





覺海慈航度香江(續)

Crossing Hong Kong on the Ship of Compassion in the Sea of Awakening (continued)

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A New Edition by the Committee for the Publication of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's Biography English Translated by Malaysia Translation Team Revised by Bhikshuni Heng Ching

40. 闍梨解難

上人平日生活極為節儉,從 不肯為自己使用分毫錢財,但 是對真正修行的比丘卻臨危救 難、從不吝惜。另一方面,對 於不真修行, 討要施捨的比丘 也毫不客氣。從上人身上,透 出一股釋迦佛子正義凛然的剛 正之氣。

親覺法師於干辰(1952年) 春,在九龍鑽石山購置房屋一 棟,才住了一年多,地主突然 強制要拆除房屋, 歸還土地。 親覺法師遭逢這重大損失,相 當苦惱,心情異常低落。

有一天晚上十一點,親覺 法師正讀《中觀論》〈觀四諦 品》:

「因緣所生法,我說即是 空,亦為是假名,亦是中道 義,未曾有一法,不從因緣 生,是故一切法,無不是空

40. An Acharya Helped in Difficulties

The Venerable Master led a very frugal life, never spending a penny on himself. However, to those Bhikshus deemed as sincere cultivators, the Venerable Master was never stingy with money and always helped them to solve problems whenever they were in difficulty. On the other hand, he treated harshly Bhikshus who came for money begging. Here, we have the Venerable Master as an awe-inspiring and righteous disciple of the Buddha.

In the spring of 1952, Dharma Master Qinjue 親覺 bought a house situated on Diamond Mountain in Kowloon. But, over a year later, the landowner suddenly asked for a compulsory dismantling of the house. He also asked for the return of the land. Faced with this dilemma, Dharma Master Qinjue felt very upset and miserable.

One night at around 11 o'clock, while the Dharma Master Qinjue was reading the chapter on "Contemplation on the Four Noble Truths" from the Treatise on Contemplating the Middle Way (Madhyamaka Shastra), he came across the following lines:

"Everything that comes into being from conditioned dharmas is empty, and based on falsely established conventions. Thus is also the principle of Middle Way. There has never been a dharma that did not arise from causes and conditions, so all dharmas are empty."

他思惟其意,反覆默念這段偈 文,以紓解所陷煩惱,不知不覺就 睡著了,他做了這樣一個夢。

夢中他信步走進一座山林中, 正當盤桓之際,狂風暴雨,驟然而 至,空中霹靂作響,震耳欲聾。他 在驚慌徬徨之際,一位全身放出紫 磨金光的僧人,騰空而降,風雨頓 時匿跡,一下子都靜止了。親覺法 師以為是菩薩現身,趕緊跪拜;等 這位僧人走近,他才認出是受戒時 的尊證阿闍梨——度輪法師。上人 在夢中告訴他:「你不用擔心,, 切困難我會幫你解決!」夢到此, 人就醒了過來。

不久之後,親覺法師找到一塊土 地,準備重新蓋一棟房子,但手頭 拮据,上人當時正在志蓮淨苑開講 《地藏經》,聽說此事後,馬上拿 了一千五百元,助他另置新屋,有 棲身之所。

上人自述:

東普陀有個老出家人,跟別人說 他在閉關,卻常跑出來到各處去化 緣,說:「關房裡沒有香油點燈, 你布施我一點油吧!」又說:「我 沒有香了,你買一點香給我好了! 」「請法師慈悲, 布施點錢給我, 我好買點米煮飯吃! | 他因此化了 不少錢,還想到西樂園騙我。到我 那兒,他穿上袍、搭上衣,大展具 向我頂禮九拜,然後長跪合掌, 說:「法師,請你慈悲度我,叫我 開悟吧! | 我說:「為什麼你要這 個樣子?」他說:「我在東普陀那 兒閉關,一打坐就見到你來了!你 放大光明,從虛空飄飄搖搖地落到 我的面前,打了我三個香板,我就 開悟了。今天我到這兒來,親身向 你大展具,頂禮九叩首;請你再打 我三個香板,讓我開多一點悟! |

Dharma Master Qinjue thought about the meaning of the verse and recited the shastra repeatedly in his mind to assuage his afflictions. Then he fell asleep and had a dream.

In his dream, he was strolling in the woods, and as he lingered there, suddenly there came a strong wind with a heavy downpour, lightning flashed, and the thunder boomed. Just as he felt confused and terrified, a monk with purple-golden light, emitting all over his body, descended from the sky. Then, all at once, the wind and rain vanished. Everything was still. Dharma Master Qinjue thought it must be a Bodhisattva appearing, so he hurriedly bowed. When the monk approached, he recognized that what he thought was the Bodhisattva was, after all, Dharma Master Du Lun, the Certifying Master (Acharya) during his ordination. The Venerable Master told him in the dream, "Do not worry, I will help you solve all the problems!" Dharma Master Qinjue woke up, and his dream ended.

