

Corpse Driving

Xiaomei Zhang

Tibet, the most mysterious area of China has numerous cultural heritages. Besides the Tibetan's special religion, some extraordinary talents are also big attractions to the external world such as Telepathy and Prophecy. However, seldom do people have an idea about Corpse Driving although it is one of the chief extra talents of the Tibetan Master. (Master is a title of respect for a Buddhist or Taoist priest.)

In the Tibetan view, Corpse Driving means the ability to give rebirth to men who already died and then train them into hard workers. Using dead people as slaves has been a tradition in Tibet for more than 2,000 years. Those slaves are able to do extremely hard work which normal slaves are unable to do. They can work during the whole day and even at night. Since Tibet is an area which people do not use modern machines, that may be the reason why Corpse Driving is popular. In the scientific view, it is regarded as heresy or pseudo-science because as we know, a rebirth given by a human being is ridiculous. However, Corpse Driving does exist in Tibet. It is neither heresy nor a product of paranoia.

Corpse slaves are not secrets; they are common to see in Tibet. According to witnesses, those corpses controlled by Masters are lean and haggard, totally changed beyond recognition. Their faces are ghostly pale. Besides working, they have no abilities which normal men have such as listening or speaking. It is true that their lives require no food, but those corpses do not have eternal lives as people from the outside world thought. They become old when alive and when they are too old to work, they die again.

Corpse Driving used to be a big mystery and attraction to many scientists of the external world. Many people are interested in finding out the truth. After many years of research, those scientists finally revealed the secrets to drive a corpse. Actually, the Tibetan Masters do not have extraordinary talent in rebirth as the Tibetans thought. Once a Tibetan Master wants one to be his slave, he lures him to swallow a special drug called "MaDi" (a mixture of marijuana and poisonous mushrooms). Then the healthy man soon turns into mimic death. After the funeral, the Master quickly digs the body out and gives him another drug to bring him back into consciousness. However, since the poison in "MaDi" has seriously damaged the man's brain, he will lose all his memories as well as abilities and the only thing he knows is to obey the first person he sees. Training is also necessary in the process of Corpse Driving. The Master will give the man special training to make him more suitable for all kinds of hard work after he drives him home. However, the detail of the training is still a mystery and has not yet been discovered by scientists.

As a tradition of the Tibetan nation, Corpse Driving is treated as a legal and social activity. According to the Tibetan's belief, it is holy and a symbol of the power their Masters own. Corpse Driving is also one of their culture heritages that made their nation mysterious to the external world. Nowadays, although Corpse Driving is viewed as a result of drug taking, the Tibetans still believe it as an extraordinary talent of their Masters. In fact, no matter what peoples' beliefs are, as long as Corpse Driving exists in Tibet, it will keep the veil of mystery on this area.