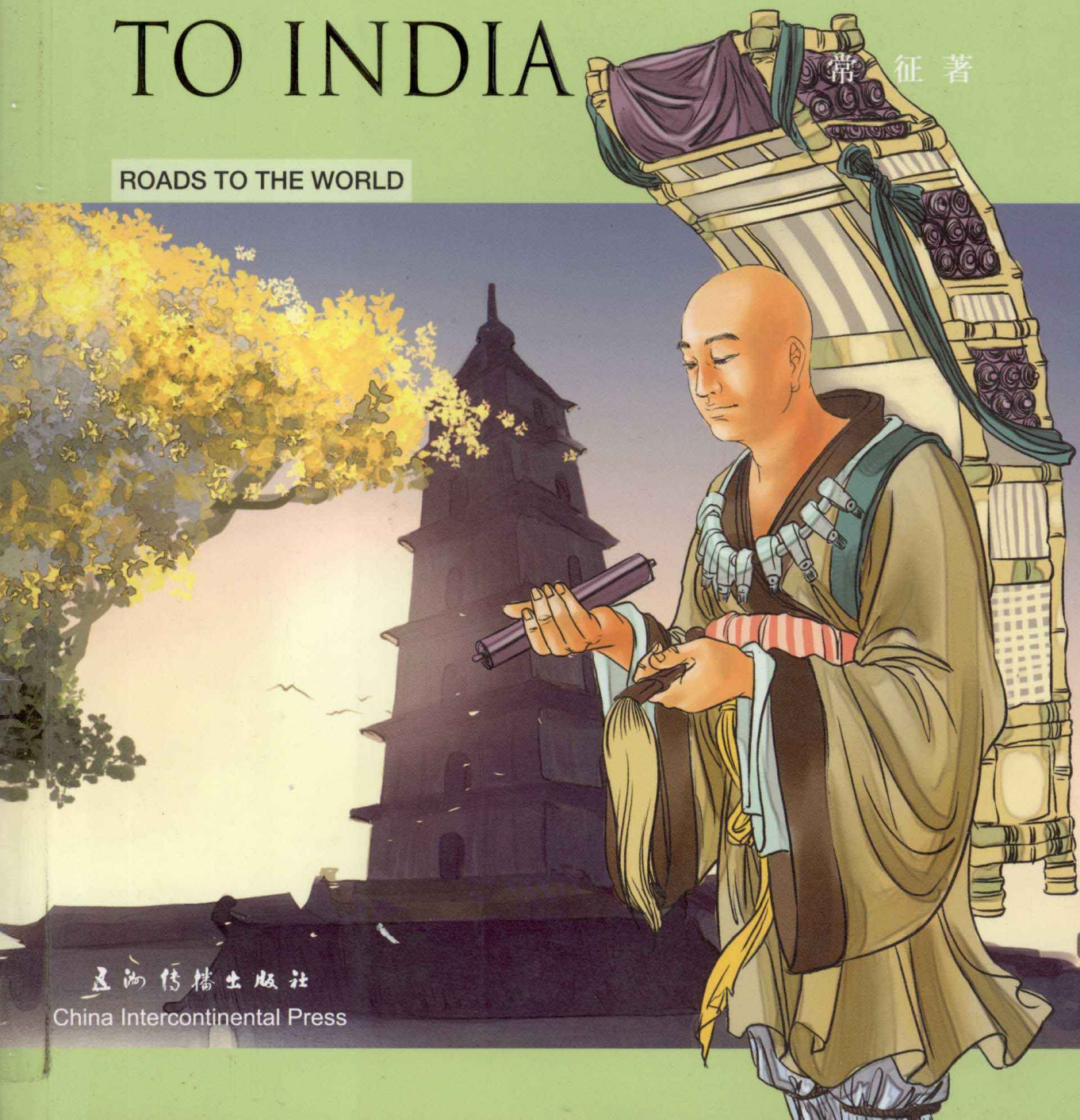


Chang Zheng

XUANZANG'S JOURNEY 玄奘西天取经 TO INDIA

ROADS TO THE WORLD

常 征 著



中国传播出版社

China Intercontinental Press

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FOREWORD

It has been a long and exciting history of tremendous cultural exchange between China and other countries. In terms of culture, economy, ideology, and personnel, these exchanges between China and other countries can be dated back to the times of Qin and Han dynasties—directly or indirectly, by land or sea. The long-term and multi-faceted cultural exchange helps the world to understand more about China and the rest of the world, enriching the common wealth of mankind—both materially and spiritually.

