birthday of the third child, there were many unusual joyous gatherings and sounds from the creatures in nature at the palace. Soon after, a baby girl was born. The king named the baby girl Miao Shan.

After, as the king and queen was hosting an event celebrating the birth of Miao Shan, Miao Shan started crying continuously.

An elder monk then appeared and advised the king and queen that this baby girl has descended from heaven with a mission to help ease and relieve pain and suffering for all. Her crying represents her sorrow for all the animals who had been sacrificed to satisfy people's cravings, in the name of her birthday.

The elder monk then placed his hand gently on the head of Miao Shan, who stopped crying miraculously.

Years later after the queen passed away, the king wanted to marry them off to suitable families. Yet Miao Shan refused as she wanted to become a Buddhist nun to perfect herself through spiritual cultivation to bring salvation to others. Unsympathetic, the king punished her by ordering her to hard labor around the palace.

One Life Journey of Guanyin Bodhisattva 觀世音菩薩



The king wanted to change Miao Shan's heart through the punishment and hard labor, thinking that this would do the trick. To his surprise, Miao Shan calmly accepted the punishment and performed the hard labor as requested daily with no complaints.

Miao Shan reminded herself that as I am determined to cultivate Tao spiritually, I must endure all the pain and suffering to mature my mindset and develop a sense of understanding, empathy, and tolerance to help ease and relieve others' pain & suffering.

With her unwavering determination and positive attitude, others were moved by her and started helping her quietly. This freed up time for Miao Shan to study and chant sutras.

After a while, her two older sisters convinced the king to grant Miao Shan her wish, so she could advance in her spiritual cultivation journey. Reluctantly, the king agreed, located and renovated a temple from the palace, and personally visited the temple to ensure its readiness condition post renovation.

After the temple renovation was completed, the king summoned Miao Shan and shared with her the arrangement. The next day, Miao Shan stopped by to thank the king, express her sorrow for not being a filial daughter to stay by his side, and wish the king and the kingdom to live in peace, longevity, and prosperity with the heavenly blessings.

On June 19th, Miao Shan departed for the temple to begin her journey as a Buddhist nun. As she left the palace, her two older sisters stopped by, on behalf of the king, and Miao Shan did 9 deep bows in the direction of the palace to express her gratitude.

One Life Journey of Guanyin Bodhisattva 觀世音菩薩



Years passed, the king became deathly ill. An old monk visiting the kingdom told him, “To be cured, you must ingest a potion distilled from the arms and eyes of one who is willing to give them freely.”

Desperate, the king implored his older daughters, who were unwilling to help. The monk offered, “On top of Fragrant Mountain lives a bodhisattva of compassion. Send a messenger to her to plead for deliverance.”

This wandering monk proved to be none other than a transformation of Miao Shan.

After years of arduous spiritual practice, she had become a bodhisattva. Having heard of her father’s trouble, she morphed into the monk to advise the king.

Then at the temple, she received her father’s messenger in her true form and told him, “This illness is punishment for his past sins. But as his daughter, it is my filial duty to help.” She then removed her eyes and severed her arms for the messenger to take back.

Back in the kingdom, the old monk reappeared to concoct the magical elixir that gave the king a miraculous recovery.

The king was extremely grateful toward the monk, who simply replied: “Best thank the one who made this sacrifice for you.”

So the king traveled to Fragrant Mountain. There, he was shocked to see his daughter presiding over hundreds of followers, and without arms and eyes! Tears fell from his eyes as he came to realize all she must have suffered. However, Miao Shan received him benevolently, and bade him to live with compassion and practice spiritual cultivation. Then, a flash of light engulfed them all as she transformed into the divine image of a bodhisattva with eyes and arms restored.

Sharing of Reflections





康誥曰 克明德 Sage teaching: Brighten and purify own True Self.

大甲曰 顧諟天之明命 Sage teaching: Constantly contemplate, safeguard, and nurture own True Self, a gift from Heavenly Mother.

帝典曰 克明峻德 Sage teaching: Carry out actions while aligned with own True Self (to illustrate and inspire others).

皆自明也 These passages all show how a sage brighten and purify own True Self.

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Deeper Dive

From: Chou Dynasty (1046 – 249BC)
Advice from Emperor Wu to his younger brother, to
emulate Emperor Wen (father of Emperor Wu) to help
rule a precinct in the kingdom.

From: Shang Dynasty (1600 – 1046BC)
Advice from Founder of Shang Dynasty, 成湯, to the son,
大甲, from his first wife. 大甲 lost his way due to lustful
desires and was secluded to repent and re-discover his
True Self for 3 years before returning to kingdom.

Before formation of dynasties in the Middle Kingdom.
Advice from Emperor Yao to Emperor Shun to be an
emperor with virtue and carry out actions in alignment
with his virtuous True Self to guide his constituents onto a
virtuous path for peace and prosperity in the kingdom.

