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Defending his own interests

Since Tai Chiang Ching's performance was not good enough during elementary school, teachers and parents often blamed him, which made him feel frustrated. However, he found endless fun and a sense of achievement in learning abacus arithmetic. As a result, he became more certain of what targets and direction he wanted to set and pursue.

Tai Chiang Ching started learning elementary abacus arithmetic when he was an eighth grader at Chung De Junior High School in Yunlin County. However, the high school only provided an elementary level of abacus arithmetic. Consequently, Tai Chiang Ching decided to spend his own money on tuition in order to learn advanced abacus arithmetic. The tutor taught very well, and the teaching methods were lively, vibrant, and interesting. Tai's skill in abacus arithmetic had progressed considerably, and he also looked up to the teacher. He told himself that, in the future, he would become an abacus arithmetic teacher, a master in the field of abacus arithmetic, and decided to continue his education and enter a vocational training school.

However, Tai Chiang Ching's father had different ideas.

Since the economic situation of an average family was tight, where the cost of living was high but income was low, the elders of a family usually hoped that their children could go to work early and believed that "they don't need to receive higher education, they just need to learn some skills and find a job." Besides this, Tai Chiang Ching was the eldest son, so he was asked to work as a mechanic temporarily in a workshop to learn how to fix motorcycles and cars after graduating from junior high school.

However, Tai Chiang Ching had already decided to become an abacus arithmetic teacher, so he had a serious dispute with his father. Tai was angry because he felt that his father's mind was not as open as his grandfather's. He couldn't understand why his father would want to obstruct his interests and future.

Eventually, Tai Chiang Ching's father said he couldn't afford high school tuition and didn't want to support his son to continue his education after he graduated from junior high school. As a result, Tai Chiang Ching ran away from home out of anger and travelled alone to Taipei finding search of a job. Tai started out working as a porter in the Pepsi Company, before taking on a job as a dishwasher in a restaurant. Because his salary was not high, coupled with the need to pay for living costs and rent, Tai only had thirty thousand NTD of savings after one year of working. He started to worry about how to save more to pay for his tuition for three years of vocational high school.

Nevertheless, Tai Chiang Ching decided to register at the Vocational Training Division of I-Ning High School. Since he spent all of his savings paying for his first semester's tuition fee, he had no choice but to go back home and ask for his father's help.

Tai's father was moved by his strong will and finally agreed to support his education.