

英汉对照

玄奘法师年谱

The Chronological Life of the Master Xuan Zang

张力生 / 著



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by Zhang Lisheng

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Preface

This *Chronicle* is based on the biographical sketch of Xuan Zang arranged by Mr. Yang Tingfu in his book the *Chronological Life of Xuan Zang*, and further properly corrected, added and deleted in the light of some relevant books, such as the *Life of the Master of the Tripitaka in the Da Cien Monastery*, the *Record of the West Lands of the Great Tang*, and the *Continuation of the Memoirs of Eminent Priests*. These necessary changes, I guess, will not do a disservice to the truthfulness of the actual state of Xuan Zang.

In the course of translating this *chronicle* into English, especially in solving the knotty problems, I owe much to the writings of the erudite scholars who wrote on this subject; but, some of which, I could not find any materials referred to, are done by myself.

There are several appendixes added to the book. Appenedix 1, the *Shining Footmarks* by the Respectable Mr. Zhao Puchu, is selected from the *Modern Buddhism* (No.4, 1964), which will make this book more magnificent and significant. Appendix 2 A *Short History of Nalāndā* by A·Ghosh, a Indian, who wrote it in English, from which I translated into Chinese published in the mag-

azine *Dharmaghosa*. Appendix 3, the *Prajñāpāramitāhrdayasūtra*, and appendix 4, the *Satyavijñānamātrapramāna*, are all translated from Chinese into English by me, I attached them to the book, to serve as references to the interested readers.

I wish to record here my thanks to Mr. Wu Baihui, D. litt. (honoris causa) of Visva-Bharati, India, and Special Research-Fellow of Buddhist Culture Institute, China, for his critical reading of the manuscript and his providing pertinent suggestions about it; to those on the staff of Religion & Culture Publishing House, who have done so much to give my book its present form.

I am not brimming with talent and learning. In spite of the scrutiny I have made into the compilation and translation, the edition will have the inevitable errors and faults; I hope that readers will kindly point them out to me.

Zhang Lisheng

Beijing

January, 2000

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Chronological Life of the Master

Xuan Zang

1 year old—24 years old

(600AD—623AD)

1 year old 600 AD

(The 20th year of Kai Huang of the reign of Emperor Sui Wen Di of the Sui Dynasty)

Xuan Zang was born at Chencun Village (also known as Chenbugu, situated in the Phoenix Valley), Konghe Town, Yiuxian Country, in the southeast part of Goushi County, Luozhou (present Chenhe Village, Goushi Town, Yanshi County, Henan Province), into a family of feudal official.

His family name was Chen, personal name Yi.

His father Hui was well versed in classics at an early age, and was recommended for his filial piety and honour. He successively held the posts of Chenliu and Jiangling County Magistrates. In view of the social corruption and decay towards the end of the Sui

dynasty, he retired from office and lived in seclusion at home.

His mother's family name was Song. She had borne four sons and a daughter, of whom the second son, Su, was a monk by name Chang Jie, and Xuan Zang, the fourth; her daughter was married to a Zhang of Yingzhou (now Raoyang County in Hebei Province).

5 years old 604 AD

(The 4th year of Ren Shou of the reign of Sui Wen Di)

Xuan Zang was five years old. His mother Song died.

6 years old 605 AD

(The 1st year of Da Ye of the reign of Emperor Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang's father Chen Hui retired from Jiangling Magistrate, and secluded at home for the remainder of his life.

7 years old 606 AD

(The 2nd year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang was of exceptional intelligence so that he was said to have understood the purport of Xuan, a philosophical sect.

8 years old 607 AD

(The 3rd year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang was taught *the Filial Piety* by his father. As it come to the passage when Zengzi rose, suddenly Xuan Zang

straightened up his dress and get up. Father asking him why he did so, he replied: "Zengzi on hearing the teachings of his teacher stood up from his seat; now how can I sit at ease while listening to the instruction of my father?" Because of this reply, his father perceived that the child would become a distinguished person ~~in~~ the future.

