

字伯牛，春秋末年鲁国人。以德行著称，多次向孔子询问「仁」及「君子」的内涵。被列为孔门四科十哲之一（德行科）。其德行修养备受后人推崇，孟子认为他掌握了孔子「具体而微」的思想，「淮南子」中说他是「孔子之通学」。因恶疾早逝。孔子哀叹其「亡之，命矣夫」。唐玄宗开元二十七年追封为「郛侯」，宋真宗大中祥符二年追封为「东平公」，宋度宗咸淳三年改封为「郛公」。

3 冉耕 (小孔子七岁)



3. RAN GENG

(7 YEARS YOUNGER THAN CONFUCIUS)

Ran Geng, styled Boniu, was a native of the State of Lu in the late Spring and Autumn period. Well known for virtue, Ran Geng asked Confucius about the connotations of "humanity" and "gentleman" time and again. He was listed as one of Confucius' ten chief disciples in the four classes (distinguished for virtue). He was highly esteemed by the later generations for virtue and self-cultivation. Meng Zi, an ancient philosopher, believed that Ran Geng had a good grasp of Confucius' ideas. *In the Book of the Prince of Huai Nan*, Ran Geng is listed as the transmitter of Confucius' teachings. Ran Geng died young. Upon hearing the news, Confucius is said to have sighed deeply. In the 27th year of the Kaiyuan reign period of Emperor Xuan Zong of the Tang Dynasty, Ran Geng was posthumously given the title of Duke Jun; in the second year of the Dazhong Xiangfu reign period of Emperor Zhenzong of the Song Dynasty, Lord Dongping; and in the third year of the Xianchun reign period of Emperor Duzong of the Song Dynasty, Lord Jun.