とそ

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甲

斐

玉

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旅

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61

た僧たちは

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とり

1. The Monk and Accompanying Monk Leave for Kai Province

A monk living in Kiyosumi in Awa Province appears with a monk following him. They depart for Kai Province. The monks arrive in Isawa and stay overnight at a shrine by a river.

Traveling Monk

The man before you is a monk living in Kiyosumi in Awa Province (present-day southern Chiba Prefecture, in Kamogawa City). Since I have never been to Kai Province, I decided to travel to the country.

I'm not certain when we will reach there. Departing from Kiyosumi in Awa where the white waves make bubbles (awa in Japanese), I cross Mutsura and go over the hill of Kamakura.

Traveling Monk and Accompanying Monk Worn out by traveling

Accompanying Monk

Our shabby look worn out by traveling

Traveling Monk and Accompanying Monk

does not disturb those of us who have renounced the world. Temporarily sleeping on a grass mat, hearing the tolling of the bell in our morning dreams, we leave the Tsuru region (near present-day Tsuru City in Yamanashi Prefecture) in the morning when the cranes cry. We pass a mountain path around the time when the sun is at its highest. We arrive in Isawa (present Isawa town in Fuefuki City, Yamanashi Prefecture). Passing through the mountain path, we arrive in Isawa.

安房 国清 に 澄 夜 った 0 ま 0 僧 の宿をとる。 末は で が 0 です。 61 僧 つとも 要国に行ったことがありませ 安房国 <u>ك</u> __ 緒に現 知らず 清澄 n [今の千葉県南部、

旅僧と従僧 を聞き 朝 に は 鶴 0 声 が す る 都留の郡 [今の山梨県都留市付近] を発 つ 7 が 高

出家 0 身 であ b, 恥 ず か 13 草をむ しろに仮寝 て、 \mathcal{O} 鐘 0

従僧

つ

れ果てた旅姿も

旅僧と従僧

つ

n

果てた旅

えて

41

0

泡立つ安房の清澄を出

六浦を渡

ŋ,

鎌倉

Ш

ん。 鴨

それ 市あた

で、 り

のたび甲斐国

 \wedge

の旅を思い

JII

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でございま

は

能楽ポータルサイト the .com

- 1 -

Since the sun has set, the monks request lodging for a night from a villager. The villager however declines their request as he cannot host any travelers. Instead, the villager tells them that they can stay at a shrine built by a river although something luminous appears there. The monks therefore decide to stay at the shrine.

2. The Monks Meet and Talk with an Old Cormorant Fisherman

The man who appears before the monks with a torch is an old cormorant fisherman. Although the traveling monk admonishes him to quit fishing, which kills living creatures, the old man responds that he cannot. When the accompanying monk starts telling about a cormorant fisher whom he met before, the old man responds that the fisherman has died and reveals a full account of the event.

Old Cormorant Fisherman

Just as the darkness covers the river when the torch on the cormorant fishing boat burns out, how can I go in the deep darkness of the way to the nether world?

When I think how aggravating this world is, I should have renounced the world. But I cannot embrace such thoughts. I enjoy cormorant fishing on the river in summer. I fish and kill living things. How miserable I am.

Story

る暮れ n る。 たた

[狂言との問答]

着

61

た

5 はそこに泊まることにする。 里人 め、 か 5 夜半

-に光る

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17

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御堂なら泊まれ

ると教えられ

僧た

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里

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泊

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が

旅

人

は

宿を貸

せ

な

61

旅 僧 た ち は 鵜 使 L1 の 老 人 と出会 U 語 5 う

老人は たと教え、 僧 にたちの にできな 前 ことの顛末を明かす 61 と答える。 松明をかざして鵜使い 従僧が 以前出会った鵜使い の老人が現れ る。 殺生 を話題に出すと、 の業をやめるように説く旅僧に その者は亡くなっ

らよい まことに さらさら のだろう。 世 0 中を憂きも 夏河での 鵜使 Ŏ と思う 61 漁が面白 んなら、 出 一家すれ 殺生をする。 ばよ 13 0 なんとも情けない そ 0 が

