



大智文殊師利菩薩

Mañjuśrī : Bodhisattva of Great Wisdom

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文殊師利譯為妙吉祥。在往昔時，曾為七佛之師，《處胎經》云：「昔為能仁師，今為佛弟子。二尊不並立，故我為菩薩。」為助佛揚化，故乘願再來。誕生時，出現十種吉祥之瑞兆：一、光明滿室；二、甘露盈庭；三、地湧七珍；四、神開伏藏；五、雞生鳳子；六、豬誕龍豚；七、馬產麒麟；八、牛生白澤；九、倉變金粟；十、象具六牙，故稱為妙吉祥。駕青獅，表威猛；持寶劍，表智慧。注重一切般若，智慧第一。侍佛之左，為華嚴三聖。啟發善財童子南參善知識，教化龍女八歲成佛，領導阿難尊者於鐵圍山結集大乘經藏。漢明帝時，攝摩騰及竺法蘭二聖僧來震旦，帝問：「此土豈有聖人居化耶？」曰：「清涼山為文殊大士所居。」故建伽藍，度僧居之。於中台有智慧燈，虔誠拜之，即現奇蹟。

“Mañjuśrī” is a Sanskrit word that is translated as “wonderfully auspicious.” He was the teacher of the past seven Buddhas. In the *Sutra of Dwelling in the Womb*, he says, “I was the teacher of ‘Able and Humane’ in the past, and I am presently that Buddha’s disciple. Since two Honored Ones cannot appear in the world at the same time, I now manifest as a Bodhisattva.” Riding on the power of his past vows, he came to help the Buddha propagate the Dharma and teach living beings. Ten auspicious signs occurred at his birth:

1. Bright light filled the room.
2. There was a rain of sweet dew.
3. The seven precious things welled up from the earth.
4. The treasures in the earth were revealed.
5. Chickens gave birth to phoenixes.
6. Pigs gave birth to dragons.
7. Horses gave birth to unicorns.
8. Cows gave birth to white *zai (ze)* (an auspicious kind of animal).
9. The grain in the granaries turned to gold.
10. Elephants with six tusks appeared.

For these reasons he was named Wonderfully Auspicious. He rides upon a blue lion, which represents awesome strength; and holds a jeweled sword, which represents wisdom. He emphasizes All-Prajna and is foremost in wisdom. He is the Buddha’s left-hand attendant and is one of the Three Sages of the Avatamsaka Assembly. He inspired the Youth Good Wealth (Sudhana) to travel south in search of Good and Wise Advisors, taught the Dragon Girl to become a Buddha when she was eight years old, and guided the Venerable Ananda in the compilation of the Great Vehicle Sutras on Iron Ring Mountain.

今天我們講這位文殊師利菩薩。「文殊師利」是梵語，又叫曼殊師利，又叫文殊師利，這都是一個人。它翻譯成中文，叫「妙吉祥」。

這位菩薩是佛教裡頭，菩薩中的智慧第一。他的道場就在中國五臺山上；觀音菩薩的道場，就在普陀山；普賢菩薩的道場呢？就在峨嵋山；地藏菩薩的道場呢？就是九華山。這四大菩薩，佔據中國四大名山。他們也是互相往來，有的時候，觀音菩薩、地藏菩薩、普賢菩薩也到五臺山，來和這個文殊菩薩，聽經說法。文殊菩薩也有的時候，會到其他三位菩薩的道場去，所以互相來演說佛法。

在中國，大乘的根性是特別深厚。所以在釋迦牟尼佛出世的時候，這個迦葉祖師就先到中國來，化身為老子，說《道德經》五千言。又這個水月童子，化身來到中國，做孔仲尼。明月儒童呢？就化身來做顏回，顏子。迦葉祖師和水月童子、明月儒童，他們先到中國來，為著佛教來作開路的先鋒。因為佛教如果沒有道教和儒教來先開一開路呢，那麼這個佛教傳到中國，恐怕人就會格格不入。因為有這個道教，有儒教影響，所以佛教傳到中國來，中國人很容易接受。

我常常講，儒家若在宗教裡頭，就像是個小學。道教和其他的宗教，天主教、耶穌教、猶太教，乃至一切宗教，可以列為中學。那麼佛教呢？就是個大學；它是包羅萬有，無所不包，無所不容的。因為這樣子，所以這不是一個小因緣，不是一個很簡單的事情，所以有明月儒童，有水月童子，又有迦葉尊者到中國來，示現這個顏子、孔子和老子。

During the reign of Emperor Ming of the Han Dynasty, the two sage monks Kashyapa-Matanga and Gobharana came to China. The Emperor asked them, "Are there sages dwelling and teaching beings in this land?" They replied, "The Great Bodhisattva Manjushri dwells on Qingliang (Pure and Cool) Mountain." So the Emperor built a monastery there so that monks could live there and teach beings. There is a wisdom lamp on the central peak of the range, and miracles can happen if people bow to it sincerely.

Commentary:

Today we will talk about Mañjuśrī Bodhisattva. "Mañjuśrī" is Sanskrit. There are several Chinese transliterations for it. It is translated as "wonderfully auspicious." In Buddhism, this Bodhisattva is foremost in wisdom. His *bodhimanda* is on Wutai (Five Peaks) Mountain in China. Guanyin Bodhisattva's *bodhimanda* is on Putuo (Potola) Mountain. Universal Worthy Bodhisattva's *bodhimanda* is on Emei Mountain, and Earth Store Bodhisattva's *bodhimanda* is on Jiuhua (Nine Flowers) Mountain. These four great Bodhisattvas dwell on China's four most famous mountains. They visit each other, too. Sometimes Guanyin Bodhisattva, Earth Store Bodhisattva, and Universal Worthy Bodhisattva join Mañjuśrī Bodhisattva on Wutai Mountain and hear him speak the Dharma. At other times, Mañjuśrī Bodhisattva visits the other Bodhisattvas at their *bodhimanda*.

The potential for Mahayana Buddhism are especially deep and rich in China, and so when Shakyamuni Buddha appeared in the world, the First Patriarch Mahakashyapa appeared in China as the philosopher Laozi and spoke the five-thousand-character book of the *Dao De Jing* (Way and Virtue). The Youth Water-Moon also manifested in China as Confucius. What about the Youth-Scholar Bright Moon? He manifested as Yan Hui (Yanzi). These three pioneers went to China to pave the way for the advent of Buddhism. If Taoism and Confucianism hadn't laid the foundation, the Chinese people might not have been receptive to Buddhism. These two religions influenced the Chinese in such a way that they were able to accept Buddhism when it spread to China.

I often compare Confucianism to elementary school, while other religions such as Taoism, Catholicism, Protestantism, and Judaism can be considered high school. Buddhism is analogous to college. It encompasses everything, leaving nothing out. Therefore, the coming of Buddhism is not a simple matter. That's why the Youth-Scholar Bright Moon, the Youth Water-Moon, and the Venerable Mahakashyapa manifested in China as Yanzi, Confucius, and Laozi, respectively.

☪ 待續

☪ To be continued