

Non-fiction

Group 2

New Tales Of Judge Pao C.C.

Canadian International School of Hong Kong, Cai, Chloe – 10

IN ANCIENT CHINA,

One boy was different from all the rest. His skin was so dark it had a blue sheen if you looked at it in the sunlight, and on his forehead was a mysterious scar, shaped like a crescent moon.

That boy was me.

My name is Bao Zheng, and this is my life.

As I was born dark-skinned, I was considered cursed by my birth family and I was thrown away by my father, after meeting him for the first time. So naturally from a very small age, before I was barely even one, I was nursed by my older brother and sister-in-law.

There were many stories about me, all different. This is the truth. Or the twisted version of it.

MY FIRST CASE was called The Chalk Circle.

Once upon a time, a beautiful sixteen-year-old girl called Hai-Tang was sold into a house of *prostitution* by her impoverished family, after her father's death. Beauty may seem like a dream to many, but it does have its costs....

HAI-TANG STARED AT THE CEILING,

She had no more will to live. 'Why can't I just die?' She thought, her mind turning to all the pros and cons of dying. 'She was helpless, depressed and stained, so what was the point of living anymore?' Hai-Tang thought, her thoughts turning depressing and sad.

"來了!" A loud voice rang in her ears, as it resounded with the sound of a bronze gong being hit.

Hai–Tang dragged her tired and limp body to her bed, that is, if you could call a mass of cardboard and stones a bed. There was no fight left in the maiden anymore. None of the fire that crackled inside her when she was just starting in the prostitution house. Indeed when her family dumped her on the doorstep, she fought.

She had a fire in her that most thought was impossible to smother. However as time went on, and she became a shell of herself, her fire slowly weakened daily. As countless nights and days passed, her will to live grew smaller and smaller, until one day when her time of need and helplessness was at its peak, she was befriended by Ma Chun-Shing, a wealthy and childless tax collector, who visited her every Saturday.

Today was the last day Hai-Tang was going to meet him. For she was going to kill herself this very night.

'Ah, there he is.' Hai-Tang thought as her door swung open.

In the hall, a handsome man with stylish clothes and acrostic features sashayed down the hall and glanced at the walls. "Tsk," the man clicked his tongue, upon seeing the crumbling walls that had spots of green mould growing on the cracks that spread throughout the place.

As he walked towards the door at the end of the hall he visibly cringed when he heard some...very unpleasant sounds, emitting from a room to his right. As the man pushed the door open he walked briskly inside the door before coming to a sudden halt.

"Hai-Tang..." the man whispered, shocked at the sight of his usually lively friend. Sure, Hai-Tang's movements were always rather sluggish, her cheeks were hollowed out, and her skin ashy grey but she always had a lively and happy expression on her face. Unlike now.

After sweeping his judging gaze over at his friend the man couldn't take it anymore and his cold mask broke. "Hai-Tang, I cannot let you live here anymore!" The man shouts at her, his loud voice echoing in her room. "Then what do you propose?" Hai-Tang asks, her voice void of all emotion. Already giving up.

"Become my second wife." A lengthy and awkward silence was followed by that sentence, until Hai–Tang finally broke the long and awkward silence her voice cracking as she said, "y–you'd do that f–for m–m–me?" "Of course," the man says smiling.

After that proclamation, Hai-Tang couldn't believe it, she was finally getting out of there. Her Prince Charming was finally coming for her.

How little did she know what fate had in store for her.

FATE SMILED, as she guided her prawn towards the blank space next to the king. "Well? Give up so easily, Life?" She said tauntingly to her opponent. "Never."

. . .

As she waited patiently for the other person to make a move. Suddenly the king moved slightly and a slightly loud thump was followed by the same voice from before. "Checkmate."

HAI-TANG WOKE UP WITH A START, she groaned, the previous night's memories rushing through her head. Ma Chun-Shing bringing her to his home. Ma Chun-Shing introducing her to his first wife. And many, *many* more painful memories crashed into her head.

. . .

SIX MONTHS PASSED, and as our oblivious yet loving main character Hai–Tang smiles with adoration at her son, she unknowingly ignites the wrath of Ma Chun–Shing's first wife, Ah–Siu.

. . .

Ah-Siu, jealous person by nature and blinded by the black poison of jealousy, planned to destroy Hai-Tang's life.

Ah-Siu smiled, 'ah, it's finally the day,' she thought, glee visible in her eyes, 'the day when I can finally destroy that awful excuse for a woman!'

Ah-Siu, fed up with her husband's antics, accuses Hai-tang of adultery, and poisons Ma, blaming Hai-tang for the crime she committed.

After that, Ah-Siu claims to a court that Shoulang is her child so that she can gain rights to Ma's fortune.

The court believes Ah–Siu's words instead of Hai–Tang's, and Hai–Tang is arrested and beaten by guards until she confesses her crime, which she didn't do, but they don't know that do they?

As Hai-tang is about to be hanged, she is rescued by Bao Zheng in a scene similar to the Judgment of Solomon: Shoulang is placed in a circle of chalk between the two women, and each is ordered to pull the child toward her by hurtful means. Hai-Tang being Shoulang's mother couldn't bear to hurt her child, so she gave in and is judged his true mother.

The Absolute Judge And Detective in the world-Judge Bao

Canadian International School of Hong Kong, Chan, Jeffrey – 10

1. Abstract

To understand the current status of criminal justice in China and Hong Kong, it is necessary to become acquainted with its history and popular culture.

Although many scholars have argued the lack of legal tradition in this country, the creative and entertainment industry has produced ancient stage dramas and contemporary television dramas, that has delineated a legal culture that forms people's legal understanding about Modern China. Figures like Judge Pao have taken root in people's hearts over the course of years.

This article aims to look into the representations of the legal traditions and the spirit of law in Chinese society through the tales of Judge Pao.

2. Judge Pao and His Legendary Image

So who exactly is Judge Pao (包公)?

Referred to as 'Bao Zheng', he was a smart and fearless politician who helped people solve cases during the Song Dynasty¹.

Raised in a scholar family, he passed the imperial examination at age of 29. From a magistrate to a judge, he gained his fame with his virtue of selflessness² and his exploits had been perfect for screenwriters in Chinese popular culture.

Since his first appearance³, Bao Zheng has been portrayed as a big man with a dark skin tone who never showed emotions. Most distinguishing was his imprinted birthmark on forehead that was shaped like a crescent moon. As a metaphor to Bao's righteousness and selflessness, it also made him the nickname 'Qing Tian'(青天⁴).

However, there is hardly any literary review that records these peculiar features of Bao⁵ and his look remains a mystery.

3. The Traditional Spirit of Law

This chapter will now examine how the Chinese notion of law is manifested through Judge Pao's administration. Any attempt to discuss this must start with the understanding of a standard gong'an⁶.

目慈祥, 與一般士大夫沒甚麼不同。Retrieved from https://www.xiaxiaoqiang.net/how-much-false-history-does-bao-qingtian-tell-us-1/.html

¹ The Song dynasty (宋朝 960-1279) was an imperial dynasty of China that began in 960 and lasted until 1279.

² In cases of corruption, Judge Bao was not afraid of the seniors or the rich and intervened to ensure the corrupted officials were justly punished. In cases of crimes, he even stepped up to arrest his own grandfather against a charge of murdering despite his heavy emotions and inside struggles. Although he may show personal and subjective feelings like any other humans, Bao Zheng was able to make the right decisions in the end.

³ Bao Zheng first appeared in a movie produced by the Shaw Brothers HK Ltd. called the Mermaid in 1965.

⁴ It is a phrase that literally means 'blue and clean sky', signifying a fair society with equality among all classes of people and cleanliness over corruption.

⁵ According to the illustrated historical paintings displayed in the Hall of South Fragrance (Nanxun Diian)⁵, he had an ordinary look just as other scholars and his face was not painted in black. 故宮南薰殿舊藏歷代名臣畫像中,也有一幅包拯畫像,繪出的包拯形象長得濃眉大耳,面

⁶ There are always three parts within the stories, namely, 'the crime', 'the solution and 'the judge' (McIntyre, 2013). The victim usually visits the court by striking upon a gong and pleads for justice. The judge is then to solve the crime and punish the guilty party in front of a group of audience. ⁷According to the Human Rights Act Article 7, no one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence under national law at the time when it was committed. This Article shall not prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for any act or omission which, at the time when it was committed, was criminal according to the general principles of law recognised by civilised nations. Proceedings are protracted lest any man be unjustly sent to jail.

⁶ Hu Shi (1891–1962) was a Chinese philosopher, writer and diplomat who was one of the most influential advocators in China's New Culture Movement. He was nominated for a Nobel Prize in literature in 1939. Among his wide range of interests, including literature, history, criticism and pedagogy, Hu was one of the earliest scholars that gave notice to Judge Bao and Chinese detective stories, and has named Judge Pao as the 'Chinese Sherlock Holmes'.

In The Ghost of the Pot (盆兒鬼), the victim as a ghost prattled on his frustrations of being burnt into ashes and put in a pot. Not being petrified, Judge Bao facilitated the ghost to share, eventually revealing the evil plan and arrested two murderers who intended to get all the fortune from the businessman.

"But for a grieved ghost I would never have come. Judge Bao, Your virtue is perfection itself," said the Ghost (Hayden 124).

The supernatural phenomena, that happened more than once, is not just a cinematic effect, it amplifies the traditional Chinese belief that regards crime as a debt. Whoever has committed crimes will have to pay back and be debarred from perpetrating further wrong.

4. The One and Only Chinese Sherlock Holmes

Even though Bao has left the world, his stories have solidified the standards for the modern court, and have also built people's confidence in the Chinese justice system.

Exclusive of people's novelty, Bao set the principle to ensure everyone get protected from being torn by agonies; tortured by cruelty; and bullied by evil-mindedness. A person's innocence should never be judged by its cover⁷, no one can be executed until the trial has been completed and courts will have to justify their decisions.

We shall pay our respects to this Chinese Sherlock Holmes⁸, who plays a profound role in China and Hong Kong.

⁷ According to the Human Rights Act Article 7, no one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence under national law at the time when it was committed. This Article shall not prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for any act or omission which, at the time when it was committed, was criminal according to the general principles of law recognised by civilised nations. Proceedings are protracted lest any man be unjustly sent to jail.

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New Tales of Judge Pao

Canadian International School of Hong Kong, Chen, Renee - 10

A crescent moon hanging right in the middle of his forehead, a brownish skin color and a Futou hat that judges wore in the Song Dynasty. Do you know who that person is? Well, it is Judge Pao, the Chinese legendary Sherlock Holmes. Judge Pao's significant life influenced people there and then, also here and now.

Early life

Even though Pao was a late learner from an extremely poor family background, still, he accomplished his goal to be a man who understood and loved people in need. Born on March 5 999 in Luzhou Anhui, Pao grew up in a family that couldn't afford him to go to school. He had to work a part time job to earn some money so he could buy books to learn by himself. Maybe it's due to his own experience in a poor family and having limited resources, when Pao grew up, he could strongly understand people's hardship and hated corruption.

At age 29, Pao earned the highest and final degree in the imperial examinations and became a Jinshi. He must have made so much effort, considering the fact that he had never got a chance to receive formal education.

Soon he worked as a judge to solve crimes and cases for the government. But knowing that his parents were getting old, he decided to take care of his elderly instead of continuing his promising career. While he was taking care of his parents, he also learnt to take care of other people in need and love them, thus determined to look after more people in his career. This is exactly what happened when he resumed his job as a judge after his parents died.

Middle Life

Pao's career restarted in Tianchang, a place not far away from his hometown. Then, In 1057,he went to Kaifeng, where he changed some administrative reforms, such as allowing citizens to directly present complaints to city administrators. That means residents would no longer need to wait for a long time to have their issues heard so problems could be solved faster. This change not only saved time also ensured efficiency and effectiveness. However, it got objected by aristocrats complaining that Pao had given ordinary citizens too much freedom, but Pao insisted and continued those policies.

Cases

Nothing had ever shaken Pao's belief in justice. Here are two out of thousands of cases Pao dealt with.

Executing Chen Shimei

Chen Shimei had a happy family with two children and a wife called Qin Xianglian. However, after he earned the first place in the imperial examination, not only did he lie about his family to become the emperor's brother in law with his new marriage, but he ordered a servant to murder Qin and the children. Luckily, the servant was a nice person and chose not to kill them. Later Qin brought her cases to Judge Pao. After knowing the whole story, Pao executed Chen Shimei despite the pressure from the emperor and his sister.

Executing Pao Mian

Raised by his elder sister in law Wu, Pao saw her as a motherly figure, respecting and loving her. Years later, Wu's son, Pao Mian became a judge himself. Unfortunately Pao Main was caught corrupting and taking bribes. On the one hand, Pao didn't wanted to kill the son of the woman who raised him; but on the other hand, he had no choice but to punish Pao Mian who broke the law. It was not easy for him but Pao still killed his family member to obey the law. It was Pao many years ago who sacrificed his career development for his family; it was the same Pao many years later who sentenced his family to death for justice and law.

During Pao's lifetime he earned a name called "Iron-Faced Judge" because he treated all the suspects and criminals the same. Pao was stern while treating ordinary citizens but also unbiased when dealing with aristocrats or even his family members.

Modern

Pao's meaningful life ended in 1062 in the capital city of Kaifeng, Henan. People later found that Pao left some warning for his family.

"Any of my descendants who commits bribery as an official shall not be allowed back home nor buried in the family burial site. He who shares not my values is not my descendant."

Maybe it was his warning that guided his later family members to be honest and responsible just like him. Judge Pao changed the world by helping poor people and Pao's descendant generations after is still making the world better. And that is Y. K. Pao.

Y. K. Pao was the same diligent just like his ancestor. Starting from a young age, Y. K. Pao, he worked during the day and studied at night. Similar to Judge Pao, he was also compassionate for poor people. After Y.K Pao retired from his work, he built a school to help children in poor families that didn't have money to go to school. Then he also started to do charities, donating money, food and water to the people who couldn't afford them. Y. K. Pao was a person just like Judge Pao, empathizing with the hardship of poor people.

A crescent moon hanging right in the middle of his forehead, a brownish skin color and a Futou that judges wore in the Song Dynasty. Do you know who that person is? Well, it is Judge Pao. For people in his time, he was the crescent moon sending off a glimmer of light in the dark and corrupted times. For people now, he is a role model who always stands for justice and who we should learn from. Although he lived a long time ago, his actions being such a fair judge would never be forgotten.

Reference

https://www.google.com.hk/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ah UKEwiJuKjzo6j8AhUR7WEKHZ6ECtkQFnoECB0QAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fen.wikipedia.org%2Fwiki% 2F

The Story of Bao Zheng

Canadian International School of Hong Kong, Leung, Arianna – 11

Chapter 1:

One day in 999 AD, on the 5th of March in Hefei, China, a true legend called Bao Zheng was born. He was born with dark skin and a crescent moon on his forehead. His distinctive appearance has made people realize how unique he already was.

Chapter 2:

Bao Zheng was raised among the low working class, which allowed him to understand people's hardships. Due to his upbringing, he hated corruption and gradually gained a strong desire for justice. Since then, he had started to realize his love and dedication in solving mysterious cases and helping people.

Chapter 3:

Bao Zheng was born into a scholar family. He worked extremely hard and after 2 decades and 8 years later, he passed the highest level imperial examination. He was later qualified as a "Jinshi", and was determined as magistrate of Jianchang County.

Although he could've accepted the position, he declined in order to take care of his elderly parents. He decided that it would be best to wait another decade to commence his position as the magistrate.

Throughout the course of taking care of his parents, Liu Yun (Magistrate of Luzhou) who was an outstanding poetic, and a very fair minded officer, would usually visit Bao Zheng. They got along well and as a result, Bao Zheng has been much influenced by Liu Yun, who has much respect and love for people.

Chapter 4:

At the age of 39, after Bao Zheng's parents passed away, he finally accepted his job as the magistrate of Tianchang county, and that's where Bao Zheng got his reputation as an extremely honest judge.

Chapter 5:

In 1040, Bao Zheng got promoted to the prefect of Duanzhou. However, in 1044, he finally returned to the capital where he was named "investigating censor" because of his amazing skills as a judge.

For example: there was this case where a man told Bao Zheng that his ox's tongue was suddenly cut off, after, Bao Zheng told the man to slaughter the ox and sell the ox. Soon after, another man walked in and said that the first man slaughtered the "beast of burden ". After all of that, Bao Zheng asked why he cut the ox's tongue and accused the other man. That is when the culprit finally confessed.

Chapter 6:

In 1057, Bao Zheng was scheduled to be the magistrate of the capital city, Bian. Although Bao Zheng stayed in this position for 1 short year, commenced multiple administrative reforms. For instance, he has allowed citizens to complain to citizen administrators as they wish.

As Bao Zheng got more famous for being a superior judge, many good words and stories had spread about him. There were also myths that he was connected to Yanluo (a god) in the afterlife.

Chapter 7:

Unfortunately, in 1062 in the capital city of Kaifeng, Bao Zheng died. He was buried in 1063 and his tomb was soon after rebuilt by officials in 1066.

Sources:

- Wikipedia (Bao Zheng)

Judge Pao – A Fearless Legendary Figure

Diocesan Girls' Junior School, Wong, Cheuk Yiu Annette - 11

Last week, we uncovered the history of Mother Teresa and why her good deeds are known worldwide. This week, we will be flying across the globe and diving into the life of Judge Pao. Judge Pao was a Chinese politician during the reign of Emperor Renzong in China's Song Dynasty. During his 25 years in civil service, he consistently demonstrated extreme honesty and uprightness. This earned him the name Justice Pao due to his ability to defend peasants and commoners against corruption and injustice. Doesn't this sound similar to President Lincoln whom we introduced in last month's special issue? While President Lincoln was the most powerful figure of the United States, Judge Pao was still able to make waves as a politician, leaving a lasting legacy in Chinese history.

Objecting to the Emperor's Plan

One of his fearless actions was when he objected to the Emperor's plan, who could have had him instantly executed for the slightest lack of respect. On the occasion, China was struck with huge floods. When the waters finally receded, the emperor was so grateful that he decided to express his gratitude to the gods by issuing a blanket annesty to all criminals and promoting all civil and military officials. Doesn't that sound insane? Even though the proposal was out of one's mind, not one person dared to object — except for one person. Judge Pao bravely objected to the plan, believing strongly that the plan was unjust. He explained that justice and meritocracy were too important to be set aside in this way. He believed firmly that acts of criminality must lead to punishment and genuine acts or merit must be the only way to achieve a rise in ranks in the government. With his persuasive skills, not only was Judge Pao unharmed by his objection, but he also managed to convince the Emperor to accept his opposing opinions. Despite living under an oppressive regime where opposition led to punishment, Judge Pao continued to speak out and continued to hold close to his beliefs.

Impeaching Zhang Yaozuo

Judge Pao also impeached Zhang Yaozuo, the concubine's uncle. Emperor Renzong's favourite consort had been Concubine Zhang, whom he had wanted to make empress but could not because of opposition by his (unknown to him, fake) mother, Empress Dowager Liu. Nevertheless, the concubine's uncle Zhang Yaozuo was quickly promoted within a few years from minor local posts to high office posts, such as the state finance commissioner. Soon after, Judge Pao and two other censors presented a memorandum together, which in strong language accused Zhang of mediocrity and shamelessness, even attributing natural disasters to his appointments. Obviously, the Emperor wasn't pleased to be contradicted. The irritated Emperor Renzong not only did nothing to Zhang Yaozuo, but he also awarded Consort Zhang's sister with a title four days later.

However, Judge Pao did not have any intentions of giving up, and submitted another memorandum by himself. Partly to appease protests by Judge Pao and others, the emperor relieved Zhang Yaozuo from his original position, but instead appointed him to a concurrent four-commissioner position: a slightly less powerful position but still in charge of the military and the Jingling Palace. Determined to alter this situation, Judge Pao submitted his third memorandum, voicing his strong protest and wrote famously, "The situation right now is, if Your Majesty is determined to appoint Yaozuo, then expel this advisor; if Your Majesty is to listen to this advisor, then Your Majesty must remove Yaozuo." In the next court meeting to authenticate these posts, there was a heated argument in court led by seven ministers including Judge Pao, which resulted in the removal of commissioner of palace attendant and commissioner of Jingling Palace from Zhang's appointment. Judge Pao's advice was turned down twice, but he did not give up, executing his determination and persistence. If you had been rejected not once but twice, would you have also persisted like Judge Pao till the end?

You would not be able to find another historical figure like Judge Pao. In a culture where no one thought it would be possible to object to the more powerful, Judge Pao helped them speak up. Fear never limited him and he was only driven by righteousness. Not only was he exceptionally brave, but he also inspired other judges with his righteousness and justice. His loyalty to his country, his boldness in impeaching corrupt officials and castigating powerful imperial families, and his justice when arresting criminals are what I admire most about Judge Pao.

Tune in again next week to The Great and the Good to read about the famous mathematician Stephen Hawking and his monumental discovery on black holes. Until then, stay curious!

Judge Bao

Discovery Mind Primary School, Lemaire, Samantha – 9

Judge Pao, also known as Justice Bao, is a Chinese icon known for his braveness and strong desire for justice. He was born on 5th March 999, in the town of Shen Xian, Hefei, Luzhau during the Song Dynasty. He was born into a middle-class scholarly family with Judge Bao's father, Bao Lingy, being both a scholar and an official. When he was 29 years old he passed the highest level of imperial examination and became a Jinshi but at that time his parents were elderly and he had to take care of them. At the age of 39 both of Bao's parents died. He was appointed magistrate of Tian Chang County which was not far from his hometown. In 1040 Bao Zheng was appointed as a prefect of Duan Zhou in the South. It was during his time in Duan Zhou that he wrote a poem. When his tenure was done in 1043 he returned to the capital and in 1045 Bao was sent to the Liao Dynasty as a messenger. In 1051, Bao became a magistrate in the capital of Bian for a period of 1 year and he became famous. Bao had 2 wives, Lady Zhang and Lady Dong, with whom he had a number of children. Sadly, Bao died in 1062 in the capital city of Kaifeng. He was 63 years old when that happened. He was buried in Daxingji in 1063. Now people tell legends and stories of Bao and his life across China. He has known by many names, but most people call him simply Bao or Bao Zheng. There are now lots and lots of legends and stories like the "Rescriptor Bao Cleverly Investigates the Circle of Chalk" or the "Rescriptor Bao Sells Rice at Chen Zhou" and the "Ding-Ding Dong-Dong: The Ghost of Pot". The Ghost of Pot is a famous story of Bao and was a play in Yuan during the Ming Dynasty. Most of the plays in that time were with Bao as the central character, but there also many other plays which feature Bao as a character.

Bao had many famous and difficult cases that he had to really think through to figure out what happened and get the answers. One of these brain twisting cases is called the "Civet Cat Exchanged for Crown Prince". In this case, Bao met a woman claiming to be the mother of the reigning Emperor Renzong. Years earlier that lady had been consort Li, an imperial concubine of the Emperor Zhen Zong of the Song dynasty before falling out of favour for allegedly giving birth to a bloody and dead Civet cat. Another case is called "Executing Bao Mian". When Bao was an infant he was raised by his elder sister, Wu, like a son. Bao Mian was a magistrate and was convicted of bribery and malfeasance. Finding it impossible to fulfil both Confucian concepts of loyalty and filial piety. There are also now films and series of the Chinese star, Judge Bao. One is "Young Justice Bao" and "Justice Bao: The First Year" or just "Justice Bao".

Judge Pao: The ancestor of Sherlock Holmes

Dulwich College Beijing, Yu, Kyle – 9

Introduction

Judge Pao was a crime fighter, who was also the first crime in the history. Judge Pao's original name was Bao Zheng, also known as Bao Qing Tian, Bao Gong, and Judge Pao, he had also had a nickname called the southern hero, because he lived in the South of China and helped people defeat many bad men, using his detective skills, he worked out all sorts of crimes. Before there was Detective Pikachu, before there was Batman, before there was Sherlock Holmes. . . there was Judge Pao. A crusading figure with skills to fight crime and clean up the land, Judge Pao lived more than 1,000 years before any of the other justice fighters which later appeared, this man gave authors a real kind of example before they start writing their own wonderful story.

Early Life

Bao Zheng was born on March 5th Year 999 in Song Dynasty in Hefei, China. Bao Shi Tong was his father and Xuan Shi was his mother, his skin was very black in the opera. On Bao Zheng's forehead, there was a moon mark, and that was also a birth mark that his parents gave him. Bao Zheng's family name was Bao, and his constellation was Pisces. Bao Zheng was in slow working class at Elementary school, and he understood the hardships, hated corruption and strongly desired for justice. At Song Dynasty, there were no University or College, but Bao Zheng passed the highest–level examination and became qualified as a Jinshi at the age of 29, in year of 1028.

Later Life

When Bao Zheng grew up, he learnt a lot of useful things in his life, because he solved lots of crimes later in his life. After a while, Bao Zheng went to the Nanjing, the capital of China in Song Dynasty, and was named an investigating censor in the year of 1044. After two years in this position, Bao Zheng submitted at least 13 memoranda to Emperor Renzong of Song on military, taxation, the examination system, and governmental dishonesty and incompetence. Bao Zheng had two **wives**, the first one was Lady Zhang and the other one was Lady Dong, because one died and then got married with another, Bao Zheng had two sons one was called Bao Yi, Bao shou died earlier. The other one was called Bao Shou. was named an investigating censor in the year of 1044. Then, Bao Zheng got tricked and was asked to help crime people, Bao Zheng was justice, so he denied them.

The Legacy Of Bao Qing Tian

Just like this, Bao Zheng was asked to be an official, he soon was known as Judge Pao, because Judge Pao helped so many good people, people started calling him Bao Qing Tian. Bao was his surname and Qing tian means great lord of heaven in Chinese, so he helped many people and lord of heaven also helps many people, therefore Bao Qing Tian means Judge Pao helps everybody. Unfortunately, his son, Bao Yi died in 1053 at an extremely young age

The TV Series

Judge Pao is actually fiction, this story is a series of 236 episodes and 10 seasons. The TV show's name is Justice Pao, this TV show was started on year 2010, it was finished on the year of 2012, but sometimes, Justice Pao was also in operas.

Interesting Facts

- Bao Zheng was originally white, just because people think he's tough, so people make him black in the opera. The original Bao Zheng was white, and even handsome.
- Bao Zheng's moon mark on his forehead was a religion.

Final

Unfortunately, because there was a large cinnabar in Bao Zheng's medicine, therefore, Emperor renzong poisoned Bao Zheng to death and at that time, Bao Zheng was only 63 years old, his death occurred in Kaifeng, China, on year 1062.

Judge Pao

ESF Glenealy School, Lee, Henie – 9

Who is this person named Judge Pao? Who is this person that I'm hearing? Well Judge Pao is an Inspirational person in China that will always be. Judge Pao is a Judge and a crime fighter that China has seen, a long time ago. Judge Pao was recreated on television with 236 episodes from Taiwan. That started on February 23rd 1993 to January 1994. Solving different mysteries by being a judge. Judge Pao have gotten a lot of names after of the recreation of the Justice Pao (Television series) With names of Judge Pao, Judge Bao, Bao Zheng, Justice Bao, Justice Pao, Bao Qing Tian(Mandarin version) and last Bao Gong. Judge Pao was born on March 5, 999 – July 3, 1062 and died at the age of 63. Judge Pao has peacefully passed away in the Capital city of Kaifeng. In Judge Pao's life he had 2 wives called Lady Zhang and Lady Dong. With the years with Lady Dong they have raised 2 daughters and 1 Son named Bao Yi, who was born in 1033 and died in 1053 at a young age of 20. Bao Yi's Son, Bao Wen Fu died too soon when he was 5 years old. Before Judge Pao's Father's name is Bao Lingyi and his job is being a scholar. His grandfather's name is Bao Shi Tong. When he became 29 years old, Judge Pao have become qualified as Jinshi by passing the highest– level of imperial examination!

