

**Is mankind naturally good
or naturally Evil?**

Is mankind naturally good or naturally Evil?

If our species is naturally good, then what kind of government do we need?

If our species is natural sinful, bad, or evil, what kind of government do we need?



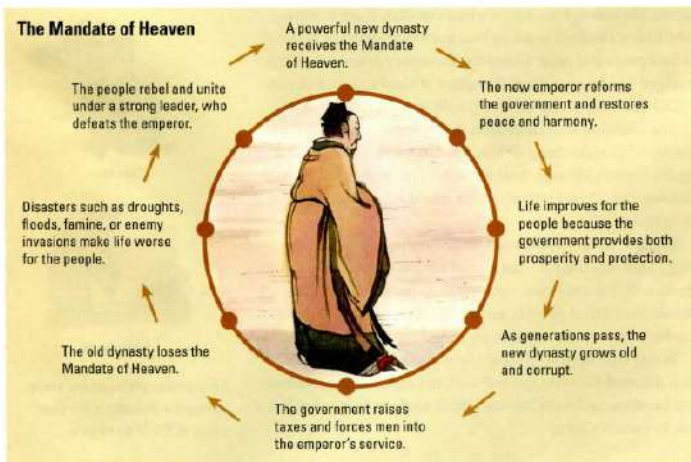
Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism
laughing by the stream

Zhou Dynasty

“天命” - Dynastic Cycle



Era of Warring States (403 – 221 BCE)

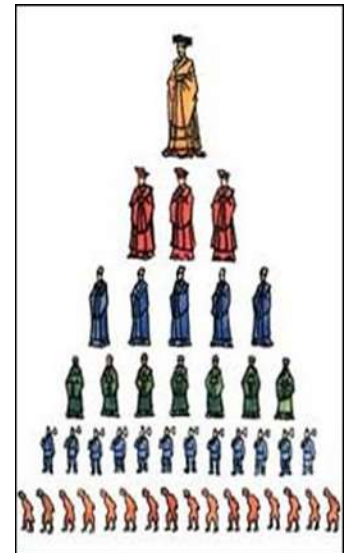


Zhou Dynasty

“天命” - Dynastic Cycle



Chinese Feudalism



Three Schools of Thought

Looking for peace and efficiency

Confucianism

Daoism

Legalism

Confucius

550 BC

Social Philosopher - Social Order

Rule with Moral Example

We learn to behave from our “Superiors”



Confucius

Social Philosopher - Social Order

Rule with Moral Example

We learn to behave from our “Superiors”

Superiors – Inferiors



Confucius

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Ruler to Subject



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Father to Son - Filial Piety



Confucius

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We learn to behave from our “Superiors”

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Husband to Wife



Confucius

Social Philosopher - Social Order

Rule with Moral Example

We learn to behave from our “Superiors”

Superiors – Inferiors

Ruler to Subject

Father to Son - Filial Piety

Husband to Wife

Older brother to younger brother



Confucius

Social Philosopher - Social Order

Rule with Moral Example

We learn to behave from our “Superiors”

Superiors – Inferiors

Ruler to Subject

Father to Son - Filial Piety

Husband to Wife

Older brother to younger brother

Friend to Friend

Friendship – Only equal



Confucius

Social Philosopher - Social Order



- **Ancestor Worship**
- **Family as a basis for an ideal government**



Confucius

Social Philosopher - Social Order



- Ancestor Worship
- Family as a basis for an ideal government
- "Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself" - Golden Rule





Daoism - Taoism

“The Way”

Laozi

“The Old Master”

People are good

- **Useless to build Governments**
- **Governments lead to fighting**
- **Less Government the better**





Daoism - Taoism

“The Way”

Laozi

“The Old Master”

- **Three Jewels of the Tao:**
 - Compassion
 - Moderation
 - Humility
- **Harmony with Nature**





Daoism - Taoism

“The Way”

Laozi

“The Old Master”

- **Martial arts**
- **Traditional medicine**
(in harmony with nature)



