

God in Chinese Daily Belief and Literature

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Abstract

Idioms, proverbs, and phrases such as "hope in God," "whatever God wills," etc., display a corner of a nation's worldview and culture. In the case of this article, Chinese culture, and in the everyday language of the Chinese, despite their belief in Eastern religion and philosophy and their distancing from religious life in the past few decades, one can still hear phrases, idioms, and proverbs that in a way refer to belief in a powerful, watchful, conscious, active, eternal sovereign. These words and phrases in a way contain concepts that can be equated with God in Abrahamic religions in both the attributes of essence and some attributes of action, although due to differences in some attributes, they cannot be considered the same. After examining the existence of belief in a supernatural God in past Chinese thought, this article also examines it in today's literature and collects the phrases and phrases that contain it. With the hope that taking advantage of common ground will open the way for dialogue and pave the way for the expansion of cultural and religious relations.

Keywords: Monotheism; tian; Modern Chinese; Eastern religions; Daoism; Dong Zhong Shu.

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