

The Poetry of Tang Dynasty | 唐诗

李葳葳 © 编著





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唐诗

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唐诗在中国几乎无人不知，无人不晓，连三岁孩童也能吟出一两首。唐诗里有中国五千年历史中最繁盛的王朝——唐朝的缩影，有才华横溢的诗人们的喜怒哀乐。唐诗中既有华美精致的辞藻，也有和谐优美的韵律；



The poetry of Tang Dynasty (618-907) is well-known in China; even a three-year-old child can recite one or two poems, in which we can see the epitome of the most flourishing kingdom, Tang Dynasty and the various emotions of these talented poets. It is a form of art combined with gorgeous rhetoric and harmonious rhythm, which is both of romance and reality. The Tang poetry is a treasure left by the Tang Dynasty and also the mainstay of Chinese language culture, as well as the symbol of elegance and gracefulness. For anyone who wants to feel the charm of Chinese language, the poetry of Tang Dynasty is wonderful scenery which cannot be missed.

This book is to introduce the relevant



既有浪漫，也有现实。唐诗是唐朝人留给中国和世界的绝代珍品。唐诗是中国古典文化的中流砥柱，也是高贵典雅的象征。外国朋友想要领略中国语言文化的魅力，唐诗是不可错过的一道风景。

此书旨在呈现唐诗的相关常识，以及唐朝的著名诗人和唐诗作品，希望读者可以从中体会到唐诗的韵味，欣赏唐诗的美妙，增加对唐诗的了解。学习和吟咏唐诗，可以提高自身的修养和品位，积累文化底蕴，更是了解中国文化的必经之路。

knowledge about Tang poetry, the famous poets of that time and their epochal works. Hope the readers can learn the charm of Tang poetry, appreciate its beauty and have a deeper understanding about this special literary form. Learning and reciting Tang poetry can raise one's own accomplishment and taste and accumulate cultural foundation, which is also an inevitable path to get to know the Chinese culture.



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璀璨唐诗

Splendid Tang Poetry

唐诗，唐朝的诗，因唐朝的强大繁荣而生，随着唐王朝的命运变化而起伏。但凡唐王朝大盛大乱之时，就会有惊世唐诗问世，随着唐王朝的衰落，唐朝诗坛也逐渐暗淡。唐诗是唐朝的写照，也因为唐朝而奠定了其在中国文坛辉煌耀眼的重要地位，因此本章主要介绍唐朝及唐诗的历史背景。

Tang poetry, literally the poetry of Tang Dynasty (618-907), was born at the historic moment when the Tang Dynasty reached its formidable and prosperous age and fluctuated following its fickle fate. Either in the blooming time or the turbulence, there would be amazing poems emerging; along with its decline, the Tang poetry also went on wane. Tang poetry is the reflection of the Tang Dynasty owing to which it has a spectacular position in Chinese literary arena. So this chapter is mainly about the Tang Dynasty and the historical background of Tang Poetry.





> 大唐盛世

在中国两千多年的封建王朝历史中，唐朝（618-907）是当之无愧的黄金时代，也是当时与阿拉伯帝国齐名的世界强国。公元755年前的唐朝，无论是政治、经济、文化还是对外交往，都发展到了顶峰——经济贸易空前繁荣，政治管理科学开明，精神文化丰富多样，对外交流频繁广泛。人民的生活物质富足，社会环境稳定祥和，甚至出现了“夜不闭户、路不拾遗”的和谐景象。妇女在唐朝的社会地位得到了大的提升，甚至有机会像男人一样参与社会生活，唐朝也是中国唯一出现女皇帝（武则天）的封建王朝。多民族、多宗教文化得到同等尊重和充分融合，人们的精神世界

> The Golden Age of the Great Tang Dynasty

In the more than two thousand years when feudal dynasties ruled the China, the Tang Dynasty (618-907) fully deserves the title of “Golden Age”, which was also the mighty kingdom eponymous to the Arab Empire. Before 755 A.D., no matter on the politics, economy, culture or the foreign affairs, the Tang Dynasty had reached its peak of flourishing trade, scientific and liberal political management, diversified spiritual culture, and frequent and wide external communication. People were living plentiful lives in a harmonious society, even having the pictures of “Doors are unbolted at night, and no one picks up and pockets anything lost on the road”. The status of women was raised greatly and they even could have the



