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Chinese Pottery

陶器

「抟土成器，泥火交融」

简洁◎编著



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全国百佳图书出版单位
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中国的陶器源远流长，是中华文明中最古老的工艺品，其以拙朴古雅和清新灵韵的美，深深打动了古今中外的文人雅士。陶器是人们从实际生活中提炼出来的器物，虽不是最显耀的，但却表现出自然率真的特征。在漫漫历史长河中，陶器经历了从原始到成熟的蜕变，形成自由奔放、浑厚质朴的艺术风格。

As one of the oldest crafts of the Chinese civilization, pottery has appealed to ancient and modern literati with its quaint and elegant beauty. They are refined from everyday life. Thus, they are not the most dazzling crafts, but natural and straightforward. Through the course of history, pottery has gradually shaken off its primitiveness and formed its matured, free-spirited, vigorous, and simple



无论是轻柔细腻的黑陶，还是厚重古朴的黑陶，抑或是流光溢彩的印纹陶，以及富丽堂皇的彩绘陶，都昭示着中国陶器与众不同的魅力。

本书从陶器的起源讲起，辅以直观的图片，全面介绍陶器的发展历程、烧造工艺、器形、纹饰等内容，希望能够引领读者走近奇绝精巧的陶器艺术、感受博大精深的中国传统文化。

art style. This unique charm of Chinese pottery has been exhibited by gentle and delicate white pottery, sedate and plain black pottery, glamorous stamped pottery, and the magnificent painted pottery.

Accompanied by illustrative pictures, this book begins with the origin of pottery, and then introduces its course of development, firing techniques, vessel shapes, decorative patterns, etc. We hope that this book will lead readers to the marvelous world of pottery art and gain an understanding on traditional Chinese culture.



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千年之陶

Pottery in Thousand Years

陶器并不是中国的独创，世界上的文明古国均能追寻到它的踪迹。古埃及的诺克陶雕、古希腊的科林斯陶器、古巴比伦的苏美尔轮制古陶，无不为灿烂的古国文化增添一部气势恢宏的篇章。然而，伴随着历史前行的滚滚车轮，唯独华夏文明能够将独特的陶器艺术连绵不断地延续下来。

Pottery is not unique to Chinese civilization. It can be traced back to other ancient civilizations, for example, the Nok pottery carving of ancient Egypt, the Corinthian pottery of ancient Greek, and the Sumerian wheel-built pottery of ancient Babylonian. These splendid potteries have added a magnificent chapter to the existence of ancient civilizations. However, with the development of history, only Chinese pottery art has shown an exuberant vitality.





> 陶器的起源

八九千年前，陶器出现，但其起源或可追溯到更早的时代。从中国出土的旧石器时代晚期的陶片来看，中国的陶器距今已有11700多年的悠久历史。

陶器，是泥与火的结晶。中国人对黏土的认识由来已久，早在原始社会时期，人们已是处处离不开

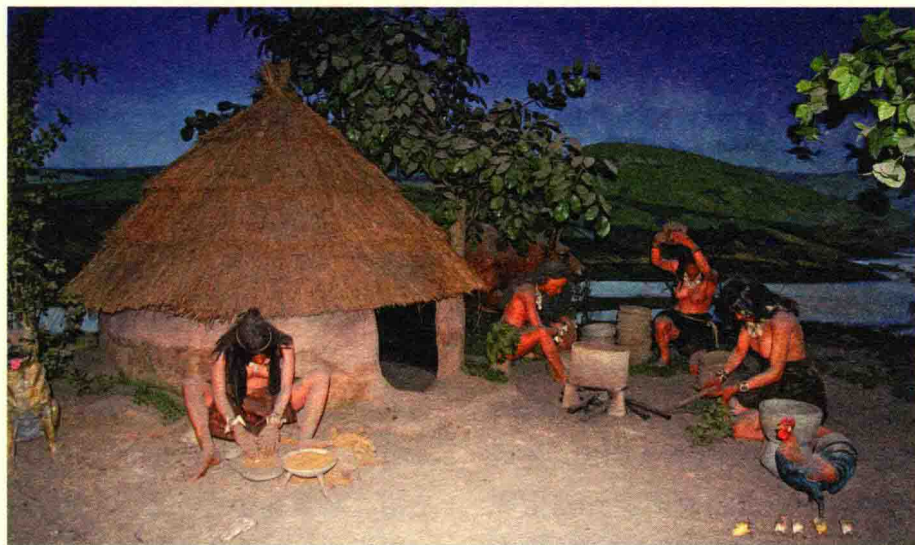


- 陶盆（新石器时代大溪文化）
Pottery Basin (Daxi Culture, Neolithic Age, approx. 4400 B.C.-3300 B.C.)

