

*with great power, comes great responsibility*



**I-Ching & The World of Metaphysics**

**Newsletter volume 51<sup>st</sup> h December 7<sup>th</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup> The Chinese Month of Rat**

**The Rat month shows signs of increasing danger in Flue Pandemic**

**The official month of Rat is from December 7<sup>th</sup> –January 2010 5<sup>th</sup>**

Fire 9 and Wood 4 Stars in the middle shows signs of metal creation that drain the earth energy, such combination would cause the exhaustion in fighting viruses especially in the North or Ham Sector. Stay away from Northern part of the world. Northeast sector would see major road accidents that are unprecedented while South might experience earthquake! Stay safe in Northwest and Southwest!

**IN RED ANNUAL STAR WHILE IN BLACK MONTHLY STAR**

Southeast/SHUN <b>8</b> 3	South/LEI <b>4</b> 8	Southwest/KWAN <b>6</b> 1
East/CHAN <b>7</b> 2	CENTRAL <b>9</b> 4	West/TUI <b>2</b> 6
Northeast/KAN <b>3</b> 7	North/HAM <b>5</b> 9	Northwest/KIN <b>1</b> 4



Fantastic View (2)







## Confucianism versus Daoism

Confucianism was popularized by Confucius in the era of *Spring and Autumn*, dated back B.C 551-479. It was recorded in the history as a proper set of *Ideology Thinking or Philosophy*. Confucius had set the pace for **education is for all** not only confined or exclusively to the elite few and government officials at that time. His biggest contribution at that time was to let all human beings to have education as long as the desire to learn is burning. (有教無類).



The fundamental teaching of Confucian is about building inner as well as external values of a person, to interact harmoniously with people. Values such as filial piety, trustworthiness, etiquette and camaraderie are preached. The core context was built surrounding relationships between ruler and residence, between husband and wife and between father and son should be in a proper protocol and thus the virtues of benevolence, justice, etiquette, wisdom and trustworthiness should be in place (仁義禮智信).

Confucianism differs from religions and Daoism in the context surrounding Universal, Science, Mother Nature and Society. Confucianism only placed emphasis on the eternal subjects like human and social interaction.

Daoism was popularized by Laotse at the late of *Spring and Autumn* era. At the beginning of Han era Daoism was termed as Dao De Jia (道德家). Beside Daoism, there were five more schools of thoughts mushroomed at that time, such as Confucianism, Mo Jia (墨), Ming Jia (名), Fa Jia (法) and Yin Yang Jia (陰陽). The teaching of Daoism is the blending of these 5 others' teachings and philosophy. The famous icons in the Daoism School are Laotse, Chuangtse, and Huang Lao sect. The main focal point was to build a stronger and healthy both body and mind to achieve longevity (治身) and thus rule a county (治國).

Daoism places great emphasis on building a healthy body with less materialistic (輕物重身) while Confucianism building on better soul. Daoism does not directly believe that the Heaven (天) is with 'intention' but to go with the flow of Mother Nature-The Way of Dao (道). Dao preaches *Mother Nature* more than any other schools. Laotse has further elaborated that Dao is the source of creation for universe and therefore is the main ruler for the Universe and its activities. Daoism was the pioneer in studying the concept of Universe and materials beings, this is the biggest contribution of Daoism to mankind. For simplicity sake please find below some of the Laotse teachings: One should uphold 'nothingness' (人要無為), weak is to avoid competing (柔弱就能謙下不爭) and Stupidity is to harness substance (愚魯就能棄華取實)



Daoism stress the importance of life over material, fame and fortune should not be the ultimate goal for human beings. Fame and fortune is meaningless if one is living without the spirit of Dao.

Western Han Historian Ser Ma Tan acknowledged that Taoist teaching has gathered other schools' unique teaching as a blend and became the perfect school of thought at that point on time.

