Title of the extended essay: **China’s Three Major Philosophies and their Influence in Chinese History**

**Candidate’s declaration**

This declaration must be signed by the candidate; otherwise a mark of zero will be issued.

The extended essay I am submitting is my own work (apart from guidance allowed by the International Baccalaureate).

I have acknowledged each use of the words, graphics or ideas of another person, whether written, oral or visual.

I am aware that the word limit for all extended essays is 4000 words and that examiners are not required to read beyond this limit.

This is the final version of my extended essay.

Candidate’s signature:   Date: 3/11/15
Supervisor's report and declaration

The supervisor must complete this report, sign the declaration and then give the final version of the extended essay, with this cover attached, to the Diploma Programme coordinator.

Name of supervisor (CAPITAL letters)

Please comment, as appropriate, on the candidate's performance, the context in which the candidate undertook the research for the extended essay, any difficulties encountered and how these were overcome (see page 13 of the extended essay guide). The concluding interview (viva voce) may provide useful information. These comments can help the examiner award a level for criterion K (holistic judgment). Do not comment on any adverse personal circumstances that may have affected the candidate. If the amount of time spent with the candidate was zero, you must explain this, in particular how it was then possible to authenticate the essay as the candidate's own work. You may attach an additional sheet if there is insufficient space here.

The philosophy course took first place in her some ideas about the topic. Since then she started her research on the topic by reading books and on-line resources. She collected all the information that she needed, and she had a general understanding about China's three major philosophies. The essay is well organized by making it easy to understand the logical relationship among ideas: brief introduction about the three philosophies, the origins and the doctrines, and the influence as well. In the Essay she concluded that even though not many people actually practice these philosophies, common themes are not completely integrated in the thought process of the Chinese.

The target language—Chinese was used good enough to express the ideas. Some varied sentence structure and precise word choice adds clarity and interest to her writing. But some rigid structure and limited vocabulary seemed to limit discussion.

This declaration must be signed by the supervisor; otherwise a mark of zero will be issued.

I have read the final version of the extended essay that will be submitted to the examiner.

To the best of my knowledge, the extended essay is the authentic work of the candidate.

As per the section entitled "Responsibilities of the Supervisor" in the EE guide, the recommended number of hours spent with candidates is between 3 and 5 hours. Schools will be contacted when the number of hours is left blank, or where 0 hours are stated and there lacks an explanation. Schools will also be contacted in the event that number of hours spent is significantly excessive compared to the recommendation.

I spent 2.5 hours with the candidate discussing the progress of the extended essay.

Supervisor's signature: ___________________________ Date: 3.11.2014
## Assessment form (for examiner use only)

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Total out of 36: 21

Name of examiner 1: ___________________________ (CAPITAL letters)  
Examiner number: ___________________________

Name of examiner 2: ___________________________ (CAPITAL letters)  
Examiner number: ___________________________

Name of examiner 3: ___________________________ (CAPITAL letters)  
Examiner number: ___________________________

IB Assessment Centre use only: B: _______

IB Assessment Centre use only: A: _______
Examiner 1

two

It seems that the candidates of this school did not grasp the ideas behind the Abstract and Introduction. The Research Question was unclear and not stated in these two parts of the EE.

The understanding of the 3 philosophies was very basic, and since the candidate translated the reference materials from English, the explanation of these philosophies was rather hard to understand due to her limited language level. The Research Question was not answered clearly.
China’s Three Major Philosophies and their Influence in Chinese History

How have China’s major philosophies shaped the history of ancient China and still continue to influence the views of it’s citizens today?

Word Count: 2862
Date: February 2, 2015
Abstract:

Throughout China’s most recent two thousand or so of history, three philosophical doctrines have reigned supreme: Daoism, Confucianism, and Buddhism. Both Daoism and Confucianism were developed in China, and are both based on following the “Way”. Daoism views the Way as a metaphysical concept. It is intangible to the mind and can only be grasped intuitively through the Te, or Virtue. One follows the way, but can never fully comprehend it. Confucianism, on the other hand, sees the Way as something more substantial. Their Way refers to how one should conduct oneself. Buddhism is different from the other two major Chinese philosophies because it was developed, not in China, but in India, and therefore from a separate mindset than that of the Chinese. Buddhism rests on the idea that one can escape suffering entirely by following strict rules set down by the Buddha. In these two thousand years, these three separate philosophies have merged together to form a more fluid philosophy shared by most of the people in China.
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介绍

虽然我的父母是中国人，我发现我对中国的文化一点都不了解。我虽然知道一些很基本的东西，像端午节吃粽子，也是我们历史当中有哪些有名的节日，或者中国国家的重要的事件，我都不知道。那些歌曲很红，或者那些演员很火，我也都不知道。去年，我在我的学校里学了一门我没给自己的哲学课。我刚开始想换出哪门课，但是没有成功。我在那所学校学了很多不同的想法，发展了我对世界的看法。我年底需要写一篇文章的时候，我就把我想了解中国的动机和我新学到的东西联到一起，开始研究这个题目。

在中国的最近的两千五百多年左右，中国的人大多数人口都是被三个主哲学影响到的：道教、孔教，和佛教。虽然这些哲学在中国的历史当中有的时候会当宗教来练，他们在这里讲的方法是一个完全从哲学来看的方法。在中国的历史里面，这三种哲学有的时候打得很惨，他们其他的时候连到了一起造成了一些混合的哲学。直到今天，这三种哲学在中国人的心里有一个特殊的地方。

概述

中国的哲学和西方的哲学有很多相反的地方。西方的哲学重个体，而东方的哲学把集体放在第一(Hegel 128)。拿一个例子，西方人的想法是自己的错自己承担，而在西方人的眼里，一个人的错，一个家庭承担。因为这两种不同的想法，东方人和西方人的有时候会有些矛盾。当然，现在，世界两个部分的想法都混到了一起，所以区别扫尾小一点。

