

QUICK ACCESS TO CHINESE HISTORY



265 - 420
Jin Dynasty



206 BC - AD 220
Han Dynasty



1046 - 771 BC *Western Zhou*
770 - 256 BC *Eastern Zhou*



420 - 589
*Southern and Northern
Dynasties*



220 - 280
Three Kingdoms



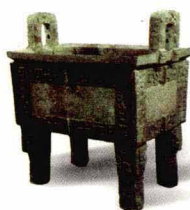
221 - 206 BC
Qin Dynasty

Three



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS

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TO
CHINESE
HISTORY



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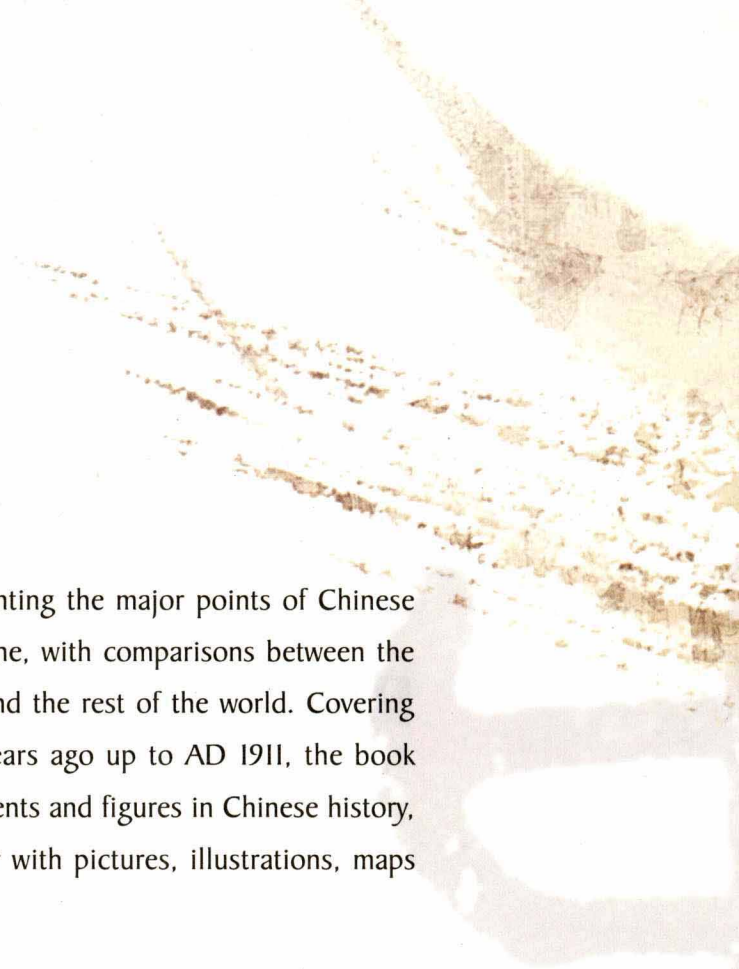


Preface

Since remote antiquity, the winding river of Chinese history has been flowing onward, through time to reach today's banks, and still coursing into the future.

Absorbing countless brooks and streams, surging through obstacles, this great river gave birth to China, one of the most splendid civilizations in the world.

However, the very profoundness and length of this history poses difficulties for readers to explore its myths and treasures. Thus, a book that provides quick access to Chinese history would be a most handy tool for readers.



Our book is such a tool, presenting the major points of Chinese history along a complete timeline, with comparisons between the concurrent histories of China and the rest of the world. Covering a time span from 1,700,000 years ago up to AD 1911, the book includes influential historical events and figures in Chinese history, arranged in chronological order with pictures, illustrations, maps and charts.

Distinguishing this book from other general introductory books on Chinese history, its contents have been arranged along a timeline, with the function of quick access highlighted by its innovative layout and a detailed index. For readers who wish to learn about the history of a specific period, the target contents are at your fingertips, through the clear time indicators at the top of the pages. And for readers who want to look up specific events or figures, the INDEX guides you directly to the information you want. With this book, international readers will be given a clear vision of the major developments in Chinese history and culture.

Explanatory Notes

1. The book starts with Yuanmou Man (c. 1,700,000 years ago), the first primitive humans in China, and ends with the 1911 Revolution and the fall of the last feudal dynasty in Chinese history.
2. The book has 455 points in Chinese history, covering facts from various dynasties, historical events and figures, important writings, technologies, arts, and political and social systems. The entries selected are those considered most significant and influential in Chinese history.
3. The List of Entries is arranged in alphabetical order, with date and location specified for each entry.
4. The contents of the book are arranged along a complete timeline of Chinese history. Historical events are arranged by their dates, which are marked on the timeline, while the entry titles below the timeline specify their duration. For example, "184" is marked on the timeline as the year when the Yellow Turban Army Uprising started, and "(184-192)" after the title below indicates its duration. Historical figures are placed in the periods corresponding to their activities, without specific dates marked on the timeline, while their years of birth and death can be found in the entries.



5. The book has a special design to introduce the Chinese dynasties. Each dynasty occupies a new page, with a yellowish background and a red timeline (including a seal inscribed with "Chinese History," the years of the dynasty, and subtitle). To highlight the dynasties, a special bold font is used to differentiate them from other historical entries.
6. The book has over 400 pictures related to the entries. Including brief captions, the images serve as illuminating illustrations bringing history to life.
7. The book also has important concurrent world events and figures listed at the bottom of some pages, providing a comparative development of Chinese history and world history.
8. The INDEX is arranged in alphabetical order to provide quick access to names, places, historical events, and glossary.
9. The chronology of Chinese dynasties in the APPENDIX is arranged in time order along a knotted rope, as tribute to the ancient knotting-cord method to record events. The starting and ending years are marked for each dynasty, along with pictures presenting the features of the era.





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