

Religion in China

Religion in China

[MP3 sound recording \(link\)](#)

1257

620002000

[MP3 sound recording \(link\)](#)

1257125712571257

1257



Religion in China

Shmis: Sòng
xinsheng, zài
Bijing zhè
yichéng
zuxiálái, w
fxiàn yu ho
du
míngshèng
gji du shi
simiào a!
Sòng
xinsheng: Shi
de,
Zhngguórén
yíxiàng
rènwéi "jítóu
sn ch yu
shénmíng".
Suy píngri yu
shénme
shìqing, du
huì qù
qiúshén
bǎifó, jiùlián
yqián de
huángdì y bú
liwài, suy
simiào géwài
xngshèng.
Shmis
xinsheng:
Yuánlái rúc.
Zhngguórén
yibn du
xinjiào ma?



Zài Yngguó dàdushù rén du shi Jdtú.

Sòng xinsheng: Bú suàn xinjiào ba, zài Zhngguó, dàdushù rén zài yixi zhòngyào shíkè du huì qù simiào, dàn bing bú dàbio tmen yu zngjiào xinyng, daji pbiàn du zh shì bàozhe jioxing xnl, juéde nxn éry. Yqián Zhngguó de zngjiào zhyào yu fójiào hé dàojiào, qíshí fójiào yizhí bjiào fánróng, zhídào xn Zhngguó chénglì, xiàndàihuà jìncéng kish, daji jiù du biàchéng wúshénlúnzh la, jùshu Zhngguó bú xinjiào de réngu j quán shijie zh shu, yibàn rén shì wúshénlúnzh, dàgài liú yì rén luo. Língwài yí bàn rén shì yu zngjiào xinyng de, chúle línglíng sns de yixi shénmíng chóngbài, fójiàotú dàgài yu yí yì rén, jishàng shoshù mínzú de yslán jiào, y yu 2000 du wàn ba. Qíshí xiànzài xfg wénhuà chuánjnlái, hn du rén y kish xin Jd le, dào xianzài yjng yu líng qin du wàn xintú. Zhiyú Dàojiào, zhyào shì pàibié tài du, nány ngji.

Shmis: Nà zài Bìjīng dū shì xī shénme zngjiào de simiào ne?

Sòng xīnshēng: Dàdū dū shì Fójìào simiào. Xiàng Yīnghéng a, Tánzhè Sì a, hái yú Dàjué Sì, Yúnj Sì, Fàhì Sì, Xūnw Fyúan Sì, Hòuhì Gūnghuà Sì, Báisì dngdng. Língwài, xiàng Tíntán zhè zhng, shì jítán, gōngfèng shàngtīn de, jiù shì nmen sū shu de "Shàngdì". Zhngguórén xngshèng dushén chóngbài, y bù zhdào "Lotiny" shì n ge, fñzhèng tngtng jiào "Tīn". Hái yú de, xiàng lídài diwángmiào zhè zhng, shì jìsì xīnrén de, zài gài y jiào "zngmiào", zìg guórén jiù duì zxin fícháng zñzhōng, yú zhng "zxin chóngbài" de zhuàngtài, xiànzài fnyì dào yngwén, yú de y jiào jítán, yú de y jiào simiào.

Shmis: Hòuxiàng zhè lmiàn yú hō du àomiào a, rúgu yú shíjīn, zhñ xīng dudu yánjī.

Sòng xīnshēng: Quèshí tng yú yìsì de. Surán dàdūshù dngyuán dū shì wúshénlúnzh, búguò hñ dū niánlo de yí bēi, hái yú xīnshēng de niánqng yídài, dū shì yú zngjiào xīnyng de. Xiàng w fūm jiù dū shì Fójìàotú, xiànzài mī ge chéngshì dū yú hō dū Fójìào de simiào hé gng xīntú huódòng de chngsū, brú "Jshílín" a shénme de. Zhngguó zngjiào xīnyng háishi hñ zīyóu de, dàxué lmiàn dū yú Jdjiào de shètúán. Xiànzài yìxī fdá chéngshì y kish jiànzào jiàotáng le, Shmis xīnshēng n yhòu xyào de huà, w ky dài n guòqù, Bìjīng y yú hō j ge dà jiàotáng de.

Shmis: Tàì yú yìsìle, yqíán méi xīngdào zài Zhngguó hái néng qù Jd jiàotáng. Huítóu dng zhō ge zhūmò, w qù kànkān bā.