起源

道家

道家，或者道家，是中国三大哲学当中最古老的。虽然老子以前道的基础已经存在了，传说是说他在春秋时期把以前的道师的想法在道德经里载到了一起(Tzu xiv)。那时候，中国很乱，国家要打仗，贵族老是在想着怎样显示跟多的钱，让人民没办法过好日子。让老子感觉很不满意(Creel 26)。他就把他的想法让中国变得平安一点写进了一本五
千字母的书，然后不见了。因为没有什么可靠的将老子的历史记录，和因为桃源道经用的
语言有些矛盾，历史学家会讨论老子那个人到底有没有存在过(Creel 98)。

老子以后道教被分成了好几个思想流派，但是两个最重要的是宗教与哲学(Three
Philosophies of China)。

佛教

佛教，不像道教和孔教，不是在中国开始的，而是在一印度被乔达摩悉达多开始
的。悉达多跟老子和孔夫子擦不多时带生的(Three Philosophies of China)。他也跟另外两
个人一样，对国家很不满意。那时候，印度有一个种姓制度，在不同的家庭生下来就有不
同的地位(Hegel 153)。因为悉达多的地位比较高，他没有感觉到过什么痛苦(Boeree)。他
发现世界上有一个叫「痛苦」的东西，他很诧异。他就想知道一个人可以怎样克服痛苦。
悉达多就在一棵树底下沉思，发现了解决痛苦大法，然后交给了其他人。他这样就成了
佛祖。

学说

道教

道教是用阴阳表达的：两样不同的东西互相携手，互相互补。道教的学说围绕着
道，一个人们懂不了的最终的事实。道不能用智力来懂，而得用心，直觉，和感情来了解
(Wright 27)。最基本来讲，到是大自然的规律。一个人因该顺着道来生活。道教的第二
股部分，是道德经里的德，也是美德的意思(Tzu xiii)。德是道的外形。我们是从德来认识道德。

道教的主题就是和谐。

孔教

孔教的学说稍微更具体一点。孔教的大意就是一个人不能改变别人，但是可以改变自己，再通过那个，改变社会，改变世界(Wright 33)。孔子以为老天爷已经把我们的格局都已经订好了，但是我们真用它给我们的时间，是我们自己的选者。我们对自己自己的行动有责任。你也应该知道自己的地位。

道教的主题就是顺序。

佛教

佛教在中国的三大哲学当中的规律最多(Boeree)。它现有四谛：生活是痛苦；痛苦是四谛的附件，附件可以被克服，克服的方法就是八正道。八正道里面有对的观点，对的愿望，对的说法，对的动作，对的生活，对的功夫，对的正念，和最后，对的专心。用普通的话来说，懂四谛，想实现涅槃，别乱说话，别乱做动作，别造成痛苦，控制自己，别想坏东西，合用沉思来了解缺陷。练佛教的人相形你这样做下去，你就可以实现涅槃。

佛教相信投胎。一个人会不停的进入重生的周期，进入痛苦。你实现涅槃的话，就可以出入这个重生的周期。

历史和影响的时间

道教

道教是通过道德经统从好几种神秘主义一的。道教是唐朝的半官方宗教，当时在宋朝的时候被孔教取而代之了(Taoism)。因为道教高值简朴，野心增加的时候，人们对道教的兴趣降低了(Wright 28)。历年，道教和中国的一些其他的宗教，像黄教，混到了一起。1949年解放战争共产接替中国的时候，他们取缔了道教(The Chinese Revolution of
1949)。结果道教就在台湾的自由蓬勃发展。可是，文化革命以后，在大陆道教又开始恢复了。现在，中国到处都能找到道师。

孔教

孔夫子也以为和谐可以通过教育来完成(Three Philosophies of China: Daoism)。他也以为官的位子不应该从父亲传到儿子(Crozier)。因为这些，从汉朝开始，中国有了一个科举考试。通过这个，你能过考试的话，不管生的地位有多低，你都可以去当官；你不通过这科考试，不管生个地位有多高，你就不能当官。这个系统是中国的一个最大的发展，在中国用了都快两千年了。可是，有的时候，一个有才的人过不了关，就不能当官。太平天国一部分是这些科举考试引起的(Encyclopedia of Britannica)。

佛教

佛祖死的时候，五百个他的徒弟欢聚一堂，把佛祖的教导记了下来。这些教导铸成了佛经(Boeree)。接下来的两百年，佛教一直是一个口头传统。汉朝（206BC－220AD）的时候，中国的丝绸之路开始发达到全已知的世界，佛教从印度传到了中国(Department of Asian Art)。公元一世纪中国就已经有一个连佛教的社区(BuddhaNet)。汉朝倒了以后，中国再一次陷入混乱。这段时间，很多人都转换进佛教。

现代和结论

虽然从哲学上来看，道教和孔教很不一样，很多中国人的看法是在自己的生活当中因该从道教可砍伐来活，国家政府应受从孔教的看法来治理(Wright 32)。渐渐地，中国对佛教的兴趣增加，对佛经的需求也增加了(Boeree)。有一些翻译者从中亚和印度来到中国噪来翻译佛经的时候，有很多对佛教特俗的词他们都不知道怎么翻译，就用道教的词来代替。这样，道教和佛教混到了一起。

现代的中国人大部分都不专门练道教或者佛教或者孔教，而练一个三个的组合。家里里面应该听父母长辈的话，外面应该听长官的话；自己要把自己管好；等等。这些就是中国人大部分的想法。
Bibliography


Three Philosophies of China: Daoism, Confucianism and Buddhism. N.p.: n.p., n.d. PDF.
