

## *A Chinese Kaleidoscope; An American Mosaic*

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On the second day when I got in New York, I was introduced to a waiter job in a Chinese restaurant by uncle Yu. The work was actually easy plus I was young and eager to learn, I then became a formal employee after a week's training. During that era, lots of entrepreneurs and government officials from Shanghai though lived in the United States but were especially nostalgic about local cuisines, such as soup dumplings, fried bread sticks, shredded turnip biscuits, etc. Therefore many chefs and restaurateurs from same places started to open restaurants at suitable locations all throughout Manhattan including Chinatown in downtown. Most of them ran a good business, especially House of Fortune. Due to the poor management, all those restaurants were unfortunately forced to close eventually.

Uncle Yu and his wife were economical and always loved to stay active. Though almost hit 70 years old after they ended up their restaurant in uptown, they choose to continue their 2<sup>nd</sup> career by running Yee's Café on Ann Street, that was transformed from a lunch place. That place used to belong to Americans, full of bar, bars stools and long cafe tables. Uncle Yu and his wife took advantage of what's already there and reinvented it into a fusion spot with both Oriental and western characteristics as far as foods and interior designs were concerned. They sold it out in five years after they're too old to do the business anymore.

I tried to apply the job vacancy at Trade Vic's after one-year working experience at a Chinese restaurant. I heard about they'd hold a training program in New York and then send some qualified people to St. Lois where there would have a new restaurant there. I was worried about my insufficient English ability at the first place. However with prudence and nonstop practice, I successfully went through the final test and was sent to work at St. Lois. Since then, that also opened a door for me to communicate and interact with Americans in many ways. In order to make a living in the United States, you just have to try to be proficient in English. No matter starting from zero or a basic basis, as long as not giving up, you would make your way to stand out in the mainstream society.

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I gradually retired from the catering industry in 1984 with regard to my less strong health situation. On time on my visit to Los Angeles, I met a middle-aged Chinese immigrant, mentioning about how profitable to invest in the hotel business. In lack of related experience, I took out several tens of thousand dollars out of my pocket. Two months later, I got a call from that guy, unexpectedly asking for more capital to put in that investment because of it big loss previously. To avoid further hassle, I finally had a lawyer to legally withdraw the share from the investment.

There are some people who invest little and turn to make big bucks. However the more profits aimed to grab; the more risk going to undergo. My office in Chinatown right by the New York City Police Department was originally a gun shop. And its customers were usually the police or some governors.

In 1990 while the United States and the People's Republic of China started trading, a large number of corporations in China seeking to export their products to U.S.A. still had a difficult time. My office was hence turned into be a product center, helping those Chinese products to push through the American market for a quite long period of time. However for various reasons, it failed. But the most key point was I didn't fully focus on that business considering there were still other sources of incomes. We hence can conclude taking a business is not about doing a lot at the same time but more being attentive to certain a few targets.

In 1992, I got to be in touch and then cooperated with Hi Tien plastic and rubber machinery located in Ningbo, China. This time, the problems were: first, the United States had a very restricted product specification on the imports. And second, once the company established here, it's required to purchase the secure insurance. We failed to reach both them.

Later in 1993, I tried to Wu Zi Xiong Glass Center in Taizhou, China. Wu Zi Xiong and his son's work were highly acclaimed and welcome in China; they even had a Wu Zi Xiong Glass Museum in Taizhou. Although having performed everywhere in China and overseas, they still couldn't make their way to America for some reasons.

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The first time I took part in World Fair was in 1962 in Seattle. Since then I'll visit those in New York, Tennessee and Vancouver in Canada. Mr. Ying Chen Jou and Ms. Yin Shen Ying were the first two businessmen who have established Chinese Pavilion at the World Expo since 1964 until now.

Working in the United States might only earn a certain amount salary. So if on vacation, people usually tend to choose normal hotels (not too high-end) to stay. However if for a business trip, they oftentimes wouldn't have to worry about all the expenses.

