

Dog Mother

World Culture and Dog Qigong

by

Dr. Baolin Wu

and

Brent Christopher Wulf

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Dr. Baolin Wu
Daoist Master and Physician

I

Dog and Humanity

Some Observations

“The dog is the mother of every human being, seven lifetimes ago.”

These are the words Dr. Baolin Wu heard at a young age at the White Cloud Temple, the leading Daoist monastery of China. This statement means that seven lifetimes ago, the dog was your mother, and it applies to every human being on earth. There is not a single person who does not have a dog as their mother. This profound claim also marks the starting point for understanding the nature of Dog Qigong.

There is a Daoist creation story told through the taiji image. It starts with the dog being the first to jump into the primordial, amniotic water of life, spinning in circles. Chasing its own tail, clamping down on it between its teeth, it continues to run generating and completing the perfect circle encompassing all of nature. Pulsing ripples emerge from what was chaotic waters, now in distinct circular form, giving home to the two fish of yin and yang to jump in. Gradually the fish transform into birds—leading to the creation of humanity. Therefore, Dr. Wu was taught to emulate the dog, tracking back to the essence of Dao.

This story highlights evolution as transformation. It is through transformation that the dog changed from being a wolf. Embodying the Dao, the dog came into being. Daoists learn from observing nature, in this case, by looking at the wolf to know about the dog’s origins.

The shared ancestral lineage of the wolf goes back millions of years, long before primitive humans ever stepped on the earth. When humanity took its first steps, the wolf was the most widely distributed large mammal, covering most of the northern hemisphere.¹ Current evidence in western science shows the origins of the wolf lies in the north arctic region.²

The model proposed by Raymond Pierotti and Brandy Fogg in their book, *The First Domestication*, shows that non-alpha female wolves pregnant with cubs were the first to initiate contact with humanity to establish the wolf-human bond.³ The suggestion that it is mother wolves with children who are the ones who initiate the first contact with humanity resonates with the idea of the dog as a mother to humanity.

¹ Ersmark et al. 2016, 2; Nowak 2003, 244.

² Ersmark 2016, 2; Wang and Tedford 2008, 148.

³ Ray and Fogg 2017, 1-3, 72.

New scientific studies have come out that suggest it is far more likely that wolves initiated the act of cooperatively hunting with humanity when they first met.⁴ In this act, the wolf helped nourish mankind, by showing the first humans how to hunt more effectively and cooperatively.⁵ Even though sharing one's food might seem trivial to others, humanity should not forget that it was the wolf who first shared their food with us. This same act of love and caring is in the heart of a mother wanting to make sure her children are being nourished. The wolf in this case is the living embodiment of the old saying, "Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day; teach a person to fish and you feed them for a lifetime."⁶ Therefore, the wolf has been feeding humanity throughout all our lives.

An old Native American proverb says, "a starving man will eat with the wolf" (Mieder 1989, 106). Out in the wild, wolves are a highly cooperative species.⁷ They hunt in cooperation with other animals such as bear, ravens, etc.⁸

Humans following reindeer (and other) herds would hunt the best specimens. That would've led to weakened herds. But canine packs followed the same herds, weeding out the weakest animals. They did humans a service by maintaining the quality of the herds. More than that, canines taught cooperative hunting to humans. Wolves and dogs are unique among animals for the texture of their cooperation. They don't compete within the pack; they form friendships instead. Apes and monkeys don't do that. An ape bonds to a mate, or to its children, but a dog has friends beyond its kin. So human and dog joined forces in the hunt, and dogs helped to humanize us (or to doggify us). (Lienhard 1998-99)

This act brought humanity into an intimate relationship not only with wolves, but with nature itself. They opened the door for humanity to take part in the balance and harmony found in nature. Many scholars suggest that human beings predicate family and social structures on the wolf pack.⁹



⁴ Range et al. 2019.

⁵ Koler-Matznick 2002; Fogg et al. 2015, 267; Hampton 1997; Ray and Fogg 2017, 16; Schlesier 1987; Marshall 1995; 2001; Pierotti 2011; Hernandez 2014; Range and Virányi 2015; Hare and Woods 2020.

⁶ The modern saying in China today is: 授人以魚, 不如授人以漁. However, the idea is loosely expressed in a saying that goes back to *Huainanzi* 17, "Dreaming about catching fish is not as good as going home and making a fishing net." 临河而羨魚, 不如归家织网。

⁷ Range et al. 2019; Marshall-Pescini et al. 2017.

⁸ See Ray and Fogg 2017, 61; Ford 2020, Youtube video; Heinrich 1999.

⁹ Ray and Fogg 2017, 15, 72-73; Fritts et al. 2003, 289, 291; Lopez 1978; Schleidt 1998; Haber and Holleman 2013; Mochlman 1989; Pierotti 2011; Spotte 2012.

Wolves live side-by-side with reindeer. So constant is their presence that reindeer only show concern for their safety when they are in striking distance.¹⁰ At that early time in history, humanity had much to learn from them. Through observing their actions in hunting, humans learned not to attack the biggest or best animal in a herd which might lead to the herd's demise.¹¹ Instead, they observed that wolves study and test the animals they are about to attack to figure out which animal is the weakest in the herd.¹²

A healthy adult reindeer, for example, can easily outrun a wolf, so much so that it quickly gives up the chase. However, this is also a way of testing which animal in the herd is the weakest.¹³ A wolf will attack the weakest reindeer in the herd, a concept also matching ideas found in Sunzi's *Art of War*.¹⁴ The death of a weak member in actuality helps strengthen the herd,¹⁵ is a concept that wolves taught and may have led to the understanding of pruning plants in farming the first agricultural systems.