鵜舟に

ともす篝火

が消えた後

0

よう

な

深

13

闇

に包まれ

た冥途の

旅路

は

どう

る頃 に 道を過ぎ、 今の 山梨県笛吹市石和町] に 61 山 『道を) 過ぎて石和

A traveler in the T'ang Dynasty in China, Sun Ben (admired the moon and) swore an oath to the moon and made love. The wedded couple became a pair of stars (Altair and Vega). The aristocrats of the present day lament over moonless nights. In contrast, I hate the night with the moon and am happy and fish in the dark night.

However, the sheer darkness after the torch on the boat burns out saddens me.

My work is unpleasant. My occupation is miserable. Though I do regret my misdeeds in my previous life, the regret does not help me. I paddle the cormorant fishing boat between waves. Although I value my life so much, it will be eventually lost. I however hang onto life and try to extend it. How wanton is my taking of life. How hard my slaughterous job.

As usual I will go to the shrine and rest my cormorants. (Some schools include this phrase.)

Ah, I didn't know that travelers are here today.

Traveling Monk

Yes, I am a traveling monk. Although we tried to stay in the village, we were told that they do not offer a night's lodging for travelers like us. We therefore decided to stay at this shrine tonight.

Old Man I see. To be sure, there is no one in the village who is willing to offer a night's lodging.

Story

か

に

里

には宿をお貸しするような者が

るとは思えません

旅僧

お

や、

n

は

旅

0

お方が

お入りに

なっ

7

7

たのです

は に は宿を貸さな 61 1/2 と言わ n

の御堂に泊まっ 7 61

る

のです

旅 \mathcal{O} 僧 でござ 61 ま ず。 里で宿を借 Ŋ よう غ た \mathcal{O} です が 私どものような者

一み内は、 一部の流儀のみにある。

・以下の

つ

b

0

よう

É

御堂に上

が

り

を 休

8

よう。

囲

営む殺生の業の つ 5

いことよ

ず か It n h なく だがが 17 なる 0 何の 命な $\hat{\sigma}$ 单 生業だと、 -斐も のに、 情け が 櫂を差して波間 み つき生き永らえようとして、 0 身 0 に鵜 生業だと、 舟を漕ぐ。 今は これ 営む殺生の業の 前世 ほど借

ば

舟にともす篝火が消えた後の、 に ひきか え、 ے 0 私 は 月 0 晚 真っ を嫌 暗 13

な闇は悲

61

ものだ。

 \mathcal{O} 悪行

を悔

13

しんでも

つら

織女、

0

遊 織姫 . 彦星のこと] 伯 (月を愛で) となっ た。 O17 殿 を立てて夫婦 0 な 契り 61 夜をお悲し み 0 なる

闇夜を悦

W

で漁をするが

cormorants.

Traveling Monk

Traveling Monk

従僧

は

61

そ

0

時

0

僧

です

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そ

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時

0

お坊様です

更やめ

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頃

からこの

仕事

筋で身を立ててきました

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てお

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が

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0

が殺生

0

仕

事をなさる

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は

恐

れ多い

ことです。

どう

は

を使

わ

なく

7

B

17

方

です

ね。

お見受け

します

大変に

お年

0

仕

事をお止

めになり、

ほか

の仕事で生計をお立てください

あなたは

私は

を使

つ

て漁をするの

です

いでござ 61 います。

61

つ

B

月

0

傾は

ح

0

御堂で休みを取

ŋ

月

が

沈

んだら鵜

http://www.the-noh.com

鵜使

11 つ 4

どういう人です

Old Man I understand what you want to say, but I have earned a living with

Accompanying Monk

offered a feast that night.

Yes, I am that monk.

this occupation now.

By the way, may I ask who on earth you are?