I ever knew a president of a bank in Chinatown and he owned a nickname as "god of wealth" in the finance field. Though at a high job position, he still led a very moderate lifestyle. He took the long Island railroad train to Manhattan for work every day to avoid the parking fee. He also went to grocery shopping in the supermarket and then went home to cook himself just like the common people in America did.

It's never easy to start from scratch in the United States without professional knowledge and skills. Also there's no exception for hardship, risk-taking and being practical. In general, people would start their own business after accumulating a certain amount of money. The typical working style of an entrepreneur is to work for over 10 hours a day and 7 days week without vacation time.

The secret to success is practice what you preach and work hard. It takes time to be stable. But after more and more business come up, the company is going to be on the right track and will be smoothly moving forward to its next stage.

According to the United States of Department of Labor, a firm or company whose employees are less than 500 is regarded as a small business. From that point of view, most of the companies run by the Chinese people are of that category. In contrast, the aircraft, gasoline, petroleum or military industries are traditionally dominated by American Caucasians and require a much larger capital investment. As for employment, the American companies care to provide high salary as well as greater benefits compared with those Chinese firms or corporations.

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Take an American firm with 500 employees for instance. The salary it's supposed to averagely pay for each worker for around \$30,000 a year. Plus 50% of that sum as benefit, the total to spend on all employees would be \$22,550,000. If that's the same case to a Chinese company with employees at the same number, the benefit is usually 25 % out of the average annual pay for each worker. In this way they spend roughly \$18,750,000 in total on employees every year. We would easily tell that how come the incomes of most Americans are higher than Chinese immigrants. That also accounts for how hard for Chinese in the Unites States to start their business before gathering the needed capitals. The history of Chinese immigration has been written for 150 years old. In earlier times, Chinese business owners would run their business on a family basis or partnership. And the types of business were all related to life necessity, such as laundromats, restaurants, cafes, groceries, etc. Not until 30 years ago, there haven't been so many Chinese immigrants taking jobs in the finance, real estate, investment, high technology and chemistry industries.

As the old Chinese saying goes, keeping is harder than winning. When a store is magnificently open, it doesn't guarantee its sustenance for good. Lots of risks and problems are often expected to wait ahead. Some people might actually sort it out, and their business could be transformed as being more grand and reliable.

Aircrafts have been playing a major role to the modern life while the technology is developing and widely spreading. Nowadays it's indispensable for us to either go on vacation or for business. And there are advanced airports everywhere in the United States. As for those travel agents run by Chinese, they usually offer cheaper flight tickets and packages for selection. In recent years, the flights to China, Taiwan, and other Asian countries have been rapidly increased, direct flights included as well. The flight attendants at American airline companies are likely to be older since they don't have upper age limit for taking that job. On the contrary, nearly all Asian airlines, they only accept young and gorgeous girls at a certain age range to be their flight attendants.

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The second generation of Chinese immigrants is usually recognized as ABC, American Born Chinese. And because the first Chinese immigration generation was traditionally passionate and also care a lot about children's education, consequently, the next generation oftentimes gets to receive higher education even with a master or doctor's degree.

40 years ago, there were not so a lot Chinese taking jobs as doctors, lawyers, accountants, and architects. Nowadays many more clinics, law firms, accounting companies, architecture firms are hiring the Chinese people, and some of them are even run by Chinese immigrants. Chinese decent youth who ever work with American companies might ambitiously think of creating their own business after they capture the basic management tools and skills.

There were two job centers in Chinatown about 40 years ago. They mainly and only referred people to working in restaurants and hotels in the upper state. Today on East Broadway, there are countless jobs centers to offer possible job openings, like baby sitters, home care for the aged, drivers, gardeners, computers programmers, accountants, and so on.

In the latest 20 years, there are even marriage agencies. Some cases could work well, but still others are for green card to legally stay in America. The latters are tricky and aren't stable since the purpose of that marriage is complicated with not-so-good intentions.

Also there are quite a few Chinese have done well in the media industry in the past years as news reporter at prime time. The 4 key media in the great New York area is New York Times, Daily News, Wall Street Journal, and New York Post. Overall most of the Chinese media professionals still join the Chinese news stations or publishers. The most popular Chinese newspapers here are World Journal, Sing Tao Daily, Ming Pao, and Qiao Bao. It is really hard to start and operate a newspapers publishing business due to its high cost and relatively unstable, lower return.

