

從上月中到這(8)月初,我們曾有四批兒孫路過洛杉磯來到我們家.帶來歡樂熱鬧但也很忙碌.遙想庭澍在台灣安排照料你們中四人自美加去台灣學習中國文化.加上她自己的兩個,更是忙得難以對付.現總算過去了,都已平安回家.雖花費了不少錢,收穫一定是有的.我現恢復了平靜,有時間來寫這八月份的信給你們.關於我今年開始寫給你們這些月信,這次有機會問問見到的人,包括收副本的你們的父母,大都說很好.但就我所知,也有因為電子郵件地址寫錯,或其他原因沒有看到的.而他們的爸媽太忙,不曾轉告.我這月信是以電子郵件正本寄你們十三孫輩,副本寄五家兒女及其他.這次有一規定,對你們中不能閱讀中文的人,收信後可要求你們父母將中文唸給你們聽.這樣也許能增加你們學習中文的興趣

. 我在最近(8/2)一次餐會中聽到一位九十高齡退休外交家毛松年先生講演中國文化.他特別強調中國文化中"情"字的重要.自古中國人際多以"感情"為基礎.家人中更為顯著.父母對子女有深厚的感情.子女對父母以更深厚的感情來回饋,這就是"孝"的定義.西方文字中沒有適當"孝"字的翻譯.所以子女對父母忤逆不孝,甚至槍殺父母的時有所聞.西方文化重理,中國文化重情.講演有一句重要的結語:『"情"是人類生存發展之共同基因,必須自人的幼年開始培養.』我手中有一份六頁長的中文講稿,你們如需要,我可複製寄給你們.

我在1968年3月29日(青年節)寫過一篇<治家格言>.在我那<海間文集>中有篇專文記述其事.現將這文錄之於後,供你們參考.欲知其詳,可請你們父母根據原書內容唸給你們聽.如能看懂中文,就原書閱讀更好.原文如下

:『認清時代,意境求新.勤勞不懈,身體力行.早睡早起,神志清明.精研學術,力求會通.廣習技藝,手腦並行.體察入微,條理分明.準確周密,科學精神.平時多準備,臨事見從容.生活儉樸,力戒奢風.飲食有時.嗜欲有節.澹泊明志,寧靜致遠.無事甘於寂寞,得意不可忘形.守時守約,待人以誠.交友直以諒,處世要和平.忠於職責,信諾如金.行為方正,舉止高明.不言人短,意態謙沖.待人以寬,律己從嚴.深謀遠慮,趨吉避凶.書以自勉,傳之子孫.』這信暫時寫到這裡.祝你們都好. 謀祖書(侶仙看過認可)

Dear grandchildren: 8/8/2000 (Chinese Father's day)

From the past mid July to yesterday of this early August, we two residing in LA had a very busy time because some of you folks visited us now and then in a total of four times, giving us much pleasure but laborious care-taking. Thinking of your Ting Shu auntie in Taiwan, who had been caring six of you for such a long time in this summer vacation, what an affliction to her in these days! I am delighted in these days to have received some positive feed back from folks met, about my monthly letters to you, which is said very much liked by all of you. But I also learned that few of you have missed the letters because of wrong or changed email addresses. So I now put this enforcement to all of you and your parents to assure you never miss my letters from now on by all means. Those of you who cannot read the Chinese portion of the letters received, must ask your parents to read and explain for you, served as a means for you to learn Chinese characters.

Recently on 8/2 in a diner party I had a chance to listen an excellent speech regarding Chinese culture from a famous Chinese retired veteran diplomat Mr. Mao Seng Nien. According to his long time study on the Chinese culture and civilization, Mr. Mao discovered the so call "qing" (affection, sentiment, humaneness) is a very important element in Chinese culture. Largely speaking, Chinese culture is based on QUING while the western culture on LI (reasoning, logic, truth). With this word of QUING in mind, all the Chinese classical writings can easily be understood and interpreted. Parents naturally have deep QUING to their children. The moral of XIAO (being filial, piety) means the quality of a person using equal or more amount of QUING to feed back to their parents. Conclusion: QUING is the common gene of mankind in its existence and development. It must be cultivated from the very young time of any human being. In the year 1968 I wrote a maxim for my children, which is now quoted as follows: [All of you are requested to do something to improve the translation]

『Clearly recognize the contemporary era, to brush up your mind new. Be diligent and industrious, taking firm and realistic steps when you move and act. Keep "early to bed and early to rise", to make your mind serene and bright. Vigorously study the in-depth of academic topics, to know the content thoroughly and comprehensibly. Drill and practice versatile arts and skills with both hands and the brain. Study and observe things in details orderly and systematically. Be precise and circumspect, to work in genuine scientific way. Prepare fully before taking action, then you will be able tackle problem easily. Live simply and austere life,

never be lavish to wasteful. Be punctual to eat and drink, and be moderate and conservative on your demand and lust. Keep low profile but be firm and alert with vision for eventual achievement. Be satisfied to live lonely life when you are not employed. Don't over estimate yourself when you are booming. Keep promise and be punctual honest to people. Be a worthy friend by behaving sincerely and fairly, and be peaceful in getting along with other people. Be loyal to your duty, build up good credit and reputation. Behave your self squarely, and wisely. Be humble and polite and avoid criticizing people public ally. Be pliable to other people, but discipline yourself sternly. Think over things carefully with vision, take lucky strike to win and avoid danger of defeat. The above are constantly to guide myself as well as our offspring 』
Grandpa (reviewed and approved by grandma)