



# Poetry

Group 2

# Who Was Judge Pao?

*German Swiss International School, Pui, Jasmine – 9*

The amazing Justice Pao was China's Sherlock Holmes,  
Lord Pao and Justice Pao was what he was being called,  
His name was Bao Qingtian.  
The Magistrate of Kaifeng,  
The listener of ordinary villagers,  
The hero who stood up against the imperials, bribery and protests,  
The man who always spoke his mind.  
Born in poverty,  
But respected and reigned by the Emperor,  
For his fairness, wisdom and bravery.

Born with a dark face,  
But with a white crescent on his forehead.  
A gift from heaven,  
But was seen as a curse from his parents.  
Being thrown away,  
He grew as a wise man.  
In the midst of his success,  
He returned home to care for his elderly parents,  
Who abandoned him as an infant.  
As an action of Pao's 'filial piety'.

Bao Mian was the nephew of Pao.  
Also a magistrate,  
But was never a fair man,  
Bribery and dishonest was what described him,  
Under the tiger guillotine  
Executing Bao Mian in tears was what Pao did.  
Not feeling sorry for punishing this corrupted man  
But for his kind-hearted aunt  
Who was Pao's 'mother' for years  
As an action of Pao's 'fairness'.

Chan Shi Mei was a coward,  
But the son in law of the Emperor.  
A wife, two children and elderly parents,  
Are people whom he has left behind.  
Elderly parents left to die of famine,  
Wife and children left to starve.  
Food was their only wish,  
But murder was what Chan was granted.  
His head was then put under the dragon guillotine,  
As an action of Pao's 'bravery'.

The poor woodcutter,  
Who was being honest to return the fifteen coins.  
But the greedy merchant claimed he had thirty,  
The smarty Pao solved this mystery with wisdom.  
Since the purse should have thirty coins,  
Then this purse mustn't belong to the merchant.  
All unclaimed items were then granted,  
To the founder of the purse,  
For his integrity and righteousness.  
As an action of Pao's 'wisdom'.

Lord Pao is now resting in sealed glass,  
Worshipped by his people in Kaifeng,  
Where we now call Au Huy.  
Justice, fairness and honesty;  
Are what we remember today.  
Generations after generations,  
We will still honour this judge.  
Dog, tiger and dragons,  
Are placed in one of his temples,  
As a remembrance of his bravery to justice.

# The Case of Judge Pao

*Kau Yan School (Primary), Hon, Ho Kiu – 10*

Economics, health, defence, and education,  
The emperor and I discussed with ambition.  
Toast after toast, glass after glass;  
Sat amongst the heavily armed guards.

As lines of humour filled the air,  
The emperor's jewel blinded us with its glare.  
Mooncakes and Mao-tai were served  
And soon after, everything became a blur.  
It was as perfect as one could ask for  
Because I, Judge Pao, didn't know what is in store.

The next morning a spear was pointed to my head.  
Then, I was dragged to jail to behead.  
Confused, I implored for information  
And I was told I had ruined my own reputation.  
Even more perplexed now, I realised I was in jeopardy  
And accused as the royal jewel thief.

Oh dignity! It was diminished instantly!  
From the top to the bottom of the hierarchy  
Never had I thought I'd ever need  
To plea.

But:

One conversation leaked a clue that sparked my interest –  
Two ransom notes were left at the palace;  
Three assassins nearly killed the emperor;  
Luckily four guards stopped them and took them to the beheader.  
Drinking my fifth glass, I didn't notice anything,  
But I realised there was a sixth clue which made my mind ring.

On the day of my trial  
I listed out the points to stop my downfall.  
Seeing that not everyone was convinced, I unleashed my final evidence –  
“Being inside the cell, I couldn't have delivered the ransom!” I said in confidence.  
The jury nodded, convinced  
And the Emperor's guards winced.

The judge demanded, “Stop them!”  
And on the floor the guards were slammed.  
The emperor apologised and went down on his knees;  
Moving on as all I wanted was to redeem my dignity.

# Beacon

*Ying Wa Primary School, Yuen, Hei Wang Roderick – 11*

The emperor's dragon cloak intimidates me,  
On my shoulders it rests.  
I have sworn to preserve justice,  
Indeed a difficult quest.