Besides, more and more Chinese enter the automobile industry. Among them the most secure one is regarding automobile maintenance. Gas station is also a source of stable incomes. However, there is probably no need to really own a car when residing in Manhattan in terms of its convenient public transportation system.

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However America is long time called “the Kingdom of Automobile”, the quality of cars made in U.S.A. is as great as expected. Generally when you purchase an American car, you probably need to start to have it repaired after 5 years. Cars produced in Germany and Japan, on the other hand, usually are at a better quality and a higher standard. There wouldn't be that many problems even you would have used them for 8-10 years. One thing most people often neglect is that it's illegal to drive without car insurance.

Many years ago, there were only a few barbers' shops in Chinatown. Now all types of similar places, hair salons, beauty shops, and fitness centers, and nail parlors are flourishing everywhere in Chinatown, especially gathering on Perry Street. The total number of them is actually several times more than before. And it is hard to believe there are even nearly 100 hair or beauty shops located in Chinatown.

The streets in Chinatown are always annoyingly full of trash and it's hence being one of those very dirty areas in New York. It somehow has been the biggest problem to tackle for inhabitants of Chinatown. Chinatown Cleanup Association to a certain extent ever sent several people to pick up the garbage every day, it seemed not to help much to improve the situation. Upon that, the New York government once ever appointed several hundred students to help keep Chinatown clean. That's probably the only time period when people could really best feel the cleanness and tidiness of Chinatown.

Before Atlantic City and Connecticut became famous for casinos, there were bunches of gambling places typically in the basement in Chinatown. Those spaces were usually not spacious and also with bad airs. However they gradually vanished since the casino industry has been well established in Atlantic City and Connecticut.

Also for the casino vacation, bus tour service between Chinatown and those two cities are running many times on a daily schedule. So here is the deal. You pay \$10 for the ticket to get there; later you'll be given \$5-20 in cash and maybe extra buffet coupons sometimes when you arrive. Right now lots of casinos in either Atlantic City or Connecticut hire a number of Chinese immigrants as employees. Though some of the Chinese people are not good at English but they are definitely hard working.

As people enjoy a good life today, they eat well and live comfortably, but ironically more and more are suffering from all kinds of diseases and physical problems. In order to keep in shape and healthy, exercising is crucial. Working out at gym is trendy and yoga and foot massage are more popular than ever, too.

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Golf playing is a great sport for the middle-aged and the elderly. While in other countries golf is sort of an expensive sport, it's more affordable to everyone in the United States.

With the increase of immigrants, the housing market is intense in the city. Lot of people at their convenience would rather in the city, especially the young people, but there are in face not so many buildings and apartments available out there.

When you are at the department stores in America, no matter how large or small the size they would be, most of goods in stores are produced in China. Even for those luxury brands, 40% of their products are made in China as well. During its economic reform, China has made itself labeled as the super "world factory".

The production cost for those luxury goods are extremely cheaper in China than in America. Those visionary Chinese entrepreneurs set up manufacturers in different locations all over China and thought many channels to export those products overseas. In the latest years, 99 cents stores have invaded everywhere in the Unites States; that is one of the outcomes from that. Although most 99 cents stores located in downtown areas have to pay the high rents, as long as their merchandises are sold out quickly, stores are still easily to profitable. Moreover, 95 % of goods at 99 cents stores are all from China. They are not only welcomed by families with lower to moderate incomes, some rich people also love to shop here time to time.

For a long time, the emergent phone number in the United States is 911. 311 is the other important number for an easy access to all New York City government services and information. When a fire takes place, people dial 911. And it merely takes within 5 minutes for a fire engine to come. Then, ambulance and medical service car will arrive later. Firefighters are usually well trained and professional. With their cooperation with the police, and medical service people, it's the key to a successful rescue.

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When a house is unfortunately destroyed by fire, many adjusters from diverse companies would try contact the owner for assistance in insurance claims investigation. It's required in the States to ask adjusters' help for a reimbursement from insurance companies. But since adjusters are familiar with the government regulations and how insurance companies process the cases, they would be able to get a better settlement accordingly.