They may have also given way to other concepts that makeup the foundation of farming techniques such as fallowing, where the farmer leaves the crops unsown for a period to restore its fertility. Similarly, wolves leave an area used as a previous hunting ground for four or five years to restore the fertility and growth of the population it once preyed upon.¹⁶

Wolves also led the way in showing humans how to herd and manage animals. Hundreds of thousands of years later this will give rise to the practice performed by shepherds. Wolves manage the herd of animals they prey upon better than any shepherd today.¹⁷ Even a myth amongst the Nenets herders claim humans learned to herd from wolves.¹⁸

Dogsomjav described the habits of the wolf to me in the following way: The wolf is very smart. When a wolf attacks a pregnant sheep, the wolf may take the lamb from the sheep's stomach [and] then just eat the adult, allowing the lamb to grow up. I know of one herder, when he arrived at a sheep that was killed by wolves, there was a newborn lamb with no mother, so he took it back to feed it....

¹⁰ Ingold 1980, 49; Banfield 1954, 49; Mech 1970, 161-62, 229; Smith and Ferguson 2005, 142-44; Mech and Boitani 2003.

¹¹ Wiessner 2002, 407-408; Hawkes 1991; 1993; Ingold 1980, 49.

¹² Lienhard 1998-99; Burton and Burton 2002, 393; Wright 2014, 15-16.

¹³ Ingold 1980, 49; Banfield 1954, 49; Mech 1970, 161-62, 229.

¹⁴ Sunzi wrote in his *Art of War*: "To achieve an advance that cannot be hampered, rush to his weak points" (Huynh 2008, 71). 进而不可御者，冲其虚也。

¹⁵ Ingold 1980, 49; Smith and Ferguson 2005; Stronen et al. 2007; Lopez 1978; Smith 2004; Wright 2014, 15-16; Shirokogoroff 1929, 31; Golovnev 1995; Stépanoff et al. 2017, 60.

¹⁶ Lopez 1978, 55.

¹⁷ Schleidt and Shalter 2003, 66-68; 2018, 24-25; Schleidt 1998; Zeuner 1936, 124.

¹⁸ Golovnev 1995; Stépanoff 2017, 60.

The wolves have a meeting time between December and February [the middle of winter] where they do not attack animals and just feed from the wind. In this meeting time of the wolves, a female leads the others. If a human kills the female wolf, then a male wolf will kill that human in retribution. During this meeting time, wolves will kill other bad wolves by fighting with each other. For the following few months, the wolves just feed on insects and plants. The springtime is the main time when the wolves feed on newborn herd animals. (Fijn 2011, 210)

Wolves

In ancient times people saw that wolves did not eat every day, but that they went without eating for a couple weeks even though they were consistently near prey they could easily kill.¹⁹ Some interpret this as restraint on their part, especially because they are one of the top predators found in nature. Once wolves capture their prey, they don't recklessly eat without intent, they specifically try to devour the organs first: heart, liver, kidneys, etc.²⁰ Then they leave portions of the animal remains behind, allowing for other animals to come and eat after they have left.

This way of eating holds also true in Daoism: Daoists often eat only the essence and give the rest away to others. This is especially true of cabbage, where the core leaves of the cabbage contain the essence that they consume insatiably. They then donate the leftovers to local people, which were the fresh green leaves that the public love so much. The eating habits of the wolves, such as fasting, the eating of insects, eating the organs of animals, eating the essence of anything they ate, eating things as fresh as possible, and the sharing of food are all emulated by Daoists.

Some Native Americans still honor learning how to hunt from wolves. On hunting trips, they make sure to feed them after in honor of this sacred pact between wolves and humanity.²¹ Many people today still have the custom to feed dogs before they eat. Over time the original reason may have been lost or taken on new meanings. There is a tradition known in India to feed dogs before people sit down for their meals.²² In the Zoroastrian religion, there is a rule to feed dogs before people eat.²³ The Naxi in China will make a point to feed dogs first on New Year's Day in gratitude of their service in bringing grain to humanity.²⁴

¹⁹ Johnson and Aamodt 1985, 64; Mech et al. 2015, 9.

²⁰ Dutcher and Dutcher 2002, 85.

²¹ Fogg and Pierotti 2015, 272.

²² Ayyar 1920, 158-59.

²³ Foltz 2010, 371; Boyce 1977, 143.

²⁴ Ceinos Arcones 2012, 199.

In English, people still recognize the wolf when they eat, in naming the teeth people use to chew meat the “canines.” Today people think this word is relatively modern, dating its origins to the sixteenth century. However, in English, the term “canine teeth” comes from the Greek *kynodontes*, literally “dog teeth,” first used in the Hippocratic Aphorisms in 400 BCE.²⁵ The Romans inherited this, calling them *dentes canini* in Latin, a term used by Celsus and Pliny the Elder in 79 CE.

Humanity copies many of the things they observe from the wolf. However, some misunderstand what they saw. The idea that the alpha male governs the pack is a misconception that only recently has taken to popular thinking.

The myth of the alpha male who must never be challenged has become an easily recognized caricature of our human society but is based, at least in part, on our distorted impression of the social order of the wolf pack. It is the alpha female that has the greatest say. She selects the victim and directs the hunt. The beta animals are the ones that enforce the will of the alpha female, for example by challenging the prey to help her gauge its fitness. Shortly before the cubs are born, the pack converges near the denning site chosen by the pregnant female, to help out. They bring her food and, after the pups are weaned, they take over responsibility for teaching them the ways of the pack. (Sykes 2018, 83)

Humanity also followed the wolf in digging homes deep into the earth. In the most ancient of times, humankind lived underground. Not only were some people’s homes dug into the earth, but people constructed entire cities underground around the world.²⁶ Many people today still live underground. People are living in Shanxi China in this ancient way, and also in New York City which contains thousands of people all living underground.

