

良相佐國——晏嬰（續）

Yan Ying

— An Outstanding Statesman

Who Helped Rule the Country (continued)

宣化上人講述於1988年5月14日

馬來西亞譯經組 英譯

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「治國安邦，創造大同」：因為晏嬰身小志大，才高量宏，所以他能安邦定國，創造大同。他的目的，是想整個人類都享受大同的幸福，達到「老吾老以及人之老，幼吾幼以及人之幼」這種的理想。所謂「智者所見略同」，凡是有智慧的人，為他人謀幸福的人，都想向這個目標走。

「旗開得勝，馬到成功」：他那時候內政外交，都是旗開得勝，到什麼地方都勝利。馬到成功，他這個駟馬高車到什麼地方都有和平的表現。

「辯服五霸，一時之雄」：他為什麼能這樣子呢？他有說服力，辯才無礙。他這個說服力，把五霸都給說得心服口服，沒有那麼大的野心，這是當時很有作為的一個英雄。

又說偈曰：

齊國賢相晏平仲	世界英俊出山東
發政施仁謀幸福	節衣縮食省厥躬
夙興夜寐勤操守	禮賢下士盡赤忠
御者知悔品德立	佳婦助夫成青松

「齊國賢相晏平仲」：齊國有個很好的丞相，是誰呢？就是晏平仲——晏子。

He governs the kingdom well, bringing harmony to society. He was able to govern his country well and bring harmony to the society despite his meek physique, because of his great aspiration, talent, and broad-mindedness. At that time, his aspiration was to enable the whole human race to share and enjoy the same happiness arising from this harmonious state in society. It is like the saying, "Care for elders in your own family, and extend the same care towards all elders. Care for the children in your own family and extend the same care towards all children." Great men think alike and will all share this kind of aspiration. All those with wisdom and those who always seek happiness for others will work towards this end.

Gaining upper hand at the outset of any situation, he always emerges victorious. This was reflected in both domestic affairs and international relations. His splendid carriage always portrayed peacefulness wherever he went.

His eloquence wins over the five powers—A hero of the times. How was he able to accomplish something so great? He was both persuasive and eloquent. His eloquence enabled him to convince the kings or lords of the five major powers—who vied for supremacy—to rein in their wild ambitions. He was a remarkable and capable hero of his era.

Another verse says:

Yan, the worthy prime minister of Qi,
Comes from Shandong, home of many eminent figures.
Benevolent policies bring happiness to the citizens,
Frugal for self and provident for the country.
Rising early and retiring late, he diligently cultivates good conduct,
Reverent to the worthy, and totally devoted to the state kingdom.
His driver repents and establishes virtue,
Becomes distinguished with virtuous wife's help.

「世界英俊出山東」：這個世界有才能、有智慧的人，很多都出在山東這個地方。山東山明水秀，是人才輩出的地方。

「發政施仁謀幸福」：他一切一切的動作，都是為國為民，他的志向是在為老百姓謀幸福。發政，就是他所行的政令，發佈什麼命令都是為老百姓謀幸福；施仁，就是令老百姓都得到他這一種的仁德心，來保護他們。發政施仁，對老百姓有一種仁愛的心，愛護老百姓。

「節衣縮食省厥躬」：他一生節約節儉，不浪費物質。因為有這樣的美德，不浪費物質，所以他不會盡量享受，不會盡量揮霍，不會把國家的金錢糟蹋浪費了，所以「節衣縮食省厥躬」。

「夙興夜寐勤操守」：夙興，很早很早起來；夜寐，很晚才睡覺。為什麼他這樣的操勞、這樣的辛苦呢？就因為要給老百姓謀幸福，他覺得自己做一國的丞相，應該盡他所能給老百姓謀幸福。他也很檢點，很謹慎地守住自己的節操、自己的清高廉潔。

操守，操就是節操、行為，守就是不犯規矩、不犯法則。這種的守，也就是守規矩、守戒律，守住諸惡不作，眾善奉行，這都叫「操守」。

「禮賢下士盡赤忠」：晏嬰能禮賢下士，能像周公「一飯三吐哺、一沐三握髮」這樣治理國家。雖然他沒有這樣說，可是能這樣去處理國家的問題。他也求賢若渴，希望多一點人才到齊國來幫他治理國家，所以他「盡赤忠」，盡上他最最精誠、最最懇切、最最專一的這種赤心朱膽。

「御者知悔品德立」：因為「近朱者赤，近墨者黑」，這個御者當初給晏嬰駕駛車的時候，大約因為是給丞相做駕駛員，所以就很高傲：「你們誰能趕上我？你看，我給丞相駕車！」很驕傲的，覺得自己了不起。以後因為有一個

Commentary:

Yan, the worthy prime minister of Qi. There was a prominent prime minister in the State of Qi. Who was he? He was Pingzhong (the courtesy name of Yan)—Yanzi (Master Yan).

Comes from Shandong, home of many eminent figures. Many prominent figures of outstanding capabilities and wisdom came from Shandong Province, a place of beautiful scenery with numerous distinguished people.

Benevolent policies and humaneness bring happiness to the citizens. Everything he did—whatever policies and directives he implemented—was oriented towards the welfare of the country and the citizens, as he aspired to bring happiness to the people with his benevolent policies and humaneness. Humaneness means to love and protect the people.

Frugal for self and provident for the country. He was thrifty throughout his life and never wasted material resources. Since he had such virtue—never being wasteful—he would never endeavour to indulge or be extravagant or squander the country's wealth and resources. Therefore, he was “frugal for self and provident for the country.”

Rising early and retiring late, he diligently cultivates good conduct. Why did he work so hard and endure such hardship? Because he strived to bring happiness to the citizens. As the prime minister, he felt obliged to do whatever he could to benefit the citizens. He was always conscious of his actions and was always cautious to uphold proper conduct and maintain high moral standard. “Good conduct” refers to his conduct and behavior, and part of the Chinese character for “good conduct” is “upholding.” Upholding means not to violate the rules and regulations. Upholding also means upholding rules, regulations, precepts, and the principle of not doing any evil but doing all good. These all comprise “good behavior.”

Reverent to the worthy, and totally devoted to the state. Yan Ying showed deference to worthy people, like the governing King of Zhou whose meal might be interrupted up to three times, and who might have to hold on to his uncombed and unarranged hair during his bath up to three times, whenever a visitor called. He was as dedicated in his management of political affairs although he did not reveal his intention to emulate the way Duke of Zhou governed the kingdom. Ying thirsted for more worthy and distinguished people to come to the state of Qi and help him govern the country. Being totally devoted to the state meant that he was utmost in his sincerity, earnestness and focus in his devotion.

His driver repents and establishes virtue. “Those who draw near vermilion will be stained red, and those associated with ink will be stained black.” When this servant served as Yan's driver, he was very arrogant because he drove the carriage for the prime minister. He would brag, “Who can ever catch up with me? Look—I drive the carriage for the prime minister!” Although he was proud, and thought highly of himself, his behavior was later transformed due to his virtuous wife. He became modest and cautious