

CITATION FOR
HONORARY FELLOW



榮 譽 院 士 讚 辭

The Venerable Kuan Yun, BBS, MH



Honorary Fellow

Mr Chairman of the Council,

It is my great honour to present the Venerable Kuan Yun for the award of Honorary Fellow.

Buddhism often teaches: “Compassion brings joy; mercy alleviates suffering.” The Venerable Kuan Yun, President of the Hong Kong Buddhist Association and Abbot of Western Monastery, has been a tireless advocate for the propagation of Buddhist teachings. He has embodied the Buddha’s spirit of compassion and service to the world, whilst dedicating himself to the betterment of society and the welfare of all. His enthusiastic involvement in education and social welfare has brought immeasurable blessings to the people of Hong Kong.

Born in the Liaoning Province in northeastern China, the Venerable Kuan Yun was deeply influenced by his devout Buddhist mother, from whom he learned the compassionate and merciful nature of the Buddha. In 1983, he moved south to Hong Kong, where he completed his undergraduate and master’s degrees at Hong Kong Buddhist College (now Hong Kong Nang Yan College of Higher Education), and is currently pursuing doctoral studies. He was ordained as a monk and became the 46th lineage holder of the Tiantai School’s teachings and practices in 1986. The Venerable Kuan Yun studied Buddhism under his revered teacher, and assisted in the development of the Western Monastery in Hong Kong, where he was appointed as the Supervisor in 1993, before succeeding the Venerable Wing Sing as Abbot of Western Monastery in 2007.

The Venerable Wing Sing once said, “Never forget that many people in this world are suffering.” These words profoundly impacted the Venerable Kuan Yun and became his guiding principle. The monastery under his care has always provided hot meals to ensure no one goes hungry, while beds and bedding are readily available for wandering monks in need of shelter. He firmly believes that monks who cultivate good intentions, speak kindly and perform good deeds can positively impact lives and transform society.

In order to revitalise Buddhism, the Venerable Kuan Yun has actively participated in the restoration of temples across China and been committed to nurturing monastic talent. In 2006, he and the Venerable Wing Sing accepted an invitation from the Religious Affairs Bureau of Chaoyang City, Liaoning Province and the Chaoyang Museum to manage the Youshun Temple. They initiated restoration works and converted the Dharma Building to the west of the temple into a Buddhist college. In collaboration with Liaoning University, they established the Yongxing Buddhist Research Centre and Study Institute, which became the first Buddhist institution in China recognised by the Ministry of Education. To date, it has trained over 200 undergraduate monastic students and serves as a cradle for Buddhist talent.

Mindful of the importance of knowledge in societal development and ideological dissemination, the Venerable Kuan Yun has funded the construction of ‘Hope Schools’ in Guizhou Province, Inner Mongolia, and the city of Shenyang, among others, over the years. He also founded the Kuan Yun Senior Secondary School in his hometown of Kazuo County, offering quality education and transforming the lives of countless students. In Hong Kong, he has served as the Supervisor of Tsz Ching Estate Bodhi Siksa Kindergarten and Buddhist Wong Wan Tin College. He also founded the Guanyin Lecture Hall, Puxian Hall, and the Bodhi Siksa Cultural and Educational Centre, making significant contributions to the popularisation of Buddhist teachings.

In 2023, the Venerable Kuan Yun initiated the establishment of the Hong Kong Tung Lum Pure Land Institute, to provide a dedicated space for local devotees to study Pure Land Buddhism and to

carry forward the teachings and spirit of Master Yin Guang. To further promote Buddhist research, he spearheaded the establishment of the Centre for Buddhist Studies at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, launching high-quality academic work and inspiring understanding of Buddhism through education.

Whilst promoting Buddhist teachings and dedicating himself to education, the Venerable Kuan Yun remains deeply concerned for the underprivileged, especially the elderly and related care services. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he organised multiple Epidemic Relief blessing ceremonies, mobilising over a thousand monks. Saddened by the loneliness of elderly individuals who eventually passed away from the virus, he launched the Solitude Care Project, arranging regular visits by monks and volunteers to offer comfort and support to those living alone. He also initiated the Bodhi Online hotline to provide pandemic-related information and emotional and spiritual support to people, especially seniors, struggling with depression, anxiety or suicidal thoughts. Post-pandemic, the hotline has focused on suicide prevention and grief counselling, continuing its service to the community. Through his selfless compassion, the Venerable Kuan Yun has demonstrated his profound commitment to Hong Kong society and revealed the healing power of Buddhism.

The Venerable Kuan Yun recognises the need for Buddhist teachings and practices to evolve with the times. He often says that monks cannot remain detached from worldly affairs. Embracing technology, he has effectively disseminated Buddhist teachings online, was among the first generation of bloggers, and has been active on such platforms as Sina and Tencent. Since 2015, he has produced online videos introducing fundamental Buddhist teachings and classical doctrines. In 2021, he participated in the filming of the *Dialogue with Masters and Buddhism and Life Wisdom* series, which were well received by the public. Last year, he was invited by The Chinese University of Hong Kong to engage in dialogues from a Buddhist perspective on issues such as euthanasia, IVF, and the ethics of killing, offering profound insights.

The Venerable Kuan Yun holds numerous public roles. He has served as a member of the 12th to 14th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conferences, member of the China Committee on Religion and Peace, and advisor to the Chinese Foundation for Prevention of STDs and AIDS. He is also Abbot of Youshun Temple in Chaoyang, Liaoning Province; Abbot of Bodhi Siksa Monastery in Australia, President of the Hong Kong Bodhi Siksa Society; Abbot of Tung Lum Nieh Fah Tong, the Guanyin Lecture Hall and Puxian Hall; Director of Tung Lum Buddhist Aged Home; Superintendent of the Hong Kong Bodhi Siksa Society, Ltd. Care & Attention Home for the Aged; and President of the Hong Kong Bodhi Siksa Publishing House.

Over the years, the Venerable Kuan Yun has authored several influential works, including *The Collection of Causes and Conditions in the World*, *The Ethical Teachings of the Good Life Sutra and the Path to a Happy Family*, and *The Buddha's Teachings on the Stars and the Art of Living*. His writings are concise yet profound, significantly contributing to the modern propagation of Buddhist thought.

The Venerable Kuan Yun's outstanding achievements in education and humanitarian care have earned him widespread acclaim. In 2007, he was awarded the Outstanding Contribution to Chinese Charity Award and named a Chinese Charity Figure. In 2023, he received the Compassion Award from the Hong Kong & Macau Taiwanese Charity Fund. In July 2025, he was awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the Chief Executive of Hong Kong SAR, in recognition of his dedication to promoting Buddhism and his involvement in charitable initiatives and educational services.

Mr Chairman, the Venerable Kuan Yun has long devoted himself to advancing education, caring for society, and promoting Buddhist teachings. With a heart full of compassion, he has served the people of Hong Kong. On behalf of The Education University of Hong Kong, I proudly present to you the Venerable Kuan Yun for the award of Honorary Fellow.