Fortunately, I am not alone;  
Aided by an honorable helper:  
Judge Pao, a selfless man of steel,  
Fair to every man, aristocrat or retainer.

Once a financial officer was murdered,  
With another put in his place.  
Judge Pao wasted no time.  
So as to gather clues, he raced.

Inspecting the royal spending report,  
Which was essential evidence,  
He saw figures miscalculated.  
Like a sprout, an idea took residence.

Such an elite, experienced officer  
Would never make so grievous a mistake!  
Thinking it through, thinking it through,  
The judge realized that it was faked.

Four-two-five-six... What could the numbers mean?  
Like a bolt of lightning, it struck him.  
He rushed to the storage rooms,  
It was all due to a sudden whim!

Indeed, there was a message,  
Patiently waiting for his entry.  
It was from the financial officer,  
Probably not incidentally.

My brother and his partners  
Had killed his predecessor.  
They offered him a fruitful pay  
Should he slip up to their favor.

“Out of righteousness, I refused;  
They will kill me if they know of this letter.  
I trust that you will see the law upheld,  
And punish the conspirators behind the murder.”

An astronomical barrage of accusations  
Overwhelmed the plotters in court.  
To plead on the grounds of his royalty –  
the leader's last resort.  
Those words were a breeze,  
Judge Pao an unmoving boulder.  
Oblivious to my mother's begging,  
He gave the bloody order.

The dragon's head guillotine claims a head,  
The voice of Judge Pao echoes in its might,  
I gazed out at the silhouette of this dark-skinned man –  
The *Blue Sky's* gleam of justice is bright.



Creative Writing  
**Poetry**  
Group 2

# China's Own Sherlock Holmes, Judge Pao

*Kowloon City Baptist Church Hay Nien Primary School, Ng, Sze Yuet – 10*

The man with more than one name  
commonly known as Bao Zheng.  
For him, fighting crime was no shame  
and there was no need for a gun.  
A man of righteousness, Judge Pao

A powerful politician he was  
standing up for what is right.  
He made fairness his cause  
and in times of darkness, he was the light.  
A man of brightness, Judge Pao

Growing up poor, with not much money  
didn't stop him from working harder.  
High hopes from his family  
to change the world for the better.  
A man of purity, Judge Pao

A wise judge who fought government corruption  
and settled complicated cases without a doubt.  
The best detective in China that deserves our attention  
and the person worth writing about.  
A man of wisdom, Judge Pao



# The Double Bao Mystery

*Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School, Chong, Charlotte Haye-Yin – 9*

## Prologue

(Narrator)

Bao and Dao,

Two school friends,

Looked the same but.

One got fame,

The other lost his game.

One smart and kind,

One cruel but had a clever mind.

They grew up.

On the ladder one climbed up,

the other always a backup.

(Bao)

Solving crimes,

Many times.

My mission,

My passion.

I protect my people,

I promise to save them from the unspeakable,

Only with justice can a city be regal.

(Narrator)

Fair, kind and wise.

Fire in his eyes,

Tough as iron,

Dark as coal,

Judge Bao is w Kaifeng's future holds

(Dao)  
Fair? Life is unfair.  
We look alike,  
We are equally clever,  
But when fate strikes,  
People like Bao whatever.

Fair? Life is unfair.  
Mean, biased and elitist,  
That's the world that has existed.  
We look the same but our fate is not.  
I was left to rot,  
But people love Bao a lot.

(Narrator)

As sharp as a fishing eagle,  
As careful as a scientist,  
As intelligent as an owl.  
Meticulous, methodical, merciful.  
Bao is such a man.

(Dao)  
As sneaky as a mouse,  
As cunning as a fox,  
As cruel as the devil.  
Malicious, manipulative, merciless.  
I am such a man.  
FAIR? LIFE IS UNFAIR.  
I have such a plan.  
Sudden attack in the early morning –  
Catch him, cage him, become him!  
Let the dark days begin.

## The Plan

(Bao)

“Help! Help! A fire.”

BANG! BANG! BANG!

CRACKLE! CRACKLE! CRACKLE!

A crime in the early morning?

What is burning?

I must help the people,

I cannot withstand anything illegal.

