

Postgraduate Assignment coversheet & feedback form

THIS SHEET MUST BE THE FIRST PAGE OF THE ASSIGNMENT YOU ARE SUBMITTING
(DO NOT SEND AS A SEPARATE FILE)

For completion by the student:		
Student Name: Ruxin Zhang		
Module code: SICH7029 Module title: Readings from the Governing Principles of Ancient China	Student ID number: 1903297	Educational support needs: No
Module tutor: Venerable Chengde Assignment due date: 8 th November 2024, 15:00		
If your module has multiple submissions please indicate which piece of work this is. 1 st ☒ 2 nd ☐ 3 rd ☐ 4 th ☐ 5 th ☐ 6 th ☐		
Word count: 2,324		
I confirm that this is my original work and that I have adhered to the University policy on plagiarism. Signed Ruxin Zhang.....		
Email submission: if you are submitting this form via email, please tick this box ☐ (as a substitute for your signature) to confirm that you agree to the above declaration.		

Assignment Mark	
1st Marker's Provisional mark	
2nd Marker's/Moderator's provisional mark	
Agreed Internal Mark:	
External Examiner's mark (if relevant)	
Final Mark	
NB. All marks are provisional until confirmed by the Final Examination Board.	

For completion by Marker 1:

Comments:

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AGREED INTERNAL MARK (where necessary):

Comment on process on arriving at agreed mark:

External Examiner's comments (if relevant)

External Examiner's Signature:

Date:

AI Acknowledgement

☐ I have not used AI in my assignment

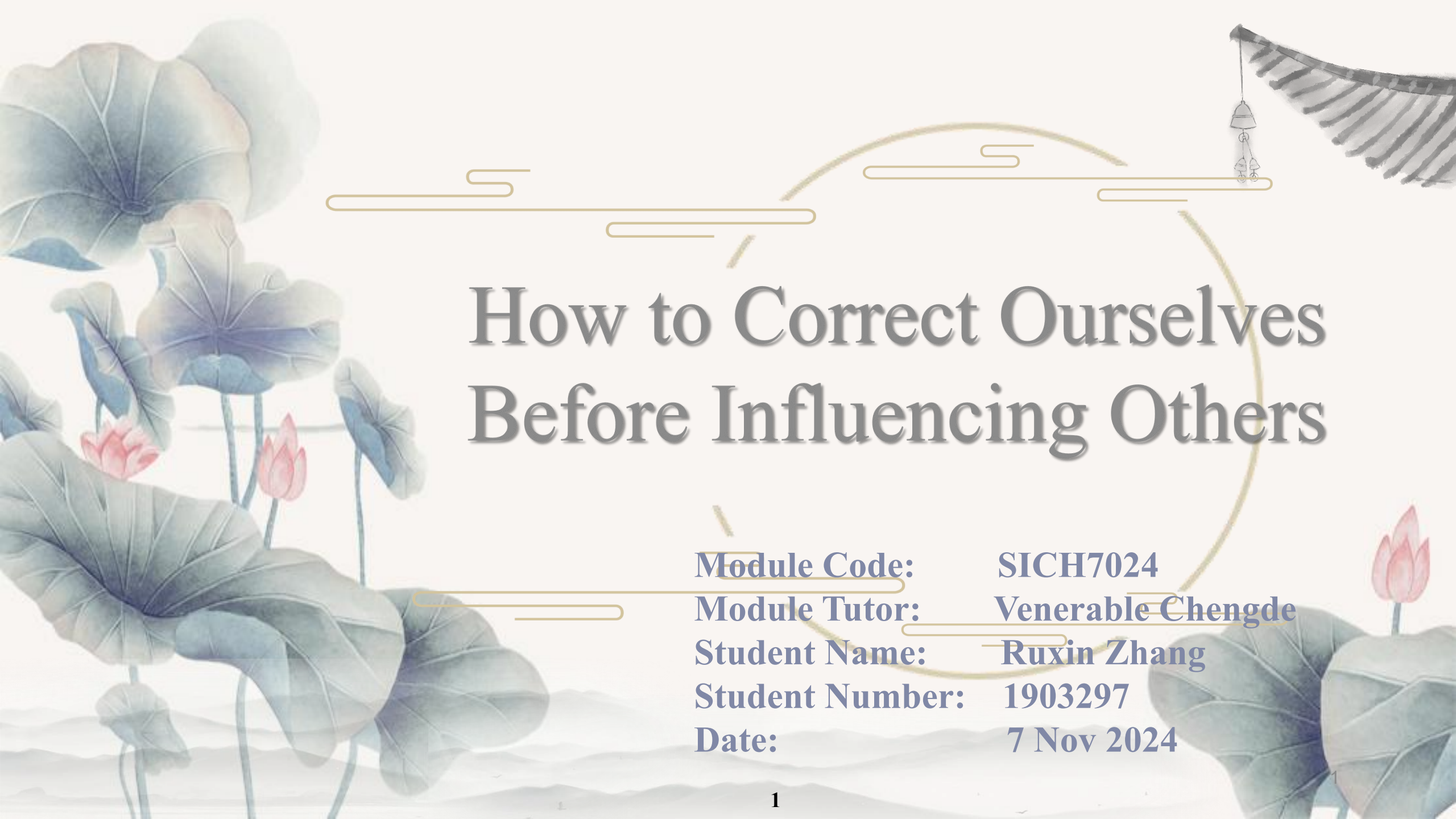
I confirm that I have not used any AI tools in the research and creation of this assignment. I confirm that I have not presented any AI generated materials as my own work. I confirm I have copies of my drafts, notes, and other resources I used, which I may be asked to provide in evidence.

