

DISSERTATION TITLE: “HE XIE” (HARMONY) AS POLITICAL IDEA OF TAOISM  
AND ITS EMBODIMENT OF STATECRAFT

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**ABSTRACT**

This research is titled: **“He Xie” (Harmony) as Political Idea of Taoism and Its Embodiment of Statecraft**. This work focuses on the concept He Xie as essential political idea in Lao Tzu’s *Tao Te Ching*, and on the analysis of other relevant ideas in Taoism.

This dissertation includes five chapters. Chapter one is an introduction of the research. Chapter two analyses the concept of Tao and its essential implementation in the *Tao Te Ching*, Tao self-so naturally is the supreme value or principle embodied by the highest entity. Chapter three illustrates the concept of He Xie as statecraft. Wu Wei (inaction) is an important idea for ruler develop harmonious statecraft. With Wu Wei the ruler can make the state into a peaceful realm of He Xie. Chapter four deals with the embodiment of He Xie as statecraft. The good situation of a state, according to Lao Tzu, is not to ask people to develop much, but to keep the originality and naivety of the people. Chapter five is the conclusion of this research. The concept of He Xie can contribute well to the world nowadays, and also to the human culture in the future.

Key Words: He Xie, Lao Tzu, Statecraft, Tao, Taoism, *Tao Te Ching*, Wu Wei.