Nowadays the Chinese are not only running the business of restaurants, but also of supermarkets and food processing. Those small processing factories produce those traditional food categories of tofu, noodles, steamed vermicelli roll, etc. and then sell them to supermarkets and restaurants. The Wholesale market of meat used to be located on West 14 Street closed to Hudson River and now has moved to Brooklyn. West village was transformed to be a vigorous new business district, enticing with many luxury shops, specialty stores and high-end bars.

In addition, Many Chinese are vegetable and fruit peddlers. It's said that the cheapest veggies and fruits in the Unites States can be purchased right under the Manhattan Bridge area. There also 3 beef jerky factories in Chinatown, self-made and self-promoted to supermarkets.

Many Chinese prefer to bury the dead in to ground. Some people even seek space for their tombs when they are still alive. The grave fields are usually in the suburbs.

The Unites States government has professional rules on protection of grave fields. There are only 4 funerary services companies in Chinatown because the application is difficult. And even living in the era of science, still quite many Chinese would ask for Feng Shui consultants for a special direction or position of tombs so as to bless descendants rich and successful.

### **Marching on to Enter the Mainstream Society and Broaden the Business Scope**

When it comes to purchasing the house, people firstly would buy a smaller unit and get the bigger one when they possess a stronger financial ability. However once the owners turn older, they will choose to sell that more spacious house and switch to live one with a smaller room.



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After those elderly decide to move to the new, smaller house, that means they will have lots of large pieces of furniture to abandon or throw away. In this way, a yard sale might be a great solution to the problem.

Assembly furniture is a type of furniture that is cheap and ready to assemble only through easy instruction reading. The kind of furniture usually comes in exactly the same molds and sizes, lacking in uniqueness and characteristics. But it is quite popular among the youth as well as those people who frequently move around because it is fun and never takes up much space.

Clothing is always a huge business. Traditionally Chinatown was one of the largest manufacturers in the New York City. Around 30 years ago, there were more than 500 clothing factories in Chinatown, hiring over 10,000 ladies as employees. Those factories took orders from American ready-to-wear companies and worked on those sampling pieces for garments. After they completely tailored the whole groups of garments, final products would be delivered to department stores or other retailers.

But as many more ready-to-wears flew into American's market by import, Manufacturers in Chinatown lost their value. Now only 60-70 factories still survive. Also young people like to catch up with fashion trends want to show their identity by wearing something different. That really impacts big name or small name designer brands to make money. Outlets are also nice spots for people to hunt for fashion at a cheaper price zone.

It has been really a long time since Chinese began to run the business of gift shops. Those shops sell a variety of products from little decorations to accessories. Right now they even have been brought to include clothes, hats, watches, perfumes, and handbags. The gift stores in Chinatown are located around Canal, Mott and Mulberry Streets.

The people who are in the helm of gift shop business are those from Wenzhou. They imported the products from China usually at a price of 1 RMB and sell them out by \$1. The exchange ratio is where the Wenzhou businessmen earn their money. People from Wenzhou work really hard for over 10 hours a day and dress casual even they're rich.

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With the prosperity of international trade keeps on, most people enjoy an abundant and great life while they are awkwardly not in good health. Over-weight, high blood pressure, and diabetes, etc. are those civil diseases that are long torturing people in the United States. Due to much chemistry and food additive used in the daily life, they gradually worsen the quality of people's bodies and weaken their immune systems. But if we all add more vegetables, and organic foods into our diet every day and try to avoid eating meats and seafood often, things would get improved. Also the pharmacies in the Unites states invent many nutrition supplement products and they are very popular among Chines who visit here.

The Motel industry is very common in America as well. Only in the New York City, there would be 20,000,000 to 30,000,000 tourists to live in different motels every year.

Chinese people also participate in running the business of hotels of small to medium scales. A few of them that might consider joining the hotel chains and their business have been much improved. In those hotels, Chinese people could take any job position from a cleaning person to the general manager. In recent years, the guest houses have aimed to receive cheaper group tours from China. But some of those guest houses are not legally run as required by the government, they would be suspended to close down their business once discovered.

