

# 白山黑水育奇英（續）

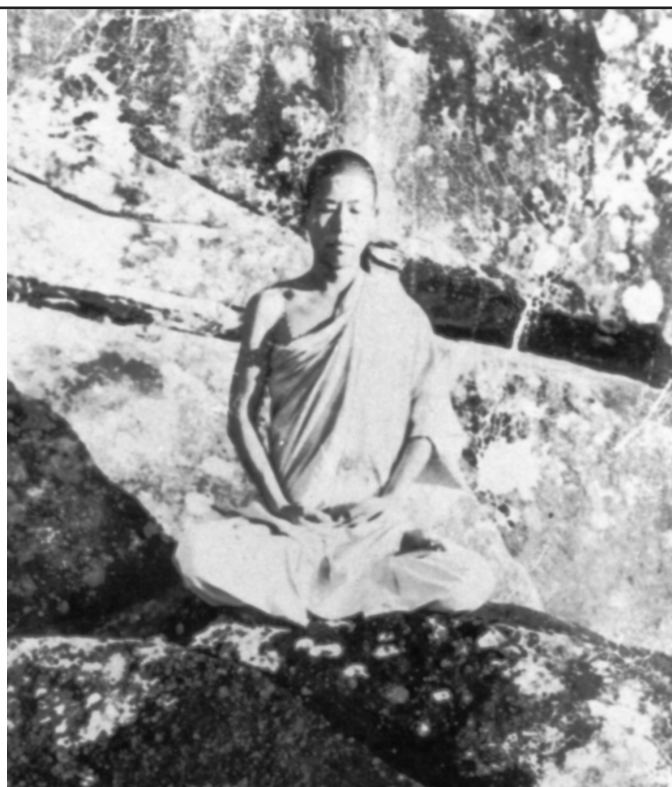
## White Mountains and Black Waters Nurture Rare Talent (continued)

宣公上人事蹟編輯委員會新編2009年  
鄭耿琳 等人 英譯

A new edition by the Committee for the Publication of  
Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Biography  
Translated into English by Genglin Zheng and others



BIOGRAPHIES | 人物誌



### 48. 大盜守孝

#### （二）割肉祭天解雨災

守孝過了兩年半，那一年夏天，天降大雨，氾濫成災。他想所種的穀糧被水淹沒，老百姓以後就沒有東西吃了，怎麼辦呢？他就求晴。他說在三天之內停止下雨，他願割肉祭天；他不懂什麼佛法，卻知道有個上天。很奇怪的，兩天半後雨不下了，他真的要履行他的誓言。

於是他擺上香案，祈禱上天保佑地方的老百姓，令秋天豐收；他在佛前拿刀割自己乳下的一塊肉，有一、二兩這麼大。他一刀先沒割斷，咬牙再割，他就痛昏死過去。地上都是血，把他打坐的地方都染紅了，不知道流了多少血。

### 48. The Requirements for Taking Refuge in Him

#### (2) Halting Endless Over-Raining by Offering a Piece of His Own Flesh to Heaven

During the summer, two and a half years after You Zhihui began observing filial respect, torrential rains erupted from the sky. This caused disastrous floods. He thought, "If the crops flood, the local villagers will starve. What should I do about this?" He decided to pray for clear skies, stating, "If it stops raining within three days, I vow to cut off my flesh and offer it to Heaven." He did not understand any Buddha Dharma, but he believed that Heaven exists. Strangely, the rain stopped two and a half days later. Therefore, he had to actually fulfill his vow. He thereupon went to an incense burner, praying that Heaven would bless and protect the people in that region and cause them to reap a good autumn harvest.

Before a Buddha image, he took a knife to cut off one or two ounces of flesh beneath his chest. With his first attempt, the knife did not completely sever the entire piece, so he grit his teeth and cut again. He then fainted on the spot. His blood spilled all over, turning his meditation site red. It is hard to say how much blood was lost.

