

The Principles of I-Kuan Tao

(part 2)

一貫道宗旨(下)

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(接上期)

道之宗旨解釋 **Commentary on The Principles of the Tao**

恪遵四維綱常之古禮 To follow the ancient practice of the Four Ethics, the Mainstays and the Constant Virtues - To obey and respectfully practice the Four Ethical Principles, the Three Mainstays of Social Order, and the Five Constant Virtues.

The Four Ethical Principles - courtesy, righteousness, integrity, a sense of shame

The Three Mainstays of Social Order - between sovereign and minister, parents and children, husband and wife.

The Five Constant Virtues - benevolence, righteousness, courtesy, wisdom, and truthfulness.

洗心滌慮 To cleanse the mind and purify the spirit - Eliminate harmful/ destructive thoughts. Maintain a happy positive attitude.

借假修真 To utilize the illusory world in cultivating the truth - “Illusory” refers to the Buddhist idea that the world is just an illusion. By studying the world we can learn about the Tao.

恢復本性之自然 To restore the nature of the self - To recognize, value, and respect one’s original Buddha-nature. That is, you are a sentient being with an infinite potential for understanding, or “enlightenment” if you prefer, and for

doing good.

啟發良知良能之至善 **To develop the perfection of conscience** - Continually work to develop one's innate wisdom with respect to acting in harmony with the Tao.

己立立人 **To establish oneself and help others in establishment** - First secure for yourself a stable position in society and then help those less fortunate to secure a stable position too.

己達達人 **To achieve goals and help others in achievement** - Set and reach one's own goals and help others do so too.

挽世界為清平 **To bring the world into peace** - Work to transform the world into a peaceful, honest, and orderly society.

化人心為良善 **To transform hearts into goodness** - Enlighten the minds of people, by your actions and your words, and enable them to return to a natural state of benevolence.

冀世界為大同 **To hope for the world of Great Unity** - By pursuing this path, to bring the world into a state of harmony, equality, fraternity, and justice.

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