Wumenguan (Mumonkan): Case 41: Bodhidharma's Pacifying the Mind

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translated by Ven. Anzan Hoshin roshi

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Bodhidharma sat facing the wall.
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The Second Ancestor [Dazu Huike] stood in the snow.
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He cut off his arm and said, *My mind has no peace as yet! I beg you, Master, please put it to rest!*
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Bodhidharma said, *Bring your mind here and I will pacify it for you.*
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The Second Ancestor said, *I have searched for my mind, and I cannot take hold of it.*
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Bodhidharma said, *Now your mind is pacified.*

Wumen's Comment □□□□

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> *This broken-toothed old barbarian, proudly puffed, came a hundred thousand miles over the sea.*
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> *This was raising waves where there was no wind.*
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> *In his last years he managed a disciple, but he was a cripple [defective in the six roots]. Crude.*
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> *The family's third son [Xuesanlang, Hsieh San-lang, Shasanro], unable to read four characters.*

Wumen's Appended Verse □□

> □□□□ *Coming from the west and directly pointing,*
> □□□□ *All this trouble comes from this.*
> □□□□ *The clamour in the monasteries*
> □□□□ *Is all because of you.*

The *Wumenguan* □□□ or *Mumonkan, the Gateless Barrier or Gateless Gate* , is a collection of 48 koan and commentaries by the Chinese monk Wumen Huikai (□□□□) (1183-1260). It was published in 1228 and so was too late for Dogen to encounter in China, although copies later made their way to Japan in 1254.