The book series entitled *Roads to the World* offers the most splendid stories in the entire history of Sino-foreign cultural exchange. We hereby offer them to foreign students learning the Chinese language, and to foreign readers who have a keen interest in Chinese culture. These stories depict important personalities, events, and phenomena in various fields of cultural exchange between China and other nations, and among different peoples. By reading the books, you may understand China and Chinese civilization profoundly,

and the close link between Chinese civilization and other civilizations of the world. The books highlight the efforts and contributions of Chinese people and Chinese civilization in the world's cultural interchange. They reflect mankind's common spiritual pursuit and the orientation of values.

The book tells stories of Xuanzang, dignitary of Tang Dynasty, about his pilgrimage to the west (India) for the Buddhist scriptures based on the historical records. About 1,400 years ago, the Chinese monk made a great cultural trip and covered hundreds of thousands of kilometers in 17 years despite of numerous difficulties and dangers. He left rich legacy on thought and culture and became a symbol of China-India cultural exchange. The real stories he visited Xinjiang, Middle Asia and India were thrilling with unique charms.

前 言

中国与其他国家、民族之间的文化交流具有悠久而曲折的历史。在中国与外国之间，通过间接的和直接的、陆路的和海路的、有形的和无形的多种渠道，各种文化、经济、思想、人员方面的交流，可以上溯至秦汉时代，下及于当今社会。长期的、多方面的交流，增进了中国与其他国家、民族之间的了解，使人类的共同财富（物质的和精神的）更加丰富。

中外文化交流故事丛书（Roads to the World）的宗旨，是从中外文化交流的历史长河中，选择那些最璀璨的明珠，通过讲故事的方式，介绍给学习汉语的外国学生和对中国文化感兴趣的外国读者。这些故事描述中国与其他国家、民族在各个领域文化交流中的重要人物、事件和现象，以使外国读者能够更深入地理解中国，理解中国文明，理解中国文明与其他各文明之间的密切关系，以及中国人和中国文明在这种交流

过程中所作出的努力和贡献，并尽力彰显人类共同的精神追求与价值取向。

本书依据有关历史记载，讲述唐代高僧玄奘远赴西天（印度）取经的故事。在近1400年前，这位中国僧人不畏艰险，跋涉数万公里，历时17年，进行了一次伟大的文化之旅。他为后人留下了丰富的思想和文化遗产，并成为中印文化交流的象征。他游历新疆、中亚、印度一带的真实故事，别具魅力。

I

Xuanzang and *the Journey to West*

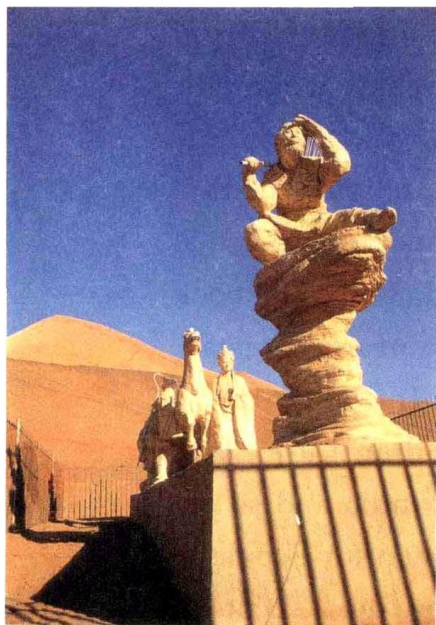
With wizardly imagination, interesting episodes and distinctive roles, *the Journey to West*, published in the 16th century in China, is very popular among readers of different nationalities as a renowned classical work with world influence. The fiction tells the story of the pilgrimage of Tangseng (Tang Monk) to the west (India) for the Buddhist sutras under protection of his three disciples, Sun Wukong (Monkey King) and others. The tale includes 81 adventures in the journey.