> Origin of Pottery

It says that Chinese pottery appeared in the history about 8,000-9,000 years ago, although its origin may have started earlier. Judging from the pottery fragments excavated from Palaeolithic relics (approx. 1,700,000-10,000 years ago), Chinese pottery has been existed for more than 11,700 years.

Pottery comes from fire and clay. Chinese people have been acquainted with the nature of clay since the primitive society when clay had already been an essential part of everyday life. People from ancient times knew that clay was sticky and malleable when it got wet, so it could be shaped into desired forms. They further discovered that when the dried clay was processed by fire, it would turn into a hard and waterproof substance. Therefore, the prerequisite of pottery making was built on these common senses.



• 原始村落模型

古人用陶器蒸煮食物。

Model of Primitive Village

The ancients used pottery cooking food.

黏土。古人从实践中得知，被水浸湿后的黏土有黏性和可塑性，从而能塑造出一定的形状。先民们又进一步发现，晒干的泥巴被火烧之后，变得更加结实、坚硬，而且可以防水。如此，陶器产生的先决条件便由生活中诞生。

然而陶器具体是怎么被发明的，目前还缺乏确凿的证据加以说明。可能是由于涂有黏土的篮子经过火烧，形成不易透水的容器，人们便从中得到启发，开始专门塑造

Nevertheless, there is no conclusive evidence of how pottery was invented. It is conjectured that ancient Chinese realized that when clay-coated basket was processed by fire, it became less permeable. Inspired by this discovery, they began to pinch clay into certain shape and processed it with fire, creating what is now known as "pottery". Perhaps, that's why early pottery was usually in the shape of baskets, gourds, or other natural containers. Only many years later, it gained its own characteristics. Thus, we speculate that the origin of pottery





具有一定形状并经过烧制的器具，这就是陶器。早期的陶器多是模仿篮子、葫芦等物品的形状制成的器物，后来才发展成具有自身特点的器具。可以推测，陶器的产生是和农业的发展联系在一起的，一般是先有了农业，然后才出现的陶器。

陶器的出现，标志着新石器时代的开始。陶器大大改善了人类的生活条件，逐渐成为人们日常生活中不可缺少的用具而扩大到生产和生活的各个领域。古代的人类大多依山傍水而居，需要寻找可以汲水、贮水、贮存和蒸煮食物的器具。因为陶器不易携带，陶器的生产加强了早期人类定居的稳定性，促使人们的定居生活逐渐巩固下来，而且还丰富了他们的日常生活。陶器的发明，是人类文明发展的重要标志，是人类第一次利用天

然物，按照自己的意愿创造出来的一种崭新的



• 双耳陶罐（新石器时代）

Pottery Pot with Two Ear-shaped Handles
(Neolithic Age, approx. 8000 years ago)

was closely linked to the development of agriculture which came to existence before the invention of pottery.

The emergence of pottery marked the beginning of the Neolithic Age (approx. 10,000-4,000 years ago). It had greatly improved people's living condition and gradually became an essential part in daily life and then reached many other areas of production and living. Most ancient Chinese resided by the water and hills. They had to depend on utensils for fetching water, storing water, and cooking. Since potteries are too vulnerable



• 陶罐（周代）

Pottery Pot (Zhou Dynasty, 1046 B.C.-256 B.C.)



物质。它揭开了人类利用自然、改造自然的新篇章，在人类发展史上开辟了新纪元，具有重大的划时代的意义。陶器的出现大大改善了人类的生活条件，直到今天依然与人们的生活息息相关。

陶器的产生是中国古代文化的一个重要组成部分。中国历史悠久，地域广阔，古陶遗址虽然分布在各地，但在社会文明发展过程中逐渐形成了统一的文化整体。在古陶的基础上，先民们经过漫长的探索，产生了后来的原始瓷和瓷器，成就了中华民族的伟大创造发明。



• 三彩莲形洗（唐代）

Lotus-shaped Three-color Glazed Pottery Basin (Tang Dynasty, 618-907)

to be carried around, people had to settle down. Thus in this sense pottery helped to strengthen the stability of ancient people's residence and enriched their daily life. Therefore, the invention of pottery is regarded as a milestone among the achievements of human civilizations. This brand-new artifact made from natural ingredients by hands had an epoch-making significance. Pottery started a new chapter in our endeavor to explore natural resources and thus it opened a new era in human history. The invention of pottery has greatly improved the living condition of human beings and is still closely related with our everyday life.

