

Selected Buddhist Poems by Ancient Chinese Emperors —"An Imperial Praise to Guanshiyin Bodhisattva" by Emperor Xiaozong of the Song Dynasty

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## 《御讚觀世音菩薩》

## An Imperial Praise to Guanshiyin Bodhisattva

觀音大士,以所調普門示現神通力 故,應跡于杭之天竺山,其來尚矣。

朕每有禱祈,隨念感應,曰兩曰暘 不愆晷刻,是有助于沖人者也。

因為作讚曰:

猗歟大士,本自圓通。

示有言說,為世之宗。

明照無二,等觀以慈。

随感即應,妙不可思。

There is a long history of the Mahāsattva Guanyin manifesting spiritual traces on Mount Tianzhu in Hangzhou by means of what is called "the power of his spiritual penetrations as shown through the Universal Door."

Whenever I pray to him, he fulfills my every wish. Whether it is rain or sunshine, there has never been a moment's delay, which is of great help to this humble person in ruling the country.

For this reason, I composed a verse in praise which reads:

O! Marvelous is the Mahāsattva Who realized the inherent perfect penetration! Instructing sentient beings by expounding the Dharma, He is one whom the world reveres. Brightly illuminating in the state of non-duality, He contemplates with equanimity and kindness. Immediately responding to all according to their needs, His wondrous deeds are truly inconceivable!



