

Leaders - Verse 17

The best leader is indistinguishable from the will of those who selected her(him).

The next best leader enjoys the love and praise of the people.

The poor leader leads through coercion and fear.

And the worst leader is a tyrant despised by the multitudes who are the victims of his power.

What a world of difference among these leaders.

In the last two types, what is done is without sincerity or trust, only coercion.

In the second type, there is a harmony between the leader and the people.

In the first type, whatever is done happens so naturally that no one presumes to take credit.

by Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching