



Undergraduate assignment feedback form
(to be completed by marker)

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<i>Module Code: SICH5008</i> <i>Module title: Cultural and Intellectual Discourse of the Records of Ritual</i>	<i>Student number: 2016013</i>
<i>For completion by marker:</i> <i>Comments:</i>	
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☒ 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.

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Presentation About *Liji*

Module code : SICH5008

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CONTENTS

- **Meaning and background**
- **Ancient and modern examples**
- **Conclusion**



Original text

Thus the filial piety taught by the ancient kings required that :



- the eyes of the people should not forget the looks
- his ears should not forget the sound of his voices
- he should retain the memory of their aims, likings, and wishes.

(trans by James Legge, modified by myself)

《禮記·祭義》「是故，先王之孝也，色不忘乎目，聲不絕乎耳，心志嗜欲不忘乎心。致愛則存，致愬則著。著存不忘乎心，夫安得不敬乎？」

Original text



- As he gave full play to his love, they seemed to live again; and to his reverence, they seemed to stand out before him. So seeming to live and stand out, so unforgotten by him, how could his sacrifices be without the accompaniment of reverence?

(trans by James Legge, modified by myself)

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Background

Enter the ancestral temple:

- see your family member who passed away
- hear their voices

Go out the ancestral temple:

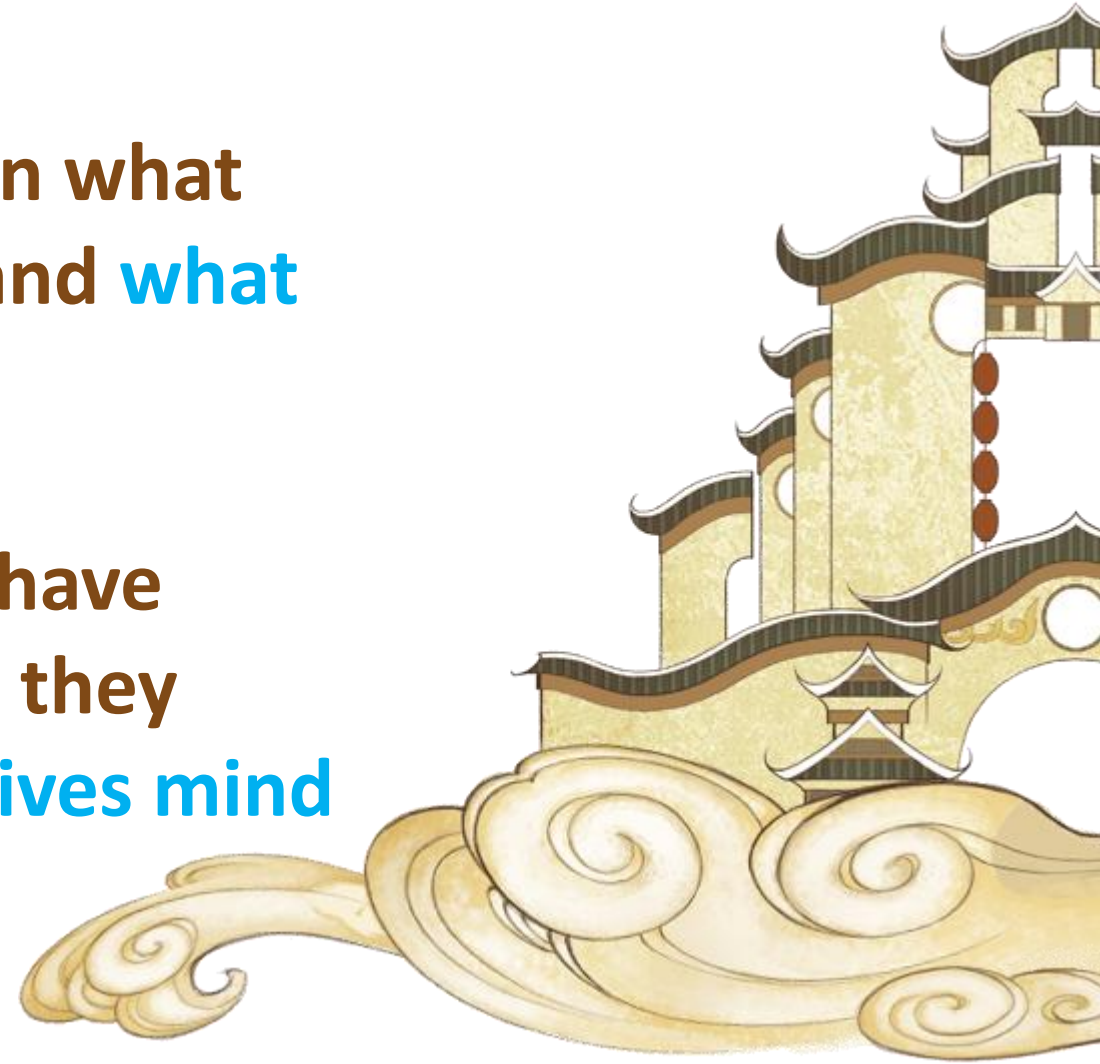
- hear their sighs

「祭之日：入室，僂然必有見乎其位，周還出戶，肅然必有聞乎其容聲，出戶而聽，愴然必有聞乎其嘆息之聲。」



Scholars' Interpretations:

- Fang Que (方慤) : People reflected on what their departed relatives **looked like** and **what they said** to them.
- Sun Xidan (孫希旦): Those relatives have **always existed** in the world, because they have always lived in **their living relatives mind and deep love**.





