



晉佛圖澄尊者

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### Venerable Buddhacinga of the Jin Dynasty

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 1980

English Translation Revised by Dharma Master Heng Chih  
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尊者。天竺人。姓帛氏。永嘉四年至洛。自言百餘歲。腹旁有孔以棉塞之。夜則拔棉。光出照室。

時石勒兵多殘殺。澄謁之。勒試以道術。澄取鉢咒之。生青蓮華。光色耀目。由是信服。季龍襲位。倍加敬禮。將去世。詣辭。季龍驚曰。大和尚遽棄我乎。澄曰。出生入死。道之常也。修短分定。無由增損。有可恨者。

國家存心佛法。建寺度僧。當蒙福祉。而布政暴虐。特違聖典。尋即坐逝。後有僧見澄入關。以聞。季龍發塚。唯塊石存焉。

Venerable Buddhacinga was born in the Bo family in India. He went to Luoyang, China, in the fourth year of the Yongjia reign period. When he arrived, he claimed that he was already over one hundred years old. The Master had an opening in his abdomen, which he usually plugged with a wad of cotton. At night, light poured forth from the hole and lit up the entire room when he removed the wad of cotton.

At that time, the troops of Shi Le were brutally slaying countless innocent people. Buddhacinga went to see Le in order to try and stop him. Le put the Master to the test, demanding a demonstration of his skill in the Way, whereupon the Master took out his bowl and chanted a mantra over it. A blue lotus appeared within the bowl, floating on a pool of water and radiating dazzling light. This caused Le to trust the Master. Ji Long, who succeeded Le, was even more respectful of the Master. Near the end of his life, when the Master went to the palace to bid farewell, the emperor was taken aback and said, “Must the Great Master leave me so soon?!”

Master Buddhacinga replied, “Once born, we must die. This is an inevitable circumstance. Our lifespans are predestined and cannot be prolonged or shortened even if we might wish it so.

“When a ruler of a land cherishes the Buddhadharma, establishes monasteries, and aids people to join the monastic order, blessings, and well-being will prevail. However, if a political reign is tyrannical, its leaders violate the teachings of the sages.” Shortly after he said this, Master Buddhacinga sat upright and passed away. Later, a monk said that he saw Buddhacinga entering a gate. When the emperor heard this, he had the Master’s burial site excavated; all that was found in the grave was a large stone.

「尊者。天竺人。姓帛氏。永嘉四年至洛。自言百餘歲。」當時他到洛陽的時候，都說他已經一百來歲了。

「腹旁有孔以棉塞之，夜則拔棉：光出照室」。當時的歷史時期[五胡亂華，中原動盪不安]。「時石勒兵多殘殺」。石勒的部隊暴虐，殘害無數的生靈，百姓塗炭。

「勒試以道術。澄謁之」。佛圖澄尊者決定去拜會石勒，感化他來消弭殘暴。「時石勒兵多殘殺。勒試以道術」。石勒要來試試看他，要大師顯現一下他的道術。「澄取鉢咒之」。大師取出鉢盛水，然後對鉢持咒。

「生青蓮華」。不一會兒，鉢裡面生出一朵青蓮花。蓮華的「光色耀目」。蓮花浮出水上，大放光明，耀眼奪目，幾乎使石勒張不開眼睛。「由是信服」。

「季龍襲位。倍加敬禮」。[石勒的侄兒]石虎[篡殺]繼位後，對大師更加敬信禮遇。「將去世」。大師即將入涅槃時候，「詣辭」，他到皇宮去跟石虎辭別。「季龍驚曰。大和尚遽棄我乎」。石虎，字季龍，大吃一驚，流著眼淚對大師說：「大和尚怎麼這麼快離開捨棄我們？」

「澄曰：出生入死，道之常也」：有生必定有死，這是道的常理。「修短分定，無由增損」：一個人的福報多少、壽命長短，這是命數裡面已經注定好的了，不是想增加就增加，減少就減少的。「有可恨者」。

☞待續

### Commentary:

**Venerable Buddhacinga was born in the Bo family in India. He went to Luoyang, China, in the fourth year of the Yongjia reign period. When he arrived, he claimed that he was already over one hundred years old.** At the time he arrived in Luoyang, word had it that he was a centenarian.

**The Master had an opening in his abdomen, which he usually plugged with a wad of cotton. At night, light poured forth from the hole and lit up the entire room when he removed the wad of cotton.** That period of history is described as: “Five barbarians caused turmoil in China; political upheavals on the central plains disturbed the peace.” **At that time, the troops of Shi Le were brutally slaying countless innocent people.** Shi Le’s party was brutal as they went about blatantly killing people; the populace was devastated. **Buddhacinga went to see Le in order to try and stop him.** The Master decided to appeal to Shi Le, hoping to influence him to cease the violence.

**Le put the Master to the test, demanding a demonstration of his skill in the Way.** Shi Le wanted to test the Master, so he demanded that Buddhacinga perform some Dharma trick. **Whereupon the Master took out his bowl and chanted a mantra over it.** Great Master Buddhacinga took out his bowl, filled it with water, and then said a mantra over it. **A blue lotus appeared within the bowl.** It didn’t take long before a blue lotus appeared. The lotus was **floating on a pool of water and radiating dazzling light.** The lotus blossom gave off such dazzling light that Shi Le could barely keep his eyes open. **This caused Le to trust the Master.**

**Ji Long, who succeeded Le, was even more respectful of the Master.** Shi Le’s successor was Shi Hu, the usurper, and he venerated the Master even more. **Near the end of his life,** when the Great Master was about to pass into nirvana, **when the Master went to the palace to bid farewell,** he went to the palace for audience with Shi Hu to say goodbye. **The emperor was taken aback and said, “Must the Great Master leave me so soon?!”** Shi Hu, whose public name was Ji Long, was shocked. He wept as he addressed Buddhacinga: “Great Master why must you leave us so soon?”

**Master Buddhacinga replied, “Once born, we must die. This is an inevitable circumstance.”** He said, “Those who get born must die. That’s the way things are. **Our lifespans are predestined and cannot be prolonged or shortened.**” How many blessings a person has and how long a person’s lifespan will be are predetermined factors set in our destiny; they won’t increase or decrease, **even if we might wish it so.”**

☞To be continued