Old Man I am a cormorant fisher. When the moon is in the sky, I always

fishing and forge your livelihood by something else.

rest at this shrine, and when the moon goes down, I fish by using

Then, I guess I don't need to be bothered with you. Seeing how you

look, I suppose you must be very elderly. It is dreadful for an old

man like you to engage in such a slaughterous job. Please quit the

this job since I was young. It is asking too much to get me to quit

Let me tell you a story. This old man reminds me of a certain

old man. I told him that his business breaks one of the Buddhism

precepts, the precept forbidding the taking of life. He might think

that my preaching made sense. He invited me to his house and

Old Man So, you are the monk who came that time.

Accompanying Monk

- 0
- なしをしてくれたのです。 た 自分の家に連れて帰り

つ

とも

61

ま

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3

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を見

7

思

13

17

・ます。

二、三年前

- なことだ にと思っ 仏 0 戒 8 0 殺生戒 にあたることを諭 お話
- を通 たことが あ h íます。 その 時、 0 ような鵜使 17 と出
- たところ、

結構なもて

Traveling Monk

Traveling Monk

Old Man Yes, I will tell you.

Old Man Alas, you know, that cormorant fisherman passed away.

Old Man It is shame to say but he passed away because of his occupation.

First of all, any taking of life is strictly prohibited within the

several miles upstream and downstream of this Isawa River. Many

cormorant fishermen live in Iwaochi, the area you just mentioned.

There was a cormorant fisherman who sneakily paddled in the

bitterly hated the poacher and waited for him to reveal who he

was. One night, the poaching cormorant fisherman, who never

even dreamed that the villagers were waiting for him, sneaked in

the banned area and fished with his cormorants. The concealed

villagers suddenly jumped on him, caught him, and called "Kill

him!" believing that by killing one they would save all the others.

pleaded that he did not know that the taking of life was prohibited

Then, the cormorant fisherman pressed his hands together and

in this area and he would be more careful and never do it again.

He clasped his hands in prayer toward the enraged villagers and

lamented, but no one helped him. The fisherman was wrapped in

a mat and thrown to the bottom of the river. He shouted but no

banned area and did cormorant fishing every night. The villagers

Well, could you tell me the details of his death?

May I ask why he was deceased?

しい

私ども

0

仕事

0

せ

61

で亡くなっ

てしまい

老人

ああ、

そ

0

11

は亡くなってしまいました。

なぜ亡くなられ

たのです

お聞 か せ いたしましょう。

7

を使

密漁す

る者が

つ

た。

土地の者た

ちは、

憎

17

者

の仕業だ、

その者を暴

と待ち伏

せを

た。

る晩

それを夢 と寄

にも知らな

い鵜使

ただ

61

和

61

0

上下三里

0

間、

一を禁

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た岩落あ

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には

鵜使

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が多

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夜毎、

禁漁の地に忍

んで上り、

では、

その

それ

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時 0 様子を詳 しく語っ てくださ

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と拝み手で嘆き悲

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だ 知

たが でも

を救

61

屈

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まま

「彼を殺せ」

と 口

に言

合っ

その時

つ

つ

つ

7

61

ば

つ

かまえて、

voice came out.

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Ukai (Cormorant Fishing)

I myself am the ghost of that very cormorant fisherman. Please offer a prayer for him.

(Some schools include the following phrases.) **Group Reciters**

> Since I was sinful in this world, since I sinfully acted in this world, my yang (positive) soul goes to another world while my *yin* (negative) soul suffers in this world. This is not someone else's problem but actually happening to myself. Please offer a prayer for me. Please offer a prayer for me.

Traveling Monk

Oh my..., you are the ghost of the cormorant fisherman. Then, in order to confess for atonement, could you show us how to do cormorant fishing, which brought you to this sin? We will pray for you cordially.

3. After Showing the Way of Cormorant Fishing, the Old Man Disappears

Following the monk's entreaty, the ghost of the old fisherman shows the monks the method of cormorant fishing [*U-no-dan* (the scene of cormorant fishing)]. The moment of entertainment goes. Before long the ghost fades in the darkness.

Old Man The night has already matured. The time of cormorant fishing has come. Now, let's use the cormorant for fishing, the source of my wrongful act.