Import and export have been the two imperative elements and tactics for the world's economy. After the World War two, the United States sold out their aircrafts, automobiles, radios, cigarettes, canned foods and clothes to People's Republic of China. At that time Japan also exported many goods to China. However in terms of their lower quality, goods made in Japan were called "fake".

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization has been rapidly developed, trying to protect the benefits and privileges of employees as well. It affects the labor costs have got extremely high in America since then. More and more companies had no choice but move their production parts to the developed countries. And those countries also started to import the cheaper everything to American, strongly depressing American's economy.

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America has its own financial market, active and full of variety. And after a period of time of stable development, the finance industry has established a sound system, comprising of stocks, funds, bonds, and futures.

It is quite secure for the general people to save their money in the banks as a basic investment tool. The savings of banks are usually guaranteed by the saving funds of the federal government. The government bonds could be another safer investment option. On the other hand, stock and future investment are far more profitable while they're also risky.

Lives of Chinese people have been getting better and better after a certain time of hardship. Beyond everyday life satisfied, one of Chinese's traditions is to purchase some gold, diamonds and some other jewelry accessories.

The largest diamond market of New York is located on 47<sup>th</sup> Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues. The second large one is around Canal and Bowery streets where there are many Chinese diamond or jewelry shops. 40 years ago there, those stores all belonged to Americans and Chinese worked as employees only. Now in Chinatown 80% of the stores are owned by Chinese. As China's open economy started, more and more jewelry production was conducted in Shenzhen and then set back to the United States. Overall the United States is still in charge of the whole diamond market by manipulating the whole process of mining, production and sales.

The catering, laundry and grocery are 3 industries traditionally owned and run by Chinese. There are several similar characteristics of those are: low entry-level standard, no need for English and professional knowledge, working long hours and low payment.

Especially taking the laundry industry for instance. It's carried out through washing and ironing clothes by hands. Of course right now machines have greatly improved the working condition. There are coin washers and dryers in the laundromats; still dry clean and laundry pick-up & delivery services are heartedly offered everywhere.

The pricing of the housing market has been consistently soaring. It hence fertilizes the architecture, interior decoration and building material industries as well.

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In real estate and architecture decoration markets, Chinese have taken more and more percentage out of there. Usually Chinese companies would charge less than American firms as expected. Also Americans are meticulous of contract signing and there's no exception to follow up with those agreements once they're settled. If anything changes, the contract needs to be revised and extra fees would be charged accordingly. Chinese companies on the contrary have no particular interest in dealing with hassle like that. You could even bargain the price with them or ask for some more extra repairs.

After China was through the economy reform, the second generation of immigrants came to America and apparently had different thoughts of fulfilling their lives here. They not only want to survive but also look to be successful and outstanding.

As for culture and entertainment areas in Chinatown, there used to be 5 movie cinemas probably 30 years ago. Then with wide spread of TV, DVDs, VCDs, etc. cinemas and theaters have gradually declined. And famous entertainers would come and perform in Chinatown long time ago. Now they all changed to do the performing in the casinos in Atlantic City and Connecticut or Lincoln Center.

The United States government pays quite a lot of attention to assist and contribute to more and more small business to exist. Small Business Administration possesses rich resources to help small business owners, like special loans and grants offering, strategies and conceptualization of the business, etc. As a matter of fact, 2/3 of American products are produced by small business in all industries.

Oftentimes, state-owned corporations or companies all over the world do not usually profit. Without a real existing boss in charge, it is hardly active and versatile to well manage the business. So in the United States, electricity power, gas, iron steel, petroleum companies are owned privately. The government expects more competition and more progress. The public transportation is still own by the government though.

All pipe construction is essential to the modern city life. Inclusive of water pipes, drains, and gas pipes, pipe equipment has an important effect on us every day. The sewage treatment out of drains is a high cost and handled by the environment protection agency. In generally, a citizen consumes water of \$100 in New York, he or she would be charged \$170 for sewage treatment.

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Plastic could be one of the great inventions of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It has a flexible function and can be able to substitute glass, iron steel, woods and porcelain. Its production process is simple, taking a short period of time and ready for mass produce any time. Another characteristic of plastic is it could be melted for recycle use.

Post offices are one of few state-owned entities in the United States. They actually take away much government funds for their high costs and don't really make money in return. Therefore the postage fee is always rising up once every few years.

In those past few years, more and more Chinese people find jobs in the post offices. That rarely happened 30 years ago. In general though the salary in the post office is not high, the benefit is great. However as we enter the information age, not so many people would depend on post offices for mailing and delivery, not mentioning there are several courier companies, like DHL, UPS, and FedEx to compete with.

The catering industry is an important industry while Chinese people think about a career. But the catering industry here doesn't only refer to Chinese restaurants. It can also include Italian, French, Japanese, or American ones. The job positions that Chinese would take in the catering industry are dishwashers, receptionists, managers, and chefs sometimes.

The Chinese take part in the cookware business, too. Those Chinese-owned companies are located on Bowery Street and their business categories could be cookware, utensils, and food processors, noodle-making machinery. Several decades ago, the Jewish operated most of those firms and Cook's was the most notable one among them. Nowadays the Chinese have taken up nearly all the territory of the cookware business.

Another new industry for the Chinese to dive into is tutorial schools. Those are specialized schools to train the students to meet particular goals and mostly to pass certain tests. The purpose for tutorial school could be educational and inspiring, but unfortunately most owners really care about is what they would earn from students. These schools can be classified for nursing, beauty care, computer programming, driving, English acquisition, piano, and dancing.

Tutorial schools and training centers are doing quite well since Chinese parents tend to very focused on education of the next generation.

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Many instructors of tutorial schools are currently also regular teachers. They consequently could be able to help gather and catch the points of entrance examinations for high schools as well as for universities. That explains why those instructors are popular among students and their parents.

The Chinese also successfully enter the mobile phone industry. Although usually Chinese people only take jobs as agents under those big carriers, like AT&T, Verizon, etc. they are doing well to serve particularly the Chinese communities.

Telephone cards somehow are one of everyday necessities especially to those new immigrants. Those cards are issued by telephone companies and mainly used for long distance calls. The quality of telephone cards is absolutely not as good as direct phone calls. However with its cheap price at \$8 for over thousands minutes' use, people are still fond of them.

Also a larger number of Chinese work as security guards and the police. After 911 event, security guard companies fast emerged everywhere in the United States. Because of that cruel and bloody event, from the common people to the rich are more alert to the safety issues. Many government institutes or organizations, large corporations, and celebrities' houses now are hiring security guards for all-day scrutinization. Special occasions and events even for temporary are still in need of security guards.

Many more Chinese are taking on police jobs now and a few of them become officers or even at high ranks in the NYPD. Mo Hu was ever the Deputy of Chief of the NYPD and Fun Ze Yuan took a position as a captain. They are two Chinese descents so far have taken the highest ranks of the NYPD.

The economy wasn't good in my childhood. And therefore many children didn't own many toys. Different from that, children today are in the possession of tons of cute toys, such as lovely dolls, Lego toys, and miniature automobiles. Beyond giving toys to reward their own kids, parents also purchase toys to gift the kids when they visit their friends'.

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TOYRUS is a public traded company and probably the most famous toy firm worldwide as well. They hugely profit from kids all year round.

In addition, the market for female cosmetics and skin care products has been strongly growing up. Nowadays not only ladies pursue beauty, more gentlemen are interested in trimming their outer images. Because they are now far pricy, some cosmetics and skin care products are regarded as luxury goods. Even the young people spend more time and money on their physical beauty far more than other necessities.

Religious worship is still crucial to people even with the growth of technology of the modern society. When strolling down the streets in Chinatown, you would get to see lots of thins of Catholics, Christian, Buddhism, and Taoism. Also all kinds of churches, temples, and religious architectures are appealing. Among them, many people believe in Catholics and Christians. The Constitution of the United States of America protects the freedom of religion. In this way, the properties for religious uses are free of real estate tax. And incomes of religious groups are tax exempted, too.

