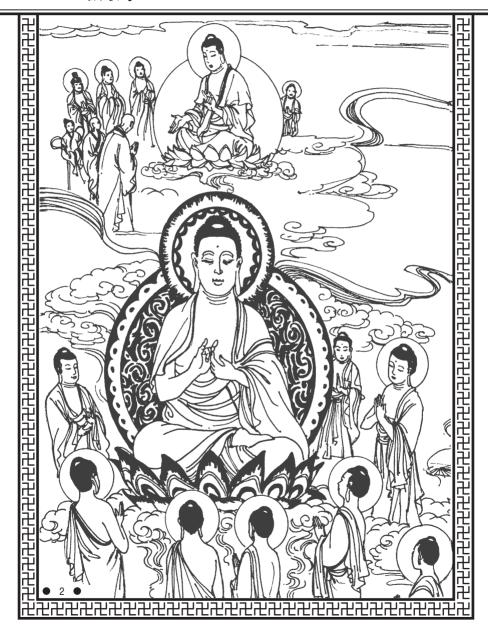
观罗第主

● 孙果森 居士●

THE LAND OF ULTIMATE BLISS

Compiled By:

SOON GUO SEN





一声佛号不离口, 阿弥陀佛常随身。

诸位同修:

「阿弥陀佛」!

恳请大家慈心诚念:

「南无阿弥陀佛」

由一声, 乃至: 百声、千万、万声……

愿以此念佛功德,

作为阅读本书之开场白。

MAY I ALWAYS CALL UPON

THE NAME OF AMITABHA BUDDHA,

AND MAY AMITABHA BUDDHA ALWAYS BE WITH ME

Dear Cultivators Of The Way,

AMITABHA BUDDHA,

Bring Forth The Mind Of Kindness, Be Sincerely Mindful Of The Buddha,

NAMO AMITABHA BUDDHA.

Say The Name Amitabha Buddha For Once,

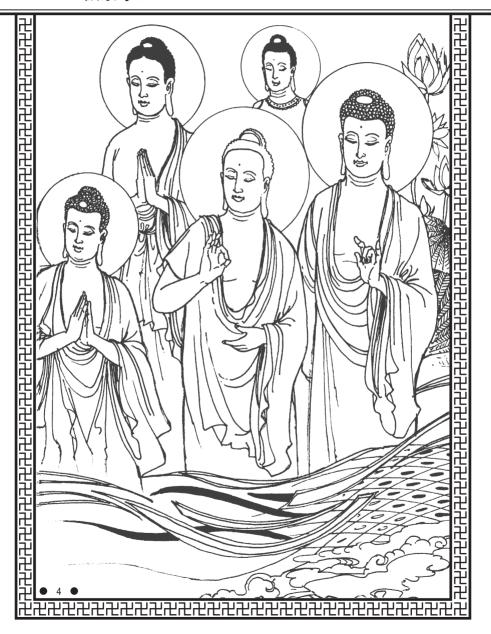
Until Hundreds, Thousands and Millions Of Times

May The Merits And Virtues Accrued

From The Mindfulness Of Amitabha Buddha,

Be The Opening Verse For The Reading Of This Book.

• 3



阿弥陀佛

是伟大称号

河弥陀佛历经多生多劫所修的的四十八大愿,现已成了大愿王、佛王、法王、功德王!

释迦牟尼佛说法四十九年,说净土究竟无上大法 最精髓的一句就是:"**南无阿弥陀佛**"。是一句伟大的称 号!

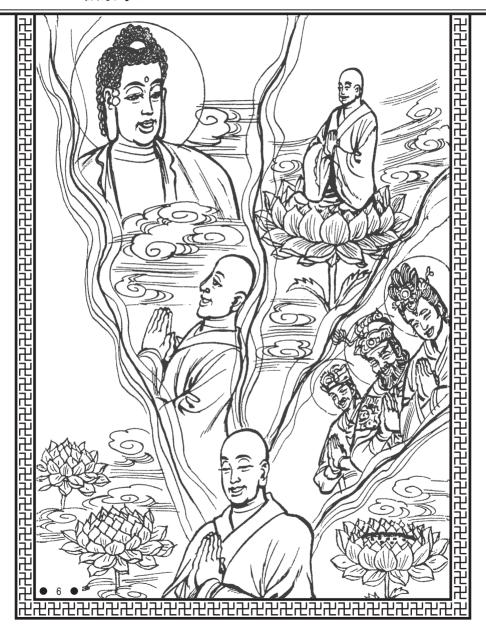
这一句佛号,是了生脱死的大手印! 这一句佛号,具足一切圆满福德,一切深妙智慧,佛法大海,是究竟的无上大法!

至诚念一句:"南无阿弥陀佛"佛号,能消除八十亿劫生死重罪。佛法八万四千法门,以"阿弥陀佛"为第一!

念一句佛号,包含了一切功德的果实:三藏十二部经论的总藏心、六度万行、禅门一千七百则公案、一切戒律、八万四千恒河沙数、千千万万的修行法门,都为这一句佛号所摄!

念佛一法,乃佛教总持法门。上至文殊、普贤; 下根至五逆十恶,地狱众生;甚至临终十念一念,皆 得往生;是方便中之方便,究竟中之究竟,万修万人 去!

● 5 **●**

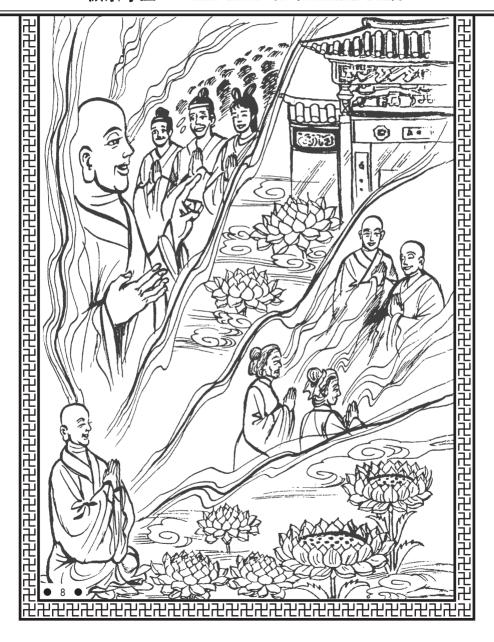




AMITABHA BUDDHA IS THE GREAT NAME

Amitabha Buddha cultivated the Forty-eight Great vows for many lives in many kalpas. Presently He is known as The King of Great Vows, The Buddha King, the Dharma King and The King of Merits and Virtues!

Sakyamuni Buddha had spoken The Dharma for forty-nine years. When He taught us the Pure Land Dharma, He told us to recite Amitabha Buddha's Name, the Great Name that is Ultimate. The Name is the Unsurpassed Dharma, the marrow of Buddhism.



The Buddha's Name is the Great Seal which liberates living beings from the Samsara of Birth and Death. The Buddha's Name is replete with Perfect Blessings and Virtues, the deep and wonderful wisdom, the Sea-like Buddha Dharma. It is the ultimate, unsurpassed, wonderful Great Dharma!

By sincerely reciting Amitabha Buddha's

By sincerely reciting Amitabha Buddha's Name once, it helps us to eradicate heavy offences in eighty billions kalpas of birth and death. Among the eighty-four thousand Dharma Doors, Amitabha Buddha is the foremost!

The Buddha's Name encompasses the fruits of all merits and virtues, the central teaching of the Tripitaka and the twelve cannons of Sutras, the six Paramitas and the millions of myriad practices, the seventeen hundred discussion of the Chan-School, and all the precepts. Indeed the Buddha's Name gathers in the eighty-four thousand Ganges Sands Dharma Doors Practice.

 H_{i}

The Buddha Recitation Dharma is the Dharma Door of Dharanis in Buddhism. pervasive Dharma Door is practised by Great Bodhisattvas such as Manjushri Bodhisattva and the Universal Worthy Bodhisattva. It also gathers in the living beings of inferior roots who have committed the Five Rebellious Acts and the Ten evil deeds, the beings of the Hells. Even people who can recite the Name once or ten times on their deathbed will attain a rebirth in the Pure Land. So, it is the most convenient Dharma among the expediency, the Ultimate practice amidst the ultimate Dharmas. If millions of people practise this Dharma Door, all of them will be certain of a rebirth!

• 9



阿弥陀佛的伟大功德●

河弥陀佛成佛迄今,已有十个大劫(一大劫=1343-840-000年)。

了。你院佛于无量劫前发的四十八大暂愿,愿愿殊胜,已愿愿现实!现在,阿弥陀佛将他无量劫所累积的功德,以他的殊胜愿力,他可以把无量劫所累积的功德转让给信奉他、念诵他名字的人,使到念他的人个个都能得到解脱,往生阿弥陀佛净土的「极乐世界」!

现在,念一句「阿弥陀佛」佛号,是当今修净土者的一句伟大称号了。

THE GREAT MERITS AND VIRTUES OF AMITABHA BUDDHA

Amitabha Buddha has already accomplished Buddhahood for ten great kalpas. (1 great kalpa = 1343,840,000 years)

Immeasurable kalpas ago, Amitabha Buddha made his forty-eight great vows. All are supremely wonderful. And all have been fully accomplished. Now, on the supreme strength of great vows, he transfers all his accumulated merits and virtues of immeasurable kalpas to those who believe in him, who are mindful of him or who recite his Name so that they will be reborn in the Amitabha Pure Land of Ultimate Bliss!

The recitation of **Amitabha Buddha's Name** is therefore the path to be taken by all Pure Land cultivators!



●佛陀的启示●

一千年前,释迦牟尼佛曾经启示我们:如何解决「生」、「老」、「病」、「死」的苦恼,达到园满自在的心智。佛陀讲了四十九年的经,告诉我们解除烦恼的八万四千法门,又指示我们一条简易而且稳当的方便法门,这个法门就是「净土法门」。

要我们对佛和净土有足够的信心和正确的认识,透过念佛、诵经、行善和迥向等方式,我们便能够「了生脱死」,证得无上的智慧。

我们现在居住在这个五浊恶世的世界(沙婆世界)人生不如意的事十占八九;我们时常要面对各种污染、疾病、烦恼痛苦……有许许多多逆缘使我们身心不安和退失善念。

我们往生「极乐净土」之后,再接受佛菩萨的教化,到时人格升华和智慧成就以后,再回到「娑婆世界」来度化苦难的众生,那就容易得多了。

至J「极乐净土」的方法很简单:只要发愿往生净土,一生中持一句「阿弥陀佛」佛号,随时随地诚恳的念就行了。到时,「极乐净土」就会长出一朵属于我们托生的「莲花」。



● THE BUDDHA'S TEACHING ●

Three thousand years ago, Sakyamuni Buddha had already taught us the way to end the sufferings of birth, old age, sickness and death so as to attain a state of mind that is perfect and always at ease. The Buddha proclaimed The Sutras for forty-nine years and told us of the eighty-four thousand Dharma Doors to eradicate afflictions. Moreover He also instructed us to practise the earliest and the surest Dharma Door to attain Buddhahood. This is the Pure Land Dharma Door.