Traveling Monk

This is the story of a man who went down to Hell. It is a wonder to witness the way that the deceased is captured within the karma of suffering because of his misdeeds.

Story

に

人

わ

n

7

61

る

有

様を、

今こう

て見

るとは

不思議なことだ。

悪業に

ょ

つ

てこんなにも苦

しみ

 \mathcal{O}

n 地 獄 に 堕 ち た者 0 物語 であ る。 死者が

にこ 0 夜も更け過ぎて、 鵜を使う頃 にな つ た。 さあ

おう 悪業の b な っ た鵜を使 勧 鵜 8 を 使 応じ つ た 7 漁 ഗ 鵜使 子 61 を の亡霊は 見 せ た 後 機を使 老 人 つ た漁 は 消 え の様子を見せる る ノ段)。 面 白 61 は 過ぎ

三

B

が \mathcal{O}

て

闇

0

な

か

に

亡霊は

消

えて

61

旅僧 な \mathcal{O} もと W 7 に くださ な そ つ \mathcal{O} 61 鵜使 0 どう 鵜 使 61 \mathcal{O} か 61 き跡を弔 業をお見せくださ 0 者 で つ す 7 か ださ 0 そ 61 n 61

な

5

滅

ぼ

 \mathcal{O}

悔

 \mathcal{O}

た

8

跡をね

んごろに

弔

ま

苦 生前 しん \mathcal{O} 悪業が で 7) る。 深 これ 61 た は 8 他人事で 生前 \mathcal{O} は 悪 業が なく 61 0 た 身 8 0 魂 上に起こっ は 冥途に たこと。 行 き 魄 どう は か \mathcal{O}

一部の流儀のみにある。

・以下の 囲み内は、

地

の私こそ、 そ 0 0 鵜 使 61 の亡者でござい ます。 跡をお弔 ください

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世

7

Traveling Monk

Traveling Monk

Old Man Brandish the dampened torch,

wisteria vine,

Old Man into the waves in the river

at the same time

Traveling Monk (or Old Man)

Old Man released.

Group Reciters

放せば

老人 湿る松明を振りかざし、

藤蔓で織った粗末な着物にたすきをか

け

鵜籠を開き、 取 ŋ

出して

巣からおろしたば

か

うりの荒り

々

1/2

川波に、

つ ٤

部の流儀で は、

は 掬 が 0 13 こともす 41 上げ 様だ、 ってくるだろ け て鮎を取 絶え間 面 5 かり忘れ果てて、 白 17 なく魚を飲 有様だ。 h 残すことはな

底にま

でも見える篝

火

、魚を追

61

口

つ

み込んでい

る。

今この

時は

、殺生の罪もそ

の報

B

ただただ面白

漲

る水が、

淀川ならば、

生簀

が

つ

ああそう

月が出

てきた

61

いだろう

おや

不思議だ、

篝火が燃えて

(鮎の名所の)

玉島

ЭĬ で

は

な

61

が

子鮎

が走り

泳ぐせ

せら 61

How interesting, how amusing. The cormorants chase the fish stunned by the light of the torch, which brightly illuminates even to the bottom of the river. Dive and catch. Dive and catch. The birds constantly swallow the fish. At this moment of excitement, I completely forget about the sin of killing, its bad karma, and my next life. It is just amusing. If I am in the water of the Yodo-gawa River, carps in a preserve will be caught. Although this is not the Tamashima-gawa River which is famous for sweetfish, if we are in a stream where baby sweetfish swiftly swim, no cormorant will be lazy to miss any fish. Why, mysteriously, my shadow became darker though the torch is still burning. I see, now the moon rises. How sorrowful.

with a band tucking up the sleeves of coarse kimono made of

the rough cormorants, which just came out from their cage, are

Old Man open the basket for cormorants, bring the birds out,

Ukai (Cormorant Fishing)

The torch on the cormorant fishing boat is dead. I must return to the path of darkness. I can do nothing about missing it. Hopeless, I hate to leave.

