Caodai Youth Questions & Answers Slide Show (From Caodai Religion's Hiền Tài World Conference VI - Houston TX)

Researched & Studied by: Ngọc Túy Email: <u>tuy nguyen66@yahoo.com</u> Date: 12/25/2010

Advisors: Biền Tài Trịnh Quốc Thế & Biền Tài Nguyễn Ngọc Nương

Questions are collected from Caodai Youths in different areas! The Truth is never limited in one's mind, thus the author can only provide her best answers in a given time that based on her limited knowledge limiting in human form.

1. Caodai Region was born in which country? The answer is:

a. The United States
b. China
c. Mongolia
d. Việt Nam



2. Christianity was born how long ago? **The answer is:**



a. About 100 years
b. About 500 years
c. About 1,000 years
d. About 2,000 years

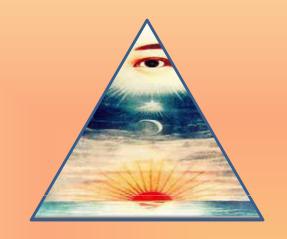
3. Buddhism was born how long ago? **The answer is:**



- a. About 100 Years ago
- b. About 500 Years ago
- c. About 1,500 Years ago

d. About 2,500 Years ago

4. Caodaism was born how long ago ? The answer is:



a. More than 1000 years ago
b. Less than 500 years ago
c. More than 100 years ago
d. Less than 100 years ago



5. The Divine Eye is perceived as the iconic symbol of GOD in Caodai Region. Please explain this symbol?

The answer is:



- a. The Divine Eye with radius lights is the iconic symbol of GOD's wisdoms calls "Thiên Nhãn".
- b. "Thiên Nhãn" represents the timeless truths of the universe.
- c. "Thiên Nhãn" represents the cell nucleus (+) in each molecule of everything in this world.
- d. "Thiên Nhãn" is the holy symbol that represents the enlightened mind or the inner God that exists in the mind and heart of each individual human being.

All of the above

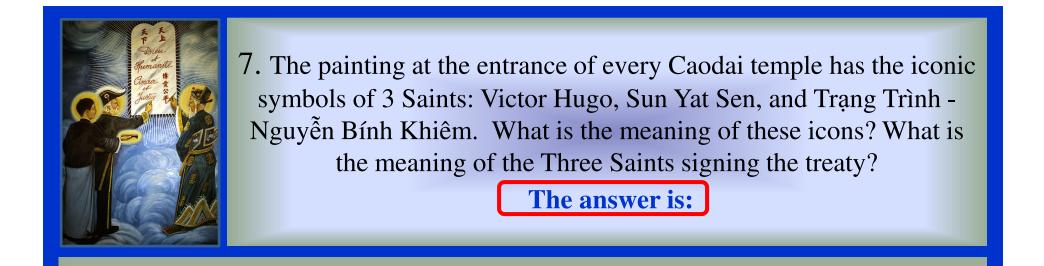


6. What is the meaning of white color uniform of Caodai worshiper? Why is it White? The answer is:



- a. White color in Caodai Religion symbolizes the purity and also demonstrates the purity state of mind.
- b. Science has proven White color is the combination of 7 colors and White color in Caodai Religion represents for the unity and harmony of mankind regardless of race and individual skin color.
- c. The White uniform makes statement that promotes cross religious communication, cross religious boundaries, cross ethnic background, without distinction, without envy, to accept the similarities and differences of each individual.





- a. Victor Hugo, The Great Poet from French represents for Western Beliefs.
- b. Sun Yat Sen, The Great Leader from China represents Eastern Values.
- c. Trạng Trình Nguyễn Bính Khiêm, The Great Writer from Vietnam represents Vietnamese Principles.
- d. The treaty symbol represents the World Peace treaty between GOD and humanity unites all mankind, and create a visible connection between human beings and the Supreme Being.

e. All of the above.

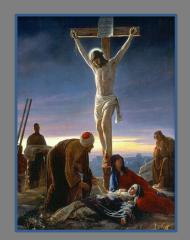
The elaborative answer is continued in the next page!