☒ I have used AI in my assignment

I acknowledge the use of Grammarly (<https://app.grammarly.com/>) on 4 November 2024 to check for grammatical errors in my oral presentation. I used the prompt(s):

1. Please check the following text for readability, grammar and syntax.

I confirm that I have not presented any AI generated text as my own work. I confirm I have copies of my drafts, notes, and other resources I used before, and after the use of AI tools which I may be asked to provide in evidence.



How to Correct Ourselves Before Influencing Others

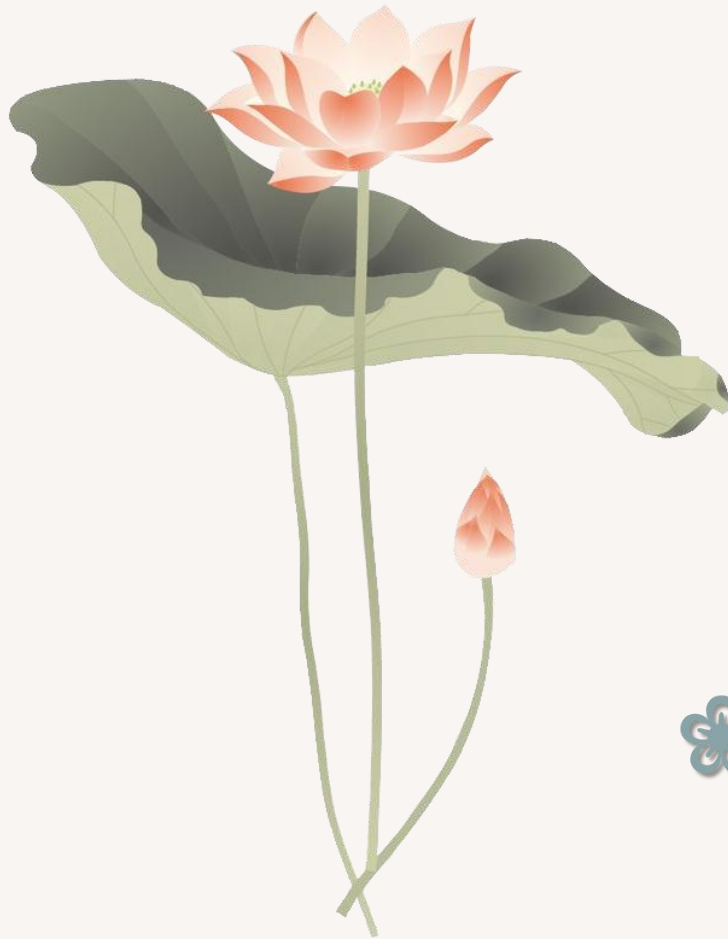
Module Code: SICH7024
Module Tutor: Venerable Chengde
Student Name: Ruxin Zhang
Student Number: 1903297
Date: 7 Nov 2024

Contents

✿ **Motivation**

✿ **Analysis**

✿ **Practical Application**



Motivation



It has always been my learning goal to correct myself before influencing others.

Analysis

Correcting oneself before transforming others.