[Interlude]

4. Villager Talks to Monks about the Fate of Old Man Who Broke the Prohibition against Fishing

A villager comes to check the monks and calls to them. For the traveling monks who ask about the cormorant fisherman who broke the precept against fishing, the villager narrates the story. After his story, he recommends the monks to pray for the dead fisherman when he heard that the ghost of the cormorant fisher appeared. As the monks propose to write the verse of the sutra on stones as an offering, the villager offers to pick stones up for them and exits.

5. Monks Transcribe the Lotus Sutra on Stones and Pray for Old Man

The traveling monks write a single character of the Lotus Sutra on each stone and pray for the ghost of the cormorant fisherman.

Traveling Monk and Accompanying Monk Pick up stones on the river bank,

Accompanying Monk Pick up stones on the river bank, Story

従僧

瀬の石を拾い

上げ

旅僧と従僧

瀬の石を拾い上げ、

7 深僧 たち 訊 ね が 旅 僧 そ た

ち に 里 人 が 禁 漁 を 犯 L た 老 人 の 運命を語

[中入り]

舟

0

火は

消

え、

 \mathcal{O}

身は闇路

に帰

5

なけ

13

しようもなく

名残惜し

げようと言 旅僧 n に た 応じ を勧 5 0 退く める。 て里 様子を見 人が物語る。 に来 が 石に経文を書い その後里人は、 をかけてくる。 て弔おうと言うと、 鵜使 僧 61 は、 0 亡霊が現 禁漁を犯 れたことを聞 里人は小石を拾っ した 鵜使 61 11 て

僧たちは 小石の一 つひとつに一字ずつ法華経 の文句を書き連 鵜使 61 亡霊を弔う。

五

僧

た

ち

は

法

華

経を石に

写

て

老

人

を

□

向

す

能楽ポータルサイト the .com

we will write single characters of the exquisite Lotus Sutra on each stone. If we submerge the stones in the river as an offering, why can he not float up? Why can he not float up? (He must resurface and become a Buddha.)

6. King Yama Appears and Praises the Merit of the Lotus Sutra Saving Old Man

King Yama enters with great force. He announces that the ghost of the cormorant fisherman is now saved due partially to the merit of offering a feast to the accompanying monk when he was in this world. Furthermore, King Yama lauds the Lotus Sutra and proudly declares that even a bad man will achieve salvation if he exercises the virtue of mercy and offerings to monks.

[*Hayafue* (fast flute)]

With the fast and aggressive rhythm of small and large hand drums and a drum, and with the high note of the Japanese flute, King Yama vigorously runs along the gangway bridge and enters the stage.

King Yama

Hell does not exist far away from you. It exists right in front of the human world, and evil demons are dwelling inside the human's heart. That cormorant fisherman had fished in the river since he was young and accumulated the sin of killing. Therefore, the iron tablets inscribed with his misdeeds were too many to enumerate while the golden paper to write down his good conducts was blank and nothing to write in it. He was supposed to descend into the Avici Hell. However, thanks to his merit of offering a dinner to a monk, the demons in Hell ease their attitude toward him and say they will send the old man to Paradise right away. The devils transform the fishing boat to the Ferry of the Vow of Salvation (a metaphor of the Buddha's vow that He will save living creatures by

閻 六 閻 魔 大 王 が 現 n 老 人 を 救 つ た 法 華

経

の

功

徳

を

賛

美

す

旅僧と従僧

な

る

法 7

御 か

経

石

つ

つ

間

に

8

えば だろ

どう

浮 \mathcal{O}

3

こと [法華

が

できな

61

だ

3

か

て浮

か

ぶこと

ができな

41

[きっ

と成仏するに違い

ない

なら悪人で れ 魔 たと 大 王 知 が 勢 5 せ 61 る。 わ n る、 さら 現 n と高ら に閻 る 先 魔 かに告げる 大 0 王 鵜 は 使 法 61 0 華経を賛美 ť 霊 が 生 慈悲 僧 \mathcal{O} 侶 をも 7 な \sim L 0 た 功 供養を実践 \$ あ つ て救 す

