

## Chinese Philosophers – Primary Sources



### Sayings of Confucius – (K'UNG-fu-DZ) Confucianism

#### 1. Education – How Important Is It?

The Master said, "Anyone learning without thought is lost; anyone thinking but not learning is in peril."

#### 2. Government – What's Important to Govern Well?

Zigong asked about government. The Master said, "The requisites (requirements, or important things) of government are that there be sufficient food, sufficient military equipment, and the confidence of the people in their ruler."

Zigong said, "If one had to dispense (get rid of) with one of those three, which should be given up first?"

"The military equipment," said the Master.

Zigong again asked, "If one had to dispense (get rid of) with one of the two remaining, which should be given up?"

The Master answered, "Give up the food. From of old, death has always been the lot of men; but if the people have no faith in their rulers, they cannot stand."

#### 3. Relationships

Do not do to others what you would not want yourself.

[http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~wldciv/world\\_civ\\_reader/world\\_civ\\_reader\\_1/confucius.html](http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~wldciv/world_civ_reader/world_civ_reader_1/confucius.html)

Sayings of Confucius, from *Analects*, translated by Translated by James Legge (1887), revised by Michael Neville



### Sayings of Laozi (LAU-DZ)- Daoism (Laozi means Old Master)

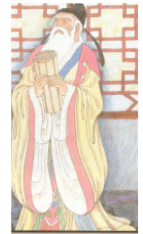
1. Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

2. Nature is not human-hearted.

3. He who conquers others is strong; He who conquers himself is mighty.

By letting it go, it all gets done. The world is won by those who let it go. But when you try and try the world is beyond the winning.

<http://strangewondrous.net/browse/author/l/laozi?start=11> <http://www.qfrases.com/english/laozi.php>



### Sayings of Hanfeizi (HAN-fay-DZ) - Legalism

1. In the country of an intelligent ruler, there are no books, instead the laws serve as lessons.

2. He who governs the people should nip evil in the bud.

3. He who commands troops should instill (hammer in) warfare in the people's mind. If soldiers can imagine warfare in their mind, there will always be victory.

4. A wise ruler's first priority should be to maintain order, and to always be prepared for war.

5. Harsh punishment brings order. Giving rewards creates chaos.

<http://www2.iath.virginia.edu/saxon/servlet/SaxonServlet?source=xwomen/texts/hanfei.xml&style=xwomen/xsl/dynaxml.xsl&chunk.id=d2.54&toc.depth=1&toc.id=0&doc.lang=bilingua>