Sòng xīnshēng: Méi wèntí, w gī n npái xià, dào shíhòu yídào guòqù!

Shmis: Bú yòng bú yòng, Sòng xīnshēng n shì bù xīnjiào de ba? W zìj qù hōle, w y hō zuò xī dogào.

Sòng xīnshēng: Ēn y duì, nà huítóu w b nàxi jiàotáng dìzh fgi n bā!

Shmis: Hō de, xièxiè xièxiè.

Vocab and notes

Zài Bìjīng zhè yì chéng zuxiálái 'I've been walking around Beijing during this trip'. zhè yìchéng = zhè yí cì lǐxíng chéng 'this trip'. Note that is not a measure word. Xiálái indicates the continuation of an action.

fxiàn 'discover, find out'

míngshèng gǐ 'historical sites and scenic spots'

simiào 'temple'

yìxiàng rěnwéi 'thought all along'

Jtóu sn ch yú shénmíng. 'The gods are only a few feet above your head.'

suy 'therefore, so'

píngrì 'ordinarily, usually'

qiúshén bàifó 'seek god or pray to the Buddha'

jiùlián 'even' (informal for shènzhì)

huángdì 'emperor'

lìwài 'exception'

gévài 'especially'

xngshèng 'to flourish, thrive'

Yuánlái rúc. 'I see.'

yìbn 'generally'

xīnjiào '(practise) a faith'

dàdūshù 'most'

Jdtú 'Christians'

bú suàn ... 'leaving ... aside'

zhōngyào shíkè 'important times'

simiào temple

bīng bù 'not at all'

dàibio 'represent, mean'

zngjiào xīnyng 'religious belief'

pbiàn 'in general'

bào jìoxìng xnl 'have a sense of consolation/security'

juéde nǎn éry 'they feel at rest and that's all'.

yqíán 'before, previously, in the past'

zngjiào 'religion'

zhýào 'mainly'

Fójìào 'Buddhism'

Dàojiào 'Taoism'

qíshí 'actually'

yìzhí 'all along, always'

bjiào 'relatively, quite'

fánróng 'booming'

zhídào 'until'

chénglì 'establish'

xiàndàihuà 'modernization'

jīnchéng 'process'

kish 'start'

biànchéng wúshénlúnzh 'become an atheist'

jùshu 'it is said that'

rénku 'population'

j quán shìjiè zh shu 'ranks at the top in the whole world'

6 liú yì '600 million people'. Note that the major units above 1,000 (qin) have multiples of four zeros: wàn '10,000', yì '100,000,000' etc.

lúo = a

língwài 'additional'

chúle 'apart from'

línglíng ssn 'scattered'

yìxī 'some'

shénmíng 'god, deity'

chóngbài 'worship'

fójìàotú 'Buddhist'

dàgài 'about'

jìshàng 'in addition'

shòushǔ mínzú minority people'

yslán xinyng 'Islamic faith'
 Qíshí xiànzài xfgng wénhuà chuánjìnlái 'In fact, currently western culture has spread/come in'
 jd jiào 'the Christian faith'
 zhiyú 'as for'
 pàibié 'school, denomination'
 nány 'difficult to'
 tngjì 'statistics'
 xiàng Ynghéng 'like the Lama Temple'
 Tánzhè Sì 'Tanzhe Temple'
 Dàjué Sì 'Dajue Temple'
 Yúnjì Sì 'Yunju Temple'
 Fhì Sì 'Fahai Temple'
 Xunw Fyuán Sì 'Xuanwu Fayuan Temple'
 Hòuhi Gunghu Sì 'Houhai Guanghua Temple'
 Báit Sì 'White Stupa Temple'
 dngdng 'etc.'
 Tintán 'Temple of Heaven'
 jítán 'altar'
 gòngfèng 'consecrate, offer, sacrifice'
 shàngtín 'heaven, god'
 su shu 'what you call'
 Shàngdì '(Christian) God'
 dushén chóngbài 'polytheism'
 lotiny 'god'
 frzhèng 'anyway'
 tngtng 'totally'
 Tin 'Heaven'
 lidài 'successive generations; successive dynasties'
 diwángmiào 'royal mausoleum'
 jìsì xīnrén 'offer sacrifices to ancestors'
 zài gǎi 'in ancient times'
 zngmiào 'ancestral shine'
 zìg 'since ancient times'
 guórén 'fellow countrymen'
 duì zxin ficháng znzhòng 'very much respected (their) ancestors'
 zhuàngtài 'form'
 fnyì 'translate'
 àomiào 'mysterious, profound'
 yánji 'research'
 quèshí 'certainly'
 yu yisi 'interesting'
 ... surán ... búguò 'although'
 dàdushù 'most'
 dngyuán '(Communist) party member'
 niánlo 'old'
 yībèi 'a generation'
 xnshng 'new(ly born)'
 niánqng 'young'
 yídài 'a generation'
 chéngshì 'city'
 gng 'offer, for'
 xintú 'believer'
 huódòng 'activity, event'
 chngsu 'place'
 brú 'for example'
 háishi 'relatively'. Cf. xingdng, shífn and bjào
 shètúán 'society'
 fdá 'developed'
 jiànzào jiàotáng 'build churches'
 xyào 'to need'
 dài n guòqù 'take you there'
 xingdào 'expect'
 hái 'still; also; even (c.f. shènzhì)'
 èn 'mm'
 huítóu (colloq.) 'later'
 zhùmò 'weekend'
 w gi n npái xià 'I'll just arrange it for you'. Xià is short for yixià 'just, a little'.
 dào shíhou 'at the time'
 yídào 'together'
 bú yòng 'that's all right' (refusing an offer)
 dogào prayer'
 dìzh 'address'
 fgi 'send to'

