

The Four elements are inherently empty and all things are illusory.
Dust is light and grass is frail. How is human life any different? ...
People everywhere are in great need of Buddhism's truths.

— Lady Clara Cheung Lin-kok

四大本空，萬緣皆幻，輕塵弱草，人命何常……

佛法真理，甚為世界人士所需求也。

張蓮覺居士

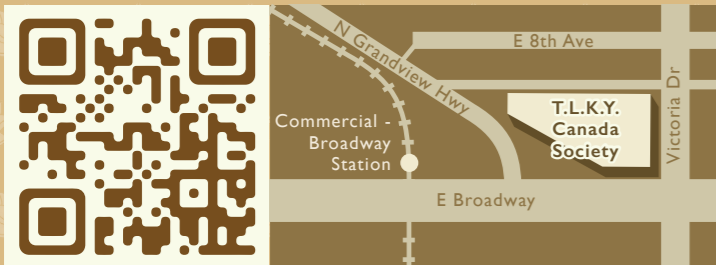
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濟世為懷的悲願

東蓮覺苑由何東爵士夫人張蓮覺居士，本弘法利生、興學育才的精神，於1935年始建於香港。在香港佛教發展歷史上，一直擔當着舉足輕重的角色。「東蓮覺苑」的命名乃由「何東」和「張蓮覺」二人的名字組合而成。

張蓮覺家族世代篤信佛教，她年少已知敬禮佛、法、僧三寶。後歷經人生無常之苦，在誦經禮佛中，逐漸參透人世苦難與愛憎，如夢幻泡影，惟有佛法能令人平安喜樂。所以在民國初年動盪紛擾的歲月裏，張蓮覺居士不為錦衣玉食所囿，時刻心懷悲願，要以佛法利益一切有情眾生。

弘法利生的初心

阿彌陀佛立下四十八大願，建立淨土（西方極樂世界），接引芸芸眾生脫離苦海。居士多年專注淨土念佛法門，朝夕念誦阿彌陀佛的聖號，數十年如一日；日常禮佛必數十拜；身體力行，於人間實踐阿彌陀佛的精神。她傾囊興建的「東蓮覺苑」，在紛亂的時代裏，安頓人心，足可體現她承事佛法、悲憫眾生的願心與知見。

佛教在香港的流佈歷史久遠，但寺院道場一直隱於遠離人煙的山林地。東蓮覺苑的建立，儼如是鬧市中的一片人間淨土。寺院建築風格獨特，糅合當時現代化的佈置與中國傳統寺觀構造，外形如一艘紅塵擺渡的般若之舟，接引十方，為港島區第一所佛教寺院，且開創了香港為平民女子提供義學的先河。東蓮覺苑屹立至今已逾八十年，一直上承蓮覺居士普度眾生的初心，弘法育才始終如一。

香港東蓮覺苑
Tung Lin Kok Yuen, Hong Kong



A Compassionate Wish to Benefit Others

Tung Lin Kok Yuen was built in Hong Kong in 1935 by Lady Clara Ho Tung (née Cheung Lin Kok), wife of Sir Robert Ho Tung. She was guided by the ideals of propagating the Buddha-Dharma and benefiting sentient beings, as well as promoting education and nurturing talent. The institution played a pivotal role in the history of Buddhism's development in Hong Kong. It took its name from a combination of "Ho Tung" and "Cheung Lin Kok."

Lady Clara had been raised by her family to believe in Buddhism. From an early age, she honored the Three Gems of Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. Having witnessed the impermanence of life amid her own recitations of sutras and reverencing the Buddha, she came to understand the pain and misfortunes of the world, as well as love and hatred. She felt deeply that life was ephemeral, like a dream or a bubble, and that only Buddhism could enable people to be at peace and joyful. Therefore during the turbulent times of China's early Republican era, Lady Clara did not limit herself to a life of luxury, but was constantly mindful of her own compassionate wish to benefit others according to the teachings of the Buddha.



