



tú huà yóu guó jì wǎng lù qǔ dé

圖畫由國際網路取得 Picture obtained through the Internet. One of the famous “二十四孝的故事 (The Twenty-Four Examples of Filial Piety).” In this example, the mother was sick and craved for deer-milk. The son disguised himself as a deer and tried to collect deer-milk from a herd of deer and was discovered by the hunters.

èr shí sì xiào de gù shì

bǎi shàn xiào wéi xiān

C010: 百善孝為先 (Two Birds Give Us a Lesson)

Sitting in the operators' parking lot to have lunch,
I saw a black bird land in the grass.
Then another almost as large in size
pointed its beaks upward
then opened them wide and big.
The first bird dropped a morsel into the opened mouth.
It was gobbled down.
It happened again and again.
Then the first bird flew away,
only to come back minutes later.

Do you know the end of this story?

Contrary to what happen with people in this country,
where the seniors are sent to the nursing homes,
the two birds have switched positions.
The first bird is now old,
and the one – who used to gobble down the morsels –
flies back and forth to feed its parents.
This is what we should do.
We come here,
to learn to be independent,
to enjoy the freedom,
and to make this place better.

There is a similar story in Chinese too. In our case,
it is the crow that people observe. And the act of

giving back to the parents is called 反哺 fǎn bǔ.

Also, there is a saying that reflects the Chinese idea of filial piety.

It goes as: 百善 bǎi shàn (hundreds of virtues) 孝 xiào (filial piety) 為先 wéi xiān (#1).

The whole sentence will be translated as: among all the virtues, filial piety comes first.