

## 七十一世 遠門淨柱禪師

### Dhyana Master Yuan Men Jing Zhu (Long Door, Pure Pillar) The Seventy-first Generation of Patriarchs

宣公上人講於1985年8月1日 Lectured by the Venerable Master Hua on August 1, 1985  
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師，閩漳陳氏子。閱雲棲〈七筆勾〉，慨然堅出世志。參石雨和尚於晉明，雨問曰：「不是心，不是佛，不是物，畢竟是個什麼？」師曰：「天人群生類，皆承此恩力。」雨曰：「懷州牛喫禾，益州馬腹脹，又作麼生？」師以頌答曰：「春至花開日，秋來葉落時。兒孫元得力，室內不曾知。」雨領之。繼席佛日，中興龍唐。順治甲午（公元1654年）臘月三十日，集衆曰：「古人叫苦叫快活，弄鬼眼睛。山僧不作者般去就，何也？漢家自有制度。」歛目常逝，塔全身於龍唐。

「七十一世遠門淨柱禪師」：這是七十一世的曹洞宗一位祖師。這位祖師的名字叫遠門，號淨柱禪師。

「師，閩漳陳氏子」：這位禪師是福建漳州的人，俗家姓陳。他生來就歡喜佛法，研究佛的經典。「閱雲棲〈七筆勾〉」：他看蓮池大師的〈七筆勾〉，「慨然堅出世志」：慨，就是很慷慨的，很決斷的，就是一點也不加猶豫。他這時候也不想：我出家好啊？我在家好啊？是去找個女朋友好啊？是找個男朋友好啊？沒有這些個囉嗦！很堅固的立下志氣，我出家就出家了，什麼都不要了！什麼男朋友、女朋友、亂七八糟的狗朋友都不要！

「參石雨和尚於晉明」：他最初參拜

The Master was a son of the Chen family from Minzhang. Having read Yunqi's Seven Strokes Hook, he resolutely vowed to transcend the mundane world. He went to pay his respects to Venerable Shi Yu ("Stone Rain") at Jinming, who questioned him, "It's not the mind, not the Buddha, not a thing. Ultimately, what is it?" The Master replied, "Celestial and human beings are all graced by this power of kindness." Yu asked, "A cow in Huai province eats grass, and the belly of a horse in Yi province bulges; what's this all about?" The Master replied with a verse, "When spring arrives, the flowers bloom. When autumn comes, the leaves fall. Human progeny are all imbued with this vital energy. Yet those who stay inside the room are unaware of it." Yu nodded in approval. The Master succeeded him as the abbot at Fo Ri (Buddha Sun) Monastery, and he also reinvigorated Long Tang Monastery. During the reign of Emperor Shun Zhi, in the lunar year of Jia Wu (1654), on the thirtieth day of the twelfth month, the Master gathered the assembly and said: "The ancients called it suffering, called it bliss, or blinked their eyes like a ghost, but the mountain monk does not do the same. Why? The Han's household has its own system." He then gently closed his eyes and passed away. A pagoda to accommodate his entire body was built in Long Tang.

**71st Generation Dhyana Master Yuan Men Jing Zhu.** This was a 71st generation Patriarch of the Caodong School. This Patriarch's name was Yuan Men. His other name was Dhyana Master Jing Zhu.

**The Master was a son of the Chan family from Minzhang.** This Dhyana Master was a native of the Zhang province in Fujian. From the time he was born he was very fond of the Buddhadharma and delighted in studying Buddhist sutras and texts. **Having read Yunqi's Seven Strokes Hook,** Great Master Lian Chi's Seven Strokes Hook, **he resolutely vowed to transcend the mundane world.** He was very fervent and determined, without the least bit of hesitation. At that moment, he didn't think: "Is it better for me to leave the home-life, to remain a layman, or to go and find a friend or a girlfriend?" Being free of all such frivolous thoughts, he simply resolved very firmly: "I'm

當時一個善知識叫做石雨明芳禪師。你看！這個雨一定打死人的，石頭雨，下石頭像雨那麼多，你看看，人若被打到頭上，一定打得頭破血流。由這個名字就知道這個和尚很厲害，歡喜打人，常常打人；用這個飛沙走石，把人的眼睛都打得睜不開了。石雨禪師是在晉明寺那兒住。