When he became a judge for his career, He had a lot of different mysteries. But this is one of the famous cases he has faced. Person named Chen Shimei had 2 children with Qing Xianglian, But Qing Xianglian betrayed Chen Shimei by marrying a King's Daughter and lied about it's marriage. One day Chen Shimei went looking for Qing Xianglian after she found him told him that she didn't care if he didn't live together or not but to help her child but he didn't want people to know he was lying about his marriage, so he went behind her back and try to murder them by hiring someone to murder the Chen Shimei and her kids,but he was brought by the Judge Pao and been asked by Pao even though Qing Xianglian was higher, he still investigated him and told them that he is rich, high and even though he has power, Judge Pao wanted to be fair to everyone and say with the rights that he might be rich, high and have power but it doesn't matter if he is cruel so he punished him even though he was rich. So Judge Pao was a fair person and believed innocent people also punish people no matter if they were rich or if they had power because he thought rich, power or highness doesn't matter. Judge Pao was a kind person who respected the innocent and helped all the people with the rights of telling the truth to everyone. So everyone was honored to have Judge Pao in the past that has peacefully passed away and he will be the inspiration for the future.

Justice Bao

ESF Glenealy School, Mithaiwala, Burhanuddin – 10

(China's Sherlock Holmes)

On a day when bright sunshine drenched the world, I was sitting in the middle of a timbered park, thinking long and hard about my write-up for the young writer's award. That's when I dozed off...

When I widened my eyes, I found myself in the 7000-year-old Ningbo city, in China. I flickered my eyes but only the vintage walls were to be seen. As I took a few steps forward, still trying to make sense of where I was, I saw a person: pale brown skin tone, with a distinct white crescent-shaped birthmark. To my great surprise this gentleman was none other than the one and only Judge Pao, Justice Bao, Bao Zheng or whatever you want to call him. This happened to be my ultimate luck! It suddenly dawned on me that perhaps I should interview him... I got my sharp pencil and precious leather-bound notebook ready to scribble down notes.

I politely enquired - "Can I interview you?"

"必须的! (Of Course!)" replied Judge Bao.

"Holy macaroni!" "I don't know how to speak mandarin!" I gasped.

"That's alright, I can speak English, but will you learn Mandarin?" asked Judge Bao.

I took a moment to ponder and then replied "yes."

My first question was:

"Can you tell me about your family and early life?

He replied:

"I was born on March 5th in the year 999 in Shenxian, Hefei, Northern Song Dynasty. My father was a scholar and an official, while my grandfather was a commoner. My parents couldn't afford to educate me, however, I managed to clear the imperial examination at the age of 29 and qualified as a Jinshi. I did not take this position to look after my elderly parents. I had two wives: Lady Zhang, with whom I had a son named Bao Yi, and Lady Dong with whom I had two daughters. Bao Yi died at a very young age."

"Sorry to hear that!" I said gloomily.

"Tell me more about your experience as a judge," I probed.

Judge Bao responded "I would share with you some of the astonishing life experiences.

The first one is when my opinion differed completely from the emperor. He went and freed all the prisoners and promoted many government officials, just after Ningbo fell due to the torrential waves that flooded the city. I scolded the emperor because His Majesty was planning to release people who had performed unacceptable things and promote individuals who had not worked for the position, just because he was overjoyed!"

"Hmmm! Did you actually scold the emperor? I asked

"Yes, I did." answered Judge Bao. "I was granted a golden rod and an imperial sword by the previous emperor, which gave me the authority to reprimand the incumbent emperor. I was also given three knives to execute criminals: one decorated with a dog's head for commoners, one with a tiger's head for government officials and one with a dragon's head for nobles."

By now, we had strolled together a long way. There was an eating house in the vicinity.

"Are you hungry?" asked Judge Bao.

I replied "Well!" "I don't mind having lunch". I could eat a horse, I muttered to myself.

We bought some mouth-watering food. I ordered an appetizing dim sum which had crunchy chicken meat while he ordered noodles that smelled heavenly, with fresh delicious vegetables. Now, like my blotter was stuffed with letters, I was filled with delicious food. Alright, back to the interview.

Judge Bao continued..."the second one is, civet cat exchange for crown prince (the baby). I had met Emperor Renzong's mother, who had fallen out of favor for supposedly giving birth to a civet skinned cat, but the baby had been kidnapped by a rival named Guo, at the command of the jealous Consort Lui and had been replaced with the cat. A maid called Kou was ordered to kill the baby by Guo, however she could not muster the courage and instead gave the baby to the chief who in return secretly took it to the younger brother of the emperor. Eventually, the child was raised by him. Kuo was tortured to death by Guo when Liu began to suspect that the infant had survived. Subsequently, with the help of a woman dressed up like Kou's ghost, I dressed up as Yama the God of Hell, to play on both Guo's fear of the supernatural and guilt hereby extracting his confession. When the verdict was out, the emperor was reluctant to accept Consort Li. I then admonished the emperor and ruled that he should be beaten up for lack of piety instead they beat up the emperor's dragon robe. He eventually accepted his mother and elevated her as the new Empress Dowager."

"The third one is cracking the cattle tongue case... One day a peasant told me that someone had cut off one of his cattle's tongue. I advised him to kill the bovine and sell it in the market. The peasant hesitated as it was illegal. I reassured him that if he listens to me, I will find the culprit. The peasant butchered the cattle and took it to the market. Shortly, a man came and accused the peasant of killing the cattle in the local court. I immediately arrested the man as it was clear that the wrongdoer wanted to cause grief and was annoyed on seeing the peasant make profit which is why he reported and sued him."

"Now I know why you are the Sherlock Holmes of China!" I exclaimed.

"You were a very famous judge who had helped solve crime and was considered to be an extremely honest, clever and fair politician. It is also believed you became the immortal Yama of a Department of Hell known as 'the Infernal Bureaucracy' at night and worked as a supernatural judge sorting out the affairs of the Afterlife."

By now the heavens had become murky and black, and it was about time to retreat home. I had one final question. "Do you have any Hong Kong connections?" "Well, yes, I do," he replied. "My 29th generation descendant lived there, and his name is Sir Y.K. Pao. He built one of the world's largest shipping companies called 'King of The Sea'. His son-in-law Peter currently runs it." Judge Bao asked me to meet Peter and give him his regards. "Of course," I said. "It will be my pleasure!"

By now, I had woken up and was elated. This dream made me grateful for being in Hong Kong and appreciate the people who shaped its society. Judge Bao's narration was very intriguing, it took me a long time to untangle the deep-rooted information, however it was worth being aware of.

I finally had a chronicle from the man himself for my young writers' award!

Bibliography: Wikipedia, Friday every day, The world of Chinese Beijing tourism, Vibrant Dot, WayBack Machine and Shanghai daily. com.

Judge Bao: A Symbol of Justice and Fairness

ESF Glenealy School, Oladokun Piguillem, Sade – 9

LIFE

Bao Zheng was born on the 5th of March 999 in the small town of Shenxian (慎县) in Hefei, Anhui Province, and died on July 3rd 1062 in Kaifeng, Henan. Commonly known as Bao Gong (包公) that means Lord Bao, he is also known by Justice Bao, Judge Pao, Magistrate Bao and Judge Bao.

His family was from middle class. His father was a teacher and her mother use to go to the mountains to pick firewood. This allowed him to understand the meaning of hard work.

Judge Bao was a very clever and gifted child and studied very hard. Since young age he showed interested in justice cases and helped his father that was a magistrate. He proved fast that he was very talented and always hated corruption.

FAMILY

Judge Bao had two spouses

Lady Zhang which whom he had no descendants.

Lady Dong which whom he two daughters and one son, Bao Yi, born in 1033 and died in 1053 just after two years of being married to Lady Cui. They also had a son but died when he was only 2 years old. When Bao impregnated a maid called Lady Sun, he send her to her hometown. Lady Cui (his son's widow) continued to send money and clothing to her until Lady Sun's son was born in 1057 and named him Bao Yan. Lady Cui secretly brought the boy to Judge Bao to continue Bao's family line. Bao Zheng and his wife rejoiced, and they renamed their new son Bao Shou.

This is why Lady Cui was greatly praised for her devotion to the protection of the Bao family line.

WORK

He is an important historical figure in Chinese history that worked as a government official during Song Dynasty.

In 1027 Bao passed the highest level imperial examination, that qualified him to become a government official called Jinshi (進士). This exam was normally taken in the capital every three years. But he did not start his career until 10 years later because he prioritized in taking care of her parents that were getting old. With this he even got more respected.

Bao held the following positions: <u>Magistrate</u> of Jianchang Magistrate of Tianchang Prefect of Duanzhou Fiscal Commissioner of Hebei Vice Director of Ministry of Justice Auxiliary in the Academy of Scholarly Worthies Vice Commissioner of Ministry of Revenue Prefect of Kaifeng During his twenty five years in Civil Service, he was determined to fight very hard government corruption and consistently proved to be very honest and incorrupt, with actions such as convicting his own uncle, impeaching Emperor's Renzong favourite concubine, punishing powerful families, and executing people, including the son-in-law of the emperor and his nephew that was taking bribes and was found guilty. He was fair and impartial, no matter who the person he was judging was, which I think is the right thing to do.

Due to his wisdom and honesty, Judge Bao was granted several awards:

a golden rod and an imperial sword that gave him the authority to reprimand the incumbent emperor and execute convicted criminals without prior approval from the emperor.

three knives from the emperor to execute criminals:

one decorated with a dog's head used on commoners

one with a tiger's head used government officials

one with a dragon's head used on nobles or royal personages.

Judge Bao will always be remembered as the personification of justice and an icon of honesty among public servants or people that work for the government.

Due to his ability to defend everyone in the same way and his sense of justice, he gained the honorific title of Judge Bao (包青天 which literally means the Blue-Sky or Clear-Sky Bao) and Iron-Faced Judge. In modern <u>Chinese</u>, "Bao Gong" or "Bao Qingtian" is a metaphor or symbol of justice. He is respected by everyone, especially among the peasants and the poor, for his intolerance of injustice, and the best proof of this intolerance is the warning that he left for his family when he died: Any of my descendants who commits bribery as an official shall not be allowed back home nor buried in the family burial site. He who shares not my values is not my descendant.

He became the subject of literature and modern Chinese TV series in which his adventures and cases are featured.

The Memories of Judge Pao

ESF Kennedy School, Chen, Claire - 10

Introduction:

Bao was a Chinese politician who was known for his extreme honesty and uprightness who served in the reign of Emperor Renzong. The young Judge Pao was inspired by the benevolent governance and stories of virtuals in history to become a judge. After he died, he became a cultural symbol in movies and books.

Background:

Bao was born into a scholar family in Shenxian, Hefei, Luzou. As Bao grew up among the lower working class, he well understood people's hardships and was determined to bring justice. At the age of 29, he passed the highest imperial examination and qualified as a Jinshi, which was a high imperial position. Just when his wonderful dreams were about to be fulfilled, his parents fell sick, since they were of remarkable age.He postponed his position for a decade to take care of his elderly parents until his late thirties.Instead of losing his position, his actions were respected as a sacrifice.

After caring for his parents, he returned to the government and became a high ranking government official during the reign of Emperor Renzong. At the age of 39, Bao was appointed as a magistrate of Tianchang County where he established his reputation as an astute judge.

Gaining Fame

Judge Pao became an uncompromising judge and wasn't afraid of speaking justice to important officials and the emperor himself. He even sentenced his own uncle and a lot of important families and officials whom the emperor took a liking to. One of the cases that proved he was an uncompromising judge happened after great flood waters died down. The emperor was so grateful to the gods that he wanted to give his officials a raise and free criminals. But Judge Pao protested because one has to earn your freedom and raises.

In 1040, he was promoted to prefect of Duanzhou, a place known for its inkstones. In Duanzhou he wrote this poem:

The essence of governing is to have a cleansed heart, The strategy of life is to follow upright ways. An elegant stem will eventually turn into a pillar, Refined steel cannot be bent into a hook. Rats and sparrows overjoy when the granary is full, Rabbits and foxes worry when the grassland dies. History books contains teachings for those deceased: Don't leave your descendants with only embarrassment!

Bao returned to the capital and was named investigating censor and submitted at least 13 memoranda to Emperor Renzong.

In the years following 1045, Bao held these positions:

Fiscal commissioner of Hebei Vice director of Ministry of Justice Auxiliary in the academy of Scholar Worthies Vice commissioner of Ministry of Revenue

Although he was only Magistrate of Kaifeng for a year, he initiated several reforms, thereby bypassing city clerks who were bribed by high ranking families. Bao gained a lot of fame when he dismissed Zhang Fangping, who currently held three positions that were passed onto Bao, which caused Ouyang Xiu to file a complaint against Bao.

Family

Bao had two wives, Lady Dong and Lady Cui. He had a son named Bao Yi who died at a young age while being a government official. He also had two daughters with Lady Dong. In 1053, two years after his marriage to Lady Cui, Bao's second son died at the age of five.

After Bao's maid, Lady Sun became pregnant, Bao dismissed her back to her hometown. But Lady Cui knew the maid was pregnant with Bao's child, so she continued to send food and money. Upon the birth of Lady Sun's son Bao Yan in 1057, Lady Cui secretly brought him to her house to foster him. The following year, she brought Bao Yan back to his biological father. Bao and his wife were overjoyed at the continuation of their family line and renamed their son Bao Shou. Lady Cui was greatly praised for her devotion to the protection of the family line.

Death

Bao died in the capital city of Kaifeng in 1063. He left the following warning for his family:

Any of my descendants who commits bribery as an official shall not be allowed back home nor buried in the family burial site. He who shares not my values is not my descendant.

The fact that Bao was willing to disinherit a descendant because of committed bribery proves that he is a truly dedicated judge.

Legacy

After Judge Pao died, people told many folktales and stories about him and framed him in several TV shows and movies. Bao was also known for his filial piety and his stern demeanour and he gained his title of "Iron-faced Judge". It was also known among the public that his smile was rarer than the clear waters of Yellow River.

Due to his famous reputation, he was idealised with the god Yanluo (Yama) and the infernal bureaucracy of Eastern Marchmount, on accounts of legends of him judging affairs in the afterlife as well as real life.

Descendants

His Hong Kong connection was due to his great grandchildren living in Hong Kong and have won many awards including regularly winning the world class legal system award and one of the world's best corruption fighting systems.

Sources: Friday Everyday, Wikipedia

Judge Pao

ESF Kennedy School, Tong, Beverlee – 10

Introduction

Judge Bao was a very wise judge. He was known as "China's Sherlock Holmes" as they both had to investigate problems.

Bao Zheng (包拯, Bāo Zhěng) was born on the 5th of March in 999. People knew him as Bao Gong (包公, Bāo Gōng), and he was a Chinese politician during the reign of the emperor, Renzong, from the Song Dynasty. During his 25 years in civil service, Bao showed great honesty and integrity such as sentencing his own uncle and punishing powerful families. During his working years he has earned the name "Justice Bao (包青天, Bāo qīngtiān) from his ability to protect people against corruption.

Judge Bao is now honoured as a cultural symbol of justice in China. In Chinese mythology, he was usually shown wearing a zhang jiao putou hat, a type of hat that some Dynasty officials wore, and a crescent moon on his forehead.

Early life

Bao was born in a scholar family in Shenxian, China (慎县, 中國). His father Bao Lingyi (包令仪) was a scholar and an official, but his grandfather (包土通) was a commoner. Even though Bao's parents could afford education, his mother had to climb up lots of mountains just to collect firewood just before she gave birth. Bao grew among a lower levelled class, but he still understood people's stress and depression.

Magistrate of Tianchang

Bao was 39 after his parents passed away, then he was appointed magistrate of Tianchang County. It was then when Bao became an astute judge. A man once reported that his ox's tongue had been sliced off. Bao asked him to return and then kill the ox. Then another man came and accused the other man of slaughtering a "beast of burden". Bao concluded, "Then why did you cut the ox's tongue then accuse him?" Surprised, the man had to tell Bao everything.

Prefect of Duanzhou

Bao Zheng was given the job to be the prefect of the south part in Duanzhou. In 1043, Bao left without a single inkstone. He was in Duanzhou when he wrote this poem:
清心為治本 (qīng xīn wèi zhì běn) The essence of governing is to have a cleansed heart
直道是身謀 (zhí dào shì shēn móu) – The strategy of life is to follow upright ways
秀幹終成棟 (xiù gàn zhōng chéng dòng) – An elegant stem will eventually turn into a pillar
精剛不作鉤 (jīng gāng bù zuò gōu) – Refined steel cannot be bent into a hook
倉充鼠雀喜 (cāng chōng shǔ què xǐ) – Rats and sparrows overjoy when the granary is full
草盡兔狐愁 (cǎo jǐn tù hú chóu) – Rabbits and foxes worry when the grassland dies
史冊有遺訓 (shǐ cè yǒu yí xùn) – History books contain teachings by those deceased
勿貽來者羞 (wú yí lái zhě xiū) – Don't leave your descendants with only embarrassment

Messenger

Bao was sent to the Liao Dynasty to be a messenger. A Liao official accused the Song Dynasty of disrupting the peace by putting a secret door in the border of Xiangzhou, then Bao said, "Why is a side door required for intelligence?" the Liao Dynasty could not respond.

Family

Bao Zheng had two wives, Lady Zhang (張氏) and Lady Dong (董氏). He had one son, Bao Yi (包繶), born in in 1033, and two daughters with Lady Dong. His one and only son died in 1053 while being a government officer, 2 years after he married Lady Cui (崔氏). Bao Yi's son, Bao Wenfu (包文辅) died at the age of 5. When a young maid, Lady Sun (孙氏) in Bao Zheng's family became pregnant, Bao let her go back to her hometown. Lady Cui, Bao Yi's wife, would always send her money and clothes. Upon the birth of Lady Sun's son named Bao Yan (包蜒) (1057 – 1105), Lady Cui secretly brought him to her house to take care of him. She brought him back to his biological father the following year. Soon Bao Zheng and his wife rejoiced, and they named their new son Bao Shou (包綬).

Death

Bao died in 1062, in the capital city of Kaifeng, and he left the following message for his family:

Any of my descendants who commits bribery as an official shall not be allowed back home nor buried in the family burial site. He who shares not my values is not my descendant.

Bao was buried in Daxingji in 1063. His tomb was rebuilt by officials of the Huaixi Road in 1066. Lady Dong died in 1068 and was buried next to him.

The Story of Judge Pao

German Swiss International School, Agrawal, Siya – 10

Many years ago, long before Disney released their first movie or even before America was discovered there was a man, a legend called Bao Zheng.

Bao Zheng, also commonly known as Bao Gong or Judge Pao, was born in a poverty– stricken family on March 5th 999 in Shenxian. Bao Zheng didn't have a unique heritage as his father was a scholar and grandfather a commoner. Bao Zheng's parents faced hardships. Even though they could give an education to their son, his mother had to climb mountains to collect firewood right before he was born.

Bao Zheng grew up among people who had to work hard for a living. Therefore, he understood people's problems. He despised corrupt practices and only wanted justice by fair means. When he was 28 years old, Bao Zheng became a Jinshi. A Jinshi is the highest rank of the imperial scholar.

At that time Empress Liu was in charge and sent Bao Zheng to another state for a job but Bao Zheng's parents didn't want him to leave, so he had to refuse.

Bao Zheng's parents were becoming old, weak and were finding it harder to take care of themselves. Bao Zheng could have ignored them and continued with his own ambition but instead he postponed his plans for the future to take care of his parents. This showed his compassion and how he always put others before himself.

Around the time of the death of his parents, Bao Zheng was 39 years old. At the same time, he became magistrate of Tianchang County. Bao Zheng was able to join the government and became a high-ranking official during the reign of Emperor Renzong in the Song Dynasty. Eventually, Bao Zheng became a judge and solved cases getting officials to listen to the problems of commoners.

Bao Zheng had a set of guillotines that he used to execute criminals. The guillotine decorated with the dog's head was used on commoners, the guillotine decorated with the tiger's head was used on bureaucrats and the guillotine decorated with the dragon's head was used on nobles.

Once, Bao Zheng used the guillotine decorated with a dragon to execute Chen Shimei, the son-in-law of the emperor. Chen Shimei had been a poor scholar who came first in the Imperial examination. Chen Shimei had already been married to Qin Xianglian but lied about that so he could marry one of the princesses. Afraid of being discovered, Chen Shimei sent his servant, who was called Han Qi, to kill Qin Xianglian and her two children. Thankfully, Han was not fully loyal to Chen and helped Qin Xianglian escape. After doing this, Han committed suicide. When Qin was safe, she brought her case to Bao Zheng, who executed Chen Shimei.

Another time Bao Zheng helped a woman who was actually the mother of the current emperor (Renzong). Years ago the woman had been Consort Li, a wife of a previous emperor (Zhenzhong). Zhenzong had stopped liking Li too much because her baby turned out to be a cat. But it is impossible for a human to give birth to something from another species so Li's baby was clearly not really a cat. What had really happened was that another wife of Zhenzong, Consort Liu, swapped the child immediately after birth. Liu told a maid to kill the baby but the maid gave the baby to Zhenzong's brother. The baby eventually became Emperor Renzong. After discovering all of this Bao Zheng told the emperor to accept his mother and after some hesitation, Renzong finally agreed.

Bao Zheng upheld justice and wouldn't surrender to anyone, no matter how powerful they were. As a judge, Bao was known for his honesty, confidence, and impartiality. He even made it possible for illiterate people to make complaints orally without having to do paperwork.

Bao Zheng was fearless and would do anything to ensure justice. Once, Bao Zheng was lecturing the emperor on why his most recent choice was bad since it might cause a lot of harm. The emperor got annoyed and tried to leave the room but Bao Zheng grabbed the emperor's clothes and wouldn't let him leave until the lecture was over. Bao Zheng could have been punished for this, but he still grabbed the emperor so he would listen, as Bao Zheng knew that if the emperor listened, it would benefit many greatly. Stories of Bao Zheng depict him with dark skin and ugly features. People thought he was cursed. It is said that Bao Zheng was discarded by his father soon after being born. These are only legends and are not actually true even though these ideas are often used in fiction. Bao Zheng's myth was nourished by numerous stories during the later years of his life. He was depicted in many novels, ballads, operas, and later in movies and TV dramas as a demigod. A popular portrayal of Bao Zheng can be found in the TV series 'Justice Pao'

Bao Zheng had two wives called Lady Zhang and Lady Dong. He also had one son called Bao Yi and two daughters with Lady Dong. Bao Yi was born in 1033 and died in 1053 while being a government officer, two years after his marriage. Bao Yi had a son named Bao Wenfu, who died at the young age of five.

As someone who did what they thought was right, regardless of what others thought, Bao Zheng left a warning for his family. "Any of my descendants who commits corruption as an official shall not be allowed back home, nor buried in the family's burial site. He who shares not my values is not my descendant."

Albert Einstein said, "In matters of truth and justice, there is no difference between large and small problems, for issues concerning the treatment of people are all the same."

Therefore, I also believe that Bao Zheng was a wise and compassionate man who did his best to fight for justice and equality for all.

Crystal Sky From Bao

Harrow International School Hong Kong, Chan, Joachim Edwin – 10

In front of unlimited gold, who could resist lifelong wealth? Facing to the top authority, who had no fear to die? There was one in the Chinese history, Bao Zheng, a real person who gained glory from all people, even after thousands of years since he died. He was famous for years because of his complete integrity and maintained justice consistently for his whole life. He was named as Bao Qingtian, which meant clear sky. He gained this name because he helped so many people in need, especially for those that were poor and had no power. He gave people the new hope in the darkest night.

Bao Zheng was born in 999 and passed away in 1062, which was in the Song Dynasty. He was a person full of parental respect, he put his family as the first priority. In order to take good care of his old parents, he even postponed his job assignment until they both died, which was already 10 years later. It was the traditional Chinese culture to love and respect their parents and elderly people in all aspects. To me, this was one of the most important values. Without my parents, I would not come to this world. My family is the first and most precious gift for me, let me have the chance to be loved and to learn how to show my love and gratitude in return.

In his early years of Bao Zheng's career, when his position was not that superior, he had already showed his strong sense of upright. If he saw something wrong, he would point it out directly without any hesitation. With long history the government officials were appointed by the prime minister or the chief officials, who usually selected people they preferred or trusted from their family or friends. In such a way they could exchange benefits to each other or hide their wrong doings from the king. It showed the true nature of humans to maximise the advantages they could take and to escape all punishments and penalties. However once Bao Zheng appeared, he advised the officials should be selected by proper examinations and assessments, followed by regular evaluations. The chosen officials should be able to perform their duties, for example, training the army and protecting the borders. In case the officials were involved in any corruption, they should be punished and could not return to the job for the rest of their lives. Not surprisingly the existing chief officials felt uneasy and not willing to follow, so they used theirs ways to force Bao Zheng to leave. From here this reflected his high level of integrity, of course he understood his position by that time was too weak to fight against the top officials but he insisted to point it out when he saw something was wrong.

In the eyes of the ordinary people, Bao Zheng was the only superhero who could save them from sufferings and pains, and willing to do so. It was always the rich became more rich and the poor could only get even more poor. The taxation system during that period created a big disaster for the general public, they did not have enough food but still they had to hand in all their money or belongings to the tax officials. Bao Zheng went to the town in person to help the people to negotiate with the tax officials in order to to remove those harsh rules. Another good example of Bao Zheng showing great mercy to general people was once the military soldiers occupying the farmland to feed their horses. This resulted in lack of wheat as the farmers could not do their work with since no land to farm. Bao Zheng was very enraged at this so he immediately ordered the soldiers to return the land. Therefore he won the hearts of the general people as he was the first official to bring them out of the pain.

After years he reached the top levels of management, his words became more powerful. Still there were times that the king did not listen to his advice, especially when it came to some sensitive issues. There was a criminal had a very close relationship with the prime minister. Bao Zheng insisted to give out an appropriate punishment and he impeached up to 7 times to finally got the permission from the king to enforce the penalty. This was how he safeguarded the laws to be implemented in a way to show the true justice. Even though he knew he would lose his life if he made the king angry but he weighted the fairness more than his own life.

Along his whole career life, he did not take any benefits or advantages illegally from his position. More than that he would set out clear rules to abandon any corruption, for those who did it would receive punishment accordingly, no matter their positions, including the royal family members. Eventually all people were willing to voice out any crimes they saw because they knew Bao Zheng would investigate all cases fairly.

From years to years his legends getting passed on from generations to generations. The people built temples to worship him all around the world. He had so many good characters and practices for us to learn and follow. I believe the most essential ones are being fair and just to all people, love or treat the general people like your family, highly self disciplined. He is one of my role models to learn how to stand for myself for the right values, spread my kindness to all the people around me. Start from me to my family and friends, who will further spread the beliefs to their friends and families. I wish together we can all be covered by the crystal sky full of love and justice that will last for centuries.

Judge Pao – from a Pioneer Thousand Years Ago to a Modern Chinese Symbol of Justice

Heep Yunn Primary School, Lee, Esther - 9

Every country has its heroes, but were they born that way? What is more impressive --- to be born into the right family or with superpowers, or to be strong enough to make your own way and become an icon? Surely for Judge Pao, it was the latter. On 5th March of 999 a paramount figure in Chinese culture was born. Pao Zheng, named Xiren, commonly known as Pao Gong was born in Heifei, Luzhou of the China's Song Dynasty. He was not born a king or a judge, but his passion to make the world a better place made him a legend. Pao was first qualified as a Jinshi and had worked through his career as a Chinese politician until holding a high office and being well recognised for centuries. After years of service, he gained the title "Justice Pao".

Pao showed deep love and a sense of gratitude towards his parents. He was born into a scholar family and was greatly influenced by his parents, understanding the hardship of the people and developing a strong desire for justice. When Pao was about to start his career as magistrate, he decided to put his career on hold, returned home for 10 years to look after his elderly parents. He resumed as magistrate after his parents passed away. This chiasmic love and care for his family was later showed to his people, too.

Talking about Pao, the words 'wise', 'bold', 'just' and 'honest' are best to describe him.

Wise and bold, Pao introduced brand new and creative measures to improve the justice system. It is an ordinary practice now that both the prosecutor and the defendant can attend a hearing in the court. This was exceptional centuries ago. It was Pao who transformed the justice system in Kaifeng and allowed both sides to appear in the court and to present each side's views. This measure was unique and unheard of before Pao's era. With this remarkable reform, the number of unjust cases significantly reduced. Pao was also prominent for submitting a wealth of memoranda to the emperor on military, political, taxation and the examination systems.

