



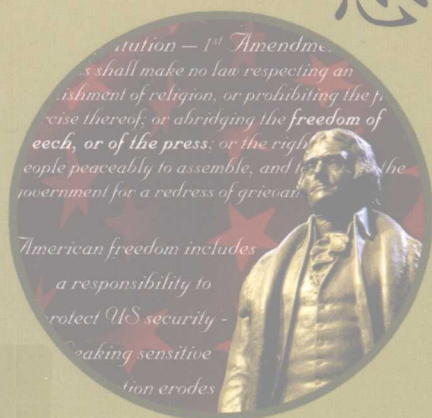
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President Inaugural Addresses

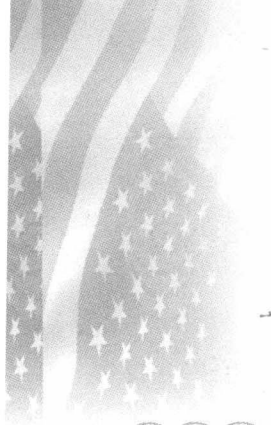
最激情澎湃的

总统就职演说

胡建桥 编译



中国出版集团
中国对外翻译出版公司



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英 汉 对 照

PRESIDENT INAUGURAL ADDRESSES

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前 言

本书选取了从美国国父乔治·华盛顿 1789 年首任总统就职演说到最近一任美国总统乔治·沃克·布什 2005 年第二任就职演说的 20 篇美国历届总统就职演说辞（英汉对照），时间跨越了 216 年，从中读者可以参阅美国在这 200 余年间的历史变迁、政治沿袭、内外政策、文化脉络、融合发展……了解美国人民最为珍视的民主和自由。

这 20 篇演讲辞每一篇都代表了一段美国历史，每一篇都是优美的美语散文，读者从中不仅可以更好地了解美国，也能学到最为正统的美语，了解英语语言的魅力，以及英语在美国的演变过程。

由于总统演讲辞属于非常正式的文体，用词较为讲究，也存在许多疑难点，希望编者的翻译和注释能有助于读者更好地理解原文，为读者提高英语水平提供更多的帮助。

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CONTENTS



最激情澎湃的总统就职演说

1	乔治·华盛顿	1
	First Inaugural Address of George Washington	2
	乔治·华盛顿首任就职演说	3
2	约翰·亚当斯	15
	Inaugural Address of John Adams	16
	约翰·亚当斯就职演说	17
3	托马斯·杰斐逊	35
	First Inaugural Address of Thomas Jefferson	36
	托马斯·杰斐逊首任就职演说	37
4	詹姆斯·麦迪逊	51
	First Inaugural Address of James Madison	52
	詹姆斯·麦迪逊首任就职演说	53
5	詹姆斯·门罗	63
	First Inaugural Address of James Monroe	64
	詹姆斯·门罗首任就职演说	65
6	约翰·昆西·亚当斯	89
	Inaugural Address of John Quincy Adams	90
	约翰·昆西·亚当斯就职演说	91

