



Henan

*Focal Point
of
Chinese History*

Author—Gary Lee Todd

盖瑞·李·陶德—著

Translator—Dong Qiumin

董秋敏—译

河南—
发现中国历史



History

Founding Point

1848

1850 History

1850 History

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1850 History

English and Chinese
英汉对照

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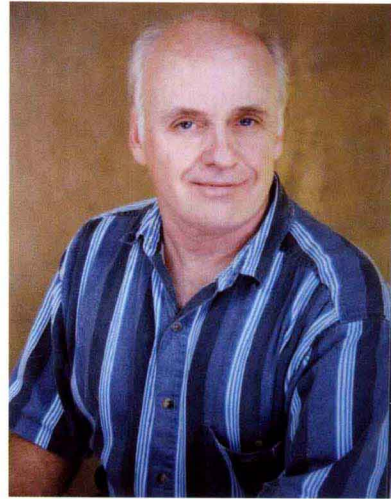
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Biographical Information

Gary Lee Todd was born in Sterling, Illinois, USA, 23 days before Chairman Mao Zedong announced the birth of the People's Republic of China.

Dr. Todd has a number of university degrees, the most important of which is a Ph.D. in American and Chinese History from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His first book was *American Perceptions of China, 1840-1860*, followed by several textbooks in American history and a number of magazine articles. He wrote the historical passages for the Oral English textbook, *Speaking Beautiful English*, developed at Sias International University in Xinzheng, China, and published by Henan University Press. His biggest history project is a website, www.GaryLeeTodd.com (Chinese and World History), which at the end of 2012 contained over 80,000 of his photographs, mostly from Chinese museums and historic sites.

In 1991 he taught summer classes at the Sichuan Provincial Teacher's College in Chengdu. For 25 years he taught history at the University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, and a number of lesser institutions. In 2005 he returned to China as a Professor of History at Sias International University where he is currently in his eighth year teaching. He teaches British History and American History to Chinese students, and Chinese History and Chinese Philosophy to international teachers and students.

He is married to Rosaminda Estrebillia Todd (Amy) of General Santos City in the Philippines. She works as coordinator of all foreign faculty housing and dining at Sias University, and can be seen in front of Shaolin Temple in the photo on page 55.

The map of China
中国地图



个人简介

盖瑞·李·陶德, 美国伊利诺伊州斯特灵人, 出生于毛泽东主席宣布中华人民共和国诞生前 23 天。

陶德博士有数个大学学位, 最重要的一个是伊利诺伊大学香槟分校的美国和中国历史专业的博士学位。他出版的第一本书是《美国人所知道的中国 1840~1860》, 然后是几本美国历史的教科书和数篇杂志文章。陶德博士还编写了《魅力英语》口语教材中的历史部分, 这本书在中国新郑的西亚斯国际学院完成, 由河南大学出版社出版。他最大的历史项目是有关中国和世界历史的网站, www.GaryLeeTodd.com; 截至 2012 年底, 他在这个网站上上传了 8 万张自己拍的照片, 这些照片大多来自中国的博物馆和历史遗迹。

1991 年, 陶德博士在四川省教育学院教授暑期课程。25 年来, 他分别在伊利诺伊大学、南伊利诺伊大学卡本戴尔分校和其他几个高校教授历史。2005 年, 陶德重新回到中国, 任西亚斯国际学院的历史教授, 到目前已是第八年了。他向中国学生教授英国历史和美国历史, 向国际师生教授中国历史和中国哲学。