「雨問曰」：這個石雨和尚就問他，說：「不是心，不是佛，不是物」：也不是心，又不是佛，又不是一種什麼物質。「畢竟是個什麼」：這個究竟是個什麼？說一說看，快點！這就不是叫你等著，等想一想。沒有時間想一想！師曰：「天人群生類」：淨柱禪師說，天上的人和人間的人，和一切眾生的類，「皆承此恩力」：都是因為這種的力量才出生來，才有一股生機。

「雨曰」：石雨和尚聽他這麼說，這兩句有點似是而非的，還說得不夠。所以說，「懷州牛喫禾，益州馬腹脹，又作麼生」：這個你們看！講的「懷州牛喫草，益州馬腹脹」；講來講去，講得都說不上。這怎麼回事？你看，你這麼想：懷州牛喫草，那麼益州馬不喫草嗎？一樣！所以他那兒脹，這是很平常的事情，這有什麼出奇的？你要是轉不過這般的，就想：「哦？懷州牛喫草，怎麼益州馬腹在那兒脹呢？怎麼搞的？這是怎麼回事啊？」怎麼都不知道了！其實你懷州牛喫草，益州的那馬也是喫草嘛！那麼那個脹有什麼了不起的？

本來沒有什麼玄妙在裡頭，你不認識，就不懂了；就這麼一點點，這個禪師就叫你轉不過彎了。你若一轉過彎來，根本什麼也沒有；你轉不過彎來，麻煩就來了。就好像這個人，你若明白了，不被一切境界所轉；你若不明白呢？就被一切境界所轉。就是這個！沒有什麼特別奇妙在裡頭。懂了沒懂啊？石頭雨若來了，要打頭上啦！這個蓋子一揭穿了，你看裡頭什麼也沒有，空空如也。那麼石雨禪師就故意來問他，看他要怎麼說？

☞待續

going to leave the home-life. I don't want anything else! Whether they are friends, girlfriends, or unscrupulous people pretending to be friends, I don't want anything to do with any of them!"

**He went to pay his respects to Venerable Shi Yu ("Stone Rain") at Jinming.** He started out by paying his respects to a good and wise advisor called Dhyana Master Stone Rain Mingfang. You see! This 'Rain' will definitely kill those upon whom it falls. Stone Rain implies that it rained a shower of stones. Take a look. If a person got hit on the head, certainly his head would crack open and bleed. This name conveys how fierce this monk was. He liked to hit people. He was like a sandstorm or a rain of stones when he hit people—beating them to the point where they could no longer even open their eyes. Dhyana Master Stone Rain lived in Jinming Monastery. Yu, the Venerable Stone Rain, asked him, **It's not the mind, not the Buddha, not a thing.** It's neither the mind, nor the Buddha, nor any kind of thing. **Ultimately, what is it?** In the end what is it? Say it now! Quickly! This is not to ask you to wait and think. There is no time to think!" **The Master**, Dhyana Master Jing Zhu, **replied, "Celestial and human beings,** beings from the heavens and the human realm, and all categories of living beings, **are all graced by this power of kindness.** It is all because of this power that they could come into being and acquire this flow of vitality.

After Venerable Stone Rain (Yu) heard the Master, he felt that his two sentences seemed a bit specious. It was not quite adequate. Therefore, **Yu asked, "A cow in Huai province eats grass, and the belly of a horse in Yi province bulges; what's this all about?"** All of you take a look at this! It says: "A cow in Huai province eats grass, and the belly of a horse in Yi province bulges." With all this talk, he still had not made the point. What is going on? You see, the cow in Huai province eats grass, but doesn't the horse in Yi province eat grass too? It's just the same! Hence it is perfectly normal for the horse's stomach to bulge. What's so special about it? If you cannot turn your mind around but think instead: "Oh? The cow in Huai province eats grass; how come the belly of the horse in Yi province bulges? How does that happen? What's going on?" This is not to understand anything at all! In fact if the cow in Huai province eats grass, then the horse in Yi province also eats grass! So what's the big deal about the horse's belly being filled?

Basically there is nothing esoteric about it. However, if you don't recognize it, you will not understand. With just that little bit, this Dhyana Master can prevent you from turning it around in your head. If you are able to turn it around, basically there is nothing to it. If you are unable to make this turn, then trouble will come. It's just like this person. If you understand, then you are not turned by any state. If you don't understand, then you will be turned by all states. That's all there is to it! There's nothing special or wonderful to it. Do you understand or not? If Stone Rain comes, he will hit you on the head! However, if the lid is opened, you can see that actually it has nothing inside but emptiness. Hence, Dhyana Master Stone Rain purposely asked him to see what he had to say.

☞To be continued