縣長問他，他說是為大眾來求晴，所以割肉供養佛、供養天。縣長一聽，忍不住讚揚他：「這是最好了！」從此一般人對他印象特別好，說：「這真是菩薩！能為我們大眾，割自己的肉供天。」這樣一來，也有很多麻煩來了，天天有很多人來看他。

### (三) 小鳥看護多作德

不但人來看他，有一隻小鳥也天天飛來看他。這隻鳥很小的，但是會說話，牠不說旁的話，就說這幾句話：「多作德，多作德，作德多好！」這個意思就是叫他多做好事。和他好像老朋友似的，到他頭上肩上，甚至落到他手上也不怕。一天到晚陪著他打坐用功，有的時候和他開開玩笑。可是有其他人來，牠就跑了；人走了，牠又回來和他玩。經過有三個禮拜的時間，他的傷好了，小鳥也跑了，不知飛向何處，不再陪他了。

他守孝三年圓滿，很多人請他到道德會去講演，他還是披頭散髮，留很長鬍子。那時候中國人，尤其年輕人，沒有留頭髮、留鬍子的，只有守孝的人留長髮披在肩上，鬍子也很長的，像嬉皮一樣的；但是嬉皮盡吃迷魂藥，他可不吃藥，清清淨淨的，吃齋念佛，又講道德。他在道德會講演，很多人都相信他。後來他和幾個志同道合的人結伴，義務去幫助人。

為什麼要留頭髮留鬍子？這是根據《孝經》說的，《孝經》說：「身體髮膚受之父母，不敢毀傷，孝之始也。」可是他為什麼又把自己身體割了來祭天？這豈不是不合乎孝道了？不錯，這是不合乎孝道。假設他父母在世，看見他割肉，眼淚不知要流出多少；父母死了做鬼，也會很憂心的，很不安樂的。他為什麼還這樣做呢？因為下雨不止，他是為大眾來求上天。何況他沒有讀過書，也不懂什麼「身體髮膚受之父母，不敢毀傷，孝之始也。」他守孝是聽旁人說守孝，他也就守了。

☞待續

The commissioner questioned him and he said he offered his flesh to the Buddha and to Heaven, because he was praying for good weather, on behalf of the community. As the commissioner heard this, he could not help but praise him, saying: "Incredible!" From then on, people were very impressed, "He is really a Bodhisattva! He was able to cut off his own flesh and offer it to Heaven for the sake of our community." Because of this, a lot of problems arose: every day a lot of people would come to see him.

### (3) A Small Bird Watched Over the Virtuous One

Not only were there a lot of people who came to see him, there also appeared a bird who came to see him everyday. This bird was very small, but it could speak. The bird only spoke the following few sentences: "Do more good, do more good, practicing virtue is good." The bird exhorted him to do more good. It acted like an old friend, and would land on his head, his shoulders, or even in his hands without getting afraid. It accompanied him all day as he diligently meditated. Sometimes it would even joke with him, when other people came, it would fly away, but as soon as they left it would come back. After three weeks, Youzhihui's injury had healed, and the bird flew away, never to accompany him again.

When he completed his three-year observance of filial respect, many people invited him to give lectures at the Virtue Society. He accepted and went to the Society with dishevelled hair and a long beard. At that time Chinese people, especially young people, did not let their hair or beards grow too long. Only those people who were observing filial respect would grow beards and let their hair grow down to their shoulders, like hippies. However, hippies smoked marijuana and took drugs; he, in contrast, did not smoke or take intoxicants. He was pure, a vegetarian, and he recited the Buddha's name, emphasizing virtue. When he lectured, many people believed in him. Afterwards, those who had similar aspirations went with him and volunteered to help other people.

Why did he want to grow long hair and a beard? This act was based on *the Classic of Filial Respect*, which says, "Every part of our bodies, even the hair and skin, is derived from our parents; therefore, we should protect them and keep them from injury. This act is the beginning of practicing filial respect." But why did he want to cut off his own flesh as a sacrifice to Heaven? Did this act contradict the principle of filial respect? True indeed. This was not in accordance with the principle of filial respect. Suppose that his parents were still alive, and saw him cutting off his flesh. Who knows how many tears they would have shed. Even after his parents died and became ghosts, they still felt worried and ill at ease. Why did he still want to do this? Because the rain would not stop. He made an offering to Heaven for the sake of the community. Moreover, he had never gone to school before, so he didn't understand the lines from *the Classic of Filial Respect*. He only heard about filial respect from others, and then went ahead and did it.

☞To be continued