Another connection is that the word “domesticate” comes from the Latin word *domus*, which derives from the even earlier Proto-Indo-European *dōm*, meaning “house.”²⁷ Therefore, “domesticate” means to make one belong to the house. The cynologist Schleidt has raised an important question: since wolves have been making dens digging into the earth to make their homes far earlier than humans, only to have humans copy this practice, people may want to ask who domesticated whom?²⁸

²⁵ Šimon 2015, 369.

²⁶ Golany 1989; 1992; Kempe 1988; Roy 2006; Farley 2018.

²⁷ Meier-Brügger 2003, 83.

²⁸ “Even the term domestication has the wrong ring, since the meeting of wolves and modern humans predates, by far, anything that could be considered a human habitation in the form of a domus (Latin for house). Canids’ use of dens dates back further. Consequently, instead of domestication, we should talk about “cubilation” (cubile, Latin for den) as suggested earlier and wonder who cubilated whom” (Schleidt and Shalter 2003, 66). Schleidt 1998, 7n8; Range and Virányi 2015; Hare and Woods 2020.

Wolves were able to spread out over the entire world as one of the world's top predators. At one point, you could say they became the animal that ruled over the world.²⁹ Whenever anything reaches its highest point, it will soon fall, the taiji symbol of yin and yang expresses this teaching. When humans came on to the earth, wolves fell from their prominent position as humans became the top predator. They had to face their demise, but wolves are incredibly intelligent, and so in that moment of recognition they did what no other animal had done before. Instead of continuing to be wolves and ultimately meeting their extinction, they instead humbled themselves before humanity. They performed jobs for humanity and were of service to them. Instead of competing for food with humanity, they took what humans offered or did not want. In this way, wolves transformed into dogs, and because of this they not only survived the rise of humanity to world dominance, they became essential.

Origins

Geneticists, paleontologists, archaeologists, evolutionary biologists, and animal behaviorists all agree that the dog originated from the wolf.³⁰ The first dog on earth was the Tibetan mastiff. The wolf and the Tibetan Mastiff split 58,000 years ago, while other domestic dogs do not split until 42,000 years ago. So, for 16,000 years the first and only dog in existence was the Tibetan Mastiff.³¹

Bred with wolves found in the high altitudes of Tibet, the Tibetan Mastiff inherited gene mutations that allow their blood to capture and release oxygen better than any other dog, this is why they thrive in high altitudes where other dogs do not survive.³² The original Tibetan Mastiff breed are the largest, most ferocious, and oldest dogs on earth.³³ The name alone reveals that the dog is of massive size.³⁴

Dr. Wu recalls a time when he was in the presence of one of these giant dogs inside a temple. He could feel the pulsing vibrations made by the dog's breath and the incredible *qi* the dog emitted.

The Tibetans have given the Tibetan Mastiff the title “Dog Deity of the East” (*dongfang shen gou* 东方神狗) and “Dog King” (*gou wang* 狗王), this is because the Tibetan Mastiff is the king of all dogs.³⁵ There are two types, one is named the

²⁹ Wang and Tedford 2008, vii–viii, 134–36.

³⁰ Derr 2011, 29; Wang et al. 2016.

³¹ Li et al. 2008 335.

³² Letzter 2019; Caspermeier 2017; Miao et al. 2017; Signore et al. 2019.

³³ Li et al. 2008, 335.

³⁴ Leighton 1907, 511–513.

³⁵ Li et al. 2008, 335; Liang 2009, 170.

“Nomad Dog” (*drog-khyi* འབྲུག་ཁྱུ་), which is lesser in size and kept by people outside the monasteries. The other is named the “Monastic Mastiff” (*tsang-khyi* ཨང་ཁྱུ་), which are much bigger and heavier, and kept inside the temples with the monks.³⁶

Today people are mostly familiar with the smaller, nomadic mastiff.³⁷ In China the official breed’s name is *zang’ao* 藏獒. Other names are literally “Pine Tree-Border-Dog” (*songfan gou* 松藩狗) and “Blue-Green-Lion-Dog” *cangni quan* 蒼猊犬, referring to the mythical lion-dog figure decorating temples in China. The Tibetan Mastiff can easily be mistaken for a lion in its appearances with its huge lion-like mane and giant stature,³⁸ often it is called the “Snow Mountain Lion of Tibet” (*xueshan shizi* 雪山獅子), and another name is literally the “Seed of the Lion” (*shizi zhong* 獅子種). There may be more to this connection between the lion and dog, as two of the world’s most ancient civilizations have a nearly identical word for lion. In Chinese lion means “Master-Dog” (*shi* 獅), and in Sumerian lion means “Exalted-Dog” *urmah*.³⁹

Most of the famous large breed dogs of the world show genetic descent from the Tibetan Mastiff, such as the Saint Bernard (Switzerland), the Newfoundland dog (Canada), the English Shepherd (England), the Pyrenean Mountain dog (France), the Rottweiler (Germany) and Great Dane (Germany).⁴⁰ Not only is the Tibetan Mastiff ferocious enough to take on a wolf in a one-to-one fight unlike any other dog, an old Chinese saying says that the Tibetan Mastiff can resist nine wolves at once.⁴¹ That is how dominatable the Tibetan Mastiff is. Local Tibetan herdsman believe the Tibetan Mastiff can guard up to 400 sheep, and as long as it is close by wolves will not attack them.⁴²

According to mtDNA the first divergence between the dog and the wolf was in Asia around 58,000 BCE with the Tibetan Mastiff.⁴³ Other types of dogs do not diverge from the wolf until 42,000 BCE yet these dogs all still remain within Asia.⁴⁴ Evidence of the dog around 33,000 BCE can be found in northern Siberia,⁴⁵ evidence for the dog does not venture out to Central Asia until about

³⁶ Eichhorn (2010).

