

Culture Mandala: The Bulletin of the Centre for East-West Cultural and Economic Studies

The Bulletin of the Centre for East-West Cultural and Economic Studies

Volume 3

Issue 2 *China Special*

Article 7

8-1-1999

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Recommended Citation

Tianchen, Li (1999) "A brief introduction to the Confucius Culture Institute of Qufu Teachers University," *Culture Mandala: The Bulletin of the Centre for East-West Cultural and Economic Studies*: Vol. 3: Iss. 2, Article 7.

Available at: <http://epublications.bond.edu.au/cm/vol3/iss2/7>

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A brief introduction to the Confucius Culture Institute of Qufu Teachers University

Abstract

Extract:

Confucius Culture Institute of Qufu Teachers University was set up in March of 1993, on the basis of the original Confucius Study Office which was formed in 1979. It is an academic organisation which engages in both the teaching and research of Confucius, Confucianism and traditional Chinese culture, and in international cultural and academic exchanges.

Keywords

Confucius Culture Institute, academic, scholars, research, teaching

Regions and Developments in China:

A Brief Introduction to the *Confucius Culture Institute* of Qufu Teachers University

*by Li
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Confucius Culture Institute (CCI) of Qufu Teachers University was set up in March of 1993, on the basis of the original Confucius Study Office which was formed in 1979. It is an academic organisation which engages in both the teaching and research of Confucius, Confucianism and traditional Chinese culture, and in international cultural and academic exchanges.

At present, eight professors, 12 associate professors, a number of lecturers and some data processing personnel work for CCI. In addition there are ten concurrent experts and professors from all over the country and abroad. They are recognised scholars in this field and have ensured the high academic standard of the faculty.

At the Institute, there is a collection of about 100,000 scholarly books, which include the great works *Sikuquanshu* and *Sibucongan*(2) and copies of some rare books. In the School library there is a collection of about 1.3 million books, a great many of which are related to Confucianism and Chinese culture. As a result, the students and researchers have abundant books, magazines and other materials for reference in their study and investigations. To encourage academic and cultural exchanges, the Institute has sponsored several national and international symposiums on Confucius and Confucianism. So far we have received Confucian experts and scholars from a dozen countries, including Japan, Singapore, France, Holland, America, Malaysia, South Korea, Australia and from regions such as Hong Kong and Taiwan. Meanwhile, we have established constant academic relations with these experts and scholars. Every year we receive hundreds of foreign visitors and give talks to foreign students and American visitors.

In the past decades the Institute has achieved great success both in teaching and research work. Up to the present about 100 books and 500 articles and papers have been published, some of which won prizes at the provincial level and produced a strong influence in the field of social science. *The History of Chinese Confucianism*, which was edited and written by Jiang Linxiang, head of the *Confucius Culture Institute*, and six other professors, has been published just recently. The book consists of seven volumes, and is 2.6 million words long. Concerning the history of Chinese Confucianism, it is so far the most sustained academic study of this topic made in China or the world. (3) From 1994 the Institute was allowed to enrol graduate students majoring in the history of Confucianism. In 1996, the subject of the history of Chinese Confucianism was selected as a key course in the higher educational institutions of Shandong Province.



The front entrance of the Confucius Culture Institute, Qufu Teachers University

Our future goals are: at the end of the this century, we will build the Institute into three centres - an academic centre for the study and research of Confucius and Confucianism; a training centre of personnel in the study Confucius and Confucianism; and an information centre for data and documents on Confucian studies.

Footnotes

1. Li Tianchen is Deputy Director of the *Confucius Study Institute* of Qufu Teachers University, Shandong, China.
2. These are classical encyclopaedias of 1,500 and 4,000 volumes respectively.
3. See the previous article "New Trends in the Studies on Confucius and Confucianism."

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