



**Talal Abu-Ghazaleh – Confucius Institute**

**TAG-Confucius Newsletter** | Issue 96 - May 2024

### **TAG-Confucius Institute:**

The Institute was established in September 2008 to introduce the Chinese language and culture, as well as achieving a greater mutual understanding between the Arab and Chinese cultures. This unique initiative is based on the cooperation agreement between TAG.Global and Confucius Institute in China. The Institute has been named after the great intellectual, mentor and philosopher, Confucius, whose ideas had influenced China and other regions around the world for over 2,000 years.

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**TAG-Confucius Institute is the first institute accredited by the Chinese Government to teach Chinese language in Jordan.**

**TAG-Confucius Institute is holding a new course to teach the basics of the Chinese language for beginners:**

**A. Threshold Level for Adults: starting 13/5/2024**

**Schedule: Monday – Wednesday from 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**B. Threshold Level for Kids: starting 11\5\2024**

**Schedule: Saturday – Wednesday from 3:00 - 4:30 pm**

**\*All Chinese language teachers are from China specialized in teaching Chinese language for foreigners and accredited by the Confucius Institute in China.**



### **TAG-Confucius Institute Students Achieve Excellent Results in the 23th “Chinese Bridge” Competition**

AMMAN - The Preliminary Round in Jordan of the 23th “Chinese Bridge” Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students and the 15th “Great Wall-Petra Cup” Chinese Proficiency Competition for Jordanian College Students was held at Philadelphia University on May 28, 2024, which was sponsored by Center for Language Education and Cooperation of Ministry of China and Chinese embassy in Jordan.



The finals were held under the patronage of the Chinese Ambassador to Jordan, HE Mr. Chen Chuandong, and Professor Dr. Abdullah Mohammed Al-Jarrah Philadelphia University’s President, the Exeptive Director of Talal Abu Ghazaleh Confucius Institute Mr. Mamoun Abu Al Sebaa` and the Dean of

College of Foreign Languages of the University of Jordan, the competition included contests in rhetoric, general cultural inquiries, singing, and drawing, as well as narrating stories and tales from Chinese literature.

During the ceremony, Ambassador Chuandong said

that the Chinese language encourages exchange between diverse cultures and civilizations pointing out that the ‘Chinese Bridge’ competition serves as a bridge of culture and friendship that connects China with the rest of the world.

Ten students from TAG-



Confucius Institute, the University of Jordan, Confucius Institute at Philadelphia University, Yarmouk University participated in the competition.

The competition consists of the speech with the theme of “One World, One Family”, questions and answers about Chinese national conditions and culture.

In the speech, some contestants talked about their life and study experience; some told stories about their unforgettable journeys in China; some expressed their good wishes of a peaceful world.

During the question-answer section, the extensive and profound Chinese culture was condensed into a lot of questions concerning drama, ancient poems, painting, traditional festivals, pictograph, the Silk Road and the others.

The contestants made full use of their knowledge and showed a fantastic feast of Chinese language and culture.

After fierce competition from TAG-Confucius Institute Hazem Al Masri won the

First place by his clear articulation in his speech and

his talk show.

“Chinese Bridge” competition provides a stage for youth to show their Chinese learning achievements and a platform to learn from and communicate with each other.

It is also a good opportunity to test the results of Chinese teaching.

The competition will further inspire the students’ enthusiasm and interest in learning Chinese and enhance their understanding of Chinese language and culture.

## TAG - Confucius Participates in the International School of Choueifat celebrations of International Cultural Day



AMMAN - Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Confucius Institute (TAG-Confucius) participated in the International Cultural Day celebrations held by International School of Choueifat.

The participation of the Institute aims to enhance its objectives in promoting Chinese Culture and Civilization.

TAG-CI prepared various cultural experience activities for the students such as tea ceremony, lantern making, paper-cutting, calligraphy, etc. The students experienced them in groups under the guidance of the teachers.