陶德博士的夫人叫罗莎敏达·伊思特里贝拉·陶德(艾米), 出生于菲律宾三投斯将军市, 是西亚斯国际学院外教食宿协调员, 本书第 55 页上有她在少林寺前的照片。

The map of Henan Province
河南地图



Acknowledgements

Since 2005 I have lived and worked at Sias International University in Xinzheng, China, near Zhengzhou, the provincial capital. The university, founded in 1998 by Dr. Shawn Chen, is a unique blend of Chinese and Western education, with one of the largest contingents of foreign faculty of any school in China. Because of its central location and proximity to a great airport and major railroad terminal, it is an excellent base from which to explore all of China and neighboring countries. President Li Haijun, our Chinese and foreign faculty, and my many history students have all made this a great place to teach and live. Two of my students deserve special recognition. Yuan Qingli (Christina) accompanied me on many of my train trips to visit nearby historic places and helped me discover a few places I might have otherwise missed. Ning Ruijing (Ada) took me to an obscure chariot burial near her home in Sanmenxia, while her mother made a delicious meal for me. Students like these are what makes teaching here such a pleasure. Most of all I want to thank Rosaminda Estrebilla Todd (Amy) who somewhat reluctantly accompanied me to China eight years ago and within a month had gotten a contract to teach English full time. Now she is an administrator at Sias, responsible for all the housing and dining for some 130 foreign teachers plus their dependents. Amy doesn't really share my passion for history, but she has encouraged and supported me while I travelled all over China taking pictures of historic places and artifacts to provide an online database for people wishing to study Chinese history in greater depth. Without her, neither my website nor this book would have become a reality.

致谢

从 2005 年以来，我一直在中国新郑，即省会郑州附近的西亚斯国际学院生活和工作。这所 1998 年由陈肖纯博士创办的大学，拥有最大的外籍教师团队，是中西教育的独特结合。该学院位于中国中部，附近有飞机场、火车站，可以作为游览全中国和相邻国家的绝好的基地。校长李海俊、中外籍教师和我很多的历史专业的学生使西亚斯成为一个适宜工作和生活的地方。我要特别感谢两个学生：袁青丽（克丽丝蒂娜）陪我乘火车看了附近很多历史遗迹并帮我发现了几个我可能会错过的地方；宁睿静（艾达）带我看了三门峡她家附近一个偏僻的战车埋葬处，她的妈妈给我做美味的饭菜。这样的学生使这里的教学对我来说是一件愉快的事。最想感谢的是罗莎敏达·伊思特里贝拉·陶德（艾米），八年前她勉强陪我到中国来，可是，一个月不到，她就拿到了全职教英语的合同。她现在是西亚斯的行政人员，管理着 130 位外籍教师和他们家属的吃住事宜。艾米虽然没有我对历史的那种热情，但是她鼓励我并支持我走遍中国，拍那些历史遗迹和文物的照片，为那些希望深度了解中国历史的人提供网上图片资料库。没有艾米，我的网站和这本书都不会成为现实。







