

The interview conducted with Dr. Benjamin Yang on June 15, 2010.

The summary of the interview conducted is as follows;

Before raising specific questions on the matters associated with the vision the late Dr. John B. had envisioned, the role he played as one of the leaders in Asian American community, the activities and services that he performed and rendered for the advancement and enhancement of Asian Americans, the writer asked Dr. Yang to provide me with his brief account of the late Dr. John B. Tsu.

Dr. Yang stated that he thought of the late Dr. John B. Tsu is the man with the sense of compassion and aspiration in empowering Asian Americans to motivate themselves to become more oriented politically to make them to be in “the main stream of American politics”, so that they will be provide with the better opportunity of not only advancing their own social statutes but also making themselves to be available to assist others. The late Dr. John B. Tsu wanted the youths of Asian Americans to In his capacity as Chairman of Presidential Commission on Asian Americans and Islanders and other capacities under which he played important roles for the betterment of Asian Americans in American society. He thinks it would be very difficult to find someone who could perform the same role that the late Dr. John B. Tsu played. He should be regarded as more of a diplomat and strategist rather than a politician in his effort of achieving what he had set forth. He was very compassionated and totally non-selfish person.

Having said that, I raised a number of questions to him and to which Dr. Yang made his comments and remarks which are as follow;

- (Writer); when was the first time you met the late Dr. John B. Tsu and what was your impression of him.
- + (Dr. Yang); I met him at a mutual frined, Dr. Mason Shen’s birthday party in 1993. I got the impression that he is polite, humble and knowledgeable person. I knew at that time that he is well respected person.

- Where did you first talk to him and what were subjects that two of you dowedled on?

+ I believe that a mutual friend Dr. Shen arranged for me to sit next to Dr. Tsu at his birthday. Since the Governor of California was the former Gov. Peter Wilson and I was very much interested in his view of how the alternate medicine and Chinese Medical practices would be made more widely available to the needy persons in California and what would be his policy on that subject. Since I was president of California Chinese Medicine Association, I was very much interested in finding the way of being involved with the government of California more official capacity. In this sense, the enhancement of my relationship with the late Dr. Tsu may be of help to advance my opportunity of involving the Governor of California for the promotion and enhancement of Chinese medical practice and its availability to the needy persons because the Dr. Tsu was very close to the Gov. Wilson.

- As you got closer and closer to the late Dr. Tsu due to more involvements with him, did you change your original impression of him and perhaps you might have gotten some new insight into the vision and deed that the late Dr. Tsu had in his mind?

+ Basically, he is the kind of the man as I got the impression of him when I met him first time, but I began to see more of his strength in organizing the needy forces to achieve something in order to bring about the results he had envisioned. In my view, he was genuinely a Chinese and never forgotten his home land. Thus, he wanted to be of some services to those Chinese who are in need of assistance and any advices that may be of value to them. He stressed the importance of education as one of the necessary tools to advance the status of Asian Americans in American society.

- What is your account of the late Dr. Tsu(perhaps, your perception of him) in terms of the ultimate goal that he may have had in achieving something good for Asian Americans as a leader of Asian Americans in the States?

+ My line of thoughts as to the ultimate goal that the Dr. Tsu had envisioned to achieve may have been that Asian Americans should be in “ the mainstream of American politics”, so that they can voice more strongly and

wisely in order to advance the betterment of their status in American society which will pave the way for their followers to keep the movements that the founding father of the leaders of Asian Americans had set forth. Although the late Dr. Tsu was polite and compassionate to others on one hand and he was very server in terms of seeing that one should not advance one's benefit at the sacrifice of others.

- How do you assess the pros and cons of the late Dr. John B. Tsu if any in terms of the leadership he acted for Asian Americans?

+ I did have the opportunity of observing the determined will he has had to achieve what it deemed to be necessary. He went after what was necessary to do in order to accomplish what he aimed for. He did display some strong feelings at the time of the election took place for the Presidency in Formosa in 1996.

- Any other comments that you would like to make about the late Dr. Tsu?

+ Yes, I know that he was always facing the difficulty financially in order to maintain even to meet the bills for his own livelihood. But, he never begged for moneys as some other politicians do. He was very honest himself about money and never took the advantage of the others for financial gains for himself.

- I would like to ask you, Dr. Benjamin Yang the last question which you may be very free to say in any style or any manner as you wish to express your thoughts. Let me ask you what is the most important lessons that you may have learned from the late Dr. Tsu.

+ I think I can summarize the three points which could be stated as the essence of what I learned from him. These (3) points are; 1) To be nice to others and be specific in expressing one's thoughts, 2) To be royal to yourself; being honest to yourself, 3) To be generous to others, meaning being not financially but spiritually and mentally.

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The writer thought that Dr. Benjamin Yang was very open and frank to have expressed his thoughts and account of the late John B. Tsu. He did elaborate his remarks about the late Dr. Tsu more in detail but the writer has condense the essence of what Dr. Benjamin Yang stated and expressed about the late Dr. John B. Tsu in terms of the vision, strength and services he had demonstrated in his efforts to perform what he felt important to advance the

betterment of Asian American community around the nation and also the multilateral and bilateral relationship with those Asian nations such as China, Japan, Korea and Formosa.