In the tea ceremony area, Ms. Randa told the students and parents that China is the hometown of tea and tea culture is the treasure of China for five thousand years. Now tea culture is popular all over the world. She also introduced the types of Chinese tea and showed them the brewing steps. The students and their parents listened with interest and enjoyed tea tasting. Afterwards, they enjoyed the Yangge dance

performed by the Chinese teachers from TAG-CI. They were amazed by the cheerful melody of the dance and the beautiful dance movements of the teachers, expressing their love for the dance with applause.

That is in addition to presenting the techniques of the Taiji Sword, Chinese spiritual and physical exercises that are widely practiced by the Chinese people.

More than 1500 students of different nationality with their parents, under the teachers' guidance, experienced Chinese cultural activities learning to use chopsticks, trying on traditional Chinese costumes and enjoying the Tea ceremony.

International School of Choueifat teachers extended sincere thanks to TAG-Confucius Institute for their support during this cultural event and for their participation in such activities, and hoped there would be further cooperation with TAG-Confucius Institute in the future.

## Dragon Boat Festival

The **Dragon Boat Festival** is a traditional Chinese holiday that occurs on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese calendar, which corresponds to late May or early June in the Gregorian calendar. The holiday commemorates Qu Yuan who was the beloved prime minister of the southern Chinese state of Chu during the Warring States Period, about 600 B.C. to 200 B.C., and is celebrated by holding dragon boat races and eating sticky rice dumplings called zongzi, which were southern Chinese traditions. Dragon Boat Festival integrates praying for good luck and taking respite from the summer heat.

In September 2009, UNESCO officially approved its inclusion in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, becoming the first Chinese holiday to be selected.

### History

#### Origin

The fifth lunar month is considered an unlucky and poisonous month, and the fifth day of the fifth month especially so. To get rid of the misfortune, people would put calamus, Artemisia, and garlic above the doors on the fifth day of the fifth month. These were believed to help ward off evil by their strong smell and their shape (for instance, calamus leaves are shaped like swords).

Hanging wormwood leaves on top of a door, meant to deter insects

Venomous animals were said to appear starting from the fifth day of the fifth month, such as snakes, centipedes, and scorpions; people also supposedly get sick easily after this day. Therefore, during the Dragon Boat Festival, people try to avoid this bad luck. For example, people may put pictures of the five venomous creatures (snake, centipede, scorpion, lizard, toad, and sometimes spider on the wall and stick needles in them. People may also make paper cutouts of the five creatures and wrap them around the wrists of their children.

Big ceremonies and performances developed from these practices in many areas, making the Dragon Boat Festival a day for getting rid of disease and bad luck.

17th century depiction of Qu Yuan

#### Qu Yuan

The story best known in modern China holds that the festival commemorates the death of the poet and minister Qu Yuan (c. 340–278 BC) of the ancient state of Chu during the Warring States period of the Zhou dynasty. A cadet member of the Chu royal house, Qu served in high offices. However, when the king decided to ally with the increasingly powerful state of Qin, Qu was banished for opposing the alliance and even accused of treason. During his exile, Qu Yuan wrote a great deal of poetry. Eventually, Qin captured Ying, the Chu capital. In despair, Qu Yuan committed suicide by drowning himself in the Miluo River.

It is said that the local people, who admired him, raced out in their boats to save him, or at least retrieve his body. This is said to have been the origin of dragon boat races.[15] When his body could not be found, they dropped balls of sticky rice into the river so that the fish would eat them instead of Qu Yuan's body. This is said to be the origin of zongzi.

During the twentieth century, Qu Yuan became considered a patriotic poet and a symbol of the people. He was promoted as a folk hero and a symbol of Chinese nationalism in the People's Republic of China after the 1949 Communist victory in the Chinese Civil War. The historian and writer Guo Moruo was influential in shaping this view of Qu.

