



中译经典文库·中华传统文化精粹[汉英对照]

# 中国历代名人书信选

Chinese Short Letters Through The Ages

谢百魁 陈启达 编选、英译

Compiled and translated by Xie Baiku & Chen Qida



中国出版集团  
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中译经典文库·中华传统文化精粹【汉英对照】  
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(Chinese-English)

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“中华传统文化精粹”丛书脱胎于我公司出版的 20 世纪八九十年代中国最富盛名的双语读物“英汉汉英对照一百丛书”。这套丛书曾经影响了几代英语和中华文化学习者、爱好者，深受读者的喜爱，以至今天还有许多翻译界、外交界、教育界等各界取得卓越成就的人士，对这套书籍仍怀有浓重的情结。这套书不仅仅是当初他们学习英语的课外启蒙读本，亦是他们的良师益友，是他们追求知识、拼搏向上的青春记忆。

这套丛书最初由中国对外翻译出版公司于 20 世纪八九十年代同香港商务印书馆合作陆续推出，丛书的编者和译者都是在各自领域做出贡献的学者、教授，使得该套丛书在读者中获得了很好的口碑，创造了良好的社会效益和经济效益。

为了将这一品牌发扬光大，我公司对“英汉汉英对照一百丛书”进行了修订、重组，聘请了享誉海内外的中国翻译界专家组成阵容强大的顾问团，在题材、选篇、译文、栏目设置等方面进行了严谨的论证、精心的编辑，打造出适应新时代读者需求以及提升中国文化新形象的精品图书——“中华传统文化精粹”。

“中华传统文化精粹”丛书内容丰富。秉承以中外读者为本的宗旨，我们增加了白话翻译、中文注释、汉语拼音、经典名句等栏目，删除了晦涩、冗长的篇目，使丛书更加通俗、实用。

“中华传统文化精粹”丛书整体性强、版式精致且与内容和谐统一，相信必将受到中外读者的喜爱。

## The Classics Bring a Modern China to the World



The Traditional Chinese Culture Classical Series originated from the Chinese-English 100 Bilingual Series, the most popular one in the last two decades of the 20th century in China. The series had so impressed generations of English learners and admirers of Chinese culture that still leaves a deep impression in readers' mind. The books were their primary reading materials of English language, resourceful teacher and intimate friend, witnessing a perennial youth in pursuit of knowledge and success.

The series gradually came into being through the cooperation between China Translation and Publication Corporation (CTPC) and Hong Kong Commercial Press in 1980s and 1990s. The series was compiled and translated together by a group of outstanding scholars and professors.

To bring the superb quality of the previous series into full play, CTPC has put enormous effort in revising and reorganizing it, drawing from the contributions by renowned translation scholars and experts in China. Their critical assessment and compilation with regards to topics, original selections, English translations, and overall layouts will surely stand to the reader's demand and create a new image of Chinese culture, that is, in "The Traditional Chinese Culture Classical Series".

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Characteristic of holistic configuration and harmonious unity between the fine format and the excellent content, the Traditional Chinese Culture Classical Series will certainly be cherished by readers from both home and abroad.

# 前言

## FOREWORD



短简产生于春秋战国时期,但在秦汉以前,它基本上是作为一种社会交往的实用工具而存在的;汉魏六朝,人们赋予了它鲜明的文学色彩。短简在唐代经过短暂的停滞后,在宋代又得到复兴,并进一步受到重视而成为一种独具规模的文学样式。明清时期,短简的文学色彩更加鲜明,人们更为自觉地用文学创作的态度来写短简,使短简文学进入鼎盛时期。作为散文的一种形式,短简经历了漫长而曲折的发展演变,经过历代作家的艰苦创作,千锤百炼,它最终成为一种简洁便利、艺术性很强的文学形式。我国丰富的短简作品,是古人留下来的一项非常宝贵的文学遗产,具有很高的文学价值,也产生了很大的影响。

《中国历代名人书信选》时代上起先秦,下迄清代,共选历代名人书信一百篇。这些书信或提倡爱国主义和优良的民族传统,或讨论品德修养问题,或商榷治学的方法和途经,或抒发个人真实的情感,或描绘祖国的大好河山,都是文字优美、富有情趣的佳作。我们将这一百篇书信译成英文,以汉英对照的形式出版,旨在向英语世界的读者传播我们中华民族的文化,使他们了解我国古代文化对后人的影响以及在中国文学史上的价值。



# 前言

中国历代名人书信选 中华传统文化精粹

FOREWORD

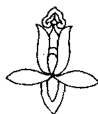
本书的前五十篇由陈启达先生译出，后五十篇由谢百魁教授译出。

编者

1996.6

# Foreword

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Short letters originated in the Spring and Autumn (770–476 BC) and Warring States (475–221 BC) periods, but existed only as a practical means for social communication before the Qin (221–207 BC) and Han (206 BC–220 AD) dynasties. From the Han, Wei(220–265) and Six Dynasties (222–280) (317–589) period, a sharp feature of literature began to develop in short letters. After a short stagnant interval in the Tang Dynasty (618–907), short letters revived again in the Song Dynasty (960–1279), and developed into a unique form of literary form. In the Ming (1368–1644) and Qing (1644–1911) dynasties, the literary characteristic of short letters became more and more evident, and since people instinctively wrote short letters just as creating a literary work, short letters entered its heyday then. As a form of proses, short letters has witnessed a long, complicated process of development and evolution. With meticulous creation by men of letters generation after generation, it eventually developed itself into a literary form, simple yet precise, functional yet

# FOREWORD

## 前言

accessible, and a high artistic value. Short letters, rich as they are in China, are valuable literary legacy left over by the ascendants, are of high literary value and also are of magnificent impact.

*Chinese Short Letters Through The Ages* collects 100 short letters from the Qin Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty. These short letters, either advocate patriotism, contemplate issues concerning character cultivation, discourse methods and approaches of learning, or express true personal feelings or portray the beautiful natural scenery of the country, and they are all written beautifully and are works of delightful interests. Here we have translated 100 short letters into English and present to you in the Chinese-English bilingual form, hoping to disseminate the culture of the Chinese nation among readers of English World so as to make them familiar with ancient Chinese culture and its influence on the descendants as well as its value and rule in the Chinese literary history.

The first 50 short letters of this book are translated by Mr. Chen Qida, and the latter 50 are translated by Professor Xie Baikui.

Editor

June, 1996

# 致选译者



“中华传统文化精粹”丛书,是根据我公司 20 世纪 90 年代出版的“一百丛书”重新编选、修订的。与本丛书有关的各项版权事宜,包括选译者的稿酬等,我公司已委托中华版权代理总公司代为办理。

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