

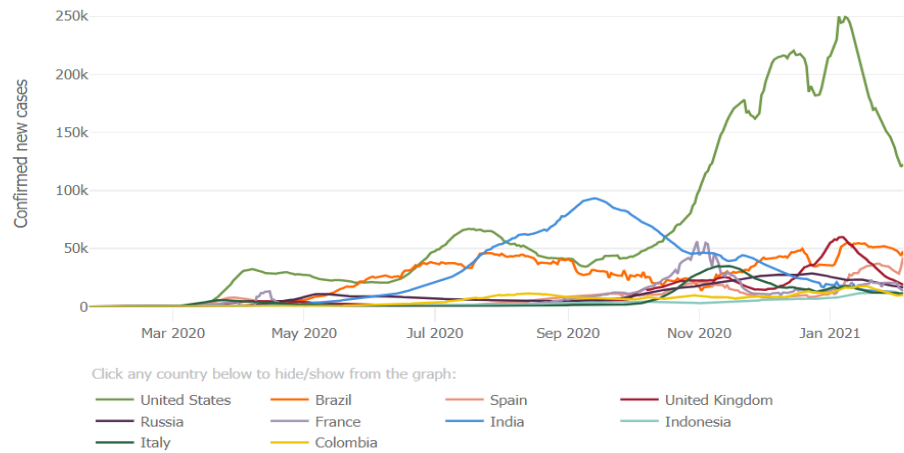
# Weekly Tao Spiritual Discussion Holy Teaching

De-Guang Temple, Irvine CA  
Pu-Guang Temple, Plano TX  
February 6<sup>th</sup> 2021

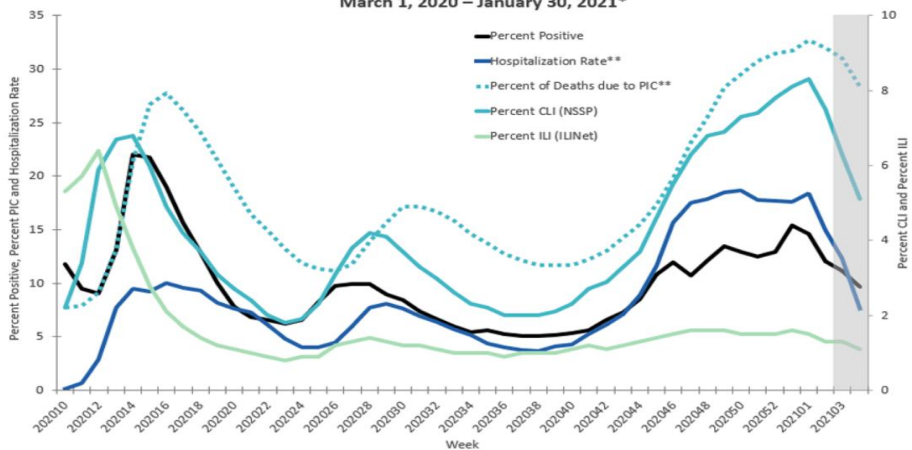
*[onegreatdao.org](http://onegreatdao.org)*