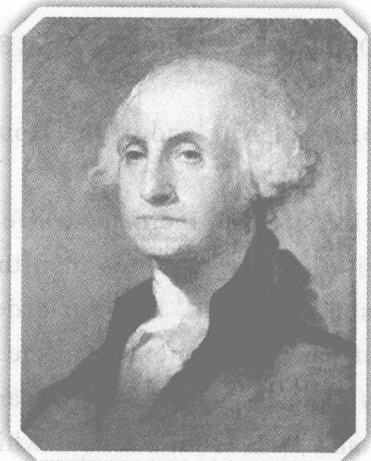


最激情澎湃的总统就职演说

7	安德鲁·杰克逊	113
	Inaugural Address of Andrew Jackson	114
	安德鲁·杰克逊就职演说	115
8	亚伯拉罕·林肯	125
	Inaugural Address of Abraham Lincoln	126
	亚伯拉罕·林肯就职演说	127
9	西奥多·罗斯福	153
	Inaugural Address of Theodore Roosevelt	154
	西奥多·罗斯福就职演说	155
10	伍德罗·威尔逊	163
	Second Inaugural Address of Woodrow Wilson	164
	伍德罗·威尔逊第二任就职演说	165
11	富兰克林·德拉诺·罗斯福	177
	First Inaugural Address of Franklin D. Roosevelt	178
	富兰克林·德拉诺·罗斯福首任就职演说	179
12	富兰克林·德拉诺·罗斯福	193
	Second Inaugural Address of Franklin D. Roosevelt	194
	富兰克林·德拉诺·罗斯福第二任就职演说	195
13	德怀特·大卫·艾森豪威尔	209
	Second Inaugural Address of Dwight D. Eisenhower	210
	德怀特·大卫·艾森豪威尔第二任就职演说	211
14	约翰·肯尼迪	225
	Inaugural Address of John F. Kennedy	226
	约翰·肯尼迪就职演说	227



乔治·华盛顿
George Washington
(1732-1799)



乔治·华盛顿，美国首任总统，美国独立战争大陆军总司令。他毕生未进大学学习，但注意自学，使自己具备了突出的才干。1783年《巴黎和约》签订，英国被迫承认美国独立。同年12月23日乔治·华盛顿递交辞呈，解甲归田。1787年他主持召开费城制宪会议，制定联邦宪法，为根除君主制，制订和批准维护有产者民主权利的宪法做出了不懈的努力。



George Washington
(1732-1799)

1. First Inaugural¹ Address of George Washington

The City Of New York, Thursday, April 30, 1789

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

Among the **vicissitudes**² incident to life no event could have filled me with greater anxieties than that of which the **notification**³ was **transmitted**⁴ by your order, and received on the 14th day of the present month. On the one hand, I was summoned by my Country, whose voice I can never hear but with **veneration**⁵ and love, from a retreat which I had chosen with the fondest **predilection**⁶, and, in my flattering hopes, with an **immutable**⁷ decision, as the **asylum**⁸ of my declining years — a retreat which was **rendered**⁹ every day more necessary as well as more dear to me by the addition of habit to inclination, and of frequent interruptions in my health to the gradual waste committed on it by time. On the other hand, the **magnitude**¹⁰ and difficulty of the trust to which the voice of my country called me, being sufficient to awaken in the wisest and most experienced of her citizens a distrustful **scrutiny**¹¹ into his qualifications, could not but overwhelm with **despondence**¹² one who (inheriting

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一、乔治·华盛顿首任就职演讲

1789年4月30日，星期四，于纽约



- 1 inaugural
[i'no:ɡjʊərəl] *n.* 就职的
- 2 vicissitude
[vi'sisitu:d] *n.* 变化，沉浮
- 3 notification
[nəʊtifi'keɪʃən] *n.* 通知，告示
- 4 transmit
[trænz'mɪt] *n.* 传达
- 5 veneration
[ˌvenə'reɪʃən] *n.* 崇敬
- 6 predilection
[ˌpri:di'lekʃən] *n.* 偏好
- 7 immutable
[i'mju:təbl] *a.* 不变的
- 8 asylum [ə'saɪləm]
n. 庇护，收容所
- 9 render ['rendə]
vt. 致使
- 10 magnitude
['mæɡnɪtju:d] *n.* 重要
- 11 scrutiny ['skruti:ni]
n. 研究(推敲)
- 12 despondence
[dis'pɒndəns] *n.* 沮丧，悲观

