



姚秦羅什尊者

【佛祖道影白話解】 LIVES OF THE PATRIARCHS

姚秦羅什尊者

The Venerable Kumarajiva of Yaoqin

(續) (continued)

宣公上人講於1985年9月20日
Lecture given by the Venerable Master Hua on September 20, 1985
周果如 英譯 Translated into English by Winne Chou

又說偈曰：

過去七佛譯經師	穎悟絕倫善知識
日記三萬六千句	月印八百七俱胝
暢顯神源符聖意	揮發幽致契玄機
恩播法界澤後世	大教流通永護持

「又說偈曰」：又說一首偈頌。

「過去七佛譯經師」：鳩摩羅什大師，在過去賢劫七佛時，都是由他來翻譯經典。「穎悟絕倫善知識」：他這種聰明智慧，一般的人都比不上他。他真是一個善知識！

「日記三萬六千句」：這是一天記三萬六千句；不是說他寫了一本日記，只有三萬六千句。你們這又要弄清楚啦！不要弄得：「喔！他記了一本日記，三萬六千句。」那又弄錯了！「依文解義，三世佛冤。」

「月印八百七俱胝」：印，是印可、印證。因為他當時翻譯經典，有很多人在那兒幫助翻譯，都要經過他給證明過，證明這個是對的，不錯啦！那麼這樣子，又修改這個初譯。就是經過翻譯、修正、潤色、印證，這樣子的四個步驟；他都絲毫不馬虎，一定要經過

Another verse:

**A master of sutra translation for seven Buddhas past,
A good and wise advisor with unsurpassed intellect,
He memorized thirty-six thousand phrases daily,
And certified eight hundred and seven *kotis* monthly.
Clearly revealing its divine source, he accorded with the sages' intention.
Displaying the innermost profound depths, he tallied with
the mysterious truth.
His kindness spread throughout the Dharma Realm
to benefit future generations.
The great teaching will continue and be protected and upheld forever.**

Commentary:

Another verse of praise was spoken.

A master of sutra translation for seven Buddhas past. In the past, during the times of the seven Buddhas in the Worthy eon, it was Great Master Kumarajiva who translated the sutras. **A good and wise advisor with unsurpassed intellect.** His intelligence and wisdom were unmatched by ordinary people. He was truly a good and wise advisor!

He memorized thirty-six thousand phrases daily. Every day he could memorize thirty-six thousand phrases. Do not make the mistake of assuming that he had written a diary of thirty-six thousand phrases. [Note: That would be a possible literal interpretation of the sentence.] That would be a mistake! As it is said: "Explaining the text too literally is an injustice to the Buddhas of the three periods of time."

And certified eight hundred and seven *kotis* monthly. To certify is to endorse, to officially approve. At that time, many people were helping the

很慎重地審查，一字也不苟地，一字他也不隨便放過去。這樣，所以就有個印證；印，就像蓋上一個印似的，證明：喔！不是假的啦！八百七俱胝，言其大家翻譯的經典很多，很多的語句、很多的篇幅，他都給印證，說：「這個可以啦！」這個「俱胝」，方才我們這位老師就說是個大數目，大概這個意思就是那麼多！

「暢顯神源符聖意」：暢顯神源，前面已經說了。符，就是符合；聖意，就是佛的意思；符合佛的意思。佛說這個經典，他所翻譯的，和佛的意思一點都不錯的。所以我們現在翻譯經典，符合佛的意思、合法意、合僧意，不能用我們個人的知見來翻譯經典。

「揮發幽致契玄機」：揮發，就是發揮。發揮那個幽遠、人所想像不到的義理。契，是契合，也就是符合；「契合」和「若合符節」，都是一樣的意思。玄機，就是玄妙裏邊的那個其味無窮，真是耐人玩味。其味無窮那種玄妙的意思，就是這個「機」的意思。

「恩播法界澤後世」：他對我們佛教徒的恩，流傳法界；法界是無邊的，他的恩也是無邊的。他的功德，對後世的佛教徒真是特別的深厚，我們報答不完的。

「大教流通永護持」：大教，也就是佛教。佛教能以流通到各國去，這都是鳩摩羅什法師這種的力量所成就的，也就是他的功德莊嚴所成就、護持的。

Master to translate the sutras, and they needed the Master to certify that the sutras were translated correctly, without mistakes. There were four stages in the Master's translation process: preliminary translation, reviewing to correct mistakes in the translated text, refining the words, and certifying the translation. The Master was very prudent in examining the text, word by word, before he certified the translation. It is like a seal to approve and confirm that it is not false. 'Eight hundred and seven *kotis*' indicates that a large number of sutras were translated. There were many words and sentences, many pages and chapters that the Master would certify, by saying, "This will do!" The word *koti* means a big number. Perhaps it means that many!

Clearly revealing its divine source, he accorded with the sages' intention. I previously explained the phrase 'clearly revealing its divine source.' The sutras spoken by the Buddha tallied with the Master's translations, and his translations agreed with the meaning of the Buddha, with no mistakes. Therefore, when we translate the sutras now, it has to accord with the meaning of the Buddha, accord with the meaning of the Dharma, and accord with the meaning of the Sangha. We cannot use our personal knowledge and views to translate the sutras.

Displaying the innermost profound depths, he tallied with the mysterious truth. To 'display' means to exhibit the innermost profound depths and principles unfathomed by mankind. The word 'tally' means to match with. It indicates a perfect fit. 'Mysterious truth' refers to the abstruse wonder of its infinite flavors and nuances.

His kindness spread throughout the Dharma Realm to benefit future generations. The Master's kindness towards Buddhists permeates the Dharma Realm. The Dharma Realm is boundless, and his kindness is also boundless. His meritorious efforts for the sake of Buddhists in later generations were particularly deep and profuse. There is no way we can repay him.

The great teaching will continue and be protected and upheld forever. The great teaching refers to Buddhism. The reason that Buddhism can spread to various countries is due to the power of Dharma Master Kumara-jiva. It was accomplished through his meritorious virtue and dignity, his protection and upholding of Buddhism.



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