From then on, Xuan Zang assiduously took to reading classics and history, not quitting his home.

10 years old 609 AD

(The 5th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang's father died. Therefore his second elder brother Chang Jie took him to the Jingtu Temple at Luoyang.

11 years old 610 AD

(The 6th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang became a young untensured monk in the Jingtu Temple, and began to study the Buddhist scriptures. First read *Vimalakirtinirdeśasūtra* and *Saddharmapundarikasūtra*.

12 years old 611 AD

(The 7th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang dwelt with his brother Chang Jie in the Jingtu Temple of Luoyang reading the Buddhist scriptures.

13 years old

612 AD

(The 8th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

The Emperor Sui Yang Di issued a royal edict of admission of monks in Luoyang. Because of his youth, Xuan Zang failed to be chosen, but he stood close to the office gate. Zheng Shanguo, the envoy (Punishment Minister), seeing him, asked: "Of what parents were you born?" Xuan Zang replied his family. Again he asked: "For what purpose do you want to become a monk?" Xuan Zang replied: "To carry out Tathagata's behests and spread the light of Buddhism." Zheng Shanguo being deeply gratified with his aspirations, and also quite prepossessed by his appearance, especially selected him, and said to the officials by his side: "To repeat scriptures is easy, but to have such elegance and poise is rare. He will without doubt become a man of eminence in Buddhism."

Then Xuan Zang was admitted as a monk (secluding) in the Jingtū Temple, a Buddhist name—Xuan Zang was given to him.

He learned *Nirvānasūtra* from Ven. Jing who preached then in the Temple, and also studied under the direction of Ven. Yan *Mahāyānasamparigrahasāstra*.

14 years old

613 AD

(The 9th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang secluded in the Jingtū Temple of Luoyang in studying and reading the Buddhist scriptures.

15 years old 614 AD

(The 10th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

In the Jingtū Temple, Xuan Zang read the Buddhist scriptures, attended lectures on Buddhism, and was able to think things out independently. Ever since then, he had specialized in a course of studies, and was therefore held in high repute.

16 years old 615 AD

(The 11th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang buried himself in the study of the Buddhist scriptures in the Jingtū Temple.

17 years old 616 AD

(The 12th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang went on reading and researching Buddhist philosophy at Luoyang.

18 years old 617 AD

(The 13th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di)

Xuan Zang took pleasure in studying the Buddhist scriptures at Luoyang.

19 years old 618 AD

(The 14th year of Da Ye of the reign of Sui Yang Di

The 1st year of Wu De of the reign of Emperor Tang Gao Zu of the Tang Dynasty)

After capturing Xingluocang, to the northeast of Luoyang, the Army of Wa-Gang peasant uprising entered into rivalry with Sui Army for possession of Luoyang. Xuan Zang suggested to his second elder brother Chang Jie that they go to Changan for shelter. In early summer they arrived in Changan, and dwelt in the Zhuangyan Temple.

As turmoiled by war in central China, many eminent monks in the Capital wandered into Shu (Sichuan), and Chengdu became the Buddhist centre in the southwest China at that time. Xuan Zang advised his brother to go to Shu, to receive instruction from Dao Ji. So they started from Changan, went through the Valley of Ziwu, traversed the Qin Mountain Ridge and entered Hanchuan where they met Ven. Kong and Ven. Jing. And they abode with them over a month, studying scriptures under them. Probably in winter they reached Chengdu.

20 years old

619 AD

(The 2nd year of Wu De of the reign of Tang Gao Zu)

In Chengdu, Xuan Zang attended Bao Xing's lecture on *Mahāyānasamparigrahasūtra*, studied *Abhidharma śāstra* under Dao Ji and listened to Dao Zhen's expounding *Kātyāyana*.

For some three years without loss of a moment he earnestly de-