The origin of pottery is an essential part of ancient Chinese civilization. Despite China's long history and vastness, although ancient pottery relics spread through the nation, pottery gradually formed a unified cultural entity in the development of social civilization. Furthermore, through an endless exploration, ancient Chinese subsequently invented primitive porcelain and porcelain on the basis of ancient pottery, which constitutes as one of the greatest inventions of Chinese civilization.



> 陶器的发展历程

从中国陶器的发展史来看，陶器出现于旧石器时代晚期，广泛制作于新石器时代，并在汉代演化出驰名中外的瓷器，后历经千年的发展，至今兴盛不衰。

新石器时代早期（距今约12000—9000年）的中国陶器，主要是红陶的发展时代。红陶是中国出现最早的陶器类型，有泥质红陶和夹砂红陶两种，多为手工制作。红陶广泛分布在黄河流域的裴李岗文化和磁山文化区域，两区域的陶器虽然不是完全相同，但两者之间的陶质、烧成温度和制作工艺基本一致，器形和纹饰也有许多相似之处。

裴李岗文化的陶器多用泥条盘筑法成型，器形有杯、碗、盘、钵、壶、罐等，其中以三足钵、双

> Development of Pottery

The history of pottery started from the late Paleolithic Period (approx. 1,700,000-10,000 years ago). It was then widely produced in the Neolithic Age (approx. 10,000-4,000 years ago) and inspired the invention of porcelain in the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.). With thousand years of development, Chinese pottery has shown an exuberant vitality.

The early Neolithic Age (approx. 12,000-9,000 years ago) witnessed the development of red pottery (also terracotta). As the oldest Chinese pottery, it could be divided into two categories, argillaceous terracotta and the sand inclusion terracotta, most of which were made by hand. They were mainly evacuated from relics of the Peiligang Culture and Cishan Culture which were situated in the reaches of the Yellow River. Although differences existed



• 红陶双耳壶（新石器时代裴李岗文化）

该双耳壶为小口，腹部呈椭圆形，耳附于肩部，作半月形横置。

Red Pottery Pot with Two Small Handles (Peiligang Culture, Neolithic Age, approx. 5600 B.C.-4900 B.C.)

This pot has narrow mouth and oval body, with two small crescent-shaped handles at its shoulders.

耳壶最有代表性，另外还有猪头、羊头等陶塑动物艺术品。从装饰上看，泥质陶器多为素面，少数夹砂陶器表面有简单粗糙的划纹、篦点纹、弧线纹、绳纹、指甲纹和乳钉纹等，纹饰较为简洁。红陶烧成温度在700° C—900° C之间。

磁山文化的陶器除仍用泥条盘筑法外，还出现了捏塑法。器形不规整，典型器物有陶盂和相当于活动式鼎足的陶支架，同时还增加了

between two cultures' potteries, they were basically same in the raw materials, firing temperature, and production process, and similar in the vessel shapes and ornamentation.

The Peiligang pottery was mainly shaped into cups, bowls, plates, alms bowls, pots and jars with the mud-strip coiling technique. Its most representative works were tripod alms bowls, pots with two small handles, as well as animal craftworks like pottery pig head and sheep head. Most argillaceous terracotta wares were plain and lacked of ornamentation, while a few sand inclusion terracotta wares were decorated with simple patterns, like scratch pattern, comb-dot pattern, arc line pattern, cord pattern, nail pattern, knoll-shaped pattern, etc. Red pottery was fired at the temperature about 1,292 °F (700 °C) to 1,652 °F (900 °C).

The Cishan pottery was made not only by mud-strip coiling technique but also by pinching technique. Thus, its shape might be irregular. The typical Cishan potteries included pottery basin and portable pottery cauldron stands. A few new shapes were created, such as bowls, plates, ewers, stemmed bowls





碗、盘、壶、豆、敞口深腹罐、小口双耳罐、敞口圈底钵、三足钵、三足鼎等新器形。其中盂的数量比较多，有圆形和椭圆形，均为直壁平底。这些陶器的表面除了素面略加磨光修饰外，部分器物表面还饰有细绳纹、篦纹、剔刺纹、划纹、乳丁纹和席纹等。

新石器时代进入到中后期（距今约9000—4000年），从仰韶文化

(*Dou*), jars with large mouth and deep belly, pots with small mouth and two handles, alms bowls with large mouth and round base, tripod alms bowls, tripod cauldrons, etc. Among them, pottery basins constituted a large part. They had flat walls and bases and were made into either round or oval shapes. Most of these potteries were polished slightly and without any motifs. Some of them were incised with cord pattern, comb pattern, scraped thorn pattern, scratch pattern, knoll-shaped pattern, mat pattern, etc.