If we have genuine faith and proper understanding in The Buddha and the Pure Land Dharma Door, we can certify to the Unsurpassed wisdom by reciting The Buddha's Name, recite the sutras, cultivate wholesome deeds, transfer the merits and other practices in order to be liberated from birth and death.

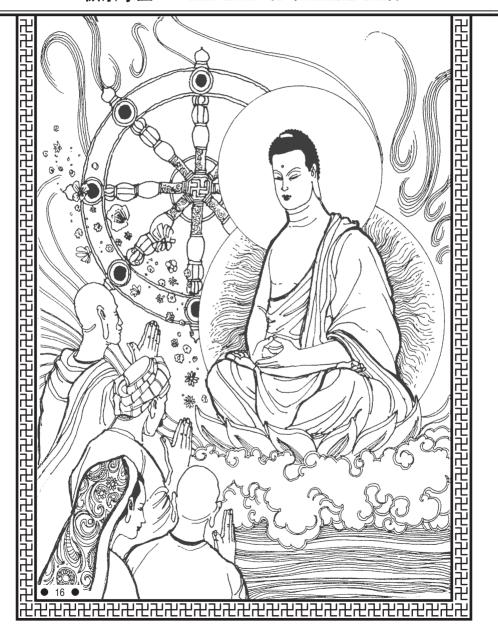
In this Evil World of five Turbidities (The Saha World) which we are living now, there are many unfortunate ciruimstances which often surround us. We have to face all kinds of defilement, sickness, affliction, pain and many other adverse conditions. We find it very difficult to maintain a calm composure and very often we may retreat from wholesome thoughts.

So The Buddha introduced us to this supreme and adorned World of Ultimate Bliss which is free from defilements. In this pure environment, our body and mind will not be afflicted and there is no hindrance to cultivating the Path.

After arriving at the World of Ultimate Bliss, we can learn from The Buddha and Bodhisattvas so as to attain a high level of morality and perfect our wisdom. Then we can return to the Saha World to teach and transform all suffering living beings with less difficulties.

It is very easy to go to The World of Ultimate Bliss. As long as we can bring forth genuine faith and vow to attain a rebirth in the Pure Land, to recite The Name of Amitabha Buddha throughout our life time and to recite it sincerely wherever we may be, then a lotus which will enable us to gain a rebirth will grow in the World of Ultimate Bliss.

15

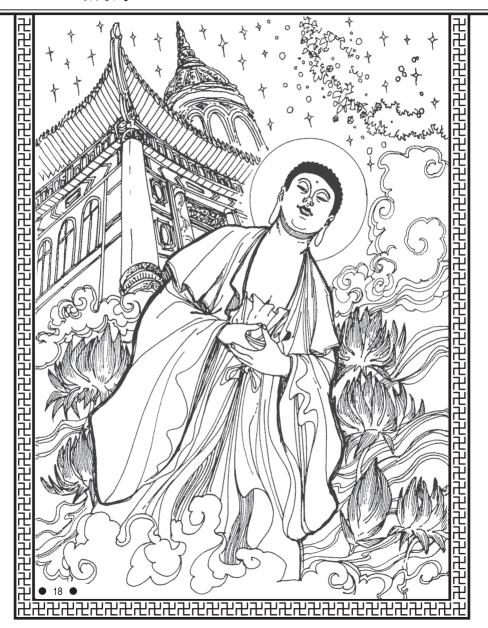


本无色累 ● 现土引众

「人地以上的菩萨,就永远脱离物质的累赘,智慧的心体独立存在,神变无穷,妙用无方,还需要土地干什么?更何况证得无上智慧的佛陀呢?佛陀其实没有土地;而说他有土,是因为众生理解力差、迷惑又深,所以才以幸福快乐的境界,去引导他们行善。这是圣人为了接物而设立的方便法门!」(+四科净土钞)

THE BUDDHA IS NOT BURDENED BY FORMS HE ONLY REVEALS THE LAND TO GUIDE AND CROSS OVER LIVING BEINGS

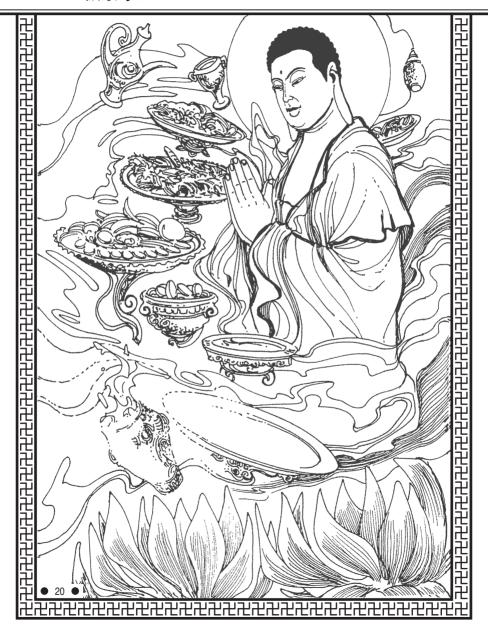
The Bodhisattvas of The Eight Ground will forever be free from the burden of material bondage. They are endowed with the original pure mind of wisdom and their spiritual power is inconceivable. Hence they have endless expedient skills-in-means. So, what is the point of having a Land? What is more than The Buddha who has certified to the unsurpassed Wisdom? Much less does He need a Land to dwell on. In actuality the Buddha does not need a Land. But when we talk about His Land. this is because of the shallow understanding of living beings who are deeply deluded. So The Buddha has to reveal a state of blissful existence in order to guide them to practise wholesome deeds. This is the Expedient Dharma Door which The Sagely One employs so as to teach and transform the living beings. (The 14 the chapter on the Explanation of Pure Land)





「**极**乐净土」所有的众生,不管是已生、现生或当生,都得到各种美妙的色身,相貌端正,神通自在,福德具足,受用各种宫殿、园林、衣服、饮食、香花、璎珞,随意所须,悉都如愿,譬如他化自在诸天。」(大宝积经的「无量寿如来会」和无量寿经的上卷)

"All the living beings who have already been born, who are being born and who will be born in future in the Land of Ultimate Bliss are replete with a wonderfully adorned body. They have well adorned features; are endowed with spiritual penetration of self ease and possessed of blessings and virtues. Whatever they wish for such as palaces, gardens, clothings, food and drinks, fragrant flowers, ornaments - will just appear, as a matter of mere transformation like in the "At Ease Heaven of Transformation From Others". (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly of The Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra and The First Roll of Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra.)



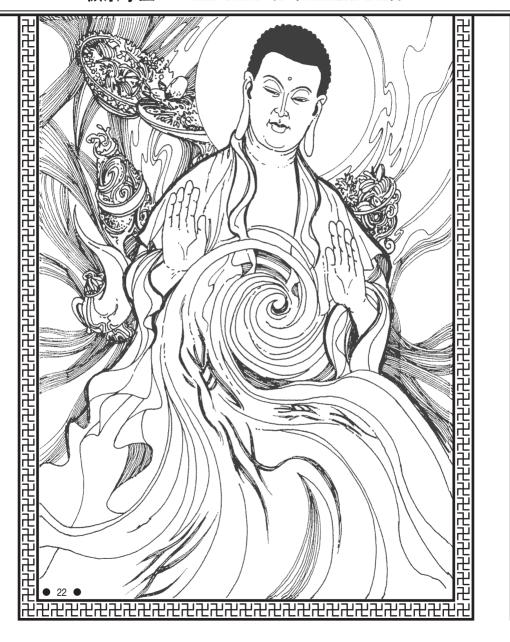


「**极** 乐净土」的众生要吃饭时,每人的面前自然呈现七宝的钵器。自然充满百味饮食。」

「**这**些钵中都充满百味饮食,随意而至, 无所从来,也没有供应和制造的人,完全是自然 化生。」(元量清净平等觉经的第二卷)

"In the Land of Ultimate Bliss, when it is time to eat, the alms bowls of seven jewels will just appear; filled with different kinds of food. (The Sutra of Awakening To The Equanimity, Pure Adornment of Immeasurable Lifespan.)

"These alms bowls are filled with all kinds of food and drinks. They appear just as one has wished for. They do not come from anywhere in particular. Neither are there people who make offerings or cook them. They just appear naturally by transformation." (The Second Roll of The Sutra of Awakening to The Equanimity, Pure Adornment of Immeasurable Lifespan)





「**上**饭时,各种宝钵,随意现前。」(大阿弥 陀经)

「**P** 完以后,不会遗留食物残渣。」(大阿弥 陀经)

「**饮**食完毕以后,食物自然消化而不会在 体内留下遗滓。」(大阿弥陀经)

「**看**到食物的美色,闻到食物的香气,自 然饱足舒适,不贪著美味,身心轻爽便利。(大 阿弥陀经)

"In that world [the Land of Ultimate Bliss], beings do not [actually] take food consisting of gross materials of gravy or molasses; but whatever food they desire such food they perceive [and consume], [it is] as if it [the desired foodl were taken and [the beings] become delighted [of the food] in body and mind. Yet they do not put it into their mouth [for it is all effected by thought alone!". (The Great Amitabha Sutra)



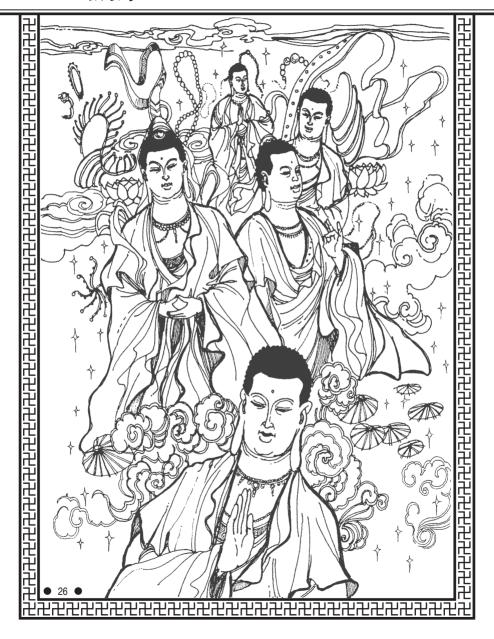


「**上** 完以后,各种饭具、钵器、茶几、宝座都自然化去。等要吃时,又会再变现。』(无量清净平等觉经的第二卷)

「**生**然有这么好的食物,其实并没有真的吃,只是看到食物的色、闻到食物的香,以意念来饮食。」(无量寿庄严清净平等觉经)

"After eating, all the utensils, alms bowls, teapot and jewel seats will just disappear. They will appear again when it is time to eat." (The Second Roll of The Sutra of Awakening To The Equanimity, Pure Adornment of Immeasurable Lifespan)

"Even though the food is very delicious, no one really consumes the food. One gets full just by looking at the food and from the aroma. It is just a mental perception" (The Sutra of Awakening To The Equanimity, Pure Adornment of Immeasurable Lifespan)