He was bold and fearless when hearing the court cases. In one famous case during the reign of Emperor Zhenzong of the Song Dynasty, two concubines Liu De and Li Chen each were expecting a baby. Unfortunately, Concubine Liu De's own son passed away, but Concubine Li Chen gave birth to a prince. In order to save her status, Concubine Li gave birth to a freak. As punishment he kicked her out of the palace and made the son who was supposedly birthed by Concubine Liu as the crown prince. Pao was made aware of this matter. This accusation was a challenge against the imperial family and Pao risked his career and even his life when he decided to uncover the story. Pao was bold to accept the case. Later after much investigation, Pao got to the truth of the matter and was dauntless appearing before the emperor presenting the truth. This displays the wisdom and intelligence of Pao, as well as the ability to connect clues and stay focused.

Just and honest, Pao was able to use his influential position, as well as his sharp mind and natural curiosity to maintain a just livelihood for the people. When Pao was the officer of Duanzhou, it was the custom to present the famous ink stones from the province to the imperial family. When Pao discovered that previous officers had collected far more ink stones from the local manufacturers than the required tribute, he immediately abolished the corruption practice and ordered the manufacturers to deliver the required amount only. Pao was a truly upright person who was well respected by his colleagues and people alike. Definitely, not just that, but Pao was also loved and cherished by a lot of people.

Pao is such a central figure to Chinese culture, and there have been so many tales and TV series based on Pao's court case stories. In the dramas, he is often portrayed as an impartial figure with a black face and a white crescent moon on his forehead. Being highly recognised by the imperial family, Pao was granted the imperial sword from the previous emperor giving him the power to exhibit any person irrespective of his or her social class. Pao's stories are very popular even now.

A thousand years ago, Judge Pao was the symbol of justice, honesty and wisdom. He actually continues to be one today. His categorical and extreme style of ruling was needed for the Chinese society at the time. Throughout the history and nowadays, there are still a lot of 'bad guys' and unjust accusations, lying, stealing, etc. Judge Pao was a pioneer of his field and had to walk off the beaten track, making up new rules and methods as he went. When Judge Pao was alive, people looked up to him and nowadays we still use him as a role model. We look upon him, his character, his work and his morals as we strive together for a just and peaceful world.

Judge Pao

Hong Kong International School, Saranya, Manisha Raman – 11

Judge Pao, a famous historical figure in China, was a hugely remembered justice fighter. He fought for justice all his life. He was also a Politician. During his twenty-five years in civil service, Bao consistently demonstrated extreme honesty and uprightness, with actions such as impeaching an uncle of Emperor Renzong's favorite concubine and punishing powerful families.

Early life:

Bao Zheng was born into a scholar family in Shenxian. His Family was Middle class. His father Bao Lingyi was a scholar and an official, while his grandfather Bao Shi Tong was a commoner. Though Bao Zheng's family could afford Bao Zheng to go to school their mom had to climb mountains to collect firewood. When he was 29 years old Bao passed the highest–level imperial examination and became qualified as a jinshi. A jinshi is somebody who has passed the imperial examination and has the highest rank. This meant that he could be a government official. However, to take care of his aging parents, he didn't begin his career in officialdom until 10 years later, after his parents died and he had adequately observed all the mourning rituals. For this, Bao earned a high reputation.

As a Magistrate of Tianchang:

When his parents died Bao Zheng was 39 years old. He was then appointed as Magistrate of the Tianchang county. It was here that Bao first established his reputation as an astute judge. During his time as a magistrate here he solved countless cases which involved crime and dishonesty. According to an anecdote, a young boy earned about 100 copper coins after selling his fried dough sticks in the market. Then he took a nap on a rock in the market. But when he woke up, his 100 coins were gone. The boy began to cry because the money was needed to pay for the medical treatment of his sick mother. Bao, as a local official, happened to pass through the market and after learning of the case, ordered everyone in the market to each put a coin into a basin filled with water. When a coin dropped it created an oil bloom in the water, Bao caught the man who dropped it and accused him of stealing the boy's coins. He then explained that he had found out the boy was the only one selling oily products in the market and the caught man's coin was the only one that generated an oil bloom in the basin.

As a prefect of Duan Zhou:

In 1040 Bao Zheng was promoted to the prefect of Duan Zhou, a prefecture famous for its high-quality ink stones. However, Bao discovered that previous prefects had collected far more inkstones from manufacturers than the required tribute—several dozens of times more—to bribe influential ministers with the extras. Bao abolished the practice by telling manufacturers to fill only the required quota. When his tenure was up in 1043, Bao left without a single inkstone in his possession. It was in Duanzhou that he wrote this poem:

The essence of governing is to have a cleansed heart, The strategy of life is to follow upright ways.

An elegant stem will eventually turn into a pillar, Refined steel cannot be bent into a hook.

Rats and sparrows overjoy when the granary is full, Rabbits and foxes worry when the grassland dies.

History books contain teachings by those deceased Don't leave your descendants with only embarrassment!

As an investigative censor:

While Bao was an investigative censor, he sent at least 13 memoranda to Emperor Renzong of the song dynasty stating about the military, taxation, the examination system, and governmental dishonesty and incompetence.

In the following years, Bao held the following positions:

Fiscal commissioner of Hebei

Vice Director of Ministry of Justice

Auxiliary in the Academy of Scholarly Worthies

Vice Commissioner of Ministry of Revenue

A case he solved when he was an investigative censor in the city of Bian jing was impeaching the emperor's concubine's uncle. Emperor Renzong's favorite consort for him was a concubine named Concubine Zhang. He wanted to make her his empress but couldn't because of his mother(who was not his biological mother but he didn't know that at that time) Empress Dowager Liu didn't allow it because of the Concubine's very low profile. He likes her so he knew he had to do something so he promoted the Concubine's uncle Zhang Yazhou to minor local posts to the high office quickly over the passing of a few years. Bao was looking at this problem so on July 12, 1050, Bao and 2 other censors together presented a memorandum that was strong and accused Zhang of his shamelessness. The emperor had committed bribery which was not the right thing to do. Annoyed, Emperor Renzong not only do nothing to the concubine's uncle but also awarded the consort's sister with a title. Bao worked on this case until it was solved. Like this, he has arrested many more officials who have committed bribery and other crimes.

The End of his Life

Bao Zheng died on the 3rd of July 1062 (aged 63) in the capital city of Kaifeng. His resting place is Baogong Cemetery, <u>Luyang District</u>, <u>Hefei</u>, <u>Anhui</u>, <u>China</u>. He had two wives, Lady Zhang and Lady Dong. He had 1 son and 2 daughters. Before he died though he had left a warning to his family members: "Any of my descendants commits bribery as an official shall not be allowed back home nor buried in the family burial site. He who doesn't share my values is not my descendant". He was a very memorable man and was loved. After his death, the people of Kaifeng built a memorial statue for him in a temple in his memory.

Overall as you can see Judge Pao was a person who fought for justice all his life. Our world requires several people like Judge Pao who are honest, brave, and upright. WE SHOULD FIGHT FOR JUSTICE FOR GLOBAL PEACE!

New Talse of Judge Pao

Kownloon Tong School (Primary Section), Kaan, Chi Hin – 11

Which ancient Chinese famous person best represents justice and strictness? Most of the people would think of Bao Zheng (999–1062), who was a Chinese politician during the reign of Emperor Renzong in China's Song Dynasty. He was born in Shenxian, Hefei, Luzhou. His father Bao Lingyi was a scholar and an official, while his grandfather Bao Shi Tong was a commoner. As Bao grew up among low working class, he comprehended the hard life of workers, hated corruption and desired for justice. Since his father was a close friend of the local county magistrate, he became interested in trying cases and showed his talent in reasoning and judgment.

In 1027, Bao Zheng passed the highest-level imperial examination and obtained the title of Jinshi, which qualified him to become a government official. However, in order to take care of his aging parents, he did not begin his career in officialdom until 10 years later, after his parents died and he had properly observed all the mourning rituals. For this, Bao earned a high reputation for his filial piety. In 1040, he was promoted to the prefect of Duanzhou (modern Zhaoqing) in the south. Afterwards, he returned to the capital and was named an investigating censor in 1044. From 1057 to 1058, he was appointed as the prefect of Song's capital Kaifeng. He initiated a number of changes to better hear the grievances of the people, made him a legendary figure.

During Bao Zheng's years in the government service, he consistently demonstrated extreme honesty and uprightness, with actions such as tabling a number of proposals for reforming the national political, economic and military affairs. Also, he had thirty high officials demoted or dismissed for corruption, bribery, or dereliction of duty. Therefore, his name was always connected with the reputation for his integrity, daring to speak straightforwardly, defying power and strict law enforcement. He gained the honorific title 'Justice Bao' due to his ability to defend peasants and commoners against corruption or injustice.

There are many legends and stories about Bao Zheng and his witty approach to solve mysterious and tough cases. He always accompanied by his trusted bodyguard, Zhan Zhao and resourceful adviser, Gongsun Ce. His four enforcers, who were Wang Chao, Ma Han, Zhang Long and Zhao Hu, assist to arrest the criminals. One of the famous cases is The Case of Two Nails. In this case, Bao Zheng investigated a man's suspicious death whose cause was ruled as natural. The coroner confirmed that there was no injury in the whole body. However, the coroner's wife mentioned that someone could force long steel nails into the brain without injuring the body. The next day, the coroner was shocked to see a long nail was indeed driven into the dead man's brain, thus the dead man's widow was arrested for murder. Bao Zheng was surprised that the coroner's wife was right, so he began to question her and learned that the coroner was her second husband, because her first husband died and his death was also ruled as natural. Bao thought the coroner's wife might have used the same way to murder her first husband, therefore he ordered his enforcers to dig up her first husband's coffin. No doubt that there was a nail driven into the skull. Eventually, Bao caught the murders and resolved the case. Throughout the cases depicted Bao's upright, perceptive observation ability and wisdom in settling the complicated issues.

In 1062, Bao died in the Capital City of Kaifeng at age 63. There were many movies, films, TV series and comics featuring Bao as a justice and honest judge, such as 'The Crimson Palm', which is a film about a scholar who is framed for murder by his fiancée's father, and 'Young Justice Bao', which is a television series about the stories of Judge Bao. Bao gained so much respect that today people pray to him as "Bao Gong" God of Justice and considers him as a universal symbol of justice in China.

The upright spirit of Bao inspired and influenced Bao's descendants, and they were obeyed as family precepts for generations. Because of this, most descendants stay on their own and have a good reputation in all walks of life. Nowadays, you can go to Hefei city to visit Bao Zheng's Ancestral House, where you can learn the story of Bao, and Bao Zheng Cemetery, where Bao was buried and a wax museum depicting him. As an upright official, Bao was not afraid of power, was incorruptible, and dared to speak out for the people. Everyone should respect and learn from Bao, because his spirit and pride will always be in the hearts of the world.

New Talse of Judge Pao

Kownloon Tong School (Primary Section), Leng, Si Yang Cathy - 11

A lot of people might have heard legends or seen books and movies about Bao Zheng, or you may know him as 'Bao Gong' or 'Judge Pao' — a legendary politician from the Song Dynasty in ancient China.

Television series and fictional books often portray him as a dark-skinned man with a white crescent moon mark on his forehead, who fights crime in the mortal world during the day, and who works as a supernatural judge in the Afterlife at night. These stories are all inspired by his life, but does that mean all of the facts and events mentioned in movies and novels are true?

Primarily, did Bao Zheng really have a black face? Or even a crescent moon birthmark? The answer is no. Opposing to how he was portrayed in television series and fictional books, he was a fair-skinned person who had a white beard, with simple but elegant looks. But what about his crescent moon birthmark? That was merely a dramatic expression by later theatrical and literary works, to exaggerate how he symbolized brightness and purity.

Secondarily, while there are many folktales about him being a 'supernatural' judge, in truth, he was a mortal judge who fought corruption in the imperial justice system as a politician and an imperial general inspector. He was extremely well-known and popular with the locals because of his great honesty and uprightness, he also stood up for commoners when injustice or corruption occurred.

There is a play named "Bao Zheng cleverly investigates the circle of chalk" written in the Yuan Dynasty featuring Bao Zheng. A sixteen-year-old girl, Hai-tang, was sold into a house of prostitution and then taken by a wealthy and childless tax collector as his second wife. She bore him a son, Shoulang, but earns the jealousy of his first wife. The first wife accused Hai-tang of adultery then poisoned her husband and framed Hai-tang. Furthermore, she then claimed to a court that Shoulang was her child so that she could get all of her husband's fortune. Hai-tang was arrested, and beaten until she confessed. As Hai-tang was about to be hanged, she was rescued by Bao Zheng. Shoulang was placed in a circle of chalk between the two women, and they were both ordered to pull the child toward themselves. As Hai-tang could not bear to hurt her child, she gave in. Bao Zheng knew that it was a mother's nature to never hurt her child, so Hai-tang was judged as the real mother.

There are many other plays about Bao Zheng that are written, movies nowadays are also inspired by true events or plays. The effort of production alone is enough to show how much people respect and honour him. To this day, Bao Zheng is still seen as a legend — the incorruptible judge, who wasn't afraid of standing up to the monarchy.

Brilliant Bao: Well and Lesser-known Stories

Kownloon Tong School (Primary Section), Wang, Chi Yuen – 10

The 5th of March, year 999, 1023 years ago in the far past, was arguably one of the most important days in Chinese legal history of Chinese law. It was the day when Bao Zheng was born.

Historians can not agree on Bao's family origins. According to one version, Bao, the son of a scholar and an official, was born in a middle class family in Hefei, Anhui province. His parents had inspired him with wisdom of ancient sages such as Confucious since he was young.. Bao was an exceptional student. In 1027, at the age of 29, he passed the highest-level imperial exam and became a 'Jinshi' or 'presented scholar'. Bao subsequently worked for various government posts, including the Magistrate of Tianchang, the Prefect of Kaifeng and an investigating censor.

Bao Zheng was very brave and outspoken. A report from CGTN described him as an 'upright official who dared to contradict the emperor.' Legend has it that Bao Zheng was once giving a lecture to Emperor Renzong, pointing out how wrong he was to offer a high-profile government position to the uncle of his favorite concubine. The emperor got furious and just wanted to leave the room. But Bao grabbed his clothes and would not let him go until he got his message across.

There are many legendary cases handled by Bao, some of which even appear in our textbook. A case in point is a story known as "Bao Trials a Stone".

