

**M155**  
**Nzyu-fao-lao, catching the robbers.**

*Sung by Zhang Xin-mi.*

This year we may know,  
Know that this year Nzyu-fao-lao is healing sickness,  
For Nzyu-fao-lao was the people's great healer of disease,  
Their great healer of sickness.

5 Nzyu-fao-lao was the people's great destroyer of robbers,  
For Nzyu-fao-lao had heard,  
That the people were subject to sickness.  
There were many who had thrown their lives away,  
And many who were surrounded by troubles,  
10 Their hearts torn by fear.

At that time,  
The Miao community was without food or clothing,  
And in pity Nzyu-fao-lao  
Determined to go everywhere and see the Miao community.

15 Nzyu-fao-lao rode on his grey horse -  
Grey as a cloud, but dark underneath -  
And carried his slender staff.  
A porter followed behind.  
With a single purpose of helping the Miao community,  
20 Smiling, and in haste, he pursued his way.

Nzyu-fao-lao and his companion  
Had to pass through a valley and cross a mountain ridge  
To reach their resting place for the night.  
Exhausted by their climb over the mountain,  
25 Thirsty and getting hungry,  
They wanted to rest a while before going on.

But the Chinese robbers did no good.  
Through a gap, from the wild country they came,  
Seven or eight robbers with angry, threatening countenances,  
30 Their great limbs very black and contorted,  
They uttered obscenities and with threatening intent demanded,  
"People who travel the road,  
Must give up their silver and anything made of iron".

Nzyu-fao-lao decided what to do.  
35 "So we have encountered an attack by robbers!  
But for what does this band of robbers count?  
There is no need to fear the robbers or to fear their attack".

Whipping up his horse he went forward quickly,  
And the Chinese robbers shouted curses.

40 "Did you or did you not hear?  
If you did not we will take and kill you!"

Several Chinese robbers approached Nzyu-fao-lao,  
With crackers going off in all directions and exploding,  
In a manner designed to startle people,  
45 To make people afraid.  
Nzyu-fao-lao's porter,  
Standing at one side and watching was trembling with fear.

Nzyu-fao-lao used his slender staff to drive them back.  
The staff flew around as though to slice them into pieces,  
Thus they were driven back,  
50 For the Chinese robbers were afraid of being killed.  
A senior officer called out,  
"Use your strength, beat him, beat him stone dead!"

Nzyu-fao-lao, exerting all the strength of his body,  
Sent his staff flying around again,  
55 And the Chinese robbers could not withstand it.  
Some died, some ran.  
But he rode his horse in pursuit.  
At every stroke one perished, till all the Chinese robbers were dead.

Nzyu-fao-lao, riding his stallion, reached the village,  
60 But the Miao community ran away and hid,  
Asking why, he discovered they feared he was a Chinese robber.  
But when he told them that the Chinese robbers were all dead,  
Presently the Miao community returned home.

Nzyu-fao-lao entered the village,  
65 And saw how thoroughly the Chinese robbers had looted it.  
Useful articles and valuables had all been stolen,  
People had been killed, and women abducted.

He told the villagers all they must do,  
"The Chinese robbers have been entirely wiped out,  
70 Now the useful articles, the valuables which were carried off,  
Let each one go quickly and collect up his own".

As soon as the Miao community got back with their own things,  
They thanked Nzyu-fao-lao for his good services.

Settlements of people in all directions  
75 Heard how Nzyu-fao-lao had tackled the Chinese robbers,  
So that all Chinese robbers were filled with dread,  
And harmony returned to sky and earth.

Thus it is ended.