

An Outline of the Traditional Chinese Culture

中国传统文化通览

英 汉 版

顾 问 季羨林

主 编 杨 敏 王克奇 王恒展

中国海洋大学出版社

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主 审 Julia May 刘世生 李宏生

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序

王志民

中国是世界四大文明古国之一,有五千多年文字可考的历史,中国传统文化源远流长和一脉相承是世界文明古国中绝无仅有的。几千年来,勤劳智慧的中国人创造了光辉成就,留下了卷帙浩繁的文化典籍。四大发明等科技创造曾为人类的进步作出过巨大的贡献,独具形体的汉字蕴含着中国人特有的智慧和艺术匠心,它和音乐、绘画、书法、雕刻等艺术的瑰宝和遍布各地的古迹遗址、人文景观中所展现的文化创造,以及丰富多彩的民俗文化,都使中华文明不仅成为后代子孙引以为骄傲的资本,也为中国这个世界上人口最多的东方大国增添了无限的魅力。

随着世界经济的迅速发展和科学技术的日新月异,经济全球化成为不可阻挡之势。当世界进入 21 世纪的时候,人们惊奇地发现世界各民族之间的距离一下子拉得很近,而中国的申奥成功和加入世界贸易组织,使中国更加迅速地融入世界大家庭之中,中国更加无法回避地展现在世界面前,世界一下子走近了中国,跨入了文化交流、吸收融合的新时代。如何让中国丰富绚丽的古代文化更多地展现在世界人民的面前,这不仅是我们这一代人的责任,也是加强世界文化交流的需要。

山东大学和山东师范大学外语学院、历史学院、文学院、管理学院的部分教授、副教授、中青年学术骨干为《中国传统文化通览》(英汉版)一书的出版付出了辛勤的劳动,本书的出版必将为让世界更多的人了解中国、熟悉中国起到很好的作用!

该书采用英汉双语形式,分十大部分,全面介绍了中国传统文化的巨大成就和文化特点。每个部分既有全面概述,又有重点介绍,点面结合,突出特色。一册在手,中国文化之大要尽览眼底,因此她是一本宣传中国传统文化知识的好书。我相信,出版后必将受到国内外广大读者的欢迎!

该书出版在即,主编杨敏教授命余作序,我写以上文字,权充为序。

2002 年 6 月 16 日

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Introduction

I was in Britain in 1989. I was amazed at the curiosity of my British friends, old and young, about China. They wondered not only at her enigmatic thousands of years of history, but also at her vast expanse of green fields visible from the pictures I showed to them. "They look similar to our country," they would say. When I was free, I would chat with them, relating the current occurrences back at home and the remote past of this ancient country, various topics meandering like the Yellow River, far in the east.

Enlightened, marvelled and fascinated with my story, they hoped I could write a book about my homeland. This sparkled my desire to display, in the written form, what I wanted to display about China. But, how?

After meticulous consultation and exploration, I decided to present a picture of China around the theme of culture. Culture, I believe, is so pervasive, so penetrating and so exhaustive that only under this category can I satisfy my friends' curiosity about China — a country full of mystery, charms and potentials.

Six years of toil and sweat has resulted eventually in what now is entitled as — "*An Outline of the Traditional Chinese Culture*",

with Professor Ji Xianlin at Beijing University as the academic advisor of this book. He is one of the most famous scholars in China.

This book is imbued with the substantial efforts of me and my colleagues, the other writers. Most of them are in the prime of their academic career, teaching either at Shandong University or at Shandong Normal University as professors and lecturers. The subject matter they wrote about is within the domain of their expertise.

So this book is unique in its wide-ranging selection of subject matter, which ranges from historical figures, events, allusions, folktales to music, dramas and plays, Chinese *Wushu* and folkcultures including wine culture, tea culture, dress culture, and dialectic culture. We hope that this book will become an eye-opener to friends abroad, opening before them the window to a panoramic view of the ancient oriental country — China. We also hope that this book can be so inviting that all those who are interested in learning something about Chinese culture and in contributing to cultural exchanges on a global scale will be invited to read it.

