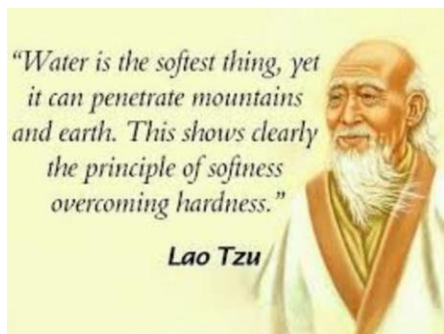




Han Feizi

Legalism

- Developed during the era of the “warring states” to solve problems that Confucianism and Daoism were thought incapable of
- A practical and ruthless approach to governing
- Based on the belief that humans are more inclined to do more wrong and harm than to do right
- System of clear and strict laws must be established – only through law could people be subordinated to the interests of the state
- Very severe punishments with swift justice – if people fear penalties for small criminal acts, they won’t commit larger ones
- “Collective responsibility” – everyone is responsible together for their family or their community – people were encouraged to report illegal activity



Lao Tzu



Daoism

- Founder = Lao Tzu – 500’s BCE
- Universe is governed by the Dao “the way” or “the path” – an invisible yet irresistible force that exists in nature
- Emphasized harmony with the universe and the principles of nature – having balance with the universe would resolve most problems that exist
- Critical of Confucianism – should not be socially or politically involved or active
- Energy should be devoted to reflection and introspection – be passive and yielding to nature
- Little concern for material things
- Flexible and individualistic
- **Influence on culture:**
 - Feng shui – art/architecture - harmonious placement of items and orientations, as well as colors, will ensure good fortune
 - Yin – Yang – balance in nature – cycle of opposite forces



Confucius

Confucianism

The basics:

- Founder = Kung Fu-tse – 6th century BCE
- Developed ideas about how to ensure peace and harmony
- Did not address philosophical or religious questions but emphasized high moral and ethical standards
- **The “Analects”** – sayings of Confucius as compiled by his students
- Belief that people were inherently good
- **Golden Rule** – “Never do to others what you would not like them to do to you”

- **Patriarchal society** – Men = fight, rule, get educations, can keep more than one wife or have concubines, can divorce if no male children provided – Women = homemakers, mothers, cannot own property
- **Filial Piety** = respect for family and elders – worship and veneration of ancestors
- **“The FIVE Relationships”** – belief in the proper ordering of human relationships = SOCIAL HARMONY
 - In each relationship the superior one should set an example and be responsible for the welfare of the inferior one
 - Ruler and ruled
 - Father and son
 - Older brother and younger brother
 - Husband and wife
 - Friend and friend

Confucianism and Government:

- Best achieved by a combination of benevolent leadership from above and good behavior from below
- Good government and order and stability comes well educated officials
- The well-being of the group must come before that of the individual
- Confucianism reinforced the **Mandate of Heaven** – if a ruler is good and performs his duties well then the people are obliged to follow
- **Han Dynasty** – likes Confucianism as it supported order and submission to the government
- **Civil service examination** system to provide educated officials is developed based on the study of Confucianism and the Analects
- “Junzi” – The “superior individuals” those people who live by the qualities of “ren (respectfulness and loyalty)”, “li (propriety, appropriate behavior)”, and “xiao (respect for the importance of family, elders)” – only they are capable of taking a broad view of public affairs and did not allow personal interests to influence judgements