



Tam Kung, a Hakka native, lived in Guangdong, China, over 800 years ago. Legends says Tam Kung was born with miraculous powers – he had the ability to bring the rain, calm the storms, and cure illnesses. Another story says he died in a naval battle (1279) fighting the Mongols. For centuries, Tam Kung has been venerated by families and people living and working along the southern coast of China. Around 1860s, a Hakka gold seeker brought the statuette of Tam Kung with him to safeguard his journey across the Pacific Ocean (*Gam Saan*). In 1876, Tam Kung Temple was established.



The Dragon King (aka Dragon God) is a Chinese water and weather god, commanding the rain and all bodies of water. The Dragon God also served as a territorial deity, similar to “Lord of the Earth”.

Veneration of the “Earthly” dragon god(s) of “the five directions” and lands (east, west, south, north, and the center) still persists today in certain areas of southern China. In popular culture, the belief is that you can gain fortune wherever you go.



Guan Gong (aka. Guan Yu), 220 AD, Eastern Han and Three Kingdoms Period.

Guan Gong was a highly respected military commander, who was known for his bravery and later deified. Guan Gong symbolizes righteousness, loyalty, integrity, bravery, courage, and benevolence.

In the illustration, Guan Gong and Zhang Fei, both military generals, served under the warlord Liu Bei. The three famous individuals are depicted together in many Chinese illustrations, as a symbol of brotherhood and sworn loyalty.



The Kitchen God, Zao Jun

The kitchen is a symbol of family gatherings and a place where food is plentiful—a place that is “blessed and protected by the Kitchen God”.

Folklore: “Zao Jun”, was a mortal named Zhang Dan (Zhou Dynasty, 1122 BCE). Zhang came from a wealthy family, and squandered the family’s fortune. He sold his wife and promised to buy her back. Zhang ended up on the street as a beggar. One day, he was begging in front of the home of his ex-wife. Out of compassion, she brought him into her home and fed him. The husband returned. To protect his ex-wife’s reputation, Zhang threw himself into the hearth and died. In ancient times, individuals who committed suicide transformed into hopping ghost. Zhang found himself in the presence of the Jade Emperor who assigned Zhang to protect the household and to ward off evil spirits from the kitchen hearth.



**Earth (Land) God of Wealth
protects your land, harvest, wealth and property.**



**Heaven's blessing – "fung shui"
Brings good luck and prosperity**