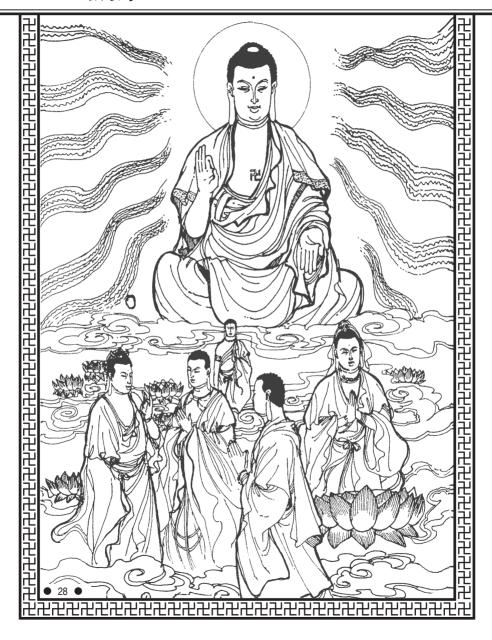


下**衣**服自然穿在身上,不必栽缝。」(无量寿 经上卷)

不必染色,不必洗濯。」(无量寿经上卷)

「**极** 乐国土」有无量(种类特多)高尚美妙衣服、宝冠、环钏、耳璫、璎珞、华鬘、带锁、及各种庄严的珍宝(饰物),百千种颜色美妙的衣服和饰物,自然穿戴在身上。」(大阿弥陀经)

("In the Land of Ultimate Bliss) if they desire cloaks of different colours and many hundred thousand colours then with these very best cloaks the whole Buddha country shines (everywhere with them). And the people (perceive and) feel themselves covered with them. And if they desire ornaments, as for instance, head-ornaments, ear-ornaments, neck ornaments, hand and foot ornaments, namely diadems, earrings, bracelets, armlets, necklaces, chains, ear-jewels, seals, gold strings, girdles, gold nets, pearl nets, jewel nets, nets of bells made of gold and jewels, then they see that (entire) Buddha country shining with (all) such ornaments adorned with many hundred thousand jewels. And they perceive themselves (also) to be adorned with these ornaments" (The Great Amitabha Sutra)



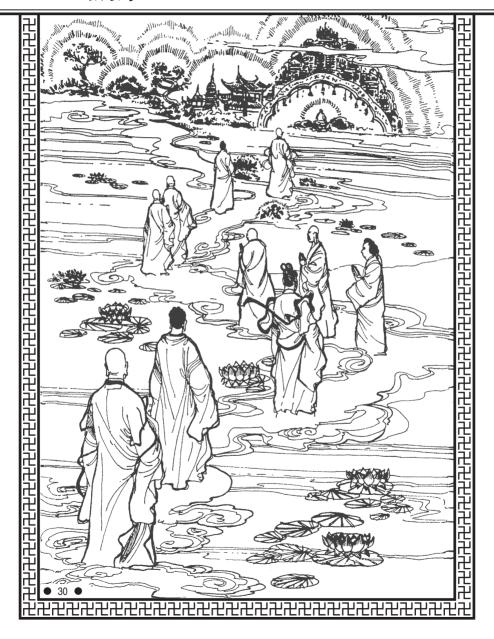


「**往**生极乐净土的人,处仁迁义,不妄动作,终无淫怒之心和愚痴之能。」(大阿弥陀经)

「**外**有往生极乐国土的众生,都具有像佛陀那样庄严、美妙而且圆满的色身。出生到极乐佛国以后,就失去本来在三恶道的形体,而成就像佛陀那样尊贵和庄严的相貌。」(大阿弥陀经)

"People who are born in the Pure Land of Ultimate Bliss are endowed with humaneness and righteousness. They will never act wrongly and are free from the minds of sensual desire, anger and delusion." (The Great Amitabha Sutra)

"...... the beings, who have been and will be born in that world [Land of Ultimate Bliss] will be endowed with such colour, strength, vigour, height, and breadth, dominion, accumulation of virtue exactly like the Paranirmitavasavartin gods". (The Great Amitabha Sutra)





「**从**此往西方,经过了十万亿佛土,有一个世界,名叫极乐世界。」(阿弥陀经)

「**极** 乐国土」,以自然的七宝——金、银、琉璃、珊瑚、琥珀、砗磲、玛瑙合成为地,恢 廓旷荡,不可限极。这些宝都相参杂、转相间入。光明煜烁、微妙奇丽、清净庄严,超越十方一切世界,它是众宝的精英,宛如他化自在天的宝物。」(大本阿弥陀经)

"Passing from here, through hundreds of thousands of millions of Buddhalands to the West, there is a World called Ultimate Bliss." (The Amitabha Sutra)

"...... That world (Land of Ultimate Bliss) is fragrant with several sweet-smelling scents, rich is manifold flowers' and fruits, adorned with gem trees and frequented by tribes of manifold sweet-voiced birds, which have been made by the Tathagata... those gem trees are of several colours, of many colours, and of many hundred thousand colours. There are gem trees... made of gold. There are those (gem trees) ... made of silver. There are those (gem trees) ... made of beryl. There are those (gem trees) ... made of crystal. There are those (gem trees, ... made of red pearls. There are those (gem trees, ... made of coral. There are those (gem trees) ... made of diamonds" (The Great Amitabha Sutra)





「极乐国土」以黄金为地。(阿弥陀经)

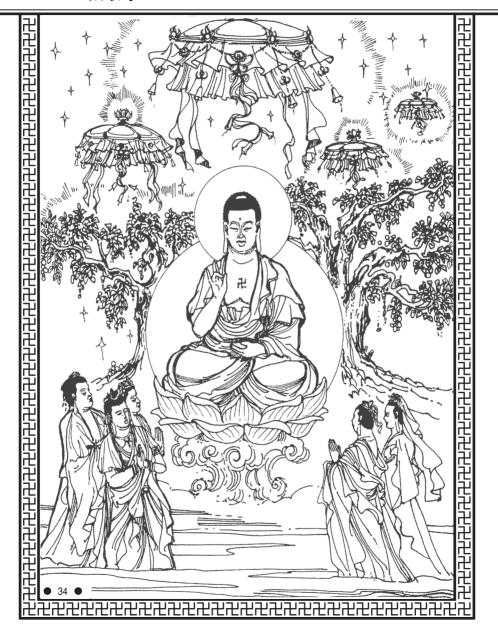
「**极**乐国土」,清净严饰,宽广平正,没有丘陵、坑坎、荆棘、沙石乐、土石等山。」(大乘_{无量寿庄严经})

「**极**乐世界国土没有大海、小海、溪渠、井谷(等幽暗之所)。但由于佛陀的神力加持,如果众生想看高山、大海和山谷等也随时可以见到。」(无量寿经)

"In that Buddhaland there is always heavenly music, and the ground is yellow gold." (The Amitabha Sutra)

"The Land of Ultimate Bliss is purely adorned, extensive and even. There are no hills, thorny undergrowth, pits and ridges, sand and stones, soil or rocky hill and the like." (The Great Vehicle Immeasurable Lifespan Adornment Sutra)

"There are no oceans, seas, streams, canals, wells and valleys (and other dark realms) in the Land of Ultimate Bliss. But by relying on the spiritual strength of The Buddha, if ever any living being wishes to see the mountains, oceans, hills, valleys and others, they can also see them." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)



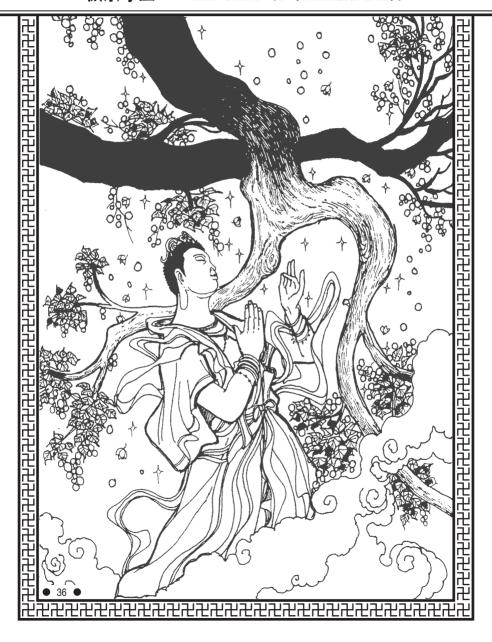


在「**极**乐世界」,到处可以看见金、银、 真珠等美妙的宝物所做成的罗网,上面悬挂著宝 铃。」(大宝积经的无量寿如来会)

「**极** 乐国土」到处有很多珍奇的宝树,有的树木纯是黄金、白银、琉璃、玻璃、赤珠、玛瑙、翠玉,或由一种宝形成,而不参杂其他宝。有的树木是由两种宝,甚至由七宝所形成。」(大宝积经的「无量寿如来会」)

"In The Land of Ultimate Bliss, we can see wonderfully beautiful nets which are made from gold, silver, pearls and other wonderfully precious ornaments. There are Jewel bells hanging everywhere from the nets." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly of The Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)

In the Land of Ultimate Bliss, there are precious jewel trees everywhere. Some trees are formed from only one kind of gem such as gold, silver, agate, crystal, red pearls, amber or greenjade. There are trees which are formed from two kinds of gems and so on, to trees which are formed from seven gems." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly of Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)





「**女**」果有众生,看见了菩提树(没有眼病),闻到声音(没有耳疾),嗅到香气(没有鼻病),尝到果实(没有舌病),触到树的光景(身无病痛),或观想菩提树的功德(心得清净)、……五根没有疾病,心不散乱,对于无上正觉的佛智,永不退转。」(大宝积经的「无量寿如来会」)

"When living beings see the Bodhi Tree(They will not have eye disease; hear its sounds (They will not have ear disease); smell its fragrance (They will not have nose disease); taste its fruits, (They will not have tongue disease); touch its shadow (Their body will be healthy); or think of its merits and virtues (Their mind will be pure)-their five roots will be healthy and their mind is not confused. They will never retreat from the path to seek the Buddha's Wisdom of Unsurpassed Proper Enlightenment." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly of The Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)





「**极** 乐净土」,时常吹拂清风,只要微风吹过,就自然发出相互和谐的各种音律!」(无量 寿经)

「**木**」 风将树上的花朵吹落地上,整个极乐世界的地面到处布满厚厚的一层花絮,十分整洁美丽(一点也不杂乱)、柔软光洁。」(大乘无量寿庄严经)

"In the Land of Ultimate Bliss, the breeze often blows by. When it blows by, it will naturally send out harmonious musical notes. (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)

"The flowers fall down from the trees when the breeze blows by. The entire ground of the Land of Ultimate Bliss is covered with a thick layer of clean and beautiful flowers. They look soft, bright and pure." (The Great Vehicle Immeasurable Lifespan Adornment Sutra)





