

A SOURCE BOOK IN
CHINESE
PHILOSOPHY

TRANSLATED AND COMPILED BY
WING-TSIT CHAN



PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

CONTENTS

Foreword	vii
Preface	ix
Acknowledgments	xiii
Chronology of Dynasties	xv
Chronology of Philosophers	xvi
Abbreviations and Abridgments	2
1. The Growth of Humanism	3
Introduction, 3; 1. Ancestors and the Lord on High, 5;	
2. The Mandate of Heaven, Ancestors, and Virtue, 6;	
3. The "Great Norm," 8; 4. Spirits, the Soul, and Im-	
mortality, 11	
2. The Humanism of Confucius*	14
Introduction, 14; Selections from the <i>Analects</i> , 18	
3. Idealistic Confucianism: Mencius*	49
Introduction, 49; The <i>Book of Mencius</i> : Book 6, Part	
1, 51; Additional Selections, 60	
4. Moral and Social Programs: The <i>Great Learning</i>	84
Introduction, 84; The <i>Great Learning</i> , 85	
5. Spiritual Dimensions: The <i>Doctrine of the Mean</i> *	95
Introduction, 95; The <i>Doctrine of the Mean</i> , 97	
6. Naturalistic Confucianism: Hsün Tzu	115
Introduction, 115; 1. "On Nature," 116; 2. "On the	
Rectification of Names," 124; 3. "The Nature of Man	
is Evil," 128	
7. The Natural Way of Lao Tzu*	136
Introduction, 136; The <i>Lao Tzu (Tao-te ching)</i> , 139	
8. The Mystical Way of Chuang Tzu	177
Introduction, 177; A. "The Equality of Things," 179;	
B. "The Great Teacher," 191; C. Additional Selections:	

* An analytical content is found at the end of the Introduction to the chapter.

CONTENTS

1. The Nature and Reality of Tao, 202; 2. Tao Everywhere, 203; 3. Constant Flux, 203; 4. Evolution, 204; 5. Tao as Transformation and One, 204; 6. Nature vs. Man, 205; 7. Calmness of Mind, 207; 8. Sageliness and Kingliness, 208; 9. The Equality of Life and Death, 209; 10. Subjectivity, 209; 11. The Inner Spirit, 210
9. Mo Tzu's Doctrines of Universal Love, Heaven, and Social Welfare 211
 Introduction, 211; A. "Universal Love, Pt. 2," 213; B. "The Will of Heaven, Pt. 1," 217; C. "Attack on Fatalism, Pt. 1," 221; D. Additional Selections: 1. Utilitarianism, 226; 2. The Condemnation of War, 227; 3. The Condemnation of Wasteful Musical Activities, 227; 4. The Condemnation of Elaborate Funerals, 228; 5. Elevating the Worthy to Government Positions, 229; 6. Agreement with the Superior, 230
10. Debates on Metaphysical Concepts: The Logicians 232
 Introduction, 232; A. The Paradoxes of Hui Shih and the Debaters, 233; B. The *Kung-sun Lung Tzu*: 1. "On the White Horse," 235; 2. "On Marks (*chih*) and Things," 237; 3. "On the Explanation of Change," 238; 4. "On Hardness and Whiteness," 240; 5. "On Names and Actuality," 243
11. The Yin Yang School 244
 Introduction, 244; 1. Tsou Yen, 246; 2. Yin and Yang, 248; 3. The Five Agents, 249
12. Legalism 251
 Introduction, 251; 1. The Synthesis of Legalistic Doctrine, 252; 2. Interpretations of Tao, 260
13. The Philosophy of Change 262
 Introduction, 262; 1. Selections from the Commentaries, 264; 2. Selections from the "Appended Remarks," Pt. 1, 265; 3. Selections from the "Appended Remarks," Pt. 2, 268; 4. Selections from "Remarks on Certain Trigrams," 269
14. Yin Yang Confucianism: Tung Chung-shu 271
 Introduction, 271; A. The Profound Examination of Names and Appellations," 273; B. "The Meaning of the

