



TRAD101
Languages & Cultures
of East Asia

Daoism/Taoism III:
Influence on East Asia

Peng

Basic Concepts

1. **Dao/Tao (the way)** 道
2. **De (the power)** 德
3. **Yin Yang** 阴阳
4. **Harmony & Balance** 和谐 & 平衡

Basic Concepts

5. **Works without working** 无为
6. **Refusal to be foremost of all things under heaven / stay backward**
不为天下先/ 处后
7. **Purity & Tranquility** 清静
8. **Stay in the low position** 居下
9. **Gentleness** 柔弱

Sacred Sites in China

BAXIAN GONG 八仙宮

(EIGHT IMMORTALS PALACE)

Eight Immortals Palace is located in Xi'an, Shanxi. The temple is named after the famous Eight Immortals, who came to occupy a central place in Daoism and Chinese popular culture from the Ming dynasty (1368-1644) onward. The most famous of these is Lu Dongbin 呂洞賓 (Chunyang 純陽 [Purified Yang]; b. 798?), associated with various internal alchemy lineages. Eight Immortals Palace also contains the Yuxian qiao 遇仙橋 (Bridge for Meeting Immortals), where legend has it that Wang Chongyang 王重陽 (1113-1170), the founder of Quanzhen 全真 (Complete Perfection) Daoism, encountered Lu Dongbin.



Sacred Sites

■ BAIYUN GUAN 白雲觀

■ (WHITE CLOUD MONASTERY)

■ White Cloud Monastery is located in the western district of Beijing. As a Daoist sacred site, it has historical roots that go back to the eighth century. The site has been destroyed and rebuilt throughout the centuries. It was restored during the thirteenth century when it was known as Tianchang gong 天長宮 (Palace of Celestial Perpetuity). At that time, it became the headquarters of the newly established Quanzhen 全真 (Complete Perfection) monastic order, with Qiu Changchun 邱長春 (1148-1227) serving as abbot. After Qiu's death, it was renamed Changchun gong 長春宮 (Palace of Changchun), and that location formed the foundation of the contemporary shrine devoted to Qiu. Today, White Cloud Monastery is the headquarters of the Longmen 龍門 (Dragon Gate) branch of Quanzhen and houses the Chinese Daoist Association.



Sacred Sites

- CHONGYANG GONG 重陽宮
- (PALACE OF CHONGYANG)
- The Palace of Chongyang is located in present-day Huxian, Shaanxi. It was the location of the eremitic community of Liujiang 劉蔣 where Wang Chongyang 王重陽 (1113-1170), the founder of Quanzhen 全真 (Complete Perfection) Daoism, engaged in religious praxis from 1163-1167 and where he was buried after his death in 1170. It is considered the "ancestral hall" (*zuting* 祖庭) of the Quanzhen tradition.



Sacred Sites

- HUASHAN 華山
- (MOUNT HUA)

- Mount Hua is located in Huayin, Shaanxi. Mount Hua is the westernmost of China's five sacred mountains, with the other four being Hengshan 恒山 (Shanxi; north), Taishan 泰山 (Shandong; east), Hengshan 衡山 (Hunan; south), and Songshan 嵩山 (Hebei; central). Mount Hua is characterized by sheer granite rock formations and numerous eremitic caves. As a Daoist sacred site, and as a distinct Daoist sub-tradition, it is associated with Chen Xiyi 陳希夷 (d. 989) and Hao Guangning 郝廣寧 (1140-1213), one of the Seven Perfected of Quanzhen 全真 (Complete Perfection) Daoism.



The Influence of Taoism

- Taoism was never accepted in Korea.
- some progress during the Koguryo kingdom, when elite members of society took interest in Daoist speculative thoughts and concepts of immortality.
- The cultural influence of Daoism can be seen in the tiles from the tombs of King Muryong of Paekche that depict the Daoist Land of the Immortals. Similar images are found on tiles from the Unified Silla Period.



The Influence of Taoism

- Nowadays, besides the temples of Emperor Guan in Hakodate, Yokohama, Osaka, Kobe and Nagasaki by the Chinese, the Japanese have built Daoist temples too. Duomo Temple is located on Dayue Mountain in West Tokyo, and Muxiu is its director. Tianzhong Jiaofu founded Xian-dao-lian in Tokyo, which aims at attainment of the immortal realm of no aging and no death. Tianzhong jiaofu studied at the White Cloud Temple in Beijing. Zaodao zhengxiong founded Chiboli in the Fuxian Island. He said that he once studied Daoism in Taiwan and claimed himself the thirteenth patriarch of the Dragon Gate Tradition. In 1991, he led 124 Daoist believers to make a pilgrimage to the White Cloud Temple. The Scripture Master of the White Cloud Temple conducted the "Ritual for Blessing, elimination of Disaster and Longevity", and presented each of them Daoist a costume and a scarf. Recently, hundreds of Japanese have come for pilgrimage and obeisance.

The Influence of Taoism

- Daoist Immortality beliefs and techniques spread to Japan in the 7th century.
- From the Pianan era, Daoist practice of Gengshen Day of Alertness was very popular in Japan. (Daoism believes that there are three cadavers named Peng Ju, Peng Zhi and Peng Qiao in the human body. They would go the heaven to tell of peoples' demerits while people are asleep on the Day of Genshen, and in this way one's life span will be shortened.) For the Daoist followers, they will stay awake day and night on the Day of Genshen to prevent the departure of the three cadavers. This custom is called Keeping Awake on the Day of Genshen. The Tablet of Supreme Correspondence was disseminated among the Japanese in the 15th century. Daoist folk beliefs like the sacrifice to the Stove God, Earth God, City God, Mazu and Emperor Guan are still kept in Chongsun county.