

2557 (2014)
The Twenty-Seventh General Conference
Baoji, People's Republic of China

This time the WFB chose to hold its General Conference in Baoji in Shaanxi Province, People's Republic of China because it was where Buddhism originated in China before spreading to other provinces and nearby countries. In addition, it is the first time for mainland China in 60 years since the WFB's establishment to host the General Conference, However, in the past China is not new to such an international Buddhist event because China had hosted the World Buddhist Conferences at least for three times. The 27th WFB General Conference was held from 14-19 October B.E. 2557 (2014) with the theme "Buddhism and Public - Benefit Charity" in order to manifest that charity is a key concept of Buddhist spirit found in all schools of Buddhism to eliminate greed, aversion, and delusion. Buddhist both Sangha and laymen have played an active and constructive role in social services, public welfare, and community development. We believe that through Buddhism, we are trained to overcome our primitive instincts and encouraged to help other people regardless of race, belief, and religion. The opening ceremony was held at Famen Monastery where the Lord Buddha's finger bone relic is enshrined. The conference was attended by 10,000 Buddhists, not counting 500 Buddhist leaders from all Buddhist traditions around the world.

The conference was concluded by Baoji Declaration with detail as followed:

- ❖ To appeal to the world community to strengthen their ongoing engagements in humanitarian and social welfare development, in order to reduce social inequality and poverty;
- ❖ To pursue and establish peaceful and harmonious society through applying the teachings of the Buddha;
- ❖ To promote inter-religious and inter-cultural understanding through dialogues to reduce mistrust and misunderstanding among the communities;
- ❖ To urge all Buddhists to contribute to environmental sustainability through the mindful reduction of greed and through practicing green-consumption in their daily life;
- ❖ To urge world communities to maintain respect of human values in order to uphold equality of human beings;
- ❖ To encourage promotion of spiritual and religious practice irrespective of cultural heritages or social backgrounds;
- ❖ To work for the preservation of intangible and tangible Buddhist cultural heritages which are in danger in different parts of the world;
- ❖ To promote moral and ethical education among Buddhist youth to support them to be humane and responsible global citizens;
- ❖ To appeal to the international community to sustain their ongoing effort to provide educational and professional opportunities to underprivileged women to improve their quality of life;
- ❖ To provide education and skill development to impoverished communities to help improve their economic and social circumstances.