The answer is continued:

The image of the Three Saints of the "White Cloud Lodge" signing the divine treaty between God and humanity represents One Ideology: "God and Humanity – Love and Justice" for ALL MANKINDS

The World War II is a real-life example of hatred that can lead to the destruction of humankind. Human beings must implement this Divine Treaty signed between God and Humanity in order to survive. With this treaty, Caodai Doctrine calls for the universal love under one God. People must treat each other with respect and equality, regardless of race or religion and have only one common Father, our God, our Supreme Being. All races must be treated with equality, with mutual respects for their cultures. In a globalized community, human beings need to promote global tolerance in cultural, political, social, and religious affairs. There is only ONE RACE – for all mankind, regardless of human-defined race, color, language, sex, living in any country in this globe; ALL are having the same common Father God.



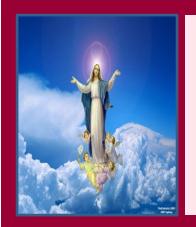
8. Why does the image of Jesus was crucified on the cross touch the heart of human beings deeply?

The answer is:

a. The image shows His Great Love for living beings.

- b. The image expresses enduring sacrifice.
- c. The image of Jesus teaches mankind the concept of forgiveness "Forgiveness not only to the ones you love but also for the people who give harm to yourself ".

d. All of the above



9. When suffering, why do people usually pray to Marry (Đức Mẹ) or Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva (Đức Quan Thế Âm Bồ Tát) ?

The answer is:



- a. The symbol of Marry (Đức Mẹ) and Avalokitesvara
 Bodhisattva (Đức Quan Thế Âm Bồ Tát) represents for compassion and salvation
- b. The symbols of Marry and Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva are the iconic symbols of Love and Compassion encompassing the Universe.
- c. Praying to The Marry and Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva creating the Power of Love, and giving the necessary confident to the prayer to surpass sufferings and unhappiness.

d. All of the above

 10. What is the meaning of the image of 2 gold dragons on the crown of the Pope (The leader of Cửu Trùng Đài / Executive Body - Đức Quyền Giáo Tông) at Caodai Temple - Tayninh Vietnam?

The answer is:

The image of 2 gold dragons on the crown of the Pope -Đức Quyền Giáo Tông, is the symbol of the Pope level, which has the responsibility of teaching God's Virtue to humankind. He is the head of Executive Body of Caodaism (Cữu Trùng Đài) which takes charge of the administration of the Religion and missionary activities. 11. Why Caodai Religion illustrates the image of Maitreya (Đức Phật Di Lặc) wearing armor and riding tiger, while the outfit of Maitreya in other religions or regions are totally different?

The answer is:

According to the most important Caodai Holy Doctrine "The New Code & Holy Scriptures - Tân Luật - Pháp Chánh Truyền", everybody is born with the special gift from God that gives one protection - that is the armor, which will protect one from Seven Deadly Sins from self and from others.

The image of Maytreya (Đức Phật Di Lạc) is the symbol that represents a human being who has reached the enlightenment stage; who has reached the highest stage of happiness and highest love to all living beings.

The armor represents His capability of LOVE, KNOWLEDGE, and COURAGE. The tiger represents for the power of inner Evil (or the Seven Deadly Sins) that exists in each human being. The image implies He is using His LOVE, KNOWLEDGE, and COURAGE to conquer His own inner evil desires and neutralize others' inner evil desires preventing them from harming Him. 12. Why the Holy Embellishments for 3 stages of Buddha (Tam Thể Phật) in Caodai Religion are different from Holy Embellishments of Buddha from other religions like India? What are the meanings of those embellishments?

The answer is:

The Holy Embellishment on each represented Buddha in Caodai Temple's "Bát Quái Đài" represents the "Cycle of Progress" in Life. Each Buddha symbol represents an important natural function of Life.

The First Cycle is the Cycle of Creation - Something is born(tượng trưng cho Tạo Hóa – Thể Phật Brama). This cycle is the Cycle of Innocence (Thánh Đức).

The Second Cycle is the Cycle of Struggle and Destruction – Something is matured and then will eventually & inevitably die (tượng trưng cho sự trưởng thành, già nua, và Diệt Vong - Thể Phật Civa).

The Third Cycle is the Cycle of Conservation (Bảo Tồn) or the Cycle of Reproduction (Tái Tạo) - Something is re-born in different form(s). All Cycles are applied for everything from the smallest form to the greatest form in the universe. 13. Caodai Holy Temple has iconic figures like dragons at Cữu Trùng Đài and Bát Quái Đài with 4 different colors: red, blue, yellow, white. Are these dragons the same 5 dragons in Asian Legend (Ngũ Long)? If so where is the black dragon? There is a mystic story saying the Black Dragon is the leader of the other four Dragons, is that true?

