

寂晃法師：從傳統向現代轉折的馬來西亞漢傳佛教

南來僧 *

杜忠全

摘要

寂晃法師（1920-2011）是馬來西亞佛教第一代南來漢僧，他曾任馬來西亞佛教總會主席（1995-2004），是馬來西亞佛教贈醫施藥的重要推手；他本身也是一代醫僧，南來之後學醫有成，即終其一生都投入贈醫施藥事業，也促成馬來西亞佛教全國組織的馬來西亞佛教總會成立贈醫施藥部門，對社會下層群體長期予以義務性的醫療服務。然而，寂晃法師作為馬來西亞漢傳佛教的第一代南來僧，卻不是醫僧南來，而是南來之後在落腳的新地頭經歷人生轉折，才成為一名醫僧，後來更成為馬來西亞佛教總會的主席，領導漢傳佛教面向國家體制與社會機制的挑戰。南來之前的寂晃法師，無論是文化學習還是佛教實踐的養成，都缺乏現代性；南來之後的轉折，卻展現了對現代社會的因應與實踐。本文從寂晃法師一生的經歷與行踐，來探討其從傳統走向現代的轉折。

關鍵詞：寂晃法師、贈醫施藥、馬來西亞佛教總會、醫僧、漢傳佛教現代化

杜忠全，馬來西亞拉曼大學中文系助理教授兼金寶校區系主任。

* 本文為蔣經國學術交流基金會所贊助之「亞洲跨文化視角下的馬來亞第一代南來佛門人物群像」研究計劃部分成果。

Venerable Chek Huang: The Chinese Monk Who Transformed from Traditional to Modernization in Malay(si)an

Toh Teong Chuan

Abstract

Venerable Seck Chek Huang (1920-2011) was the first generation Chinese monk migrated from China to Malay(si)a and served as the president of Malaysian Buddhist Association from 1995 to 2004. He was also a prominent advocate for Buddhist medical aid, dedicating his life to providing medical services to the underprivileged. Despite not being a medical monk when he first arrived in Malaysia, Venerable Seck Chek Huang pursued medical studies and became a medical monk, leading to the establishment of the medical aid department in the Malaysian Buddhist Association. He provided voluntary medical services to the marginalized communities for a long period of time. As the first generation Chinese monk in Malaysia, Venerable Seck Chek Huang faced challenges in adapting to the local society, but he successfully navigated the challenges and became a prominent figure in the Malaysian Buddhist community. This article explores how Venerable Seck Chek Huang's life experiences and practice reflect his transition from tradition to modernity, particularly in his response to the challenges posed by the national and social systems. Prior to coming to Malaysia, Venerable Seck Chek Huang lacked exposure to modern culture and Buddhist practices. However, through his experiences in Malaysia, he demonstrated his ability to adapt to modern society and practices while still upholding the traditions of Buddhism.

Keywords: Venerable Seck Chek Huang, Buddhist medical aid, Malaysia Buddhist Association, Medical Monk, Modernization of Chinese Buddhist