CONTENTS

<p>Five Agents," 279; C. "The Correspondence of Man and the Numerical Categories of Heaven," 280; D. "Things of the Same Kind Activate Each Other," 282; E. Additional Selections: 1. The Origin (<i>Yüan</i>), 284; 2. Humanity and Righteousness, 285; 3. Humanity and Wisdom, 286; 4. Historical Cycles, 287</p>	
<p>15. Taoistic Confucianism: Yang Hsiung Introduction, 289; Selections, 289</p>	289
<p>16. The Naturalism of Wang Ch'ung Introduction, 292; A. "On Original Nature," 293; B. "On Spontaneity," 296; C. "A Treatise on Death," 299; D. Additional Selections: 1. Accident vs. Necessity, 302; 2. Strange Phenomena, 303; 3. Fate, 303; 4. The Equality of Past and Present, 304</p>	292
<p>17. The Taoism of Huai-nan Tzu Introduction, 305; 1. The Nature of Tao, 305; 2. The Beginning of Reality, 306; 3. Centrifugal Cosmogony, 307</p>	305
<p>18. Negative Taoism in the <i>Lieh Tzu</i> and the "Yang Chu Chapter" Introduction, 309; A. The "Yang Chu Chapter," 310; B. The <i>Lieh Tzu</i>: 1. Skepticism, 311; 2. Fatalism, 312</p>	309
<p>19. Neo-Taoism Introduction, 314; 1. Wang Pi's <i>Simple Exemplifications of the Principles of the Book of Changes</i>, 318; 2. Wang Pi's <i>Commentary on the Book of Changes</i>, 320; 3. Wang Pi's <i>Commentary on the Lao Tzu</i>, 321; 4. Ho Yen's <i>Treatise on Tao</i>, 324; 5. Ho Yen's <i>Treatise on the Nameless</i>, 324; 6. Kuo Hsiang's <i>Commentary on the Chuang Tzu</i>, 326*</p>	314
<p>20. The Seven Early Buddhist Schools Introduction, 336; Selections, 338</p>	336
<p>21. Seng-chao's Doctrine of Reality Introduction, 343; 1. "The Immutability of Things," 344; 2. "The Emptiness of the Unreal," 350</p>	343

CONTENTS

22. The Philosophy of Emptiness: 357
 Chi-tsang of the Three-Treatise School
 Introduction, 357; 1. The Two Levels of Truth, 360;
 2. Causes and Effects, 361; 3. The Four Subsidiary
 Causes, 364; 4. Existence, Nonexistence, and Emptiness,
 365; 5. Substance and Function, 368
23. Buddhist Idealism: 370
 Hsüan-tsang of the Consciousness-Only School
 Introduction, 370; 1. The Nonexistence of the Self, 374;
 2. The Nonexistence of Dharmas, 377; 3. The First
 Transformation of Consciousness, 379; 4. The Second
 Transformation of Consciousness, 383; 5. The Third
 Transformation of Consciousness, 384; 6. Conscious-
 ness-Only, 386; 7. Nine Objections to the Consciousness-
 Only Doctrine and Their Answers, 387; 8. The Three
 Natures of Being, Three Natures of Non-being, and
 Thusness, 393
24. The T'ien-t'ai Philosophy of Perfect Harmony 396
 Introduction, 396; 1. The Various Aspects of the Mind,
 398; 2. Three Ages as an Instant; Substance and Func-
 tion, 403; 3. The Function of Concentration and Insight,
 404
25. The One-and-All Philosophy: 406
 Fa-tsang of the Hua-yen School
 Introduction, 406; A. *Treatise on the Golden Lion*, 409;
 B. *Hundred Gates to the Sea of Ideas of the Flowery
 Splendor Scripture*: 1. "All that Come Into Existence
 Through Causation End Together in Quiescence," 414;
 2. "Harmonious Combination and Spontaneity," 420
26. The Zen (Ch'an) School of Sudden Enlightenment 425
 Introduction, 425; A. *The Platform Scripture*, 430; B.
The Recorded Conversations of Shen-hui, 440; C. *The
 Recorded Conversations of Zen Master I-hsüan*, 444
27. The Revival of Confucianism: Han Yü and Li Ao 450
 Introduction, 450; 1. *An Inquiry on Human Nature*, 451;
 2. *An Inquiry on the Way (Tao)*, 454; 3. *The Recovery
 of the Nature*, 456

