Aloha Yi Guan Dao

◎ John Butterworth

In Hawaii we have a saying called Aloha. We use it when greeting each other or when saying goodbye, but it has a deeper meaning. It is a way of life. Fundamentally it means to share in this moment the breath of life that binds us all in an inseparable connection. What we do affects one another and the recognition of this fact helps us see ourselves in others and in nature. It helps us to treat the earth and others with love and respect, as they are inseparable from us.

The people of HuaLian Yi Guan Dao (I-Kuan Tao) have shown so much Aloha to Amanda and me. From picking us up off the plane, giving us a place to stay, helping us in every step of the way in our move to Taiwan, they have been so kindhearted and generous. The transition from America would have been very difficult with the barrier of not speaking the language well. We now have apartments, transportation, a sense of being rooted here and most importantly, a community and family here in Hualian.

Every time I go to the temple, I am greeted with friendly smiles. I have yet to find cooking as good as Ama's in all the restaurants I've been to. I don't understand what is said in the classes yet, but I hope to attend the lectures on the Dao De Jing when I do. All of the activities and celebrations have been very entertaining and full of good laughs.

I am so happy to have met everyone and I feel so blessed. I look forward to all my time in Hualian and much more sharing with my Yi Guan Dao friends as my language abilities improve. So to all the Yi Guan Dao members in Hualian and others in Taiwan, I say "Aloha and thank you so much".

阿囉哈 一貫道

◎中譯 Jimmy Chen

在美國夏威夷,我們有一句話叫「阿囉哈」。通常是用來問候對方或互道再見。 然而它有一層更深的含意,就是一種生活的方式及態度。基本上,它意味著在每一 個當下分享著生命氣息——以不可分割的關係將萬事萬物連在一起。我們的作為影 響著彼此,而體認到這個事實,有助於我們從他人及自然界的角度重新認識自己。 這也讓我們可以愛及尊重來看待地球與萬物,因這一切都是不可分的。

對周娜美及我而言,花蓮的一貫道道親展現了豐富的阿囉哈精神。從機場接機 那一刻起,即安排我們暫住的地方,並幫助我們在台灣安頓的每一個小細節——總 是善良而慷慨。由於語言的不靈光,從美國搬遷到異地原本是件非常困難的事;但 現在我們已經有住的地方、有交通工具,還有一種落地生根的感受,更重要的是, 能身處在花蓮道場這個大家庭之中。

每次到中堂,都受到笑臉迎人的友善問候,我也發覺所有去過的餐廳料理都跟 中堂阿嬤做的美食一樣棒。雖然我目前還無法完全聽懂道場的課程,但願我能聽懂 時,可以參與《道德經》的課程。這裡所有的活動及慶典,都令人感到非常愉快, 而且充滿笑聲。

我非常高興能認識這裡的每個人,並覺得自己好幸福。我期待在花蓮的所有時 光,並希望我的中文能力提升後,能夠與所有一貫道道親分享更多。最後,我想對 台灣及花蓮的道親們說一句:「阿囉哈!非常謝謝大家。」