The leading role of the story is Sun Wukong, or the Monkey King. Intelligent and brave, the Monkey King is capable of different transformations with an immense amount of strength, and access to the heaven and the hell. He can defeat demons and monsters. Therefore the English translation of the fiction is *Monkey*. By contrast, Tangseng is overshadowed by the Monkey King. Though the fiction describes his honesty, goodness and gut against difficulties

1

玄奘与《西游记》

16世纪时间世的中国神魔小说《西游记》，以神奇的想象、丰富有趣的情节和鲜明的人物形象而受到各国读者喜爱，成为一部具有世界性影响的古典名著。这部小说描写佛教僧人唐僧在孙悟空等三个徒弟的保护下，不远万里、历经81次艰难险阻到西天求取佛经的故事。西天就是现在的印度。



唐僧师徒塑像，新疆吐鲁番

Statues of Tangseng and his disciples, Turpan, Xinjiang.

小说的主人公是机智勇敢的猴王孙悟空。他千变万化，法力高强，可以上天入地，降魔伏怪。因此，这部小说的英译本就叫《猴》。相形之下，唐僧的形象则不免逊色，小说虽然也表现了他诚

for the Buddhist sutras, readers will see more a weak, incapable, pedantry and muddle-headed Buddhist disciple in the fiction. With *the Journey to West* and picture books, films and TV plays, the image of Tangseng and the story of pilgrimage have become household names.

However, Tangseng is not a complete imaginary figure. Tangseng means the monk from the Emperor Tang Dynasty (618–907). In history Tangseng refers to dignitary Xuanzang (602–664). He was a great traveler, translator and Buddhist scholar. Nearly 1,400 years ago, he covered thousands of kilometers in 17 years to India for the Buddhist sutras with unswerving faith, indomitable will and outstanding wisdom. It was a miracle.

Xuanzang's west journey was also a great cultural journey. He wrote the famous historical and geographic book *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, which record the geography, history, customs, products, religion, culture and politics of 110 city-states, regions and countries that he covered and 28 others that he heard about. The book included the famous Bamiyan Buddha of Afghanistan, famous king Siladitya (589–647) of India, Nalanda Vihara (today Barragon Village in Bihar, India), the ancient Buddhism academic center of India and so on. The literature offers important information for people to study Middle Asia and South Asia before the 7th century. Without it, people can hardly research ancient India.

实善良、为求取佛经而不惧困难的一面，但人们更多地看到的是一个软弱无能、迂腐糊涂的佛教徒形象。通过《西游记》以及由这部小说改编的图画书、电影、电视等媒介，唐僧的文学形象和取经故事已为世人所熟知。

然而唐僧并非一个完全虚构的人物。唐僧的意思是来自唐帝国的僧人，历史上的唐僧，就是唐朝（618—907）佛教高僧玄奘（602—664）。他是7世纪

玄奘法师像
Xuanzang.

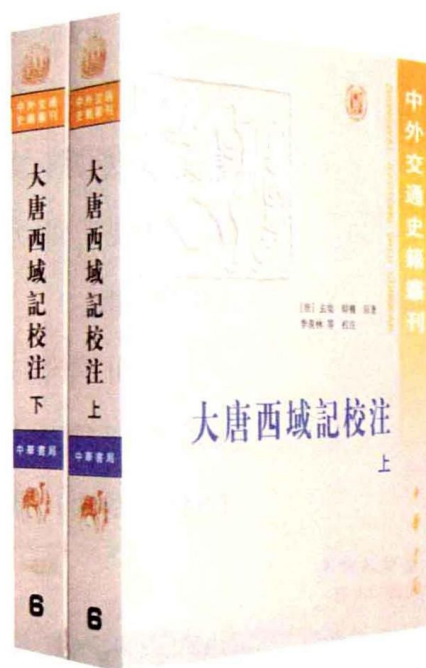


时伟大的旅行家、翻译家和佛学家。在近1400年前，他不畏艰险，凭借坚定的信念、顽强的意志和杰出的智慧，跋涉数万公里，历时17年，远赴印度取经，创造了一个奇迹。

玄奘西行取经的过程，也是一次伟大的文化之旅。他回中国后写成了历史地理名著《大唐西域记》，记载他亲历的

Xuanzang was also a great translator. In the last 20 years of his life, he translated independently or took charge of translation of more than 1,300 volumes of Buddhist sutras. It was a hard work because he translated the Sanskrit, which is complex and difficult to learn, and then translate into Chinese. If compared to today's book size, the translated works can be converted into more than 400 books. It was really amazing. What's more, he also translated China's outstanding philosophic work *Tao Te Ching* and the Buddhist works in Chinese language into Sanskrit.