• 唐高祖李渊像

李渊，字叔德，原是隋朝贵族，隋末天下大乱时，李渊乘势从太原起兵，攻占长安。公元618年，李渊称帝，改国号“唐”，定都长安（今陕西西安），是为唐高祖（618—626年在位）。

Portrait of Emperor Li Yuan of the Tang Dynasty

Li Yuan, with a courtesy name of Shude, originally was an aristocrat of the Sui Dynasty (581-618). During the turbulence of the late Sui Dynasty, Li Yuan seized the opportunity and revolted from Taiyuan, and finally occupied Chang'an. In 618 A.D., he proclaimed himself as the new emperor, became the first Emperor of the Tang Dynasty (reigned 618-626), and changed the dynasty title as *Tang*, and determined Chang'an (present Xi'an City, Shaanxi Province) as its capital city.

也得到了最大的丰富。百姓在安居乐业的同时，纷纷写诗、郊游，以及组织参加各种各样的宴会等娱乐活动。

唐朝凭着强盛国力雄踞东方，周边的邻国纷纷来唐朝朝贺进贡、学习唐朝先进的技术和文化，促进

same opportunities as men did. And that's when the only female emperor, Empress Wu Zetian, ascended the throne. Various nationalities and multiple religious cultures were equally respected and fully fused together. The mental world of people was enriched largely. Living and working in peace and contentment, they also wrote poems, travel journals and organized many kinds of feasts and recreation activities.

With its powerful national strength, the Tang Dynasty was imposingly occupied the east, and the neighboring countries constantly visited and paid tribute to it, at the same time, learnt its advanced techniques and culture, which actually promoted the communication between the Tang Dynasty and the external cultures. Up to now, there are more or less culture characteristics and historical relics of the Tang Dynasty preserved in many countries' cultures from which the important position and profound influence of China at that time can be reflected.

The capital city of the Tang Dynasty, Chang'an and its accompanying capital city Luoyang were the world-famous international metropolis, where the stores were full of various exotic goods

了唐朝与外来文化的交流。至今，在许多国家的文化中都或多或少地保留了唐朝时的文化特点和历史遗迹，从中可以看出中国唐朝在当时世界上的重要地位和深远影响力。

唐朝的首都长安、陪都洛阳是当时举世闻名的国际大都市，坊间各国的商品琳琅满目，身着各种奇装异服的外国人穿梭于大街小巷之中。唐王朝以海纳百川的胸怀和气魄，施行开明的对外政策，吸引大批波斯和阿拉伯商人通过世界闻名

and strangely dressed foreigners were strolling among the streets and small alleys. With generous mind, the court applied moderate foreign policy and attracted bunches of Persian and Arabian merchants through the famous Silk Road coming to Chang'an, Luoyang, Guangzhou, Quanzhou and other coastal cities to settle down. While keeping a friendly contact with the perimeter countries, the court also maintained a powerful military force to insure the safety of the Silk Road and the border areas. And it once extended the influence



• 唐太宗李世民像

唐太宗李世民（626—649年在位）是李渊之子，唐朝的第二位皇帝。他即位为帝后，积极听取群臣的意见，努力学习文治天下，使社会出现了国泰民安的局面，开创了历史上的“贞观之治”，是史上最出名的政治家与明君之一。

Portrait of Emperor Li Shimin of the Tang Dynasty

Emperor Li Shimin of the Tang Dynasty (reigned 626-649) was the son of Li Yuan and the second emperor of the Tang Dynasty. After ascending the throne, he took officials' advices actively and studied hard to manage state affairs by civilized manners. Therefore, Li Shimin created the prosperous and harmonious situation and initiated the Zhenguan Times (Zhenguan is the period title of Li Shimin's reign), who is a famous politician and wise emperor in history.