## DAILY CONFIRMED NEW CASES (7-DAY MOVING AVERAGE)

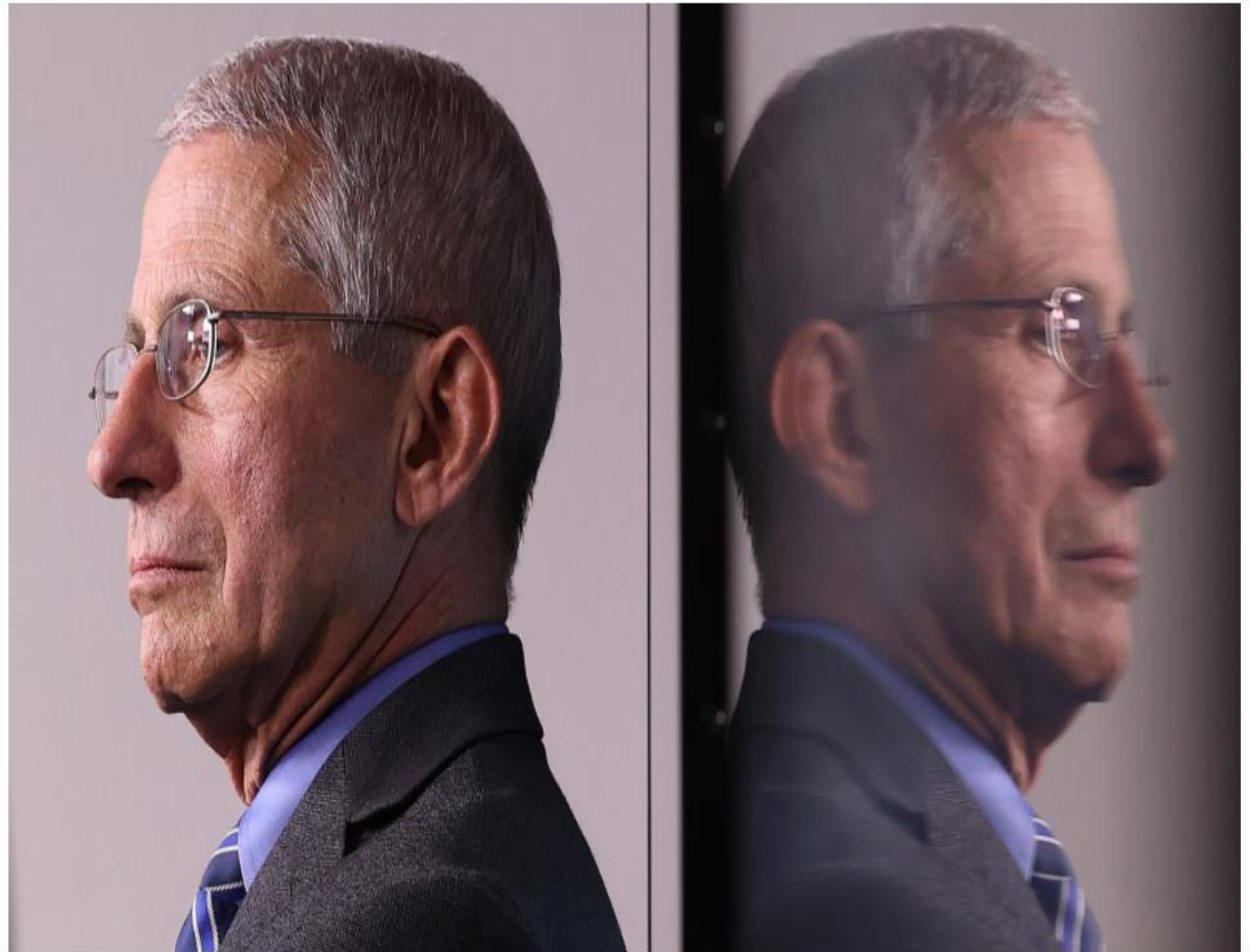
Outbreak evolution for the current 10 most affected countries



### National COVID-19 Activity Indicators: Laboratory, Outpatient/Emergency Department, Hospitalization and Mortality Data March 1, 2020 – January 30, 2021\*



\*Data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.  
\*\*The percentage of deaths due to PIC and the hospitalization rate are expected to increase for the most recent weeks as additional data are received.



Infectious disease expert Dr. Anthony Fauci says President Biden told him from the outset: "We're going to make some mistakes along the way. We're going to stumble a bit. And when that happens, we're not going to blame anybody. We're just going to fix it." "Boy, was that refreshing," Fauci says.

Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images



Praying for World Leaders & Organizations to Continue Working Together and Combat Covid.

Please Continue to Follow CDC guidelines.

Praying for People in Need to Get Vaccinated ASAP.

Praying for Humanity to Stay United and Care for Each Other with Less Suffering for All.

