

漢·竺法蘭尊者（續）

Venerable Gobharana of the Han Dynasty (continued)

漢竺法蘭尊者

宣化上人講於1985年
比丘尼恒持、晨瑛譯組 英譯修訂

A Lecture by the Venerable Master Hua in 1985
English Translation Revised by Bhikshuni Heng Chih
and the Early Bird Translation Group



編按：這段上人講解摘自宣公上人1974年於加州三藩市金山寺講解《四十二章經》的開示。

Editor's Note :The commentary is excerpted from Venerable Master Hua's lectures on *The Sūtra in the Forty-Two Sections* at Gold Mountain Monastery in San Francisco, California, in 1974.

當時道教有一個道士叫褚善信，他是道教的首領，帶著五百個道士把道教的經典、靈文都放在一起，就祈禱太上老君說：「道德天尊哪！您一定要顯大靈感，令我們道教的經不要燒了，讓佛教的經燒了。」

當時的道士很多有神通的——有能騰雲駕霧的，有能飛天遁地的，有能隱形的。隱形就是你這麼看著，他在前面這兒，忽然間就沒有了！這模樣有本事的道士都有。他能藉著遁法——奇門遁甲就逃跑了，藉著道教這種的符啊、咒啊，就有很大的神通。

可是這時候用火一燒，怎麼樣呢？佛教的經典都沒有燒著，都放光！佛的舍利也放五色的光，經典也放光到空中，好像太陽照耀世間似的。

The Taoist leader Chu Shanxin and five hundred other Taoist masters put the Taoist texts together with the Buddhist sutras and then prayed to the Venerable Great Master Lao Zi, “Divine Lord, O Virtuous One of the Way! You must grant us a magical response to ensure that our texts will not burn and that the Buddhist sutras will go up in flames!”

Many of the Taoist masters present had spiritual powers. Some could soar through the clouds and ride the fog. Others could fly through the air or burrow in the earth. Some could vanish into thin air. You might see one in front of you, but suddenly he would disappear! There were Taoists who had the power to do almost anything. They could perform a variety of Taoist disappearing acts. They had used the charms and spells of the Taoist religion to gain a considerable number of spiritual powers.

When the fire was lit, guess what happened? Not only did the Buddhist sutras not burn, they emitted light instead! The sharira of the Buddha also emitted a five-colored light that flared into space like the sun shining over the entire world.

As soon as the Taoist texts were set on fire, they burned to ashes and were gone. Those Taoist masters who had been able to soar

而道教的經典呢，一燒就燒著，都被火燒沒有了。能騰雲駕霧的，也不能騰雲了，也不能有神通了；能飛天的，也不能飛天了；遁地的，也不能遁地了；能隱形的，也不能隱形了。他們的符咒也都不靈了，沒有功效了。這時候，道教的經典都被燒了，褚善信和費叔才這些道士當場都氣死了，他們這些徒弟也當場把頭髮都剃去，有二、三百人都做了和尚。所以這是最初佛教和道教鬥法，把道教鬥失敗了。

之後迦葉摩騰、竺法蘭這兩位尊者就躡身虛空，現十八變，身上出火，身下出水；身下出火，身上出水；在虛空裡走路；在虛空裡躺著睡覺，在那兒現種種的神變。當時這一班人，連皇帝也都一起信了佛教，所以這一部經（《四十二章經》）是很重要的。最初佛經傳到中國，就是這一部經。

等到永平十四年五月一日，就有中國五嶽山（編按：五嶽山是東嶽泰山、西嶽華山、南嶽衡山、北嶽恒山、中嶽嵩山）的道士來障礙佛教，這就是前面講的燒經書，結果道教的經都給燒毀了，佛教的經典沒有被燒，佛的舍利就放五色的光，到空中結成好像一個傘蓋似的，罩著所有的大眾，大眾見到這情形，就都相信佛教了。

☞待續

through the clouds couldn't do it anymore; they had lost their spiritual powers. Those who had been able to fly through the air could no longer manage it. Those who had been able to burrow in the earth, could no longer dig in. Those who had been able to vanish couldn't disappear. The spells they intoned no longer worked. There was no response. The Taoist texts burned to a crisp, and the Taoist masters Chu Shanxin and Fei Shucaï died of apoplexy right then and there! Witnessing the death of their leaders, two or three hundred Taoists shaved their heads and became Buddhist monks on the spot. So, when Taoism and Buddhism held a Dharma-contest for the first time, the Taoists lost.

After the book burning, the two Venerables, Kashyapa-Matanga and Gobharana, ascended into space and revealed the eighteen transformations of an Arhat. They emitted water from the upper parts of their bodies and fire from the lower parts; then they emitted fire from the upper parts of their bodies and water from the lower parts; they walked about in space; they lay down and went to sleep in space; and they manifested various spiritual transformations there. Right away the emperor and all the people simultaneously came to believe in Buddhism. That is why this sutra (the Sutra in the Forty-Two Sections) is extremely important. It was the first Buddhist sutra to be transmitted to China.

Four years later, on the first day of the fifth month in the fourteenth year of the Yongping reign, the Taoists of the Five Holy Mountains in China came forth trying to stop the spread of Buddhism. As I mentioned earlier, they challenged these two Venerables to set fire to the scriptures of both religions, but unexpectedly, all the Taoist texts burned up, and the Buddhist sutras did not go up in flames. Even more, the Buddha's sharira brought along by the two Venerables radiated a five-colored beam of light. The light seemed to form an umbrella, a canopy in the air, which covered all those who had gathered to watch the Dharma-contest. When all the people in attendance saw this canopy of light, they immediately believed in Buddhism.

☞To be continued

BUDDHISM A TO Z

四大

名稱	狀態	活動
地	堅性	相斥而生
水	流動性	相吸而生
火	暖	熱風而生
風	擴張、 輕、動	運動而生

Four Great Elements

Name	State	Activity
Earth	Solidity	Produced by Repulsion
Water	Fluidity	Produced by Attraction
Fire	Warmth	Produced by Hot Air
Wind	Expansion, Lightness, Mobility	Produced by Motion