参议院和众议院的同胞们：

在人生沉浮中，没有哪一件事能比本月14日收到根据你们的命令送达的通知更令我焦虑不安。一方面，国家召唤我出任此职，对于她的召唤，我永远只能肃然敬从。我曾满怀期待地选择了隐退，并且心怀奢望、矢志不移地誓愿以此作为我暮年的归宿。星转斗移，我日益感到隐退的必要与吸引力，因为喜爱之余，我已经习惯于归隐生活，岁月催人老，近来身体常感不适。另一方面，国家召唤我担负的责任是如此重大而艰巨，足以使国内最有才智和最有经验的人度德量力，顾虑重重；而我天资愚钝，又无民政管理经验，自觉能力不足，因此自然感到难以担此重任。在此矛盾情绪之下，我唯一胆敢断言的是，我将公正地评判可能受到影响的



inferior **endowments**¹ from nature and unpracticed in the duties of civil administration) ought to be **peculiarly**² conscious of his own deficiencies. In this conflict of emotions all I dare aver is that it has been my faithful study to collect my duty from a just appreciation of every circumstance by which it might be affected. All I dare hope is that if, in executing this task, I have been too much swayed by a grateful remembrance of former instances, or by an affectionate sensibility to this **transcendent**³ proof of the confidence of my fellow-citizens, and have thence too little consulted my incapacity as well as **disinclination**⁴ for the weighty and untried cares before me, my error will be **palliated**⁵ by the motives which mislead me, and its consequences be judged by my country with some share of the **partiality**⁶ in which they originated.

Such being the impressions under which I have, in **obedience**⁷ to the public summons, **repaired**⁸ to the present **station**⁹, it would be peculiarly improper to omit in this first official act my fervent **supplications**¹⁰ to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who **presides**¹¹ in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human **defect**¹², that His benediction may **consecrate**¹³ to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States a Government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes, and may enable every instrument employed in its administration to execute with success the functions allotted to his charge. In tendering this homage to the Great Author of every public and private good, I assure myself that it expresses your sentiments not less than my own, nor those of my fellow-citizens at large less than either. No



Notes

- 1 endowment
[in'daʊmənt] *n.* 天赋
- 2 peculiarly
[pi'kju:liəli] *ad.* 特别地
- 3 transcendent
[træn'sendənt] *a.* 卓越的
- 4 disinclination
[disinkli'neiʃən] *n.* 不起劲, 不感兴趣
- 5 palliate ['pæliet]
n. 减轻, 缓和, 辩解
- 6 partiality
[pɑ:ʃi'æliti] *n.* 偏袒, 偏见
- 7 obedience
[ə'bi:djəns, -diəns]
n. 服从, 顺从
- 8 repair [ri'pɛə] *v.* 去, 前往
- 9 station ['steifən]
n. 等级, 地位
- 10 supplication
[sʌpli'keiʃən] *n.* 恳求, 哀求
- 11 preside [pri'zaid]
v. 掌管
- 12 defect [di'fekt] *n.* 缺点
- 13 consecrate
[kənsikreit] *v.* 供神用, 奉献, 使神圣

各种情况, 忠贞不渝地恪尽职守。我唯一胆敢祈望的就是, 如果我在执行此项任务时因陶醉于往事, 或因由衷地感激同胞们给予我的高度信赖, 因而过分受到了影响, 以致在处理从未经历过的重大事件时, 忽视了自己的无能和消极, 我的错误将会由于使我误入歧途的各种动机而减轻, 而大家在评判这些错误的后果时, 也能适当地包涵产生这些动机的偏见。

既然这就是我在顺从民意就任此职时的感想, 那么, 在此宣誓就职之际, 如不热忱地祈求全能的上帝的护佑就是极其失当的, 因为上帝统治着宇宙, 主宰着各国政府, 它的神助能弥补人类的任何不足。愿上帝赐福, 保佑这个为美国人民的自由和幸福而组成的政府, 保佑它为实现这些基本目的而做出的奉献, 保佑政府实施的各项行政管理措施在我负责之下都能成功地发挥作用。我相信, 在向公众利益和私人利益的伟大缔造者献上这份敬意时, 这些话也同样表达了各位和广大公民的心意。没有人能比美国人民更坚定不移地承认和崇拜掌管人间事务的上帝。他们在迈向独立国家的进程中, 似乎每走一步都有某种天佑的迹象; 他们在刚刚



people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than those of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some **token**¹ of **providential**² agency; and in the important revolution just accomplished in the system of their united government the **tranquil**³ deliberations and voluntary consent of so many **distinct**⁴ communities from which the event has resulted can not be compared with the means by which most governments have been established without some return of pious gratitude, along with an humble **anticipation**⁵ of the future blessings which the past seem to **presage**⁶. These reflections, arising out of the present crisis, have forced themselves too strongly on my mind to be **suppressed**⁷. You will join with me, I trust, in thinking that there are none under the influence of which the proceedings of a new and free government can more **auspiciously**⁸ **commence**⁹.

