

The Philosophies of China

Confucianism, Daoism,
Legalism, and Buddhism



A philosophy...?

- With your group, come up with a definition of a philosophy...what is it? What is the purpose of it? Why philosophy is related with the ancient China?



When did the major Chinese philosophies appear?

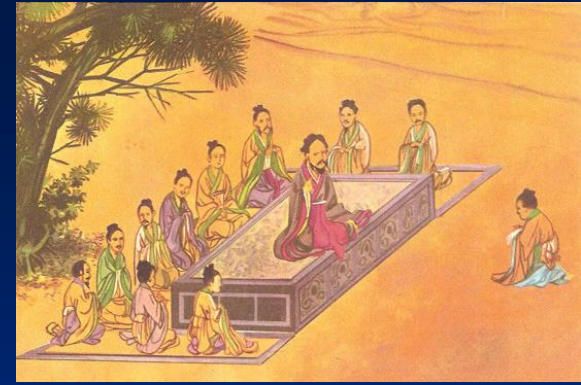


List the philosophies that developed during the Warring States period or more small feuding Chinese kingdoms

- Confucianism
- Daoism (Taoism)
- Legalism



CONFUCIUS



- Born poor
- Became scholar, (failed) local ruler, & teacher
- Never wrote down ideas
- Students wrote his sayings in ***The Analects***
- *Confucius was not concerned about a relationship with god/spirits, but rather personal relationships and order*

The Analects



論語註疏

論語註疏解經序終

論語註疏解經卷第一

魏何晏集解 宋邢昺疏

皇明朝列大夫日... 監祭酒臣李長春等奉勅重校
 在明朝列大夫日... 監祭酒臣李長春等奉勅重校
 勅重校

學而第一 正義曰自此至克曰是魯論語二十篇
 此篇論君子孝弟仁人忠信道國之法主友之規
 切砥而樂道皆人行之大者故為諸篇之先既以學
 為章首遂以名屬言人必須學也為政以下諸篇所
 第順次也一教之始也言此篇於天當一也
 子曰學而時習之不亦說乎 子曰子者男子之道編

Confucianism

- Based on ethics (a set of moral principles)
- Confucius believed that China was full of rude and dishonest people
 - Feelings widespread around the Warring States period (~481 B.C.)
 - He believed that China needed to change, and wanted change to come from the family and social harmony
 - Confucius becomes the most influential teacher in Chinese history



Family

- **The father** should display high moral values and proper behavior to lead his family (this shows that the father was the head of a typical Chinese family)
- **Children** should respect and obey their parents
- **Family members** should respect and be loyal towards one another



FILIAL PIETY

- • Respect for parents/elders above all else



Social Harmony (through the government)

- Fair, moral leaders are those which will bring order to China
- The King should lead all of China by example
- Lower classes should learn better behavior by following the example set by the upper classes.



The Five Relationships

Confucius saw five major human relationships

- Confucius believed that rulers would lead by moral example and
- people would behave properly through the example of those
- superior to them
- 1. Ruler subject
- 2. Parent child
- 3. Husband wife
- 4. Elder brother younger brother
- 5. Friend friend



CONFUCIUS
InspirationBoost.com

The man who
moves a mountain
begins by carrying
away small stones.

Proverbs....

Confucius Quotes

Success depends upon previous preparation, and without such preparation there is sure to be failure.

Confucius



"The strength of a nation
derives from the integrity
of the home."

~Confucius

"THE MAN WHO CHASES TWO RABBITS, CATCHES NEITHER."

~ CONFUCIUS



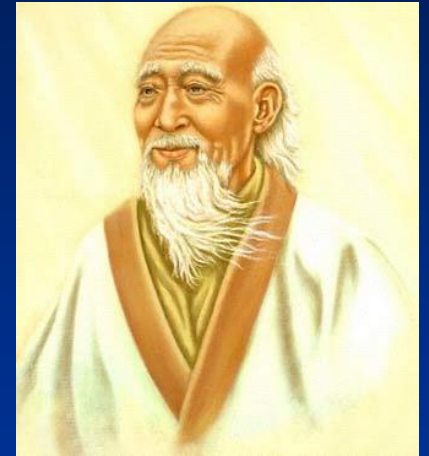
PersonalExcellence.co

Our greatest glory is
not in never falling
but in rising every
time we fall.

- Confucius

DAOISM: THE UNSPOKEN WAY

- Founded by Laozi
- Lived during time of Confucius
- Less worry about human affairs
- Harmony with nature
- Focus on the **Dao** (the way) of the universe
- Things will work out
- Don't tell people how they're suppose to act
- * Stressed that **living in harmony with nature**



Daoism – the Unspoken Way

To know the Way,
We go the Way;
We do the Way
The way we do
The things we do.
It's all there in front of you,
But if you try too hard to see it,
You'll only become confused.

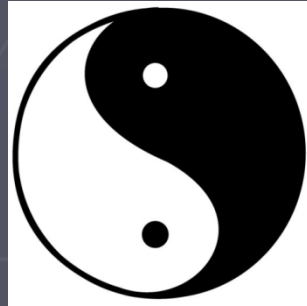


I am me,
And you are you,
As you can see;
But when you do,
The things you can do,
You will find the Way,
And the Way will follow you.

(The Tao of Pooh)

Daoism (Taoism)

- ▶ Daoism was a response to Confucianism
- ▶ Daoists did not want government involved in people's lives
- ▶ Don't tell people how to act
 - They did not want people interfering with nature or one another
 - Government should be so good people do not realize that it exists
- ▶ War is only for defense



Daoism (Taoism)

Yin

- Feminine
- Passive
- Darkness
- Cold
- Weak
- Earth
- Moon



Yang

- Masculine
- Active
- Light
- Warmth
- Strong
- Heaven
- Sun

Daoism (Taoism)

Kung fu Panda

- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JGFUabPWAq>



Legalism

- Founded by Hanz Feizi
- Main philosophy: people were **bad and needed to be controlled**
- Shi Huang Di was a famous Legalist
 - Legalists **did not care about morals**, and they **only respected authority**
- Only a political philosophy, **not a religion**

- Legalism was **very strict**
 - Punishment was based on **how bad crime was**
 - **Offender, family, and neighbors were **all punished****
- Major goals were **unity** and **efficiency**
- Wanted **trained officials** (not nobles) in **control**
- Legalists wanted to **expand China's boundaries** and always be **prepared for war**

Shi Huang Di

c. 259 – 210 BC

- He gave himself the title Shi Haung Di which means “first emperor.”
- He was the first ruler to unify all of China
 - Rules and punishments the same in all parts of the empire
 - Standardized the written language
 - Standardized the currency used in all of China
 - New Roads (50 paces wide) faster movement of the military
 - Irrigation system updated – and parts are still in use today
- He is remembered for his building programs including
 - Great Wall of China
 - Terra Cotta Army (Over 8,000)
- Dies on his quest to “live forever”
 - Mercury (“quicksilver”) – not a good thing! ☺
 - Within a few years of his death, the government falls



<http://www.history.com/topics/great-wall-of-china/videos/tomb-of-chinas-first-emperor>





popular-tourism-place.com



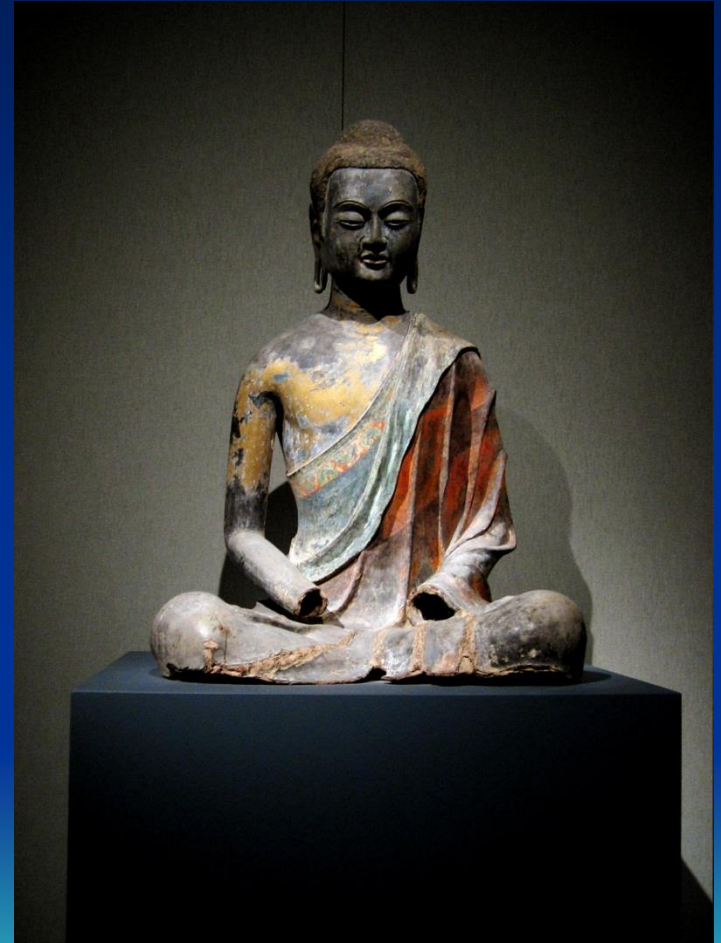
conservativebyte.com

<http://www.history.com/topics/great-wall-of-china/videos/deconstructing-history-great-wall-of-china>

Buddhism

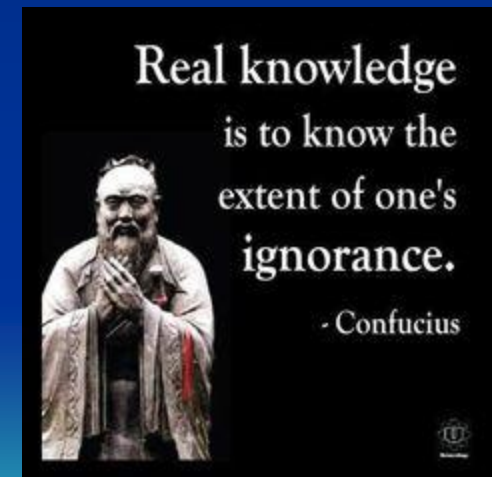
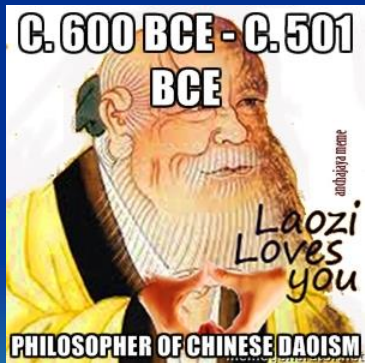
- Buddhism is **originally from India**
 - Reached China through traders using **the Silk Road** (~150 B.C.)
 - Became a very popular religion
 - Had a **large influence** on society, government, and Chinese approach to religion/philosophy

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfe-eNq-Qyg> .55 - 330



A Song to Wrap it Up?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTNyI JHcPd0>



TODAY'S ASIAN RELIGIONS/ BELIEFS

