

「走在他人之先」的工作——與李家駿博士對談

An Undertaking “That Enabled You to Get Ahead of Others” — Interview with Dr. Lee Ka Chun

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圓玄學院位於香港荃灣，是具有道教背景的中國傳統宗教團體，創建至今已六十多年。園內同時供奉儒、釋、道三教的始祖，處處流露三教融和的特色。圓玄學院環山而坐，殿塔古雅，訪談正值冬去春來之時，雲霧繚繞，平添莊嚴氛圍。

訪問之初，圓玄學院副總幹事李家駿博士坦言不太清楚訪談目的，但當知道是浸大宗哲系約請，便立即答應了。言談間，李博士提及三年大學時光中發生的趣事，相隔多年，記憶猶新。李博士稱：「宗哲系的背景為他在圓玄學院工作帶來許多便利。回想當天面試時的答問，在宗哲系吸收的知識就能大派用場，至少讓面試官覺得自己對中國傳統宗教有基本認識。」

面試至今，入職已有十七年之久，李博士感恩地說：「能找到既與興趣相投又與學科相關的職業十分難得。其實，早於中學的時候，自己已對宗教產生濃厚興趣，三不五時便會到不同的宗教場所拍攝信眾的禮儀舉止及宗教建築；課餘時，亦會思索不同的宗教現象和哲學問題。」然而，李博士提及思索前路的过程亦非一帆風順：「圓玄學院的薪金確實較前一份工作少一半。可是，當時還年輕，還有時間找尋自己的理想，因此便下定決心申請面試。」

圓玄學院架構宏大，不單是宗教組織，而且是慈善團體，為廣大市民提供社會服務，如學校、護老院。李博士則主要負責協調工作，與國內外組織聯絡，籌備策劃不同類型的活動。雖然

The Yuen Yuen Institute is situated in Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong. It is a traditional Chinese religious organization with a Taoist background, founded more than 60 years ago. The fathers of Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism are all enshrined there, revealing a harmonious blend of the three religions. The Institute is built around the mountain and is comprised of classical and elegant-looking temples and towers. Our interview took place in between the winter and spring seasons, and so the Institute was found encompassed by layers of mist and clouds, which greatly added to the atmosphere of solemn serenity.

At the start of the interview, Dr. Lee Ka Chun, Deputy General Director of the Institute, told me that he was at first not clear about the purpose of this interview. But when he saw the invitation, he found that it would be an interview about the Department of Religion and Philosophy at HKBU, so he accepted it immediately. While speaking, Dr. Lee frequently mentioned the fun he had had during the three years at the university. Although it has been many years since he graduated, the experience still remains fresh in his memory. He also said, “The background of my major in religion and philosophy brought me the great benefit of getting the job at Yuen Yuen. I remember that in the job interview the knowledge acquired at the Department of Religion and Philosophy played an important role in my answering the interview questions. At least my answers must have left the interviewers the impression that I had the basic knowledge of Chinese traditional religions.”

It has been more than seventeen years since he had that job interview. Dr. Lee said gratefully, “It is not easy to find a job that is both interesting and related to the subject you have studied. In fact, as early as in high school, I developed a deep interest in religion and from time to time, I went to different religious places to photograph the rituals and behavior of believers and religious architectures. After class, I would also ponder over different religious phenomena and philosophical inquiries.” However, Dr. Lee also mentioned it was not always without problems in making plans for the future: “It is true that the salary earned in the Yuen Yuen Institute is half my previous job. However, since I was young then, I still had time to pursue my ideals, so I made up my mind to apply for the job interview.”



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工作繁雜，但多元的接觸卻讓李博士「加深了解香港教育和社會服務的運行模式，以及香港宗教慈善機構的角色及其困難與挑戰。」

李博士經常要回內地工作，審視圓玄學院在國內的慈善事業。他對貴州之行尤其難忘：「這是長途跋涉的訪行——從香港乘坐三小時飛機到貴陽，轉乘六個多小時的

火車，然後乘坐數小時吉普車，再步行上迂迴的山路後，輾轉才到達興建學校的地點。這處地區封閉，沒有城市發展的氣息，就是晚上餓了，買個杯麵亦十分困難。當天，『希望工程』在山區建立學校，為莘莘學子提供方便學習的機會，不單節省上學的時間，同時免卻書簿費、學費的負擔。」李博士回想過去的參與和推動，直言：「能為社會帶來改變，為需要的人帶來希望，是令人鼓舞的。」

