

Designs of Chinese Blessings

# 中华五福吉祥图典

寿。意为健康长寿。

《庄子》人，

上寿百岁。中寿八十。下寿六十。

《诗经》如南山之寿。不骞不崩。

旧时有联同臻寿域。共跻寿域。

福  
禄  
寿  
喜  
财

◎ 黄金信 主编

# 寿

Longevity



华语教学出版社  
SINOLINGUA

# 中华五福吉祥图典

*Designs of Chinese Blessings*



*Longevity*

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吉祥一词，始见于《易经》：“吉事有祥。”《左传》有：“是何祥也？吉祥焉在？”《庄子》则有：“虚室生日，吉祥止止。”《注疏》云：“吉者，福善之事；祥者，嘉庆之征。”

吉祥二字，在甲骨文中被写作“吉羊”。上古人过着游牧生活，羊肥大成群是很“吉祥”的事，在古器物的铭文中多有“吉羊”。《说文》云：“羊，祥也。”

吉祥，是美好、幸运的形象；吉祥，是人类最迷人的主题。艺术，最终都是把理想形象化；吉祥图，是中华吉祥文化最璀璨的明珠。旧时有联：“善果皆欢喜，香云普吉祥。”吉祥图有：吉祥如意、五福吉祥等。

五福，是吉祥的具体。福、禄、寿、喜、财，在民间被称为五福；福星、禄星、寿星、喜神、财神，在仙界被尊为五福神。五福最早见于《尚书》：“五福：一曰寿，二曰富，三曰

寿

福  
禄  
寿  
喜  
财

# 寿

Longevity

康宁，四曰攸好德，五曰考终命。”旧时有联：“三阳临吉地，五福萃华门。”吉祥图有：五福捧寿、三多五福等。

福，意为幸福美满。《老子》：“福兮，祸所伏。”《韩非子》：“全富贵之谓福。”旧时有联：“香焚一炷，福赐三多。”吉祥图有：福在眼前、纳福迎祥、翘盼福音、天官赐福等。

禄，意为高官厚禄。《左传》：“介之推不言禄，禄亦弗及。”《汉书》：“身宠而载高位，家温而食厚禄。”旧时有联：“同科十进士，庆榜三名元。”吉祥图有：禄位高升、福禄寿禧、天赐禄爵、加官进禄等。

寿，意为健康长寿。《庄子》：“人，上寿百岁，中寿八十，下寿六十。”《诗经》：“如南山之寿，不骞不崩。”旧时有联：“同臻寿域，共跻春台。”吉祥图有：寿星高照、鹤寿千年、富贵寿考、蟠桃献寿等。

喜，意为欢乐喜庆。《国语》：“固庆其喜而吊其忧。”韦昭注：“喜犹福也。”旧时有联：“笑到几时方合口，坐来无日不开怀。”吉祥图有：喜上眉梢、双喜临门、端阳喜庆、皆大欢喜等。

财，意为发财富有。《荀子》：“务本节用财无极。”旧时有联：“生意兴隆通四海，财源茂盛达三江。”吉祥图有：财源滚滚、招财进宝、喜交财运、升官发财等。

吉祥图，不仅有“五福”之内涵，而且是

绘画艺术和语言艺术的珠联璧合。在绘画上，体现了中国画主要的表现手段——线的魅力，给人以美感，令人赏心悦目。吉祥图虽多出自民间画工之手，却多有顾恺之“春蚕吐丝”之韵，曹仲达“曹衣出水”之美，吴道子“吴带当风”之妙；在语言上，通俗和普及了古代文化，吉祥图多配有一句浓缩成四个字的吉语祥词，给人以吉祥，令人心驰神往。

《中华五福吉祥图典》，汇集了我数代家传和几十年收藏的精品吉祥图，可谓美不胜收。其中既有明之典雅，又有清之华丽；既有皇家之富贵，又有民间之纯朴；既有北方之粗犷，又有南方之秀美……按五福全书分成福、禄、寿、喜、财五集，每集吉祥图 119 幅，共 595 幅。除同类图案外，均按笔画顺序编排。基本包括了中国传统吉祥图的各个方面，并对每幅图作了考证和诠释，使之图文并茂，相得益彰。

五福人人喜，吉祥家家乐。吉祥图是中国的，也是世界的，故以汉英对照出版。《中华五福吉祥图典》会给您带来吉祥，给您全家带来幸福。

黄全信于佩实斋

2003 年 1 月 1 日

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## **May People Enjoy a Life Full of Blessings, and Let Flowers Bloom Throughout Spring Time**

The word jixiang (meaning lucky, propitious, or auspicious) is mentioned in Chinese ancient books and writings as early as in the Zhou Dynasty.

The word jixiang was written as jiyang (lucky sheep) on oracle bones. To the ancient Chinese, who led a nomadic life, large herds of well-fed sheep were auspicious things, and the word jiyang also appeared in engravings on ancient utensils.

To have good luck is mankind's eternal desire. While art records man's ideals, good luck pictures are the most brilliant part of the Chinese good luck culture. An old couplet says that kindness leads to happiness and good luck. Typical good luck pictures are: good luck and heart's content, good luck with five blessings, etc.

The five blessings – good fortune, high salary and a good career, longevity, happiness, and wealth – are the concrete forms of good luck, and there are five

## Designs of Chinese Blessings

kinds of gods presiding over these blessings. The five blessings as they are first mentioned in Chinese literature are not quite the same as the five which are talked about today, though they are quite similar. An old couplet says that as the land of good luck bathes in the Sun, a prosperous family is granted all the blessings. Typical good luck pictures are: long-term enjoyment of all five blessings, more blessings, etc.

Good fortune means happiness and complete satisfaction. Ancient Chinese philosophers, including Lao Zi, all commented on the notion of good fortune. An old couplet says to burn incense to beg for more blessings. Good luck pictures in this theme include good fortune for today, blessings from above, etc.

High salary means handsome salaries at prestigious posts. In old times, Chinese attached great significance to academic excellence, which led in turn to high positions in government. An old couplet says may you distinguish yourselves in the royal examinations and rank at the top of the list. Good luck pictures in this theme used in this book include big improvements in salary and post, salary and position bestowed from heaven, etc.

Longevity refers to good health and a long life. As Zhuangzhou said, and the *Book of Songs* records, longevity is the universal wish of mankind. As wished in an old couplet, to grow to a long life together is a joyful experience. This book has the following good luck pic -

◎ 中华五福吉祥图典

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# 寿

## *Longevity*

tures concerning longevity: high above shines the star of longevity, live to be 1, 000 years with white hair, and offer the flat peach to wish for longevity, etc.

Happiness refers to happy events and celebrations. Happy events should be celebrated, while those with worries should be consoled according to ancient Chinese literature. An old Chinese couplet says, why not keep on laughing as all days are filled with happiness. Good luck pictures on this theme included in this book include double happiness visits at the door, all's well that ends well, etc.

Wealth means getting rich and having plentiful things. Ancient Chinese believed that the secret to endless wealth is to be down-to-earth and prudent. Illustrating the concept of wealth is an old couplet: a prosperous business deals with people from all corners of the world, and wealth rolls in from afar. Typical good luck pictures of this type include in comes wealth, get rich and win high positions, etc.

Good luck pictures not only incorporate the five blessings but the art of painting and language as well. The beautiful lines of these pictures, done in the style of traditional Chinese painting, provide the viewers with artistic enjoyment which is pleasing to the eyes and heart. Though mostly the work of folk artists, they exhibit a level of craftsmanship worthy of the great and famous masters. The language adopted in these pictures