「正己化人」：

The character *zheng* 正 means that the standard of correctness is indeed unchangeable.

「正者，確不可易。」

The character *hua* 化, it means something that comes naturally.

「化者，自然而然。」

Analysis



When a prince's personal conduct is correct, his government is effective without the issuing of orders. If his personal conduct is not correct, he may issue orders, but they will not be followed.

子曰：「其身正，不令而行；
其身不正，雖令不從。」

Analysis

What those at the top do,
the people below will imitate.
「上所施，下所效」



Analysis

Zeng Zi said, 'What are the Seven Teachings are?'

曾子曰：「敢問何謂七教？」



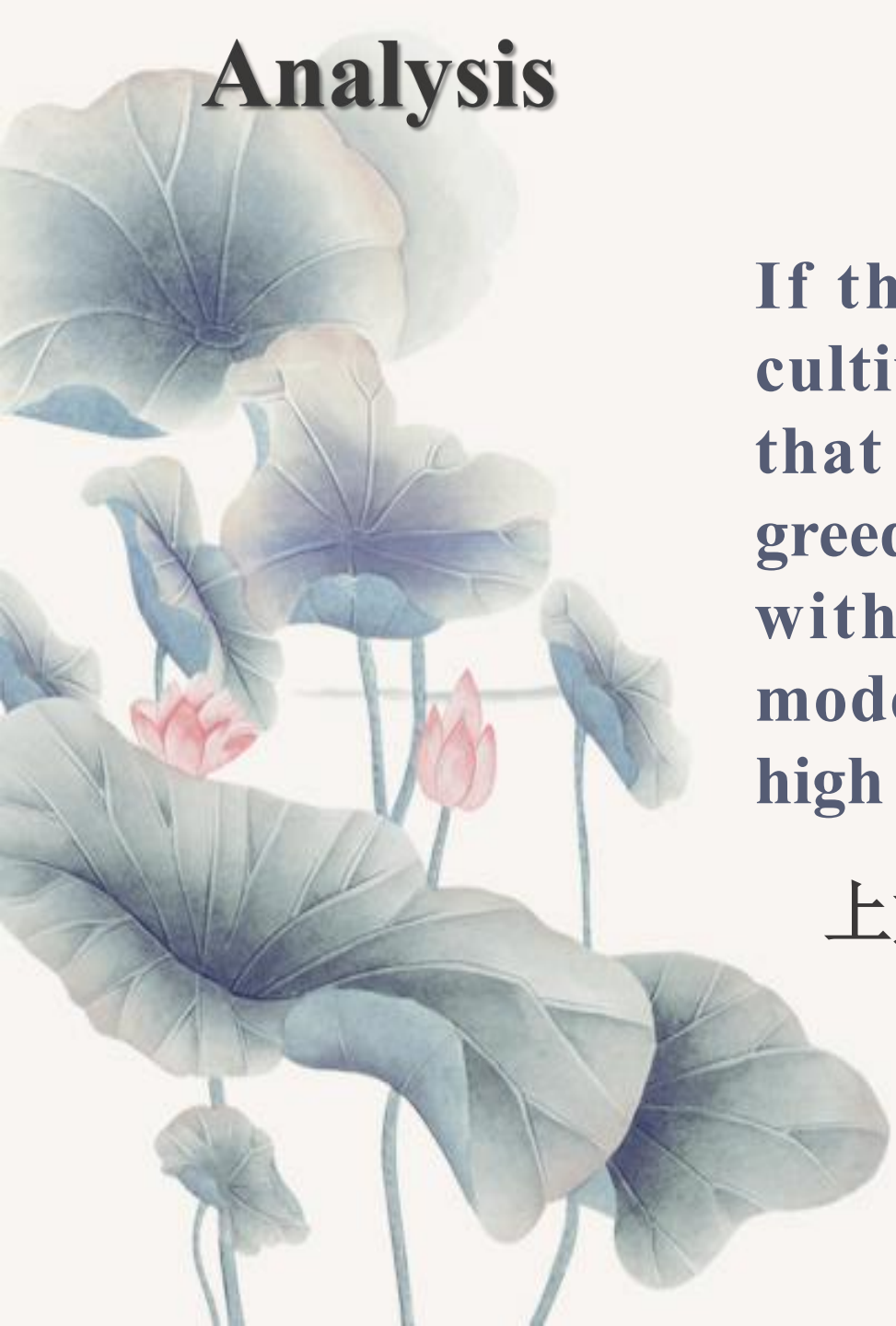
Confucius said, 'If the king respects the elderly, the subjects will be more filial; if the king respects the older people, the subjects will be more friendly to their siblings;

