

(英文)[認理歸真]16~~修道存心立品

16) Personal Conduct In Tao Cultivation

To be on the right path all the time, one must learn the rules and regulations by heart. Heart is the root of everything. It can build hell and it can create heaven. We are the architects of our own fate.

We are faced with a totally ill-balanced world. We perceive the inequalities and manifold destinies of men and the numerous grade of beings that exist in the universe. We see one born into a condition of affluence, endowed with fine mental, moral and physical qualities and another into a condition of abject poverty and wretchedness. Through the law of moral causation, we reap what we have sown. What we sow we reap somewhere. In one sense, we are the result of what we were, in another sense; we are not totally the result of what we were. For instance, a criminal today, may be a saint tomorrow.

Tao is unbiased and the root to the attainment of Buddhahood. Learning the rules by heart is just like implanting the root of Tao into the domain of sub-consciousness. Obey it all the time and one is on the right track to the state of purification and perfection.

a) Heart

- 1) Filial and obedient to parents.
- 2) Subjects of the states should be loyal and humble at heart.
- 3) Ready to help the poor and needy.
- 4) Be passionate to those who are in difficulties.
- 5) Do not be greedy or jealous of one's possessions – money, wealth and fame.
- 6) No evil thoughts arising from sensual pleasures.
- 7) Do not be jealous of other's talent.
- 8) Do not blame yourself or hate others for being so much better than you.
- 9) Always be honest and upright.
- 10) In whatever you do, do it with sincerity.

b) Personality

- 1) Wear clean and neat attires. Regulate your dress carefully to show dignity and respect.

2) Perfect yourself morally and set a good example.

3) Facial expression be firm, walking and sitting be straight and upright; respectful and well-mannered, thinks before talking, calm and works according to position.

c) Talking

1) Do not boast of your wealth and act arrogantly.

2) The highly educated must not underestimate others.

3) Speak in low voice with respect to the seniors and elders.

4) Polite and chivalrous in front of ladies.

5) No one-sided talk on behalf of money.

6) Do not blame yourself in poor living.

7) Speak the necessary words and keep the excessive by remaining silence.

8) Patience is the antidote for curing anger.

9) Do not exaggerate or speak the untrue.

10) Do not tell lies.

11) Do not boast of yourself.

12) Do not criticise others.

13) Speak the subject matter and not loosely.

14) When you speak, speak with trust.

15) Be alert of what you are speaking.

16) Do not indulge yourself in imagination.

17) Do not create falsehood.

18) Do not be stubborn on your point of view.

Persons who wish to perfect their knowledge must not be conceited or self-deceiving. The self-deceptionists regard themselves as arbitrarily in the know, when in reality they are not. The conceited frequently are content with what in reality they are not. The conceited

frequently are content with what they have acquired. They have no desire for further progress and so rest calmly in their state of vulgarity, ignorance and inferiority. Thus points to the reason why the serious inquirer must be humble at heart.

Confucius, "I do not know how a man without truthfulness is to get on. How can a large carriage be made to go without cross-bar for yoking the oxen to, or a small carriage without the arrangement for yoking the horses?"