

VOCABULARY FOR CHINESE TRADITIONS

1. Chun-tzu – “gentleman” or “superior man” – moral excellence; to live a life of cultivated character and personal excellence
2. Chan
3. Tao (refer to Dao)
4. Pure Land
5. Ren – virtue, humanity, a deep-seated altruism
6. Yang/Yin
7. ru – special civil servant class in Confucianism that was well educated in the “Six Arts.”
8. Mandarins – Confucian scholars who made the written language a supreme symbol of superiority.
9. Wu – Wei – the non-doing or “noninterference” concept in Taoism
10. Tao-de-Ching (Dao-de-jing) – book by Lao-tzu (Laozi) founder of Taoism – considered the canon text of Taoism.
11. qi (ch’i) – the primal vital substance of the universe
12. fengshui – “wind & water” – Chinese geomancy
13. zongjiao – “ancestral (or clan) teachings” – the Chinese term that attempts to express the western term “religion”