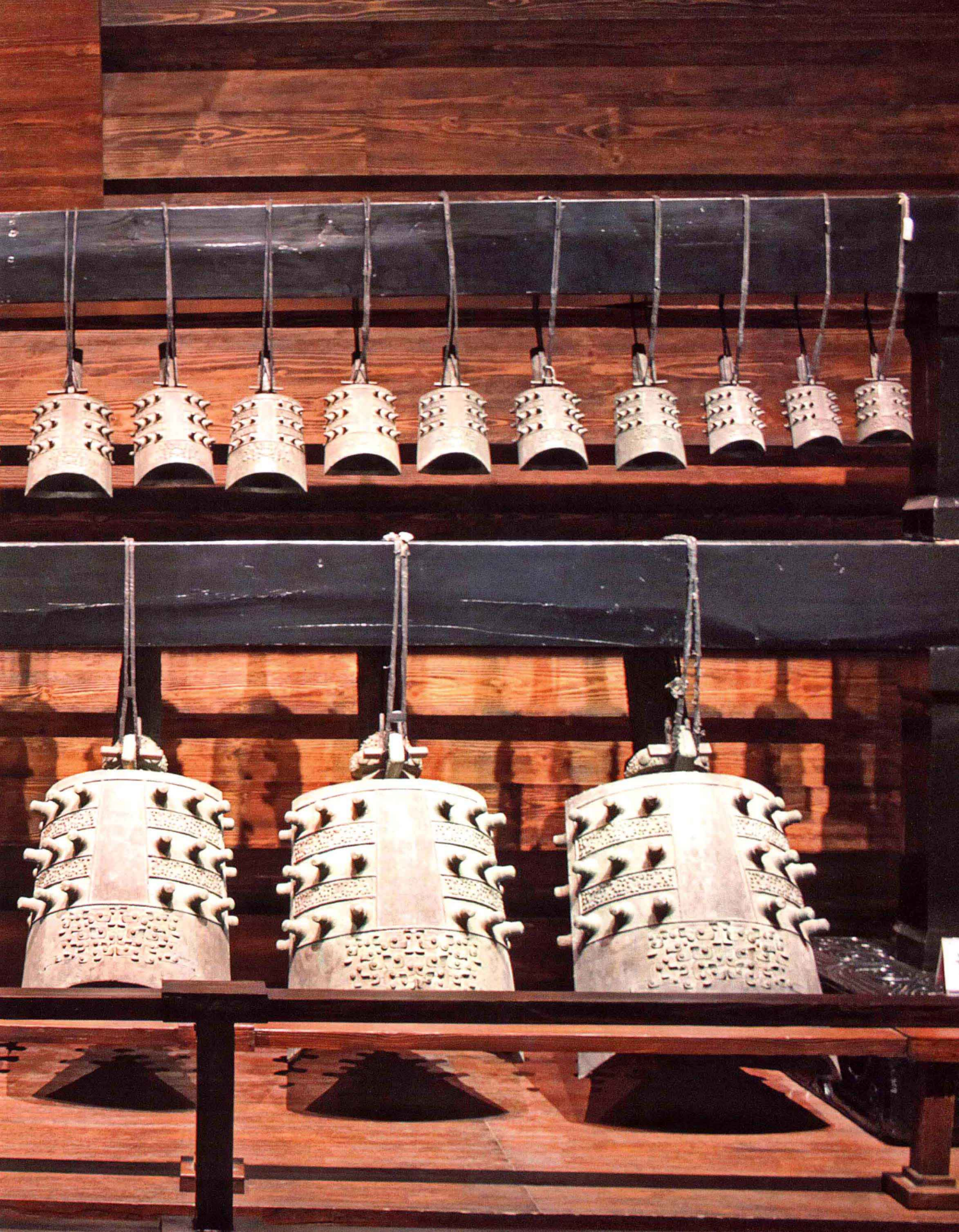


中國西峽恐龍遺址園

Xixia Dinosaur Relics Park of China



勝復



Introduction

Chinese civilization was born in Henan Province. The earliest people who settled in China built their homes and villages along the banks of the Huang He, the Yellow River. Archaeologists call those settlements “cultures,” after the names of the cities or villages where they were first discovered.

In 1977, in the village of Peiligang, just outside of Xinzheng City, a farmer discovered stone tools and pottery in his field. He notified the authorities who sent in archaeologists. They excavated the site and named it the Peiligang Culture. This farmer took me through the village's fields and showed me the location of the ancient settlement and the burials. Today over 70 sites have been called Peiligang Culture sites because they contain similar pottery and stone tools.

Peiligang Culture, Yangshao Culture, Longshan Culture – they all existed before the dawn of recorded history. We can give only approximate dates for their existence. Yet they almost certainly evolved into the China of early history – the Xia, Shang, and Zhou Dynasties. Henan Province is full of places made famous during each of those eras, and during all the dynasties which followed.

What about those historical sites which have a name and a dynasty pinned to them? Can we trust centuries or millennia of traditions and legends? Since 2005 I have lived and taught history at a university in Xinzheng City. Xinzheng claims to be the birthplace of Huangdi, the Yellow Emperor. Since the Han Dynasty, some 2000 years ago, Chinese people have paid homage to their First Ancestor at a temple built on his reputed birth site. Presumably they built this temple at a place where they had been carrying out their worship for nearly 3000 years before that. Today Xinzheng hosts a Huangdi Festival which draws Chinese from all over the world. Are they visiting the actual birthplace of their First Ancestor?

