

才高氣傲—— 謝靈運

Arrogant about His Talent— Xie Lingyun

宣化上人講述於1987年5月2日

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BIOGRAPHIES | 人物誌

名靈運，小字客兒，南北朝時，劉宋河南太康人。謝玄孫，承襲祖蔭，為康樂公。生於鼎食之家，生活奢侈，車服鮮麗，喜遊山水。文學之美，獨步江左，稱為山水詩人。初為永嘉太守，縱情山水，不理政事，被免官職，隱居會稽東山。曾為廬山東林寺建蓮池，因性放蕩，未入蓮社。後與慧觀及慧嚴二師，刪改大本《涅槃經》為三十六卷；贊同生公「頓悟成佛」說。

自為清高，目空一切。每成一詩，無論貴賤，莫不爭寫，有洛陽紙貴之勢；宋文帝讚其詩及書為二寶。因詩有「韓亡子房奮，帝秦魯連

His family name was Xie, his given name was Lingyun, and his nickname was Ke'er. He was born during the period of the Southern and Northern Dynasties, in the county of Taikang in Henan Province during the reign of the Liu Song. He was the grandson of Xie Xuan and inherited the title of the Duke of Kangle. Born into the aristocracy, he lived an extravagant and luxurious lifestyle, and used only the most exquisite carriages, clothes, and food. He enjoyed traveling and was an excellent poet; in the states of Song, Qi, Liang, and Chen, his fame was unparalleled. He was called "the scenic poet." He first served as the prefect of Yongjia County, but he preferred to spend his time travelling and never cared for his duties as governor. As a result, he was removed from this position and went to live in seclusion on the East Mountain of Guiji County. Once, he built a Lotus Pond at Donglin Monastery on Mount Lushan, but because he lived a life of debauchery, the Lotus Society of Donglin Monastery refused to admit him. Later on he helped Dharma Master Huiguan and Dharma Master Huiyan edit the *Nirvana Sutra* into 36 chapters. He also agreed with Dharma Master Sheng's (Daosheng) theory of sudden awakening.

He regarded himself as noble and virtuous, and looked down on other people. Every time he wrote a new poem, the people, rich and poor alike, would scramble to copy it down, which drove up the price of paper in the city of Luoyang. Even Emperor Wen of the Song Dynasty praised his calligraphy and poetry, calling them the two treasures. However, one of Xie's poems had the two lines "When Han perished, Zifang was roused; As King of Qin declared emperors, Lulian found it ashamed."¹ which made Emperor Wen very angry,

恥。」二句，觸怒文帝，驕慢被誅，年僅四十九。有詩集傳世。

這個謝靈運很有才氣的，可是雖然有才氣，卻沒有德相，所以就妄自尊大，很驕傲的。他的小字叫客兒，是劉宋時河南太康人。他的祖父謝玄是晉朝的大將軍，有軍功，所以他承襲祖蔭，借祖父之光做了康樂公；「公」是古來五種爵位——公、侯、伯、子、男之首。

他生在富貴之家，富貴之家是很講究，很奢華的，所以他的生活也就很奢侈，浪費很多東西，所謂「富家一席酒，貧漢半年糧」。他出入車服鮮麗，坐的車非常豪華，好比現代最豪華的勞斯萊斯汽車。而且歡喜遊山玩水，旁的什麼都不注意。

他文章作得非常好，獨步江左，堪稱江南第一，稱為「山水詩人」。因為他愛好大自然的境界，即使他在永嘉（現在的溫州）做太守的時候，也是縱情山水，不理政事，所以就被免職；以後隱居到會稽東邊的山上。

他曾為慧遠大師，於廬山東林寺造放生池；因為性情不守規矩，很隨便的，所以未入蓮社；即使想要入蓮社，蓮社也不要他。後來他和慧遠大師的門下慧觀、慧嚴兩位法師，共同修改大本的《涅槃經》，分為三十六卷；因為他的文章好，所以由他潤色。他很佩服道生法師；道生法師主張頓悟成佛，他也很同意這個說法。

他自命清高，目空一切，目無餘子，看不起旁人——有才華的人，多數都患這個毛病。他每作一首詩，無論富貴或貧賤的人，都爭著抄寫，就浪費很多紙，所以造成「洛陽紙貴」——在河南那個地方紙都貴了。宋文帝讚歎他的詩和書法為兩種國寶。

☞待續

and he had Xie executed. Xie ultimately died because of his arrogance; he lived to be only 49 years old. His poetry has been handed down throughout the generations.

Commentary:

Xie Lingyun was very talented, but he lacked virtue, and he was very arrogant and haughty. His nickname was Ke'er, and he was from Taikang county of Henan Province during the reign of the Liu Song. His grandfather was Xie Xuan, a great general of the Jin Dynasty, who served his country well. From him, Xie Lingyun inherited the title of the Duke of Kangle. Duke is the highest rank of the Five Noble Titles: duke, marquis, baron, count, and earl.

Born into such a wealthy family, he lived a lavish and wasteful life. As a saying goes, "a banquet thrown by a wealthy family can feed a poor household for half a year." He wore luxurious and flashy clothes and rode fancy carriages, comparable to Rolls-Royces in our day. Moreover, he paid very little attention to things other than sightseeing.

He was an excellent writer, considered the best in the region south of the Yangtze River, and won the title of the Scenic Poet. Since he was so fond of nature, he indulged himself by traveling even when he was the prefect of the county of Yongjia (present-day Wenzhou), and ignored all government affairs, resulting in his removal from office. Later he went into seclusion on a mountain in eastern Guiji County.

He once built a Liberation Pond in Donglin Monastery on Mount Lushan for Dharma Master Huiyuan. Because he was very willful and did not follow the rules, he never joined Donglin Monastery's Lotus Society. Even if he had applied, they wouldn't have accepted him. Later he worked together with Dharma Master Huiguan and Dharma Master Huiyan, who were disciples of Dharma Master Huiyuan, in editing the *Nirvana Sutra* into 36 chapters. Because his writing was superb, they asked him to polish it. He really admired Dharma Master Daosheng, and agreed with his theory about sudden awakening to attain Buddhahood.

He regarded himself very highly and looked down on everyone else. Many talented people have this kind of problem. Every time he wrote a poem, people both rich and poor would scramble to write it down, wasting a lot of paper and eventually driving up the price of paper in the city of Luoyang. Emperor Wen praised his poems and calligraphy as two national treasures.

☞To be continued

¹The first sentence is an allusion to the story of Zhang Zifang, who swore to take revenge on the Qin Emperor after the state of Qin conquered the state of Han, to which Zhang Zifang was loyal. The second sentence is an allusion to the time when the state of Zhao was about to be conquered by the state of Qin during the Warring States Era. The ruler of Zhao asked the ruler of Wei for help, and because the king of Wei feared Qin's power, he advised the king of Zhao to venerate King Zhao of Qin as the emperor of the west. Upon hearing this, Lulian, a person who lived in the state of Qi, felt that it was very humiliating for the king of Wei to give such an answer.