Xuanzang made great contribution to the foreign-Chinese culture exchange and has been praised highly. In India there are pictures of him in the museums carrying his luggage to retrieve the Buddhist sutras and he is considered "sage" there. In the early 20th century, Vincent Smith, British scholar of India history, said, "Such a work—*On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*—can never be overvalued." An Indian historian said that without the works of Xuanzang and the other Chinese scholars, "It is impossible to reproduce India's history."



現代學者整理的《大唐西域記》
On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India, sorted by
modern scholars.

110个和听别人讲述的28个城邦、地区、国家的地理、历史、风俗、物产、宗教、文化、政治等各方面的情况，其中提到了著名的阿富汗巴米扬大佛、印度历史上有名的国王戒日王（589—647）、印度古代佛教学术中心那烂陀寺（现在印度比哈尔邦的巴拉贡村）等。这部著作是人们了解7世纪前中亚、南亚历史的重要资料。如果不引用这部著作，人们几乎无法研究印度古代问题。

玄奘还是伟大的翻译家，他在生命的最后将近20年中，独自翻译或者主持翻译了佛教经典达1300余卷。这项工作非常艰苦，因为他是将极其复杂、难以掌握的梵文翻译成中文，而且译文质量很高。以现在的图书规模计算，他的这些翻译作品大约有400册之多。这是非常惊人的。而且，他还将中国卓越的哲学著作《道德经》和用汉语写成的佛学著作翻译成梵文。

玄奘为中外文化文流作出了重大贡献，因此获得了极高的评价。如今，印度的博物馆里陈列有他背着行李求取佛经的图像，把他当作“圣人”。20世纪初，研究印度历史的英国学者史密斯认为，“对这一部著作（指《大唐西域记》）无论评价多高也不会过

Xuanzang obtaining the Buddhist sutras from India was a blast in China then. After his death, the Buddhist disciples wrote many biographies for him, including the long biography (more than 80,000 Chinese characters) written by two of his students. These works have combined Xuanzang's stories with some Buddhist tales. Since then Xuanzang's Journey to West was apotheosized gradually and finally the fiction *the Journey to West* was completed.

The stories of Xuanzang about his pilgrimage introduced below were based on the historical records. Xuanzang was really a legend, given the true stories about his travels to Xinjiang, Middle Asia and India. They were not magic, as described in the fiction, but definitely had unique charm.

分”。一位印度历史学家则说，如果没有玄奘等中国人的著作，“重建印度史是完全不可能的”。

玄奘到印度取经、载誉归来的事迹，也在中国引起轰动。他去世后，佛教徒们为他写了多种传记，包括由他的两个学生所写的8万多字的长篇传记。在这些著作中，已经将玄奘的事迹与一些佛教神话故事结合起来。此后，人们就不断将唐僧西天取经的故事神化，最终形成了小说《西游记》。

下面介绍的玄奘西天取经故事，依据的是有关的历史记载。玄奘的一生的确很不平凡，尤其是他游历新疆、中亚、印度一带的真实故事，虽然不像小说所描写的那样神奇，却也别具魅力。

II

Earlier Experience of Xuanzang

In *the Journey to West*, Xuanzang's parents experienced many miseries, forcing Xuanzang to live in the temple since he was a baby. Of course it was just a folk story. As a matter of fact Xuanzang lived with his parents when he was a child.

Xuanzang was born in today's Yanshi City, Henan Province. He was named Chen Yi before he became a monk. According to the rule, one had to replace his lay name with a monastic name after becoming a monk. Xuanzang was his monastic name. His father, handsome and lettered, guided Xuanzang to study the Confucian classics. Xuanzang was very clever and could understand the meaning of the Confucian classics immediately, after his father told him once. He abode by them strictly. His father was very happy about his clever child, and his relatives and friends believed Xuanzang was a prodigy.

Though the youngest son of the family, Xuanzang was cautious and tender and cared for his parents. He was a