

Student's Name:

Professor:

Course:

Date:

Confucianism

Ren is word used in Confucian following to denote human benevolence. It is described as a feeling of wholeness toward humanity. An example is given about being protective to the less fortunate as well as children. In this way, ren describes altruistic tendencies in human beings. In the same way that justice in the English world encompasses all acts of fairness, Yi in Confucianism means the inclination to perform just acts (Littlejohn 20). Yi is a word that describes the nature of wanting equality and practicing correct principles in all the acts a man undertakes. Yi was used by Confucian to show the behavior expected in his followers.

Li is used in Confucianism to denote a multitude of harmonious behavior (Littlejohn 24). In essence, Li is the choice to live harmoniously with every being in the world. The word is used to show an inclination toward cosmic harmony starting with oneself. Li shows a solid moral character to the cosmic world. On the other hand, Zhi is used to refer to total awareness and knowledge (Littlejohn 29). In this way, a man with zhi is said to know why the flowers bloom; why the sun behaves like it does and a multitude of other subtle happenings in the world. Zhi is, therefore, total consciousness and wisdom to the surrounding. Similarly, Xin is used to refer to faithfulness. The trait is held most dear to Confucian practice as it is the foundation for all others. Xin is faithfulness to ones character as well as humanity. It is the trait that gives words meaning by allowing followers to remain true to their word.

Ren is the embodiment of kindness and selflessness. It is an important virtue in Confucianism owing to its potential to contribute to harmony in society. It is a trait that could go a long way to enable human beings take care of each other for the better. Using ren, humans eventually become each other's keeper.

Work Cited

Littlejohn, Ronnie. Confucianism: An Introduction (Introductions to Religion). New York: I.B.

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