The religious background is usually helpful for a person to apply for green cards or to become a permanent citizen as well. There were only 4 temples in Chinatown about 40 years ago. Now the number of temples turns to be larger at 30 or 40. A few traditional religions of China have also spread in America and Canada. In the latest years, due to the increasing marriages between Chinese descents and non-Chinese, it's no surprise to find people from the western culture believe in those Chinese religions.

Water is inevitable to the human life. The quality of water in the New York City is of high quality and claimed to be safe for drinking any time. But in terms of that environment pollution is getting worse, no one would love to drink water before it's being carefully filtered and sterilized. People are pleased to have many water selections in the market, from possibly a slim bottle to a huge family package.

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Direct selling includes sales made from the party plan, one-on-one demonstration and other personal contact arrangement as well as internet sales. The business categories of direct selling can cover the daily necessities, health and skin care products, cosmetics, and even some are medication and health products without the approval from FDA, the Food and Drug Administration. The direct selling system is running on a pyramid-pressured mechanism to create a networking for organization and sales. When products are sold out by ones of the lower part of the system, a commission of certain percentage would be given to people on the upper level of the system. Also there is kind of business fairy tale of direct selling saying that once you build up your own sub-system under, you will then profit all the time without working hard, as long as people working under you can sell. However, direct selling is forbidden in People's Republic of China because of illegal business running mode.

### **Charity Organizations and Good Hearted People Seek to Have More People to Participate**

It is the destiny for everyone to be born in the world either rich or poor. Striving for good and working hard would lead to a better life after people are growing up though.

People always think most Americans are rich and live abundantly as the United States is one of the financially powerful countries. However lots of people here are in need of the government's subsidies to survive. All kinds of welfares and subsidies are comprised of medical subsidies, living fees, rent subsidies, and food coupons. Still there are many religious and charity organizations willing to help the poor's suffering from hunger and the cold weather, such as the International Committee of Red Cross, Lions Clubs, and Rotary Clubs.

As we all know the treatment fees and hospitalization fares are extremely expensive in the United States. The American government without a doubt takes care of the poor or families with lower to moderate incomes. Even some people on an illegal status are sick, they would still get treatment first. It doesn't matter if they could afford to pay all the money or not.



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Around 10 years ago, there were only several tens of registered medical practitioners in Chinatown. Now nearly 500 practitioners are working there. As for the medical fees, 95% of them are from the government and insurance companies. In that sense, if more people with social subsidies come to see the doctor, the doctor then can earn more money. On the other hand, since those patients are not worried about the money paid for the medical practitioners, they regularly visit back and do the health check ups periodically. That somehow helps enhance the concept of “Prevent is better than cure”.

The East Coast of the United States is often troubled by hurricanes and tornadoes. Those natural disasters usually cause great damage to the economy as well as the families. The Hurricane Katrina tremendously destructed New Orleans and was considered the worst civil engineering disaster in the U.S. history. At that time, apart from the government’s financial assistance of \$1,000,000,000, all citizens who donated money, clothing, foods and waters are countless. Only the Chinese communities in Chinatown collected over \$5,000,000 to assist people in New Orleans.

The primary concept of all religions is to teach people to be kind. There’s no exception to Catholics, Christian, Buddhism, and Taoism. Generally the clergy in any religion has a high moral standard and solid cultural background. The clergy who could be priest, preacher in Christian or monk in Buddhism is to teach and spread the religion’s doctrine and practices. The position of clergy could be for good. The incomes for the religions are mainly from donations of he followers. Sometimes with more sufficient funds, religions groups would also open non-profit schools, hospitals and shelters to help more people in need in the society.

The Internationals Committee of Red Cross is a huge and highly acclaimed humanitarian organization in the world. Its branches spread in the countries worldwide and they all paly an important role in assisting in human or natural disaster rescue. Because of Red Cross’s sound system and good reputation, smaller institutes or groups would ask for supports of resources from Red Cross so as to well finish the events. Whatever activities of the Internationals Committee of Red Cross could take place in the neutral zone without attaching even in place of war.