

論語淺釋 (續)

The Analects of Confucius (continued)



宣化上人講

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Lectures by the Venerable Master Hua

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【公冶長第五】

(十六) 子謂子產，「有君子之道四焉：其行己也恭，其事上也敬，其養民也惠，其使民也義。」

【上人講解】

「子謂子產」：這個「子謂子產」，就不是「他對子產說」，而是「他提起來子產」。他對他的學生說，你們各位知道嗎？我們現在鄭國這位大夫子產啊，「有君子之道四焉」：他有四種君子的風度。君子的風度是什麼呢？

「其行己也恭」：就是他對自己所行所作，都很鄭重其事的，一點也不馬虎。「行己也恭」是他恭敬自己？不是恭敬自己；就是非常慎重，非常地慎重行事。

Chapter 5: Gongye Chang

(16) The Master said of Zichan, “There are four aspects in which he exhibits the qualities of a gentleman: In his personal conduct, he is respectful and cautious; when serving his superiors, he is sincere and reverent; in nurturing the populace, he is kind and understanding; and when engaging the services of the people, he is fair and just.”

【Venerable Master’s Commentary】

The Master said of Zichan. This does not mean that Confucius was speaking to Zichan; rather, it means he mentioned or spoke about Zichan. Addressing his students, Confucius said, “Are all of you aware that, right now in the State of Zheng, there is a senior official by the name of Zichan? As for him, there are four aspects in which he exhibits the qualities of a gentleman.” He had the demeanor of a gentleman in four different ways. And what does a gentleman’s demeanor refer to?

In his personal conduct, he is respectful and cautious. He was very serious and earnest in his every act and deed, not being perfunctory in the least. Does ‘being respectful and cautious in his personal conduct’ imply that he was full of self-respect? No, it simply means that he was extremely careful and prudent in whatever he did.

When serving his superiors, he is sincere and reverent. Whenever he attended upon people who surpassed him in moral virtue, knowledge, ability

「其事上也敬」：他事奉比他品德高尚的人、比他有學問的人，或者比他有才能的人，或者高年齡的人，或者爵祿比他高的人，就很恭敬的、很誠懇的。總而言之，這個「上」，就是包括在他上邊的各種人。

「其養民也惠」：他對待老百姓就是「養」，「養」就是治國安邦，令老百姓都各得其所，得到他生活的安定。他對老百姓是特別優待，特別為老百姓來著想，以民之利為利，以民之善為善；就是儘量來輔導、來教化老百姓要好好做老百姓。

「其使民也義」：「使」，就是支配。他若是役使、支配老百姓，都很恰到好處的；老百姓做得沒有一點怨言，誰都心悅誠服，對他很佩服的。因為什麼呢？因為他做事做得當然，做得恰到好處，所以老百姓一點怨言也沒有。

這是今天這個《論語》的意思，我說的，「是道則進，非道則退」。你們若覺得合你們的邏輯學，你們就信；若是不合乎，你們就忘了它。那麼我講的，你們忘了可以；但是吃飯無論如何不要忘了！

（編按：子產，姓公孫，名僑，字子產，又字子美，亦稱公孫僑、鄭子產、東里子產，諡成。是春秋時期鄭國人，與孔子同時期。他是鄭國的上卿大夫，為人廉潔奉公、敬謹謙遜、用人所長；在輔政二十餘年期間，改革內政，慎修外交，使國穩民安，所以極受鄭國百姓愛戴。後世對子產評價甚高，將他視為中國歷史宰相的典範，清朝的王源更推許他為春秋第一人。）

☞待續

and talent; or individuals of advanced age; or officials whose ranks were higher than his; he would be very respectful and sincere. In short, the character '上' (shàng) includes all sorts of people who were higher or better than him in any way.

In nurturing the populace, he is kind and understanding. He adopted a nurturing attitude towards the common people. The character '養' (yǎng) or 'nurture' means governing the state well and ensuring its security so that each person can effectively fulfill his or her role in society and enjoy a happy and peaceful life. Particularly concerned about the commoners, he showed special consideration for their welfare. He took it upon himself to benefit the populace and bring out the best in them. In this regard, he exerted his utmost to guide and teach them how to transform themselves into good people.

When engaging the services of the people, he is fair and just. The character '使' (shǐ) means 'arrange' or 'allocate'. If human labor was required, he would allocate people in a fair and just manner and everything would be organized appropriately. While performing their tasks, the commoners did not harbor a word of resentment; everyone was fully convinced and looked up to him with heartfelt admiration. Why? It was because his way of doing things was always proper and fitting, and so there was not even the slightest grumble among the populace.

This is the meaning of today's passage from the *Analects*. As I have said before: Advance if it is the Way; retreat if it is not. If you feel that something is logical and makes sense, then go ahead and believe it; if not, then just forget it. As for my lectures, it is perfectly alright to forget about them. But whatever you do, don't forget to have your meals!

[Editor's Note: Zichan – His surname was Gongsun, his given name, Qiao, and he was styled Zichan, alias Zimei. He was also addressed as Gongsun Qiao, Zichan of Zheng, or Zichan of the Eastern Ward. His posthumous title was Cheng (accomplished). A native of the State of Zheng during the Spring and Autumn Period, he was a contemporary of Confucius. In his post as senior minister of Zheng, he was honest and upright in performing his official duties. A respectful and modest person, he employed people according to their strengths. For more than twenty years, he assisted the ruler in conducting state affairs, introducing reforms to internal administration and adopting prudent diplomatic policies, thus bringing peace and stability to the state and its people. For this reason, he enjoyed immense popular support. Later generations highly appraised Zichan, looking up to him as a model Prime Minister in Chinese history. Wang Yuan of the Qing Dynasty held him in high esteem and even commended him as the foremost personage of the Spring and Autumn Period.]

☞To be continued