Soon after, Dharma Master Qinjue found another piece of land and prepared to build a new house, but realized that he was short on funds. At the time, the Venerable Master was giving lectures on the *Earth Store Sutra* at the Zhilian Hermitage (Chi Lin Nunnery). Upon hearing this, the Venerable Master immediately offered 1500 HKD to help Dharma Master Qinjue purchase a new house so he could have a place to live.

Venerable Master's Own Words:

There was once an elderly left-home person at East Putuo Monastery. Although he told others that he was cultivating in seclusion, he would often come out and solicit offerings and say, "I am short of fragrant oil to light the lamps in my seclusion cell. Kindly make offerings to me for some oil!" He would also say, "It is fine if you buy me some incense as I ran out of incense." Or he would say, "Dharma Master, please be compassionate and give me money so I can buy some rice!" Through these means, he was able to solicit a lot of funds. He even wanted to deceive me at the Western Bliss Garden. He came to me wearing his robe and kashaya, opened his sitting cloth, and bowed to me nine times. He placed his palms together, knelt, and said, "Dharma Master, please be compassionate and save me. Please help me become enlightened!" I said, "Why do you act like this?" He said, "When I was cultivating in seclusion at East Putuo Monastery, I saw you come as I sat in meditation! You emitted great light and descended in front of me from emptiness. I got enlightened after you hit me three times with an incense board. Today, I come here, open my sitting cloth, and bow nine times to you. Please strike me thrice

他這是為什麼呢?他想:「度輪法 師一定也歡喜別人給他戴高帽子,誰說 他是佛他就歡喜,一定會給點賞錢。」 但是他萬萬沒有想到,這一回我真的要 打他三香板了。他跪著那兒,我眼睛一 瞪,一腳就把他踢倒了,我說:「你趕 快給我滾,你敢跑來我這兒欺騙我! 」可是我看這個人年紀比我大,頭髮 白了、鬍子也白了,不知道他是想「前 (錢)」白的、還是想「後」白的,但 是我知道他不想現在。我覺得對他又有 點不好意思,就從口袋裡拿出五塊錢扔 在地上,我說:「你想開悟?你不是想 要開悟,你只是想要錢而已!現在我就 給你開一個錢的悟!多了沒有,只有五 塊錢給你搭巴士用。拿了趕快滾,以後 不准再來!」他望望我,拿著五塊錢跑 了。

他聽說親覺夢見我,說看見我怎麼樣放光又如何如何,他也想照著樣來學,他不知道照樣兒學是沒有用的!那個親覺他這麼說,是他先前向我化緣,我給他港幣一千五百塊錢;那時候什麼東西都很便宜,當時的一千五百塊錢是很值錢。這個老出家人知道這件事,也想照這個方法來騙我。我豈是受人騙的?所以踢他一腳,要他覺悟:「我踢你一腳,你就會覺悟了!你會覺悟這一腳踢到身上是痛的!」所以修行人不要講假話,真的就是真的,假的就是假的。

【後記】譚果正居士記述:

親覺比丘來信,他告訴師父大約是 九年前的事——他曾夢見自己走到一處 幽僻的地方,那時正是大雨滂沱,心裡 惶恐萬分。突然間看到一位很莊嚴的菩 薩對他說:「不要怕,我在這裡。」 細看之下,竟然是法師! with the incense board again and help me be enlightened a bit more!"

Why did he do this? He figured, "Dharma Master Du Lun 度 imple must also like to be flattered. He must be happy if someone said he was a Buddha, and accordingly, he would give away some money." But he had not expected that I would hit him three times with an incense board. When he knelt there, I looked at him and kicked him. I then said, "You better get out of here now. How dare you come here and deceive me!" I realized that this person, with white hair and a beard, was older than me. I do not know whether his hair turned white because his thoughts focused on the "front" (same pronunciation as money in Chinese) or on the "back." Yet, I just knew that his mindset was not on the present. I felt a bit sorry for him, so I took five yuan from my pocket, threw it to the ground, and said, "You want to get enlightened? You do not want to be enlightened! All you want is money! Now I am giving you money to get you enlightened! I do not have much: only five HKD for you to take the bus. Just take the money and get out of here. You are not allowed to come here again in the future!" He looked at me, took the money, then left.

He heard that Qinjue dreamt about me and that I was emitting light, and such, in the dream, so he wanted to do the same. He did not know it was useless to follow that! Also, Qinjue said that he solicited offerings from me and that I gave him 1500 HK Dollars. At that time, everything was cheap, and 1500 HKD was of great worth. This elderly left-home person heard about it, and he wanted to deceive me by using the same story. Am I that easily deceived? So, I kicked him to rouse him into a realization that, "You will awaken after I kick you! You will realize that it hurts when kicked!" Therefore, cultivators are not supposed to lie, as true is true, while false is false.

[Postscript] Narrated by Upasika Guozheng (Stella) Tan:

Bhikshu Qinjue wrote a letter to Shifu telling him that he dreamt he entered a secluded place some nine years ago. It was raining heavily, and this immensely terrified him. Suddenly he saw a magnificent Bodhisattva who said, "Do not be afraid, I am here." After a careful look, he surprisingly realized that the Bodhisattva was the Venerable Master!

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