

A Pictorial Biography of the Venerable Master Hsu Yun
 By Venerable Master Hua

175. Despite the Unrest, Still Receiving Visitors by Sea

In 1933, the Master was ninety-four. The Japanese Army occupied Shan Hai Kuan and caused great trepidation among the people. Soldiers were reckless and unruly. Unrest was wide spread. In Fukien, the Nineteenth Army started an uprising. All the other temples and monasteries in the province stopped receiving visitors. However, because the Master was Abbot, Ku (Drum) Mountain continued to receive monks coming by sea. Wandering Bhikshus from the ten directions gathered in large numbers at Drum Mountain. Supplying adequate food for all was difficult, since there might be as many as fifteen or sixteen hundred, and rationing permitted just one bowl of gruel and one bowl of rice per day per person.

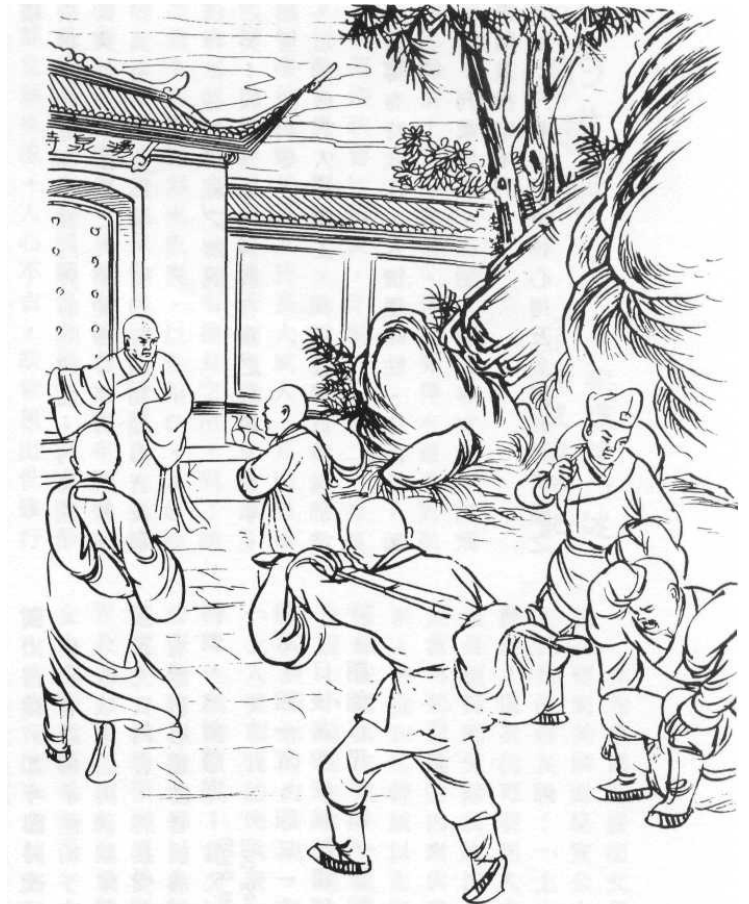
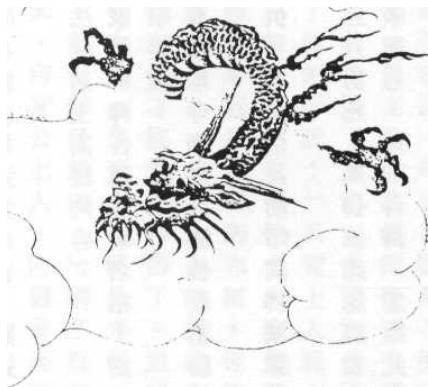
The gatha says:

Personally bearing the Buddha's teaching, he carried it on into the future.

While bodies of the Sangha members were subject to hunger and thirst.

Times of trouble and difficulty are a certainty,

So wandering through this changing world is the best place to cultivate.



傳畫尚和老雲虛

維亂世猶海軍
 癸酉九古歲。日今進入
 山海關。民氣慌。兵亂
 紛紛。到處不寧。十九軍
 在閩。舉事。全省寺院
 均止單。惟鼓山。公住持
 故。仍留海軍。十方海眾
 雲求僧人。雲集於鼓山
 者。教達千五百之多。
 齋糧困難。然仍維持一
 粥一飯。水準。
 宣化偈曰。佛教已任担
 為。未僧伽。渴身受。怯
 患難。顛沛。必於。是。世變
 流離。更。宜。裁。