

橋亭觀音

The Stone Bridge Pavilion Guanyin

《印光法師文鈔—永春重修東關橋觀音靈感記》白話摘要

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From the Collected Works of Master Yin Guang

Master Yin Guang Recounts the Efficacious Response of the Stone Bridge Pavilion Guanyin

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福建省永春縣，山川秀麗，民風淳樸，自古被稱為世外桃源。永春縣東十里，有個地方叫東關，與泉州市南安縣相鄰，這裡溪水奔流，橫貫山路，寬約千丈，宋代就建有石橋方便過往的行人。然而水流湍急，遭遇大風雨，石橋傾塌，每過幾十上百年，這座橋必定重修。當地人信仰佛教，在橋的正中建一亭子，供奉觀世音菩薩聖像，使得來往的行人都能種下善根。

清光緒三十四年，永春縣洪水氾濫，石橋被完全沖毀。橋頭住著一位店主陳某，五十多

Yongchun County (“Ever Spring”) of Fujian Province is famous for its majestic peaks, gorges, and simple folk customs. Praised for generations as the Peach Blossom Spring (metaphor for utopia) of real life. Ten miles east of the county is a place called Dongguan, which neighbors Quanzhou City in Nan’an County. There, the river—a thousand feet wide—cuts across the mountain road. During the Song Dynasty, a stone bridge was built for the benefit of all who wished to cross. However, as the river flowed rapidly, the stone bridge often collapsed during storms. Thus, the bridge had to be restored every few decades to a hundred years. As the locals were faithful Buddhists, they built a pavilion in the middle of the bridge where they made offerings to a holy image of Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva—thereby allowing all pedestrians to plant good roots of Dharma.

During the 34th year of Qing Emperor Gaungxu, Yongchun county was beset by flooding, and the stone bridge did not survive. Near the entrance to the bridge was the home of a shopkeeper surnamed

歲，平時虔誠信佛。當時正值半夜，狂風暴雨，洪水滔天，陳某還在熟睡，忽然外頭傳來急促的敲門聲，有人喊他快去橋上將菩薩像捧出。他一下子驚醒，只聽叩門的聲音越來越急，不停地催促他快去。於是他急忙開門，門外卻連個人影都沒有。再放眼一看，陳某的心一下提到了嗓子口，只見前方水勢洶湧，石橋在洪水的衝擊下，搖搖蕩蕩，鏗鏘有聲，眼看就要倒塌。陳店主顧不上風雨撲面，拚命奔向橋中央的亭子，一把捧住菩薩像，撒腿就跑。

剛離開石橋，就聽見身後傳來一陣巨大的崩裂聲，回頭一看，橋中央的那一段，已被洪水轟然捲走。過後，陳店主自己也感到不可思議：「我都不知道自己哪來這麼大勇氣，真是有神靈相助啊。」

李元賢居士的父親在東南亞經商，家境不錯，熱心公益，與海外僑胞一起，發起捐款重修石橋。不料石橋建成才三年，又遭遇風災，橋亭和橋樑都被毀壞，百姓們將觀音菩薩像供奉到附近的廟裡。由於兵荒馬亂，石橋的事一直無人過問。李元賢的母親黃太夫人去廟裡燒香，經過那裡，大為感傷，打算重修石橋。

當夜，她夢到菩薩現金色光明身，無比璀璨莊嚴，對她說：「現在只有你能為我重修這座橋，並以此供養我。你趕緊落實，還能為子孫添福。」因為菩薩一心利益眾生，人們看見聖像，就種下將來成佛的善根，所以菩薩顯靈，囑咐夫人修橋，並供奉聖像。黃太夫人連忙四處籌款重修石橋，經過多年終於竣工。

當地人將這個事蹟鐫刻匾聯，大家再度將菩薩像供奉在石橋亭子裡，由於這個因緣，此地香火日益興盛。

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Chen, a faithful Buddhist, then in his fifties. During one of the fearsome storms, when he was asleep, he heard loud knocking at his door and someone shouting for him to quickly save the bridge's Avalokitesvara statue. Awakened by the commotion and with the pleas sounding ever more desperate, he promptly rushed to his door, only to discover that no one was there. As his gaze turned to the bridge, which was then on the verge of being washed away, Chen braved the wind and rain and rushed onto the bridge pavilion to save the Avalokitesvara statue. Just as he carried the Bodhisattva to safety, the bridge's center collapsed behind him. Chen was forever astonished by this event and often said, "I have no idea where I got the courage to do what I did; it was surely due to the powers of the gods and spirits."

As the father of Upasaka Li Yuan Xian had made a fortune in Southeast Asia, he was able to support his passion for philanthropy. Together, he and a few fellow expats donated to restore the bridge. However, three years later, another storm damaged the bridge again. The local people thus moved the Avalokitesvara statue to a nearby temple. As the following years were beset by chaos and conflict, no one had time to restore the bridge. Later, when the mother of Li Yuan Xian, Madam Huang, was burning incense at the temple, she felt a great sadness at the dilapidated state of the bridge and resolved to restore it once more. That night, she saw in her dreams Avalokitesvara in resplendent golden form, who said to her, "Now it is up to you to restore this bridge for me as an offering. You must quickly realize this vow, and your descendants shall have their blessings augmented."

As the heart of the Bodhisattva seeks only to benefit others, all who see the holy images and statues will have the virtuous seeds of Bodhi planted within their hearts. Thus, the Bodhisattva displayed spiritual powers to encourage her to restore the bridge as an offering. Madam Huang then diligently fundraised everywhere, and the restoration was finally completed several years later. The local people recorded this deed by engraving it onto a plaque, and the Bodhisattva was once again enshrined in the center pavilion of the stone bridge. Afterward, the number of pedestrians burning incense at the pavilion increased significantly. ✻