- 「**个**论白天或夜晚,天上时常飘下很香、很好看的曼陀罗花(适意花)。」(阿弥陀经)
- 「**极**乐净土」的宝树,会显现十方佛土清净殊胜和庄严的事迹,如明镜现象一样逼真!」(大本阿弥陀经)
- 「**微**风吹动,发出种种悦耳的声音,能使众生证得万法不生不灭的真理。」(大宝积经的「无量寿如来会」)
- "In the six periods of the day and night a heavenly rain of mandarava flowers falls ..." (Amitabha Sutra)
- "Among the Jewel Trees in the Land of Ultimate Bliss, there will be revealed the Pure, Supreme and adorned Buddhalands in the ten directions, just as clear as the reflection in a bright and clear mirror!" (The Great Amitabha Sutra)
- "When the wind blows by, all kinds of sweet and pleasing music can be heard. After listening, the living beings will certify to the genuine Principle of non-arising and non-extinction of the myriad dharmas." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly of The Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)





了早晨,那些花自然没入地中。旧的花朵既然消失,大地变得清净,此时又飘落新花朵,整个极乐世界的地面到处都覆盖了一层花朵。其他像中午、下午、夜晚又再飘花堆满地面,也是这种情形。所有广大珍奇的宝物,没有不出现在极乐世界的。」(无量寿如来会)

"After dawn, all the flowers will naturally sink into the ground. When the old flowers disappear, new flowers will rain down again. The entire Land of Ultimate Bliss will once again be covered with a layer of flowers. This process is repeated at mid-day, in the evening and at night time" (The Immeasurable Thus Come One's Assembly of The Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)





「**极** 乐净土」有七宝莲花,有无量百千亿 片叶子,每一片叶子有无量百千种珍奇的色彩, 而且莲叶上有百千种摩尼妙宝来庄严,上面又覆 盖了相互辉映的宝纲。」(大宝积经的「无量寿如来会」)

「**「可**弥陀经只省略地说了七宝,其实净土有无量妙宝。」(佛地论)

"In the Land of Ultimate Bliss, there are lotuses of seven gems. Every lotus consists of immeasurable hundreds of thousands of millions of petals. On every petal there will emit immeasurable hundreds of thousands of rare colours. Moreover, each petal of the lotus is adorned with hundreds of thousands kinds of wonderfully precious gems. On top of the lotuses are jewel nets which shine on each other." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly of The Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)

"In the Amitabha Sutra, only seven gems are being mentioned. But in actuality, there are immeasurable wonderful gems in the Pure Land. (Buddha Land Shastra)

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「**如**果诸位有情需要宫殿和楼阁等,便可以随意获得;而且宫殿和楼阁的高度、长度、宽度、形状各随人意。(不但如此,连室内装横也自然现成受用)楼阁中有许多床座,床座铺上了极为美妙高雅的绒布,并且以种种宝物来庄严和修饰,自然出现在众生面前。……」(大宝积经的[五量春如来会])

"Whatever palaces, towers or pavilions which are needed by the living beings will appear in accord with their wish. Moreover the height, the length and, the width, the shape of the palaces, towers and pavilions also appear as they have wished for ..." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly of The Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)

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「**极**乐国土」的讲堂、精舍、宫殿和楼阁,都是七宝所成,胜过他化自在天天帝所居住的宫殿百千万倍。菩萨所居住的宫殿建筑,也是如此。」(大阿弥陀经)

有些楼阁能随意高大,浮在空中,宛如云气。也有些不能随意高大,固定在地面上。这是因为求道时,德行有厚薄的缘故。'」(大阿弥陀经)

"In the Land of Ultimate Bliss, the Hall, The Vihara, Palaces, towers and pavilions are made from the seven gems which far-surpass the palaces of the "At Ease Heaven of Transformation From Others" (The Great Amitabha Sutra)

"Some towers and pavilions float in the empty space like clouds. They can grow in accord with one's wishes. There are some that cannot grow higher and bigger as one wishes. They dwell permanently on the ground. This is because the virtuous conduct (they represent) are different. Some are high in virtues while others are still lacking." (The Great Amitabha Sutra)





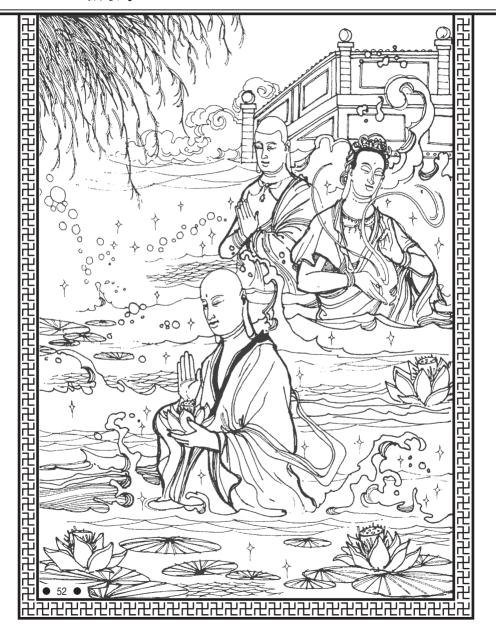
「**楼**阁的两边[,]各有华幢[,]以无量的乐器 为庄严。八种清风[,]鼓吹这些乐器[,]演说苦、空 、无常、无我的法声。」(观无量寿经)

「**极** 乐净土」有很多水池,池畔有檀香木,花叶垂,香气四溢。」(无量寿经)

"On both sides of the towers and pavilions are the flowery banners which are adorned with immeasurable musical instruments. When the eight kinds of breezes blow by, the musical instrument will proclaim the Dharma Sound of sufferings, emptiness, impermanence and no-self." (The Contemplation of Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)

"In the Land of Ultimate Bliss, sandal wood trees grow beside the many ponds of water. Their fragrant flowers and leaves bend down to the pond and the air everywhere is permeated with their scent." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)

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「**那**些菩萨及声闻众(极乐国土的居民),如果进入宝池(沐浴或游戏),水的高度可随心所欲,无论想要水位到足踝、膝盖、腰部、颈部、它都会立即依照你的意思。如果要全身漫泡著,水就马上漫著你的身体。如果沐浴或游戏完毕,想要水位还原,它就立即恢复本来的水位。

The Bodhisattvas and Sound Hearers entering the jewel ponds can control the level of the water. If they wish the water to rise to their ankles, knees, waists or necks, or totally cover their body, it will do so immediately. And after bathing or playing in the water, the water will return to its original position instantly. (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)





池水的温度(冷暖调适),自然随意。」

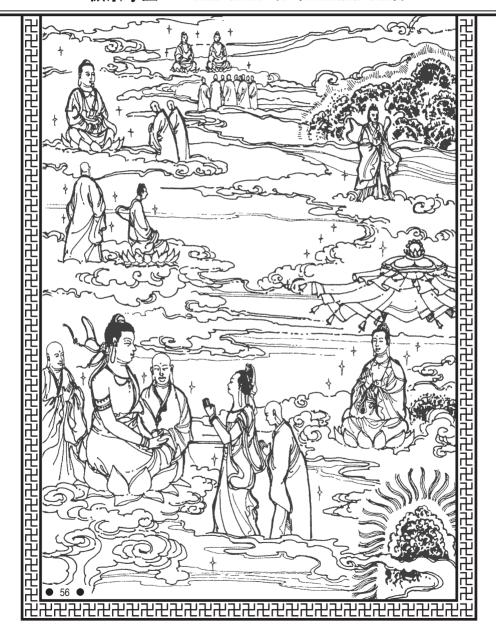
「**极**乐净土」的水质清明澄洁,清净得好像没有东西一样。」(天量寿经)

「**大**池上面有小小的波澜和回流,辗转相互灌注,安详徐逝,不迟不疾。流动时美丽的波流(涟漪),自然发出美妙的声音。」(无量寿经)

"The temperature of the water can be adjusted naturally in accord with their wish." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra) \mathbf{T}

"In the Land of Ultimate Bliss, the quality of the water is so pure, clear and clean just as if it is formless." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)

"On the surface of the pond, the ripples flow over in small circles, overlapping one another gently without being too fast or too slow. When the water flows by, the waves and ripples produce wondrous sound naturally." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)

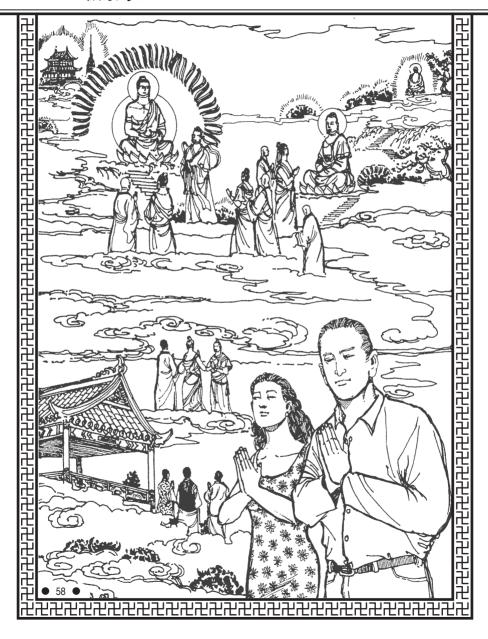




「**火** 然沐浴完毕后,或各坐莲花之上。……洗后进益,有的在地上讲经,有的在诵经、自(己练习)说经、授经、听经、念经、思道、一心坐禅、经行。也有在虚空中讲经的,甚至坐禅、经行,各随自己的性向而有所得。未断烦恼的众生,因而断除烦恼;未得不退转的菩萨,因而证得不退转。」(无量寿经)

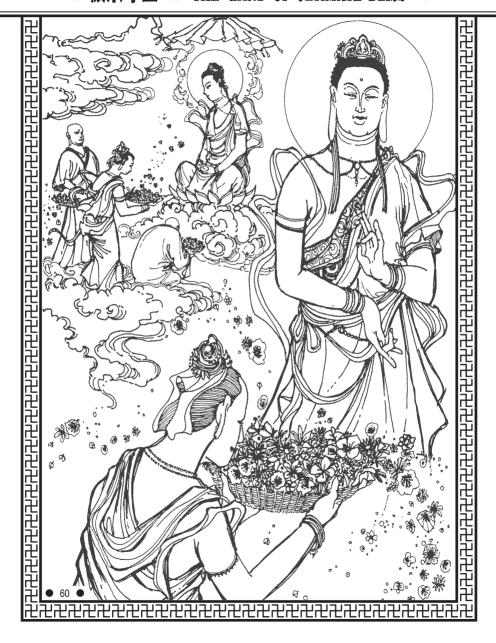
After bathing, some will sit on the lotuses and practise diligently... They will learn to speak the Sutra, teach the Sutra, listen to the Sutra or recite the Sutra by themselves. They will think of the Path, practise sitting and walking meditation. Some will speak the Sutra, sit in meditation or walk in meditation in empty space. Everyone will attain what he desires in accord with his nature. Those who have not severed their afflictions will have their afflictions severed. The Bodhisativas who have not certified to the non-retreating position will certify to the position of non-retreating. (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)

