

美中佛教会

Mid-America Buddhist Association

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Embrace the New Year: Welcoming the Year of the Snake

As we reflect on the tumultuous Year of the Dragon that has just ended, it is clear that many unexpected and significant changes have occurred in the global landscape. The Dragon symbolizes immense vitality, capable of both good and evil. For instance, we have witnessed the decline of the G7, the rise of Asia, the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, the Israel-Palestine conflict in the Middle East, the ups and downs of Huawei amidst the U.S.-China rivalry, Boeing's safety issues and fall from grace, and the persistent effects of global warming. These events underscore the explosive energy and dynamic force of the Dragon.

Looking ahead to 2025, the Year of the Snake, the snake sheds its skin repeatedly as it matures into a mighty dragon. This highlights the close connection between the attributes of dragons and snakes their fates intertwined and their causes and effects deeply linked. It can be said that dragons and snakes belong to the same lineage, with the dragon reigning as king and the snake being comparatively weaker. From the effects, we discern the causes: the global situation and national fortunes are likely to continue declining, weakening, and facing numerous challenges and drastic changes. Pinning hope on individual national leaders as saviors is no longer feasible in today's world. Instead, the focus should shift toward uplifting morale and empowering people to take charge of their destiny, fostering mutual understanding and collaboration in resolving issues.

The perceptive and agile "snake" communities must strive for individual progress, transcend fate, create opportunities, enhance virtue, eliminate harm, and seek harmony with nature and longevity alongside all living beings. In the Year of the Snake, people must take on the responsibility of addressing prosperity and decline, order and chaos, living boldly at the forefront of the times with grand aspirations. By cultivating positive thoughts and actions, they can bring enlightenment to the destiny of their nations, the fortunes of their peoples, and their own personal growth. In doing so, they will create great blessings and prosperity, illuminating a brighter future for all.

May your family enjoy a blessed and auspicious New Year,
with peace and happiness in both body and mind!

HAPPY
Chinese
new year

Best Wishes from
Abbot Jirú Bhikkhu
(MABA & IBFA)

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