んばや 橋掛 か ŋ 激 を勢 61 打 つ 小 駆け 大鼓、 舞台に入っ 太鼓 0 てくる 1) ズ Δ 高音域を奏でる笛 0 音 に 乗 つ 閻 魔 大王

閻魔大王

棲み もとよ と言 ま つ を h つ 重 さら 地獄 ね 7 7 夜 ってきた。 7 る。 もてな は で書き留 遠 鵜舟を弘誓 そもそもあ そ した功徳に に あ n 8 Ź ることも W ź, 0 \$ 0 \mathcal{O} ょ 罪 鵜 で 仏の、 Ŋ 使 を書き記す は 11 な は、 (悪鬼 衆生を悟りの岸に渡そうという誓い 若 b を和 獄 札。頃 \mathcal{O} 0 底 枚 眼 ŋ に堕 挙に 洄 0 7 前 Ш 5 で漁 に 17 る あ とまな 61 を行 り、 で極 は ず であ 悪鬼 の舟] 楽 41 送る 殺 った。 善行を記 は に変えた 生 人 0 0 それ であ 心 す な

bringing them to the shore of the enlightenment).

King Yama (Reciters)

Just as the fishing boat becoming a rescue boat for helping the Lotus Sutra, which saves the living creatures,

Reciters (King Yama)

the torch floats up to the surface and glows.

King Yama (Reciters)

The numerous ambivalences of the human world, just as the numerous floating clouds,

Reciters (King Yama)

are blown by the wild wind of the truth.

Reciters The sky is now cleared as far as a thousand miles away. In the sky the moon of the True Thusness rises.

> How wonderful. The evil ones who sank to the bottom of Hell are sent to Paradise. How miraculous the auspicious power of the Lotus Sutra is!

King Yama Since the merit of the Lotus Sutra is considerably deep, I have come to save living creatures who have taken the path of evil.

Reciters It is such a precious oath! What is the meaning of the character "myō" in the title of Myōhōrenge-kyō (the Lotus Sutra)? What does the character "myo" mean?

King Yama It extols the virtue of the sutra. It means the exquisite law (the precious teaching which is beyond the meaning of words).

Why does it have the name "sutra"? Reciters

Story

地

なぜ

経」

と名づけ

て

61

る

0

か

閻魔大王

それ

は

褒

8

讃える詞であ

Ď,

妙なる法のののののののののののののののののののののののののとのといればいる。

[詞を超えた有難い教え]

という意味である

地

法華経の御利益は大変深

閻魔大王

17

ものだか

5

魔道に

堕ち

た衆生を救うために来たのだ。

まことに有難い 77 だ。 (妙法蓮華経の) 0 字はどういう意味か

でたい んと有難い しるし のあらたかなことよ。 奈落 [地獄の底] 沈 む 悪人を極楽に送り給う、 \tilde{O} 鵍 相

そ

千里の外までくまなく晴れ渡 真如 0 悟りに至る月が 出

実相が [真理] の荒々 13 風に吹かれ

(閻魔大王)

地

たくさんの浮き雲のよう

人間界

0

迷

11

(閻魔大王) 篝火も浮か が 上 が つ 輝くようだ

衆生を救う法華経の 力 0

助け

能楽ポータルサイト the .com

Reciters there is no two or

King Yama three teachings but

唯

一絶対

えと

に

ょ b,

2

閻魔大王

そ

は仏の聖なる教えを総称するものであるが

閻魔大王 二つもなく

三つもなく

よう つ 乗 浮かび難い悪人が仏果を得る。 な例を見聞きす 慈悲 0 心を先と Ź つけ 1/2 う意味であ 成仏 それ 侶たちを大切に供養する 0 Ŕ る。 例 0 \mathcal{O} を見聞きす 経 乗 0 力に まことに旅 0 功 ほ 徳 る ならば かならな に つけ 0 修行 61 奈落 そ たとえ悪人 0 0 御利益 お結縁に

引か 他を助ける力となる 仏果を得て悟りに至り、 [別解釈一:まことに往来の僧を供養することは、 できるのである。 他力の救いをもた

らすのである]

[別解釈二:仏が極楽と娑婆世界を往来する御利益こそが、

衆生を救う力となる]。

Reciters

this is the single and absolutely correct precept. Thanks to the merit of this absoluteness, the evil man who sank in Hell and is hard to be saved can receive the merit of Buddha. It is all thanks to the power of the Lotus Sutra.