By the article establishing the executive department it is made the duty of the President "to recommend to your consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." The circumstances under which I now meet you will acquit me from entering into that subject further than to refer to the great **constitutional**¹⁰ charter under which you are assembled, and which, in defining your powers, designates the objects to which your attention is to be given. It will be more consistent with those circumstances, and far more **congenial**¹¹ with the feelings which **actuate**¹² me, to substitute, in place of a recommendation of particular measures, the **tribute**¹³ that



- 1 token ['təukən] *n.*
表征, 记号
- 2 providential
[prəvi'denʃəl] *a.* 神
助的, 天意的
- 3 tranquil
['træŋkwil] *a.* 安
静的, 宁静的
- 4 distinct [dis'tɪŋkt]
a. 独特的, 不同
的, 明显的
- 5 anticipation
[æn'tɪsɪ'peɪʃən] *n.*
预期, 预料
- 6 presage ['presɪdʒ]
n. 预感, 预示
- 7 suppress [sə'pres]
n. 镇压, 使...止住
- 8 auspiciously
[ɔ:'spɪʃəsli] *ad.* 吉
利地, 兴隆地
- 9 commence
[kə'mens] *n.* 开始
- 10 constitutional
['kɒnstɪ'tju:ʃənəl]
a. 组织的, 立宪的
- 11 congenial
[kən'dʒɪ:njəl] *a.*
同性质的, 适意
的, 趣味相同的
- 12 actuate ['æktjueɪt]
n. 促使, 激励
- 13 tribute ['trɪbjʊt]
n. 称赞, (表示敬
意的)礼物

完成的联邦政府体制的重大改革中, 如果不是因虔诚的感恩而获得的某种回报, 如果不是因为谦卑地期待着过去有所昭示的赐福的到来, 那么, 通过众多截然不同的集团的平静思考和自由意愿来完成改革的这种方式是难以同大多数政府在组建过程中所采用的方式相比的。在当前的决定性时刻, 我产生这些想法确实是深有所感而不能自己。我相信大家也会像我一样, 认为在当前情势的影响下, 没有任何政府能像这个新生的自由政府那样, 从一开始就吉星高照。

根据设立行政部门的条款, 总统有责任“将他认为必要而妥善的措施提请国会审议”。但在目前与各位见面的这个场合下, 请恕我不进一步讨论这个问题, 我只想提及一下伟大的宪法。正是因为它, 各位今天才能齐聚一堂, 它规定了各位的权限, 指出了各位应该关注的目标。在这样的场合, 更恰当、也更能反映我内心激情的做法是不提出具体措施, 而是称颂那些将要规划和采纳这些措施的当选者的才能、正直和爱国心。从这些高贵的品格中, 我看到了最可靠的保证: 一方面, 任何地方偏见或地方感情, 任何意见分歧或党派仇恨, 都不能使我

is due to the talents, the **rectitude**¹, and the patriotism which adorn the characters selected to devise and adopt them. In these honorable qualifications I behold the surest pledges that as on one side no local prejudices or attachments, no separate views nor party **animosities**², will misdirect the comprehensive and equal eye which ought to **watch over**³ this great **assemblage**⁴ of communities and interests, so, on another, that the foundation of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality, and the **preeminence**⁵ of free government be exemplified by all the attributes which can win the affections of its citizens and command the respect of the world. I **dwell on**⁶ this prospect with every satisfaction which an **ardent**⁷ love for my country can inspire, since there is no truth more thoroughly established than that there exists in the economy and course of nature an **indissoluble**⁸ union between virtue and happiness; between duty and advantage; between the genuine **maxims**⁹ of an honest and **magnanimous**¹⁰ policy and the solid rewards of public prosperity and **felicity**¹¹; since we ought to be no less persuaded that the **propitious**¹² smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained; and since the preservation of the sacred fire of liberty and the destiny of the republican model of government are justly considered, perhaps, as deeply, as finally, **staked on**¹³ the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people.