One day, Bao was walking down a bustling street. Suddenly, he heard crying and decided to investigate. He then found the source of the noise: a boy next to a random and innocent-looking stone. He asked the boy kindly, 'Why are you crying?' The boy pulled himself together and replied, 'I sell youtiao (Chinese doughnut sticks with lots of oil).Today, I came out here earlier than usual. I saw how low the sun was and decided to take a nap. I put a pile of 100 coins next to me. When I woke up, they disappeared!' The boy broke into tears again.

'Very well, I will find the coin stealer.' Bao said calmly. He was thinking about how to bring the stealer on site and catch him red-handed. Then, as if a lightbulb lit over his head, he got a plan. He yelled,' It must have been the stone!' Everyone who heard Bao yelling came over to see what was going on. Bao secretly thought, 'My plan is working!' Bao said to the stone, 'Did you steal his money?' Obviously, the stone didn't answer. Bao said again, 'Stone, did you steal the child's money? 'The stone still didn't answer. Bao pretended to lose his temper and bellowed, 'If you don't tell the truth, I will crack your head open!' All the people around him laughed. Some even yelled loudly, 'Stones don't know how to talk!' 'Everybody says Bao Zheng is smart. But in reality, he is a stupid official!' Bao roared in anger, 'You are interrupting me interrogating a stone! Everyone must drop one coin into this pit of water!', pointing to the bucket at his feet. With the gaze of Bao Zheng, no one could escape doing the extraordinarily simple task of putting a coin into the bucket.

One person put a coin into the bucket and was just about to leave. But Bao said, 'Aha! The coin stealer! Don't you dare to leave!'

Bao Zheng's rationale works like this. Because youtiao is pretty oily, the boy always has oil on his hands. The coins he handles thus has oil on them. The oil ended up on the hands of the stealer when he exchanged coins with the boy. The stealer was then sent to jail for burglary.

Bao not only knew some science, as portrayed by the above example, but also understood criminal psychology very well. This can be illustrated in the following story. One day, an old farmer rushed to the yamen (government office) ,reporting that something had been stolen from his house. Bao initiated an investigation and soon found that what was stolen was his cow's tongue!

It is common sense that cows eat by pulling food with their tongue. Without the tongue, a cow can not eat and chew. Moreover, cutting off the tongue will cause oral infection, hastening the cow's death.

Having pondered for a while, Bao asked the old man to kill the cow and sell it in the market. The old man was bewildered by Bao's words, but did so, thinking he would make some money selling beef. He indeed made handsome money.

A few days later, a man appeared in the yamen, accusing the old man for killing and selling the cow. Back in the Song Dynasty, cows were scarce commodities. Therefore, killing or injuring a cow was considered a crime, and anyone who reports the killing would get a reward. However, it was Bao Zheng who privately instructed the old man to kill the cow. In other words, the old man slaughtered the cow with the government approval. Bao approved this because he thought that the real "tongue cutter" would be very jealous of the old man who made a hefty profit out of the dying cow, and reported the case as a revenge. It transpired that the "tongue cutter" did exactly what Bao expected. Bao set a psychological trap, and the criminal took the bait.

In many ways, Bao was a ground-breaking and unprecedented judge. He was intelligent, decisive, and upright. More importantly, he brought justice to underprivileged people. He embodies what Confucius said "Justice to all of the world." This is incredible, given that he lived in a feudal society without a sound and modern legal system. He is a well-deserved "Lord Bao".

It seems like Sherlock Holmes has a lot to learn.

The Tales of Judge Pao

Kownloon Tong School (Primary Section), Zhang, Ngai Hing Esther - 11

A song said: "In Kaifeng, there is a Bao Qingtian who defends loyalty and justice without hesitation." The person mentioned in the song is Bao Gong. Bao Gong, whose real name is Bao Zheng, was born in Luzhou Prefecture of the Northern Song Dynasty (today's Hefei, Anhui). I am his compatriot. Today, there is a Baogong Temple in Hefei, Anhui Province, built for him. He is impartial in law enforcement, honest and clean, and has left many good deeds, which have been praised by people.

Bao Zheng reformed the local government, paid attention to production, consolidated national defense, promoted talented people and listened to the people's suggestions. He is a famous local minister in Chinese history and an outstanding representative of honest officials. Bao Zheng's name has long been a symbol of integrity. Bao Zheng was serious and upright. He hated those cruel and shameless officials and pursued loyalty all his life. Although he hated them deeply, he never gave up loyalty and forgiveness. He never readily agrees with others, nor easily pleased others.

Bao Zheng was a resolute man in the court. Under the old rules, the government could not be directly sued. Bao Zheng opened the front door of the government office so that the complainants could come to make statements freely. Therefore, eunuchs were greatly constrained by him. It is said that Bao Zheng's people were afraid of him. Even children and women knew his reputation. They called him "the bag"

Bao Zheng enjoys a high reputation in the society. His deeds are widely circulated, idealized and artistic, and many anecdotes and legends have been derived. There are stories and operas about Bao Zheng in the Southern Song Dynasty, and there are also a large number of Bao Zheng operas in the dramas of the Yuan Dynasty.

Bao Gong is a famous honest official in Chinese history. As a fellow villager, I am proud of such a historical celebrity in my hometown. I will work hard to become a person who contributes to the society.

New Tales of Judge Pao

St. Joseph's Primary School, Chong, Chi Yeung - 11

According to Chinese history, there was once a famous judge called Judge Pao, his full name was Pao Qing Tian, who got thrown out of the house immediately after birth because of his ugly appearance. His sister, a woman who was notoriously known to be spoiled and ruined the child accidentally by doing things that she thought was going to help the child out of kindness who she was currently assigned to take care of without realizing what she had done. This happened to an orphan when Pao Qing Tian's sister found him on the streets and took care of him and ended up being a beggar. Now, people still believe that he is on the streets still begging for money believing that someone would be his savior and get him a home to live in for free. On the other hand, Pao Qing Tian's sister would be perfectly fine as a guardian if she didn't spoil children by accident.

Despite being took care of a woman that would spoil him, Pao Qing Tian still resisted his sister's offers that would make him spoiled because he had a talent of knowing what was right and what was wrong.

As Pao Qing Tian grew up, he went to school like normal children, though some of the students were a bit racist and laughed at Pao Qing Tian's black skin and bullied him, he still learned and made friends perfectly well. Halfway through primary school Pao developed a dislike at people who enjoyed bullying others and people who cheated or did things against the school rules because he knew that students should follow the school's rules if they chose to learn at that school. He also despised teachers who ignored things such as students who fought or cheated when they saw it because he knew that teachers should also be aware of student's actions and punish them if it was against the school rules other than teaching

When Pao Qing Tian was eleven, he suddenly thought to himself "Maybe I should study law and become a judge, so that I can clean China of corruption and crime and right all the wrongs that people have made." Though Pao Qing Tian wanted to be a judge as soon as possible, he still knew that he needed enough knowledge before he could go to law school so he decided to finish school before going to law school. After seven years when Pao Qing Tian was eighteen and finished secondary school, he immediately asked people in his town where was the nearest law school, and found out that the nearest law school, was 200 miles away and Pao Qing tian had to ride on horseback and in ships to get there and it took him two months to get there.

After Pao Qing Tian arrived at the law school, he trotted lightly up the stairs to the principal's office, and greeted him. When the principal saw him, he said "Who are you, young man, I do not remember you being in my school, why are you here?" Pao Qing Tian replied "Sir, I come from a humble home and I am here to ask of the way of how to apply for this law school." The principal said "Very well, you are in luck, there is currently one space for one more student to join. Also, the waiting list is empty, so I suppose you could just take the examination test right now and get interviewed by me (all the teachers were teaching), to see if you are worthy to be in the school. That is, if you really want to join." Pao Qing Tian was elated and instantly said "I really want to join this law school, so I am willing to take the admissions test immediately. Fortunately enough for Pao Qing Tian, the admissions test only questioned basic laws like no killing other citizens, no stealing (pick–pocketing, shoplifting, burglary...), no blackmailing, all those random stuff that everybody knew about. Pao Qing Tian, knowing the basics, got into the law school easily.

In Pao Qing Tian's law education, he excelled at everything and was excellent at reasoning, citing sentences in laws and also public speaking, in order to prove that it was right to do something in court when he became judge. During Pao Qing Tian's law education, he revised for a long time for exams and through hard work, so he got perfect grades and got praised by his teachers from time to time at school.

A few years later, Pao Qing Tian graduated and got the title Judge Pao. He was widely known for his former success in law school. His first trial was a guy called Mike Whoppee who robbed another woman of her valuables in the middle of the night. In the middle of the trial, Mike silently took a knife out of a pocket and tried to fling it at someone, but before he knew it, he was held tightly and brought back to jail until he could see more sense than just trying to kill police, so the whole thing was declared as a mistrial. A few days later, Mike was accused for attacking police and thievery and he was imprisoned for 5 years for attempting to assault the police and stealing. Some legends say that at night, Judge Pao works for the underworld in Chinese religions as judge, but I am definitely not buying that, since Judge Pao is definitely a human who is normal, just like us.

In Judge Pao's life, he had thousands more famous trials that he did, and all of China wept when Judge Pao died because he did so much for China during his day.

The Legendary Judge Pao

St. Joseph's Primary School, Pun, Sun Long Cardison - 11

For almost a thousand years, Judge Pao, named Bao Zheng (A.D. 999–1062) has served as the living embodiment of justice in Chinese history due to his uncompromising dedication to upholding the law without fear nor favor. Apart from his intolerance of injustice and corruption, Judge Pao was famous for his filial piety, stern demeanor, righteousness, superior wit and selflessness.

Judge Pao was far more than an astute judge during the reign of Emperor Renzong in the Song Dynasty. During his service, he fought fiercely against corruption, solved many complicated cases and punished corrupt high-ranking government officials and abusive imperial families, regardless of their powerful positions or connections in pursuit of justice. His uprightness, probity, integrity, wisdom and impartial judgment profoundly impressed everyone in the regions he served, earning him not only wide respect from people across the nation, but also high reputation for being a honest and fair government official.

The legend of Judge Pao has been well kept in Chinese memories for centuries. Stories about Judge Pao and his court cases were passed on many times in various forms of performing arts and literature, which continued to enjoy sustained popularity. Judge Pao was not only a legendary character, but also the figure of inspiration and hope: his virtue and spirit continued to have lasting impacts on Chinese culture and tradition and were highly valued and desired by the people.

Virtue of Filial Piety

Born into a scholar family in Hefei, China, Judge Pao was well respected for his filial piety as he put such virtue before his own ambition. At the age of 29, the diligent scholar passed the highest-level imperial examination and obtained the prestigious title of "presented scholar," which qualified him to be a high-ranking government official. However, he had sacrificed his leading position and 10 years of work in order to take care of his elderly and weak parents at home until he reached his late thirties after his parents' deaths when he had faithfully fulfilled all his responsibilities and duties as a son.

Courageous Spirit in Pursuit of Righteousness

Inspired by the Confucian idea of benevolent governance, Judge Pao was highly regarded as an impartial judge upholding the rule of law without fear nor favor to superior power. His firmness in law enforcement, uncompromising stance against corruption and criminal offenses and courage to impose the rule of law even on the Emperor, who could have him instantly executed for the slightest lack of respect, were founded on his loyalty to the country, love of his people and selflessness to put public interests before his own.

Judge Pao insisted that anyone, including high-ranking government officials and imperial families, deserved punishment if found guilty of wrong doings. According to historical records, more than 30 leading officials were demoted or dismissed due to accusation of corruption, bribery, dereliction of duty, misprision, dishonesty or incompetence during his service.

Despite living in a culture in which thoughts expressed too directly and vigorously to people in power could cause disaster, Judge Pao always succeeded in convincing the Emperor without inviting misfortune. He continued to speak his mind and told the Emperor, "Justice and meritocracy were too important to set aside!"

Values of Probity and Incorruptibility

Judge Pao, being the most prominent representative of probity and incorruptibility in Chinese history, continued to lead a modest life like a commoner, despite his high-ranking position at a time when abuse of power and corruption were prevalent in court and government services.

He firmly believed that impartial judgement could only be made with integrity and uprightness, not having unnecessary relationship nor doing favor for personal interests. Therefore, he was determined to fight government corruption and punished those who took advantage of their privileged positions to satisfy their own desire and greed.

He was also very strict with his family by setting the following rule: "Any of my descendants who breaks the law or becomes corrupt shall not return to our hometown nor buried in the family cemetery. He who shares not my values is not my descendant."

Reputation for Investigatory Wit and Justice for All

Judge Pao consistently demonstrated exceptional wisdom in settling complicated cases. He never allowed the innocent to be misjudged or the guilty to be discharged. All of his court cases were handled fairly and justly.

As an intelligent judge, he was distinct from other magistrates or government officials who relied on torture to force confessions, which resulted in many innocent people being wrongly convicted. Instead, he solved cases by means of sharp observation, thorough investigation, logical deduction, incomparable wit and extraordinary patience.

Cases which were considered trivial or difficult to find evidence in ancient times when the level of science and technology was primitive and which were ignored by others due to lack of significance or evidence would only be heard and tried by Judge Pao who would do justice to all victims.

Symbol of Benevolence

Raised among low working class, Judge Pao was sympathetic about commoners' hardships and sufferings. Therefore, he initiated several material reforms in legal procedures to better hear the grievances of his people, allowing those with little education to make complaints orally and directly to the prefect without having to complete the paperwork, thereby bypassing the clerks, who were widely believed to be bribed by powerful families to drop a lawsuit. This avoided injustice brought by corrupt officials who manipulated the facts in the paperwork. Public order was consequently restored.

The Bright Moon Hung High in the Sky

Today, Judge Pao is still honored as the symbol of justice in Chinese civilization and well remembered for his probity, sternness, incorruptibility, intelligence and benevolence. His virtues and inner qualities are regarded as the highest spiritual and social values of Chinese culture by people from both traditional and modern Chinese societies. Crowds of visitors flock to a temple in Kaifeng city, where they commemorate China's most famous upright official. Devoted to justice for all, Judge Pao continues to shine where there is darkness!

New Tales of Judge Pao

St. Stephen's College Preparatory School, Cheung, Nga Ting Annette - 10

Vincent van Gogh once wrote in 1889 that he never got tired of the blue sky. When we look up at the clear and blue sky, its peace and calmness entitle it to be a byword for justice and moral integrity. There is a judge, Bao Zheng (包拯) (999–1062 A.D.), who wins the acclaim from the general public since Northern Sung Dynasty (960–1127 A.D.) and is popularly symbolised as Clear–Sky Bao (Bao Qingtian 包青天). What kind of good qualities would endear Judge Bao to Chinese for over thousands of years? Let's explore why and how the legendary Judge Bao is remembered for his integrity over the centuries.

Judge Bao's name was Bao Zheng (包拯), also Bao Gong (包公), Bao Longtu (包龍圖) after his appointment by the Emperor as Longtuge Daxueshi, etc. He was born in an official and well-educated family from Luzhou, China. Besides being an astute judge at Kaifeng in Henan Province, China, Judge Bao served in the civil service for around a quarter of a century and was promoted to high-ranking posts, including but not limited to Kaifeng Prefecture, the Treasury and the Military Affaires. He repeatedly pleaded to Emperor Renzong (reign: 1022– 1063 A.D.) to be compassionate for the public's sufferings and stop making endless exorbitant demands on the common people. He is impartial and fearless of any privileged and powerful political figures or officials and the closest relatives of the Emperor and fought against all illegal actions by punishing wrongdoers from all walks of life. One famous example of Judge Bao's exemplification of judicial independence is his impeachment of Zhang Yaozuo, an uncle of the Emperor's concubine. Judge Bao is also famous for his incorruptibility and does not allow any of his descendants who commits bribery to return home or be buried in the family burial site. Upon his death, the Emperor gave him the honorary rank of Minister of Rites and the posthumous title of Filial and Reverent Dukes. The full confidence and the backing of the Emperor and other highest officials are prerequisite for his successful implementation of rule of law in the complex bureaucracy of the imperial China.

As Judge Bao becomes famous, tales spread of his miraculous powers of detection and become fictional. In the stories, Judge Bao is portrayed in a special image – he has a dark iron–colored complexion, which in Chinese drama, Xiqu, symbolises justice, incorruptibility and impartiality. The crescent moon mark on his forehead "added" by dramas since Ming and Qing Dynasties points to the hope and brightness brought by him. Some stories even state that Judge Bao investigates both the worldly cases for human beings in the daytime and the spiritual cases in the underworld for the dead people in the nighttime. Why is the history connected with the legend which turns him into a "half–man–half–mythological" hero?

First, one needs to understand various traditional Chinese values in Judge Bao's legend. The supernatural intervention in his cases reflects the root of the Chinese emphasis on criminal justice, namely, morality's ties to their cosmology. Since the Spring and Autumn period (771–476 B.C.), Confucianism, one of the dominant academic and political beliefs, indicates that every element of universe is interconnected with each other and human society and human life are parts of the entire universe with a moral principle operating to balance and maintain harmony. Justice can therefore be naturally restored by good morality and supernatural intervention, etc. Next, Confucianism emphasizes its key idea of "filial piety", taking form of obedience to parental authority, ancestor worship and the devotion to family which help to strengthen the surrounding society and unite the empire. Later in Sung Dynasty, the state supports Neo–Confucianism to revive the ancient Confucian doctrines and emphasizes morality for the whole empire.

Further, the interplays among the above Chinese values, literatures like chantefables, novels, theatre plays, illustrations and other art pieces since Sung Dynasty featuring Judge Bao and the faith from common Chinese general public make the unique contributions to the growing imagery and historical legend. One of the early written literatures, a set of widely performed ballad-stories for narrating and singing (namely, shuochang cihua which the performers tell the Judge Bao stories through an alteration of spoken prose and chanted verse), was printed in Ming Dynasty (1465–1487). Another edition "Bao Longtu adjudicates on Hundred Court Cases" (1594) inspired other storytellers and dramatists. In around 1879, Shi Yukun's novel, "The Three Hero and Five Gallants", compiled and dispersed his stories into a more coherent narrative. The traditional opera is unarguably a good medium for the wider illiterate public to learn about the court cases.

One of the famous tales in Mr. Shi's novel which embraced the above enrichments was the exchange of civet cat for baby prince. In this tale, a jealous emperor's concubine secretly swapped the infant Emperor Renzong with a civet cat and alleged Emperor Renzong's mother to give birth to such animal. At the request of the exiled mothers after decades, Judge Bao found the truth with the help of a dead royal servant's spirit and got confessions from all wrongdoers. Yet, Emperor Renzong was reluctant to accept her as his mother. Judge Bao ordered to beat his dragon gown, instead of Emperor Renzong, for lack of filial piety. This famous new scene of beating dragon gown is added by subsequent Beijing opera plays about Judge Bao which resemble Mr Shi's novel.

Nowadays, many Asian and foreign people recognise Judge Bao as a justice icon and Baogong Park and temples are established in Asian countries for worship and tourism. Besides dramas, vernacular fictions, modern and foreign movies and television series, <u>the Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies founded by the</u> Harvard–Yenching Institute has Judge Bao's cases reconstructed. Judge Bao preserves the priceless Chinese values and the public faith on impartiality, fairness and incorruptibility should be well preserved throughout the world.

Creative Writing Non-Fiction Group 2

New Tales of Judge Pao

Ching Chung Hau Po Woon Primary School, Lam, Sophia Valerie – 10

Judge Pao, commonly known as Pao Zheng/ Pao

Gong (Lord Pao) was a Chinese politician during the reign of Emperor Renzong in China's Song Dynasty. During his twenty-five years in civil service, Judge Pao consistently demonstrated extreme honesty and uprightness, with actions such as sentencing his uncle, impeaching an uncle of Emperor Renzong's favorite concubine, and punishing powerful families. He hated corruption and "Spoke truth to power", becoming a symbol of justice. His appointment from 1057 to 1058 as the prefect of Song's capital, Kaifeng, where he initiated some changes to hear the people's grievances better, made him a legendary figure. During his years in office, he gained the honorific title, Pao Qingtian. At the comparatively young age of 28, he qualified as Jinshi, the highest rank of Imperial Scholar. In the following years, Bao held the following positions: Fiscal commissioner of Hebei, Vice Director of the Ministry of Justice, Auxiliary in the Academy of Scholarly Worthies, and Vice Commissioner of the Ministry of Revenue

One of the pillars of his fame was his courage in remonstrating with anyone who did immoral or stupid things – including the emperor himself, who could have had him instantly executed for the slightest lack of respect.

On one occasion, the land was hit with huge floods. When the waters finally receded, the grateful emperor decided to express his gratitude to the gods by issuing a blanket annesty to all criminals and promoting all civil and military officials.

Pao objected to the plan. Justice and meritocracy were too important to set aside in this way, he told the emperor. Acts of criminality must lead to punishment, and genuine acts of merit must be the only way to rise in government. The emperor decided his advisor was correct. Despite living in a culture where thoughts expressed too candidly to people in power could cause disaster, Pao spoke his mind and continued to thrive.

As he became famous, tales spread of his miraculous powers of detection. Some of these were probably based on real things. But as the years passed, many were fictional.

During the latter years of his life and after his death, Pao's myth was fed by numerous items of folklore and detective stories. His demigod status was dramatized in many novels, ballads, operas, and later movies and TV dramas. Some of the most popular portrayals of Pao can be found in the novel "Seven Heroes and Five Gallants" in the Qing Dynasty. That story first appeared in the 1880s. In it, Pao was assisted by a team of heroes who leveraged their fighting skills to arrest criminals and corrupt officials, dealing with justice without fear and favor.

New Tales of Judge Pao

Ching Chung Hau Po Woon Primary School, Lo, Yuet Ching - 9

A long time ago, there was a man who lived in China called Pao. He was born in the Song Dynasty on March 5, 999 years ago. He is a judge. His face is black. There was a moon shape on his head. Do you know why his head had a moon and he had a black face? Let's see his story...

When Pao was born, everyone knew he was born perfectly. They were over the moon. In addition, his mother's health was unaffected. He cried, and he cried very loud. He didn't have a moon shape on his head, and his face was not black. After Pao was born, they had a party for him.

When Pao went to school, he was a brilliant student. Every time he took an exam, he got good marks. His parents and cousin were all proud of him. He was pleased, but not arrogant. He did better than before in his exam. Also, his conduct was good. His teacher always praises him. He was a monitor when he was in school.

When he was 29 years old, he could be a judge, but he needed to go home, which was far away, so his parents were worried about him. His dad said, "It's too far. We'll be concerned about you. He didn't do the judge when he heard that because he wanted to stay at home and care for his elderly parents. Everyone said he was very filial.

When his parents died, he went to the place for his work. At that time, everyone admired him because he was fair, just, and unselfish; everyone called him Judge Pao. He was extremely famous. He worked very hard and was fair. Every bad guy feared him because they assumed Judge Pao would need them in prison.

He had one wife before, but after they got married and his wife died, they didn't have any daughters or sons. He then married another woman. He and the woman had two daughters and a son. They lived happily.

One time, there was a blaze on the street. Everyone went to get water to help put out the fire. There were two ways to get the water. One of the waters was sweet, called "sweet water street," and the other was bitter, called "bitter water street. Then a man said, "Which one can we choose, the bitter or the sweet?" The other man said, "Let's choose the bitter one." Then all the people went to the bitter water to get it, but there were too many people, so they couldn't get it. Judge Pao caught the man who had chatted before because he knew they wanted the fire to get bigger, so they chatted for a few times. At the same time they were chatting, the fire would get bigger and bigger. Then Judge Pao called for half the people to go to "sweet water street" to get the sweet water, and the other half to go to "bitter water street" to get the bitter water. At the end, the blaze was not there. All the people were thankful for Judge Pao.

When Judge Pao saw an old woman crying loudly one day, he asked her what had happened. She answered, "There are people who grabbed my cow." Judge Pao caught the man who grabbed the woman's cow. He recognized the man as his uncle, but he also adjudicated. After a long time, his uncle also said, "The cow wasn't mine to grab," so Judge Pao found the people who saw his uncle grab the cow. At the end, his uncle needed to go to prison, and then his uncle said, "I am your uncle. I don't want to go there, please. ""I won't do that anymore, please." But Judge Pao didn't let him go, and then his uncle went to prison. After the judgment, everyone said he was fair.

One Sunday, Judge Pao saw a boy who sold the fritters crying. He asked, "Why are you crying?" The boy said, "I can't find my money." Then Judge Pao needed the people to throw one dollar in the water. After a long time, he knew who stole the boy's money because, when the money was thrown into the water, there were some oil bubbles in the water. Then the thief shouted, "Sorry, I stole the money." The thief gave the money back to the boy, and the boy forgave the thief, but the thief also needed to go into prison.

In 1062, on the third of July, Judge Pao was sixty-three years old; at that time, he died in the Legend of Kaifeng. When the people knew that Judge Pao had died, they were very sad; somebody cried loudly all day because he kept the place peaceful. There was disharmony in the ancient world, but he kept the Song Dynasty harmonious. Everyone thanks him for maintaining the Song Dynasty's peace.

Now, people say the black face and the moon shape on Judge Pao's head mean he is fair, just, and unselfish. Many writers will talk about him. Let's know more of Judge Pao's story. You can watch the movie on TV or read about it in a book. Also, some people made a Pao Qingtian Temple of him because they think that Judge Pao is a god. You can find the Pao Qingtian Temple in Macao and Wan Chai. There were some people who made statues of Judge Pao, too. In the three examples, you can see that Judge Pao is a fair, smart, just, and unselfish judge. He has an alias called Pao Zheng. In China, there is a park to commemorate Judge Pao. He is many people's super star. He is now well known as well. If you don't know who he is, you should know that he is a famous judge. Judge Pao is an iconic figure in Chinese culture and is renowned for his strict and impartial judgments, which have won him both respect and admiration from the Chinese public.

The Story of Bao Zheng

Lung Kong World Federation School Wong Yiu Nam Primary School, Tsoi, Hau Ying - 11

Bao Zheng was known worldwide for his honesty and fairness and was praised by later generations as "Bao Qingtian" and worshiped as a god. He is also known as "God of Chinese justice."

One day, Bao Zheng saw a well on the street. He happened to be thirsty, so he decided to see if there was any water in the well. As soon as he got there, someone hit him, and he accidentally fell into the well. He was then passed out.

After waking up, he found himself in a man's house. Then the man saw him awake and asked where he lived. He said he lived in Kaifeng Mansion. Surprised, the man said, 'Isn't it the Kaifeng mansion in ancient times? Are you Bao Zheng? 'He said, 'Yes, I am Bao Zheng' The man said, 'This is the modern age. Why are you here?' He said, 'I don't know. I was here when I fell into the well and woke up' and the man said, 'You may have time-travelled'.

Both of them felt that Bao Zheng had crossed over. The man gave Bao Zheng a set of clothes to change into. Then the man took Bao Zheng to dinner. Bao Zheng thought modern food is delicious. The man took Bao Zheng to play around. After returned home, they kept thinking, why did Bao Zheng travel to modern times?

Bao Zheng and the man found many people, nobody knows how to go back to ancient times. A scientist found them, and the scientist told them how to send Bao Zheng back to ancient times. As long as he found a well that was the same as Bao Zheng's before and passed out again, he could return to ancient times.

In the end, Bao Zheng returned to ancient times and wrote his experience into a book.

Let's back to the past! More about Bao Zheng...

Bao Zheng was born in Hefei, Luzhou (now Hefei, Anhui Province) on February 15th, the second year of Song Zhenzong Xianping (March 5, 999).

Song Renzong Tiansheng, five years (1027) Zhongdingmao Ke Jinshi, awarded Dali to judge affairs (under the eight ranks) and knew Jianchang County; because his parents were old, he did not go to the post. He also supervised and state taxation. His parents did not want him to leave, so he has been serving his parents in his hometown. A few years later, his parents passed away one after another, and Bao Zheng built a hut next to his parents' tombs until the mourning period expired.

Tune in to Tianchang County. After the expiration of his term, he was transferred to Duanzhou (Zhaoqing, Guangdong) as a magistrate. He returned to Beijing to serve as the supervisory censor Lixing. Then he changed the supervisory censor to be a "speech officer" (bureaucrats who behave improperly or illegally can be impeached). To punish corrupt officials, Song Renzong wrote a letter to Song Renzong in the fourth year of Qingli (1044), "Officials Don't Beg for Loot," believing that incorruptibility is an example for people, while corruption is a "thief of the people." Bao Zheng wrote seven times to play Wang Kui, the transfer envoy of Jiangxi, exposing his "heart with snakes and scorpions," harming the people and severely criticizing the official system of the Song court.

