



# Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite

## Taipei Bodies News

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*Orient of Taiwan, on which the sun never sets*

Newsletter #22, December 2016

### A word from the Venerable Master



*Dear Brethren,*

It is again the season of greetings. My best wishes to you and your love ones for a prosperous and rewarding Year 2017.

Once again, we had a memorable Fall Reunion weekend. Congratulations to the 2016 Class of "Typhoon Megi" for attaining the 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree of "Master of Royal Secret."

Note that this is not the end but merely the beginning of a quest for Masonic Mysteries. Please join the monthly stated meetings to learn more, or check out the Master Craftsman program offered by the Supreme Council to continue your education.

I'd also like to thank the ritual teams for the beautiful works. It is such a pleasure to see the harmonious collaboration among brethren from all nationalities working on the rituals. I am sure all have enjoyed the genuine friendship and fellowship.

All should pay special tribute to our hardworking Secretary Ill. Claude, who suffered a minor stroke before the closing banquet. He has had a fast recovery and is back in business again! Best wishes to him for full recovery and good health!

As we are entering the Year of the Rooster, please stay curious and follow the Light. The Bangkok Reunion is only a few months away. Mark it on your calendar for another fun learning experience! Spring Reunion: 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 (Travel dates 28<sup>th</sup> April – 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2017).

Happy Year 2017!

Fraternally yours,  
Dennis Liao, 33°  
Venerable Master

## 2016 Fall Reunion in Taipei

The Fall Reunion took place in Taipei on Friday September 23rd and Saturday September 24th at the China Masonic Temple.

The class "Typhoon Megi" of fourteen brothers was raised from 4th to 32nd degree thanks to ritual teams from India, Malaysia, Thailand, and Taiwan.

A closing banquet reunited all brethren and numerous visitors on the Saturday 24th evening.



*Typhoon Megi Class*

All the pictures taken during the Reunion are available on

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B-wEgT0v8d1cTkFb2xVZGw3bkE?usp=sharing\\_eixpa\\_np&ts=5844b686](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B-wEgT0v8d1cTkFb2xVZGw3bkE?usp=sharing_eixpa_np&ts=5844b686)



*Brothers and Sisters at the Banquet*

### **Trivia from my heart**

From Brother C. Prasanna Venkatesh

"Space -the final frontier", all star trek fans would sure know of this phrase and I am a diehard fan of Star Trek and no wonder it has struck me so hard. I did believe that space was the final frontier for all future but little did I realise that space is not just outside. Providence thought it best to reveal to me the most obvious which I have with most certainty been missing earlier. That the final frontier is not near the horizon or beyond the spheres of earths coverings but also inside me. That a Microcosm of what I was looking for outside is within me as a part of me. Or should I say I am a part of it.

As a person who walks the PATH and an adept in masonry I was exposed to various experiences in the craft which practically pushed me from being an extrovert to an Introvert in spiritual matters. The experiences through experiments carried out by me, on me, in me, in these matters have changed me to an extent that sometimes I myself don't recognise myself in terms of what I was some time ago. As long as I was a serious religious person, I was sure of everything and had an answer to most of the questions one would pose but the moment I was pushed inside or the journey started inward, I would certainly say that I have in some sense

become muddle headed. I am now not so sure of anything which I earlier was so sure of. I am unable to deny anything as untrue as each assumes meaning from its own perspective. Now even opposites don't seem to oppose anymore. It's kind of funny sometimes. When on the inner journey the revelations experienced makes me really doubt if these little periods of joy for no reason, or when the long persisting question just drops or melts away is insanity or really the lucid intervals for the first time.

The difficulty I am facing right now is that I have so strongly anchored myself in the outside that I am able to travel inside only as long as the chain I have provided allows me to. Having the final frontier available I am unable to let go of the anchor I have dropped so strongly. The feeling of King Trishangu who was stuck in between two realms is what I get some times. On the contrary I also feel that the IN BETWEEN is the space where probably one has to be to really BE. Is that the Equilibrium the Masters have been pointing to. I also sometimes feel that it is as close to that of the Equilibrium advocated by the great Sakhyamuni Buddha. Friends please don't chide me for making ten diametrically opposite statements in each paragraph. I am just sharing the feelings which rush through sometimes. As I said I hope these are the true lucid intervals.

I have been long wanting to write about the final teachings of Masonry and my understanding of it but have always thus far been stopped at the threshold because of the anchor which I have dropped outside. I am making all endeavours to break free from my own chains to really make that inner space as my final frontier. Will continue to share my experiences. Profound peace to all. – Love – C. Prasanna Venkatesh

### **Asia Pacific Masonic Confederation Conference**

The Grand Lodge of China has organized on October 21st a Masonic Conference reuniting 12 Grand Lodges from 9 countries of the Asia Pacific rim: Australia, France, India, Japan, Philippines, Peru, Russia, USA and Taiwan.

It was a great opportunity to exchange ideas on the present and future of Freemasonry in the area.

Next issue of this event will take place in India



## **Administration**

The Dues for 2017 are receivable before December 31<sup>st</sup>. The corresponding Dues Notices have been sent already.

**We remind that exceptionally, the Supreme Council decided to waive the Dues for years before 2016, subject that payment of 2016 and 2017 Dues is done before the end of 2016. If not, all the arrears will subsist.**

We encourage brethren to use the Online Payment procedure. This procedure is very convenient and inexpensive.

## **New arrivals, kiss and goodbye**

Please share the joyful moments of newborn babies, weddings, as well as sad moments of departing family members. Send words or pictures to [taipei.bodies@gmail.com](mailto:taipei.bodies@gmail.com)

## **Contribute to our letter**

Contribute to the life of our Valley, send your contribution to  
[taipei.bodies@gmail.com](mailto:taipei.bodies@gmail.com)

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