

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF CHINESE HISTORY & CULTURE



主编 梁志刚

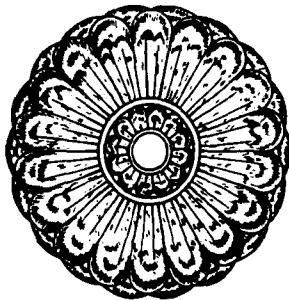
中国历史文化简介



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Preface

When I was lecturing in Southwest Missouri State University, I met many friends from all corners of the world, including some overseas Chinese living in the States and the students of Southwest Missouri State University, who cherish a great desire for a book that can serve not only as a reader of the Chinese language but also as popular reader through which they can have a systematic knowledge of the ancient Chinese culture. Since her reform policy, China has had more and more cultural exchange activities with the rest of the world. Majority of those visiting scholars, students who study in English-speaking countries and foreign affairs workers hope to have an ideal book in English to provide highlights of Chinese culture.

Hence, to meet the needs, we have completed this book relating to various facets of Chinese culture, ranging from China's geography, climate, legends, dynasties to philosophy, literature, art, religion, *Wushu*, medicine, cuisine, education, festival celebrations, etc., beginning from the ancient emperors, ending with the Republic of China.

The writer wrote the book in English-Chinese bilingual version to help the Chinese readers to introduce Chinese culture with the help of English and meanwhile help the foreign learners who want to practise Chinese while reading for the systematic

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knowledge of Chinese culture.

This book can serve as a course book of Chinese culture for those who study Chinese as a second foreign language. It can also be a practical reader for visiting scholars, overseas students who work and study in English speaking countries when they need to introduce the Chinese culture to the people around them.

In the course of writing the book, I have obtained great help from the senior professor Zhao Ming, Dr. Xu Hongli, Dr. Liu Huairong from Qingdao University, who have constantly given me advice and courage, and they have also proofread some of the chapters. In the process of getting this book ready, I always received whole-hearted support from my wife Fan Qinhuai, without which, this book will never come to its present form.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the help I received in bringing this book to completion. Sincere thanks are especially extended to the above-mentioned experts. My special appreciation is also paid to the immense encouragement from John H. Keiser, the President of Southwest Missouri State University, Dr. James Baker, Dr. Steve Robinette and Dr. Julie Johnson. Without their constant encouragement, this book will never turn out.

The writer

前　　言

我在美国西南密苏里州立大学讲学时接触了很多来自世界各国的朋友，尤其是学习中文的学生以及居住在美国的侨胞。他们都渴望得到一本既能学习汉语，又能系统地了解中国历史和文化的教材或读物。改革开放以来，中国与西方国家的文化交流越来越多，我国出国讲学、留学和工作的人员也希望有一本介绍中国文化的英语版读本，以便学习并用英语向外国朋友介绍中国文化。

为此，编者依照中国历史发展的顺序，简要地介绍中国古代上自三皇五帝，下至末代皇帝乃至中华人民共和国数千年历史、文化，包括地理、气候、人口、民族、哲学、文学、艺术、宗教、武术、医学、食俗、节庆、教育等。考虑到国内人士需要用英语介绍中国文化，而外国友人了解中国文化时需要学习和巩固汉语，该书用英汉双语编写。

本书可作为对外汉语教学和学习中文的留学生的中国文化课教材，也可供出国留学人员，出国讲学、工作人员以及外事工作者向外国友人介绍中国文化时使用。

在编写过程中，青岛大学赵明教授和文学院徐宏力博士、刘怀荣博士给予了关心和帮助，并审核了部分章节。范钦慧女士为本书出版付出了辛勤的劳动。该书还得到了美国西南密苏里州立大学凯瑟校长、贝克尔博士、罗宾耐特博士和约翰逊博士的支持。在此，一并致以深切的谢忱！

中国文化历史悠久、内容丰富，本书限于篇幅，编撰时间仓促，又由于编者水平有限，错误与不当之处在所难免，敬请读者和专家批评指正。

作 者



责任编辑
封面设计

刘媛
曹永毅

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