

Pictorial Biography of the Venerable Master Hsu Yun

#121: Personally Ploughing, Personally Eating, and Personally Cultivating

continued from issue #182

Dharma Master Ching Shan (Blue Mountain) was a native of Hu Nan Province, and those in the mountains all respected him. Since he lived relatively close to the Master, they were naturally in contact. The Master planted his own vegetables. In the eighth lunar month of the following year, Dharma Masters Fu Cheng (Restored to Success), Ywe Sya (Moon Mist), and Lyau Chen (Finished with the Dust) arrived. They were all surprised and said to the Master, "We had no news of you for several years. We never expected that you 'd be sleeping here!" The Master laughed and said, "Never mind about here; where is there?!" After a meal of taro, the Master joined the group and stayed at Pwo Shr (Broken Rock) Mountain. It was said that Elder Master Fa Ren (Dharma Patience) had been troubled lately and wanted to come to the area.

The Gatha says:

The Transformation City enticed
Dharma Masters "Moon Mist" and
Fu Cheng,
Who congregated on this stretch of green
mountain area.
But the Master said it lacked support
since it faced a white tiger.¹
Quite adverse and not propitious --the
result was just that way.

¹A term used in geomancy.

*translated, reviewed, and edited by the Buddhist
Text Translation Society*



集傳畫尚和老雲虛

自耕自食自修
青山師湘人。眾尊之。
與公往較近來往自
種。庚年八月。復成。月
窟。了塵三師至。說曰
我年不知你消息。竟
睡在這裏。公笑曰。這
裏且置。如何是那裡。
眾吃芋畢。住破石山。
云。法老厭煩。歌來此。
宣化偈曰
化城引月渡戒師。翠
微山上相地回。公謂
無業向白虎。多凶少
吉。後果然。