³⁷ The *Drog-Khyi* (འབྲུག་ཁྱུ་) will also be called other names depending on what the dog’s purpose is, such as *Duo Qu* 多曲, *Zhu Qu* 珠曲, *Shuanzhe de Gou* 拴著的狗, *Shoumen Quan* 守門犬, *Mu Quan* 牧犬. The “Monastic Mastiff” *tsang-Khyi* also has the name ཨང་ཁྱུ་ཨང་ཁྱུ་ in Tibetan.

³⁸ Leighton 1907, 513.

³⁹ More on lion and dog statues guarding entrances, see ch. 3. Kershaw 2000, 249.

⁴⁰ Li et al. 2011, 1868; Li et al. 2008, 335.

⁴¹ *Yi ao quan di jiu lang* 一獒犬抵九狼.

⁴² Liang 2009, 170.

⁴³ Rizk 2012, 20; Li et al. 2008, 335.

⁴⁴ Savolainen et al. 2002, 1613; Pierotti 2017, 14; Germonpré et al. 2009, 473; Lindblad et al. 2005; Vilà et al. 1997, 1689; Ovodov et al. 2011; Shipman 2015; Morey 2010; 2014.

⁴⁵ Pierotti 2002, 91; Skoglund et al. 2015, 1516-17.

31,000 BCE. Dates from skeletal remains shows the dog finally appears in Europe around 30,000 BCE.⁴⁶ The dog then continues to diverge from the wolf in its migrations around the world to the present time. Because of this complexity, it remains a hot topic amongst cynologists and huge debates carry on as to the dog's origins.

Work

Today the difference between wolves and dogs is huge, but this came about only after tens of thousands of years.⁴⁷ At first, they were bigger than wolves. Over time dogs decreased in size. There are many factors at play in their gradual reduction in size such as breeding, diet, climate and geographical conditions, etc. As they stayed with humankind, moving when they moved and staying when they stayed, the gradual shift from a nomadic lifestyle to a settled agrarian lifestyle changed the shape of the dog over tens of thousands of years.

In constantly moving, the body continually elongates. However, by sitting and laying down, the body retracts. Yin-yang theory clearly show this, where yang is the expression of activities, growth, and movement, whereas yin is the expression of quieting, settling, and stillness. A runner has a running body type, a swimmer has a swimming body type, and a couch potato has a potato body type.

Dogs perform many duties for us. At the dawn of agricultural settlements, they are eating people's leftovers, and in this regard, they were the first garbage cleaners for humanity.⁴⁸ They still continue to perform many other tasks for humanity today. People taught some of these jobs to them and others they perform instinctually. All this greatly inhibited people from eating the dogs because they were such valuable workers.

The dog was the first domestic animal, and through the dog, other animals became domesticated as well, such as the pig, ox, horse, goat, sheep, chicken, rooster, etc. The dog could be found all day working the farm, herding the animals, standing watch for predators, and performing other duties. Not only recognized as being instrumental, the dog is critical in the success of developing agricultural settlements. Without them humanity would remain as hunter-gatherers, and possibly could not have survived very long as a species.⁴⁹

Dogs will herd other animals and protect the owner and the owner's property. They will get food for their owners by tracking prey and often bringing back the animal in their mouths. They are used to sniff out edible plants, and in France

⁴⁶ Pierotti 2017, 14; Thalmann et al. 2013, 872; Germonpré et al. 2009; Ovodov et al. 2011; Shipman 2011; 2015; Frantz et al. 2016; Skoglund et al. 2011, 1506.

⁴⁷ Parker and Gilbert 2015.

⁴⁸ Arendt et al. 2016.

⁴⁹ Driscoll and Macdonald 2010, 6; Gray et al. 2010; Zhang and Hung 2008, 304.

they are used to find truffles much like pigs. In colder regions, they are the primary form of transportation in pulling people in sleds and cargo.

In ancient times and still to this day, dogs are like garbage cleaners eating up left-over meals and garbage. They are essentially cleaning up the homes and city streets, much like a mother cleans up after her children. When it is needed, they can dig holes that are useful.

In medical research, they were used in discovering insulin.⁵⁰ Medically, dogs are used to alert their owners if they sense the onset of cancer.⁵¹ For people with high levels of stress, anxiety, trauma, PTSD, and other mental health conditions, dogs can help immensely and are a form of therapeutic treatment in the medical profession.⁵² Dog are also well known guides for the blind.

All other animals have half-duties in their lives, these are part-time jobs. Only the dog has a full-time job in life.⁵³ Dogs are meticulous and diligent in their work and people recognize their tireless, hard work ethic in their use of the expression: “working like a dog.”

Through humanity’s agricultural phase of civilization, the dog, pig, horse, ox, and sheep are all animals that humans have become reliant on for many things. Domestic animals makeup a large majority of the animals represented in today’s Chinese zodiac. However, this leads us to the question, how come a person’s emotions towards dogs is a bit different from their perception and emotion towards other animals?

In many aspects, people can understand it as dogs are the guardians of human society. Some people can live without their friends, but they cannot live without their dog. That is because most often, a dog’s loyalty is greater than people’s loyalty to each other. They usually do not lie and are candid in nature.

