

# 白起 Bai Qi (續) (Continued)

宣公上人講於1988年8月26日

Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua on August 26, 1988

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有什麼證明呢？在唐朝的時候，他秦朝做的惡，等到唐朝的時候，京道(就是長安那個地方)法海寺有個道英禪師；道英法師在破曉的時間(就是天將要亮的時候)，見兩個人來寺院裡頭，這兩個人走路，腳跟不踩地。一切鬼神行路都不著地，還有證果的聖人也會行路足不著地；可是道英法師知道這兩個不是證果的聖人，是兩個鬼，來到這廟裡來了。那麼他知道是鬼，所以這個鬼也就不怕這個法師，就要向這個法師來乞食，來討吃的。

就在第二天，道英法師就做蒙山施食，來超度這兩個鬼。可是不單單這兩個鬼來了，秦始皇也來了；秦始皇領著有三百多個鬼來到這兒，來想吃法師施食這種供養。這三百多個鬼裡頭，就有白起，又有王翳。王翳也是秦朝時候的一個勇猛善戰的大將；都是殺人王，善於殺人的。

明朝的時候，在吳山有個三茅觀，那裡邊被雷劈了一個白色的蜈蚣；這個蜈蚣有一尺多長，在它的脊背上就有「白起」二字。你看！因為他毒，把這個降卒四十萬都給埋上了，所以他自己投生做蜈蚣，這蜈蚣也是最毒的一種動物。又有個屠夫殺豬的時候，豬的皮有「秦白起」三字，就是指秦時候的這個白起。

那麼這是唐朝和明朝都有這種白起受的果報現出來，清朝最近又有了。江南有個老百姓的女子，十九歲的時候，偶然就患一種重病。她到人要死的時候，她就自己說：「我是秦朝那時候的白起，殺人數十萬，受苦無量。」就是他殺了無辜的人、殺了冤枉的人有數十萬，因此受無間地獄

What evidence is there for the evil he did during the Qin Dynasty? In the Tang Dynasty, a Dhyana Master named Daoying lived at the Fahai (Sea of Dharma) Monastery located in Jingdao (i.e. Chang'an.) One day at dawn, he saw two people coming to the monastery but their feet didn't touch the ground, which was the sign of walking ghosts and spirits. When sages walk, their feet do not touch the ground, either. However, Dharma Master Daoying knew that these two were not sages but ghosts. The ghosts were not afraid of this Dharma Master and asked him for food.

The very next day, when Dharma Master Daoying was performing the Mengshan ceremony to offer food to rescue these two ghosts, the Emperor of Qin, leading three hundred ghosts, also came wishing to partake of the food this Dharma Master offered. These three hundred ghosts included Bai Qi and Wangjian, who was also a fierce general skilled in killing and battle, a king of killers.

During the Ming Dynasty, at Sanmao Taoist Monastery on Mount Wu, a white centipede, more than one foot long, was struck to death by lightning. The two characters 'Bai Qi' appeared on its back. You see, because of his cruelty of burying four hundred thousand people alive, in his next life he became a centipede, one of the most venomous species. In another incident, a butcher was killing a pig and a pig that had 'Bai Qi of Qin' printed on its skin. It meant that this pig was Bai Qi of the Qin Dynasty.

In the Tang Dynasty and the Ming Dynasty, there were cases showing the retribution that Bai Qi was undergoing. In the more recent Qing Dynasty, a daughter of an ordinary citizen became seriously ill at the age of nineteen. When she was on the brink of death, she said, "I was Bai Qi in the Qin Dynasty. I killed hundreds of thousands of people. Therefore, I am going through limitless sufferings." Because he killed hundreds of thousands of innocent people, he had to undergo boundless suffering in the hells. She continued, "I have very limited life span in this body as a woman. I will only live to be twenty." After saying this, she died. These incidents seem to indicate that Bai Qi's sufferings in the three evil paths may never end.