Religion in China

Mr Smith: I've been walking around Beijing during this trip and I've found that very many historical sites and scenic spots are temples!

Mr Song: Yes, Chinese people have always thought "The gods are only a few feet above your head". So usually if something happens, they can go and seek god or pray to the Buddha. The former emperors were not exceptions, so temples especially thrived.

Mr Smith: I see. Do Chinese people generally have a faith? Most people in the UK are Christians.

Mr Song: They don't really have a faith, but in China most people go to temples at certain important times. However, that absolutely doesn't mean that they have religious beliefs. Generally everyone just has a sense of consolation and feels at peace and that's it. In the past Chinese religions were mainly Buddhism and Taoism and actually Buddhism has always thrived relatively until the establishment of the new China and the start of the modernization process, when everyone became atheists and it is said that China ranks at the top with the most people not believing in the world. Half the people are atheists, about 600 million. The other half of the people have religious faiths. Apart from scattered worship of some deities, there are about 100 million Buddhists and in addition I think there also are more than 20 million belonging to the minority Islamic faith. In fact at present western culture has come in, many people have started to believe in Christianity and nowadays there are already more than 20 million believers. As for Taoism, there are too many schools, so it's difficult to get statistics.



Mr Smith: In that case, which religion are all the temples in Beijing?

Mr Song: Most are Buddhist temples, like the Lama Temple, Tanzhe Temple, and also Dajue Temple, Yunju Temple, Fahai Temple, Xuanwu Fayuan Temple, Houhai Guanghua Temple, White Stupa Temple etc. In addition the sort like the Temple of Heaven is altars for sacrificing to heaven, what you call "God". Polytheism is thriving among Chinese people, and it's not known which "gods" they are, but they are anyway always called "Heaven". There is also the sort with mausoleums of successive generations of imperial families, which worships ancestors and was called "zngmiào" (ancestral shrines) in ancient times.

Since ancient times Chinese people have very much respected their ancestors and there is a sort of belief which is a form of "ancestor worship". Now when it's translated into English some call them altars and others temples.

Mr Smith: It seems that this aspect is very mysterious, if there is time I would really like to study it more.

Mr Song: It's certainly quite interesting. Although most party members are atheists, many of the old generation and many of the newly born young generation have religious beliefs. People like my father and mother are Buddhists and nowadays every town has many Buddhist temples and places for activities for believers, for example "Jushilin" etc. Chinese religious beliefs are relatively free and in the universities there are Christian societies. Now they have started to build churches in some developed cities. If you need one, Mr Smith after this, I can take you there; Beijing has quite a few large churches.

Mr Smith: That's so interesting; before this I didn't expect I could even go to a Christian church in China. Later I'll look for a weekend and I'll go and see.

Mr Song: No problem, I can make arrangements for you; let's go together at that time.

Mr Smith: That's all right. Mr Song, you're not a believer are you? It's better for me to go on my own, then I can pray.

Mr Song: That's also fine. In that case I'll send you the addresses of some churches later!

Mr Smith: All right, thank you.