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「**近**其所应,无不闻者。有的人听到佛的声音、讲经说法的声音、僧音、寂静、空无我声(破执著和烦恼的声音)、大慈悲声、波罗密声或者解说佛陀十力、四无所畏和十八不共法的声音、各种通达智慧的声音、无所作声、不起灭声、无生忍声,甚至甘露灌顶,众妙法声。这些声音都随众生的程度和喜好而听闻,听后必然产生无量欢喜、随顺清净、离欲安宁、明白真理等功效。」(无量寿经)

 ${f T}$ hev will hear whatever teachings which they wish to hear. Some will hear the sound of The Buddha, the sound of the Dharma, the sound of the Sangha, the sound of Quietude, the sound of emptiness and no-self, the sound of great kindness and compassion, the sound of Paramitas or the sound which gives an explanation on the Ten Strengths of The Buddha, the Four Fearlessnesses and the Eighteen Dharmas which are not shared by others, all kinds of sound which will open up one's wisdom, the sound of Not-Doing, the sound of Non-Production and Non-Extinction, the sound of the Patience of No-Birth and even the sound of Annointing The Crown with Sweet Dews, and the various wonderful Dharma Sounds. Living beings will hear these sounds of teaching which accord with their capacity and liking. After listening, they will be extremely blissful. They will act in accord with the Dharma and experience the effect of purity and calmness by leaving behind their desires. They will understand the Genuine Principle. (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)



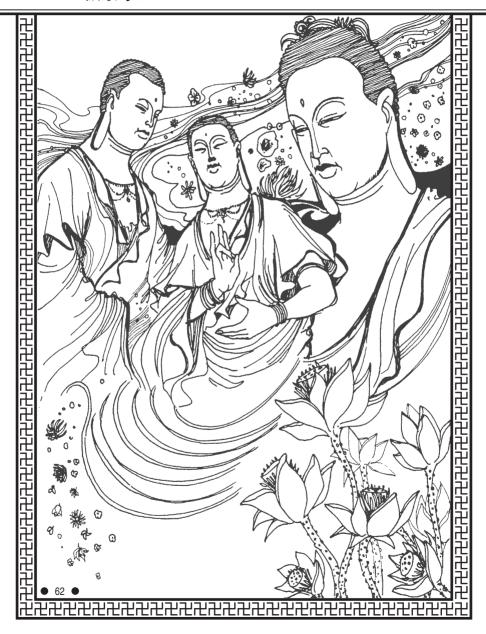


注生「极乐净土」的众生,都具足三十二相,诸根明利,乃至成佛,不受恶趣。」(大阿弥陀经)

「**极** 乐国土」的众生,时常在清早时,每人都用衣裓(或用盛花器物),装了很美妙的花,去供养各方世界的十万亿佛。他们清早出去,到了吃饭时,已经回到自己本来住的「西方极乐」世界了。」(阿弥陀经)

"Living Beings who are born in the World of Ultimate Bliss are replete with the thirty-two marks. Their roots are clear and penetrative and they will never fall into the Evil Paths even before their attainment of Buddhahood. (The Great Amitabha Sutra)

"Throughout the clear morning, each living being of this Land of Ultimate Bliss with sacks full of the myriads of wonderful flowers makes offerings to the hundreds of thousands of millions of Buddhas of the other directions. At mealtime they return...." (Amitabha Sutra)



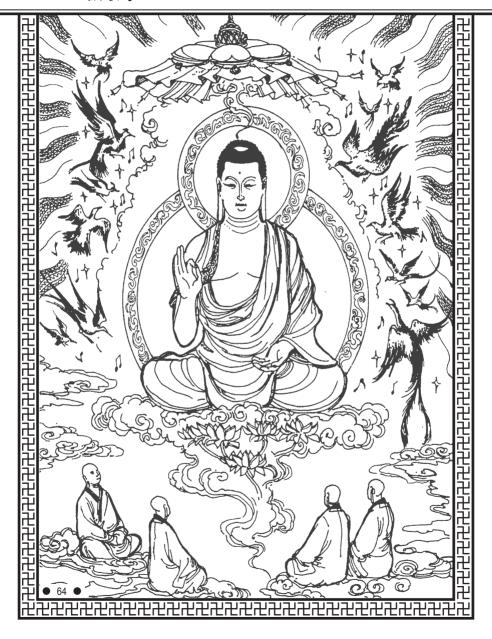


注生在「极乐净土」的众生,都是不会退转的。其中有很多等觉菩萨,一生就能递补佛位,这些大菩萨的数目不是算数所能明白的,如果勉强说,可以说他们有无量无边阿僧祗那么多。」(阿弥陀经)

「**极**乐国土所有的众生,没有差别相,因为随顺其他地方的习俗,才有天人的名字。」 (大宝积经的「无量寿如来会」)

"In the Land of ultimate Bliss, Living beings are the same in appearance. But just to follow the custom of other places, there are names such as heavenly beings and human beings." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly on the Great jewel Accumulation Sutra)

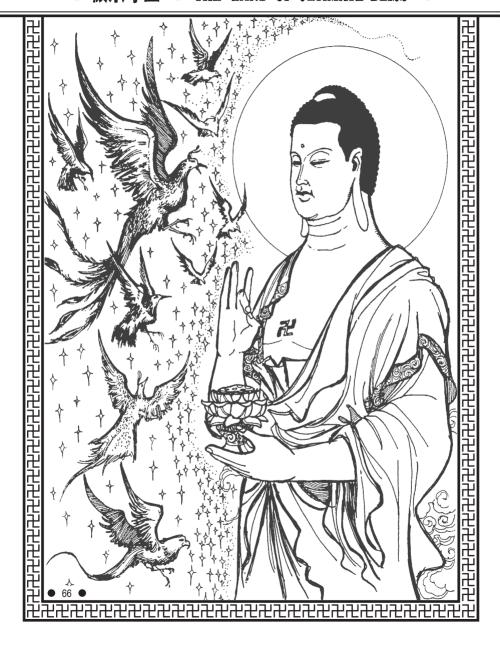
"Living beings who are born in the World of Ultimate bliss will never retreat from the path. There are many Equal Enlightenment Bodhisattvas who have one more lifetime before their certification of Buddhahood. Their number is also immeasurable. If we were to give a number, we can only say that they are as many as the infinite and countless Asamkheyas. (Amitabha Sutra)





「**极**乐国土」时常有各色各样、稀奇美妙的鸟,像白鹤、孔雀、鹦武、鶖鹭、迦陵频伽(好声鸟)、共命鸟……等。这些鸟,昼夜六时,都会发出柔和、优雅的声音。牠们的声音都是在畅演五根、五力、七菩提分、八圣道分等种种佛法。使众生听了,都想念佛宝、法宝和僧宝。」

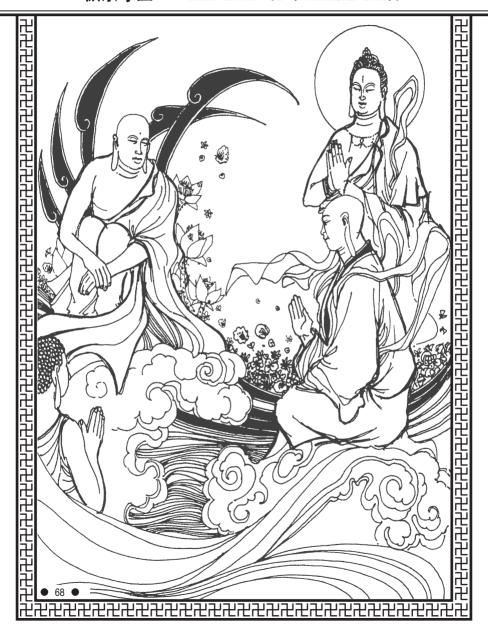
"In the World of Ultimate Bliss, there are different kinds of rare and beautiful birds such as the white crane, peacock, parrots, herons, Kalavinka (the birds of melodious voice) Jiva-java and others. Within the six periods of time, these birds will sing in a gentle and harmorious way to proclaim the Buddha Dharma such as the Five Roots, Five Strengths, the Seven Bodhi Divisions, the Eight Sagely Paths Division and others. After listening to the Dharmas, living beings will bring forth the mind to be mindful of the Buddha Gem the Dharma Gem and the Sangha Gem." (Amitabha Sutra)





「**你**们不要以为这些鸟是因为做人时,造了罪业,才投生做畜生,受苦的报应。为什么不可以这样说呢?因为西方极乐国土没有地狱、饿鬼和畜生三种恶道。那里,连恶道的名目尚且没有,何况实在的恶道,那就更加不会有了。这些鸟都是阿弥陀佛要宣扬和流通佛法的声音,所以才变化出来的」(阿弥陀经)

"Do not think that these birds are the human beings who have committed evil deeds and now they are undergoing the retribution in the animal realm to suffer. Why should not we think thus? This is because there are no three Evil Paths such as the hells, hungry ghosts realm and animal realm in the Western World of Ultimate Bliss. We cannot even hear about the names of the evil paths, much less will there be the evil paths. These birds are the transformation bodies of Amitabha Buddha who appear in such forms to proclaim and propagate the Buddha Dharma." (Amitabha Sutra)



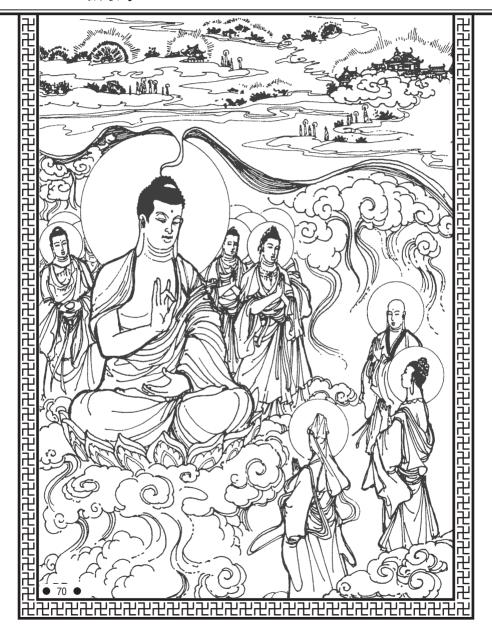


「**往**生极乐净土,可以跟诸上善人俱会一处。」(阿弥陀经)

「**彼**佛有无边的声闻弟子,都是已经断除烦恼和我执的阿罗汉,其数量非常多,不是算数所能知道的。诸菩萨众,也是如此。」(阿弥陀经)

"Living beings who are born in the Pure Land of Ultimate Bliss will have the company of all good men." (Amitabha Sutra)

"The Buddha has limitless Sound Hearers who have already severed afflictions and attachment to self. These are the Arhats and their number is innumerable. The number of Bodhisattvas is innumerable too." (Amitabha Sutra)



