



香港中華禮儀振興會

HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF CHINESE LIYI

Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
World Health Organization

Date: 30th March 2020

Dear Sir,

To prevent the spread of the current COVID-19 pandemic, we recommend the replacement of handshaking with gongshou-li 拱手禮。 You can shorten the term to “gongshou” (which is a verb) in case you want to say something like “Let us gongshou to greet each other instead of shaking hands.”

Gongshou-li is the Chinese traditional way of greeting. It dated back to the time of Confucius, some 2500 years ago.

How to perform gongshou-li:

While standing, place both hands in front of the chest. Close one hand tightly with the fingers bent against the palm to form a fist. Wrap the other hand round this fist. This is gongshou-li (simply gongshou).

Optional variations:

- (1) One may like to move the wrapped fist gently up and down;
- (2) One may choose to bend the body slightly forward while doing gongshou-li.

Enclosed in the next two pages are a few pictures to illustrate the performance of gongshou-li.

Yours sincerely,

楊靜嫻

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拱手禮
(For Society details, please see www.liyi.hk/homepage)

