



Figure 1: This picture is downloaded from the Internet.

The Answer is Blowing in the East

When I translated the New Testament into Taiwanese, I wrote an article explaining my intention citing ten or so famous Chinese sayings. It's time for me to do similarly in my Voice from the Heart of an Immigrant series.

In the previous two writings: The Chinese Culture Will Win and Why Do I Gift People With Shakespeare, I am sorry to be so blunt as to say that there is only one problem with this country, i.e. the United States of America, and that is the narrowness and shallowness of its culture. This problem is rooted in every other problem so much so that almost everything is at a

deadlock -- politically, economically, educationally, and so on -- you name it. No common ground can be reached any more.

And I also mentioned that the Great American Renaissance movement is long overdue. The movement or something similar is the only chance that America will have, because the evil cycle of narrow-minded-ness needs to be stopped and reversed, and the shallowness in the culture needs to be corrected and enriched so that the wisdoms will grow in depth.

But what are the wisdoms in a culture? By that, I am saying that, through constant exposure to and immersion in a rich culture, people will become really smart, in ways that show they are mature and wise, and their thinking, behaviors, and achievements endure the test of time.

A glance over the Internet, you immediately see that the United States of American (美利堅合眾國) has already become the Divided States of America (美利堅不合眾國). The irony is that when the US began to become an ostrich by distancing itself from one international platform after another, and its former allies were looking to China for leadership, immediately came the news that motions were floating around that would make President Xi a life-time leader – an immediate slap in the faces of the European leaders. I am not sure if President Xi is dreaming of becoming the next First Emperor of Qin (秦始皇帝) – by the way, because of this Emperor, China got its English name. (Qin is pronounced as Chin).

(Please understand, President Xi, anywhere in the world, these are the three greatest friends of people: Democracy, Freedoms, and Human Rights.)

You may ask: Mr. Ting, everything is so confusing nowadays, how do I know who is honest and who is lying? And that is why I included 'Answer' in the title.

If you sail using traditional techniques, you will know that there are tactics to get you out of a fog. In a fog, when the visibility is only a few feet, what do you do? One way is to drop the anchor and wait out the fog. But if the length of the foggy weather is not known and you need to go somewhere, what can you do? One way is to navigate in squares, and each time lengthen the sides of the square. By doing this, you know that you will eventually come close to something, and that something will enable you to determine where you are and then you can take the next step.

But I will teach you something that will give you a better spin. I will share with you a secret that will surely make you confident in time of confusion.

You know that when electrical particles spin, not only electricity is generated, but magnetic force is also produced. And you, based on the basic lessons in physics, also know that in atoms of every matter, electrons are spinning like crazy also. Then, why do we not feel the magnetic forces all the time, except in the rare occasions that we see a permanent magnetic attract a piece of iron, such as in a magnetic compass. And the explanation is that in materials such as a piece of permanent magnetic stone or steel, the magnetic forces are all aligned so that all the forces pointing north are pointing north, and all the opposite forces are point the other way. The combined force becomes so powerful that it will attract a piece of iron to do the same thing, and therefore, attraction and repelling are performed.

On the other hand, in other matters, in each atom the electrons are also spinning and magnetic field is generated; however, because there is no common orientation, meaning, each magnetic field (generated from the electrons spinning in each atom) is pointing in its own direction, and overall, there are so many different directions they are pointing to, the combined force becomes zero, because all the forces cancel one another out. The result is that no magnetic force exerts outwardly.

There is also a group of matters however, such as iron, their atoms will line up when an outside magnetic force is approaching, and therefore, also become magnetic. Imaging a bunch of ducklings line up when the mother duck leads them to the pond to swim; but once they are on their own, each duckling is minding its own business and there is no telling where it is pointing to. That is in fact how an electrical motor works.

Why do I tell you this phenomenon in physics? What I am saying is that when the situation is confusing, when we do not know who is telling the truth, who is lying, and we really do not know where the truth is, we shouldn't be thinking about stopping what we are supposed to do. On the contrary, we should even try harder, just like the electrons are spinning like crazy in each atom. Because, guess what, when the truth finally comes close to us, as if a permanent magnetic is approaching us, the magnetic force that we are generating will be oriented rightfully with the greater magnetic force that approaches us and together, we form an even greater force. When all the forces from everybody are combined, the power of the forces resulting from combining everybody's force will become formidable and unbeatable.

That will be how this Beautiful Country (美 國 -- the United States of American – short version) will win.

That is why Chinese say, 天行健，君子以自強不息。The meaning: like heavenly bodies that march in their orbits without fail, we, as responsible people, must also encourage one another to strive on industriously and without fail.