Besides the ordinary objects submitted to your care, it will remain with your judgment to decide how far an exercise



Notes

- 1 rectitude
['rektitju:d] *n.* 诚实,正直
- 2 animosity
[æni'mɒsiti] *n.* 憎恶,仇恨
- 3 watch over 看守
- 4 assemblage
[ə'semblidʒ] *n.* 集合
- 5 preeminence
[pri(:)'eminəns] *n.* 杰出,卓越
- 6 dwell on 细想,详述
- 7 ardent ['ɑ:dənt] *a.* 热心的,激烈的
- 8 indissoluble
[indi'sɒljubl] *a.* 不能分解的,坚固的
- 9 maxim ['mæksim]
n. 格言,箴言
- 10 magnanimous
[mæg'næniməs]
a. 度量大的,有雅量的
- 11 felicity [fi'lisiti] *n.* 快乐,幸福,幸运
- 12 propitious
[prə'piʃəs] *a.* 亲切的,和蔼的
- 13 stake on 把赌注押在...上面

们偏离全局观点和公平观点,即我们必须维护这个由不同地区和利益组成的大联合;因此,另一方面,我国的政策将以纯正不移的个人道德原则为基础,而自由政府将会以其赢得民心 and 全世界尊敬的所有特质而彰显其优越性。我对国家的一片热忱之心激励着我满怀喜悦地展望这一前景,因为根据自然界的法理和发展趋势,在美德与幸福之间,责任与利益之间,恪守诚实宽厚的政策与享受社会繁荣幸福的硕果之间,存在密不可分的统一,这也许是至今为止最为完善的绝对真理;因为我们应该同样相信,上帝亲自规定了永恒的秩序和权利法则,它绝不会对无视这些法则的国家慈颜含笑;因为人们理所当然地,也许是满怀深情地最后一次把维护神圣的自由之火和共和制政府命运的使命维系于美国人民所奉命进行的实验上。

除了提请各位注意的一般事务外,根据激烈反对共和制的各种意见的性质,或根据引起这些反对意见的不安情绪的程度,在当前这一时刻行使宪法第五条授予的临时性权力究竟有多大益处,将留待你们来加以判断和裁定。在这个问题上,我无法从过去担任过的职务中找到借鉴,因此我不提出具体建

of the occasional power **delegated**¹ by the fifth article of the Constitution is rendered expedient at the present **juncture**² by the nature of objections which have been urged against the system, or by the degree of **inquietude**³ which has given birth to them. Instead of undertaking particular recommendations on this subject, in which I could be guided by no lights derived from official opportunities, I shall again give way to my entire confidence in your **discernment**⁴ and pursuit of the public good; for I assure myself that whilst you carefully avoid every **alteration**⁵ which might endanger the benefits of an united and effective government, or which ought to await the future lessons of experience, a **reverence**⁶ for the characteristic rights of freemen and a regard for the public harmony will **sufficiently**⁷ influence your **deliberations**⁸ on the question how far the former can be **impreguably**⁹ fortified or the latter be safely and advantageously promoted.

To the foregoing observations I have one to add, which will be most properly addressed to the House of Representatives. It concerns myself, and will therefore be as brief as possible. When I was first honored with a call into the service of my country, then on the eve of an **arduous**¹⁰ struggle for its liberties, the light in which I **contemplated**¹¹ my duty required that I should **renounce**¹² every **pecuniary**¹³ compensation. From this resolution I have in no instance departed; and being still under the impressions which produced it, I must decline as inapplicable to myself any share in the personal **emoluments**¹⁴ which may be indispensably included in a permanent **provision**¹⁵