The relationship people form with a dog is very different from the bond people have with any other animal. Jane Goodall said: “...even after hundreds of years of selective breeding, it would be hard if not impossible to produce a chimpanzee who could live with humans and have anything like such a good relationship as we have with our dogs” (Schleidt 1998, 2). Daoists see humans as coming from dogs, unlike Darwin’s theory suggesting humans have common ancestry with chimpanzees due to the human tailbone.

Not a single day goes by that the news does not cover a story about dogs. They are constantly performing heroic duties saving human lives and protecting their owners. They protect them from burglaries, home invaders, and even violent assaulters on the street, jumping bravely into danger solely to protect their human owners.⁵⁴

⁵⁰ Vecchio et al. 2018.

⁵¹ Willis et al. 2004; Cornu et al. 2011; Roncati 2019; Vecchio et al. 2018.

⁵² Goodavage 2019; Marcus 2012; Ensminger 2010; Patterson-Kane et al. 2020.

⁵³ “Half-duties” (*banzhi* 半職). “Part-time jobs” (*banzhi ye* 半职业). “Full-time job” (*quanzhi ye* 全职业). On the topic of dog duties, see Mikhail 2015, 79-84; Losey et al. 2018.

⁵⁴ Bloom 2018; Associated Press 2018; NBC 2018.

There are many stories of dogs staying inside a burning house, barking to alert their owner of the fire when they are asleep or to notify neighbors for help. Such stories tell of how they never once leave the owner until they are able to get out safely together.⁵⁵

There are many tales of dogs lying dead or unconscious next to their human-owners, as they refuse to leave them, no matter the danger.⁵⁶ The same thing happens out in the wild. When the owner is trapped in the woods or is completely covered in snow, the dog will stay by them, keeping them warm and will bark for help.⁵⁷

The dog is critical in many search and rescue operations. One such incident occurred in Utah, where a police dog was able to find a missing child within just seconds.⁵⁸ Investigators use dogs in finding criminals that are hiding after fleeing the scene of the crime. They do this by two methods, tracking and trailing.⁵⁹ “In tracking, a dog is following disturbances to the ground surface, crushed vegetation, a person’s body odor, and/or sweat coming through the person’s shoes. In trailing, a dog is thought to be following the odor of volatile substances that flow off human skin every minute containing organic compounds and bacteria, leaving a trail often described as a plume” (Ensminger 2011, 26).

War

Dogs have an amazing sense of smell, where the dog’s ability to match the scent of complex samples to a human scent is at an estimate of 90 percent accuracy.⁶⁰ Dogs use this heightened sense of smell to sniff out potential threats such as drugs, bombs and most importantly IEDs (improvised explosive devices).⁶¹ Many law enforcement agencies and the military use dogs for this purpose.⁶²

The Army and the Red Cross in the past trained dogs to carry medical supplies. When the canine medic discovers a wounded soldier on the battlefield, they are performing two tasks at once, one being that they brought medical supplies to the wounded. Second, they are trained to then tear off a piece of the soldier’s uniform and bring it back to the barracks to alert their handler that a distressed

⁵⁵ Earl 2016; Pace 2019; Yeung 2019; Associated Press 2019; Lemieux 2020; Grunert 2020.

⁵⁶ Earl 2016.

⁵⁷ Earl 2017; Melville with Lobo 2019.

⁵⁸ Pierce 2019.

⁵⁹ Gerritsen and Haak 2001, 31-43.

⁶⁰ Marchal et al. 2016; Jezierski et al. 2016.

⁶¹ Goodavage 2012; Jezierski et al. 2016; Furton and Harper 2004; Furton and Myers 2001; Gerritsen and Haak 2001, 31-43; 2015; 2016; 2017a; 2017b; Shaffer 2018; Bulanda 2017; Mackenzie 2017.

⁶² Committee on Homeland Security 2007; Ensminger 2012; Goodavage 2016.

soldier has been found. Furthermore, they are instrumental in leading the rescue team back to the wounded soldier for a safe evacuation.⁶³

Christina Tsouparopoulou shows proof of the use of dogs in Mesopotamia's military history going back to the period of Ur III:

...some dog handlers were immediately below military generals and were receiving animals for their dogs when stationed at Drehem, Tummal, or Nippur can be used as proof enough that dogs must have played an active role in the Ur III army. Dogs were definitely used to guard people of the upper echelons (such as the governors, *ensi*₂), and in many texts of the *šuku ensi*₂ ('subsistence of the governor') category from Girsu, dogs appear to be considered of equal status with some people, as they were receiving the same feed. (Tsouparopoulou 2012, 10)

The earliest image is of a dog used in war is of an armored Mastiff.⁶⁴ Alyattes, the King of Lydia in 600 BCE, used them to drive off the Cimmerians. A great number of them were used by the Ephesians in the battle they waged against Magnesia. The Persians used them in their war against the Egyptians at the Battle of Pelusium (525 BCE). There were many used at the Battle of Marathon in Greece (490 BCE). Xerxes had them in his invasion of Greece (480 BCE). They were also used at the Battle of Corupedium (281 BCE).

