

XI JINPING

WIT AND VISION

SELECTED QUOTATIONS AND COMMENTARY

Chief Editor : Chen Xixi



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS



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图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

平易近人: 习近平的语言力量: 英文 / 陈锡喜主编; (美) 凯勒等译.

— 北京: 外文出版社, 2015.

ISBN 978-7-119-09776-3

I. ①平… II. ①陈… ②凯… III. ①习近平—讲话—学习参考资料—英文
②习近平—讲话—语言艺术—研究—英文 IV. ① D2-0

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2015) 第 285949 号

策 划 刘佩英
责任编辑 曾惠杰 吴雪梅
翻译统筹 Acta Chinese Language Services, LLC (USA)
英文翻译 Jeffrey Keller, Marie Foley (傅文馨), Robert B. Hopkins
英文审定 Evelyn Yang Garland (杨荣) 王明杰 许 荣 贺 军
装帧设计 柏拉图创意机构
印刷监制 冯 浩

平易近人——习近平的语言力量

主 编 陈锡喜
主 审 张 曦
编 著 丁晓萍 汪雨申 黄庆桥

© 2015 外文出版社有限责任公司 上海交通大学出版社有限公司

出版人 徐 步 韩建民

出版发行 外文出版社有限责任公司

地 址 北京市西城区百万庄大街 24 号 邮政编码 100037

网 址 <http://www.flp.com.cn> 电子邮箱 flp@cipg.org.cn

电 话 008610-68320579 (总编室) 008610-68996177 (编辑部)
008610-68995852 (发行部) 008610-68996183 (投稿电话)

印 刷 鸿博昊天科技有限公司

经 销 新华书店 / 外文书店

开 本 787mm×1092mm 1/16 印 张 18.75

版 次 2015 年 12 月第 1 版第 1 次印刷

书 号 ISBN 978-7-119-09776-3

定 价 80 元

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First Edition 2015

ISBN 978-7-119-09776-3

© Foreign Languages Press Co. Ltd, Beijing, China, 2015

Published by Foreign Languages Press Co. Ltd
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing 100037, China
<http://www.flp.com.cn> E-mail: flp@cipg.org.cn

Distributed by China International Book Trading Corporation
35 Chegongzhuang Xilu, Beijing 100044, China
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Printed in the People's Republic of China

Publisher's Note

Language has a magical power. In his speeches, President Xi Jinping frequently uses analogies and storytelling to express profound truths. His colloquial, straightforward language clarifies ideas that many find puzzling, and his quotations from China's traditional culture well summarize his topics and thoroughly expound his propositions. His speeches express wisdom in simple language that packs a powerful, penetrating punch.

Readers will welcome imagery that sparks the imagination, such as “hunt tigers and swat flies” or “power must be caged by the system.” Other selections, such as “to forge iron, one must be strong,” and “place what you want to say on the table,” drive home their points with vivid precision. Chinese classics have also been quoted by Xi Jinping to explain his philosophy on governance, for example, “governing a great country is as delicate as frying a small fish” and “exaltation of the virtuous is fundamental to governance.” “Boundless is the ocean where we sail with the wind” was used to describe the common development of the Asia-Pacific region, and “neglecting duty for empty talk” was cited to criticize a work style that separated theory from practice ...

The book is composed of four sections: Overview, Imagery and Metaphors, Everyday Sayings, and Quotations from the Classics. We arranged the content of each section based on the order of the 12 major themes presented in *Key Speeches by Xi Jinping*, compiled by the Publicity Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

We would like to thank the authors, Chen Xixi, Ding Xiaoping, Wang

Yushen, and Huang Qingqiao, for their dedication and hard work on the manuscript. It was not an easy task! We would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the strong support we have received from the Publicity Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China; the Ministry of Education; the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television; the Publicity Department of the Shanghai Committee of the Communist Party of China; and the Shanghai Press and Publication Administration; among other entities. We are grateful to leaders and experts who provided guidance, including Feng Gang, Wang Ran, Xu Yanguo, Zhu Jian, Ji Bo, Tan Yi, Liu Huajie, and Zhao Zhengyan. We are especially grateful to Zhang Xi, former member of the standing committee and secretary-general of the Zhejiang Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China and former Party secretary of Zhejiang University, for reviewing the manuscript and offering invaluable advice.