In the middle and late stage of Neolithic Age (approx. 9,000-4,000 years ago), since the period of Yangshao Culture (5,000 B.C.-3,000 B.C.), pottery-making industry developed fairly well. There was an increase of vessel shapes,



• 陶盂（新石器时代磁山文化）

盂是磁山文化陶器中数量最多的一种器形，有圆形和椭圆形两种，皆直壁平底，支座为倒置靴形，实心或圈足。

Pottery Basin (Cishan Culture, Neolithic Age, approx. 5400 B.C.-5100 B.C.)

It contributed the largest quantity among all vessel shapes of the Cishan Culture. They had either round or oval shape, with vertical wall and flat base. Their stands looked like an upside down boot, and were solid or with ring foot.



• 彩陶盆（新石器时代仰韶文化）

Colored Pottery Basin (Yangshao Culture, Neolithic Age, 5000 B.C.-3000 B.C.)



开始，制陶业已经相当发达，器形种类较以前明显增多，其中饮食类器皿最为显著。这一时期，红陶不再一家称大，在中国陶器史上占有重要地位的彩陶、黑陶、白陶、印纹陶纷纷出现，形成了中国陶器发展阶段上的一大高峰。

especially that of food and drink utensils. At that time, red clay was no longer the dominant type of pottery. The appearance of colored pottery, black pottery, white pottery, and pattern-stamped pottery created another peak in Chinese pottery history.

中国新石器时代的文化

中国的新石器时代是原始社会向阶级社会过渡的阶段，制陶是此阶段的基本特征之一。新石器时代的文化遗址遍布中国各地，根据文化类型和出现年代的不同，主要包括裴李岗、磁山、河姆渡、大溪、仰韶、大汶口、崧泽、良渚、马家窑、龙山、二里头、寺洼等文化类型。

裴李岗文化分布在黄河中游地区，由于最早在河南新郑的裴李岗村发现而得名。裴李岗文化开始的年代在公元前5600年前后，结束于前4900年左右。从考古挖掘来看，当时人们已经懂得畜牧和耕种，当地文明亦是中国已知的最早的陶器文明。

磁山文化因首先在河北武安县磁山发现而得名，大约出现在公元前5400—前5100年。磁山文化以原始农业为主，兼事渔猎，制陶业较原始，处于手制阶段。

河姆渡文化分布在长江下游地区，是新石器时代母系氏族公社时期的氏族村落遗址，因第一次发现于浙江余姚河姆渡而得名。它所处的年代为公元前5000年至公元前3300年。

大溪文化因重庆市巫山县大溪遗址而得名，其所处年代约为公元前4400—前3300年。大溪文化的发现，反映了长江中游地区的一种以红陶为主兼有彩陶的文化概况。

- 陶三足器（新石器时代磁山文化）
Pottery Tripod (Cishan Culture,
Neolithic Age, 5400 B.C.-5100 B.C.)





• 史前村落模型
Prehistoric Settlement Model

仰韶文化是黄河中游地区重要的新石器时代文化，于1921年在河南省三门峡市渑池县仰韶村被发现。仰韶文化的持续时间大约在公元前5000年至前3000年，它向人们展示了中国母系氏族制度繁荣至衰落时期的社会结构和文化成就。

大汶口文化分布在黄河下游地区，因首先发现于大汶口而得名。其年代大约在公元前4500—前2500年。在大汶口文化的后期墓葬中，出现了夫妻合葬和夫妻带小孩的合葬，它标志着只知其母不知其父的母系社会的结束，开始或已经进入了父系氏族社会。

崧泽文化年代约为公元前3900—前3200年，属新石器时代母系社会向父系社会过渡的阶段。其分布在长江下游太湖流域，因首次在上海青浦区崧泽村发现而得名。

良渚文化分布在长江下游的太湖地区，中心在浙江良渚，存在年代约为公元前3300—前2200年。该文化遗址的特色是所出土的玉器和陶器相当细致。

马家窑文化是黄河上游新石器时代晚期的文化，因最早发现于马家窑而得名，年代约为公元前3800—前2000年。

龙山文化泛指黄河中、下游地区的文化，因首次发现于山东历城龙山镇（今属