

# **The Inspiration of Conventional Wisdom for the Ethical / Spiritual Well-Being in Taiwanese Folk Belief System**

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## **Abstract**

The purpose of this study is to investigate the religious system of the Compassion Society which originated from eastern Taiwan, particularly the religious inspiration and healing of one true, pious believer, SM and her disciples, so as to understand how more profound religious experiences could be obtained through this religious system. The authors view the doxastic inspiration of SM -- the process of believing and transformation -- as an “inspiration of conventional wisdom”, because through their religious practices, the presence of the Holy Mother, and observation of the dictum in Still Thoughts, SM and her followers obtained breakthroughs in conventional wisdom. The article first looks at how they acquired affirmative experiences through their practice of the technology of taking care of others, and how their discourse of experience becomes their action guide. Next, the article inspects how folk culture and social life enhances the formation of this profound experience through the containment of life, and how their experience and faith are continuously being fostered through their ritual process. The authors claim that in the Chinese folk culture, ethics and spiritual well-being are two mutually supportive aspects, and the provide the dimension of motherly care in these religious systems the best containment of life. However, under this containment, the practice (rituals) of conventional wisdom inspiration of the Compassion Society partakes in the ethical healing and at the same time, also influences the doxastic existential dimension, including (1) the doxastic relationship between the leader of the Compassion Society and the disciples, (2) how SM became possessed and inspired, (3) the development of possessed consciousness and the operation of shamanistic consciousness (e.g. clairvoyance, ability to understand cause-and-effect in past lives, being possessed by the Holy Mother). To further probe into the various theories that arise from these topics, the authors utilize Jung’s synchronicity and Imago / Image to explore the intertwining effects between ethical healing and spiritual well-being through the

inspiration of conventional wisdom in folk religion.

**Keywords:** religious healing, Imago, Compassion Society, possession, inspiration, conversion of faith, revelation of dreams

# 從俗智的啓蒙到心性與倫理的建構

## —— 以一個慈惠堂虔信徒網絡療癒為例

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### 摘要

本研究主要探討以台灣東部起源的慈惠堂宗教系統——慈惠堂虔信者SM師姐與其堂生們的教信啓蒙與宗教療癒，探究這宗教系統何以獲得較深刻的宗教經驗。本文透過慈惠堂分堂系統的SM師姐的虔信與轉化過程，將其宗教啓蒙視為「俗智的啓蒙」，亦即他們透過宗教實踐、透過母娘的臨現與靜思話語的實踐中介，而獲得對俗智的突破。首先本文從關切他人的技術性實踐探討他們如何獲得肯證性的經驗，以及這些經驗的論述如何成為深刻的行動指引；其次，本文探討民間文化與社會生活如何以生活底景的方式襯托這深刻經驗的形成，並且透過他們的操作過程，如何使得這深刻經驗得以持續厚植，信心不墜。本研究主張，華人常民文化的倫理與心性作為一體兩面的相互支援的特性，提供了這兩個宗教系統母性關懷面向最好的生活底景，然而在這底景之下，慈惠堂的俗智啓蒙實踐(辦事)，既參與倫理的療癒，也牽動存有層面的起信因由，包括(1)慈惠堂堂主與信徒的起信關係；(2)師姐何以入乩啓蒙；(3)入乩意識的發展以及乩識意識的操作(如透視眼、三世因果、母娘附駕辦事)等多項議題所發展出來的各種理論層面之探討。本文採取榮格的同時性理論與Imago/Image雙向發展觀點，將民間宗教的倫理、心性兩方面療癒作俗智啓蒙的彼此相轉圓、交相滲透、虛實相應的作用。

**關鍵字：**宗教療癒、靈象徵、慈惠堂、入乩、啓蒙、起信、夢啓