The Romans had dogs in their invasion of Sardinia (264 BCE). When Caesar tried to invade England with his hounds, there was a push back by the great Mastiffs, bred by the indigenous people of Britain at that time (55 BCE). Atilla the Hun used dogs in his invasion of Europe (500 CE). Genghis Khan led an army of Mastiffs, thousands in number, to conquer the world with his four generals he called his "Dogs of War" (1200 CE).⁶⁵

One of the famous stories written about in America's Revolutionary War was when George Washington returned the dog of General Howe, Commander-in-Chief of British land forces, to him after it had gotten lost in the commotion of battle.⁶⁶ In America's Civil War there were many dogs fighting, well-known ones were: "Jack" of the 102nd Pennsylvania Infantry, "Harvey" of the 104th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Company F, and "Sallie Ann" of the eleventh Pennsylvania Infantry.⁶⁷ In the Spanish-American War there was the dog "Jack Brutus."⁶⁸ A black French poodle with the name "Moustache", took part in the French Revolutionary War and the Napoleonic War.⁶⁹

⁶³ Newby 2018.

⁶⁴ Mayor 2014, 287.

⁶⁵ Mayor 2003, 12, 190-93; Laale 2011, 16; Howey 1972, 16; Cawthorne 2012, 11-14; Karunanithy 2008; Wynn 1886.

⁶⁶ Tiger 2005.

⁶⁷ Cawthorne 2012, 21-24.

⁶⁸ Thayer 1899, 57-58.

⁶⁹ Cawthorne 2012, 17-18.

Napoleon writes after his innumerable battles in conquering most of Europe, about how the sight of a dog in war had changed him deeply, moving him to reflect on humanity, life, and death:

He mentions a circumstance which indicates a deep sense of feeling. As he passed over a field of battle in Italy, he saw a houseless dog lying on the body of his slain master. The creature came towards them, then returned to the dead body, moaned over it pitifully, and seemed to ask their assistance.

“Whether it were the feeling of the moment,” continued Napoleon, “the scene, the hour, or the circumstance itself, I was never so deeply affected by anything which I have seen upon a field of battle. That man, I thought, has perhaps had a house, friends, comrades, and here he lies deserted by everyone but his dog. How mysterious are the impressions to which we are subject!

“I was in the habit, without emotion, of ordering battles which must decide the fate of a campaign, and could look with a dry eye on the execution of manoeuvres which must be attended with much loss, and here I was moved—nay, painfully affected—by the cries and the grief of a dog. It is certain that at that moment I would have been more accessible to a suppliant enemy, and could better understand the conduct of Achilles in restoring the body of Hector to the tears of Priam.” (Scott 1827, 358)

Sergeant Stubby of the 102nd Infantry was the first dog given rank for service in World War I. He took part in four offensives and seventeen battles, saved his regiment from surprise mustard gas attacks, caught a German spy, and survived a grenade attack-taking shrapnel in his leg. In WWII a German Sheppard named Chips attacked a machine gun nest and captured four of the enemy soldiers even while being wounded. Later he will capture ten enemy soldiers.⁷⁰

The U.S. military awarded Chips with the Purple Heart and the Silver Star. Later these medals were taken away from Chips by the military, but because of the public’s tremendous outcry they restored the medals to him. Chips remains the only dog officially decorated by the U.S. military.

The U.S. military refuses to decorate any animal with the same medals human soldiers receive. In their view, this is to preserve the integrity of the metal. Conversely, they also have not created any alternative medals or awards for the animals that serve their country. To promote the recognition of the dog’s services in saving human life and to commemorate the dogs who have, we are providing a known list of dogs’ names and the actions they have performed in the note below.⁷¹

⁷⁰ Hediger 2013.

⁷¹ A short list of dogs in war who performed acts of heroism: Kuga, Chips, Mali, Lucca, Diesel, Sasha, Theo, Treo, Sadie, Lucky, Buster, Sam, Salty and Roselle, Appollo, Gander, Tich, Antis, Brian, Ricky, Punch and Judy, Judy, Peter, Rip, Sheila, Rex, Rifleman Khan, Thorn, Rob, Beauty, Irma, Jet, Bob, PD Bacca, PD Finn, Teddy, Diesel, Police Dog Ozzy, K9 Killer, Gage, Ajax, Ellie and Jones, Dexter, Anya, Frodo, Oi, Bosnich, George, Ghillie, Vinnie, Billy, Hubble Keck (Jake), Bamse, Dylan & Cracker, Zoltan, Blue, Orca, Endal, Metpol Delta Monty, Bulla,

Dogs have saved an untold number of lives in war. In World War II, it is estimated that dogs saved 15,000 human lives and 10,000 human lives in the Vietnam War. However, even these numbers are still considered grossly underestimated by many of the dog handlers who served there.⁷² The number of human lives saved in the current wars in the Middle East is still unknown, but the estimate is to be extremely high because of the success that dogs have had in uncovering IEDs.



Wolf Warriors

In ancient times, wolves teach humans on how to conduct war, implement strategy, and how to attack the enemy. There are records of this from Native Americans such as the Sioux, they consider wolves as the patron of warriors. They make offerings to them and pray to them for guidance in war. They receive teachings from them and learn where the enemy is located and how best to go about attacking them.⁷³

This knowledge of how to conduct war based on teaching from the wolves is also in ancient China. Sunzi based his Art of War on what he learned from wolves. Wolves are especially good at psychological warfare, which is discussed in the Art of War and is one of the principal forms of warfare in practice today.

Antis, Bamse, Bing, Cairo, Cappy, Chesty, Chips, Gander, Gunner, Horrie the Wog Dog, Jet of Iada an Alsatian, Judy, Just Nuisance, Lava, Lex, Lucca, Moustache, Nemo A534, Nigger, Philly, Rags, Rex (E168), Rifleman Khan, Rip, Sallie Ann Jarrett, Sarbi, Sasha, Sinbad, Smoky, Stubby, Tich, Treo, Willy, and Zanjeer.