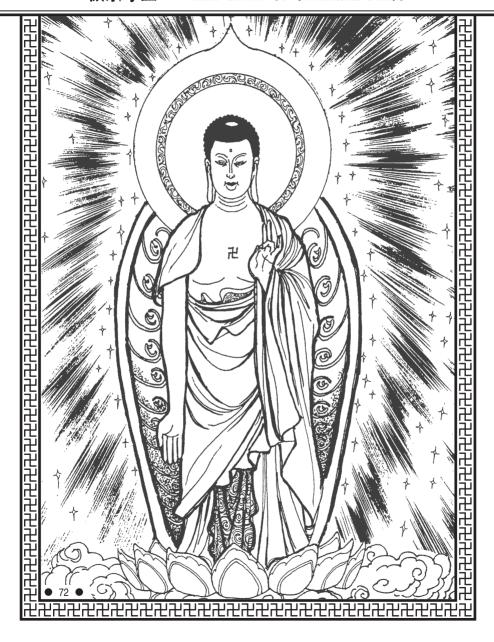


「**我**以智慧光,广照无尽世界。」(大阿弥陀

「**无**量寿佛讲堂精舍、楼观栏楯,亦皆七宝,自然化成,又有白珠摩尼以为交络,无比光明美妙。诸菩萨众,所居住的宫殿,也是如此。」(夏莲居居士所辑会集本第十六页)(无量寿庄严清净平等觉经)

" M_y wisdom lights pervasively illuminate the limitless worlds. (The Great Amitabha Sutra)

The Lecture Hall of The Buddha of Immeasurable Lifespan, the fine living quarters, the towers and railings are transformed naturally from the seven gems. Besides, there are innumerable bright and beautiful white pearls and gems arranged everywhere among the buildings. The palaces of all The Bodhisattvas are also as beautiful. (Chapter 16 of The Sutra which was compited by Upasaka Xia Lianju) (The Sutra of Awakening To The Equanimity, Pure Adornment of Immeasurable Lifespan)





「**「可**弥陀佛,成佛已来,于今十劫」。(阿 弥陀经和无量寿经)(一个大劫:1,343,840,000年。)

「「「「」」」「阿弥陀佛的圆光,如百亿三千大千世界。」「阿弥陀佛有八万四千相,——相有八万四千随形好,——好有八万四千光明,遍照十方念佛众生,摄取不舍。」(观无量寿经)

"Amitabha Buddha has already attained Buddhahood for ten Kalpas." (One Great Kalpa = 1,343,840,000 years)

"The round lights of Amitabha Buddha look like hundreds of hundred million Three Thousand Great thousand world Systems. Amitabha Buddha is replete with eighty-four thousand Marks. And every Mark is adorned with eighty-four thousand subtle adornments. Every adornment will emit eighty four thousand lights to shine pervasively on and gather in unceasingly living beings who recite the Buddha's Name." (The Sutra of The Contemplation of Immeasurable Lifespan)





「**男**」一尊佛有无量的光明,遍照十方国土,没有任何障碍,所以称为阿弥陀佛。」(阿弥陀

「 当 时阿弥陀佛,从其面门,放无量光。」 (大阿弥陀经)

无量寿佛(既阿弥陀佛)寿命长久,不可称量和计数。」(无量寿庄严清净平等觉经会集本)

"The Buddha emits immeasurable bright lights which shine pervasively on the Lands in the ten directions without obstruction. So he is called Amitabha Buddha!" (Amitabha Sutra)

"At that time Amitabha Buddha emits immeasurable lights from His Face." (The Great Amitabha Sutra)

The Lifespan of Immeasurable Lifespan Buddha (or Amitabha Buddha) is so long that no one can really measure or count it. (The compilation of The Sutra of Awakening To The Equanimity, Pure Adornment of Immeasurable Lifespan)

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下 我作佛时,顶中光明,胜过日月百千万亿倍。」(大本阿弥陀经的法藏比丘愿)

「又说:「愿我作佛时,光明普照无尽天下,幽冥之处,皆当得大光明。诸天人民以及细小昆虫,见我光明,莫不慈心行善,来生我国。」(大本阿弥陀经的法藏比丘愿)

"When I become a Buddha, may the lights which are emitted from the crown of my head far-surpass the lights of the sun and moon by hundreds of thousands of millions of times." (The Vows of Dharma Store Bhikshu in the Great Amitabha Sutra)

Again He said, "When I become a Buddha, my lights will pervasively illuminate all the worlds. The dark realm will also be brightened up. All the heavenly beings, people and the minute insects, on seeing my lights, will all practise good deeds with kindness and will be born in my Land." (The Vows of Dharma Store Bhikshu in the Great Amitabha Sutra)

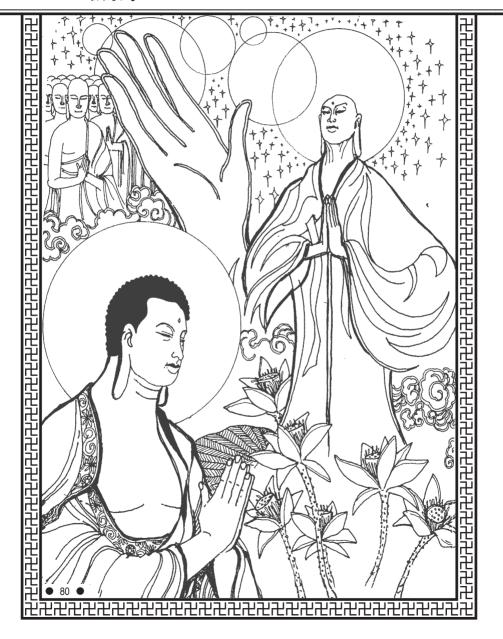




「**「「「」** 弥陀佛光明最远、最显著。其他诸佛光明所不能及。十方诸佛光明,有的只照一里、两里……或照二百万里。有的照了一个世界、两个世界……或二百万个世界。只有阿弥陀佛的光明,照千万世界,无有穷尽。所以阿弥陀佛,又被称为无量光佛、无边光佛、无碍光佛、乃至超日月光佛。」(大本阿弥陀经)

The Supreme lights of Amitabha Buddha shine forth to the furthest realm and are the most distinct. The lights of other Buddha are incomparable. The lights of the Buddhas can shine forth to only one mile, two miles or two million miles. Some will illuminate a world, two worlds or two million worlds. But only the bright lights of Amitabha will shine forth to thousands of millions of worlds without ever coming to an end. So, Amitabha Buddha is also known as The Buddha of Immeasurable Lights, the Limitless Lights Buddha, The Unobstructed Lights Buddha and The Buddha Who Far Surpasses The Lights of Sun and Moon." (The Great Amitabha Buddha)

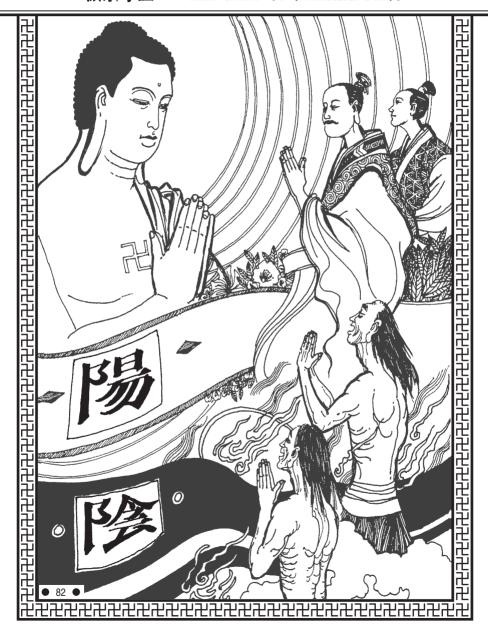
권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권권



「**」**小 弥陀佛有无数的声闻弟子,每一位弟 子都神智洞达,威力自在,能够以手掌持一切世 界。我(释迦牟尼佛)的弟子当中,目连尊者的 神通最好,他能够在一日一夜间,明白三千大千 世界中所有星宿的众生数量。假使十方世界的众 生都成了缘觉(体悟十二因缘而得解脱的小乘圣 人),每一位缘觉的寿命都长达万亿岁,而且神 **通也都像目连尊者一样**,竭尽他们的寿命和智力 ,共同推算极乐世界阿弥陀佛法会中的声闻数目 ,仍然无法算出其中的千万分之一。(**无量**寿庄严

Disciples. Every one of His Disciples is endowed with spiritual penetration wisdom. They can make use of their awesome strength with great ease. They can uphold the worlds with their palms. Among my (Sakyamuni Buddha) Disciples, the Venerable Mondgalyayana is foremost in spiritual power. In a day and a night. He can clearly know the number of living beings in all the planets of the three thousands Great Thousand World System. If all the living beings in the worlds in the ten directions were to certify to the condition; Enlightened Ones (The small Vehicle sages who are liberated by awakening to the Twelve Links of Causal Conditions), and everyone will also

can live for thousands of millions of years and are also endowed with the spiritual power like the Venerable Maudgalyayana. If together they can use up their lifespan and wisdom to calculate the number of Sound Hearers in the World of Amitabha Buddha's Assembly in the World of Ultimate Bliss, they will still be unable to count the number of one fraction of the thousands of millions of Sound Hearers."(The Sutra of Awakening to the Equanimity, Pure Adornment of Immeasurable

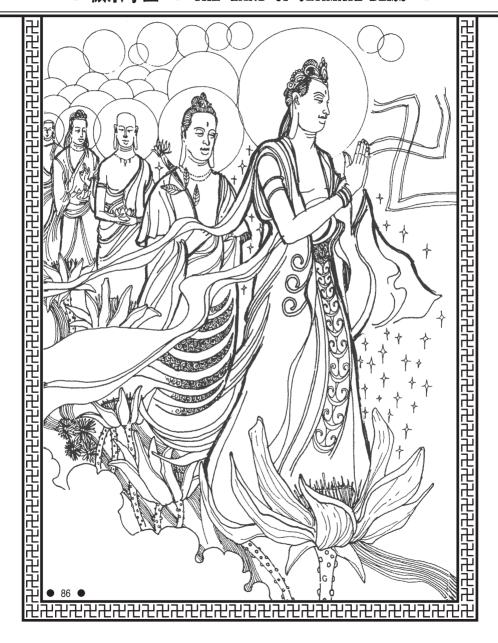


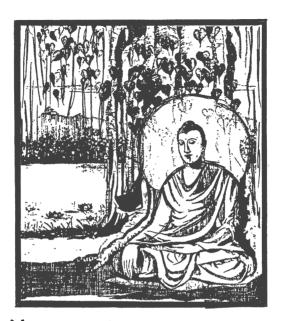


「**如**果有众生遇到阿弥陀佛所放的光明, 业垢消灭,身意柔软,欢喜踊跃,善心生长。如 果在三恶道受苦的众生,见到这光明,身心都可 以得到安息,不再苦恼,而且命终之后,都可以 获得解脱。」(无量寿经)

If living beings were to encounter the lights of Amitabha Buddha, their Karmic Impurities would come to extinction. Their body and mind would be gentle and suppliant. They would be blissful always and their kindness would flourish. If the living beings who are undergoing acute sufferings in the three evil paths were to see the lights, their mind and body would rest at ease. They would suffer no more. At the end of their Lifespan, they would all obtain liberation." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)