➤ we still remember **his words and actions** anytime and anywhere.

➤ we can remember **his teaching** to solve problems.



what is true filial piety?



Wrong:

- Just serve their parents food and keep them warm

Correct:

- Ding Lan



Ding Lan's story



- Both his parents **died**
- **carved sculptures** of his parents with wood
- showed filial **respect to the sculptures**
- **his wife did not** pay much **respect** to the wood sculptures
- He and his wife **divorced**

- Filial piety is a foundation of our lives
- Love has the power to make people stronger.



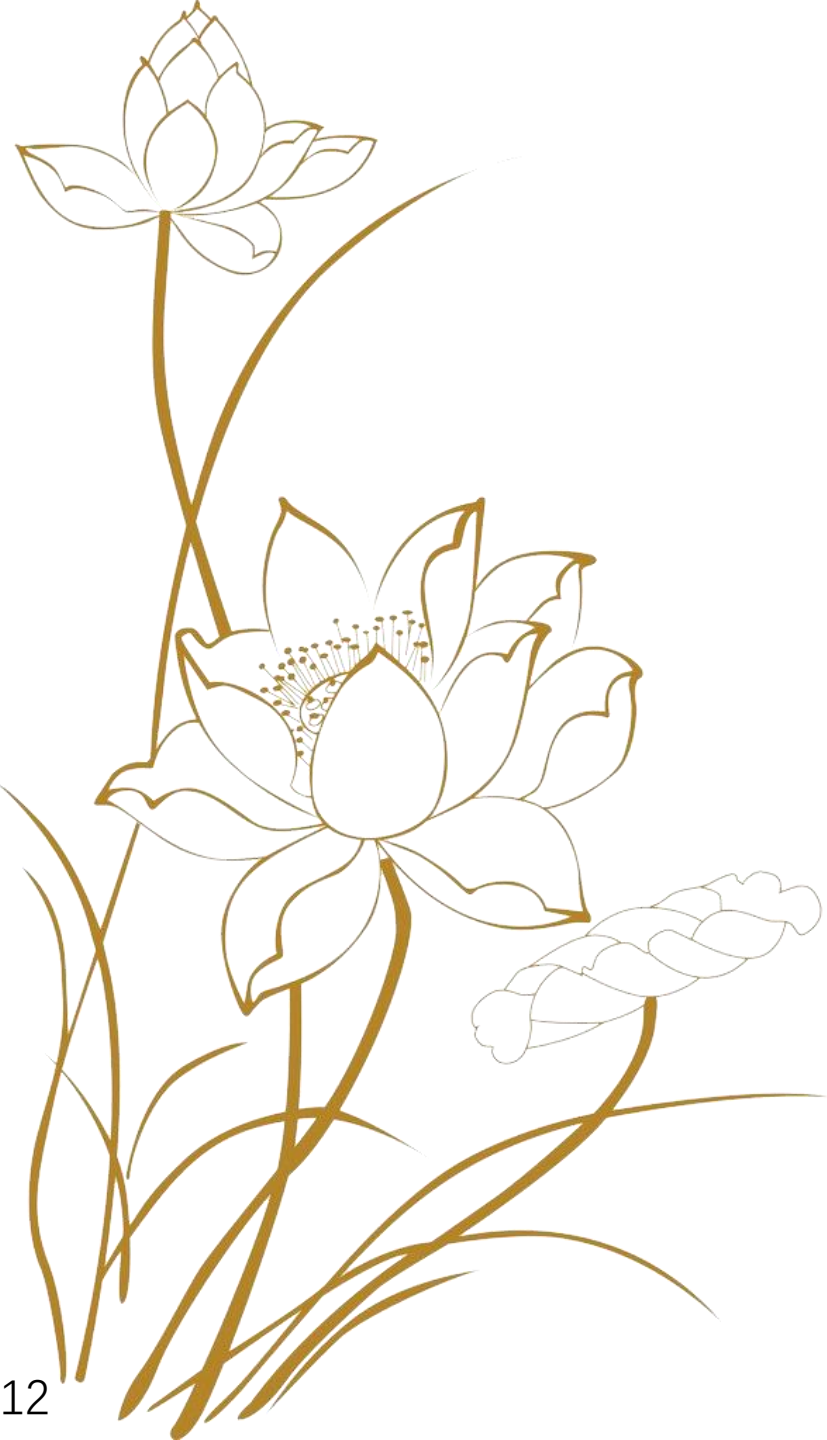
The powerful love of a mother



I was not brave, I just did
not want you to get hurt.

