

《順治皇帝讚僧詩》

天下叢林飯似山，鉢盂到處任君餐。
黃金百玉非爲貴，惟有袈裟披肩難。

朕爲大地山河主，憂國憂民事轉煩。
百年三萬六千日，不及僧家半日閒。

來時糊塗去時迷，空在人間走這回。
未曾生我誰是我？生我之時我是誰？

長大成人方是我，合眼朦朧又是誰？
不如不來又不去，來時歡喜去時悲。

悲歡離合多勞慮，何日清閒誰得知？
若能了達僧家事，從此回頭不算遲。



古代帝王佛詩選

清

世

祖

順

治

皇

帝

Emperor Shunzhi's Poem In Praise of the Sangha

In all the monasteries under heaven,
rice is served in great abundance;
With an alms bowl, one may go anywhere to eat one's fill.
Gold and jade can hardly be considered precious,
The most difficult thing is to drape a *kashaya*
on the shoulders.

As the sovereign, I am the Master of the great earth,
mountains and rivers;
Yet, I am plagued by worries
for my country and my people.
A century comprising thirty-six thousand days,
Cannot match even half a day in the carefree life
of a Sangha member.

Confused on arrival and deluded upon departure,
This is just a futile trip to the human realm.
Who was I before I was born?
Who am I after I am born?

Grown up as an adult, so this is me;
With my eyes shut and dozing off to sleep,
who again am I?
One might as well dispense with coming and going,
Lest there be happiness on arriving and
grief on departing.

The joys and sorrows of partings and reunions
are such troublesome matters;
Who knows when will one have carefree days?

Selected Buddhist Poems by Ancient Chinese Emperors - Emperor Shunzhi of the Qing Dynasty

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If one could thoroughly understand the affairs of the Sangha,
Turning back at this point is still not too late.

Ordinary folks cannot compare with left-home people;
Without cares and worries, they are peaceful and at ease.
Pure and simple food are what they have for meals;
Patched robes are their constant attire.

Throughout the Five Lakes and Four Seas, they are free to roam at will;
All because they have planted the seeds of Bodhi in previous lives.
Each and everyone is a true Arhat;
Wearing the three garments prescribed by the Thus Come One.

Since the golden crow and jade rabbit rush from east to west,
Being a person, one should not be scheming and calculating.
The events of a hundred years are nothing
but a midnight dream;
In all its vastness, the universe is merely a game of chess.

世間難比出家人，無憂無慮得安宜。
口中吃得清和味，身上常穿百衲衣。

五湖四海為上客，皆因夙世種菩提。
個個都是真羅漢，披搭如來三等衣。

金烏玉兔東復西，為人切莫用心機。
百年世事三更夢，萬里乾坤一局棋。

禹開九州湯放桀，秦吞六國漢登基。
古來多少英雄漢，南北山頭臥土泥。

黃袍換得紫袈裟，只為當年一念差。
我本西方一衲子，為何生在帝王家？

十八年來不自由，南征北討幾時休？
我今撒手西方去，不管千秋與萬秋！

編按：順治是清朝世祖的年號，順治皇帝能放下江山，一心為追求真理，尋求解脫正道，猛然踏上出家修道的不二法門。

Great Yu established the nine regions;
King Shang Tang banished the tyrant Jie.
Emperor Qin annexed the six states, only to be succeeded by the Han.
From antiquity to the present, many are the valiant heroes
Whose tombs now lie scattered across the mountains in the north and south.

Exchanging the purple *kashaya* for a golden robe,
Is all because of a single erroneous thought in the past.
As I was originally an itinerant monk from the West,
How did I end up being born into the imperial family?

For the past eighteen years, freedom has eluded me.
When will all the northern and southern expeditions come to an end?
I shall now wash my hands of all these and return to the West;
Whether the empire lasts for a thousand or ten thousand autumns
is no concern of mine!

Note: 'Shunzhi' was the reign title of Emperor Shunzhi of the Qing Dynasty. He was able to give up his empire for the sake of pursuing the true principle single-mindedly and seeking the proper path of liberation. Making a wise decision, he courageously stepped through the non-dual dharma door of leaving the home-life to cultivate the Path.