孔子曰：「上敬老，則下益孝；上尊齒，則下益悌；

If the king is kind and generous, the subjects will be more generous; if the king is close to people of wisdom and virtue, the subjects will attach importance to choosing friends;

上樂施，則下益寬；上親賢，則下擇友；

Analysis



If the king attaches importance to moral cultivation, the subjects will not do anything that cannot be disclosed; if the king detests greed, the subjects will be ashamed to compete with each other; if the king is honest and modest, the subjects will know to stick to the high moral principle.

上好德，則下無隱；上惡貪，則下恥爭；
上廉讓，則下知節。



Analysis

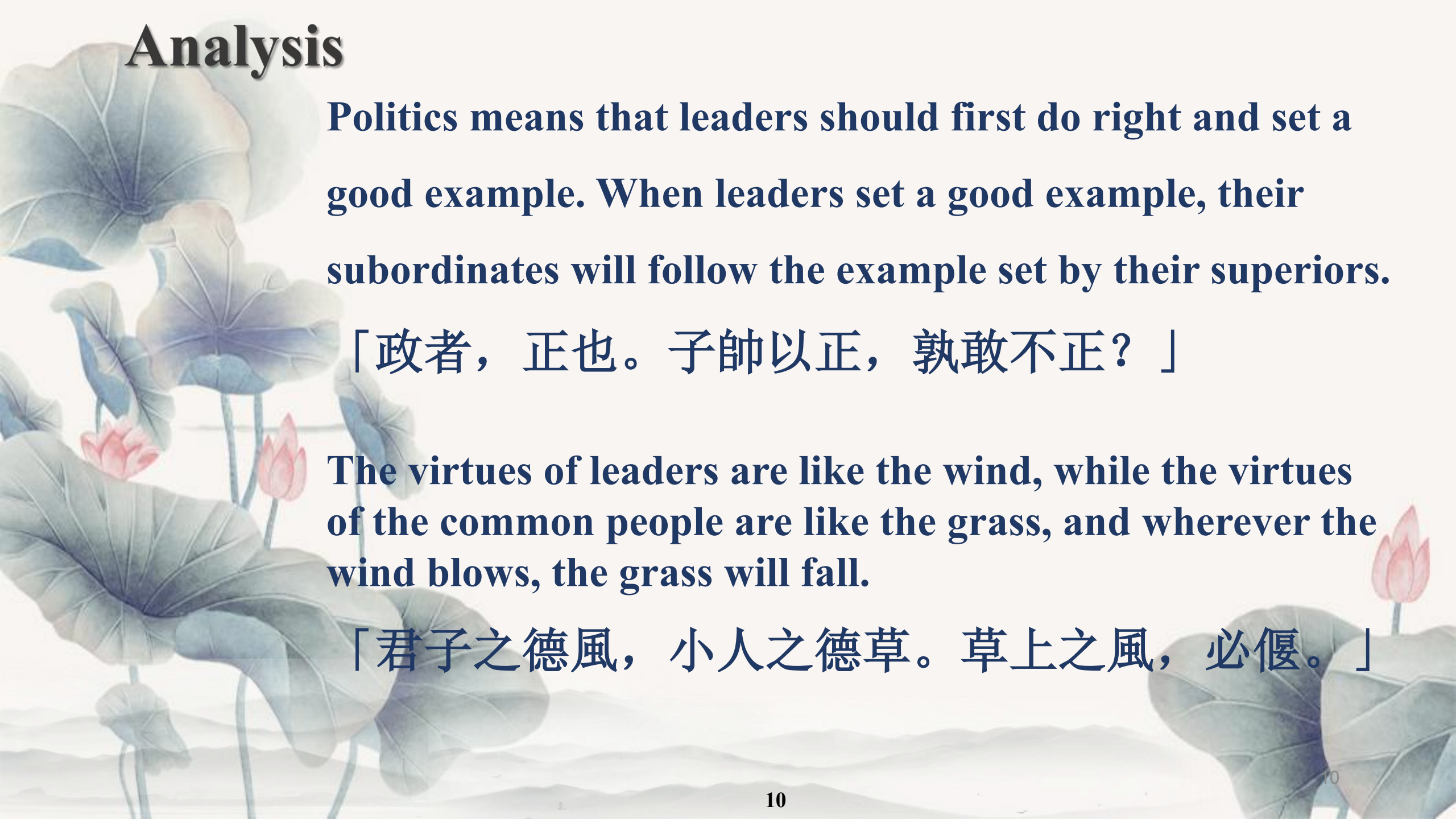


These are the Seven Teachings, which are fundamental to the governance of the people. When the principles of political education are established, then the fundamentals will be corrected. All those who are in power are the role models of the people, and if the role models are correct, what else is not correct?

