

# Part I

## Chapter of the Li Lineage



Governor Li Hong and His Wife (1513)

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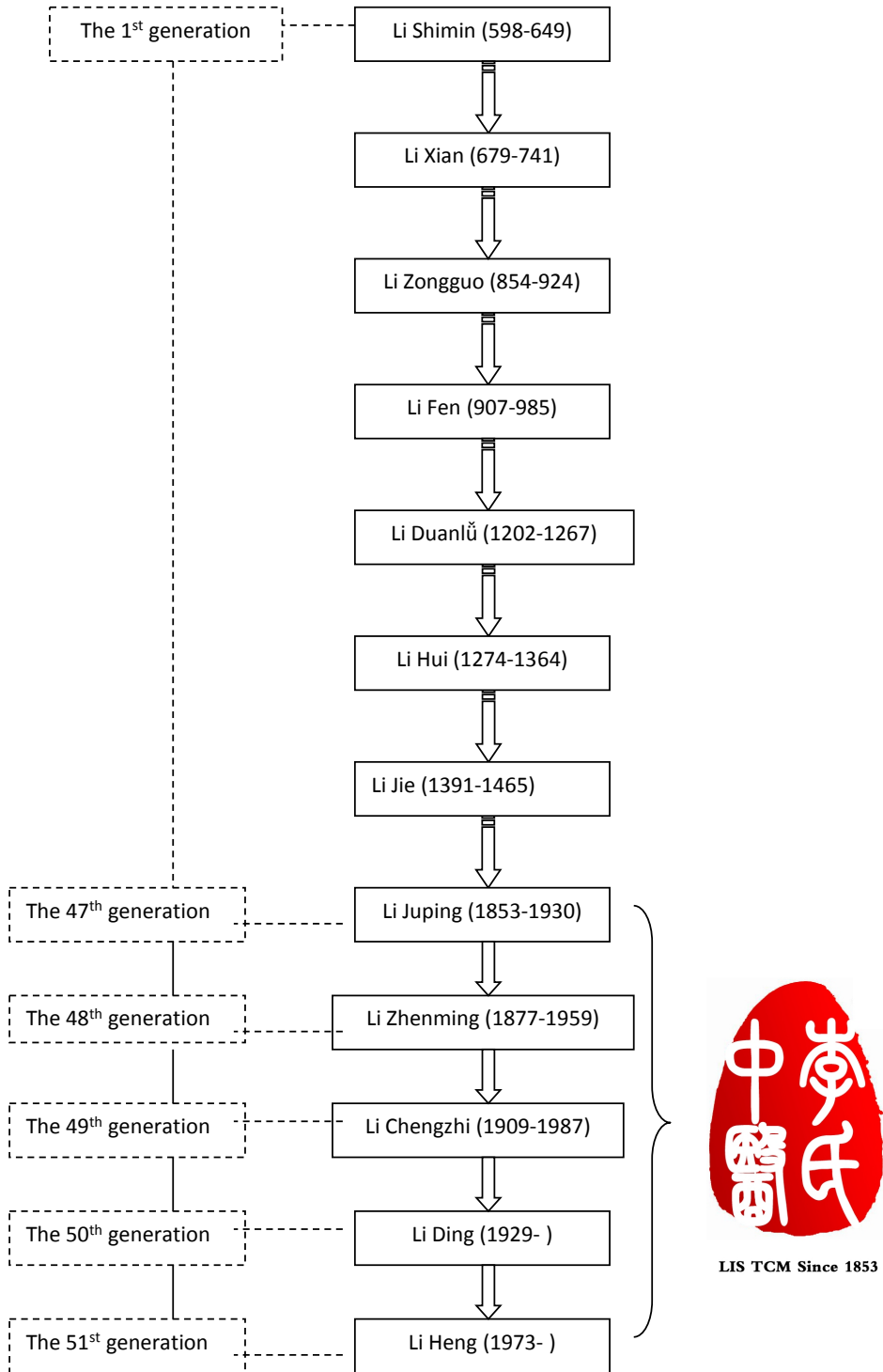


Figure 1. Li's Family Lineage Chart.

## 1. The Li Family History and Tradition

### 1.1. Family History



**Figure 2. Li's Genealogy Books (1666-1994).**

Prof. Li Ding and Dr. Li Heng (the author of this book) were originally from Hou Ren village, Yongkang County, Zhejiang Province. According to Li's genealogy records, our ancestors can be traced as far back 1,400 years ago to Li Shimin, the Emperor of Taizong of Tang Dynasty (618-907).



**Figure 3. Li Shimin (28 January 598 - 10 July 649).**

The genealogy recorded the dates of birth and death of ancestors of each generation as well as life stories of men/women of achievement.

Dynasty (1368-1644). The house is now listed as protected cultural relics.



Figure 4. Li's Ancestral House (1533).



Figure 5. The Nameplate of Cultural Relics Protection.

In 1240 during Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279), mass famine claimed the lives of people across Zhejiang province. The government called on local wealthy families to deliver food for starvation relief; however, most of these families did not respond at all. The Li family in Chou Men village, although not that wealthy, opened the granary to distribute food to famine victims in seven counties. As a result, a memorial archway called ‘*Le Shan Fang* (Benevolence Building)’ was built by the government for particular commendation.



Figure 6. *Le Shan Fang* (the original building has been destroyed).

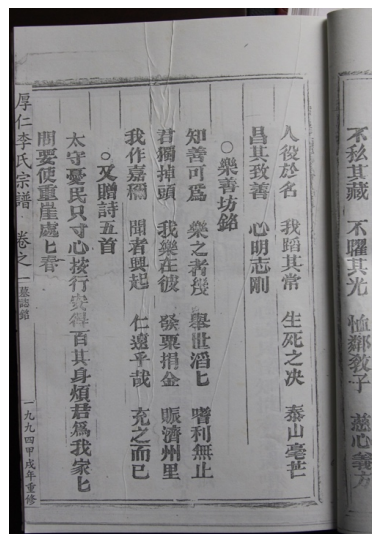


Figure 7. Inscription of *Le Shan Fang*.



The ancestor Li Duanlǚ (October 11, 1202 - December 3, 1267) received a commendation in recognition of his selfless deed during the famine. Even after the Li family moved from *Chou Men* to *Hou Ren* village, Yongkang County, the 'Le Shan Fang' Li family was still written on the Red Lantern hanging during the Spring Festival.



Figure 8. Le Shan Fang Lantern.

To carry on the philanthropic tradition of approximately 800 years, Dr. Li Heng and the other two entrepreneurs founded the Hou Ren Le Shan Fang Charity Foundation in January 2014, which have funded hundreds of local poor old men.

## 1.2. Family of Traditional Chinese Medicine

Li Juping (1853-1930) (My great great-grandfather)