From the second year (1050) to the third year of Emperor Renzong's reign (1050) to the third year of Emperor Renzong's reign (1050), Bao Zheng impeached Zhang Yaozuo, a relative of the royal family, three times, calling him "the filth of the Qing Dynasty and the evil spirit of the day." ruling and opposition parties.

In December of the first year of Song Renzong Jiayou (January 1057), Bao Zheng knew Kaifeng Mansion as a direct scholar of Longtuge until Jiayou resigned in June of the third year. In this short period, Kaifeng Prefecture, the capital city known as difficult to govern, was managed orderly.

Dare to punish the illegal behavior of the powerful, resolutely restrain the arrogance of Kaifeng government officials, and be able to punish false accusers in time. Bao Zheng was fair and upright, discerned every detail, was stern and selfless, and resolved cases like a god, so he was admired by people.

Song Renzong Jiayou six years (1061), after he entered the "Second Mansion" and became a member of the highest decision-making body in the Northern Song Dynasty (from the second-rank privy deputy envoy), his clothes, food, and utensils were still "like commoner clothes." Typical representative.

On May 24, the seventh year of Jiayou (July 3, 1062), Bao Zheng died of illness in Kaifeng Mansion at 63. Song Renzong granted Duke Bao the title of Founding Marquis of Donghai County and presented him with the Minister of Rites.

According to Bao Gong, "there are few acts of filial piety, which are heard in the village; later, there are straight festivals, which are written in the court." He posthumously named him Xiaosu, and his wife, Dong, took Bao. The manuscript of the prelude to saving life was delivered to his disciple Zhang Tian and compiled into "Xiaosu Gonggong Baozhi" (i.e., "Bao Zheng Collection"), which was handed down to the world and buried in Hefei the following year.

My feeling for Bao Qingtian is that he was mighty because he was impartial, upright, discerning, unselfish, and judge cases like God.

The Story Of Judge Pao

Mui Wo School, Espada Custodio, Brando – 12

Introduction

People said that Judge Pao dispensed justice in the day but become the immortal Yama of the Department of Hell at night. Some people called Judge Pao 'The Iron Fist'. Judge Pao's real name was Bao Zheng.

Chapter One

Childhood and Young Age

Before Pao was born his parents were working very hard. His mother was a woodworker. She had to climb mountains and collect wood. His father was a scholar and a government official. When Pao was born, his father was very proud and happy to have a son. Around the age of five, he started to read fluently. He liked stories about Confucius. He was smart and diligent at school. Years passed quickly and he grew up. When he was twenty—eight he became a qualified Jinshi scholar. His family was very proud of such a smart son but he did not start looking for a job. He was a good son and took care of his sick old parents for the next ten years.

Chapter Two

His Career

When his parents finally passed away he got a job as a government official. Pao was always fighting corruption of officials and rich imperial families. He fought for justice of poor, uneducated ordinary people. He was famous for his honesty and people were telling stories about his amazing powers of detection.

Chapter Three

Case of Tian Chang Country

According to some sources, there was an interesting incident where Pao displayed his amazing detection skills. A man came to him and said, that his ox's tongue had been sliced by someone else. Pao told that man to go home and do what needs to be done, slaughter and sell the ox. There was not much he could do. The man left, and did as he was told but soon after another man came to the court and accused the first one of crime because he saw him slaughtering 'the beast of burden' which can be punished with a high penalty. When man came back, Pao told him, 'Why did you cut his tongue and then accused someone else?' The man was shocked and confessed to doing it himself. I don't know how Pao worked it out but it was very smart.

Chapter Four

Pao as a Prefect of Duan Zhou

In 1040 Pao became a prefect of Duan Zhou in the South Prefecture of China, famous for its good quality inka stones. Pao discovered that if you collect like a billion of inca stones, you can bribe influential ministers with this treasure. Therefore, Pao abolished the practice by telling the manufacturers to collect only enough inca stones as required by quota. When his term ended, he left without a single stone in his hand. He would never surrender to bribery.

Conclusion

Judge Pao was unique for his era. We can admire his wits and actions to protect week and poor. My parents told me that he was example of what today's official lack-transparency, wisdom and honesty. I wish to be like him when I grow up.

Judge Pao

Po Leung Kuk Hong Kong Taoist Association Yuen Yuen Primary School, Kwong, Pak Yuen Curtis – 11

"The emperor commits the same crime as the common people." Have you ever heard of this sentence? This is the principle of Pao Zheng. Judge Pao represents the honor of the Chinese people. He was an official of the northern Song Dynasty. His image has long been well-known to everyone. He enforced the law impartially, was upright, has been praised from generation to generation and has won the admiration of the world.

Pao Zheng's political achievements and characteristics can be summarized as strictly enforcing the law, selflessness, caring for the suffering of the people, asking advice from the people, striving for reform, eliminating malpractices, severely punishing corruption, and integrity. He tried to ease class contradictions and consolidated his rule by suppressing and relatively reducing exploitation. In addition, his claims and practices were of certain progressive significance at that time.

Pao Zheng was poor when he was young. But still, at the age of 28, he served as a magistrate, governor, and more. Most importantly, from December 1056 to June 1058, he became a judge in Chi Kaifeng Prefecture and he died when he was 64 years old. Pao's descendants were proud of him. A year after Pao died, he was buried in Daxingji, the eastern suburbs of Hefei City. The tomb was rebuilt by Huaxi officials in 1199. During the Cultural Revolution. Qing officials were regarded as "worse than corrupt officials", "more deceptive", and "consolidation feudalism". Therefore, Pao, the representative of the image of Qing officials, became the target of the public; all portraits of Pao were burned. In 1985, Pao Cemetery was rebuilt in the forest area of Paohe South River in Heifei City, retaining the bones and cultural relics of Pao's old tombs. It was completed in 1987 and is closely connected to Pao Temple.

Pao Zheng achieved much and his excellent work benefited the country and the people. He successively served as the transshipment envoy of Shaanxi and Hebei, and the transshipment envoy was responsible for the financial, supervision and other administrative affairs for a period of time. In the local area, Pao placed great importance on being aware of the people's situation and asked the court to let the people rest, recuperate, live and work. Two years later, Pao was recalled to Kaifeng and promoted to deputy envoy of the Ministry of households. During that period, he went to Hebei to solve the problem of military food and also went to Shaaxi to solve the salt industry problem in Yuncheng. He took back the horse farming field and returned it to localities and farmers. He reformed the salt tax law to facilitate the business of the salt industry.

The following case was one of the cases that he had come across. At that time, a transshipment envoy named Wang Kui complained to the emperor that the local official of Chenzhou (now Henan Province) was harsh on the peasants and charged more money and food. In people's minds at that time, Ren Zhongshi was honest and Wang Kui was greedy. So, they decided to send someone to investigate. Many people were afraid of Wang Kui's power and unwilling to go there. In order to find out the truth. Pao Zheng resolutely came to Chenzhou. After all the evidence, Pao Zheng returned to the capital and reported the real situation to the emperor. In fact, it was Wang Kui who asked farmers for money and food, causing farmers to be dissatisfied and unable to live. Pao Zheng asked Wang Kui to be dismissed and the extra money and grain be returned to the farmers.

Pao Zheng's story and his legend have been circulating among the people since the Song and Yuan Dynasties of China, who formed such a colorful literary and artistic image nowadays. He is deeply admired and loved by the people.

The Legend of Judge Pao

Shanghai Singapore International School, Bose, Aditya Nath - 9

Early Life

Bao Zheng (also known as Judge Pao) was born in Hefei, Anhui around 999 AD. He was the son of a poor peasant, but his parents had high hopes for him. They educated him and he started learning how to read when he was just 5. Bao did well at school and went on to become a Jinshi, which is the highest rank of Imperial Scholar at a young age of 28. While Bao had a stable job, his parents were old and frail, so Bao sacrificed his career in order to look after them. After the death of his parents Bao was accepted into the government and became a high–ranking official.

Bao Zheng's Career

He was an uncompromising judge, and he hated corruption. He also "spoke truth to power," which became a symbol of justice. During his role as judge, he tried and solved several cases. Here are some of the most popular cases:

The Case of Executing Chen Shimei

Chen Shimei had two children with wife, Qin Xianglian, when he left them behind in his hometown for the Imperial examination in the capital. After placing first, he lied about his marriage and became the emperor's new son-in-law. Years later, a famine forced Qin and her children to move all the way capital, where they learned what had happened to Chen. Qin found a way to meet Chen and begged him to help at least his own children. Not only did Chen refuse, but he told his servant Han Qi to kill them to hide his secret. However, Han helped the family escape and killed himself. Desperate, Qin brought her case to Bao Zheng, who tricked Chen to the court to have him arrested.

Executing Bao Mian

When Bao Zheng was an infant, he was raised by his elder sister—in—law, Wu, like a son. Years later, Wu's only son Bao Mian became a magistrate and was convicted of bribery. Finding it impossible to fulfill both Confucian concepts of loyalty and filial piety, an emotional Bao Zheng executed his nephew according to the law and later tearfully apologized to Wu.

Wild Cat Exchanged for Crown Prince

Bao Zheng met a woman claiming to be the mother of Emperor Renzong. Many years before, she had been Consort Li, an imperial concubine of Emperor Zhenzong's, before falling out of favor for supposedly giving birth to a bloody dead Chinese wildcat. What really happened was a jealous Consort Liu plotting with eunuch Guo Huai to secretly swap Li's infant son with a skinned Chinese wildcat minutes after birth. The infant eventually became Emperor Renzong, but he refused to accept Bao's findings. As Kou Zhu, the palace maid who defied orders to help smuggle the baby to safety, had already died, getting a confession from Guo Huai presented a challenge. With the help of a woman dressed as Kou's ghost, Bao dressed himself as the hell overlord Yama and used Guo's fear of the supernatural and guilt to extract the confession. After the verdict was out, Bao also ordered a set of beatings for the emperor for failing to oblige filial piety; the emperor's Dragon Robe was beaten instead. Eventually, Emperor Renzong accepted Consort Li and elevated her as the new Empress Dowager.

The Case of Two Nails

Bao Zheng investigated a husband's very suspicious death whose cause had been ruled natural. After an autopsy, his coroner confirmed the earlier report that there was no injury throughout the body. At home, the coroner discussed the case with his wife, who mentioned that someone could force long steel nails into the brain, leaving no other traces on the body. The next day, the coroner found a long nail indeed, and the widow was arrested and confessed to adultery. Afterwards, Bao Zheng began to ask the coroner's wife and learned that the coroner is her second husband, as her first husband had died. Bao ordered his guards to go to the cemetery and unearth her first husband's coffin. Sure enough, there was also a nail in the skull.

Courage and Grit

Bao had courage in remonstrating anyone who did something stupid or immoral, including the emperor himself. After a huge flood had receded, the emperor decided to please the Gods by forgiving

convicts and criminals and promoting officials. Bao Zheng scolded the emperor for this irrational and unjust act, where merit and justice are overlooked. Bao nearly got himself executed for this act of disrespect

The Legend Lives On

Bao died in 1062 at the age of 64. Rumors say that someone from the corrupted officials poisoned Bao when he was waging his war against the corrupted officials. Even after his death, Bao continued to be very popular. Books have been written in his memory. Movies have been made based on his stories.

Bao Zheng's Impression on Me

My impression of Bao Zheng is that he was a very courageous, uncompromising, and just person. But what stands out was his compassionate nature; he sacrificed his career to look after his parents in their old age, which truly made him a good son.

A Symbol of Justice

Yaumati Catholic Primary School (Hoi Wang Road), Bok, Tsz To Lukas – 11

Judge Pao was a celebrated figure of uprightness and justice in ancient China. Although he passed away long time ago, he is still very well-known for his highly developed moral sense and pursuit for legal equity for commoners nowadays.

Judge Pao's real name is Pao Zheng. As a result of his respectable personality and contributions to society, people called him Pao Gong (equivalent to Lord Pao in English) and Pao Qing Tian ("Qing Tian" meaning a clear sky, a metaphor for describing his uncorrupt quality).

Pao Zheng was born in Shenxian, Hefei, Luzhou, China (currently known as Feidong County near Hefei, Anhui, China). His parents had high expectations for him. Therefore, he began to learn to read when he was five. He did well at school. Consequently, at the comparatively young age of 29, he was qualified as a Jinshi, the highest rank of imperial scholars.

You may ask, was he ready to start his work in the government? This is what we might expect, but it did not happen. His parents were old and were struggling to look after themselves, so he postponed his ambitions to take care of them, which he did until he reached his late thirties.

Fortunately, his career did not seem to suffer since people in China respected young ones who sacrificed years of work to look after their parents. After mourning for his parents after their deaths, he was accepted into the government and became a high-ranking official during the reign of Emperor Ren Zong in the Song Dynasty and began his career as a judge.

One day, the country was hit with huge floods. When the water finally receded, the grateful emperor decided to express his gratitude to the gods by granting a general annesty for all criminals and promoting all civil and military officials.

Judge Pao objected to the plan. Justice was too important to be set aside in this way, he told the emperor. Acts of criminality should lead to punishment. Bringing justice to society should be the only way to rise in a government.

The emperor followed his advice. Despite the fact that he lived in a culture where thoughts expressed too candidly to people in power could lead to disaster, he spoke his mind.

Judge Pao also demonstrated his fairness in a number of cases that he solved. Once, his uncle broke the law and was sued by the victim. He summoned his uncle to court and punished him by beating him 100 times with a stick. He even impeached Prime Minister Song Xiang, an uncle of the emperor's favourite concubine and other powerful people. Unfortunately, he died at the age 63.

There is also an interesting question about Judge Pao. Why does he have a crescent on his forehead? It is said that the crescent symbolizes his unique talent for investigating crime in the underworld at night. Without the crescent, this talent would be gone. This mark was formed in his mother's womb.

Judge Pao is a symbol of justice in China nowadays. Many people take him as the prototype for many wonderful stories in various genres of ballads, novels, cartoons, operas, movies and TV dramas. Some of the most popular portrayals of him can be found in the novel "Seven Heroes and Five Gallants". The novel first appeared in the 1880s. In it, he was assisted by a team of heroes who used their great fighting skills to arrest criminals and corrupt officials, seeking justice without hesitation or fear.