



【佛祖道影白話解】 LIVES OF THE PATRIARCHS

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## The Venerable Kumarajiva of Yaoqin

(續) (continued)

宣公上人講於1985年9月20日  
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「于時」：在這個時候。「四方英賢」：當時皇帝雖然做一個土匪頭，去把智人搶來了；但是中國的老百姓還有一些個賢德的人，有些個很聰明的、很英俊的有智慧的人。「萬里咸集」：就在一萬里之外，聽說有這樣一個智人，都想要來到他這兒，請他解疑。「罔不思議」：罔，就是沒有。沒有一個不想把他們心裡的疑團給解除了——這個「諮」，就是問問題——所以無論有什麼問題，都到他這兒來，請他給解決這個問題。「稟于座下」：他那個時候，因為皇帝把他搶回來了，一般人就誰也不敢對他沒有禮貌；不像呂光那個時候，欺負這個窮和尚。那麼這個時候，他是得到天時、地利，所以人和也就有了；於是乎就都要做他的學生、做他的弟子。稟於座下，就是做他的弟子，稟承他這種的法。「蓋佛法東來」：蓋，這是一個祈請，就是他這個事情又說明白一點；「蓋」和這個「乎」字是文法的關係，所以，用這個「蓋」是個虛字眼。咱們可以這麼說，佛法傳到我們中國，「至師始著」：到鳩摩羅什法師到了中國這時候，才是真正的有顯著的成就了！

「及沒荼毘」：等到他圓寂之後，「舌根不壞」：他在生前，就自己也願意顯一種靈驗，

**At that time, worthy people from the four quarters...** Although the emperor had acted like a bandit and captured a wise man, in China, there were still many worthy and virtuous citizens and some very intelligent and capable people with wisdom. They **came and gathered from thousands of miles around**. Even though they were ten thousand miles away, people still heard of this wise man and all wanted to come to his place to request him to solve their doubts. **There were none that did not have questions in mind.** There were none that did not want to solve their doubts. They wanted to request the Master to resolve their questions and problems. **And all wanted to study under the Master's guidance.** Since the emperor had seized the Master, people dared not be impolite to him, unlike Lü Guang who had previously intimidated this poor monk. At that time, the Master had the advantage of time, environment, and human aspects. People all wanted to become his students and disciples to receive his teachings. **It can well be said that the propagation of the Buddhadharma in China stems from him.** We can say that it was not until Dharma Master Kumarajiva arrived in China that Chinese Buddhism started to prosper with truly remarkable achievements.

**After the Master passed away,** after he entered perfect stillness, **at his cremation his tongue remained unconsumed by fire.** When the Master was alive, he wanted to display his efficacy. He wanted to prove himself and manifested a little psychic power. What kind of psychic power? He said to the assembly, "After I enter stillness, you should cremate my body. If my sutra translations are

也願意自己證明自己一下，顯一點神通。什麼神通呢？他對大家說了：「我呀！圓寂之後，你們把我用火燒了。如果我翻譯的經典正確，我這舌頭燒不壞；如果我翻譯得不正確的話，那麼我這個舌頭也會燒得變成灰。」因為這個，這是一個預言，也可以說是想要露一手。果然他圓寂，荼毘的時候——就用火燒的時候——舌頭沒有燒壞，其他都燒了。所以，「蓋表所譯不謬云」：這個就是證明他所說的話、他所翻譯的經典，都是真的、正確的、沒有錯的。所以由這一點，鳩摩羅什法師翻譯的經典很流通於世，到處的人都很願意讀誦他這個本子。

贊曰：

靈發母胎 妙慧若神  
持鉢悟旨 幼齡說經  
佛法東傳 訛謬相承  
實藉師至 放大光明

「贊曰」：這個讚歎來說。

「靈發母胎，妙慧若神」：他在母胎裏頭，就有種種靈感。因為他母親不懂得梵文，懷孕的時候，梵文也懂了；所以這種妙智慧，真是不可思議。

「持鉢悟旨，幼齡說經」：他頂起這個佛的鉢，就明白「一切唯心」的道理，也明白不分別的這種智慧、這種力量了。他還年幼，就給大家講經說法。

「佛法東傳，訛謬相承」：佛法傳到東方來以後，有的這樣講，有的那樣講。訛謬，就是很多錯誤，很多不盡符實的；那麼這個似是而非的地方，就以訛傳訛。謬，是錯謬。以訛傳訛，就是互相那麼相傳下來，有一些都不實在的。相承，就互相傳承；就以訛傳訛、以謬傳謬！

「實藉師至，放大光明」：這個「藉」字，和那個「借」是一樣的意思。藉，就是藉仗、憑藉；借，就是借助；意思都差不多的。那麼實在是憑仗鳩摩羅什法師到中國，佛法才發揚光大，令佛教很普遍！

☞待續

accurate, my tongue will not burn; if my translations are inaccurate, then my tongue will burn into ashes.” This was a prediction. It can also be said that he wanted to show his skill. Sure enough, at his cremation, his tongue did not burn while the rest was consumed by fire. Therefore, it was **proof of the accuracy and authenticity of his translations**. That confirmed the Master’s words, and his sutra translations were all authentic, accurate, and without mistakes. From this point, the sutras translated by Dharma Master Kumarajiva greatly circulated throughout the lands. Everywhere, people liked to read and recite his copies.

*A verse in praise:*

**His wisdom showed while yet in the womb,  
Wonderful wisdom like that of a god.  
As he held an urn, he grasped the doctrines.  
He lectured sutras though still a youth.  
In the course of the Dharma’s transmission to the east,  
Many erroneous interpretations were perpetuated.  
It was truly this Master who caused  
Buddhism to emit great light.**

*A verse in praise says:* **His wisdom showed while yet in the womb, / Wonderful wisdom like that of a god.** When he was in his mother’s womb, there were already many efficacious responses. Originally, his mother knew nothing about Sanskrit. But after she conceived him, she could understand it. Hence, this kind of wonderful wisdom is truly inconceivable.

**As he held an urn, he grasped the doctrines. He lectured sutras though still a youth.** When he held up the Buddha’s urn, he realized the principle that ‘everything is made from the mind alone.’ He also understood the wisdom and power of not discriminating. Even at a tender age, he lectured on the sutras and spoke Dharma to the assembly.

**In the course of the Dharma’s transmission to the east, / Many erroneous interpretations were perpetuated.** When the Buddhadharma was first transmitted to the east, people made various different commentaries and erroneous interpretations, and these unclear concepts were handed down and transmitted from one to the other.

**It was truly this Master who caused / Buddhism to emit great light.** With the aid of Dharma Master Kumarajiva who came to China, Buddhism started to flourish and prosper and become very popular.

☞To be continued