



In Memory of Principal Chiang 追憶姜吉甫校長

姜曉明 提供 Provided by Charmaine Chiang

姜吉甫先生祖籍山東萊陽，祖父率父執輩遷移吉林（現在的黑龍江省），世代耕讀。先生誕生民國八年（1919年），滿州國立新京工業大學畢業，戰地黨務工作人員訓練班第五期結業，25歲擔任穆稜縣政府黨部書記長。

民國三十八年抵達台灣，奉獻所學於教育，民國四十二年九月派任為「台中縣立東勢初級工業職業學校」首任校長，從此大家都稱呼他「姜校長」。四十三年元月擔任「第一屆國民大會代表」，按月領有公費。從此義務兼任校長，僅領車馬費，不領取校長薪俸，直到七十三年八月退休為止。

四十九年調任沙鹿工業職業學校校長。五十八年向省教育廳提出「設立實用技藝學校」的建議，奉准先以「建教合作實驗班」招生試辦。試辦期間，困難重重，為求體驗之真切，姜校長要長子曉東放棄名校，降級報考「建教合作實驗班」，由此可見校長辦教的用心。姜校長推展教育三十五年，曾經榮獲「特殊優良教師」、「黨政軍最優人員」，兩度蒙總統召宴嘉勉。

校長曾於1991-1994年間數度造訪萬佛城，上人授予男女校名譽校長。姜校長於清修之際，協助策劃義務老師教師制度規程，返臺招募教師不遺餘力，自1993年八月秋季班起，受其感召之義務教師至今於聖城修行、服務者尚不乏人在。

姜校長與夫人童佩文育有一子四女，夫人於76年隨上人出家，法號恆謹。今年（2010年）初二月，姜校長因呼吸不順住院，出院後體力日衰，7月23日凌晨於睡眠中往生，遺容安詳。有人目睹姜校長蒙觀世音菩薩降臨開示，遍灑金色蓮花，接引佛國。子女們稟承先父教育風範，將收到的禮金，全數轉為清寒學生獎學金，將他老人家對教育的遺愛留在人間。

Mr. Chiang Chi-Fu's ancestors originated from Laiyang County, Shandong Province in China and later settled in Jilin Province (Black Dragon County.) Mr. Chiang was born in 1919 in a farming family. As a student, he graduated from Manchuria National Xinjin Industrial University and went on to complete a rigorous political job training program. At the age of 25, he worked as a secretary for the Kuomintang in China.

He migrated to Taiwan in 1949 to focus his time and energy on education. He was appointed to be the first principal of Dongshi Industrial Junior High School in 1953, where he acquired the lifetime endearment of being called "Principal Chiang." The following year he was elected as a representative to the National Assembly. Although Principal Chiang was not compensated by the Department of Education, he continued to work as a volunteer principal for Dongshi Industrial Junior High School until he retired in 1984.

His next appointment was in 1960 as principal of Shalu Industrial High School. There the Department of Education approved his idea of a practical skill industrial school which they named the Cooperative Work Study Exchange Program. Many challenges occurred during the experimental phase. Principal Chiang persuaded his son to abandon his plans to enroll into an elite college and instead register for the experimental class. He dedicated 35 years to enhancing the Taiwan education system. Mr. Chiang received a variety of awards for his distinguished work such as Teacher of the Year and Political Military Man of the Year, and twice met the President of Taiwan.

Principal Chiang visited the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas throughout 1991 to 1994 and was appointed by the Venerable Master Hua to be the Honorary Principal of the Boys' and Girls' Schools. He helped develop the school rules and regulations and recruited volunteer teachers from Asia, some of whom still work and cultivate at CTTB.

Principal Chiang and his wife, Peiwen Ton, had four daughters and one son. His wife became a nun under Venerable Master Hua in 1976 and was given the Dharma name of Heng Jin. In February 2010, he was admitted to the hospital due to an upper respiratory infection. His condition quickly worsened after he was discharged from the hospital. On July 23, 2010, Principal Chiang passed away in his sleep with a face of contentment. Guanyin Bodhisattva was seen giving him a Dharma talk, then spread a golden lotus flower around him, took his hand and led him away. Principal Chiang's children donated the money received during the funeral service toward the establishment of the Chiang Chi-Fu Scholarship, as a continuation of their father's love for education.