

◆ 英语漫话中国文化系列

【英汉对照】

中国传统文化 经典哲理故事

*Classic Fables of
Traditional Chinese Culture*

丛书主编译◎任秀桦

本册主编译◎赵静 郭巧懿



大连理工大学出版社

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Preface

Tales of Traditional Chinese Culture consists of four books: *Classic Fables of Traditional Chinese Culture*, *Classic Legends of Traditional Chinese Culture*, *Classic Myths of Traditional Chinese Culture* and *Classic Anecdotes of Traditional Chinese Culture*, which are matched with vivid illustrations and plain English translations. These illustrated books help readers of different cultural backgrounds share the essence beauty of the traditional Chinese cultural heritage. The lovely and interesting tales will quench the thirst of foreigners who are interested in traditional Chinese culture, and the Chinese youngsters who enjoy the topic of traditional Chinese culture bilingually.

Fables of traditional Chinese culture often use exaggerated and imaginary means, as well as distinct and lively languages, to convey moral truth and embody the philosophy of life. The outstanding representatives of them are Zhuangzi's fables. Zhuangzi's fables set forth the mystery and deep philosophy of "Non-action" and "Harmony of Human and Nature" in a romantic and exaggerated artistic style, explaining the secret essence of TAO with simple and common stories, which enable people to chew the taste while they gain enlightenment and moral truth. Fables like *A Walk Learner in Handan*, *A Mantis Blocked a Chariot*, *A Sigh of River* and *Zhuangzhou Borrowed Grain* have been widely known by almost all Chinese families.

Legends of traditional Chinese culture are extremely rich and plentiful, passed down from generation to generation, regarded as an invaluable treasure among the folk literatures. Chinese legends are based on real Chinese history, and are often characterized by the folk and race. Some famous Chinese legends like *Lady Meng Jiang Weiled at the Great Wall*, *Mulan Joined the Army* and *Jiang Ziya's Fishing* are widely spread

among the people in China down the ages.

Myths of traditional Chinese culture often deal with supernatural beings, ancestors, or heroes in remote antiquity, explaining aspects of the natural world or delineating the psychology and customs of the society like *Nu Wa Saved the Sky* and *Kua Fu Chased the Sun*. The protagonists in myths are often described as immortals or half-immortals. Even though there are supernatural facts in myths, the figures, times, and spots of the stories are often true. Of the most favorite myths of love, *Niu Lang and Zhi Nu*, *Lady White Snake* and *Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai* are most treasured by readers domestic and abroad.

Anecdotes of traditional Chinese culture, which are spread widely by the folk, often center around ancient Chinese emperors, generals, premiers and famous scholars, such as *King Yu Tamed the Flood*, *The Oath of Brotherhood in Peach Garden*, *Su Wu Herded Sheep* and *Judge Bao Investigated the Lost Donkey Case*. Most of the personage anecdotes reflect the people's yearning of honest and upright officials and the desire of peace and happiness.

Traditional Chinese culture, deeply rooted in these tales, is an intangible heritage from our ancestors. It records wide circulation and spectacular phenomena of the traditional culture, and pervades the blood of Chinese all over the world in sense of kindred spirits, conventions and values. *Tales of Traditional Chinese Culture* exudes the flavor of the Chinese race, sparkles with their wisdom and reflects the essence beauty and brilliance of Chinese culture. Readers not only read the vivid tales with implied profound traditional Chinese culture, but also gain the ability of bilingual perception.

Ren Xiuhua
Non-action Study, Beijing
November 30, 2008



前言

《英语漫话中国文化系列》由《中国传统文化经典哲理故事》、《中国传统文化经典民间故事》、《中国传统文化经典神话故事》和《中国传统文化经典名人故事》四本书组成。四本书均为简明流畅的中英文双语版本,并配以生动、传神的插图。本系列丛书旨在使具有不同语言文化背景的读者共享中国传统文化之美,体会中国传统文化之博大精深。这套图文并茂的双语经典系列丛书不仅适合对中华传统文化感兴趣的外国人,也适合想对国际友人传播中华传统文化的炎黄子孙阅读赏析。

中国传统文化经典**哲理故事**不仅题材丰富、词语洗练、意象生动而且寓意深刻。其中最杰出的代表是庄子寓言故事。庄子将深奥的哲理寄托在故事之中,通过浪漫而夸张的艺术手法,阐述天人合一、自然无为的哲学思想。中国古代哲理故事虽浅显易懂却蕴涵深刻,让人读之难忘,嚼之有味。像《邯郸学步》、《螳臂挡车》、《望洋兴叹》、《庄周贷粟》等寓言故事已成为妇孺皆知的经典之作。

中国传统文化经典**民间故事**是中国民间文化重要的组成部分。民间故事是一种口头文学,以口耳相传的方式在民众中世代传承,绵延不绝。民间故事内容广泛、情节动人,具有鲜明的时代性、地方性和民族性。有些民间故事如《孟姜女哭长城》、《木兰从军》、《姜太公钓鱼》等在华夏大地已然达到家喻户晓的程度。

中国传统文化经典**神话故事**描写的时间范围往往是所谓盘古开天辟地的史前时代,神话故事的话题多围绕人与自然之间的关系,如《女娲补天》、《夸父追日》等。神话故事的典型人物往往被描述成神仙或半神仙式的英雄。描写爱情的神话故事虽

然是神话传奇,但多有具体的发生地点和发生年代,主人公也经常是真实的人物,其中最为著名的爱情故事《牛郎织女》、《白蛇传》和《梁山伯与祝英台》深受中外读者的喜爱。

中国传统文化经典**名人故事**多半是中国古代帝王将相轶事,也有文人墨客的趣闻。这类故事在民间流传很广,如《大禹治水》、《桃园三结义》、《苏武牧羊》、《包公审驴》等。这些故事体现了善良的中国百姓对清官廉政的渴望和对太平盛世中安居乐业的美好生活的向往。


中国传统文化是我们从先辈传承下来的丰厚的非物质文化遗产,它记录了中华民族和中华文化发生、演化的历史,并作为世代传袭的人文精神、社会习俗、价值观念等精神遗产渗透在每个中国人的血脉之中。《英语漫话中国文化系列》所选的经典故事从不同的角度将这些文化遗产呈献给读者,使读者体会到中国文化的博大精深,感悟人生的智慧、生命的真谛,同时在领略中国传统文化韵味中提高双语赏读能力。

任秀桦

北京无为斋

2008年11月30日

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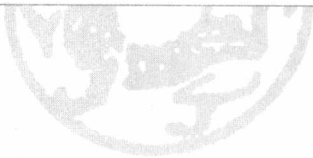
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*Harmony of
Human and Nature*



天人合一