



# My Experience with I-Kuan Tao

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I will start my experience with I-Kuan Tao from the very beginning, for without the beginning I would have never been connected with my new and wonderful Tao Kin (道親) of I-Kuan Tao here in Taiwan. I was first introduced to I-Kuan Tao on the Big Island of Hawaii. I have been studying Chinese Medicine for the past 5 years, and one day was sharing with my friend about some of the things I was learning for school.

My school, I should mention, is World Medicine Institute based in Honolulu, Hawaii on the island of Oahu. World Medicine Institute is a Daoist Institution which draws on the deep and ancient knowledge and teachings of the past as well as Daoist Ritual, in hopes to provide our students with a complete and thorough understanding of the true depth of Chinese Medicine and everything that it encompasses.

As part of this journey into understanding, we study the Tao Te Ching (道德經) written by Lao Tzu long ago. So, going back to the conversation I was having with my friend, I was speaking to him of the Tao Te Ching and what we had been learning in class. I think it is fair to say that many people in America are not commonly familiar with the Tao Te Ching; however, that day, my friend knew exactly what I was talking about. He then mentioned that he was a part of a group that also studied the Tao Te Ching. He shared with me that soon they would be getting together to discuss chapters of the Tao Te Ching and asked if I would be interested in joining them, just to see what it was like. Always curious about learning more about the Tao Te Ching, I said yes and made arrangements to join him in going to the next meeting.



# 我與一貫道的因緣

◎ 中譯 Alyssa Kao

我願從頭敘述我與一貫道的因緣。沒有這個起始的因緣，我就不會接觸到台灣一貫道的道親。一開始認識一貫道是在夏威夷的大島，那時候，我研習中醫已五年；有一天，我和朋友分享我在學校學習的一些事情。

我應該先說說我的學校——世界醫學院——它位於夏威夷的歐胡島，是道家的研究機構。著重學習過去古老的知識和教誨，以及道教儀式，希望讓學生完整而透徹地理解正統中國醫學及中醫所涵蓋的一切。

為了達成部分的課程目標，我們研究很久以前老子所著述的《道德經》。嗯，回到之前所提到的我和朋友的對話——我跟朋友提到《道德經》及我們在課堂上學習到的內容。我以為，平心而論，許多美國人對《道德經》並不熟悉；但是，那一天，我的朋友完全清楚地知道我在談論什麼。他提到他也是一個研究《道德經》團體的一員，而且不久即又將一起討論其中的一些章節，並詢問我是否有興趣加入他們，去看看那是什麼樣的團體。由於我非常有興趣深入學習《道德經》，於是答應安排出時間參加他們下一次的聚會。





It was at that next meeting at the Big Island Temple of I-Kuan Tao that I had the true pleasure of meeting Master Kuan Jen Lee of the San Francisco Temple of I-Kuan Tao. She had come to Hawaii to teach and share the Dao. Master Lee's kindness seemed to fill the room; she had kind eyes and a warm smile to match and peace and Love seemed to emanate from within her. This, by itself told me she was successfully cultivating the Dao in her own life. Over the next 4 or 5 hours we had great discussion of the Dao. Master Lee then asked me if I'd like to receive the Dao. I, honestly, not knowing exactly what "receiving the Dao" meant, said yes. From there we had the ceremony of receiving the Dao and I received the Three Treasures. We spent a little more time discussing, laughing and having a good time and then parted, bidding farewell until the next time Master Lee and the other visiting Tao Kin would return to Hawaii.

Fast forward several months later and Master Lee and fellow Dao Relatives were coming to visit Hawaii again. When they arrived, we all met at one of our Dao Relative's homes where they cooked us wonderful food and we again had enlightening discussions of the Dao. At this time, I had just found out that I would most likely be moving to Taiwan to study Chinese in order to deepen my understanding of Chinese Medicine. As luck would have it, another Dao Relative, Rocky Chen of the Michigan Temple, had accompanied Master Lee on this trip out to Hawaii. Rocky is from Taiwan, as well as Master Lee, and it was through these two that I was connected to our Tao Kin here in Taiwan.

It is with deep gratitude that I write my experience with I-Kuan Tao, and with a special gratitude particularly for my experience with the Tao Kin here in Taiwan. In the beginning, first talking with Master Lee and Rocky, what I was expecting was maybe the Tao Kin here in Taiwan could suggest a good hotel for me to go to. What I was expecting could not have been further away than the kindness, Love and support that I have been shown by the Tao Kin here in Taiwan. I could fill pages and pages of the countless acts of kindness which have been my experience here with my new Tao Kin in Taiwan, if only space would permit. Their example of Love and service, their warm welcome, the invitations into their homes, making me feel like a part of the family, the hours and hours they spent helping me find an apartment, a cell phone, my school, signing up for classes, translating important conversations I would otherwise have never understood, sharing their culture, their celebrations, their amazing food, their beautiful smiles that radiate happiness, their open hearts, their never ending giving, sharing the Dao, providing me a temporary home, giving me rides, amazing home cooked meals by Ama (阿嬤) at the Temple, the list goes on and on. And it is these examples of Love and kindness which I carry in my heart and hope to share with others as we continue together in the journey of the Dao.

With Love, Aloha & Gratitude.



就在大島一貫道中堂的下一次聚會中，我真的很榮幸遇到來自舊金山忠恕道院的李寬仁點傳師。她來夏威夷開班傳道。李點傳師的慈愛瀰漫整個屋子，她有著和藹的眼神及溫暖的笑容，平和與愛像是從她的身體裡面散發出來一般，這讓我深深感受到：李點傳師已經成功地把「道」深植在她生命裡。接下來的四、五個小時，我們對道有很棒的討論。然後李點傳師問我：「是否願意求道？」老實說，我不清楚「求道」的意思，但我說：「好！」我們在那裡舉行了求道儀式，而我求得了三寶。我們又花了一些時間討論、歡笑並度過美好的時光，直到結班才離開。大家互道珍重，相約下次李點傳師及其他道親回到夏威夷時再見。

很快過了幾個月，李點傳師和隨駕前來的道親再度來到夏威夷。當他們來時，我們大家都到道親的家裡開班，在那裏道親為我們烹調很棒的餐點；而我們再次對道有極富啟發性的討論。那一次，我正好知道我很可能會去台灣學中文，好更深入了解中國醫學。幸運的是，密西根中堂的陳德修壇主隨駕李點傳師來夏威夷；李點傳師和陳壇主都來自台灣，透過他們兩位，我和台灣的道親才有了聯繫。

非常感恩能分享我和一貫道的因緣，而且我要特別感恩台灣一貫道的道親們。起初和李點傳師及陳壇主討論時，只是期望台灣道親或許能推薦一家好的飯店讓我住宿；而遠超乎我預期的是：台灣道親的親切、愛，並協助我在台灣所需的一切。如果不是受頁數限制，有關台灣道親對我這個新道親所做的貼心行為，我能寫出非常多頁的篇幅。他們的關愛與服務；他們的熱誠歡迎；邀請我到他們家中，讓我感覺就像同一個家庭的一份子；花了好多時間幫我找公寓、申辦行動電話、還帶我去學校註冊、選課；翻譯重要的對話讓我明白，否則我永遠不可能理解；與我分享他們的文化、慶祝活動和讓人讚嘆的食物、散發幸福的笑容、開敞的胸懷、永不止歇的付出、分享「道」；給我一個臨時的家，讓我搭便車，還有中堂阿嬤煮的令人驚嘆的家常菜……。這些愛與親切的事例長留我心，也希望在往後我們同行的修道旅程上，能與他人分享。

獻上愛、阿囉哈及感恩。