



HAPPY IDIOM

Cóng shàn rú liú

从善如流

gōng yuán qián wǔ bā wǔ nián, chǔ guó fā bīng jìn gōng zhèng guó
公 元 前 585 年，楚 国 发 兵 进 攻 郑 国
In 585 BC, the State of Chu attacked the State of Zheng.

zhèng guó xiàng jìn guó qiú yuán
郑 国 向 晋 国 求 援
Zheng requested the State of Jin to support it.

yuán shuài luán shū dài lǐng dà jūn gǎn dào zhèng guó
元 帅 栾 书 带 领 大 军 赶 到 郑 国
Marshal Luan Shu arrived in Zheng with his army.

chǔ jūn jiàn jìn jūn lái zēng yuán, zhǐ hǎo tuì bīng le
楚 军 见 晋 军 来 增 援，只 好 退 兵 了
Seeing the Jin support troops, the Chu army retreated.

zhè shí jìn jūn zhōng yǒu rén zhǔ zhāng
这 时 晋 军 中 有 人 主 张
Then, someone in the Jin army suggested that

chèn jī qù gōng dǎ chǔ guó de jié méng guó cài guó
趁 机 去 攻 打 楚 国 的 结 盟 国 蔡 国
they should take the opportunity to attack the State of Cai, an ally of Chu.

jiāng jūn, wǒ men xiàn zài shì qì gāo zhǎng
将 军，我 们 现 在 士 气 高 涨
"General, our men are in high spirits.

gàn cuì zhí jiē dǎ dào cài guó qù
干 脆 直 接 打 到 蔡 国 去
We'd better attack the State of Cai now."

shì ā, shì ā, qǐng jiāng jūn fā bīng ba
是 啊，是 啊，请 将 军 发 兵 吧
"Yea, right. Please dispatch troops now, General!"

jiù zài zhè shí, tā de bù xià zhī zhuāng zǐ duì tā shuō
就在这时，他的部下知庄子对他说
The general's subordinate Zhi Zhuangzi disagreed.

chǔ jūn yǐ chè, zhèng guó zhuǎn wēi wéi ān
楚军已撤，郑国转危为安
"With the retreat of the Chu army, the State of Zheng has returned to safety.

wǒ men jiù bù gāi zài jìn gōng cài guó
我们就不该再进攻蔡国
We shouldn't attack the State of Cai.

zhè shí qù gōng dǎ cài guó, chǔ jūn yí dìng huì zēng yuán
这时去攻打蔡国，楚军一定会增援
If we attacked Cai, the Chu army would definitely support it.

jí shǐ shèng le
即使胜了
Even if we won,

yě bú guò shì shèng le chǔ guó de liǎng gè xiàn de bīng lì ér yǐ
也不过是胜了楚国的两个县的兵力而已
we would be merely defeating the armed forces of two counties of Chu.

rú guǒ bài le, hòu guǒ jiù gèng yán zhòng
如果败了，后果就更严重
If we lost, the consequences would be even worse.

wǒ men yīng dāng huí qù jì xù liàn bīng, gǒng gù shí lì
我们应当回去继续练兵，巩固实力
We should return home and continue training to consolidate our strength.

zán men yīng gāi xiàn zài qù gōng dǎ chǔ guó cái duì ya
咱们应该现在去攻打楚国才对呀
"We'd better attack Chu now!"

dà jiā bú yòng zài zhēng lùn le
大家不用再争论了
"There is no need for you to argue any more.

zhī zhuāng zǐ shuō dé hěn duì
知庄子说得很对
Zhi Zhuangzi is right.

wǒ men xiàn zài jiù shōu bīng huí guó
我 们 现 在 就 收 兵 回 国
Now we retreat and return home."

yú shì luán shū yuán shuài jiù lǐng bīng huí guó
于 是 栾 书 元 帅 就 领 兵 回 国
Thus the Jin army led by Marshal Luan Shu returned home

jiā qiáng cāo liàn
加 强 操 练
and intensified their military training.

jìn jūn de shí lì bú duàn zēng qiáng
晋 军 的 实 力 不 断 增 强
The strength of the Jin army improved greatly.

liǎng nián hòu zhàn shèng le cài guó
两 年 后 战 胜 了 蔡 国
Two years later, Jin defeated Cai.

rén men chēng zàn luán shū yuán shuài dāng shí néng zhèng què tīng qǔ bù xià de yì jiàn
人 们 称 赞 栾 书 元 帅 当 时 能 正 确 听 取 部 下 的 意 见
People praised Marshal Luan Shu for his willingness to take a subordinate's advice

jiù xiàng liú shuǐ xiàng xià nà yàng , xùn sù ér zì rán
就 像 流 水 向 下 那 样 ， 迅 速 而 自 然
as quickly and naturally as a river flows downward.

从善如流是指乐意接受别人正确的意见。
“cong shan ru liu” is an idiom, meaning to be willing to take someone’s correct advice.