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宣化上人事蹟（中國篇）

Events in the Life of the Venerable Master:
The China Period

White Mountains and Black Waters Nurture Rare Talent (Continued)

宣化上人事蹟編輯委員會新編（2009年）

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19. 病中神遊（續）

後來回家，打開自己的房門，向房裏一看，怎麼床上還有一個「我」在那個地方躺著呢？正當我覺得還有一個「我」時，立即又變成了一個身體了！這時候就有呼吸了，也能動了。當時我父親、母親都在身邊看著我，就說：「他沒有死，又活了！」我問父母親，才知道自己有七、八天不省人事了；現在又有知覺了，知道自己還沒有死。

由這場大病之後，我就變成一個「活死人」：已經死了，又再活過來的一個人。由此之後，我也不那麼狂了，不再隨便說話。我由此知道自己的功夫還是不夠，所以經不起考驗。雖然我不怕妖魔鬼怪、天魔外道，但是我降伏不了病魔，還是忍受不了。所以修道人，不能說自滿的話，說自己什麼都不怕；如果你自滿，麻煩就來了。

20. 棄醫從道

上人讀了兩年半的書，除了貫通儒家經典之外，也博覽醫卜星相書籍。雖然他父親很希望上去行醫，上人還是決定出家修道，闡揚佛法，廣利群生，實現救人濟世之抱負。

上人自述：

我有一位同學，讀了十五年書，我只讀兩年半，還超過他兩部書。我把五經四書都讀了，古文八本，我讀有七本，醫書讀了十五、六本。十八歲的

19. A visit to the mind, while sick (Continued)

As told by the Venerable Master:

Later I went back, opened the door to my room and found another 'me' lying there. At that moment I and the 'I' lying there became one. I had breath and started to move. My parents were close by watching me and exclaimed, "He is not dead. He is alive again!" I asked my parents what happened and was told that I had been unconscious for seven or eight days. I was conscious again and knew I was not dead.

After that I became a 'living dead person'; I was dead and came back to life again. Since then, I have not been so brash or reckless in my speech. From this experience, I realized that my abilities were inadequate because I couldn't pass the tests. I am not afraid of demons and externalists, yet I could not defeat the sickness demon. Therefore religious practitioners cannot be overly conceited and think there is nothing to fear. If you are conceited, troubles will come.

20. He renounced a medical career and became a monk

After two and a half years of studying at school, the Venerable Master fully understood the Confucian classics and became familiar with medical books, divination books, and astrology books. His father wanted him to be a doctor, but he decided to become a monk to advocate Buddhism and educate others in order to save people and the world.

As told by the Venerable Master:

I had a classmate who studied for fifteen years. I studied for two and a half years but read double the number of books that

時候，已經沒有書可以讀了，也很少有世俗的醫生讀那麼多書的。那時候，醫學、醫卜星相我都涉獵過，可是我都不做；我會批八字，但是不批。因為這個不究竟，雖然也是真的，但是都在那兒繞彎子。

我讀醫書是被逼的，被誰逼的呢？被我父親逼的。因為我父親是農人，我讀書了之後，他叫我讀醫書，說醫書是有用的，可以賺錢的。既然父命難違，於是我上午讀醫書，下午就讀舊學；等我讀完書，什麼病我都懂，可以給人看病了。因為我老師也是個醫生，他給人看病，也叫我幫著看脈，我也幫他抓藥。

但是我這個人，說起來很笨的，就不願意要錢，一生來與錢沒有緣。我父親很窮的，我還安貧，就是願意窮。我覺得窮，少了很多煩惱麻煩。我覺得錢是個很邋邋的東西，很不乾淨；若是來路不明，更不乾淨。又譬如有一百個人，我治好了九十九個半；剩下半個，我要是把人家生命給耽誤了，就覺得對不起這個人，對不起自己良心。因為這個，我也沒去做醫生。

21. 嚴拒女色

上人在十八歲時，遇到女色的考驗。上人說：「一切是考驗，看爾怎麼辦；靚面若不識，須再從頭煉。」修道不容易，要時時保持正念，以免一失足成千古恨。

上人自述：

那時候，我自以為自己修行有點功夫了，就遇到考驗。在東北，在我沒病以前，我就參加道德會，在道德會做總務科長，專門講道德，說仁義的，勸人家做好事。那麼勸人家做好事，我自己做不做好事呢？我自己更做好事；不是說單勸人家做好事，自己不做好事。

有一天，我看一本書，書上講到張雅軒重道遠色的好行為。書上說有一個女人叫于淑嫻，就是于鳳至（張學良的太太）的姪女。于淑嫻喜歡張雅軒，就佯狂跪倒在他的面前，說她一定要嫁給他。張雅軒一看，這是不對的，就婉轉地把她勸退了。我看見他的行為這樣好，我就對天發願，我說：「天哪，天哪！張雅軒這種行為，我一定要效法他。」說完之後，自己立即覺得這個想法是不對的，我就後悔了：「我要遇著這個事情，幹什麼呢？這有什麼意思呀？這不是太愚癡了嗎？」說完之後，這一天晚間，很奇怪地就遇著這種魔考。

☞待續

he did. I read all of the Confucian classics, seven or eight of the most important ancient Chinese books, and fifteen to sixteen medical books. By the time I was eighteen, there were not many books left to read. Few doctors have read that many books; I read medical books, divination books and astrology books. However, I didn't do anything in those fields. I could do fortune telling, but I didn't because it was not an ultimate method. Although it did lead to some truth, it took a roundabout way to get there.

I was forced by my father to study medical books. My father was a peasant and he wanted me to study medical books because he thought they were valuable and I could make money being a doctor. It was not good to ignore Father's request, so I studied medical books in the morning and Chinese classics in the afternoon. I learned about sickness and could diagnose others. My teacher was a doctor, too. He asked me to see his patients with him, to help him diagnose and prescribe medicine.

However, I was foolish. I didn't want to make money and am not good at making money. My father was poor, and I was happy with being poor. I think being poor one can avoid many troubles. Money is something lousy and dirty. Money gained in improper ways is even dirtier. Another reason that I didn't become a doctor was how I would feel for the 0.5% of patients that I could not cure. I felt I would not be able to face my conscience, even though I cured the rest of my patients.

21. Say no to the temptation of lust

The Venerable Master's resistance to lust was tested when was eighteen. The Master said, "Everything is a test to see what you will do. If you fail to recognize what's before you, you'll have to start anew." It is not easy to practice the Path. You have to maintain proper mindfulness all the time to avoid longtime regrets.

As told by the Venerable Master:

I thought I had some capabilities but was soon tested. When I was in northeast China, I joined the Moral Society and became the general administrator. I taught ethical and moral values to others and asked them to do good deeds. Did I do any good deeds while I persuaded others? I did good deeds; I didn't ask others to be good while I did bad things.

I had the opportunity to read a book about the good behavior of Zhang Yaxuan, who put the spiritual path over sensual desire. The book told of a woman, Yu Shuxian, the niece of General Zhang Xueliang's wife, who pretended to fall in front of Zhang Yaxuan and insisted that he marry her. Zhang Yaxuan didn't forget his principles. He politely refused her. His good behavior was exemplary so I said to myself: I want to follow his example, if I am ever in a similar situation. Later I realized my thinking was not right and I thought with regret, What does that mean – in a similar situation? Why do I want to be in a similar situation? Was I being foolish? Strangely enough, I was tested that night.

☞To be continued