Elder Lord Li said, "Good and evil are followed by their retribution just as a shadow follows a form." If you do good deeds, a good retribution will follow you. If you do bad deeds, a bad retribution will accompany you.

的苦報。「今天我受這個女身，壽命有壽限，只可以活二十歲。」她說完就死了。由前邊這種情形來看，這白起受三途之苦，恐怕永無了期。

李老君說過：「善惡之報，如影隨形。」你做善的報應，它跟著你；做惡的報應，也會跟著你。信然哪！由白起這一件事情，我們來看這善惡果報，是絲毫不爽的。

評曰：

秦將白起 無人有己  
用兵善戰 殘酷莫比  
活埋降卒 死墮地獄  
蜈蚣豬身 病女之體

所以評說：「秦將白起，無人有己」：秦將這個白起，他的心目中無人，沒有其他的人是他看在眼裡的。他殺人如麻，只知道有他自己；他要來給國家建功立業，可是做的事情很多都不對的。

「用兵善戰，殘酷莫比」：他用兵也善於殺人，所謂用兵善戰，就是殺了很多人；殘酷沒有人能比得了他。「活埋降卒，死墮地獄」：他把四十萬降卒都給活埋了，所以他自己死的時候也墮落到地獄去了。

「蜈蚣豬身，病女之體」：又去做蜈蚣，又去做豬；做蜈蚣被雷劈，做豬就那個皮上寫著「秦白起」。那麼又做病女。做蜈蚣、豬的身、病女之體，這都是循環果報，是絲毫也逃不出去的。

又說偈曰：

一將成功萬鬼哭 秦時白起被雷誅  
虎狼獅子為隊伍 蜈蚣蛇蠍混血塗  
傷天害理坑降衆 背地違德散荼毒  
元帥統兵應忠恕 己所不欲勿加諸

「一將成功萬鬼哭」：一個人他要成了名、成了功，他有了功勞，萬鬼都在那兒說：「你錯殺我了，我一定要報仇的！」都在那兒哭哭啼啼的。「秦時白起被雷誅」：秦時候那個將軍白起，托生做蜈蚣的時候，還被雷給劈了。

「虎狼獅子為隊伍」：他的性情兇殘，

You must believe this principle. From the story of Bai Qi, one can tell that the retribution of doing good and evil is not off by a bit.

*A verse of criticism says:*

**General Bai Qi of the Qin Dynasty thought of no one but himself.  
He was skilled in leading troops and waging war,  
But his brutality was unsurpassed.  
He buried soldiers alive after they surrendered,  
For which he fell into the hells at death.  
Subsequently, he was reborn as a centipede, a pig, and a sick girl.**

*Commentary:*

**General Bai Chi of Qin Dynasty thought of no one but himself.** General Bai Qi of Qin was supercilious. He basically considered everyone and everything beneath his notice. The number of people he killed was as many as sesame seeds. He only had himself in mind. Although he wished to help build and establish the nation, he did many incorrect things.

**He was skilled in leading troops and waging war, but his brutality was unsurpassed.** He was skillful in killing and good at leading troops in battle, meaning that he took many lives. No one can match his ruthlessness. **He buried soldiers alive after they surrendered, for which he fell into the hells at death.** He buried four hundred thousand soldiers alive after they had surrendered. As a result, he plunged to the hells after his own death.

**Subsequently, he was reborn as a centipede, a pig, and a sick girl.** He was born as a centipede, which was struck to death by lightning, and a pig that had 'Bai Qi of Qin' printed on its skin. He then was reborn as a sick woman. This was all part of his retribution, which was inescapable and not off by a hair.