### Who is Mencius?

*Born in BC 372-289 near Shandong Province approximately 2300 years ago, he is a famous philosopher in the era of Warring State. He practiced Confucius teachings and ideology from Confucius's disciple. He represents the teaching of Confucius thereafter.*

His 7 volumes of work named after him was properly archived in the library as classic scripture and later became a book must read for scholars who work for government. In Sung era 宋, Chu Xi 朱熹 had

grouped 4 books of Mencius《孟子》, Lun Yu《論語》, Da Xue《大學》, Zhong Yong《中庸》 as classical

Four scripture (四書) His famous preaching was humanitarian or righteousness '善' and benevolence '仁';

the word '仁' is made up 'two human' in Chinese words, such implying that one must respect human being and live together harmoniously.

### Mencius's Mom 3 Moves 孟母三遷

Mencius had a poor childhood and only able to live near graveyard. Mencius liked to imitate the person performing ceremony for the death and often played with coffin. Mencius mother told him that if she does not move, Mencius would eventually ended up working for the death. Then after, they moved to a small village near market side where once again Mencius like to imitate people selling boar meat and chopping meat into pieces, Mencius's mother worried that would eventually affect his future. She decided to move the third time and this time closer to a school. Mencius imitated the students and learned his lessons in the school thereafter.

(This is an analogy that Feng Shui is an important aspect that impacting your children)

### Mencius's Mom Dismantled Knitting Machine 孟母斷機



At the age of 8, Mencius's Mother sends him to school. One day, Mencius came back from school and told his mother that he is bored and tired with school. When Mencius mother heard what he had said, she was furious and dismantled her knitting machine and told Mencius that if he were to give up half way, he will be just like the broken knitting machine that is useless and meaningless. Mencius got his mother message well and clear, thereafter he decided to study hard and learned Confucius teaching and philosophies and work his way to become well known scholar.

### **Qi (氣) and Cultivation Energy (功)**

**The 'qi' (氣) we always refer to in Chinese metaphysics namely Feng Shui and Chinese Medicinal field, is not referring to air, but termed as 'qi' (炁) by ancient Chinese. These two words are in the same terminology and context. They both refer to cosmic energy or breath, the formless and invisible matter in the universe.**

**In Feng Shui the subtle energy radiated or permeated from different setting, orientation, direction and time is called 'qi'. In Qigong, through cultivation the human body can bring into play the energy of this matter, which can dispel diseases and improve physical conditions. For well practitioner he releases high-energy mass and high-energy matter in the form of light with tiny particles in great density. This high energy mass is called cultivation of energy (功)**

### **Qigong and Martial Arts**

**Qigong and martial arts has well development in the ancient Chinese history. The practice of martial arts qigong begins with the exercise of qi. To chop wood by hand of feet or to cut stone by palm is to utilizing the inner qi that transformed into energy mass that function. Such require the cultivation of energy. But in a combat, a mere thought of it will immediately bring his cultivation energy to work. This require constant training and practices**

### **Confucius**

***Confucius taught a grassroots philosophy that the foundation of society is filial piety. Obedience to father and elders and magistrates and emperor guarantees social order, stability and peace.***

**As a youth, Confucius mastered six arts of ritual, music, archery, charioteering, calligraphy and arithmetic. In his 30's, he became a teacher and devoted of his time to insuring that Chinese for the next 3000 years followed suit.**

**Confucius humbly claimed to be a common man of ordinary intellect, so anyone could follow his lead in seeking perfection through study and conformity to society. But few wanted to follow Confucius' lead because he was usually jobless, homeless, and half-starved.**

**Confucius failure ate at him, He said 'it is these things that cause me concern: failure to cultivate virtue, failure to explore in depth what I have learned, and inability to do what I know is right, and inability to reform myself when I have defects.'**

**I think what really ate at him was his wife, who was also homeless and half-starved. While claiming to be just one of the boys, the unemployed Confucius said he was**



unstoppable and immortal until his heavenly mandate was completed. 'If Heaven does not intend this culture to be destroyed, then what can the men of Kuang do to me?'

Not much, except keep him employed. So at the age of 56 he left the inhospitable King of Lu, who still weren't hiring him, spent 12 years traveling about with a slowly growing following, He returned home at age 67 and died 6 years later, leaving behind 3,000 disciples who were mostly jobless and homeless.

Emperors loved Confucius's emphasis on obedience, but his warning that unjust and unfair governments would be overthrown was infavor to King Qin and in BC 231, his works were eliminated and burned. But his teachings were kept alive till today.

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***Comments and letters are welcomed!***

