



正法印  
PROPER DHARMA SEAL

# 妙法蓮華經淺釋

The Dharma Flower Sutra with Commentary

## 【觀世音菩薩普門品第二十五】

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE:  
THE UNIVERSAL DOOR OF GUANYIN BODHISATTVA

修訂版 Revised version

宣化上人講解

國際譯經學院記錄翻譯

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想去掘金，在海上被這個颶風一吹——以前都是那個小舟，沒有這種大貨輪船，就翻船了。在一兩百年以前，中國人為了到美國這地方來掘金，來找金子；找著金子的人也有，但是沒找著的人更多。找著的，人人都知道；沒找著的那些個人，在大海裡隨這個水漂流而死的，相信很多很多的。不過我們現在這個時候，不知道過去這一些個經過，因為當時交通不方便，消息不靈通，所以也就沒有一種記載了。那麼到新金山，到澳洲去掘金的人也很多。

不但掘金的人，各處找銀子的人也是同樣這麼多。因為金子是頭一等的貴重物，銀子就是第二等的貴重物，所以銀子也找。

琉璃，中國人叫「青色寶」，青色的寶貝。

碑磬，是一種石，在石上，現出一道一道的痕跡——一趟白的，一趟有透光的，好像車輪子

Many people who came to America for gold died at sea. But communication was not as advanced in those days, and news didn't travel far. Even though a lot of people died, no one knew about them. One or two hundred years ago, they had only small ships, nothing like the big ones we have today. Some of these Chinese people found gold, but most did not. Everyone knows about those who found gold, but no one knows about all those people who died at sea. There are no records because of the difficulties in communication. Many also went to Australia, the "New Gold Mountain," for gold.

Besides gold, there are also many people searching for silver everywhere. Their number is as many as those searching for gold. People also seek silver because, while gold is first, silver is next in value.

Next is *vaidūrya* (lapis lazuli). The Chinese call *vaidūrya* the "blue gem." *Tridacna*, a giant clam shell, has lines running through it that look like cart tracks. These tracks look like bright beams that appear to be indentations in the shell, but its surface is actually very smooth. It's one of the seven treasures.

*Carnelian*, a gemstone, is called "horse's brain" because there are red, thread-like lines that resemble blood vessels running through its white surface.

In ancient China, those who smoked pipes and were rich had their cigarette holders made from carnelian, jade, or emerald. They were very expensive. They ate until they were full and then, having nothing to do, competed with one another at smoking with extravagant pipes to show off their riches. This kind of thing is really pointless! What use

走過去，在泥土留下一道車轍似的溝，所以叫「碑礫石」。這種寶石，雖然看上去是有一道車轍溝，但是用手一摸它，卻是平的，並沒有溝，這是七寶之一。

瑪瑙，這也是一種寶石，但是這種石頭長得就像馬腦子似的，裡邊有一條一條的血絲子。這個瑪瑙石，在白色的石頭上，就有一趟一趟好像血線似的紋。

在中國，古老抽旱煙的人，那個煙桿很長的煙袋嘴子，有錢人的多數就用瑪瑙造的，很名貴的，有的用玉石造的。這些人就是吃飽了飯，沒有事情幹，就想標異現奇，標奇立異來做一個特別的樣子，好像就表現自己也很特別了；所以就驚奇好異，你做一個這樣子的，他就做一個那樣子的。有的用翡翠做的那個煙袋嘴，他們就互相那麼競賽：「我這個翡翠的煙袋嘴，這是真名貴啦！真值錢了！」向親友就炫示，表示自己很有錢。你看這真是胡鬧，這有什麼用呢！

珊瑚，是一種珊瑚樹，有的三尺多高，我看見過有一尺高的樣子。這珊瑚樹是什麼做成的？是在海裡的一種蟲子變的，這也是一種化生，變成一種植物。這種植物像樹的樣子，但是它的質地好像玉石似的，非常的名貴。

在中國有個石崇，最歡喜和另外一個人來鬥富貴；另外這人是一個皇親——就是皇帝的親戚。皇帝就賜給這個人一棵珊瑚樹，大約有兩尺多高，因為是皇帝賜的，自然特別名貴。這個皇親請石崇到他家裡去宴會，就擺出這棵珊瑚樹給石崇看：「你看我這一棵樹，這多名貴！」你說石崇怎麼樣呢？那珊瑚樹，是有一種好像玉石的性質，石崇把這棵樹拿起，就給摔碎了。當時這個皇親憂愁得不得了，說：「這是皇帝賜給我的，你怎麼把它摔碎了？現在一個錢也不值了！」石崇說：「你不要擔憂，不要緊的，我賠你一樹。你明天到我家去，隨便你揀，願意要哪一樹就拿哪一樹！」到石崇家裡一看，這個客廳裡擺滿了都是三尺多高的珊瑚樹。這個皇親一看，心想：「我雖然是皇親，都沒有你這個石崇這麼樣的富有。」於是乎他就選了一棵珊瑚樹回去。結果這個石崇啊，以後也就因為太有錢，被人鬥爭死了。所謂「人為財死，鳥為食亡」，人為什麼死？就為這個財；小鳥為什麼死？因為這個食。

is there in this?

Coral formations in the ocean look like trees. Some of them can be up to three feet tall. I saw one that was a foot tall. What is coral made of? Coral is made up of tiny invertebrates called polyps that live in the ocean. These creatures go through metamorphosis and become fixed in place; they permanently attach themselves to the ocean floor, essentially taking root like a plant and forming a treelike structure of a jade-like substance. Coral clusters are very expensive.

In China, a man called Shi Chong once competed with a relative of the emperor to show off his wealth. The emperor had given his relative the valuable gift of a coral cluster, probably about two feet tall. One night this person invited Shi Chong to dinner and showed him his coral cluster. "Look at my expensive coral cluster," he said. Shi Chong picked it up and threw it on the ground, smashing it to pieces. The man was very upset. "That coral cluster was given to me by the emperor. Why did you break it? Now it's worthless."

"Don't worry about it," said Shi Chong, "I'll replace it. Come over to my house tomorrow and you can pick a coral cluster from my collection."

When the emperor's relative went to Shi Chong's house the next day, he saw that the living room was filled with lovely coral clusters, all over three feet tall. The man realized that, even though he was the emperor's relative, he was nowhere near as wealthy as Shi Chong. He took a coral cluster and left.

Shi Chong, however, died in a struggle with someone by a mob for his money later in his life. It is said: People die in pursuit of wealth, / As birds die in search of food.

What costs people their lives? Their pursuit of money. What causes birds to lose their lives? Their search for food. This concludes the explanation of coral.