



兒童讀經教育 (續)

(continued)

Children's Education Based on Classical Texts

王財貴教授講於2015年3月15日萬佛城大殿 || Spoken by Professor Cai Gui Wang in the Buddha Hall at CTTB on March 15, 2015
 現場即席英譯 呂明賜 || Impromptu English Translation by Michael Lu



BODHI FIELD 菩提田

編按：本文所表達之意見，並不代表育良小學與培德中學之教育方針。

如果一個學校注重讀經教育，就一天不只是一百字的進度，因為一百字讀一百遍，大概需要一個小時。如果有一天有兩個小時的時間來讀經，甚至我建議我們萬佛城的學校，在小學以下，一天可以讀經四個小時，如果能夠讀四個小時，一天進度就可以兩百個字、三百個字，乃至於到四百個字。總之，時間越多累積的數量就越大，但是最好都能夠讀一百遍。每天有一百遍，一百個字讀一百遍，或是兩百個字讀一百遍，日漸累積，累積到了一星期或是十天，再把從前到現在的這一大片連起來背，總之就像螺旋這樣前進，小量地背，到最後是越累積越多，最後能把整本書從頭背到尾。這是在十三歲之前，到十八歲之前比較容易做到的。

Editor's Note: The opinion expressed in this article does not reflect educational policy at Instilling Goodness Elementary School and Developing Virtue Secondary School.

A school that promotes the recitation of classical texts should at the minimum, allot one hour every day for the recitation. This is because 100 repetitions of a hundred word passage requires about an hour. Naturally, if you can spend two hours to recite every day, then even better. I would like to advise the elementary schools at CTTB to allot at least four hours every day for recitation. In this way, in that daily four-

如果已經成長的人呢？二、三十歲，四、五十歲的人呢？比較不適合這種教育了，因為他們怕反復。於是，我就介紹另外一種方式，比如說讀《論語》，怎麼讀呢？我稱謂「全民讀經《論語》版」。就是所有的人都可以讀經，而首先選擇的教材，就是中國聖人所留下來的著作——《論語》。那怎麼讀《論語》呢？就是從第一個字讀起，讀到最後一個字，一萬五千九百個字，這樣讀完一遍，記錄下來，寫一個一橫；然後再從頭再讀一遍，記錄下來，寫一個一豎；第三遍，一橫一豎一橫；讀五遍，寫一個正。這樣子反復一遍一遍的在讀，一天讀一個小時，就可以讀一遍；一天讀半個小時，兩天就可以讀一遍；一天讀四個小時，一天就可以讀四遍……這樣子累積，我建議也讀到一百遍，必定有重大的益處。

當前的時代，台灣跟大陸的教育，其中語文教育並沒有成功，嚴重地說，可以說語文教育是失敗的；由於語文教育的失敗，它影響了所有教育的失敗。那麼語文教育怎麼叫做成功呢？就是要教導這個民族的子孫最少能夠讀祖先的書，也就是，如果一個受教育的人，一個中國人，受了小學、中學的教育，而居然還不能夠讀祖先的書，也就是不能讀經史子集，就代表他的中文程度不及格。

那麼在本國的語文教育都造成這個狀況了，如果海外的中國人也用本國的語文教育的模式來教我們的孩子，我們孩子的語文怎麼可能有高度的效果呢？我們如果去考察一下，並不是語文難學，而是我們的教育不合語文教育的道理。語文教育的道理就是從不懂讀到懂，不是每讀一句就要懂，每讀一篇就要懂。尤其，語文養成的時機是十三歲之前，而十三歲之前，他吸收力好，他理解力不好，所以，這個時候應該給他吸收，吸收什麼呢？吸收最高明的文章，讓他一輩子去慢慢地消化，慢慢地去醞釀、成熟。

那麼海外華僑子弟，千萬不要認為大環境對這個中文的學習並不支持，其實語文教育本來就不是非常需要大環境的支持；縱使在臺灣跟大陸的孩子，他們要學英文也很簡單，他們就從小就背誦英文經典，漸漸長大之後，他們要學英語是很容易的，他們要把英文學好是很容易的，乃至於他們的英文程度可以超過美國的同年齡的孩子。

在海外的華僑子弟，如果要學中文，應該不

hour period, students can read from 200 words up to 300 words, and even up to 400 words. In any case, the total number of words increases as more and more time is spent on reciting the texts. But it is still the best to recite every hundred word passage 100 times, then after a week or so, you can let your students memorize all the hundred word passages that they have been memorizing each day for the past week, as a whole. This method starts with baby steps and then building up from there, until the entire text is memorized. Although this is prescribed for those under age 13, this method can still work relatively well for those under 18. What about adults? This method is not suitable for someone who is 20, 30, 40, or even 50 years old as they will quickly get bored. For them I'd suggest reciting the *Analects of the Confucius*. Start from the first character and recite all the way to the end; in total there are 15,900 characters in the *Analects*. After every recitation, write a mark to record it and continue reciting and recording until you have recited 100 times. If you can spend one hour a day to recite, then you can finish the *Analects* one time in one day. If you spend half an hour a day, it takes two days. If you spend four hours a day, you can recite it four times in one day. If you are able to complete 100 times, you will find that you would have greatly benefitted from it.