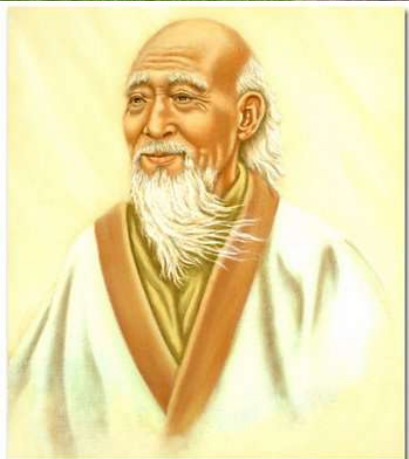


Daoism - Taoism

“The Way”

Laozi

“The Old Master”



Saw government as “unnatural” and
felt that government was the
problem that led to feudal wars

Sun Tzu

The Art of War



Born	544 BC
Died	496 BC

Han Feizi

280–233 BC

Philosopher – School of law

Legalism



- **Man is, essentially bad**
- **The law must severely punish any unwanted action, while rewarding those who follow it.**

HAN DYNASTY

206 BC - 220 AD

“The Golden Age of Chinese History”



Officially sponsored

Confucianism School of Thought
in education and court politics

- Imperial University
- Service Exam



HAN DYNASTY

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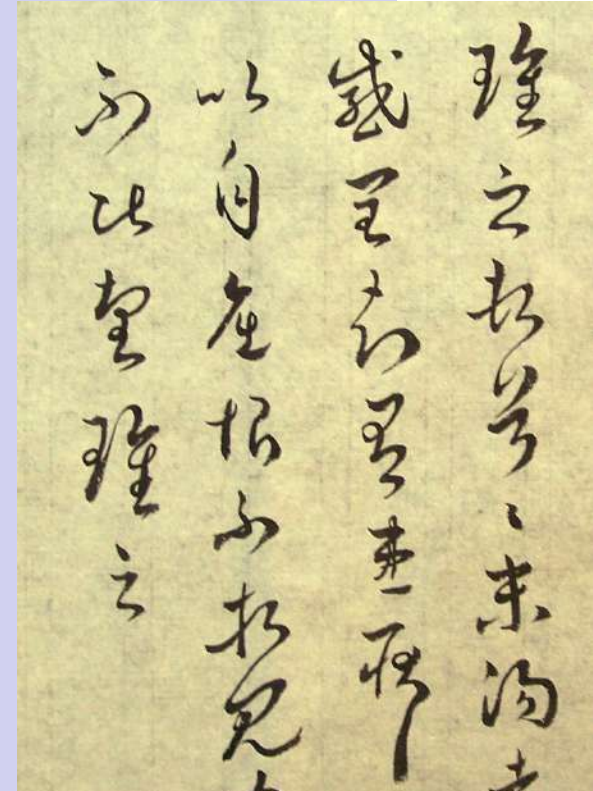


Officially sponsored Confucianism in education and court politics



Most technologically advanced empire in the world

- The nautical steering rudder
- Negative numbers in mathematics
- Raised-relief map
- hydraulic-powered armillary sphere for astronomy
- seismometer
- **Paper**



HAN DYNASTY

206 BC - 220 AD

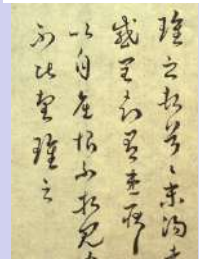
“The Golden Age of Chinese History”



Officially sponsored Confucianism in education and court politics

Most tea

— P



China's Trade route became known as ***Silk Road***

Assignment:

relevance to today

In paragraph form, write how ancient Chinese philosophy is part of our cultural debates in America, today.

1. Do we need more gun laws?

- Do we take more of our freedoms/rights away from our law abiding citizens in order to deal with the few that are evil?
- Is our society so evil that most of us need government to create harsher gun laws, or have them taken from us, in order to keep society safe from one another?

2. What would Laozi and Han Fei feel about the debate?