With all these hopes and wishes, we are looking forward to sharing the readers' delight to enjoy this book.

Prof. Yang Min
Editor in Chief of
Shandong Foreign Language Teaching Journal
7 Sept. 2002

前言

几千年中国传统文化之长河,浩瀚壮阔。何以向世界展现她哪怕万分之一的瑰美精华,让那些因语言障碍而被阻隔于这座人类文明宝殿之外的人群领略其中的绚丽精妙?对这一问题,我和本书全体作者希望能给出一个满意的答案。我们精诚合作,潜心打造,又幸得前辈学者、治学大师不吝赐教、殷殷提勉,历时6年,终将这部《中国传统文化通览》(英汉版)付梓,实是欣幸。我们期盼本书能成为指引五大洲英文读者步入中华民族文化殿堂的一名向导,使他们了解中国传统文化的概貌和精髓;同时,我们又希望本书能成为国内英语爱好者的良师益友,帮助他们在提高文化素养与英汉双语能力的同时,担当起传播民族文化的光荣任务。

本书的价值首先在于她是一部用英汉双语全面表述文化内容的开山之作。语言是文化的载体,“洋文”用来表述本土文化,难矣!最大的困难在于中华民族文化词语比比皆是,而其英语对应词语甚缺。词汇缺省如何解决?意义等值、文化等值、交际功能等值在文化题材的对外宣传文本中何以体现?这几年,我带领研究生对不同语域中的中英文篇章做了大量的跨文化对比分析,得出的结论是:语言与文化须臾不可分离,只有在母语及民族文化与目的语及目的语文化的双重观照下,着眼于语言的交际功能,以及交际场景的文化时空转换、读者的意义解码心理过程等语言外的多重因素,才能做到辞达文通、义不失信。这个观点贯穿于本书的选材与著述之中,希望能对文化题材的英语著述起到抛砖引玉的作用。

本书的价值还在于它为国内读者提高个人文化素养和英汉双语能力提供了有效的途径。近年来,国内有许多中国文学名著的英译本出版,可惜的是,据笔者所知,关于中国文化的双语版书籍寥寥无几。另一方面,国内不少学生在努力学习英语与西方文化的过程中忽略了汉语读写水平的提高,忽略了民族文化的自身修养,实有顾此失彼之虞。本书的出版既可为他们学习英语、改进汉语提供帮助,又可为他们培养良好的文化素养创造条件。

最为重要的是,本书的出版恰好满足了新时代世界文明发展的实际需要。处于21世纪始端的世界是一个全球化浪潮涌起的时代,是一个文化多

元化、个人需求多元化的时代,因而也是一个呼唤中华民族文化走向世界的时代。毋庸置疑,中国传统文化的辉煌成就是世界多元文化的基石之一。中国文化的兴旺离不开外来文化的交流与互补,而世界多元文化的蓬勃发展更离不开中华民族文化的外传与参与。本书的出版恰好可以为传播中国的传统文化,为新时代多元文化的交融和发展起到积极的促进作用。

想到这些,我和本书的全体作者更是由衷地感谢所有为本书问世作出贡献的专家、学者、师朋好友,尤其感谢季羨林先生担任本书的顾问;感谢国家教育部省属高校人文社科重点研究基地齐鲁文化研究中心首席专家王志民先生为本书作序;感谢山东大学外语学院的王守元教授、王治奎教授、李玉陈教授、李延福教授,山东师范大学的李宏生教授、李伯齐教授、杨守森教授给本书提供了宝贵的学术咨询;感谢山东大学、山东师范大学为本书作者提供了严谨、勤勉、团结合作的学术环境,使他们6年来坚持不懈终于将本书写成;感谢中国海洋大学出版社大力支持本书的出版。书中大量文学名著、诗作、古籍名称的英文译名参照了 Rewi Alley、杨宪益、许渊冲、孙大雨、丁祖馨、徐忠杰等译作中的译名,特此说明并向他们表示诚挚的感谢。关于书中不妥之处,恳请同仁多多指正。

杨 敏

2002年10月8日

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