Oh no, this is a trap!

They tie me with a strap.

Why blindfold me?

Just let me be!

(Dao)

Ha!

Now I AM Judge Pao!

Fate has it that we look so alike.

New case?

Bribe me and you will ace.

Justice?

I have no interest.

Just trust us.

Life is a circus.

Poor?

Don't open the door.

(Narrator)

Kaifeng wept with tears,

No justice, only fears.

Corrupted, cheerless, crooked,

Everyone asked what has changed Bao,

No one dared to challenge,

Everyone could only bow.

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## Solving the Double Bao Mystery

(Narrator)

With his loyal assistants,

Bao broke out of prison.

He was ready to make things right,

No matter what he would fight.

Storming into the courtroom,

Two Baos? Who was who?

Everyone bewildered seeing such a scene,

Like the sun had turned green.

(Bao)

I will tell of a secret crime I've solved,

Confirmed by witnesses involved.

The one who can do this is the real Bao,

And I would do it now.

A woman stood up,

“Tell us how you helped find my baby.”

A newborn baby was stolen.

Everyone petrified, terrified except one.

Running,

Hurrying,

Carrying a baby.

Not interested in the news,

The thief was him, I knew.

(Narrator)

The women clapped,

As this Bao knew a secret well-kept.

The Kaifeng people demanded Dao for a story.

Dao had nothing to tell,

He was going to the cell.

Dark face reddened like a tomato,

He never heard Bao's crimes.

He was too proud all the time.

(Bao)

Take him to the cell now.

(Dao)

FAIR? LIFE IS UNFAIR!

Fair? Life... life... is unfair...

(Narrator)

Kaifeng jumped for joy,

Judge Bao had solved his own mystery.

Everyone said ahoy!

Judge Bao has made history!

# Judge Pao and the Jade Dragon

*Shanghai Singapore International School, Hayes, Matilda – 10*

Judge Pao was walking by the road in Hong Kong.

People were buzzing with excitement and singing songs.

Today was the last day of the Rabbit Year,  
and the Year of the Dragon was about to be here!

Adults were putting up lanterns, firecrackers were thrown by kids,  
and Pao wondered what this great day would bring.

At that moment, a breathless man came to Pao and said, “I have been looking for you everywhere!”

He was the museum curator and explained that a priceless jade dragon had been stolen out of thin air.

Pao inquired, “Why is it so valuable?”

The curator replied that whoever has the jade dragon and recites an incantation on a blood moon on the eve of Dragon New Year would be immortal.

Tonight, was a blood moon,  
so both men knew that serious trouble was brewing.

Pao went to the museum. The security guard greeted him and shook his hand, gripping it so tight.

The guard took Pao over to some police officers and then disappeared out of sight.

Pao spoke to the officers, described the case, told them to look for clues, and to dust for prints.

He went back to his office to research and investigate some evidence.

Pao learned that the incantation needed to be said exactly correct otherwise it wouldn't give eternal life but take it away.

But later, there was a knock on his door. When he opened it, the police chief was there and arrested Pao because his fingerprints were all over the museum display.

In jail, Pao knew how serious this situation had become.

He needed to get out and stop the thief from getting the power of the jade dragon.

He used a wood splinter to pick the lock of his cell and as quick as lightning he was out!

He realized it must have been the security guard who used a print of his hand from their handshake to put Pao's fingerprints all about.

From his research he knew the thief would head to the roof of the tallest skyscraper to say the incantation at the blood moon.

Pao headed over there to get there real soon.

When he got to the roof, he saw the security guard holding the jade dragon aloft.

Pao yelled “I order you to stop.”

The guard replied “NEVER!” but realized his mistake:

the jade dragon’s red ruby eyes flashed, its mouth opened, and the guard started to disintegrate!

He became a swirling vortex into the jade dragon’s mouth

and his final words, as he was sucked in, were “I will get you Judge Pao!”

The jade dragon tinkled to the ground at Pao’s feet.

Pao picked up the beautiful sculpture and brought it back to the museum up the street.

He explained everything to the curator and the police chief.

They understood how bad it could have been and gave a sigh of relief.

Pao was honoured and everyone wanted to celebrate

for once again, Judge Pao had saved the day!