



正法印  
PROPER DHARMA SEAL

# 楞嚴咒句偈疏解

The Shurangama Mantra  
with Verse and Commentary

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## 【頌】

心毒意狠害蒼生  
性化金石草木形  
本質烈於鴆砒等  
鴉片麻藥殺人精

## Verse:

*With vicious thoughts and cruel intent, they harm sentient beings.  
Their nature transforms into metal, stone, grass, and wood.  
Their essential character is as deadly as the Chen bird, arsenic, and other poisons,  
Killing people the same way opium and narcotics do.*

## 【解】：

這一句是藥草毒鬼。

「心毒意狠害蒼生」：他做人時已經心狠手辣，喜歡害人。

「性化金石草木形」：死後做鬼，其毒性則化為金石草木之類。

「本質烈於鴆砒等」：此鬼之毒，猛於鴆酒或砒霜。鴆乃毒鳥，將其羽毛浸在酒裡，人喝後就五臟俱焚，七孔流血。古代國王欲將某些大臣處死，賜以鴆酒，此人喝後立刻中毒而死。

「鴉片麻藥殺人精」：鴉片是由植物提煉，其他很多種麻醉品、迷幻藥，也由植物提煉而成。這些植物含有毒素，背後就是這種藥草毒鬼作怪，將

## Commentary:

This line of mantra refers to ghosts of toxic herbs.

*With vicious thoughts and cruel intent, they harm sentient beings.* When they were human beings, their hearts were already extremely cruel and malicious. They took delight in harming people.

*Their nature transforms into metal, stone, grass, and wood.* After they die, they become ghosts and their malicious nature transforms into various metals, stones, and plants.

*Their essential character is as deadly as the Zhen bird, arsenic, and other poisons.* The poison of these ghosts is fiercer than that of Zhen wine and arsenic. Zhen is a poisonous bird, whose feathers can be soaked in wine to make it toxic. People who drink the wine will have their five viscera (liver, heart, spleen, lungs and kidneys) incinerated and bleed from the seven apertures of their body. In ancient times, when a king wanted to sentence a certain minister to death, he would give Zhen wine to that minister. After drinking it, the person would immediately die from the poison.

*Killing people the same way opium and narcotics do.* Opium is extracted from plants, as are many other kinds of narcotics and hallucinogenic drugs. These plants contain toxins. Behind them are these ghosts of toxic herbs who are creating trouble. They also spread poisonous vapors onto metals and

毒氣撒到金石草木上。雖然鴉片及麻醉品的性質比鳩酒、砒霜緩和，令服用者妄生一種舒適、自在感，實際上對人只有害而無利。總括來說，這些毒均屬火性。所謂「積熱生毒」，人體內有火熱，便變成毒。所以中藥有很多皆是具有「清熱解毒」的作用。鴉片、大麻、麻醉品之類，都是妖精化身，要人命的。❀

這個五行性，就是法界裡頭一個組織，由金木水火土組織成這個法界。

怎麼叫相生？相生，就是這木能生火，木性你看它很堅硬的，可是它能生火，你把木頭用火一點啊，它就著起火來了。

那麼火呢，是很熱的東西了。火能生土，這火啊，熄了變成灰，灰就是土。

那麼土啊，在地上有很多土啊？土能生萬物，萬物土中生。現在說的是土能生金。在土裡頭能生出金子來。

那麼金子又能生什麼呢？金就能生水，你用一塊金子在那兒，它就會反潮，這是它生水的一個道理。你要用火一燒這個金子，這個金子就變水了。這也是金能生水這個道理。那麼金能生水，水這就是我們人人都知道的。

水又能生什麼呢？水能生木，你看那個木頭，它要活著的時候一定要有水來養著它，要沒有水，它就乾了，就死了。沒有用了，所以這叫順生，順生法。金木水火土，順生法。

—摘自《藥性賦淺釋》

宣公上人開示於一九七五年

stones. Although opium and narcotics are less toxic than Chen wine or arsenic, and cause people who take them to feel a false sense of comfort and ease, the truth is they bring only harm and no benefit at all. Generally speaking, these poisons belong to the fire element. That is why it is said: "The accumulation of heat produces toxins." When people have excessive heat in their bodies, it can transform into toxins. Therefore, many Chinese herbal medicines serve the function of "alleviating fever and detoxification." Opium, marijuana, and narcotics are all transformations created by evil spirits with the intent to kill people. ❀

The phases of the five elements are the system that form the nature of this dharma realm, consisting of metal, wood, water, fire and earth.

The five phases of metal, wood, water, fire, and air are mutually generating. What is mutual generation? Mutually generating means that the nature of wood, as you can see, is very firm and hard; however, it generates fire. If you light a fire next to wood, it catches on fire.

What about fire? It is a very hot substance. What does it generate? Fire generates earth. When fire is extinguished, it becomes ashes. Ashes are the same as earth.

As for earth, there is a lot of earth in the ground, what does earth generate? Earth generates the myriad things. So although earth generates the myriad things, most importantly is that earth generates metal. Metal is generated from earth.

Then what can metal generate? Metal generates water. When you take a piece of metal (and hold it close to water), the waves respond to it. This is the theory behind it being able to generate water. If you burn a piece of metal with fire, then the metal becomes water. The metal melts into liquid. This is another way in which metal is able to generate water.

What does water generate? Water generates wood. If you look at wood, if it is alive, it definitely needs water to survive. If there is no water, it will wither, die, and become useless.

So this is called according with generation, the principle of according with the generating cycle of metal, wood, water, fire and earth.

—An Excerpt from an Instructional Talk Given by Venerable Master Hsuan Hua from his Commentary on the *Song of Herbal Characteristics* in 1975