此之謂七教也。七教者，治民之本也。政教定，則本正矣。凡上者，民之表也，表正則何物不正！



Analysis



Politics means that leaders should first do right and set a good example. When leaders set a good example, their subordinates will follow the example set by their superiors.

「政者，正也。子帥以正，孰敢不正？」

The virtues of leaders are like the wind, while the virtues of the common people are like the grass, and wherever the wind blows, the grass will fall.

「君子之德風，小人之德草。草上之風，必偃。」

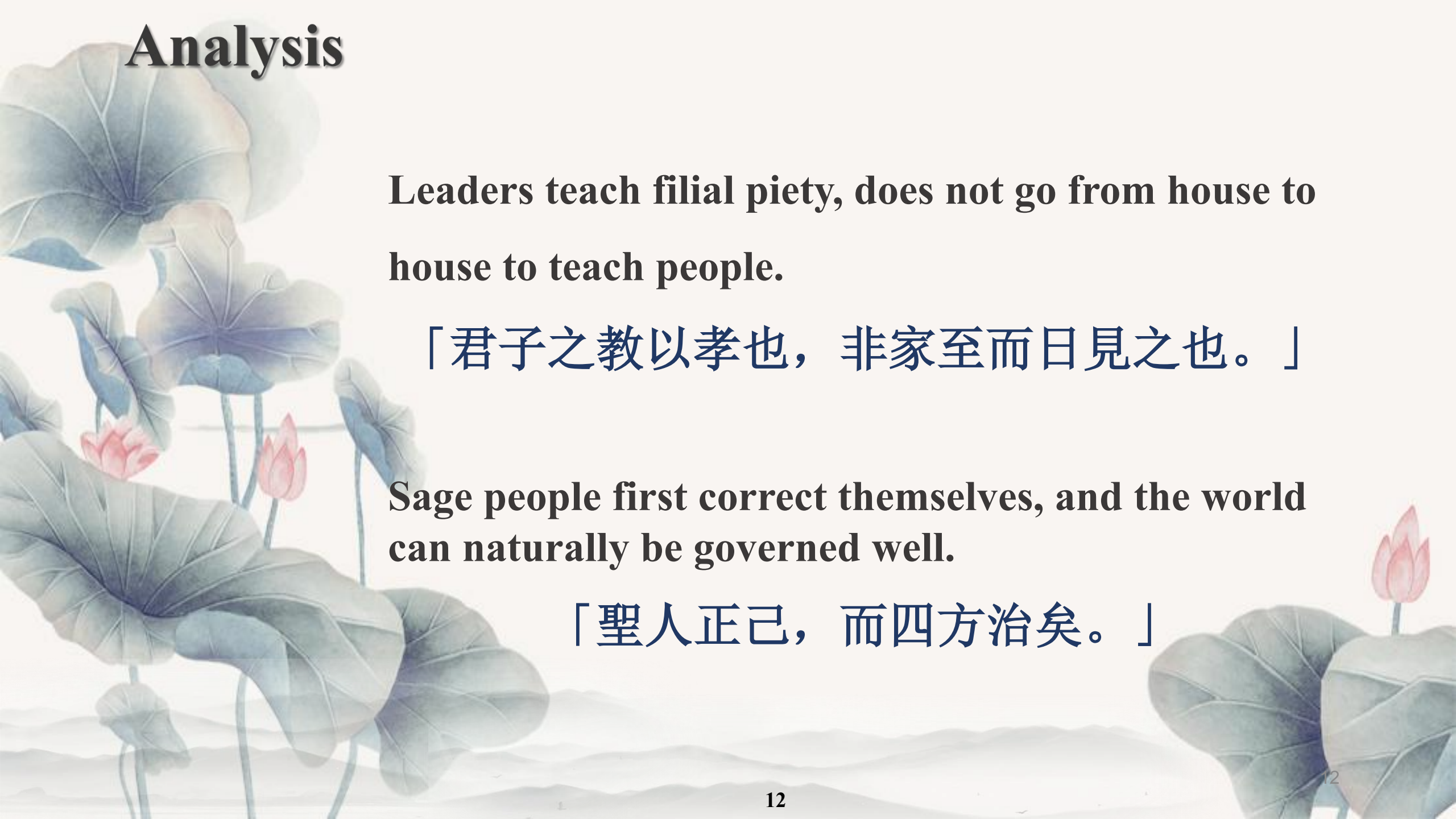
Analysis

When our parents were sick , we would taste the medicine first before giving it to them. We will take care of them day and night and stay by their bedside.

「 親有疾，藥先嘗。晝夜侍，不離床。」



Analysis



Leaders teach filial piety, does not go from house to house to teach people.

「君子之教以孝也，非家至而日見之也。」

Sage people first correct themselves, and the world can naturally be governed well.

「聖人正己，而四方治矣。」

Analysis



**What we think about all the time
affects the whole world.**

Analysis

Confucius said, When an inferior does a superior's work, he does not merely obey his superior's commands, but he looks at his superior's behaviour and imitates him.

子曰：下之事上也，不從其所令，而從其所行。

If the superior prefers a certain thing, subordinates must be more interested than him. Therefore, leaders have to be careful about how much they like or dislike people and things, because they are examples for the people.

上好是物，下必有甚矣。故上之所好惡，不可不慎也，是民之表也。

Analysis

The gentlemen position is to be feared and respected, they give people favour and let people love them.

君子在位可畏，施舍可愛。

Their choices and manners can be used as a standard for people to follow, and their social intercourse and dealings as a criterion.

進退可度，周旋可則。

Analysis



Their manners and behaviour are worth watching and learning, their handling of affairs and administration are worth learning.

容止可觀，作事可法。

Their moral character can be emulated, their voice and manner are pleasing.

德行可象，聲氣可樂。

Analysis

Their actions are elegant and cultivated, and their speech is clear and orderly.

動作有文，言語有章。

Treating one's subordinates in this way is called behaviour in a dignified and appropriate manner.

