

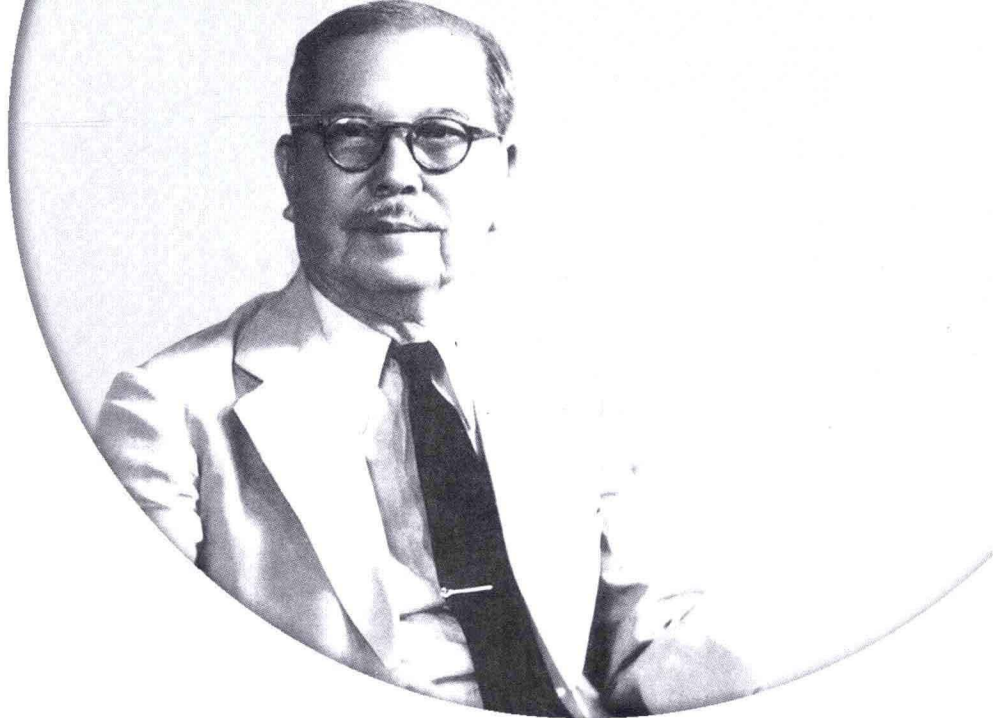
His Biography, Stories, Writings and Others



陈经华 黄少华 编著

# Chen Jiageng (Tan Kah Kee)

福建人民出版社



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(Tan KahKee)

陈经华 黄少华 编著

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# 前 言

本书是体现集美大学特色的英语阅读教材，供本科学生使用，安排在大学英语学习的基础阶段，即一、二年级的教学中穿插进行。

“嘉庚精神进英语课堂”的构想已形成多年，但付诸实施还是最近的事。由构想到实施的第一推动力来自学生，主要是鳌园学生导游团的同学。这个计划首先于 2007 年在集美大学外语学院英语专业和集大诚毅学院大学英语课中试实施，受到领导和有关部门的肯定和鼓励，普遍认为这是把嘉庚精神融入正常教学活动一条行之有效的路子。

陈嘉庚是中华民族历史上伟大的爱国者，伟大的教育事业家。集美大学是陈嘉庚的世纪之梦。集美大学以嘉庚精神立校，以诚毅品格树人。嘉庚精神是集美大学学生的必修课。用英语讲述陈嘉庚和嘉庚精神也就成了许多学生的必然要求和企望。

陈嘉庚的一生是波澜壮阔的一生。他经历过中国近、现代史中几个最重要的年代，直接投身于其中最重要的革命斗争和进步事业，和各个时期最杰出的代表人物都有过直接的接触；他生于中国，在海外生活、奋斗几十年，深谙中西文化，了解各自的短长；他经营商业、种植业、制造业、航运业；他办教育、从事社会活动，参与政治斗争和国家管理，涉足社会、经济、政治等多个领域；他是南洋屈指可数的大富翁，可又过着和黎民百姓一样简朴恬淡的生活；他曾是拥有数万员工的企业王国的统领，又曾为国受追捕、过着逃难者的匿居生活；他把巨额的家资全部捐出，兴办教育，却不遗分文给子孙……他丰富多彩的人生为本书提供了作为基础英语教材所应包容的广阔而不艰深、既有教育意义又有趣味性的选材内容。

