In 1992, Venerable Huili embarked on a journey to Africa. He established the first “Amitofo Care Center” (ACC) in Malawi during 2004, dedicated to caring for African vulnerable children and where more than 85% of world’s HIV-positive children live. Today, many years later, the founder continues with his compassionate practice of Buddhism in Africa traveling to all corners of Africa, and helping countless precious young lives. Nowadays, he is known as the “African monk” or “Monk dad” in the eyes of thousands of children.

Due to the pandemic situation, the school closed early and our winter vacation learning courses were officially started on July 1. First, we divided all the children into three large classes, Class A (grade 1 to 4 of elementary school) and Class B (grades 5-6 of elementary school), Class C (grades 1-4 of high school). The 7th grade of elementary school and the 5th grade of high school did not participate in our winter vacation course because they were about to face the national graduation examination and they were already busy.

We arranged three classes of children from 8:30 to 11:50 in the morning from Monday to Friday, and all of them were able to take courses in Buddhist chants, Chinese song, Kung Fu, painting, and design; 2:30~3:15 in the afternoon is the time for happily watching movies and group health; 15:20~16:20 is the original time for kung fu class, to maintain normal operation. For the other high school kids who have not studied kung fu, participated in separated sports so the boys played football and the girls played basketball.

The first thing we want to share with you here is: the teaching situation of Buddhist chants and Chinese songs. This is because it came from a long way of Taiwan, and it was also taught by the teacher Yugui, who continued the journey with Lesotho ACC.

When ACC Lesotho was inaugurated in 2010, teacher Yugui served here for 2 years. Therefore, more than half of the children are familiar with her, and they are just as happy to see teacher Yugui come back to ACC Lesotho.

In the Buddhist chants class, she mainly teaches the children the correct concepts and attitudes that they should have when participating in dharma work. Next, she will teach them more advanced methods of playing musical instruments and the connection of recitation procedures...and other the dharma details.

For Chinese songs, She teaches them the "ACC Songs". Some children who have been out of the group already know it, but have forgotten the lyrics so most children can’t sing it yet. Then, the second song is different for each class, because we want to make a presentation next month, so now we have to keep "secret" first.

We are honoured and happy to welcome VIPs such as our respected Prime Minister Moeketsi Majoro to watch the children’s wonderful performances and to enjoy the delicious food prepared by everyone.

On the afternoon of July 10, Saturday, the dean prepared drinks and candies for us, so that we could relax and enjoy the warm sun in the winter afternoon while listening to music and dancing in Futian Square. Everyone was so happy and cheerful on the platform, some people even showed off their own dance steps and awkward dances! During the wonderful winter vacation in the first half of July, it was really gratifying to see that the children not only didn’t waste time, but also cheered up and study hard.

We wish to bless the children: for their every-day activities to be splendid and fulfilling!