

The traditional Chinese ethics and its application in the field of radiation protection

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Productions



- In Chinese old history, there are several famous thinkers and with their thoughts, such as Confucianism, Mohism, Daoism, Legalism, and Chinese Buddhism.



Introductions

- The tradition of Chinese ethical thought is centrally concerned with questions about how one ought to live:
 - what goes into a worthwhile life
 - how to weigh duties toward family versus duties toward strangers
 - whether human nature is predisposed to be morally good or bad
 - how one ought to relate to the non-human world, the extent to which one ought to become involved in reforming the larger social and political structures of one's society, and
 - how one ought to conduct oneself when in a position of influence or power.

Introductions

- The personal, social, and political are often intertwined in Chinese approaches to the subject.
- Anyone who wants to draw from the range of important traditions of thought on Chinese ethics needs to look seriously at the Chinese tradition.
- The canonical texts of that tradition have been memorized by school children in Asian societies for hundreds of years, and
- at the same time they have served as objects of sophisticated and rigorous analysis by scholars and theoreticians rooted in widely variant traditions and approaches.
- But in various periods of Chinese history, there were different types of ethical thoughts.

Introductions

● Classic Confucianism

- The Classic Confucianism is just only refer to the Analects of Confucius and his diviners.
- Confucianism's thought is an artery of Chinese traditional thoughts, so here called it traditional Chinese ethics.

● Neo-Confucianism

- The fall of the latter Han dynasty in 220 till the founding of the Song dynasty in 960, Confucian teachers in China largely relinquished the ontological battlefield to Buddhists.
- So now in China we Call the Mohism, Daoism, Legalism as Neo-Confucianism.

- In the presentation, it is just only concerned with the Classic Confucianism.

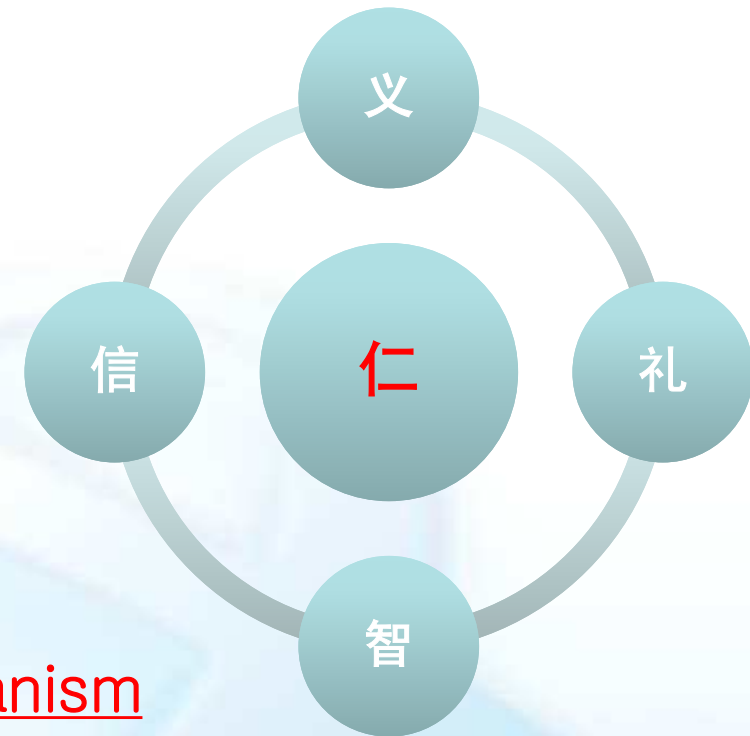
Traditional Chinese Ethics

- Traditional Chinese philosophical systems are based on Confucianism, which sings high praises for communal harmony.
- Confucius is the founder of Confucianism, both Mencius and Xunzi are the inheritor of Confucianism in early Qin period, and they make great contribution to the development of Confucianism. In China Confucius is considered the greatest of the ancient Chinese sages.
- It has been not about ritual, doctrine, or abstract theology, important though these can be. It has been about human feeling, compassion and mercy.
- Confucianism responsibility always directly and specifically refers to the stakeholders in a given time and a specific situation. So Classic Confucian ethics is highly specialized and situation-related.

Traditional Chinese Ethics

- In the Confucian vision, human flourishing can occur only if social relations have a proper moral basis.
- This means that people have to learn to discern what is the right way to behave and that for the most parts they voluntarily act accordingly.
- To reach this goal, the Classic Confucianism requires individuals in a family or community by self-cultivation to become a gentleman.
- The cultivation is to develop the mind-and-heart, an inextricable combination of mental and emotional faculties.
- It requires a dynamic process of self-transcendence, a broadening and deepening of one's sensitivity without losing sight of one's rootedness in the body, family, community, society, and the world.
- This cultivation must begin within the family, and it is sustained at the most fundamental level by the rituals of family life.

Traditional Chinese Ethics



The value system of Confucianism

Value System: The three cardinal guides and the five constant virtues.

The three cardinal guides: king and its officials; father and sons; husband and wives.

The five constant virtue: benevolence–love; righteousness; ritual; wisdom; faith.



Traditional Chinese Ethics

- The social values of Confucianism originated from family values—in the the family where social accomplishment and self-cultivation were fostered, and family bond is much more stronger than social bond. And
- The feeling of Moral in Confucianism is more important than right or wrong.
- Confucian ethics was considered that family love is origin of the loves for others, and it is the base of all the morality.

Traditional Chinese Ethics

- ‘Benevolence(仁)’, e.g. people-oriented or ‘love’, is inchoation or the base against with the other four virtues.
- ‘Righteousness(义)’, e.g. fitting, or referring to thinking or acting that should be accorded with defined norm what a person should do or should not do.
- ‘Ritual(礼)’ refers to a kind of means to get harmony.
- ‘Wisdom(智)’ refers to insight or ability to understand things, and its end or goal is intelligence.
- ‘Faith(信)’ refers to authority, credit, or personality.



Application of Classic Confucianism in RP

- Precaution principle is accorded with the benevolence of Classic Confucianism
 - Facing with the limiting knowledge of radiation effects, it needs the Confucian virtue of **benevolence-people-oriented** or **'love'**—to all the potentially exposed people.
 - It is also a Confucian virtue of **Wisdom** in order to deal with unknown or unclear knowledge.

Application of Classic Confucianism in RP

- In general, The three basic principles of RP system, is a virtue of Classic Confucianism, e.g. **Righteousness**
 - Any thinking or act such as decision on radiation protection measures should be accorded with some defined norms.
- The utmost goal to Classic Confucianism is to realize the harmony of family, or community, or even civil society. So
 - The goal of RP is that all the risks from nuclear industry should be kept as low as or below that of other industry. It is a classic Confucian ethics—**harmony**.

Application of Classic Confucianism in RP

- Dose or risk Constraint in RP system and their selection are all the classic Confucianism virtue of 'Wisdom'
 - Do as you can do based on experience.
- Procedures is also a kind of the classic Confucianism virtue of 'Wisdom' .

Remarks

- The Classic Confucianism may a useful tool to interpret the principle of radiation safety.
- Maybe need some more times or works to study the relationship with them.

Thank you are attention!