In this modern age, we see education in Taiwan and Mainland China as not being very successful. In fact, we can call it a failure because their language education has not been in the correct direction and this has led to the failure of education as a whole. How then, do we define a successful education? We must teach people and our children to read the works of their ancestors. For Chinese people, this means they must be able to read the Chinese classical texts. If a child in China, having received primary and secondary education, is still unable to comprehend the Chinese classical texts, then how can we say that we have done a good job with literary education? And if overseas Chinese were to use the same method to teach students, how can they succeed where Mainland China has failed? Therefore, it is not that language is difficult to learn. Rather, it is that the methods of education are not conducive for one's language development. We all always believe that you must understand everything that you read, but young children, especially those under 13, don't have to understand what they read. They just need to keep on reciting, keep on absorbing and keep on incorporating. Some overseas Chinese might believe that the environment affects the lingual education of their children. However, that is not true, because education of language is not extremely reliant on the environment.

For example, children in Taiwan and Mainland China can learn English by continually memorizing English classics and in this way, develop their fluency to a level that might even surpass the level of a similar aged American child. People in China who are trying to learn English can succeed in learning of English. So why can't Chinese

會比國內的孩子學英文還要困難，就是因為教育的方法，沒有把握。教育的方法一直想要理解、理解、理解，剛好不適合十三歲以下的孩子來學習。所以，現在我們不注重理解，只注重背誦，就是反復讀，一直讀，一直唸，唸到能夠背誦，語文教育的功能從此就自動產生。這是何等簡單的教育呢？何等有效的教育呢？為什麼不做呢？就是因為對於人性沒有好好地認識，對於教育的原理沒有好好地把握。

所以，從今天開始，我們希望所有知道的人，對於孩子趕快做讀經教育，對於自己也可以自我做讀經教育。開學校的校長、教學生的老師，尤其是小學跟幼稚園老師，非常重要的責任就是把一個孩子的語文能力培養起來，在十三歲以前奠定他一生用不完的能力，這樣我們才對得起孩子。

最後一個問題是：誰來教呢？誰能夠教經典呢？老師在哪裏呢？其實老師是很簡單就可以找到的，任何一個家長、任何一個現在當老師的人都可以當讀經教育的老師，為什麼？因為只是帶著孩子讀，只是讀，而且所用的課本，如果有注音，或是有拼音，就不會讀錯。你唸一句，他跟你唸一句，唸了五遍十遍以後，一個孩子或許就能夠自己唸，那麼老師跟孩子一起唸，老師也會長進。如果孩子都會唸，甚至個人自己唸，這是一種非常簡單的教育，非常有效的教育，隨時可以開始的教育，千萬不要再用任何理由疏忽了；疏忽這種教育，就是對一個生命的不尊重，對一個生命的障礙。

我今天介紹讀經教育就先講到這裏，以下如果有問題，還請大家提出來，我們交流一下。

☞待續

overseas teach their children Chinese? It's all in the method. We focus too much on comprehension, which is not compatible with the learning abilities of children under 13, and we disregard memorization of a large number of texts. The conclusion here is to keep on reciting, to the point the text is memorized, and disregard understanding. This is such a simple and convenient method of education. Why don't we apply it? Because we don't understand human nature; and we don't understand the purpose and methods of education. So we must begin with the education of reciting classical texts, for our children and for ourselves. As for the principals and teachers of the two schools, we must understand that we bear a heavy responsibility to nurture the language skills of the children because this foundation that we lay for them before they turn 13 will equip them with a lifelong skill; only then will we have discharged our responsibility well.

The final question is, who is qualified to teach this method of education? The answer is any parent and any teacher will do because it is very simple. You just lead your students in reading the classical texts. And if there is "zhuyin" or "pinyin" in the text itself, then you won't recite the classical text incorrectly. After reading it five or ten times, the students might be able to read it by themselves. But the teacher should still read along with them because in this way, both the teacher and the students can benefit from the course. Since this method of education is really easy, really convenient, you can start at any time. You should not ignore this method. You should not make up excuses because by doing so you are having the foundation for the potential of the next generation.

I will end my talk here. If any of you have any questions, feel free to bring it up so that we can discuss it. Thank you.

☞To be continued