



中译经典文库·中华传统文化精粹[汉英对照]

中国历代微型小说选

Ancient Chinese Miniature Stories

马家驹 编选、英译

Compiled and translated by Ma Jiaju



中国出版集团
中国对外翻译出版公司



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(Chinese-English)

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Ancient Chinese Miniature Stories

马家驹 编选、英译 刘文娟 白话文翻译



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世界从书中认识中国
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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".

The Traditional Chinese Culture Classical Series enjoys rich content and realizes our reader-oriented principle. To these ends, we add modern Chinese renditions, annotations, pronunciations, and highlighted classical sentences while removing those obscure and tedious sections, in an effort to make the series both popular and pragmatic.

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

PREFACE



在中国古代，并没有微型小说这个名词，也很难找到它的确切的同义词。不过从春秋末期到鸦片战争爆发的两千多年间积存下来的大量古典著作，特别是所谓笔记小说里却有无数字数不多而含义深刻隽永的短文章，性质相当于英国文学里的特写、轶事、随笔、小品之类，反映了古代中国人民的智慧、幽默、为人处世的态度和社会生活。

本书起自先秦，下迄清代，选择了各个时期具有一定代表性和一定情节的作品一百篇。限于篇幅，难免使读者有“浅尝辄止”的感觉，但如果能够从中略微了解到中国古代文化的一个侧面，就不是白费功夫了。

因为文化背景不同、语言结构悬殊，汉译英和英译汉一样，都会遇到一些难以完全达意的地方。关于这一点，凡是翻译工作者都有同感，这里就不再多说了。本来想多作一些注释，但有些问题不是一条注释或几句话所能说得清楚，因此觉得除极少数情况外，不如留给好学深思、愿意进一步学习的读者自己去解决为好。

参加翻译工作的有尚端、江载芬两女士和邹孝标先生（以所译篇数多寡为序），特此表示衷心的感谢。

马家驹（里千）

一九九三年十二月二十四日



PREFACE



Although the expression “miniature story” does not occur in ancient Chinese writings, it is hard to find a more appropriate synonym, and we have no difficulty in finding a great number of short articles in classical works, especially in the historical annals from the late Spring and Autumn Period (770–467 BC) to the outbreak of the Opium War in 1840.

These articles, some of which consist of merely a few words, are comparable to English features, anecdotes, comments, jottings or short essays. They display both wit and humour, as well as the various attitudes towards life and the general aspects of the ancient Chinese society.

We have selected 100 representative and interesting pieces from the Pre-Qin Period right through to the Qing Dynasty, covering more than two thousand five hundred years. Due to the shortness of this compilation, readers may feel that they can only catch a glimpse of Chinese culture, yet it should be sufficient to gain an insight into this subject.

Because of the difference in cultural background and the disparity



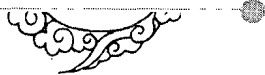
of linguistic constructs, Chinese-English translation fails to convey the original idea perfectly, just as with English-Chinese translation. I think all translators agree with me on this. We could have given more annotations, however some problems cannot be explained by an annotation of only a few words. Therefore in many cases, we have decided to leave such problems to the interested readers themselves to study and research into.

I am greatly indebted personally to Shang Duan, Jiang Zaifen and Zou Xiaobiao for their contributions to the translations in this book (names arranged in sequence of number of articles translated).

Ma Jiaju (Liqian)

Dec. 24, 1993

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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