張蓮覺居士
Lady Clara Cheung Lin-kok



何東爵士
Sir Robert Ho Tung

The Original Inspiration of Tung Lin Kok Yuen

Making 48 Great Vows, Amitabha Buddha established a Pure Land – the Western Land of Bliss – to help countless sentient beings escape the sea of suffering. For many years, Lady Cheung Lin Kok had devoted herself especially to the Pure Land path, reciting the name of Amitabha Buddha day and night, without let-up. Her daily prostrations before the Buddha numbered in the dozens. She acted according to her beliefs and manifested the spirit of Amitabha Buddha in this world. Tung Lin Kok Yuen, which she built with personal resources, provided spiritual comfort to the public. Such actions manifested her wish and vision to promote the Dharma and help others compassionately.

Buddhism may have had a long history in Hong Kong, but its monasteries had always been in remote, rural areas. The establishment of Tung Lin Kok Yuen was akin to the rise of a Pure Land in the heart of the city. Its distinctive architectural design blended modern features of the time with the traditional style of Chinese temples. Its exterior was like a ship of wisdom, passing through the "red dust" of the world and ferrying sentient beings to the shore of enlightenment. The first Buddhist temple on Hong Kong Island, it was also the territory's first free school for girls. Tung Lin Kok Yuen has stood for over 80 years, but its commitment to Lady Clara's original inspiration to benefit beings through Dharma propagation and education remains undimmed.

TUNG LIN KOK YUEN, CANADA SOCIETY



加拿大東蓮覺苑



發揚弘法興學精神

加拿大東蓮覺苑於 1994 年落成，位處溫哥華東部，交通便利的維多利亞路。

九十年代初期，移民加拿大溫哥華的華人日增。為適切社會大眾心靈的需要，加拿大東蓮覺苑董事會主席何鴻毅居士遂於溫哥華興建道場，以薪傳先祖母蓮覺居士弘法利生的精神及普廣佛法於國際的大願。

加拿大東蓮覺苑為一幢樓高兩層，佔地二萬餘呎的現代建築，整體清淨而又莊嚴典雅。苑內設有大雄寶殿、延生堂（藥師堂）、止觀堂、祖先堂、會議室及多功能大禮堂。平日除了傳統的法會共修活動，亦積極舉辦各種佛學課程、講座、文藝展覽，以及多元的興趣班，為社區人士服務。

為使社區中的長者心靈有所依託，2001 年 4 月於苑旁闢建蓮覺樓，是為長者而設的住宅單位。

活動概覽

定期法會：逢週日、初一、十五舉行

佛學講座：不定期禮請法師和學者主持

佛學課程：佛學研討班、英語佛學班

文藝興趣：電腦班、國畫班、書法班、古箏班、素菜烹飪班、太極班等。



大雄寶殿內景 Worship Hall interior

Propagating the Dharma and Nurturing Education

Tung Lin Kok Yuen, Canada Society was established in 1994. Situated on the east side of Vancouver, it is located in readily accessible Victoria Drive.

In the early 1990s, there was a marked increase in the number of Chinese immigrants to Canada. Robert H.N. Ho, then-chairman of Tung Lin Kok Yuen, Canada Society, built a Dharma center in Vancouver to serve the community's spiritual needs. By doing so, he fulfilled an aspiration of his grandmother, Lady Clara Ho Tung, to propagate the Dharma and benefit beings by promoting Buddhism internationally.

The premises of Tung Lin Kok Yuen, Canada Society is a two-storey contemporary building of over 20,000 square feet. Tranquil and stylishly dignified, they function as a center of Buddhist learning and education. It has a Worship

Hall, Longevity Hall (Hall of the Medicine Buddha), Meditation Hall, Ancestral Hall, Conference Hall and Multi-Purpose Hall. Besides regular activities such as traditional Dharma services and collective practice, the Yuen hosts Buddhism courses and lectures as well as arts & culture events, including exhibitions, and special-interest classes. These are its services for the community.

In April 2001, Lin Kok Manor was built for the spiritual care of the neighborhood's elderly residents. It provides residential units to senior citizens.

Activities Overview

Ceremonies and rituals: Sundays; the 1st and 15th day of each lunar month

Lectures: Insight sharing by distinguished Dharma teachers and Buddhist scholars

Buddhism classes: Dharma instruction in Chinese and English

Special interests: Computer studies, Chinese painting, calligraphy, Chinese zither, vegetarian cooking and Tai Chi.



大雄寶殿內景 Worship Hall interior