

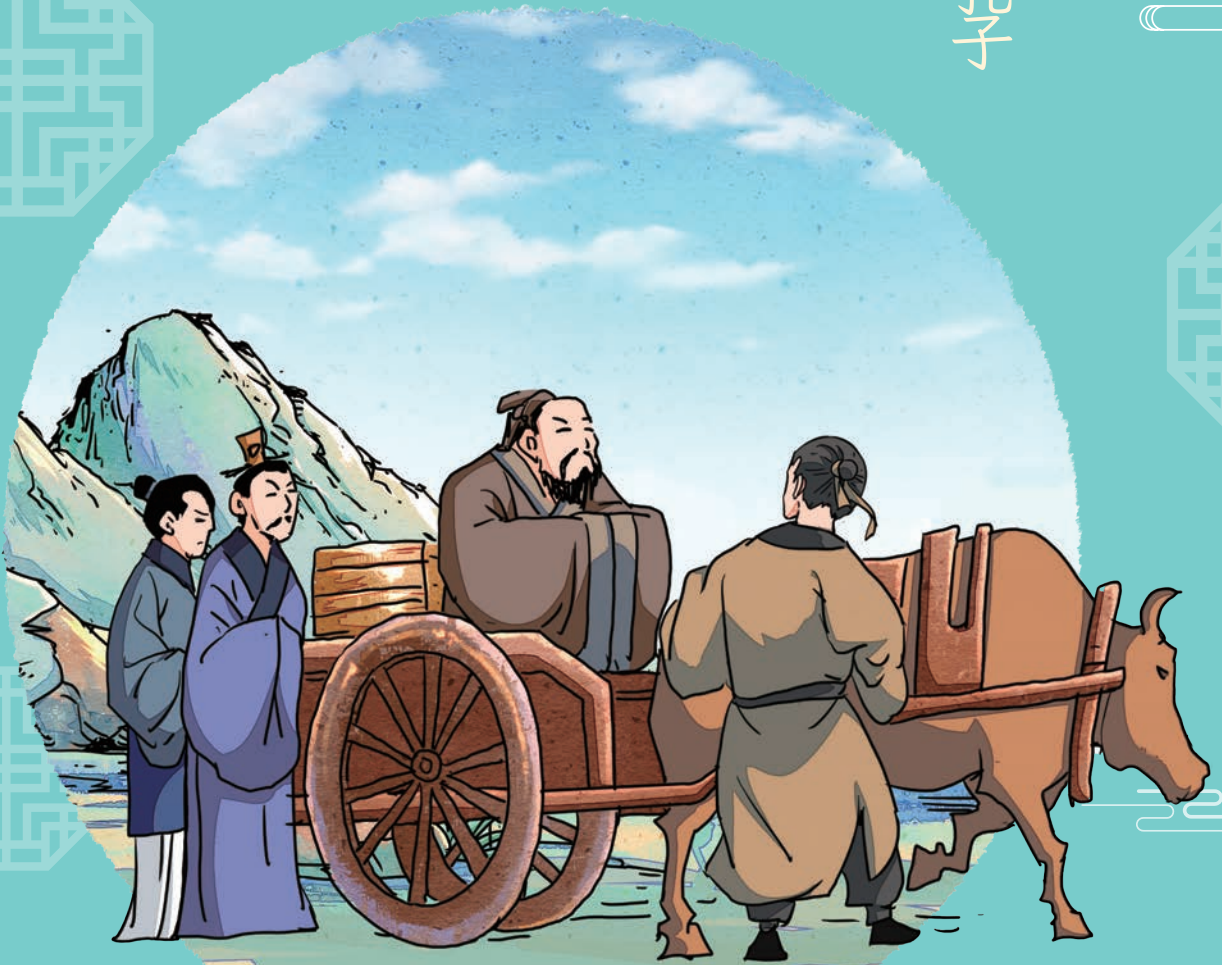
孔子

Extraordinary Chinese People

Ancient times

Confucius

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House

Extraordinary Chinese People - Ancient Times Confucius

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Extraordinary Chinese People

Ancient times

Confucius



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Confucius (孔子)
(551–479 BCE), also known
as Kong Qiu (孔丘), was a
great ancient Chinese thinker,
educator, philosopher, and
the founder of the Confucian
school of thought.



Confucius was born in the State of Lu (魯國). He lived during the late Spring and Autumn period. His family came from noble ancestors long ago, but by the time he was born, they were poor.

His father, Shu Liang He (叔梁紇), was a brave soldier in Lu. Later in life, he married a young woman named Yan Zhengzai (顏徵在), and together they had a baby boy, Confucius.





When Confucius was born, there was a little hollow on the top of his head. His mother had prayed at Mount Niqu (尼丘), so he was given the name Qiu (丘).



His family was very poor. They had almost nothing, so young Confucius had to learn simple skills and crafts to help out.



Where was Confucius born?

Confucius was not considered a genius as a child. But when he turned fifteen, he suddenly realised that learning was the key to success.

From then on, Confucius kept a strong desire to learn. He loved exploring new places, asking questions, and learning everything he could.



When Confucius was about seventeen, he had grown to an impressive height of nearly 1.9 meters. People called him a 'long man'.



Later, his mother passed away after years of hard work. After burying his parents together,

Confucius tried different jobs. He managed a warehouse for nobles and even looked after livestock for the government offices. No matter what job he did, he always worked seriously and did his very best.





At the age of nineteen, Confucius married the daughter of the Qi family, and a year later they had their first baby boy.

The ruler of Lu sent a gift of a carp fish to celebrate, so Confucius named his son Kong Li (孔鯉), with the nickname Bo Yu (伯魚), meaning little carp.



Around 525 BCE, Confucius started his own private school. Before this, only noble children could go to school, but Confucius believed in education for all. Everyone should be educated, regardless of wealth or social standing.

So, he said that no matter if you were rich or poor, you could learn. Confucius did not charge any school fees and only requested a symbolic gift of a bundle of dried meat.



What did Confucius ask students to give instead of school fee?