The speeches of Xi Jinping cover a sweeping range of topics with great depth. We regret that we were unable to include more of this valuable material. Finally, we are grateful to all the individuals mentioned above for their contributions. We hope that readers will excuse any imperfections and offer their suggestions.

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Overview

Everyone has pursuits and ideals; everyone has his own dreams. We are now all talking about the Chinese Dream. In my opinion, achieving the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation has been the greatest dream of the Chinese people since the advent of modern times. This dream embodies the long-cherished hope of several generations of the Chinese people, gives expression to the overall interests of the Chinese nation and the Chinese people, and represents the shared aspiration of all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation.

— *Speech given by Xi Jinping while viewing The Road to Rejuvenation exhibit, November 29, 2012*

The Chinese Dream

— *A common wish for rejuvenation of the nation and prosperity for the people*

In the latter half of 2012, not long after the 18th National Party Congress drew to a close, the phrase “the Chinese Dream” gradually started trending online. It originated in a speech given by Xi Jinping when viewing *The Road to Rejuvenation* exhibit, not long after becoming General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee. Soon thereafter everyone was talking about it, from the halls of academia to teahouses and neighborhoods, all around China, and even in other countries. It resonated among people and aroused high expectations.

Dreams are the images, sounds, thoughts, and feelings that come from our imaginations when we sleep. They are physiological in nature, but also psychological, and can inspire our artistic imaginations. It is because of this that people connect thoughts with dreams in a way that transcends purely physiological phenomena and turns them into hopes for the future and goals we set about to achieve.

One poet used personification to express the power of dreams: “The dream of grass is to cover the fields and hills in green, the dream of water is to conquer the rocks and desert, the dream of birds is to soar over ravines and rapids, and the dream of the earth is to raise all living things...” Life must have dreams. Without dreams, there is nothing to fight for in life, no direction in which to travel. Likewise, it applies to a country or a nation. The Chinese Dream put forward by Xi Jinping is a way of expressing the rejuvenation of China that includes the “two centenary goals” of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects by 2021 (100 years after the founding of the CPC) and building a prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, and harmonious

modern socialist country by 2049 (100 years after the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949).

The Chinese dream of rejuvenating China didn't just appear when Xi Jinping started talking about the Chinese Dream. It has been the dream of the nation since the beginning of the modern times, and carries with it the common ambitions of all the children of China. China has had a brilliant civilization that has profoundly impacted civilizations of the world. China was once one of the most economically developed nations in the world. According to the estimates of one Western scholar, at the height of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), the Chinese economy accounted for one-third of the world's economy. After the Opium War of 1840, however, the country entered a century of externally imposed humiliation and turmoil from civil wars. The Chinese people suffered enormous disaster and hardship, and truly endured immense suffering and misfortune. National rejuvenation thus became the objective of the continuous struggle of the Chinese people over the years. Countless men and women with lofty ideals answered the call and attempted to right the tilting giant ship. Liang Qichao (1873-1929) advocated "young China," Sun Yat-sen (1866-1925) called for "invigorating China," and Li Dazhao (1889-1927) called for the struggle to "regenerate and remake the Chinese nation." The Chinese people never gave up and continually strove against adversity. Under the leadership of the CPC, following the path of the New Democratic Revolution, they finally took charge of their own fate and began the great course of building New China. Since the launch of reform and opening-up policy, we have continued the tough exploration to find the correct path toward rejuvenating China, and a bright future is gradually emerging over the horizon.

The Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation naturally encompasses both having a strong nation and prosperous people. Xi Jinping said, "The Chinese Dream of the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation means that we will make China prosperous and strong, rejuvenate the nation, and bring happiness to the Chinese people." The Chinese Dream is a dream of a strong, revitalized nation, but in the end it is the people's dream for