Conclusion

- Love lets us become **strong enough** to stand in this vast universe.
- our departed relatives will **always be alive** within the universe **because of love**.





Thank you
for listening

Bibliography

Books

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Presentation about *Liji*

Good morning respected teacher, and my fellow classmates. Today, I will introduce a sentence from *Liji*, and then I will give some examples from ancient times and what I saw in my life to explain what is true filial piety, ending by a brief conclusion.

The first part: Meaning and background

First, we should understand the meaning of a sentence. Thus the filial piety taught by the ancient kings required that the eyes of the people should not forget the looks (of his parents), nor his ears should not forget the sound of his voices; and that he should retain the memory of their aims, likings, and wishes. As he gave full play to his love, they seemed to live again; and to his reverence, they seemed to stand out before him. So seeming to live and stand out, so unforgotten by him, how could his sacrifices be without the accompaniment of reverence? (trans by James Legge modified by myself) 《禮記·祭義》「是故，先王之孝也，色不忘乎目，聲不絕乎耳，心志嗜欲不忘乎心。致愛則存，致愍則著。著存不忘乎心，夫安得不敬乎」

Let me talk about the background briefly: this sentence is actually connected to the previous one which tells us on the day of the sacrifice, when you enter the ancestral temple, it is possible that you would see your family member who passed away and hear their voice. This could also happen, after the sacrificial ceremony, when you go out the ancestral temple, you might hear their sighs because they still want to chat with you. So this passage explains why they can feel the existence of their departed relatives. (As he gave full play to his love, they seemed to live again; and to his reverence, they seemed to stand out before him.)Considering the background and the passage itself, we know that we can understand if you are truly filial you would feel your departed relatives' souls.

The second part: Explanation by the scholar

Let us look at how scholars have explained this passage. Fang Que(方慤) holds the view that 'the eyes of the people should not forget the looks (of his parents), nor his ears their voices' this sentence means people reflected on what their departed relatives looked like

and what they said to them.

Sun Xidan(孫希旦) holds the view that people have treated departed relatives the same as living relatives. Those relatives have always existed in the world, because they have always lived in their living relatives mind and deep love. As long as people do not forget them, they will exist in the universe forever. Not only should people remember them during the sacrificial ceremony, but people also need to keep deeply love and respects to departed relatives in daily life. People always think about their departed relatives, but their feelings are strongest during the sacrificial ceremony, because we can release the emotions we have been holding inside such as love and longing.

The third part: Ancient and modern examples

Let me give you an example to show how to do this passage. Although Venerable Jingkong passed away for three years, we still remember his words and actions anytime and anywhere . The most important thing is to learn from him. When we face problems and encounter setbacks, we can remember his teaching to solve problems. If we do it this way, he can live in the universe forever because he would never leave from our mind. To sum up this section, the key point of this passage is about what is true filial piety. If people just serve their parents food and keep them warm, it is not true filial piety.

I will introduce a person who treated the wood sculptures as real parents in the twenty-four stories of filial piety. Ding Lan was a man in the Eastern Han Dynasty. Both his parents died when he was young. He often thought of his parents' love and care for him and therefore carved sculptures of his parents with wood. He showed filial respect to the sculptures as if they were his parents, discussing everything with them eating every meal only after paying respect to them, reporting to them before going out and meeting them right after returning home. As time went by, his wife didn't pay much respect to the wood sculptures and even pierced their fingers curiously. Blood ran out of the fingers of the wood sculptures unexpectedly. When Ding Lan returned home, he saw tears in the eyes of the sculptures. He knew the fact from his wife and then divorced with her.(trans by Duan jiqing and others, modified by myself)

Ding Lan is a fitting example to tell us what is the meaning of this passage. Of course, this does not mean represent we need to do the same thing, but we would have a profound understanding of filial piety by this example. Filial piety deeply connects us to our parents. It is a foundation of our lives. This kind of emotion will have an huge impact on our whole life.

If we truly love and respect someone, we can make changes for him. For example: when a woman becomes a mother, she will change her behavior and think about her child first. She avoids conflicts with people, due to she is worried that her child will be mistreated by others. Before my classmate told me her mother is very afraid of bugs, but one day, she was shocked by a bug. And then her mother helped her to throw it outside. She thought my mother was brave, but her mother said I was not brave, I just did not want you to get hurt.

The forth part: Conclusion

Love can let us become brave and defeat the terrifying things, let us grow and transform, let us become strong enough to stand in this vast universe. And because of our profound, continuous love, our departed relatives will always be alive within the universe, never to disappear.

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