*Another verse:*

**A military general's success caused myriad ghosts to weep.  
Bai Qi of the Qin Dynasty was struck by lightning.  
He belonged among the ranks of tigers, wolves, and lions.  
He wallowed in the bloody mire with centipedes, snakes,  
and scorpions.  
He transgressed the natural law by burying those who surrendered  
And opposed the virtue of the earth by spreading brutality.  
A commander-in-chief should be loyal and magnanimous.  
Never do to others what you don't want others to do to you.**

*Commentary:*

**A military general's success caused myriad ghosts to weep.** When this person became successful and famous, his success caused myriad ghosts to say, "You have wronged me and killed me. I will definitely seek revenge." They were all crying and complaining. **Bai Qi of the Qin Dynasty was struck by lightning.** General Bai Qi of Qin was reborn as a centipede and was killed by lightning.

**He belonged among the ranks of tigers, wolves, and lions. He wal-**

就像和虎狼獅子為伍。「蜈蚣蛇蠍混血塗」：他不擇手段，就和那個蜈蚣和蛇蠍那麼毒辣；都是把其他的國家人民、軍隊，都好像用血來塗抹了一樣——言其他殺人之多，遍地流血。

「傷天害理坑降眾」：他也不想一想天地有好生之德，他做的事情違背天理，把四十萬降卒都給埋上了。「背地違德散荼毒」：他殺，到處放他這個毒氣，都是違背天地良心的行為。

「元帥統兵應忠恕」：做大將率領兵的，應該懂得忠恕之道。「己所不欲勿加諸」：忠恕什麼道呢？說：「我不欲人之加諸我，我亦毋加諸人。」我不願意人來害我，我也不害人。

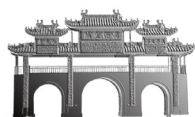
所以「忠以持己」，這個「忠」，就是對自己的事情要盡忠，做什麼事都要有始有終。「恕以待人」，那麼待人這個道，應該用恕道。恕道是什麼呢？就是我不願意的事情，我不要加到旁人的身上；自己不喜歡的事情，不能加到其他人的身上。所以古來武王伐紂，都是用堂堂之鼓，正正之旗。不像秦將白起，他用奸詐的種種手段，來欺騙其他國家的軍隊；因為他用的方法沒有人道，以後他就墮落三惡道去。做將領和治國的人，都應該特別注意這一點！不要在活著很威風的，到死了之後就墮地獄，轉做鬼，做畜生，永遠也不能了這個苦；這是非常蝕本的，非常不值得的！

lowed in the bloody mire with centipedes, snakes, and scorpions. His fierce demeanor was as lethal as that of tigers, wolves, and lions. He was as pernicious as the centipedes, snakes, and scorpions. It was as if he had smeared the bodies of the citizens and soldiers of his country with blood—this connotes the great number of people he had killed, splashing their blood everywhere.

**He transgressed the natural law by burying those who surrendered and opposed the virtue of the earth by spreading brutality.** He didn't pause to consider that heaven and earth favor life and that burying four hundred thousand soldiers alive after they had surrendered was totally immoral. The killing and poisonous energy he dispersed went entirely against any sense of conscience and natural law.

**A commander-in-chief should be loyal and magnanimous. Never do to others what you don't want others to do to you.** A commander-in-chief who leads troops should understand the principles of loyalty and magnanimity. What does this mean? It means that you will not harm others if you don't want to be hurt.

Therefore, it is said, 'Be loyal to oneself.' It means that whatever we do, we must be loyal to ourselves by carrying whatever we do all the way through to the end. 'Be magnanimous with others.' How do we treat others with magnanimity? We do not do to others what we don't want done to ourselves. That's why King Wu rose in a revolt against King Zhou—to relieve people from sufferings. He was up front, open, and well-disciplined, unlike Bai Qi, who was cunning and covert in deceiving another country's troops. The strategies Bai Qi employed were ruthless, and he plunged to the three evil paths after death. Leaders of nations should pay particular attention to this point. Take care not to revel in power and prestige while alive but then fall into the paths of hells, hungry ghosts, and animals after death to undergo endless suffering with no way to escape. That would be taking a great loss and would not be worth it.



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