Deeper Dive

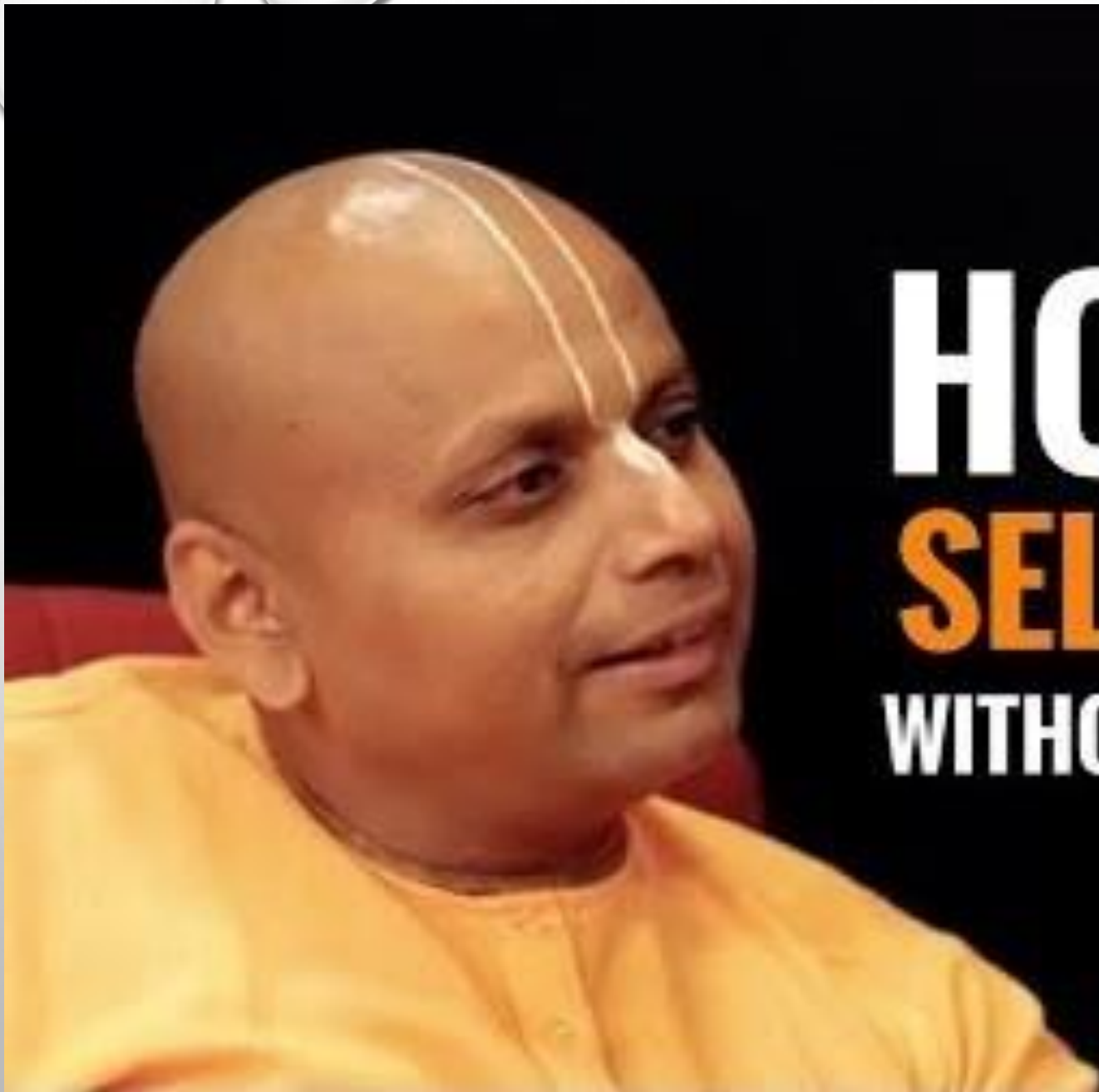
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Great responsibilities in each of us, with life lessons based on virtuous and sage teachings. Be the best version of myself.



HOW TO BE **SELF-CONFIDENT** WITHOUT BEING **ARROGANT?**

Gaur Gopal Das

Sharing Perspectives

大甲曰 顧諟天之明命 Sage
teaching: Constantly contemplate,
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**Daily Bows. Three Sacred Treasures. Advance virtuous learning.
Commit to change, as life is too short and impermanent.**



What I learnt from my mistake!

Gaur Gopal Das

Sharing Perspectives

Deeper Dive

Before formation of dynasties in the Middle Kingdom. Advice from Emperor Yao to Emperor Shun to be an emperor with virtue and carry out actions in alignment with his virtuous True Self to guide his constituents onto a virtuous path for peace and prosperity in the kingdom.

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Improved Harmony in Five Bonds (husband/wife, parents/children, siblings, rules/followers, and friends) based on Tao teachings.



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*THE JOURNEY OF TAO CULTIVATION IS OPEN TO ALL.
MAY YOUR JOURNEY BE FILLED WITH PEACE,
WISDOM, COMPASSION, AND HAPPINESS.*