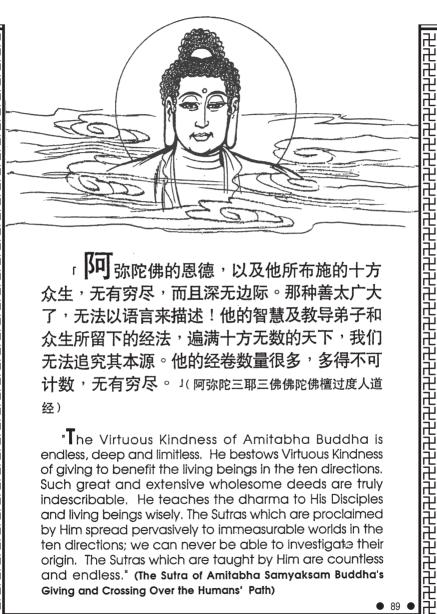




「**往**生极乐国土的众生,大多是不退转的 菩隆,其中有许多一生就能递补佛位的等觉菩萨,他们的数量非常之多,不是算数所能知道的,只可勉强用「无量无边阿僧祗」来说明。」(阿弥 陀经)

"The living beings who are born in the World of Ultimate Bliss are mostly the Non-retreating Bodhisattvas. Among them are The Equal Enlightenment Bodhisattvas who have only one more lifespan before certifying to Buddhahood. Their number is very great and immeasurable which is unknown by any form of calculation. We can only describe the number as the immeasurable, limitless Asamkheyas." (Amitabha Sutra)





, **以** 弥陀佛的恩德,以及他所布施的十方 众生,无有穷尽,而且深无边际。那种善太广大 了,无法以语言来描述!他的智慧及教导弟子和 众生所留下的经法,遍满十方无数的天下,我们 无法追究其本源。他的经卷数量很多,多得不可 计数,无有穷尽。」(阿弥陀三耶三佛佛陀佛檀过度人道 经)

*The Virtuous Kindness of Amitabha Buddha is endless, deep and limitless. He bestows Virtuous Kindness of giving to benefit the living beings in the ten directions. Such great and extensive wholesome deeds are truly indescribable. He teaches the dharma to His Disciples and living beings wisely. The Sutras which are proclaimed by Him spread pervasively to immeasurable worlds in the ten directions; we can never be able to investigate their origin. The Sutras which are taught by Him are countless and endless." (The Sutra of Amitabha Samyaksam Buddha's Giving and Crossing Over the Humans' Path)





「**极**乐净土」的菩萨,直到成佛,都不会堕落三恶道,生生世世都能了知宿命,除了在五浊恶世示现受生时例外。」(大宝积经的「无量寿如来会」)

「**以**可 弥陀佛为声闻、菩萨、天人讲解法时,大家都集会于七宝讲堂,阿弥陀佛,广泛而且流畅地说明各种宇宙和人生的微妙道理,大家听得法喜充满,心开意解,证得道果。」(元量寿经)

"Until their attainment of Buddhahood, the Bodhisattvas in the World of Ultimate Bliss will never fall into the three evil paths. In every life they will know of their past lives." (The Immeasurable thus come One's Assembly of the Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)

"Amitabha Buddha will teach and explain The Dharmas to the Assembly of Sound Hearers, Bodhisattvas and Heavenly Beings in the Seven Jewel Hall. He will explain extensively and fluently the different principles of Human Life in the Universe to them. After listening everyone is filled with Dharma Bliss. Their minds open up as they can understand His Teaching and will certify to the Fruition of The Path." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)

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「当时,阿弥陀佛和诸位大众,坐在七宝莲花上面。极乐净土的森林中,到处开敷著新鲜的花果,相间交错,非常庄严。阿弥陀佛在很大的七宝莲花上面,盘腿而坐,旁边有两位菩萨,一位是观世音菩萨,另一位是大势至菩萨,除了这两位菩萨在左右侍立以外,还有无数菩萨,围绕在佛陀四周,聆听佛法。」(阿弥陀鼓音声王陀罗尼经)

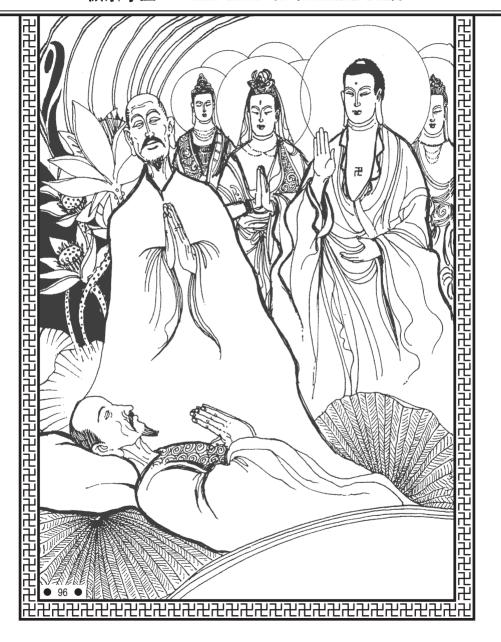
"At that time, Amitabha Buddha and all in the assembly sit on the seven jewel lotuses. In the woodland of the Pure Land of Ultimate bliss, we can see fresh flowers and fruits everywhere which grow alternately and look greatly adorned. Amitabha Buddha sits in full lotus on a very great lotus of seven gems. On both sides are the two Bodhisattvas. One of them is Guan Shi Yin Pu Sa. The other is the Great Strength Bodhisattva. They wait upon him by his side. Moreover there are immeasurable Bodhisattvas who gather around The Buddha to listen to the Buddha Dharma!" (Amitabha Buddha The King of Drum Sound Dharmai Sutra)





「**极**乐净土」中,所有的菩萨都容貌柔和,相好具足;禅定智慧,通达无碍;神通威德,无不圆满,深入法门,得无生忍。深入正慧,没有陋习;依佛所行七觉圣道,修行五眼,自在无碍;所言诚实,度诸有情,演说正法。……」(大乘无量寿庄严经)

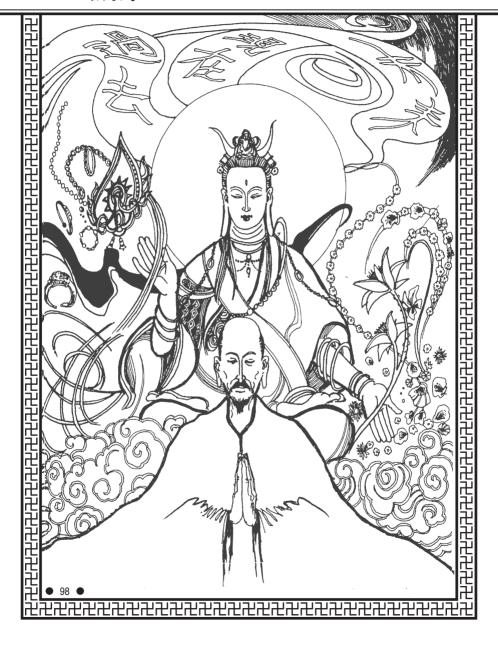
"All the Bodhisattvas in the World of Ultimate Bliss are endowed with very gentle and kind countenance. They are perfected with proper form features and are endowed with Zen concentration and wisdom which is penetrative and without obstructions. They have perfect spiritual penetration power and awesome virtues. They deeply penetrate the Dharma Door and are certified to the Patience of No-Birth. They deeply enter the Proper Wisdom and are free from all bad habits. They cultivate in accord with the Buddha's Teachings such as the Seven Bodhi Divisions of Enlightenment, the EightSagelyPaths and theFive Eves Without Hindrance. They will always speak honestly and give Proper Dharma talks to cross over all sentient beings." (The Great Vehicle of Immeasurable Lifespan Adornment Sutra)





「**忙**命终时,看见诸佛菩萨,心不错乱,必得往生极乐国土,我授记此人将来必定成就无上的佛智。……他今世舍身以后,必得往生极乐国土,寿命、容貌、力量同时具足,一切怨仇,并生欢喜。」(庄严王陀罗尼经)

"At the death-bed, he will see The Buddha and the Bodhisattvas. He will not be confused and will surely be born in the Land of Ultimate Bliss. I bestow upon such a man the certainty to accomplish the Unsurpassed Buddha Wisdom in future. After leaving the present lifespan, he will surely be born in the World of Ultimate Bliss. He will be replete with a perfect lifespan, countenance and spiritual power. All his enemies will also be happy." (The Dharani Sutra of the Adorned King)





注生「极乐净土」自知无量劫前的事情(宿命通),及过去所造的善恶业。并且都能洞视和彻听十方世界过去、未来和现在的种种事情。」

「**极** 乐净土」的菩萨,手中生出各种花鬘、璎珞、涂香、末香等所有的供养物品,然后拿这些供具,去百千亿那由他佛土供养诸佛。」

"Living beings who are born in the World of Ultimate Bliss will know themselves the events from immeasurable kalpas. (The Penetration of Past Lives) They know the good and bad karmas which were created by them. Besides they can see clearly and listen thoroughly to all to past, present and future happenings in the worlds in the ten directions." (The compilation of Sutra of Awakening To

The Equanimity, Pure Adornment of Immeasurable Lifespan of the Great Vehicle)

"The Bodhisattvas in the World of Ultimate Bliss can transform all kinds of offerings such as coronets, ornaments, perfume and scented powder in their hands to make offerings to The Buddhas in hundreds of thousands of millions Nayutas Buddhalands." (The Great Vehicle of Immeasurable Lifespan Adornment Sutra)





「**无**量诸天,奏出天乐;又有些乐器悬在虚空,宛如天宝幢,不鼓自鸣。」(观无量寿经)

大上一音之美,胜过人间帝王百千种乐 」(元量寿经)

「**极**乐净土自然有万种伎乐,其乐声都是法音,清畅哀亮、微妙和雅,(可以净化身心)是十方世界中,最美的音乐。」(无量寿经)

"The immeasurable heavenly beings play the heavenly music. Some of the musical instruments look like the heavenly Jewel Banner hanging in the empty space. The musical instruments can play music by themselves without a player." (The Sutra of the Contemplation of Immeasurable Lifespan)

"The wondrous sounds of one musical note in the Heaven far-surpasses the hundreds of thousands of kinds of music of the Emperor in the Human Realm." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)

"In the World of Ultimate Bliss, there are millions of kinds of music that play naturally in a clear, gentle and wonderful way. These sounds of Dharma are the most beautiful in the worlds in the ten directions." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)



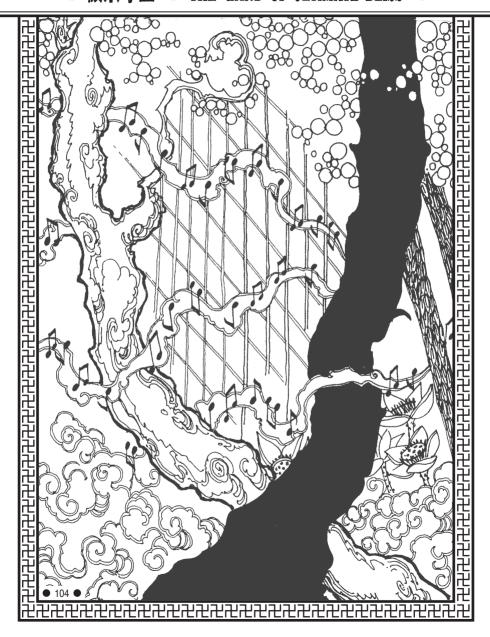


「**彼**佛国土,时常发出美妙的天乐。」(阿

世间帝王的百千种音乐,从转轮圣王至他化自在天的音乐,一级比一级殊胜。每级展转相胜千亿万倍。然而他化自在天万种音乐,却不如极乐世界诸七宝树的一种音声。极乐世界七宝树的一种音声,胜过他化自在天万种音乐的千亿倍。」(元量寿经)

