



The Elixir of Life

The Cornerstone of Affinity

In Old China, traveling monks and teachers would be able to stay at Buddhist or Taoist monasteries which were found along the way of their journey. They would sometimes contribute to the monastery in exchange for food and lodging and then they would be on their way. One of their contributions of support was teaching within the walls of the monastery to all of the resident monks.

If the traveling visitor found the character of an individual resident monk to be virtuous and that they showed deep interest in the teachings, then that monk was blessed with private esoteric teachings. Affinity played a very important part of this process of the transmission of higher knowledge. Without Affinity or good timing, or good karma, the traveling teacher and student would not have met at that most auspicious moment in time.

This natural way of teaching also applies in reverse to laypersons who found temporary shelter within the monastery. If a resident monk saw virtue in the traveler and they showed an interest in learning, then Affinity could manifest. The traveler would learn and then continue onward with their journey.

Affinity basically says that if there is GAN SHEN or Heart to Heart respect, then teachings were never held back. This is an extremely important principle that we still embrace today at The Elixir of Life.

In 1918, Lew Kim Yuen (Sifu Lew) was born in the area of Toisan, Guangdong Southern China. Due to the chaos of civil strife that reigned during this time, he was orphaned and homeless in 1934 and subsequently by Affinity, he was brought by a monk to the Wong Lung Guan (Yellow Dragon Taoist Monastery) located on Mount Luo Fu in Guangdong.



There he lived for 13 years and learned the Taoist teachings of the Lineage of the Immortal Lu Tung Bin. This lineage was called The School of the Elixir of Life, also known today as the Tao An style. (Please see document, The Life of Lu Tung Bin)



During this time in China, wars were raging on several fronts, tens of millions of people died, and the country was basically in chaos. From the north, people traveled southbound to try to escape from the extreme violence. Thus, many monks passed through Wong Lung Guan. Sifu Lew once said with a somewhat mischievous smile that he was very fortunate to have met by Affinity many traveling monks, and he simply said...

“... those monks liked me allot... I learned many old and secret things...”

Just prior to the commencement of the official beginning of the People’s Republic of China in 1949, Sifu Lew was petitioned out of the Wong Lung Guan by his uncle, 4th generation Grandmaster Lau Bun of Hung Sing Choy Li Fut. Sifu Lew departed the monastery and traveled first to Hong Kong then to California, USA.

In 1974, Mr. Todd Takeuchi started his tutelage under Sifu Lew. At the age of 94, Sifu Lew passed in 2012. Today, The Elixir of Life continues under the direction of Mr. Takeuchi to share the Lineage of Lu Tung Bin and to continue to promote the essence of Affinity and Gan Shen.



Through The Elixir of Life, a network of quality teachers, their teachings and their unique lineages that they represent are available to learn. Like the travelers of Old China, if you feel an affinity for this document, please feel free to contact us to explore opportunities for mutual growth. Thank you very much.