Shou Qiu, on the outskirts of the city of Qufu in Shandong Province also claims to be the birthplace of Huangdi. So where is the real birthplace, assuming that Huangdi was more than a mere legend? No one knows. Tradition is notoriously unreliable and contradictory. Yet behind every tradition and legend there is often a grain of truth. I'm convinced Huangdi really did exist. He certainly did not carry a massive metal sword as depicted on all his statues and paintings. Such weapons did not exist in China until more than 2000 years after he lived. And he was not an “emperor” in any modern sense of the meaning of that title. Most likely the legends grew around the life of a great ancient tribal leader in China's Neolithic past – a leader who perhaps presided over the transition of his people from a hunting and gathering culture to an agricultural one. Perhaps he really did commission the first use of written characters. He lived at approximately the right time in history. Very likely he did battle with neighboring tribes and peoples. Stone weapons are an important part of the archaeological record of his age. So I believe there really was a Huangdi – a First Ancestor of the Han Chinese people – much as there was an Abraham who was the “First Ancestor” of the Hebrew and the Arab peoples. Beyond that, we

know next to nothing, and what we think we know will almost certainly be disputed by the “experts.”

Or take the case of Hua Mulan. Most of my readers have probably seen the 1998 Disney movie *Hua Mulan*, a highly fanciful story bearing a slight resemblance to the legend. This book will present a photograph of the tomb of Hua Mulan. Tombs are built to house the remains of real people. But most people believe she was merely a legend made famous by an ancient poem. If there really was a historical Hua Mulan, she would likely have lived during the Northern Wei Dynasty, 386-534 AD, well within the range of semi-reliable history. The *Ballad of Mulan* itself was first written down in the 6th century, though the earliest version we have today was copied in the 11th or 12th century. There is a temple near Shangqiu in eastern Henan where her memory is honored, and has been for hundreds of years. It was allegedly first built during the Tang Dynasty. There are two mounds of dirt, one containing her body, and the other containing those of her parents. Are they real? Very likely someone is buried under those mounds. Is it the real Hua Mulan? No one really knows. As the legend grew over the centuries it is possible that someone found an ancient tomb in the region where tradition says she lived and decided the tomb must have belonged to her. Very likely the tomb did belong to some powerful and important person from the distant past. But when we deal with the distant past, what we normally have is a lot more mystery than history. The tomb is real and has a history of its own. But whether or not it contains the actual bones of a famous female warrior, no one can say with certainty.

Much of history is like that. In a very real sense “history is what historians say it is.” History tells us about what we believe happened in the past, or what we wish happened in the past, or what we think would be great moral examples from the past designed to inspire the young people of today and the leaders of the future. But the “real past” will not – and cannot – be known with anything approaching certainty.

I will not attempt to relate the history of China in this book. Others have already done a far better job than I could. But I will try to show the reader through pictures and some text a little of the enormously rich history of this one, central Chinese province. I have had the rare privilege of living in the province for more than seven years now, and currently have no plans to leave. I have visited hundreds of museums and historical sites, photographed them, and placed them on my www.GaryLeeTodd.com website so that the world can see what I have seen. To date some several dozen books and television shows have used my photographs. Specialists will find not only the national treasures, but the common artifacts of Chinese history. I try to photograph everything – at least everything that I think is of interest.

Why do I do this? To set an example. So far no one has photographed all the countless ancient artifacts from China and placed them online. It appears that I am the first to do so. Judging from the responses I get from people who find my photographs by doing a Google search, I am meeting a need, at least to a small audience of people who love Chinese history. Ideally, every piece of history should be photographed and placed online. The British Museum has already done a marvelous job of making its superlative collection available. Other world-class museums are following its example. But many have not yet begun, and very few private collections have been made available to the world.