的“丝绸之路”来到长安、洛阳等地及广州、泉州等沿海城市定居。在与周边各国友好往来的同时，唐王朝以庞大的军事力量维护着丝绸之路及边境地区的安全，其势力范围一度到达中亚的咸海，北到今西伯利亚，南到今泰国境内。唐王朝以巨大的军费开支为代价，常年派重兵驻守边境以示国力强大。

然而，公元755年到763年的

to the Aral Sea of the Central Asia westward and today's Siberia northward, today's Thailand southward. The Tang Dynasty cost huge military expenditure to send massive forces to guard the frontier and show its formidable power.

However, the An-Shi Rebellion (755-763) became the crucial historic event which led to the decline of the Tang Dynasty. The court set the main troops at the frontier, which resulted in



• 《步辇图》阎立本（唐）

《步辇图》取材于唐贞观十五年（641）吐蕃首领松赞干布与文成公主联姻的事件，描绘了唐太宗李世民接见吐蕃使臣禄东赞的情景。吐蕃是公元7~9世纪古代藏族建立的政权，在松赞干布统治时期达到鼎盛。唐与吐蕃交流十分密切，汉文化的输入对吐蕃社会起了巨大的促进作用，吐蕃文化对汉族也有一定的影响。

Painting of Imperial Parade, by Yan Liben, Tang Dynasty (618-907)

Painting of Imperial Parade was created based on the allied marriage of Tibetan leader Sontzen Gampo and Chinese princess Wencheng in the 15th year of Period Zhenguan (641), depicting the scene when Emperor Li Shimin received the Tibetan envoy, Lu Dongzan. Tibet was an authority set up in 7th-9th century by ancient Tibetan people which reached its great prosperity during the reign of Sontzen Gampo. The communication between the Tang Dynasty and Tibet was very intimate. The introduction of Chinese culture made a great promotion to the development of Tibetan society, and vice versa.



• 胡人牵骆驼俑（唐）

Clay Statue of an Ethnic Man Leading a Camel (Tang Dynasty, 618-907)

“安史之乱”却是导致唐王朝由盛转衰的重要历史事件。因将重要兵力放在边境，导致国内防御空虚，安禄山、史思明率领的叛军迅速攻破首都长安，唐朝险些亡国。虽然在朝廷君臣力挽狂澜之后，唐王朝得以延续，但国力明显开始衰退，进入了低谷期。不过，作为封建时代的巅峰王朝，唐朝的根基深厚，经济依然很快得到了复苏。

自唐以后，中国历代封建王朝在世界上的地位和影响力再难与其相提并论，再没有了唐朝的盛名远播、万国来朝的景象。历代统治

the weakness of the domestic defense. An Lushan and Shi Siming led the rebel army and quickly occupied the capital city Chang'an, which almost got the Tang Dynasty destroyed. Although the emperor and the officials turned the situation and prolonged Tang's reign, its national power started to deteriorate distinctly and finally entered the low ebb. But, as the height of the feudal dynasty, it had deep foundation and the economy revived soon.

Ever since the Tang Dynasty, the following empires could hardly compete with its position and influence in the world and the picture of its great reputation traveling far away and all the countries coming to visit was gone forever. The successive rulers controlled people's thoughts more and more severely and the development of the culture also restricted by more and more objective conditions. After that, the representative literatures of each dynasty such as the verses of the Song Dynasty (960-1279), *Qu* (songs) of the Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368), and the novels of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and the Qing



• 《杨贵妃上马图》钱选（元）

Painting of Imperial Concubine Yang Getting on a Horse, by Qian Xuan (Yuan Dynasty, 1279-1368)

者对人民的思想统治越来越严厉，文化的发展也受到了越来越多的制约。此后各个朝代的代表文学如宋朝的词，元朝的曲，明清的小说等

Dynasty (1644-1911), could not reach the status and height of the “Blooming Tang Grandeur” with various kinds, sturdy style and imposing manner which created



都难以达到唐诗“百花齐放、笔力雄壮，气象浑厚”的“盛唐气象”之境界和高度，蕴含于诗中的那种积极向上、豪迈壮阔的精神状态也不复存在。唐诗作为中国文化的代表之一当之无愧，唐诗是强盛的大唐王朝为中国乃至世界文化做出的重要贡献，至今仍在世界文学之林中傲然屹立。

by the Tang poetry, and the positive and heroic spiritual state contained in the poetry was also no longer in existence. So as one of the representatives of Chinese culture, Tang poetry fully deserves its title. It is a significant contribution to China as well as the world made by the powerful Tang Dynasty, which is still having a vital place among the world literatures.

