

The Bodhi Seal of the Patriarchs

by the Venerable Master Yun and the Venerable Master Hua

*The Forty-fifth Generation of Patriarchs Dhyana Master Pu Wen
(Universal Renown) of Lung Hu (Dragon Pool) Monastery*



The Master was the crown prince of Emperor Syi Dzung of the Tang dynasty. From an early age, he abstained from eating meat. As an adult, he had no intention of getting involved in worldly matters. When Emperor Syi Dzung went to Szchwan, the Master had his head shaved, and then he went to visit Master Shr Sywang (Frost-on-Ice). He asked the elder Master, "The patriarchs handed down a special transmission--is the Master willing to bequeath it to me?"

Master Shr Shywang answered, "Do not slander the patriarchs."

The Master retorted, "How could the purport of the school be a fallacy?"

Sywang answered, "Wait till Master An Shan nods his head--then I'll tell you." At those words the Master suddenly awakened.

Afterwards, he travelled to the Shau Wu region. Seeing that that mountain area was graced with dense groves and luxuriant foliage, he built his adobe there. One day, a dragon went to him to ask to be pardoned from punishment by death. The Master placed the dragon in his sleeve. The dragon, moved by the Master's virtue, created a spring that gushed up from the bottom of the mountain cave. The local residents built a temple there, and called it Dragon Pool.

For over thirty years, the Master propagated the Dharma and transformed living beings. At the close of his life, he spoke a verse, of which one line says, "When I close my eyes, everyone listens." Then he passed away in peace. His stupa was built on that mountain. His posthumous title was Dhyana Master Ywan Jywe (Perfect Enlightenment).

A verse in praise says:

He was a scion of the royal family,
And then became minister of the Dharma King.
Having obtained Shr Sywang's seal.
He protected a banished dragon.
For thirty winters and summers,
He pointed at the false to discourse on the truth.
Today you should grasp my meaning.
As I close my eyes, everyone falls down to pay homage."

Another verse says:

Because of heavy karma he was born in the royal family.
Due to deep virtue, he was a vegetarian and abstained from killing.
Good and bad admixed, retribution is not the slightest bit off.
Defiled and pure intertwined, true again turns to false.
Master An Shan nodding his head—a teaching without words.
Within the sea of emotions, he grasped the meaning and awakened to the
source.
Starting from today, I've heard the song of no self.
Tomorrow, the flower of no death will bloom luxuriantly.