

論語淺釋 (續)

The Analects of Confucius (continued)

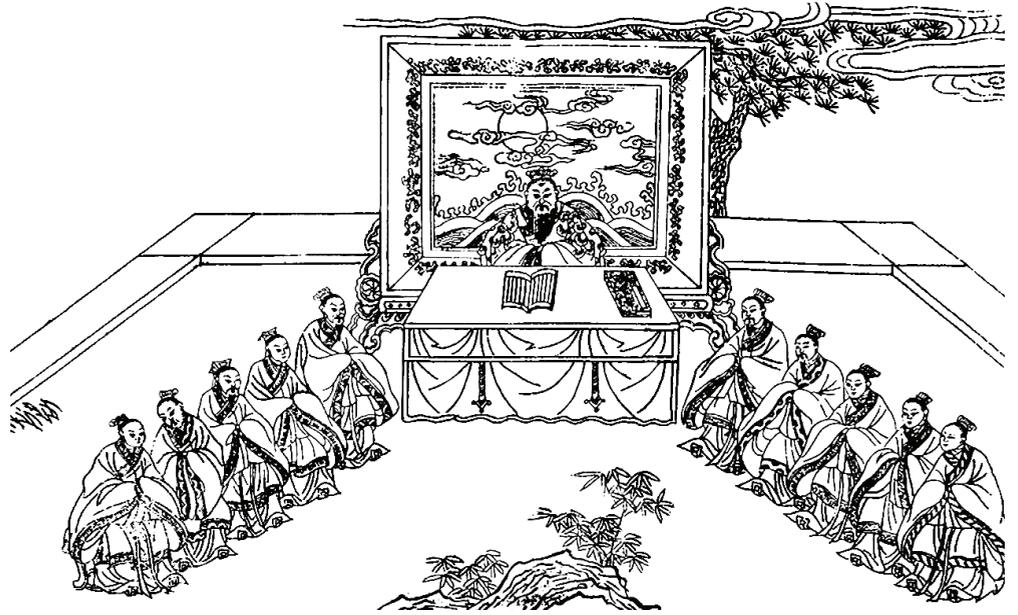
宣化上人講

楊維光、劉年聰 英譯

Lectures by the Venerable Master Hua

English translation by Yong Wei Kwong

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【公冶長第五】

Chapter 5: Gongye Chang

「以其兄之子妻之」：孔子覺得這個人是聰明有智慧，所以就把他哥哥的女兒嫁給這個人做太太。

(編按：南容，為孔子門生，是孔門七十二賢之一。姬姓，南宮氏，名韜，又名适，字子容，又稱南容；又字敬，人稱南宮敬叔。春秋時期魯國人，是孟僖子的兒子，孟懿子的弟弟。為魯國大夫，是個注重德行且言行謹慎者，所謂「世清不廢，世濁不污」，所以孔子稱讚他是個「君子」，並且將他的姪女（孟皮之女）嫁給了南容。對於「南容」是南宮敬叔一說，古籍有不同說法，今本書依上人所說。)

The Master then arranged for his elder brother's daughter to be married to him. Confucius felt that this person was intelligent and wise and so he married his niece to him.

[Editor's Note: Nan Rong was Confucius' student and honored as one of the Seventy-two Worthies of the Confucian School. His surname was Ji and he belonged to the Nangong clan. His given name was Tao, alias Kuo, and he was styled Zirong, hence the abbreviated name of Nan Rong. He was also styled Jing and people also referred to him as Nangong Jingshu. A native of the State of Lu during the Spring and Autumn Period, he was the son of Meng Xizi and the younger brother of Meng Yizi. As a senior official of the State of Lu, he paid attention to cultivating virtuous conduct and was cautious in his words and deeds. There was a saying: "At times of peace, his talents will not go to waste; at times of chaos, his reputation remains unsullied." Therefore, Confucius praised Nan Rong as a 'gentleman' and had his niece (Meng Pi's daughter) married to him. As to whether 'Nan Rong' is the same person as 'Nangong Jingshu', there are differing opinions in the classical texts. In this book, we follow the Venerable Master's explanation.]

(三) 子謂子賤：「君子哉若人！魯無君子者，斯焉取斯？」

(3) **The Master said of Zijian, "This person is a gentleman indeed! If the State of Lu were bereft of individuals of high moral standards, how could he have acquired such virtues?"**

【上人講解】

「子謂子賤」：孔子評論子賤。「君子哉若人」：子賤是一個人格非常好、彬彬有禮的一個人，他禮貌很周全的，對人都是謙恭和藹；所以孔子就讚歎他說：這個人真是一個很懂禮的君子！

「魯無君子者」：孔子是魯國的人，所以他還是願意說魯國的長處。他說，假如魯國沒有君子的話，「斯焉取斯」：怎麼會培養出這樣的君子來啊？也就因為魯國有很多講禮貌的君子，所以才能教育出來這樣的人才。

（編按：子賤，姓宓，名不齊，字子賤，春秋時期魯國人，孔門七十二賢人之一，比孔子小三十歲。他性仁愛，有才智，所以孔子讚子賤有君子之德。曾任單父宰，為官清廉，不欺百姓。） ❀

【Venerable Master's Commentary】

The Master said of Zijian. Confucius commented on Zijian. **This person is a gentleman indeed!** Zijian possessed very good moral character and was a very refined and courteous person. He had impeccable manners and was always humble, respectful and amiable towards others. Therefore, Confucius praised him saying, "This is a true gentleman who is well-versed in the rites!"

If the State of Lu were bereft of individuals of high moral standards. As a native of the State of Lu, Confucius naturally wanted to extol the good qualities of his home state and so he asked: "Supposing there were no morally superior people living in the State of Lu, how could he have acquired such virtues?" How could we possibly cultivate such a gentleman? It was precisely because the State of Lu had so many well-mannered gentlemen that it could inculcate its people with good moral values and produce such talents.

[Editor's Note: Zijian – His surname was Fu; his given name, Buqi, and he was styled Zijian. A native of the State of Lu during the Spring and Autumn Period, he was one of the Seventy-two Worthies of the Confucian School, and was thirty years younger than Confucius. He had a kind, loving nature and was able and wise, Confucius praised him for having the virtues of a gentleman. For a time, he served as magistrate of the town of Shanfu. As an official, he was honest and upright and did not take advantage of the common people.] ❀