<https://www.pdsa.org.uk/what-we-do/animal-awards-programme/pdsa-gold-medal>. Accessed 07 September, 2020. <https://www.pdsa.org.uk/what-we-do/animal-awards-programme/pdsa-dickin-medal>. Accessed 07 September, 2020. Accessed 07 September, 2020. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_individual_dogs#War_dogs. Accessed 07 September, 2020. Accessed 07 September, 2020.

⁷² Frankel 2016, 193; 2014; Deluca 2014.

⁷³ Hassrick 1964, 92-96.

It is interesting to note that Wolf in one form or another was the patron spirit of war all over the Plains. He was primarily the genius of the intelligence service, the ruthless, crafty, cautious hunter. This may well be taken as symbolic of all Plains, or of all American Indian warfare. Its prototype was the shrewd stalker and, as Wolf's depredations depended upon intelligence, the Indians hunted men in the same manner. The service of intelligence was the one branch of their art of war which was perfectly developed. (Turney-High 1991, 109)

The west is no different. In Europe long before there were nation states, there were tribes and empires that bred warriors who fought on the principles of the wolf. The wolf is the most important animal to the Indo-European warriors.⁷⁴

Wolf-warriors are the best-documented Indo-European warrior style, originating long before and lasting long after the Indo-European dispersal. They are found far more often than bear-, boar-, buck-, marten-, horse- or any other animal-warriors. In the second millennium BC, when our sources begin to flow, wolf-warriors are already well attested. (Speidel 2002, 12)

In Greece, there are writings of wolf warriors in Homer's *Iliad*, set during the Trojan War. Such as Dolon, who wore wolfskin to conduct nocturnal espionage. However, only Hector and Achilles, the two greatest warriors in the *Iliad*, were capable of taking on the furious berserker "Rage of the Wolf" λύσσα, which greatly enhanced their already legendary fighting skills in battle.⁷⁵ Homer highlights this in the scenes of Achilles chasing off the Trojan Army back into Ilios, and in Hector driving off the Achaeans back to their ships.⁷⁶

In Sparta the wolf was apart of their early training as warriors.⁷⁷ "In Sparta, warrior training was the work of Lykurgos, the "Wolf-Worker." Lykurgos laid down a law that for a year (the "Krypteia") young warriors must hide and live outside society, fending for themselves as naked, lone wolves" (Speidel 2002, 13).

In Ancient Germany armies were famous for their berserkers and wolfish rage warriors on the battlefield.⁷⁸ The *ulfhæðinn* are the ancient Germanic wolf warriors. They went into a battle fury written as a "Wolf's Rage" *úlfuð*. As a personal name *Ulfhæðinn* appears in Old Norse and Old High German language.

⁷⁴ Lincoln 1975, 103.

⁷⁵ Lincoln 1975, 100.

⁷⁶ Wolfish Rage in Homer's *Iliad* 8.299; 9.237-39 and 305 (Hector); 21.542f. (Achilles). See Lincoln 1975; Nagy 2019; Speidel 2004; Duichin 2017.

⁷⁷ West 1997, 213; Trundle 2016, 66; Jeanmaire 1939, 463ff, 550-569; Vidal-Naquet 1986, 112-14; Burkert 1983, 84-93; Strehle 2014; 2017.

⁷⁸ Parent 2009.

It was in use as personal names further in time than we have written records and even considered to be used as an appellative like Mr. or Sir.⁷⁹

Many scholars have translated the epic Beowulf differently, but one thing they all agree upon is that the title contains the word wolf. Some scholars find the name to be a variant of “War Wolf” *beado-wulf* a cognate to the Icelandic “War Wolf” *bodulfr*.⁸⁰

The ancient people moved around often. This is especially true of the indigenous people of Europe. Two of those groups were the Gauls and the Goths, who waged some of the most significant wars against Rome. However, over time these people changed as they became divided and made stationary by their country's borders, they are France, Germany, etc. Where once their nomadic wolf nature always put them in conflict with the stationary civilizations of empire, they too have now taken up this way of life. This is the same type of transformation that took place with the wolf becoming the dog. Comparatively France can be seen as the yin-dog, and Germany can be seen as the yang-dog.

These ancient connections to the wolf are still in France today. The Louvre Museum in France was originally a place where the kings kept wolves. The ground itself, in ancient times, was called Louvre before anything was built upon it. To this day people will spot the four wolves on top of the Louvre's columns looking down on them as they walk around. The word “Louvre” references the wolf in the word *lupus* or *lupara*.⁸¹

Wolves and boar were two of the most venerated animals of war all over ancient Europe.⁸² The warriors would use their images in battle. Today the largest statue of the pig on earth is Woinic the boar, found between France and Germany, in the Ardennes region. The boar represented warriors and had similar meaning amongst the Celts, ancient Germans, Welsh, Scandinavians, Irish, and Anglo-Saxon peoples.⁸³ It was the most venerated animal in Gaul, in contrast to the ancient Germanics for whom it was the wolf.

Empires of warriors who venerated the wolf can be found on the outskirts of China. Many tribes that were bordering ancient China worshipped the dog and named their tribe after the dog.⁸⁴ Over time some tribes grouped together in allegiances forming tribal-states. The most famous ones were the Türks and Mongols, who claimed to have ancestral ties to the wolf.

Genghis Khan led the Mongols to expand one of the largest Empires in history. The Türks also expanded their territory after the fall of the Mongol Empire, encapsulating many of the remaining tribes in Central Asia. Their collapse

⁷⁹ Nordberg and Wallenstein 2016, 55.