CONTENTS

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 28. The Neo-Confucian Metaphysics
and Ethics in Chou Tun-i* | 460 |
| Introduction, 460; 1. <i>An Explanation of the Diagram of the Great Ultimate</i> , 463; 2. <i>Penetrating the Book of Changes</i> , 465 | |
| 29. The Numerical and Objective Tendencies in Shao Yung* | 481 |
| Introduction, 481; <i>Supreme Principles Governing the World</i> , 484 | |
| 30. Chang Tsai's Philosophy of Material Force* | 495 |
| Introduction, 495; A. <i>The Western Inscription</i> , 497; B. <i>Correcting Youthful Ignorance</i> : 1. "Great Harmony," 500; 2. "Enlightenment Resulting from Sincerity," 507; C. <i>Additional Selections</i> , 514 | |
| 31. The Idealistic Tendency in Ch'eng Hao* | 518 |
| Introduction, 518; 1. "On Understanding the Nature of <i>Jen</i> (Humanity)," 523; 2. "Reply to Master Heng-ch'ü's Letter on Calming Human Nature," 525; 3. <i>Selected Sayings</i> , 527 | |
| 32. The Rationalistic Tendency in Ch'eng I* | 544 |
| Introduction, 544; 1. "A Treatise on What Yen Tzu Loved to Learn," 547; 2. "Letter in Reply to Yang Shih's Letter on the <i>Western Inscription</i> ," 550; 3. <i>Selected Sayings</i> , 551 | |
| 33. The Unity of Mind and Principle in Lu Hsiang-shan* | 572 |
| Introduction, 572; <i>Selections</i> , 574 | |
| 34. The Great Synthesis in Chu Hsi* | 588 |
| Introduction, 588; A. <i>Treatises</i> : 1. "A Treatise on <i>Jen</i> ," 593; 2. "A Treatise on Ch'eng Ming-tao's Discourse on the Nature," 597; 3. "First Letter to the Gentlemen of Hunan on Equilibrium and Harmony," 600; 4. "A Treatise on the Examination of the Mind," 602; B. <i>The Complete Works</i> : 1. <i>Moral Cultivation</i> , 605; 2. <i>The Relation between the Nature of Man and Things and Their Destiny</i> , 612; 3. <i>The Nature of Man and Things</i> , 614; 4. <i>The Nature of Man and the Nature of Things Compared</i> , 620; 5. <i>Physical Nature</i> , 623; 6. <i>Destiny</i> , 626; 7. <i>The Mind</i> , 628; 8. <i>The Mind, the Nature, and</i> | |

CONTENTS

- the Feelings, 630; 9. *Jen*, 632; 10. Principle (*Li*) and Material Force (*Ch'i*), 634; 11. The Great Ultimate, 638; 12. Heaven and Earth, 641; 13. Spiritual Beings and Spiritual Forces, 643; 14. Buddhism, 646
35. Dynamic Idealism in Wang Yang-ming* 654
 Introduction, 654; A. *Inquiry on the Great Learning*, 659; B. *Instructions for Practical Living*, 667
36. The Materialism of Wang Fu-chih 692
 Introduction, 692; 1. The World of Concrete Things, 694; 2. Substance and Function, 696; 3. Being and Non-being, 697; 4. Principle and Material Force, 697; 5. Unceasing Growth and Man's Nature and Destiny, 698; 6. The Principle of Nature and Human Desires, 700; 7. History and Government, 701
37. Practical Confucianism in Yen Yüan 703
 Introduction, 703; 1. In Defense of Physical Nature, 704; 2. The Identity of Principle and Material Force, 707; 3. Learning through Experience, 707
38. Tai Chen's Philosophy of Principle as Order 709
 Introduction, 709; 1. On Principle (*Li*), 711; 2. On Nature, 717; 3. On Capacity, 719; 4. On Humanity, Righteousness, Propriety, and Wisdom, 719; 5. On the Variety of Circumstances, 720
39. K'ang Yu-wei's Philosophy of Great Unity 723
 Introduction, 723; 1. The Three Ages, 725; 2. Confucius' Institutional Reforms, 727; 3. The Mind that Cannot Bear to See the Suffering of Others, 729; 4. The Age of Great Unity, 730; 5. Humanity, 734
40. The Philosophy of Humanity (*Jen*) in T'an Ssu-t'ung 737
 Introduction, 737; 1. Ether and Humanity, 738; 2. The Principle of Nature and Human Desires, 740; 3. Neither Production nor Extinction, 741; 4. Daily Renovation, 741
41. Chang Tung-sun's Theory of Knowledge 743
 Introduction, 743; Selections, 745

CONTENTS

42. The New Rationalistic Confucianism: Fung Yu-lan	751
Introduction, 751; 1. The World and Principle, 755; 2. Principle and Material Force, 757; 3. Tao, Substance and Function, and Universal Operation, 758; 4. Principle and the Nature, 760; 5. Serving Heaven and <i>Jen</i> (Humanity), 761	
43. The New Idealistic Confucianism: Hsiung Shih-li	763
Introduction, 763; 1. "Closing and Opening," 765; 2. The Unity of Principle and Material Force, 766; 3. The Mind and Humanity (<i>Jen</i>), 768; 4. The Unity of Substance and Function, 769	
44. Chinese Philosophy in Communist China	773
Introduction, 773; 1. The Nature of the History of Chinese Philosophy, 776; 2. The Chinese Philosophical Heritage, 778; 3. Guidance for Future Developments, 780	
Appendix: On Translating Certain Chinese Philosophical Terms	783
Bibliography	793
A Glossary of Chinese Characters	813
Index	833