安史之乱

安史之乱，是中国历史上一次重要的事件，是唐朝由盛而衰的转折点。“安”指安禄山和其子安庆绪，“史”指史思明和其子史朝义，安史之乱是指他们起兵反对唐王朝的一次叛乱。安史之乱自唐玄宗天宝十四年（755）至唐代宗广德元年（763）结束，前后达七年之久。这次历史事件，是当时社会各种矛盾所促成的，对唐朝后期的影响尤其巨大。

An-Shi Rebellion (755-763)

An-Shi Rebellion (755-763), is an important historic event and also the turning point of the Tang Dynasty, from blooming to decline. “An” indicates the rebel forces’ leader An Lushan and his son An Qingxu, and “Shi” indicates the leader Shi Siming and his son Shi Chaoyi. It was an insurrection against the Tang Dynasty which was initiated by them, lasting as long as seven years, from the 14th year of Period Tianbao (755) of the reign of Emperor Li Longji to the 1st year of Period Guangde (763) of the reign of Emperor Li Yu. This historic event was catalyzed by various social conflicts of that time and left a huge affection over the late Tang Dynasty.



> 诗歌巅峰

唐诗代表着中国诗歌的最高水平。国家的强大富足和政治开明、以诗取仕的选拔制度，以及文人对诗歌创作技巧的不懈探索，造就了唐诗的辉煌成就，使之成为中国文化宝库中永不褪色的瑰宝。在经历其后漫长的一千多年的沧桑巨变之后，保存至今的唐诗数量仍有将近五万首。唐代书籍主要靠纸质手抄流传，在十个多世纪之后还能有如此多的作品传世，可见其经久不衰的艺术魅力和在后代人心目中的崇高地位。

唐朝时，无论是皇帝大臣，还是商人小贩，不管是文人武将，还是妇女儿童，甚至是和尚道士、外国友人、奴婢妓女等，都会创作吟咏诗歌。唐诗的创作人群不仅广

> Peak of Poetry

The poem of the Tang Dynasty represents the highest level of Chinese poetry. The mighty and prosperous country, the liberal politics, the official selection system upon writing poems, and the constant exploration of the writing skills accomplished the glorious achievement of the Tang poetry and made it an everlasting treasure in Chinese literature. After the great changes in the after more than one thousand years, there are nearly fifty thousand poems preserved until now. The books of the Tang Dynasty were mainly passed down by paper scripts. After more than ten centuries, there are still so many works widely recognized, which demonstrates its permanent artistic charm and the high position in people's mind.

In the Tang Dynasty, emperors and



• 彩色釉陶骆驼载乐伎俑（唐）

Color-glazed Clay Statue of Camel Carrying a Musician (Tang Dynasty, 618-907)

泛，而且成绩斐然，其中有个人专集传世的便有691家，著名的《全唐诗》作者则多达2200多人，这在之前的朝代里都是不多见的。

唐诗不仅数量和创作者众多，而且诗歌题材丰富多彩，社会与自然现象的各个方面都成为唐诗吟咏的对象。中国现代著名作家闻一多在评价唐诗的题材时说：“凡生活中用到文字的地方，他们一律用诗的形式来写，达到任何事物无不可以入诗的程度。”这也是唐诗读者众多、获得社会各个阶层共鸣的原因之一。

officials, or merchants and vendors; scholars and warriors, or women and children; even the monks, Taoist priests, foreigners, servants and prostitutes, they all could write poems. The writers not only were in a wide range, but also made a brilliant achievement. There are 691 writers having their personal collections handed down. And the famous *Complete Works of Tang Poetry* included more than 2200 poets' works, which was really rare in the former dynasties.

Besides the numerous works and poets, the themes were also full of variety, which included all the aspects of social and natural phenomena. Famous writer Wen Yiduo once appraised the themes of Tang poetry: "Wherever the character was used, they all wrote in the form of poetry, which reached a realm to be able to express everything with poem." And this is also one of the reasons why the Tang poetry had many readers and well accepted by all the