在香港，我們都享有十二年免費教育的福利，大學學位也越來越普及，而這些都不是理所當然的。縱然學習的機會越來越多，可是大學學科漸趨「單一化」，商科佔據大量學額，文科、藝術、音樂等「沒有經濟貢獻」的學科被忽視，甚至有人視之為「乞食科」。文科出身的李博士當然不認同這些批評：「同學可能基於不同原因入讀浸大文學院，以至宗哲系，可能並非首選。但同學必須找到自己獨特之處——文科的同學能有更多工作選擇；專業科的則有所局限。年輕人擁有的就是時間和機會，同學應朝着理想，不斷裝備增值自己。學術出身不與成就掛勾，文科的背景亦絕不會窒礙發展；相反，未來的高度取決於人生路上的付出和態度。」

李博士寄語我們：「哪怕你快將畢業，但千萬不要停步在原點，而是積極裝備自己，應付日後需要。別人未必明白，因你已走在他人之先。」

The Yuen Yuen Institute is a large structure. Not only is it a religious organization, but it is also a charity group, providing different social services for citizens in schools or nursing homes. Dr. Lee is mainly responsible for coordinating work, contacting national or overseas organizations, and preparing and managing various types of events. Although his job duties are diverse and complex, the multiple engagements helped him “deepen the understanding of the operation model of Hong Kong education and social services, the role of Hong Kong religious charity groups, and their difficulties and challenges.”

Dr. Lee often needs to travel to the mainland to work, as well, to supervise the charity work of the Yuen Yuen Institute there. An experience in Guizhou is particularly unforgettable to him: “That is a long and strenuous journey of a visit: I took a three-hour flight from Hong Kong to Guiyang, transferred to a train that took more than 6 hours, and then took a jeep ride for several hours, walked on a sinuous mountain path, and came all the way to where the school was to be constructed. The area was enclosed, with no sense of urban development. Even buying a cup noodle was a tough task while I was hungry at night. That day, Project Hope began its construction of a school in the mountainous area to provide more opportunities for numerous children. It would not only save the time going to school, but also eliminate the burden of school fees and fees for purchasing the textbooks.” Dr. Lee recollected his participation in the work and his achievements, and said straightforwardly, “It is profoundly encouraging to bring changes to society and give hope to those in need.”

In Hong Kong, students benefit from the twelve-years of free education, and more and more people can study for a university degree, but such opportunities should not be taken for granted. Although there are more learning opportunities for people, the disciplines at university are becoming more “unitary.” Most subjects fall into the field of business; subjects such as literature, art, music, and others that are perceived as having limited economic contribution are neglected, or even considered by some people as “beggars’ subjects.” As a graduate from the Faculty of Arts, Dr. Lee resolutely disagrees with those sentiments: “Students may be admitted to the HKBU Faculty of Arts or Department of Religion and Philosophy for different reasons. This may not be their first choice. But they must find their own uniqueness: students from the Faculty of Arts may face more career choices, while technical subjects are more limited in this regard. What young people particularly have is time and opportunity, so you should head to your ideals and keep equipping yourself and enhancing your competence. Academic background is not linked with achievement; an arts background will definitely not hinder career development. Rather, it is the effort you make and the attitude you have in the journey of life that determine your future altitude.”

Dr. Lee offers a message of inspiration to students: “Even if you will soon graduate, do not stop where you have gotten to, but equip yourself actively to prepare for the needs of the future. Other people may not understand this, but you do because you have gotten ahead of them.”

1 李家駿博士 Dr. LEE Ka Chun

2 三教牌坊：中門暨立三座牌坊分別代表儒釋道 “Arcs of Three Religions”: At the middle gate stand three arcs, representing Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism respectively

3 三教大殿：1971年落成，採用天壇形式建造，供奉三教始祖 “Temple of Three Religions”: Its layout was borrowed from Temple of Heaven in Beijing. The construction was completed in 1971 to enshrine the fathers of the three religions