⁸⁰ Other translations have been proposed other than War-Wolf, such as Thor-Wolf, Bee-Wolf, etc. indicating a connection between the wolf and the famous warrior. See Toller 1898, 87.

⁸¹ Edwards 1893, 193.

⁸² Carnegie 1893, 34.

⁸³ Rose 2017, 15.

⁸⁴ Names of some of these tribes are the: 獫狁, 犬戎, 柔然, 突厥, 獯.

gave room for the Ottoman Empire to take over much later in time, which came to subsume a majority of these tribes as it expanded into an extensive empire that ruled with the rise of Islam.⁸⁵ The Ottoman Empire fell in the First World War, to which gave succession to many countries in Central Asia, one of which is Turkey. Turkey names its self not after the Ottoman Empire, but after the legacy left behind by the Türks.

The ancient Türk origins start with a wolf mother who gave birth to the people called the Ashina who later become the Türks. They hid in a mountain cave, protected and fed by her. Upon their emergence from the cave and integration into society, they took up work as ironsmiths.⁸⁶ They came to distinguish themselves with her image on their flags.⁸⁷ Their elite soldiers would wear wolfskin, going into a berserker trance-rage and ferociously charge into battles without shields, embodying the wolf's spirit.⁸⁸

The Türks had a relationship with the Khitans, who developed and became an extensive empire of their own, known as the Liao dynasty. The expanse of the Khitan Empire encapsulated so much of the north and western regions of China, that a long-lasting misunderstanding took place in calling China by the Turkic name for the Khitan's which was Cathay in English.⁸⁹ The root word of Khitan is dog *khyi*.⁹⁰

The dog was very important in Khitan mythology.⁹¹ There is a legend of both the dog and boar as ancestors of the Khitans. Ancient Chinese text attests to this in calling the first ruler of the Khitans "dog" and the second ruler "boar".⁹² They describe the men as having facial features that resemble the dog,⁹³ which might have added to their ferocity as great warriors. The women were a warrior class of their own, where even the empress and her concubines were all good at shooting, hunting, and military affairs.⁹⁴

Dogs in warfare have been used as guards, medics, search and rescue workers, trackers, detectors of chemical weapons and explosives, and as soldiers. Over time many terms have been generated that connect the dog to war such as: "dog soldiers," "dogs of war," "dog tags," even just the group name "wolf pack" brings on this feeling of a group of soldiers.

⁸⁵ Levy 2002; Findley 2005; Langer and Blake 1932; Chen 2021; Atik 2017; Amitai and Biran 2005; Vásáry 2005; Spinei 2009.

⁸⁶ Findley 2005, 38; Allsen 2001, 201-02; Wagner 1993, 191-99, 267-335; DeWeese 2007, 235, 275.

⁸⁷ Corff et al. 2018, 234.

⁸⁸ Golden 1997, 91-92.

⁸⁹ Biran 2007, 16; Sinor 2003, 131; Driem 2001, 451n7.

⁹⁰ Kvaerne 1980, 46.

⁹¹ Kvaerne 1980, 45-46.

⁹² Stein 1939, 21-27; Kvaerne 1980, 45.

⁹³ Kvaerne 1980, 46.

⁹⁴ Johnson 2011.

Character

The Ways of Writing “Dog” in Chinese Characters			
犬	狗	犛	戌
Dog (canine)	Dog	Dog (Chinese character component, an abbreviated form of 犛)	Dog (zodiac) 11 th heavenly stem

There are Chinese words that capture the dog’s skills in warfare such as bold 猛, vicious 狠, spy 狙, cunning 狡, deceive 誑, sly 獠, and crafty 猾. All of which contain the dog 犛 component in the character.

Dissecting the Chinese character for “dog” 犬 reveals the Chinese character for “human” 人 is a component inside of it. The difference between the human and the dog characters 人犬, is that the “human” character emphasizes the ability to walk on two legs 人. To walk on all fours is something people can learn from the dog. To practice crawling connects people back to their beginnings. To get down and crawl is to humble ourselves.

As an exercise place all four of your limbs on the ground, connecting yourself to the earth and nature. Four is the number of the square and is the shape that represents earth in Daoism. Our hands and feet make squares or rectangles. It is only natural to put all four on the earth. You can use your knees if you like, putting them on the earth will treat your knees. Practicing crawling will dynamically improve your back pain and knee pain.

When most of us were children, we first needed to crawl to develop the strength needed to stand. However, once we achieved this, we neglected to continue to support this strength by crawling each and every day. Bad posture, backache and knee pain can all benefit tremendously from crawling. It will even help with resolving emotional issues by being on our hands and knees out in nature. We might even feel like doing a bit of gardening while we are down there. Humanity was originally in harmony with nature. Daoists crawling on their hands and knees during the day and standing after the sun is down was a part of that harmony.

The dog brings people together. This happens easily in the park, where two people who do not know each other will get to meet because of the dog. This captures the idea of the coming together of different nations, in discussions, trade, and respect. No mother wants to see her children kill each other and the dog sees all of humanity as her children.



Gradually the dog moved away from its origins as a fighting warrior to saving lives in war as a medic, weapons detector, and search and rescue operator. The dog has transformed from the wolf in the old ways of war, fighting amongst each other in continuous battles over world dominance. Staying this course, the wolf was about to meet its own demise with the rise of humanity. Instead, the wolf came to humble itself in its transformation into the dog, which has not only allowed the dog to flourish but has also seen the survival of the wolf. Instead of continuing to stand tall against the inevitable crushing winds of change like a tall thick tree snapping in half against a hurricane, people will need to humble themselves in bending like grass with the wind. To understand transformation is to understand the *Yijing*.