

三祖 商那和修尊者

(續)

The Third Patriarch, The Venerable Shanakavasa (continued)



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「後付法與優波毘多尊者，即隱巖賓國象白山，現十八變，火光三昧，用焚其身」：他以後把這個法傳給優波毘多尊者，然後就隱遁在北印度的巖賓國南方，在那兒的一座象白山。等到圓寂的時候，也現空中十八變，現出火光三昧，把自己焚了。

贊曰：

應瑞而生 轉妙法輪
五百仙衆 惟祖特尊
無端一語 印破面門
降龍伏象 道播乾坤

「應瑞而生，轉妙法輪」：商那和修尊者出生時有一種祥瑞，尊者應著這個祥瑞而生到世界，來轉妙法輪。「五百仙衆，惟祖特尊」：有五百位仙衆都跟著商那和修尊者一起修行，他們惟獨要去皈依阿難尊者，不皈依旁人。

「無端一語，印破面門」：無端說了一句話，就印破面門，這

Afterwards he transmitted the Dharma to Venerable Upagupta and then hid away in the country of Kashmir on Ivory-White Mountain. He manifested the eighteen transformations of an Arhat, and used the Fire Light Samadhi to burn up his body. Later, he transmitted the Dharma to Venerable Upagupta and then hid away in northern India, south of the country of Kashmir on Ivory-White Mountain. When the time came for his entering stillness, he manifested the eighteen transformations of an Arhat in empty space and used the Fire Light Samadhi to cremate his body.

A verse in praise:

Auspicious signs heralded his birth.
He turned the wondrous Dharma Wheel.
A throng of five hundred immortals
Showed the Patriarch special reverence.
Without the pretext of a single word,
His face broke into a smile.
Subduing dragons, taming elephants,
He propagated the Way between heaven and earth.

Commentary:

Auspicious signs heralded his birth. / He turned the wondrous Dharma Wheel. Auspicious omens appeared when Venerable Shanakavasa was born. Responding to these auspicious signs, the Venerable One was born into the world to turn the wonderful Dharma wheel. **A throng of five hundred immortals / Showed the Patriarch special reverence.** Five hundred immortals followed Venerable Shanakavasa in cultivation. They only wanted to take refuge with Venerable Ananda and no others.

是一句印證功夫的話。「降龍伏象，道播乾坤」：尊者把火龍降伏了，後來就在象白山隱伏。他這種的道法，傳播到整個天地之間了！乾坤，就是天地。

又說偈曰：

修仙學道入深山 叩請慶喜望垂憐
五百丹客皈三寶 兩條火龍上九天
正法眼藏付心印 金色頭陀定雲南
祖祖相承無言說 燈燈互映更光前

「修仙學道入深山」：商那和修尊者想要學長生不老的法門，所以就到深山裏邊去修仙，學做道士。「叩請慶喜望垂憐」：以後看見阿難尊者將要入滅時，大地六變震動，知道是有聖人在這兒，所以就來叩請「慶喜」，慶喜就是阿難，請阿難尊者度脫他。

「五百丹客皈三寶」：因為道士服汞煉丹，所以說是「丹客」。他帶著五百個眷屬，也就是五百位徒弟，一起皈依阿難尊者，皈依佛法僧三寶。「兩條火龍上九天」：他降伏兩條火龍，令牠們不在人間作怪，都到天上去了。

「正法眼藏付心印」：阿難尊者把正法眼藏傳給了他，這是一種心印妙法。「金色頭陀定雲南」：金色頭陀，就是迦葉尊者；迦葉尊者現在還是在雲南那兒入定。

「祖祖相承無言說」：這法門是祖祖相承的一個法門；沒有一定說怎麼樣念什麼咒、說個什麼話，沒有的！就是以心印心，這叫付心印法門，沒有什麼可說的。「燈燈互映更光前」：就是互相輝映；互相輝映，就更增加這光明，所以說「更光前」，比以前那個光更光明了。

Without pretext of a single word, his face broke into a smile. These words are used in certifying a person's skill (in cultivation). **Subduing dragons, taming elephants, / He propagated the Way between heaven and earth.** The Venerable One subdued the fiery dragons. Later he hid away in Ivory-White Mountain. His teaching of the Way was made known throughout heaven and earth. The Chinese characters "qian kun (乾坤)" mean heaven and earth.

Another verse:

Cultivating immortality and studying the Way deep in the mountains, He bowed and requested the Dharma from 'Rejoicing,' beseeching his pity. Five hundred immortals took refuge with the Triple Jewel. Two fiery dragons soared into the Nine Heavens. The Proper Dharma Eye Treasury was transmitted via the Mind Seal. The golden ascetic settled in Yunnan. The succession of Patriarchs is devoid of words, The lamps shine upon one another, making it brighter than before.

Commentary:

Cultivating immortality and studying the Way deep in the mountains. Venerable Shanakavasa wanted to study the method for attaining longevity and staying young forever, so he went deep into the mountain to cultivate immortality and become a Taoist. **He bowed and requested the Dharma from 'Rejoicing,' beseeching his pity.** Afterwards, he saw that Venerable Ananda was about to enter nirvana, and the great earth manifested six kinds of quaking. He recognized him as a sage, so he came and bowed, seeking to be taught by 'Rejoicing.' 'Rejoicing' is just Ananda. He requested Venerable Ananda to teach and liberate him.

Five hundred immortals took refuge with the Triple Jewel. Because the Taoist priests refine and consume the elixir of immortality, they are also known as dan ke. The Venerable One led his retinue of five hundred disciples to take refuge with Venerable Ananda and the Triple Jewel. **Two fiery dragons soared into Nine Heavens.** He subdued and tamed two fiery dragons so they would not cause harm in the mundane world. They all dwell in the heavens above.

The Proper Dharma Eye Treasury was transmitted via the Mind Seal. Venerable Ananda transmitted the Proper Dharma Eye Treasury to him. This is a kind of Wondrous Dharma that is passed from mind to mind. **The golden ascetic settled in Yunnan.** The golden ascetic is Venerable Kashapa, who is presently still in samadhi in Yunnan province of China.

The succession of Patriarchs is devoid of words. This dharma-method is the method of succession from one Patriarch to another. There are no fixed words to say or any mantra to recite. There's none of those! The mind is used to seal the mind. This is called the Dharma-teaching of the Mind Seal. There is nothing to say. **The lamps shine upon one another, making it brighter than before.** They shine upon and reflect one another, increasing the brilliance. Therefore it says 'making it brighter than before.' The resulting radiance is brighter than before.