

古代帝王佛詩選——宋孝宗

Selected Buddhist Poems by Ancient Chinese Emperors —Emperor Xiaozong of the Song Dynasty

楊維光、劉年聰 彙編 及英譯

Compilation and English Translation by Yong Wei Kwong and Liew Yen Chong

孝宗皇帝：《賜靈隱住持德光》

大暑流金石，
寒風結凍雲。
梅花香度遠，
自有一枝春。

Emperor Xiaozong:

Bestowed on Abbot Deguang of Lingyin Monastery

The Great Heat melts gold and jade;
Icy winds condense into wintry clouds.
When the fragrance of the plum blossom drifts from afar,
Certainly, there is a sprig of spring.

釋德光：《答御製頌》

當陽一句子，
平地步青雲。
踏翻關棧處，
便是主家春。

Shi Deguang:

Reply to the Imperially Composed Verse

A single phrase is crystal-clear;
From ground to blue clouds an effortless ascent.
On kicking over the linchpin,
There is the host basking in perpetual spring.

注：

釋德光：南宋僧。於淳熙三年（1176年）奉詔至京師臨安（今杭州）住持靈隱寺。孝宗皇帝多次召見討論佛法，并賜號“佛照禪師”。

大暑：農曆二十四節氣之一，即夏季最炎熱的時候。

一枝春：喻指梅花。

關：指啟發禪悟的關鍵。

Notes:

Shi Deguang—A Buddhist monk of the Southern Song Dynasty. In the third year of the Chunxi reign (1176 AD), he was appointed by imperial decree to the abbotship of Lingyin Monastery in the capital Lin'an (present-day Hangzhou). Emperor Xiaozong discussed the Buddhadharma with him on numerous occasions, and also bestowed on him the title of Chan Master Fozhao (Illuminated by the Buddha's Light).

Great Heat—One of the twenty-four solar terms on the lunar calendar, this period corresponds to the hottest days in summer.

A sprig of spring—A metaphor for the plum blossom.

Linchpin—Refers to the critical factor that inspires Chan awakening.