King Yama Because the sutra is a generic name for the scriptures which convey the sacred teachings of Buddhas, and it means

> Hearing and observing such a case, listening and observing such a case, we understand that even an evil person can be tied with and led along the way of Buddha and reach enlightenment if he devotes his heart to mercy and takes good care of monks. He can become a Buddha. Truly the benefit of ascetic traveling training will help the others (Different interpretation 1: Truly offerings to traveling monks will bring you to salvation by faith.)(Different interpretation 2: The merit when the Buddha travels between Paradise and the human world becomes the power of salvation for living creatures.)

Ukai (Cormorant Fishing)

Synopsis

A monk living in Kiyosumi in Awa Province (present-day southern Chiba Prefecture, in Kamogawa City) departs for Kai Province (in present-day Yamanashi Prefecture) with a companion monk. They arrive at Isawa (in present-day Fuefuki City, Yamanashi Prefecture). Since the sun has set, they decide to stay the night at a shrine standing along the Isawa River. An old cormorant fisherman appears with a torch and exchanges words with the monks. The monk who observes the aging cormorant fisherman tries to persuade him to change his job in order to quit killing living things. The old man however responds that it is too late for him to do so. The companion monk, who is listening to the conversation, remembers that he was treated to a meal by a cormorant fisherman when he visited this area a few years earlier. He mentions the fact, and the old man responds that the fisherman was killed since he broke the precept against taking life. The old man gives the account of the event and reveals that he is the ghost of the killed cormorant fisherman. After showing the way of fishing using cormorants, the ghost disappears in the darkness.

After hearing the tragic death of the cormorant fisherman from the villager, the monks write a verse of the Lotus Sutra on stones on the riverbank and pray for the fisherman's soul. King Yama, the lord of the realm of the dead, appears to notice that the old man who was supposed to descend into hell due to his sin of killing is now saved because of the merit he achieved from offering the feast to the accompanying monk. Then, King Yama praises the precious benefits of the Lotus Sutra and recommends having mercy for taking good care of monks.

Highlight

This piece includes the highlights, which graphically describes the past events just as if they are restaged in front of your eyes. The highlights include the scene of "*U-no-dan* (the scene of cormorant fishing)" which shows how a fisherman manipulates cormorants from a boat at night under the light of torches, the scene which describes the severe punishment issued on breaking the precept prohibiting fishing, and the scene of the offering of writing the verse of the Lotus Sutra on stones. These scenes convey a subtle antiquity.

Further, the entire piece emphasizes the wonderfulness of Buddhism and the Lotus Sutra. We can glimpse aspects of ancient beliefs.

It is also held that the traveling monk is Saint Nichiren himself, who was devoted to ascetic training at Kiyosumi.

"Delight at the beginning but sadness is left when the cormorant fishing boats are gone." This famous *haiku* poem composed by Matsuo Bashō feelingly describes the world of this story.

Schools All five

Category The Fifth group noh, *kirinoh-mono*Author Enami Saemon Gorō (Revised by Zeami)

Subject Unknown
Season Summer (May)
Scenes Isawa in Kai Province

Characters Mae-shite Old man (Cormorant fisherman)

Nochi-shite King Yama

Waki Traveling monk

Waki-tsure Accompanying monk

Ai Villager

Masks Mae-shite Asakuranojō, Waraijō, or Sankōjō, etc.

Nochi-shite Kobeshimi

Costumes Mae-shite jō-kami (wig for old man's character), mizugoromo (a type of knee-length

kimono), kitsuke / muji-noshime (noshime style kimono with no pattern), koshi-obi

(belt), koshimino, a fan and a torch.