以臨其下，謂之有威儀也。

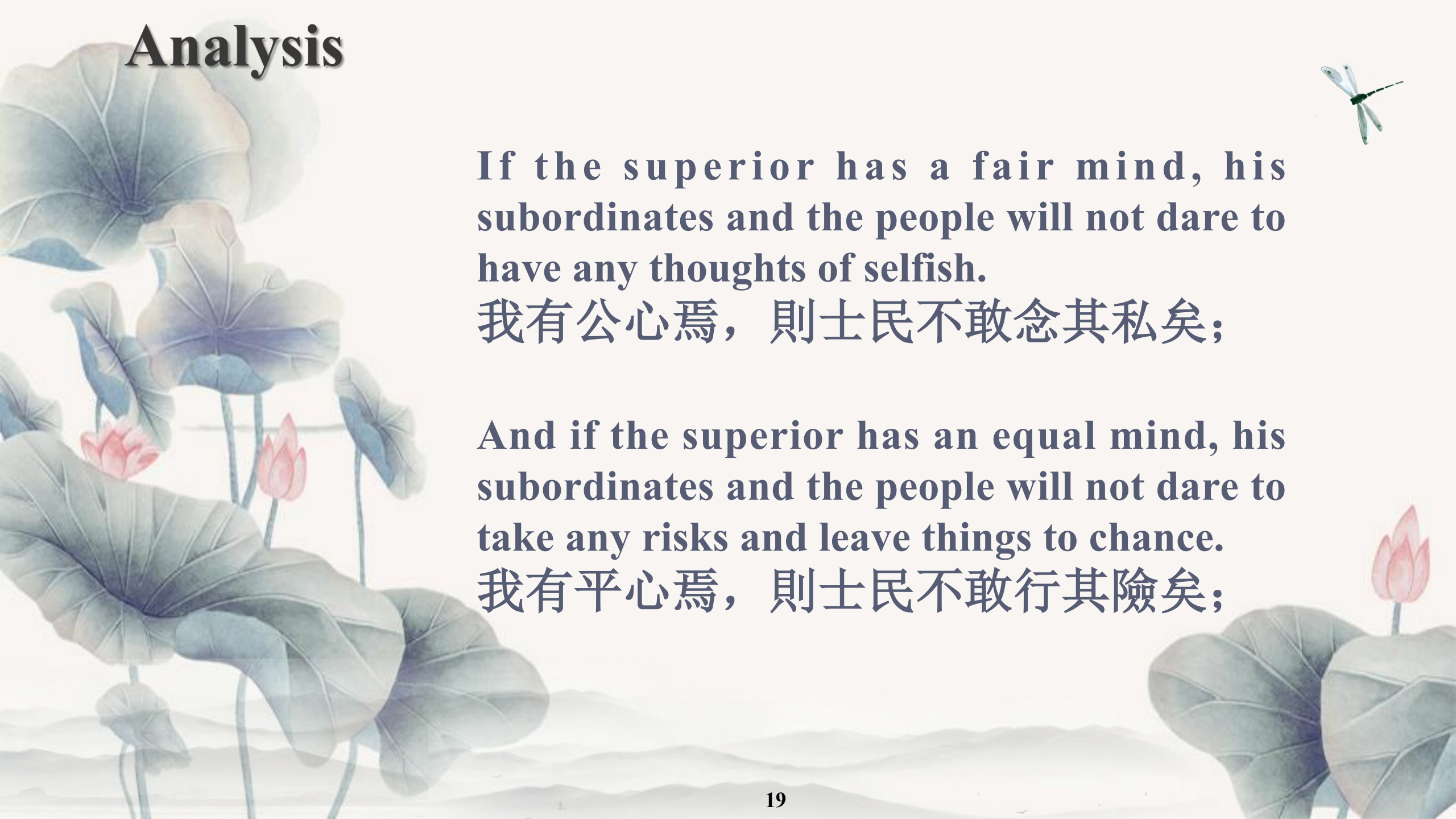
Analysis



We must first rectify our own mind before we can rectify ourselves and things, and that when our mind is rectified, all things will naturally settle down.

「正心而後可以正己正物，其心既正，萬物定矣。」

Analysis

The background of the slide features a traditional Chinese ink wash painting style illustration. On the left side, there are large, dark green lotus leaves with prominent veins, and a small pink lotus flower is visible. On the right side, there is a small dragonfly with transparent wings and a dark body. The bottom of the slide shows a misty, layered landscape with soft, greyish-blue mountains or hills.

If the superior has a fair mind, his subordinates and the people will not dare to have any thoughts of selfish.

我有公心焉，則士民不敢念其私矣；

