Confucius said, “Lead the people with governmental measures and regulate them with laws and punishment, and they will avoid wrongdoing but will have no sense of honor and shame. Lead them with virtue and regulate them by the rules of propriety, and they will have a sense of shame and, moreover, set themselves right.” [2:3]

Chi K’ang asked Confucius about government, saying, “What do you think of killing the wicked and associating with the good?” Confucius replied, “In your government what is the need of killing? If you desire what is good, the people will be good. The character of a ruler is like wind and that of the people is like grass. In whatever direction the wind blows, the grass always bends.” [12:19]

Confucius said, “If a ruler sets himself right, he will be followed without his command. If he does not set himself right, even his commands will not be obeyed.” [13:6]

SOURCE: Excerpts from The Analects of Confucius.

Identify the characteristics of the ideal ruler, according to Confucius.

Yu Tzu [a disciple named Yu Jo] said, “Few of those who are filial sons and respectful brothers will show disrespect to superiors, and there has never been a man who is not disrespectful to superiors, and there has never been a man who is not disrespectful to superiors and yet creates disorder. Filial piety and brotherly respect are the root of humanity [ren].”

SOURCE: Analects of Confucius.

--> What does Confucius mean by “filial piety?” How does he say one should practice it?

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2. What is the Dao?

Daoism is a philosophy that teaches that people can gain peace and happiness by becoming one with the Dao, or the Way. The Dao is a universal force connected to nature that creates order for all things. Daoism teaches that people should see themselves as part of nature, and lead a balanced life in harmony with it. Laozi believed that for people to discover how to behave, they should notice how nothing in nature strives for fame, power, or knowledge. Instead, nature accepts what comes its way, like a piece of grass that bends when the breeze blows. True harmony comes from balancing the opposite forces of nature, called yin and yang. Laozi taught that it is impossible to have good without bad, beauty without ugliness, or pleasure without pain. Because Daoists see good and bad as connected, they try to accept both.

Laozi taught rulers to make fewer laws. He called the way of ruling wuwei (pronounced WOO-WAY), or “action through nonaction.” Rather than attempting to take control and guide the people, a ruler should take very little action and only support the people in achieving what they naturally desire. Just as a farmer cannot force a plant to grow, Laozi thought that a ruler cannot force the people to prosper.

3. According to Daoist, how can people gain happiness and peace?

4. Why do Daoist try to accept all things that occur?

5. How did Laozi believe rulers should govern?
In China, Confucianism emphasized the idea that
(1) equality should exist between all members of society
(2) salvation could be attained by prayer, meditation, and good deeds
(3) individual goals should be placed ahead of the needs of the group
(4) harmony could be achieved by the proper behavior of each member of a family or society

- Showing respect for parents
- Maintaining family honor
- Honoring all elders

Which term is most closely related to these three actions?
(1) nirvana  (3) filial piety
(2) animism   (4) hadj (hajj)

The five relationships taught by Confucius encouraged people to
(1) improve their position in life
(2) maintain social and political order
(3) respect and worship nature
(4) serve the needs of religious leaders

One way in which the Five Relationships, the Ten Commandments, and the Eightfold Path are similar is that they
(1) promote polytheism
(2) establish gender equality
(3) provide codes of behavior
(4) describe secularism
It was a period of over 240 years that China was engulfed in a civil war.

A philosophical system based on morals and ethics during the Warring-States Period. It emphasized respect and virtue.

Power that is not in one group’s hand, but dispersed among many groups.

Loyalty and respect for your family. It also happens to be one of Confucius’ virtues.

A period of over 240 years that China was engulfed in a civil war.

Is a set of ideas about knowledge, ethics, truth, the nature and meaning of life.

Any person who passed the could get a job as a government official.
During his lifetime (551-479BC), Kong Fuzi, or Confucius, had little or no impact. Disciples codified his teachings with a collection of sayings attributed to Confucius. Confucius established a moral framework that dominated the thinking and practice of China’s rulers, officials and society for over two millennia. His teachings became the dominant social and political philosophy of an educated, landowning elite in China, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam. In later years, Confucians incorporated many Buddhist ideas into their own thinking. Even in post Maoist China, Confucian principles still were part of the societal fabric of the world’s most populous nation.

GLOBAL REMINDERS

HW # 10 DUE 10/22/13 CE

Upcoming topics
- Legalism
- Daoism