Nochi-shite long red wig, tō-kanmuri (a type of crown worn by gods or Chinese emperors),

happi-style kimono, kitsuke / atsuita, hangire (a type of hakama), koshi-obi, and a

fan.

Waki sumi-bōshi (a hood for regular Buddhist monks), mizugoromo,

kitsuke / muji-noshime, koshi-obi, a fan, and Buddhist prayer beads.

Waki-tsure Same as the Waki

Ai tops and bottoms of kimono for kyogen-kata, koshi-obi, and a fan.

Number of scenes Two

Length About 1 hour and 20 minutes

鵜飼(うかい)

あらすじ

安房国清澄 [今の千葉県南部、鴨川市あたり] の僧が、従僧を連れて、甲斐国 [今の山梨県あたり] へ旅立ち、石和 [今の山梨県笛吹市石和町] に着きます。日も暮れたため、僧たちは、石和川のほとりの御堂で一夜を過ごすことにしました。すると、そこに松明を持った一人の鵜使いの老人が現れ、僧たちと言葉を交わします。齢を重ねた老人の様子を見た僧は、殺生をやめて他業に転ずるよう論しますが、老人は今更難しいと応えます。その問答を聞いて、数年前にこの近辺に来たことのある従僧が、同様の鵜使いに会って一夜供応にあずかったことを思い出し、話題にします。老人は、その鵜使いは、殺生禁断の禁制を破った咎めを受けて、殺されたと告げます。老人はその顛末を語り、自分こそが殺された鵜使いの亡霊であると明かし、鵜を使った漁の様子を見せた後、閼路へ消えていきます。

里の者から改めて、鵜使いの悲惨な死を聞いた僧たちは、川の石に法華経の文句を書きつけて、老人を供養します。すると、そこに閻魔大王が現れ、殺生の罪により地獄に堕ちるべき老人が、従僧をもてなした功徳もあって、救いを得たことを知らせます。そして、法華経の有難いご利益を讃えつつ、慈悲の心を持って僧侶を大切にするよう勧めます。

みどころ

夜半に松明を焚き、鵜舟を出して鵜を使う漁を表した「鵜ノ段」と呼ばれる 部分をはじめ、禁漁を破った罪人に課せられる重い罰、法華経の文句を石に 書き付ける供養の法など、往時の様子を、眼の前に見るかのように生き生きと 描写するところが、大きな見どころ、聴きどころです。古色の残った素朴な味 わいがあります。

また一曲全体を通して仏教、法華経の有難さを際立たせており、昔の信仰のありようを垣間見ることもできます。

旅僧は、清澄で修行していた日蓮上人その人である、とも伝えられています。
「おもしろうてやがて悲しき鵜舟哉」

俳人・松尾芭蕉の有名な句は、この物語の世界をしみじみと表現しています。

流儀 五流にあり

分類 五番目物、切能物

作者 榎並左衛門五郎(えなみさえもんごろう)[世阿弥改作]

題材 不明

季節 夏(5月)

場面 甲斐国石和

登場人物

前シテ 老翁(鵜使い)

後シテ 閻魔大王

ワキ 旅僧

ワキツレ 従僧

アイ 里人

前シテ 朝倉尉、笑尉、三光尉など

面 後シテ 小癋見(こべしみ)

装束 前シテ 尉髪 (じょうがみ)、水衣 (みずごろも)、着付・無地熨斗目

(むじのしめ)、腰帯、腰蓑(こしみの)、扇、松明

後シテ 赤頭、唐冠 (とうかんむり)、法被 (はっぴ)、着付・厚板、

半切 (はんぎれ)、腰帯、扇

ワキ 角帽子(すみぼうし)、水衣、着付・無地熨斗目、腰帯、扇、

数珠

ワキツレ ワキと同じ装束

アイ 狂言上下(きょうげんかみしも)、腰帯、扇

場数 二場

上演時間 約1時間20分

鵜飼(うかい) Ukai (Cormorant Fishing) ©2017 the-noh.com

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