



白山黑水育奇英（續）

White Mountains and Black Waters Nurture Rare Talent (continued)

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鄭耿琳 等人 英譯

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BIOGRAPHIES | 人物誌

42. 點化悍婦

上人住的村子裏，有名婦人叫袁慕航，以潑辣兇悍而著名。她不僅不敬丈夫，還打罵公婆，與妯娌不睦，和鄰里交惡；除此之外，平日不敬鬼神，還惡意譏諷，更遑論相信因果之說。總之，她是好事無緣，壞事有份，村子裏的人都視之為「母老虎」。

有一天，她跟著別人到守孝的地方，看見上人結跏趺坐，雙手合掌，面西而坐，嘴裏不斷地念著「南無阿彌陀佛」。她一臉不解地問上人：「你在做什麼？」上人回答：「為報答母親養育之恩，我念佛號超度她老人家，希望她早日往生西方極樂世界，略盡人子之道。」

袁慕航一聽，驚惶不已，說：「我以前不知道做人的道理與本份，也不信因

42. Awakening a Shrew

In the village where the Venerable Master lived, a woman named Mu-hang Yuan was notorious for her ill-tempered and belligerent ways. She not only did not honor her husband, but mistreated her parents-in-law. She did not get along with her sisters-in-law and was hostile to the neighbors. Not only that, she even disregarded the ghosts and gods and maliciously slandered them. Of course, she did not believe in the law of cause and effect. In short, she had committed so many bad deeds and done so few good deeds, that people in the village called her "Tigress."

One day, Ms. Yuan joined some villagers in visiting the Master. When she saw the Master sitting in full lotus, holding his palms together, facing the west and reciting "Na Mo A Mi To Fo" (Amitabha Buddha), she became confused and asked, "What are you doing?" The Master replied, "To repay the kindness of my mother in raising and educating me, I am reciting the Buddha's name in order to rescue her from suffering, wishing her to be reborn in Western Pure Land of Ultimate Bliss. That is my filial duty."

After hearing this, Ms. Yuan became frightened and said, "Before, I did not

果報應，一味地胡作非為。現在蒙法師慈悲開導，感覺自己罪孽深重，後悔莫及！」她說著就大哭起來，跪地請求上人救她。

上人說：「你既然知道以往的錯誤，這是你天良發現，善根萌發的轉機。不必悲傷！人非聖賢，誰會沒有過錯？你只要能誠心懺悔，再大的罪過都能消除。昨日種種，譬如昨日死。你改過之後，要去行善；以在家居士的身份弘揚佛法，勸人為善，皈依三寶。等你功德圓滿，必能消除以前的罪過。為什麼呢？因為大惡人能改過回頭，就是大善；大善人造罪，也等於是大惡一般。」袁慕航聆聽開示，破涕為笑，歡喜地向上人頂禮三拜，要求皈依。

皈依三寶後，袁慕航不但痛改前非，念佛持齋，還到處弘法，勸化世人，十年如一日；受到她感化，皈依上人者有八百多人。鄰里親友見她與從前判若兩人，尊稱她「接引觀音」。

民國卅三年（西元1944年）八月下旬，她預先告訴家人說：「我原本罪大惡極，但因皈依三寶，改過向善，勸化世人的功德，師父告訴我，九月十九日將是我往生淨土的佳期。你們不必悲傷，屆時只要幫助我念佛即可！」果然在九月十九日當天，她合掌含笑，在念佛聲中往生了，享年六十九歲。

◎待續

know the principle of being a human and did not believe in cause and effect, so I was constantly offending people. Now that I have heard your kind teaching, I regret what I have done.” With tears in her eyes, she and knelt down and begged the Master to help her.

The Master said, “Now that you know your past mistakes, it is time for you to find your conscience and develop your good roots. Don't be so sad! People are not saints. Who has never made a mistake? As long as you sincerely repent, even the worst offense can be eradicated. As for your past deeds, regard them as if they died yesterday. From now on, you should do things to benefit others and promote Buddhism as a lay person by exhorting people to do the same and take refuge with the Three Jewels. When your meritorious virtue is ripe, your past bad karma will be eliminated. Why? It is a great good if an evil person becomes benevolent; it is a great evil if a benevolent person becomes evil.” After listening to the Master's teaching, Ms. Yuan dried her tears and smiled. She happily bowed to the Master three times and requested to take refuge.

After taking refuge with the Three Jewels, Mu-hang Yuan not only changed her past ways, but recited the Buddha's name and became vegetarian. She set out to spread Buddhism everywhere, exhorting people for almost ten years. Due to her influence, more than 800 people took refuge under the Master. Her relatives, friends, and neighbors found her to be a totally different person and began to call her by a new name “Guanyin Who Guides Others.”

In late August, the year 1944, Ms. Yuan told her family in advance, “I did a lot of evil deeds in the past. Yet I took refuge with the Three Jewels and corrected my past mistakes. I turned toward goodness and exhorted people to also change. Because of my meritorious virtue, the Master told me that the 19th of this September is my good day because I will be reborn in the Pure Land. Don't be sad! At that time you need only recite the Buddha's name for me.” On that very day, as she foresaw, at the age of 69, she placed her palms together and passed away with a smile in the sound of the Buddha's name being recited.

◎To be continued

宣公上人法語

Talks by Venerable Master HsuanHua

我們人從無始劫以來，這個無明太重了，愚癡黑暗也太深了，我們所凍成的冰太厚了，就是用熱水來洗刷，也不能一下子就把這個冰化透了，必須要「今天擦，明天蹭，擦來擦去如明鏡」，才能把它擦得像明鏡一樣。我們打佛七、禪七，都是在這兒擦鏡子呢。把我們這鏡子的灰塵擦乾淨了，自然也就見佛、就開悟了。

陳姍姍 英譯

From time without beginning, human beings have been dominated by ignorance, living in deep darkness of illusions, and allowing ice to so excessively form into such a thick block that hot water can no longer instantly melt it. This analogy reminds us that we must scrub today, polish tomorrow, and constantly brush the mirror so that it will begin shining like a bright jewel over again. What we do in the seven-day Chan Session or Buddha Recitation Session is no different from polishing the mirror. We are basically brushing off dust from the mirror to uncover our inherent Buddha nature and thus become awakened.

English Translation by Anne Chen