

才高氣傲—— 謝靈運 (續)

Arrogant about His Talent— Xie Lingyun (continued)

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BIOGRAPHIES | 人物誌

可是他也因詩招禍，因為他的詩裡有「韓亡子房憤，帝秦魯連恥」兩句，觸怒了宋文帝。因為他是晉朝遺臣，而南朝劉宋的皇權是以平民身分篡位得來的，宋文帝覺得這是揭他的瘡疤，所以把他斬首示眾。他就因為這麼驕傲任性而被誅，年僅四十九歲，有詩集流傳於世。

評曰：

貧無諂難 富有驕易
紈袴多才 非載道器
雖造蓮池 葬濁惡地
世當戒之 橫行招忌

「貧無諂難，富有驕易」：這是評論他的。窮人多數對

However, it was his own poem that killed him. The two lines in Xie's poem, "When Han perished, Zifang was roused; As King of Qin declared emperors, Lulian found it ashamed." angered Emperor Wen. Because Xie Lingyun was an official for the state of Jin, which had reigned previously before the Song, and also because Emperor Wen's clan rose to power by stealing the imperial throne, Emperor Wen thought that Xie was trying to expose past disgraces. Thus Emperor Wen had him executed. He died at the age of 49, and his poetry has been handed down throughout generations.

A verse says:

It is hard for the poor not to flatter others;
It is easy for the wealthy to be arrogant.
Though talented, he was indulgent and unruly.
He was not a vessel for cultivating the Dharma.
Though he built a pond to liberate beings,
He was buried in turbid, execrable land.
People should take heed:
Rampant behavior will cause disasters.

Commentary:

It is hard for the poor not to flatter others; It is easy for the wealthy to be arrogant. This is a comment about Xie Lingyun. Poor people tend to flatter other people; it is difficult for them to refrain from putting icing on the cake. Wealthy people, on the other hand, become arrogant very easily.

人有一種諂媚；要是窮人沒有諂媚的思想，不去錦上添花，這是很難的。而富貴的人很容易有驕傲的毛病。

「紈袴多才，非載道器」：雖然他多才，卻是一個紈袴子弟；不是一個能修行的載道之器，也不是國家的棟樑。

「雖造蓮池，葬濁惡地」：雖然他造蓮池，但還是被殺了。

「世當戒之，橫行招忌」：世人應該以此為戒，要是驕慢橫行，就會招禍。

又說偈曰：

才高氣傲玩山水 七步成詩曹父鬼
煮豆燃萁釜中泣 執柯伐木吊馬嵬
狂者進取胡太過 狷士不為又弗追
天地造物何其巧 任性妄行死未悔

「才高氣傲玩山水」：他因有才氣，所以非常驕傲，常目空一切，一天到晚遊山玩水。

「七步成詩曹父鬼」：曹操有鬼那麼聰明，所生的兒子也很聰明，所以曹子建能七步成詩。這首詩是怎麼來的呢？曹丕要曹子建七步以內作成一首詩，如果作不成，就把他殺了，所以曹子建在七步以內就作成一首詩說：「煮豆燃豆萁，豆在釜中泣；本是同根生，相煎何太急。」曹丕看了也覺得很有道理，所以沒殺他。

「煮豆燃萁釜中泣」：豆子在鍋裡，好像哭泣似的。

「執柯伐木吊馬嵬」：執柯伐木，就是拿著斧頭去砍樹木。吊馬嵬，唐朝楊貴妃在馬嵬坡軍中之亂，將軍陳玄禮逼著她上吊。這是楊貴妃驕奢縱逸必然招禍，世人當以此為戒。

「狂者進取胡太過」：謝靈運是屬於狂者之流，狂者未免太過進取了吧！所謂「狂者有所進取，狷者有所不為也。」狂者太過，狷者不及，兩者都不合乎中道。

待續

Though talented he was indulgent and unruly, he was not a vessel for cultivating the Dharma. Although he was talented, he only sought pleasure and enjoyment. He was not suited to cultivate the Way or to be a pillar of the country.

Though he built a pond to liberate beings, he was buried in turbid, execrable land. Although he built a lotus pond, he was still put to death.

People should take heed: Rampant behavior will cause disasters. Everyone should learn from his story: If you act arrogantly and recklessly, you will bring calamities upon yourself.

Another verse:

Talented and arrogant, he wanders all day among the scenery.

He was like the son of Cao Cao, who wrote a poem in seven steps.

As the bean vines burn in the stove, the beans cooking in the pot sob.

He was like a tree cut down by an axe made from its own branches; Like the Lady Yang, who was her own greatest undoing and was forced to hang herself at Mawei.

He was wildly arrogant and overly aggressive.

While cautious people, too timid to take risks, come up short.

How wondrous the way Heaven creates myriad things.

Stubborn and willful, he did not regret his actions even at death.

Commentary:

Talented and arrogant, he wanders all day among the scenery. Because he was so talented, he was very arrogant and looked down on everyone else. He spent all of his time traveling.

He was like the son of Cao Cao, who wrote a poem in seven steps. Cao Cao was incredibly clever, and so were his sons. One of his sons, Cao Zijian, could write a poem in the time it took for him to take seven steps. How did this poem come about? Cao Pi ordered his younger brother, Cao Zijian, to produce a poem in seven steps. If he couldn't do so, he would be put to death. As Cao Zijian took seven steps, he said: "The bean vines are burned in the stove to cook the beans. The beans in the pot sob, saying: 'We grew from the same roots. Why do you rush to cook me?'" Cao Pi thought this made a lot of sense, so he did not kill Zijian.

As the bean vines burn in the stove, the beans cooking in the pot sob. The beans in the pot seem to be crying.

He was like a tree cut down by an axe made from its own branches; Like the Lady Yang, who was her own greatest undoing and was forced to hang herself at Mawei. The axe used to cut down the tree was made from the branches of that very tree. In the Tang Dynasty, during the Maweipo Crisis, General Chen Xuanli forced the Lady Yang to commit suicide by hanging herself. She met this fate because of her wasteful and indulgent behavior. Everyone should learn from this example.

He was wildly arrogant and overly aggressive. Xie Lingyun was wildly arrogant, and went overboard with his aggressiveness. It is said, "Aggressive people have high ambitions, while meek people do not accomplish anything." One goes overboard and the other stops short; neither of them are in accord with the Middle Way.

To be continued