And if the superior has an equal mind, his subordinates and the people will not dare to take any risks and leave things to chance.

我有平心焉，則士民不敢行其險矣；

Analysis



And if the superior has a frugal mind,
his subordinates and the people will not
dare to enjoy themselves with indulgence,
extravagance, and wastefulness.

我有儉心焉，則士民不敢放其奢矣。

This is the role played by superiors who
set a good example.

此躬行之所徵者也。



1. We must have a mind of loyalty and benevolence.

1. 忠恕存心。

2. We should have a grateful mind.

2. 感恩的心。

3. We should have a self-seeking attitude.

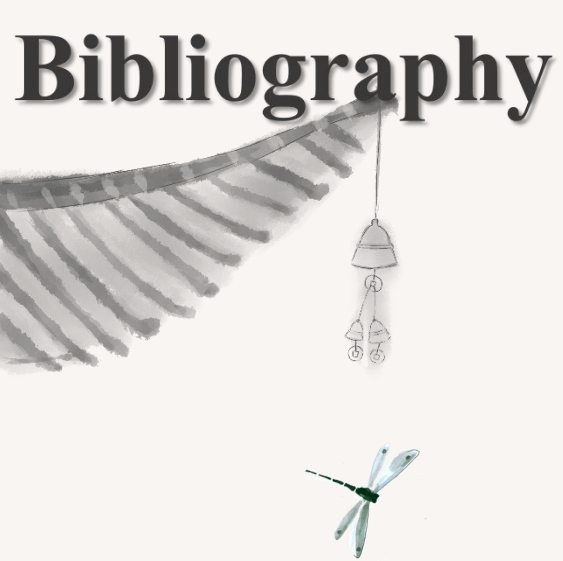
3. 反求諸己。

4. We must know what comes first and what comes last.

4. 知所先後。

**Practical
Application**

Bibliography



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Thank you for listening