The answer is:

Red, blue, yellow, white dragons at Caodai Temple's Cữu Trùng Đài and Bát Quái Đài is not represented the same as Ngũ Long (5 dragons in Asian Myth) or Ngũ Sắc (5 main colors of the Earth) or Ngũ Hành (5 main functions of the Earth). Instead each color characterizes each different religious teachings from different religions that were born thousands of years ago.

Yellow, blue, and red dragons are represented colors of Caodai Religon, symbolize for 3 main forms of other religions: Buddhism, Lao-tze, and Confucianism. Caodai's Doctrine calls for religious unification and the 3 colors signify the unification of the Three Forms of World Religions.

The answer is continued on next page!

The answer for Question 13 is continued:

The white color is the symbolic color of Caodai Religion. White is the combination of 7 colors that represents the promotion of unification and harmony of all mankind regardless of race, religion, and skin color. The white dragon symbol promotes cross religious boundaries, cross ethic background, and the acceptances of the similarities and differences of each individual.

Black dragon is not a symbolic color of Caodai Religion, instead it is perceived as the highest leader of the Devil, which represents the Seven Deadly Sins, the negative force in the Universe, the negative part (-) in each molecule , the inner evil exist in each human being. The role of inner evil in human body is to challenge human being's inner God, human being's capabilities of LOVE, KNOWLEDGE, and COURAGES. The function of negative part (-) in each molecule is to balance each particle in the universe thus to create balance in space.

Caodai Holy Temple is represented for a place that God teach His Virtue thus there is no position for the image of Black Dragon in the temple.

Caodai Temple at Wichita, Kansas has the picture of Buddha riding the tiger above the picture of the Divine Eye (Thiên Nhãn), which is the iconic symbol of God in Caodai Religion.

The questions are:

Question 14: Who is the Buddha image represented for? Why is He riding the Tiger instead of Holy Sacred Animals: mystic dragon, mystic Lân (dragon with 4 legs), mystic turtle, mystic special bird (Long, Lân, Quy, Phụng) or other animals?

Question 15: Why is the picture of the Divine Eye placed below the picture of Buddha? Should this be in contrast with the customary perception that the Divine Eye picture should be placed in the highest position?

The answer for Question 14 is :

The picture of Buddha riding the tiger at Holy Caodai Temple TayNinh Vietnam or Caodai Temple at Wichita Kansas is the image of Maytreya (Đức Phật Di Lạc) wearing the armor and riding the tiger.

The meaning behind of Maytreya riding the tiger instead of riding on mystic animals or other animals is, the tiger is the symbol for power and in this case it is symbolized the power of inner evils exists in human beings. This picture implied a human being who has reached the highest stage of enlightenment, who has the power of LOVE, KNOWDLEGE, and COURAGE that can overcome the power of evils within Himself and others.

The answer for Question 15 is :

The Divine Eye, which is the iconic symbol of God, not being placed in the highest position reveals a different perception about God position. In fact, He is larger, bigger, and more power than perception of normal human beings can be. This relative position sends a message to human beings that God can be anywhere, from the highest position that one cannot even imaging to the lowest position that one cannot even perceive. It implies that God does exist everywhere in any form in the universe regardless where it is including our Mother Earth.

Human beings 'perception about high and low position on earth is based on the relative position on where one stands on the Earth. Thus human's concept about height is limited to the context of the Earth Itself.

God, on the other hand, is on the Earth, inside the Earth, and outside the Earth. God is in any form; is anywhere in the universe thus there is no concept of high and low in God's position. Because of that, He is so powerful, so knowledgeable, so truthful and His virtues are covering everywhere from the highest sciences of Truth, the highest sciences of living planets to the lowest living beings. And that is why He knows everything; He understands everything, He designs and creates every living thing, then He destroys and re-produces things in different forms. He creates the Three Cycles of Progress that apply to every living thing in this world. Change is the law of life, evolution is the law of improvement, religions teach mankind about God's Virtues, therefore, on each single day, human beings will reach a higher level on the latter's Science of Truth!

