

张艳玲◎主编

The Most Greatest Speeches in The World

最伟大的演讲

上册

这些英文，都有共同的特点：经典、优美、百读不厌。既可以陶冶情操，增长知识，给人以快乐的感受，又可激励人们向上。这些美文历经时间的考验而沉淀下来，成为历代传诵不衰的美文。



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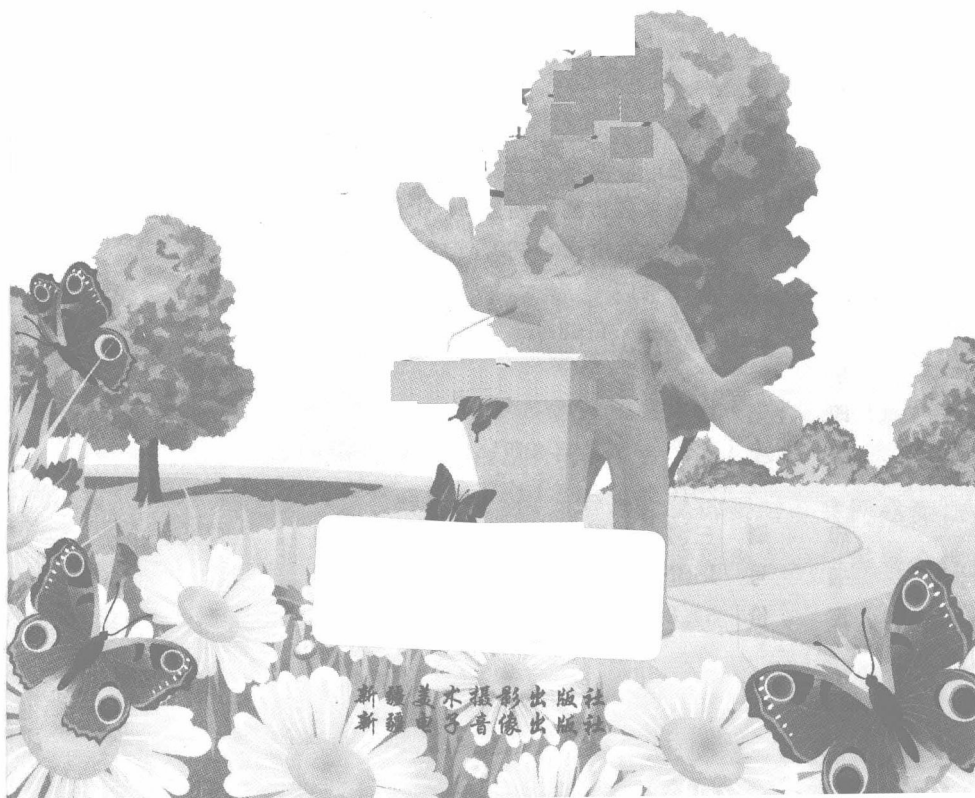
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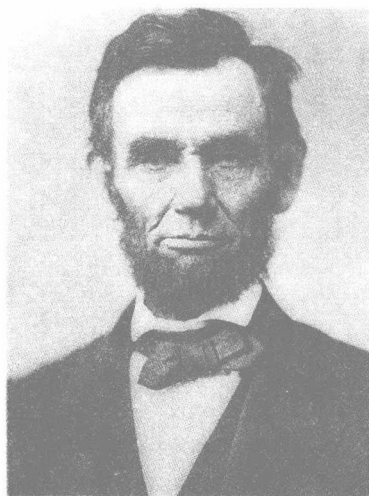
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上篇 美国总统的经典演说





The Declaration Of Independence

独立宣言

Thomas Jefferson/托马斯·杰斐逊

演讲者简介

托马斯·杰斐逊（1743—1826），美国政治家、思想家、教育家和科学家，民主共和党创始人，第三任美国总统。

杰斐逊于1769年进入殖民地议会，协同其他殖民地进行反英斗争，为反英运动领袖之一。1775年5月，杰斐逊作为弗吉尼亚代表参加在费城举行的第二届大陆会议。会议指定杰斐逊和富兰克林等五人组成委员会起草《独立宣言》。《独立宣言》超越了一时一地的历史特殊意义，成为人类追求自身价值的伟大文献。

1800年，杰斐逊当选为美国第三届总统。1804年再度当选。杰斐逊晚年致力于研究建筑工程、哲学、古生物学和自然科学。1812—1825年，他亲自筹划并建成弗吉尼亚大学。1826年7月4日逝世。



Declaration Of Independence

Thomas Jefferson

In Congress, July 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them. a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, which among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of



Happiness. That to secure these rights. Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed.

But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their



future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government.

The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained, and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.



He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the meantime exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing



Judiciary powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new Offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace. Standing Armies without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us.

For protecting them by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States;

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the



world;

For imposing taxes on us without our consent;

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits
of trial by Jury;

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for
pretended offences;

For abolishing the free System of English Laws
in a neighbouring province, establishing therein an
Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries
so as to render it at once an example and fit instru-
ment for introducing the same absolute rule into
these colonies;

For taking away our charters, abolishing our
most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the
forms of our governments;

For suspending our own Legislatures and de-
claring themselves invested with power to legislate
for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here by declaring
us out of his protection and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts,
burnt our towns, and destroyed the Lives of our



people.

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken captive on the high seas to bear Arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury.

A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be



the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren.

We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us.

We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here.

We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence.

They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the supreme judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name,