

I graduated from the primary school at the end of 1943. I had to wait half a year to enter the middle school. To keep me occupied, my father asked a colleague of his, Mr. Qiu 裘, to be my tutor. Mr. Qiu also came from Shengxian. He was a secretary in the Ministry of Justice, equivalent to a division chief. He was quite progressive. Besides teaching me classic Chinese, he also introduced me literary works from Tsarist' Russia and Soviet Union. I have never heard about him since after the war. He was a good man and did not go to Taiwan. He might have been an underground communist.

I usually went to Mr. Qiu's office in the morning. HONG Shi went with me sometimes, but not regularly. In the afternoon, HONG and I just went running around the country side.

My two sisters were enrolled in the Middle School Attached to Central University in Qing Mu Guan 青木关, while my third brother was in Nankai Middle School in Sha Ping Ba 沙坪坝. So I took the entrance examinations for these two schools during the summer. I was accepted by both schools, and in the Fall of 1944, I entered Nankai.

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1943 年底我小学毕业，得等半年才能读中学。为了让我不闲着，我父亲请了他的一个同事裘先生来教我。裘先生也是嵯县人。他是司法行政部的一个秘书，相当于一个部门的主管。他是个很进步的人，在讲经典中文的同时，他还向我介绍沙俄和苏联的文学作品。战后我就没有他的任何消息，他是个好人，没有去台湾。他也许曾是个地下共产党员。

我通常上午去裘先生办公室，洪实没准什么时候也跟我一起去。下午的时候，我和洪实就在山野间到处跑。

我的两个姐姐在青木关读中大附中，我的三哥在沙坪坝读南开中学。所以我夏天的时候参加了这两个学校的入学考试。两个中学都录取了，我 1944 年秋季入读南开中学。