**ONE HUMANITY SUPPORTING AND CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER**

# **Four Great Books in Confucius Holy Teaching Important for Our Spiritual Cultivation**

**Confucius Analects**

**Book of Great Learning**

**Doctrine of the Mean**

**Book of Mencius**



# Holy Scripture Readings for This Week

## 大学原文

## Translation of Original Text in the Book of the Great Learning

孟獻子曰：「畜馬乘，不察於雞豚；伐冰之家，不畜牛羊；

The officer Meng Xian said, "He who keeps carriage with horses does not look after gains from raising hens and pigs; the family who uses blocks of ice to pay respect does not pursue gains from raising cattle or sheep;

百乘之家，不畜聚斂之臣。與其有聚斂之臣，寧有盜臣。」

the family who possesses a hundred chariots should not employ advisors to look out for ways to impose and cause sufferings on people. Better to have such advisors stealing from family's own wealth than robbing from others."

此謂國不以利為利，以義為利也。

This is in accordance with the saying: "In a state, **financial gain is not to be considered as prosperity, but prosperity is found in righteousness.**"

長國家而務財用者，必自小人矣。彼為善之，小人之使為國家，災害并至。

When a person who presides over a state or a family makes wealth generation his chief business, he will employ wicked advisors to achieve his goals. He may consider such advisors to be good; but when such a person is employed in the administration of a state or family, calamities from Heaven will befall on the state or family.

雖有善者，亦無如之何矣！此謂國不以利為利，以義為利也。

though a good advisor may replace and take the place, he may not be able to remedy the evil. This illustrates again the saying, "In a state, **gain is not to be considered as prosperity, but prosperity is found in righteousness.**"

不以利為利，以義為利也。

**Financial gain is not to be considered as prosperity, but prosperity is found in righteousness**

The Chinese character for “righteousness,” 義 (yì), contains a wide range of meaning associated with morality, including loyalty, justice, and trustworthiness.

It is one of the core concepts of traditional Chinese culture.

**Holy Teaching: “I want to be both alive and righteous. If I am unable to be both, I shall give up my life and be righteous.”**

**“Righteousness” enables one to distinguish right from wrong and to be fair, rational, and moral. It is what keeps society stable and relations among people harmonious.**

子路說：「君子提倡勇敢嗎？」孔子說：「君子以道義為上，君子如果勇敢而不講道義就會顛覆國家，小人如果勇敢而不講道義就會成為強盜。」

Tsze-Lu asked, “Does a virtuous person promote courage?” Confucius answered, “A virtuous person deems righteousness as of the highest importance. A virtuous person acting courageous without righteousness will cause chaos. A selfish person acting courageous without righteousness will become a bandit.”

# 《Righteousness Prevails》



# Moral of the Story

When we face adversity, are we able to make a tough decision that is based on what's right rather than what's best for myself?

Doing what's right and what's best for others - Buddha-heart

Doing what's right and what's best for self - Human-heart

During the beginning of Tao propagation, many Senior Masters had to make tough decisions to leave behind their families to travel to distant places. Some of them even faced the risks of political presecution, imprisonment, and danger to their life. Why do you think they made a choice to do Tao propagation?



天子: Emperor → Lead with virtues to bring blessings and prosperity to Kingdom

诸侯: Duke reporting to the Emperor to help manage the kingdom  
百乘之家，不畜聚斂之臣。 Possesses a hundred chariots. Should not employ advisors to look out for ways to impose and cause sufferings on people.

卿大夫: Senior Advisors to the Dukes on State affairs  
伐冰之家，不畜牛羊。 Use blocks of ice to pay respect. Does not pursue gains from raising cattle or sheep.

大夫: Officials managing royal and court affairs  
畜馬乘，不察於雞豚。 Keeps carriage with horses. Does not look after gains from raising hens and pigs.

国人: Citizens → Live being loyal, industrious, & caring for family, friends, and communities.

**Foundation for a Stable and Harmonious Society:**  
以義為利也 | Prosperity is found in righteousness.

**More Authority: Greater heart of contentment, compassion, and empathy.**

長國家而務財用者，必自小人矣。彼為善之，小人之使為國家，災害并至。

When a person who presides over a state or a family makes wealth generation his chief business, he will employ wicked advisors to achieve his goals. He may consider such advisors to be good; but when such a person is employed in the administration of a state or family, calamities from Heaven will befall on the state or family.

Priority as a Leader:  
Focused on Self Interest

Attract and Employ  
Wicked Advisors.

Calamities from  
Heaven will befall on  
state or family.

Forgotten and Detached from  
Self Virtues due to Ignorance,  
Obsession, or Hatred;  
Confused and Damaging



師尊慈悲：為善者不見得有福報，可是禍患它會遠離你；那為惡者不見得會有惡報，可是他的福報也已經遠離他。  
Holy Teaching: Doing good deeds will drive away calamities; while doing bad deeds will drive away good fortunes.

**Key Principle in Leadership:**  
**以義為利也。 Prosperity is found in righteousness**

與其有聚斂之臣，寧有盜臣。

Better to have such advisors stealing from family's own wealth than robbing from others.”

*Doing such action would limit the harm, e.g. financial loss, caused by the wicked advisor to own family, instead of pain and suffering on the greater community. Also, offer opportunities to help renovate such person to return to the Path of Tao.*

*Why? As a leader of a State or Family, never put wealth as the top priority. Instead, focus ought to be on being righteous, one of the key fundamental virtue.*

有善者，亦無如之何矣！

Though a good advisor may replace and take the place, he may not be able to remedy the evil.

*As a leader, identify, evaluate, and select advisors based on well-demonstrated acts of righteousness, competency, and servant heart.*

*Extra efforts required to mitigate the damage from ill-fated appointments, with clearly communicated objectives, direction, and collaboration.*

*As a leader, always work hard and stay vigilant to steer the ship to destination.*

# Holy Teaching

子路問「成人」。子曰：「今之成人者，何必然？見利思義，見危授命，久要不忘平生之言；亦可以為成人矣！ Tsze-Lu was asking Confucius about virtuous person. Confucius replied: What constitutes a virtuous person today? When faced with gains, first contemplate about just and righteousness. When faced with danger to save others, be willing to put self at risk to save others. Even if it has been a long time since a commitment was made, maintain and follow through to fulfill commitments. These three actions constitute a virtuous person.

## *Questions to Ponder:*

When faced with gains, do we first contemplate about just and righteousness?



When faced with danger to save others, are we willing to put self at risk?



Do we still maintain & follow through on commitments, even after a long time?



# Lessons from History

## Profit Over Righteousness



# Moral of the Story

Why do you think Chong felt the urge to destroy Kai's coral?

When wealth was accumulated through unjust ways, one tends to greed for more. Greed is like bottomless pit.

<<Confucius Analects>> Accumulate wealth virtuously. Accept poverty virtuously. Do not forcefully or unethically obtain things do not belong to you.

# Thoughts for Today

## 《Holy Teacher》

When one does not get defeated by others' insults, one sees through life.

When one does not get joy out of any material things, one understands cultivation.

The wicked people use eyes and ears as guide. The virtuous people use True-Self to guide for eyes and ears.

The deterministic heart of a cultivator should not get distracted or tempted due to changes in the environment.

Cultivator must conquer greed through practice of charity and generosity.

# Summary from Today

以義為利也 | Prosperity is found in righteousness.  
**Righteousness: One of the Five Fundamental Virtues**

**Holy Teaching: “I want to be both alive and righteous. If I am unable to be both, I shall give up my life and be righteous.”**

**“Righteousness” enables one to distinguish right from wrong and to be fair, rational, and moral. It is what keeps society stable and relations among people harmonious.**

**Righteousness:** Foundation for a Stable and Harmonious Society. Higher Authority → Greater heart of contentment, compassion, and empathy for all.

**Righteousness:** Key to Successful Leadership. Never put wealth as the top priority to bring harmony and happiness to all.

Don't forget about **Righteousness** as we cultivate. When faced with gains, first contemplate about just and righteousness.





*THE JOURNEY OF TAO CULTIVATION IS OPEN TO ALL.  
MAY YOUR JOURNEY BE FILLED WITH PEACE,  
WISDOM, COMPASSION, AND HAPPINESS.*