## Wu Zixu

Another origin story says that the festival commemorates Wu Zixu (died 484 BC), a statesman of the Kingdom of Wu. Xi Shi, a beautiful woman sent by King Goujian of the state of Yue, was much loved by King Fuchai of Wu. Wu Zixu, seeing the dangerous plot of Goujian, warned Fuchai, who became angry at this remark. Wu Zixu was forced to commit suicide by Fuchai, with his body thrown into the river on the fifth day of the fifth month. After his death, in places such as Suzhou, Wu Zixu is remembered during the Dragon Boat Festival.

## Cao E

The front of the Cao E Temple, facing east, toward the Cao'e River in Shangyu, Zhejiang

Although Wu Zixu is commemorated in southeast Jiangsu and Qu Yuan elsewhere in China, much of Northeastern Zhejiang, including the cities of Shaoxing, Ningbo and Zhoushan, celebrates the memory of the young girl Cao E (130–144 AD) instead. Cao E's father Cao Xu (曹旭) was a shaman who presided over local ceremonies at Shangyu. In 143, while presiding over a ceremony commemorating Wu Zixu during the Dragon Boat Festival, Cao Xu accidentally fell into the Shun River. Cao E, in an act of filial piety, searched the river for 3 days trying to find him. After five days, she and her father were both found dead in the river from drowning. Eight years later, in 151, a temple was built in Shangyu dedicated to the memory of Cao E and her sacrifice. The Shun River was renamed Cao'e River in her honor.

Dragon boat races at Dajia Riverside Park in Taipei




Cao E is depicted in the Wu Shuang Pu (“Table of Peerless Heroes”) by Jin Guliang.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dragon\\_Boat\\_Festival](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dragon_Boat_Festival)






TAGTech

# PRODUCTS

-  Intel Core i5  
8th Generation
-  8 GB RAM  
DDR4
-  256 GB SSD



**FLIP** 

-  Intel® Core i7  
10th Generation 1065G7
-  8 GB RAM  
DDR4
-  128 GB SSD  
+ 512 GB SSD






**PRO** 

-  Intel Celeron N4100
-  4 GB LPDDR3
-  256GB SSD  
+ 64GB EMMC






**UNI C**

-  Intel® Core i3  
10th Generation 1005G1
-  4 GB RAM  
DDR4
-  128 GB SSD






**EDU**

-  Intel® Core i7 10th  
Generation 10510U
-  8 GB RAM  
DDR4
-  128 GB SSD  
+ 1 TB HDD






**PLUS I**

-  Intel® Core i7 10th  
Generation 10510U
-  8 GB RAM  
DDR4
-  128 GB SSD  
+ 512GB HDD



**PLUS II** 

-  Intel® Core™ i7  
1255U
-  8 GB RAM  
DDR4
-  256 GB SSD  
+ 1 TB HDD

-  Intel® Iris®  
Xe Graphics
-  4500 mAh
-  AX (wifi 6) BT 5.1

**PLUS III**  
**7022**

*New*





Intel® Core™ i5  
1235U



Intel® Iris®  
Xe Graphics



8 GB RAM  
DDR4



5000 mAh



256 GB SSD  
+ 1 TB HDD



AC WIFI  
BT 4.2

**PLUS III**

**5022**

*New*



Spreadtrum  
SC7731E Quad-core



2 GB



32 GB



**TAG-TAB Kids II**



MediaTek MTK  
8788 octa-core



8 GB



128 GB



**TAG-TAB III**



Front: 16 MP  
Rear: 20 MP



6 GB



128 GB



**TAG-PHONE  
Special**



Spreadtrum  
SC9863 Octa-core



4 GB



64 GB



**TAG-DC**



Front: 8 MP  
Rear: 16 MP



4 GB



128 GB



**TAG-PHONE  
Plus**



Front: 16 MP  
Rear: 16 MP



6 GB



128 GB



**TAG-PHONE  
Advanced**

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