"In the Pure Buddhaland, the wonderful heavenly music can often be heard." (Amitabha Sutra)

"The hundreds of thousands of kinds of music of the Emperors in the Human Realm such as the Wheel Turning Sagely King to the music in the Heaven of Comfort gained from the transformation of others' bliss will increase in their excellence from one stage to the next up. The excellence increases up each level thousand of millions of times. But even the thousands of millions of kinds of music in the Heaven of Comfort gained from the transformation of others' bliss are still incomparable to the one sound which is produced by the seven iewelled trees in the World of Ultimate Bliss. The one sound of the seven jewelled trees in the World of Ultimate Bliss far-surpasses the thousands of millions music in the Heaven of Comfort gained from the transformation of others' bliss." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)





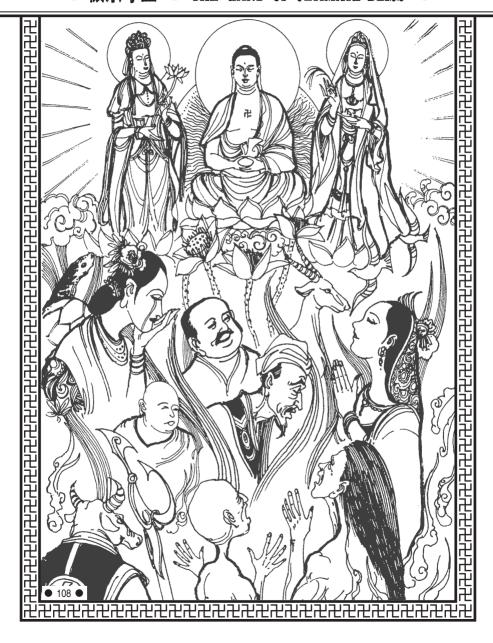
「**上**方极乐净土」有微细轻和的风,吹动了许多珍宝所成的树林,和珍宝做成的网络。这些树林和网络里,就会发出很细、很好听的声音来。这声音非常好听,好像百千种乐器弹奏。听到这种声音的人,都会自然而然地生出想念佛、法、僧三宝的心。」(阿弥陀经)

"In the Westen World of Ultimate bliss, the gentle breeze blows by the manyJewel Trees and Jewel Nets in the woodland. The Jewel Trees and Jewel Nets will produce the most refine and beautiful music. The sound is so refine just as if hundreds of thousands of kinds of musical instruments are being played together. Those who hear the sound will naturally give rise to the mind to recite the Buddha's Name, The Dharma and The Sangha." (Amitabha Sutra)



「世间帝王百千万种音乐,不如忉利天宫一音之美。忉利天宫百千万种音乐,不如夜摩天宫一音之美。夜摩天百千万种音乐,不如兜率天宫一音之美。兜率天宫百千万种音乐,不如自在天宫一音之美。自在天宫百千万种音乐,不如他化自在天宫一音之美。他化自在天宫百千万种音乐,不如「极乐国土」风吹树林,所发出的美妙声音。」(元量寿经)

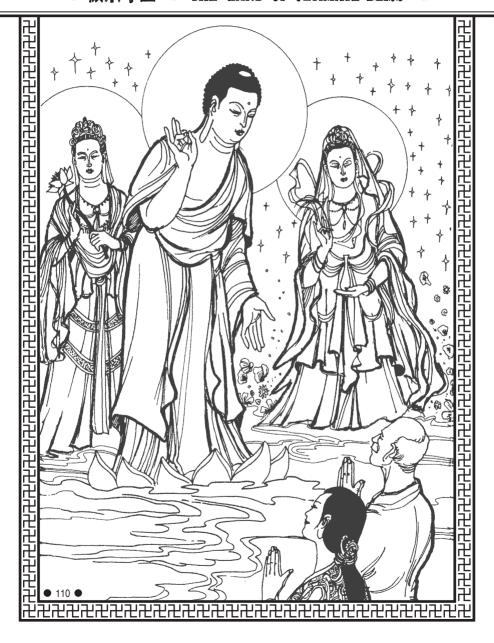
 ${f T}$ he hundreds of thousand of millions of kinds of music of the Worldly Emperor are incomparable to the one musical note of the Trayastrimsa Heavenly Palace. The hundreds of thousands of millions of kinds of music in the Travastrimsa Heavenly Palace will be incomparable to the one musical note in the Suvama Heavenly Palace. The hundreds of thousands of millions of kinds of music in the Suyama Heaven will be incomparable to the one musical note in the Tushita Heavenly Palace. The hundreds of thousands of millions of kinds of music in the Tushita Heavenly Palace will be incomparable to the one musical note in the Transformation of Bliss Heavenly Palace. hundreds of thousands of millions of kinds of music in the Transformation of Bliss Heavenly Palace will be incomparable to the one musical note in the Heavenly Palace of Comfort Ground from the transformation of others'bliss. The hundreds of thousands of millions of kinds of music in the Heavenly Palace of Comfort gained from the transformation of others' bliss will the incomparable to the wondrous sounds which are produced by the breeze when it passes by the trees in the woodland in the World of Ultimate Bliss." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Sutra)





在「极乐净土」,听不到各种恶道的名称,没有障碍、烦恼和覆蔽心智的名堂,没有地狱、饿鬼、畜生的名称,没有八难的名称,也没有世间相对的痛苦、快乐、不快乐等感觉的名称。连假设的名称都没有了,更何况是世间的实受呢?所以那「净土」被称为「极乐」。阿难!我现在只是简单介绍极乐净土的因缘,如果详细解说,经过几劫也讲不完。」(大宝积经的「无量寿如来会」)

"In the World of Ultimate Bliss, we do not hear of the names of the different evil paths, neither will we hear about obstructions, afflictions or delusions. There are no names such as the Hells, hungry ghosts, animals or the eight difficulties, neither are there the names of worldly sufferings such as feeling pain, happy or unhappy. There is no name of suffering, much less is there the actual experience of worldly sufferings. So the Pure Land is known as The Land of Ultimate Bliss. Ananda! I am now just giving a brief introduction to the cause and condition of the World of Ultimate Bliss. If I were to explain in detail, I would not be able to finish talking about them even after many Kalpas." (The Immeasurable Lifespan Thus Come One's Assembly of The Great Jewel Accumulation Sutra)





「**「「「**」 弥陀佛的国土为什么名叫做「极乐」呢?因为那世界中的众生,没有一切身心的忧恼和痛苦,只有无量清净的喜乐,所以才叫做「极乐世界」!」(称赞净土佛摄受经)。

"Why do we call The World of Amitabha Buddha 'the World of Ultimate Bliss'? This is because the mind and body of the living beings in that world are not afflicted by worries or sufferings. They only experience immeasurable pure bliss. So it is known as the World of Ultimate Bliss!" (The Sutra in Praise of The Pure Land and the Gathering-In of Living Beings by The Buddha)





「**极**乐国土」诸上善人,寿命皆无尽数劫。而且感官极为灵敏,大家都能洞视、彻听、遥相瞻见、遥语言。他们的容貌端正、洁净、美好,不再有丑陋。他们的体质十分勇敢、健康(壮),具有上等的智慧,而不再平庸、愚蠢。他们心中所想的,无非助人利人的道德行为;他们所谈论和表现的,无非是修行和对心智有益的事情。他们各相爱敬,而丝毫没有憎恨或嫉妒。」(大阿弥陀经)

 ${f T}$ he Good Men in the World of Ultimate bliss are endowed with a lifespan of endless Kalpas. Their root nature and senses are very clear and sensitive. Everyone can see clearly and listen thoroughly. They can see and talk to each other even though they are far apart. Their facial features are properly adorned, pure and beautiful. They will never be born ugly. They are courageous, strong and are endowed with supreme wisdom. They will never be dull or deluded. They only think of how to help and benefit others. Hence they will conduct themselves in accord with the code of high morality. They only talk about cultivation and things that will enhance the growth of wisdom. These will be revealed in their exterior conduct and expression. They love and respect each other and will never give rise to hatred or jealousy" (The Great Amitabha Sutra)

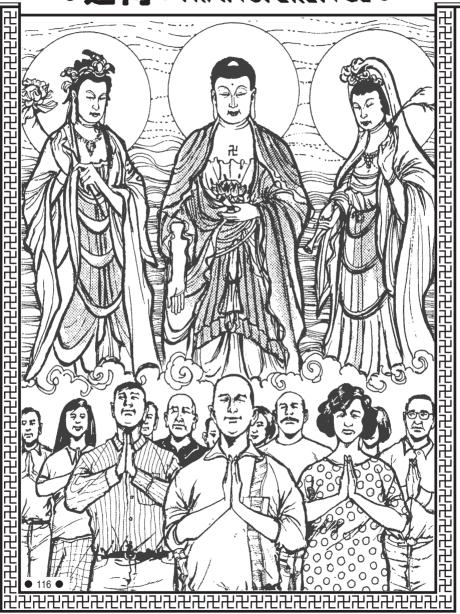




「**极**乐国土」诸上善人,每个都有宿命通,虽然经过了几万劫,对于自己从何而来,都知道得清清楚楚。而且也洞悉十方世界过去、未来和现在的事情。明白无尽数世界,天上天下一切众生心中和意识所想念的事物,又知道他们在那一劫、那一年,都会度脱为人,而得往生极乐国土。」(大阿弥陀经)

"All the good men in the World of Ultimate Bliss are endowed with the penetration of knowing one's past lives. Even after a few millions of Kalpas, they can know where they are from clearly. Moreover they know about the past, future and present events in the worlds in the ten directions distinctly. They understand the thoughts and the minds of all living beings who may be born in the Heavens or on Earth in immeasurable world systems. Besides they also know the kalpas and years when living beings will be born as human beings and attain a rebirth in the World of Ultimate Bliss.' (The Greet Amitabha Sutra)

• 廻向 • TRANSFERENCE •





回向偈 VERSE OF TRANSFERENCE

愿以此功德,

May the merit and virtue accrued from this work,

庄严佛净土,

Adorn the Buddhas' Pure Lands,

上报四重恩,

Repaying four kinds of kindness above,

下济三途苦。

And aiding those suffering in the paths below.

若有见闻者,

May those who see and hear of this,

悉发菩提心,

All bring forth the resolve for Enlightenment,

尽此一报身,

And when this retribution body is over,

同生极乐国。

 ${f B}$ e born together in the Land of Ultimate Bliss.

