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From Mrs. Li: Thank you for your advice. I thought that there is always someone who is better. She's only a child but she has a strong sense of competition. Even though she's number one in her class and school, and someday grow up and leave her hometown, she will know there's someone better than her. She might suffer a setback.

From Tai: Then we can help her. Don't worry too much. She's just a child now. From Mrs. Li: As a mother, I also want her to be the best in the world. I will try my best to help her to meet her goal. I'm very grateful for your help. You are truly an international master.

Tai's "Mission Impossible" March 3, 2011 From Tai: Mrs. Li, regarding the questions of remote teaching

for your eldest son, Li Quan, let's try out a second session to gauge if I can help him to meet his target through the remote teaching.

We can talk about it later, how about that?

From Mrs. Li: You have already spent a lot of time on Qianqian, so I'm worried that if you had to spend extra time on Li Quan, that would take up too much of your time.

From Tai: If they can have a successful life leveraging on abacus mental arithmetic, do you think it's worth investing in them now?

From Mrs. Li: That sounds reasonable, but.....

From Tai: I think you are an excellent mother, so it can't be wrong if I invest in your family.

From Mrs. Li: I'm flattered.

From Tai: If you have any difficulty, we can talk about it right now.

From Mrs. Li: You have already given discount for Qianqian's tuition fee. If you're willing to teach Li Quan, I don't know how much I should pay for the tuition. I don't want to waste your time.

From Tai: It's easy. You just pay whatever you can, because I would really like Li Quan to be my student. From Mrs. Li: Is it worthy for you to teach Li Quan? From Tai: It worth a lot. I have taught for nearly 30 years, and

I'd never met such a special student. I want to take it as a challenge. From Mrs. Li: Thank you very much. Li Quan is a smart child

although he's blind. From Tai: Qianqian and Li Quan are all very smart. If they have

good teachers to train them, they will have a bright future. From Mrs. Li: I'm worried about Li Quan as well. Li Quan also hopes he could have a good teacher like you to train him, just like her sister does. From Tai: Don't worry. I believe that they will help each other.

They will bring fortunes and peace to your family. From Mrs. Li: Thank you for your encouragement and comfort. Mr. Tai, in fact, my children have not only learned abacus mental arithmetic from you, but you have also given us great advice on everything. You are a great person. From Tai: Thank you. You have taught a pair of smart and excellent children. From Mrs. Li: Thank you very much. From Tai: It's true. I made those comments based on the facts.

You can recall that in the past 20 years, did Li Quan bring good luck to your family? The problem is not Li Quan's blindness. It's also not your problem. It's a gift from God. You should treasure it.

From Mrs. Li: I will. Both of my children are my hope. Thank you, Mr. Tai, for spending so much time and effort on us.

Note 1.

Li Quan, 19 years old, the eldest son of Li Aihua. He was born blind. In order to teach him abacus arithmetic, Tai first taught him the numbers of 0 to 9. Tai then taught him to write the numbers and memorize classics. Since Li Quan's smart, he quickly learned how to memorise articles. However, the most challenging task had just begun. For Li Quan, to learn something he'd never seen was more difficult than others, such as "Two-handed Abacus Manipulation"

and “imagery memorisation.” That’s the challenge for parents and the teacher as well. In order to explain the relationship and connection between numbers and objects, Mrs. Li help Li Quan to touch every object using both hands. After one year of efforts and determination, now Li had learned how to calculate addition of single digit for 15 times, and addition of double digits for 7 times.