

I Syncretism - following more than one religion at a time

- a Confucian - customs and traditions
- b Buddhist - worship & rituals
- c Taoist - outlook, literature, philosophy, art, music

II Origins

- a Confucianism and Taoism are indigenous to China
 - i **Chongwo** - center
- b Buddhism brought to China by Indian Buddhist monks around 100 A.D.

III Traditional Chinese Beliefs

- a Before Confucianism and Daoism became full fledged religions, Chinese held beliefs which helped to form their two religious traditions:
 - i Kiu
 - ii Ying-Yang

IV Beliefs

- a Spirits: early system was polytheistic; spirits active in nature
- b Shang Ti or Tian: high power ruling the universe; a personal God
- c Ancestor Worship: ancestors die, become spirits watching over us
- d Yang and Yin: male/female, strong/weak, light/dark; opposite but complimentary
- e Divination: **The Book of Changes**; methods of knowing future
- f Harsh life, natural catastrophes; forced to understand patterns of nature to live in harmony

V The Goal of Chinese Life...

- a ...is to achieve harmony
 - i Confucianism seeks harmony in social and political life
 - ii Daoism seeks harmony with nature

VI Confucianism

- a achieve Harmony by following the right path (Dao) or right method
- b harmony consists of right relationships among members of the society; can be taught

VIII Life of Confucius

- a Named K'ung Ch'iu
- b Given title "Kung Fu Tzu" (Great Teacher)
- c Born in noble family
- d Father died when he was a child
- e Was a tax collector
- f Then became a teacher
- g Later part of life became minister in government

VIII Main Concepts in Confucianism

- a Ren (Jen); love for humanity
- b Li propriety; being appropriate, having right etiquettes
- c Xiao, Filial PIETY (Respect for Elders), Five Relationships:

Father- son

Elder brother- younger brother

Husband- Wife

Friend-friend

Ruler-citizen

d Wen, appreciation for aesthetic values, such as art, literature, music

e Junzi- The Ideal Human Being

not selfish or egoist

man of knowledge, well-rounded

not narrow-minded, willing to listen to opinion of others

IX Five Classics and Analects

a Probably written after Confucius, subsequently edited by Confucian scholars.

b Became core curriculum of Chinese classical educational system.

X The Five Classics

a The Book of History: account of chinese rulers, various dynasties

b Book of Poetry: classical poems with moral intent

c Book of Changes (I-Ching): divination, basic patterns of the universe

d Book of Rites and Ceremonies

e The Spring and Autumn Annals: historical record of Confucius' home state, Lou

i Analects is the book of Confucius' sayings.

f There used to be a 6th classic but it is now lost, it is the Book of Music

XI Confucianism

a Is it more of a religious system or a political and social system?

b Both: