**Chapter 7: Early China Lesson 2 Study Guide**

During the **Period of the Warring States**, farmerswere forced to serve as soldiers. As entire villages were wiped out, many Chinese looked for **ways to stop the killing**.

**Chinese thinkers developed three major philosophies:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Confucianism** | **Daoism** | **Legalism** |
| **Founder** | **Confucius** | **Laozi**  **(lay-uh-zee)** | **Han Feizi**  **(fee-zee)** |
| **Main Ideas** | People should put the needs of their family and community first | People should give up worldly desires in favor of nature and the Dao. | “School of Law”  Society needs a system of harsh laws and strict punishment |
| **Influence on Modern Life** | Many Chinese today accept his idea of duty to family. His ideas helped open up government jobs for people with talent. | Daoism teaches the importance of nature and encourages people to treat nature with respect and reverence. | Legalists developed laws that became an important part of Chinese history. |

* **Confucius** believed that government service should be open to all men of ability, not just noble men. However, this still favored the rich because only the rich were truly educated.
* **Daoism’s** belief is that people should free themselves from worldly desires and live simply by tuning to nature.
* **Legalism’s** belief is that humans are naturally evil and need strict laws and punishment to make them do their duty.

**Social Classes**: people who share a similar position in society

The **artisans**, skilled workers who make useful objects, crafted iron tools and weapons, silk, and bronze or jade boxes. Many were architects, artists, and woodworkers. Shop keepers, traders, and bankers made up the **merchant** class. Many merchants became wealthy but **were not respected** because people believed they worked for **their own good and not for the good of society.** Merchants were barred from **government** jobs.

**Chinese Families**

Parents had many children to **help with the farming**. Even young children worked in the fields. Chinese families practiced **filial piety**, people’s responsibility to **respect** and **obey** their parents and to **take care of them as they age**.