

奕光東方人文學院

Class Five 第五課

My Chinese Teacher

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Cultural Knowledge:

Two Chinese Sages.

孔子 (Kong3 zi ) Confucius was one of the most famous people in ancient China (circa 551-479 BC). His philosophy emphasized personal and governmental morality, correctness in social relationships, justice, and sincerity. These values gained prominence in China over other doctrines. Confucius' thoughts have been developed into a philosophy 哲學 (zhe2 xue2) known as 儒家 (ru2 jia1) Confucianism. It was introduced to Europe by the Jesuit Matteo Ricci, who was the first to Latinise the name to "Confucius." His teachings may be found in the 論語 (Lun2 yu3) Analects of Confucius , a collection of aphoristic fragments which was compiled many years after his death. His teachings and philosophy have deeply influenced 中國人 (Zhong1 guo2) Chinese, 日本人 (Ri4 ben3) Japanese, 韓國人 (Han2 guo2) Korean, and 越南人 (Yue4 nan2) Vietnamese thought and life.

老子 Lao Zi (Lao3 zi), 姓李名耳(xin4 Li3 ming2 Er3) His name is Lee Er. He lived during the 春秋時代 (chun1 qiu1 shi2 dai4) Spring and Autumn period (700~500 B.C.). He was the first 聖人 (sheng4 ren2) sage to put Tao into words in his 道德經 (Dao4 De2 Jing1) Tao Te Ching. 道 (dao4) Tao is a way of life; 德 (de2) Te is virtue (more properly, manifestations of Tao), and 經 (jing1) Ching is classic. Tao Te Ching was originally entitled "Lao Tze," but was later honored as a classic and given its current name by an emperor in the 唐朝 (tang2 chao2) Tang dynasty. It has been translated more often than any other book except the 聖經 (sheng4 jing1) Bible.

Vocabulary

Word	Pinyin	Meaning	Examples	Part of speech
您	nin2	you (polite)	您早! (Nin2 zao3.) Good morning.	Pronoun
好	hao3	good, fine	您好? (Nin2 hao3?) How are you?	Adj.
請問	qing3 wen4	may I ask	請問你是老師嗎?	Phrase
貴姓	gui4 xing4	surname (polite)	(Qing3 wen4 ni3 shi4 lao3 shi1 ma?) May I ask if you are a teacher? 請問您貴姓? (Qing3 wen4 nin2 gui4 xing4?)	Noun
大名	da4 ming2	your name (polite),	May I ask your surname? 請問大名? (Qing3 wen4 da4 ming2?)	Noun
怎麼	zen3 me	literally "big name" how, what	May I ask your name? 怎麼了? (Zen3 me le?) What happened?	Question Word
稱呼	cheng1 hu1	a title, name (polite)	怎麼稱呼您? (Zen3 me cheng1 hu1 nin2?)	Noun
			How should I address you?	