本书的编写是“嘉庚精神进英语课堂”的重要组成部分。全书包含《传略》、《故事》、《著述》、《旅游胜地》、《集美学村》五部分。书中各部分集中了国内外陈嘉庚研究界多年的研究成果。书中《故事》部分，取材于有关陈嘉庚的专著和文章，以杨进发的《华侨传奇人物陈嘉庚》和陈国庆所著的《回忆我的父亲陈嘉庚》为主。杨教授和陈先生对本书的编写给予了宝贵的支持。谨此表示

衷心的感谢。

本书由集美大学外国语学院和集大诚毅学院外语教研室联合策划、组织编写、试用，除署名的编者外，许多教师参加了全过程的工作。陈嘉庚先生的嫡孙陈立人先生校阅了部分文稿。美籍教师 **Ralph Todd** 审校了全文。集美大学和集大诚毅学院的领导和有关部门的负责人、集美陈嘉庚研究会、集美学校委员会、集美校友会、陈嘉庚纪念馆都给予鼓励、支持和帮助。特表示感谢。

本书编者要特别感谢资深的陈嘉庚研究专家陈毅明教授，感谢她对本书的编写、出版的关心、指导和卓有成效的帮助。

欢迎批评指正；欢迎对本书提出建议和要求。

愿本教材能为传承嘉庚精神，发扬集美学校传统发挥一点作用。

编 者

2008 年 12 月

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# **Part I**

## **Biography**





# 1. A Brief Biography of Chen Jiageng (I)

## 陈嘉庚传略（一）



In the context of Asia's awakening during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the people of China, arriving at a critical stage of their socio-political development, were soon to discover that much of the country's future depended on the hopes and dreams of their intrepid fellowmen who braved dangers and hardships to seek a brighter future outside the shores of their homeland. This period heralds the Era of the Overseas Chinese, whose rich history is made even more profound by the greatness of one man—Chen Jiageng (Tan Kah Kee).

Throughout his long and productive life, this remarkable businessman, who built a fortune in South East Asia and remitted it to China to assist in education, famine and wartime relief, had many lessons to teach. Armed with wisdom, foresight and courage, Tan Kah Kee used his wealth and influence to fight corruption, feudalism and foreign invasion in a period of widespread unrest. Always guided by a deep sense of justice, humility and humanitarianism, he was unwavering in fostering his vision for a better China, utilizing his energies and outstanding leadership capability to wake up a slumbering populace. Though his contributions to his hometown are legendary, it was his deep devotion to his motherland, and his wish for a strong and united China that could stand proudly amongst equals, that are being celebrated throughout the nation today, and for generations to come.

—Preface to Chen Jiageng Memorial Museum

Chen Jiageng was born in 1874 in Jimei, a poverty-stricken fishing village near Xiamen. As a small boy, he went shell-fishing and did farm work. At the age of 9, he went to a private school where he was taught Chinese classics and received

traditional moral education. Chen's mother was a kind and generous woman who once contributed all her savings, 400 silver dollars, to settle a clan conflict, and so enjoyed great prestige among the villagers. Mother's deeds helped to cultivate in Chen Jiageng a deep sense of responsibility for the community.

In 1890, the 17-year-old Chen Jiageng bade farewell to his mother and his 2-year-old brother to join his father in Singapore. He worked as an apprentice in his father's rice shop. That was the beginning of his business career, and his first appearance in industrial circle.

In the 13 years between 1890 and 1903, he returned to his hometown Jimei three times. When he saw that half of the people in his home village had either died or emigrated as a result of plague, famine and clan-fighting, he was filled with a strong desire to do something for his kinsfolk.

In 1903 he went to Singapore again. He was surprised to find that his father's business had gone bankrupt. In spite of the financial difficulties he faced, Chen Jiageng committed himself to paying back the debts of 25,000 dollars his father owed. That was something extraordinary in Singapore as a son had no obligation to pay any debt for the father according to the law there. After three years of independent and shrewd management, Chen Jiageng made a profit and paid the debts as he had promised, which won him a good reputation as a man worthy of trust.

By 1909, Chen Jiageng had made a profit of 73,000 dollars from his business in boiled rice, rubber and real estates and had a remaining sum of 45,000 dollars after making donations for public welfare.

In 1910 he joined the United League led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, to whom he later gave financial support when Dr. Sun assumed office as interim president of the newly-born Chinese Republic in Nanjing. He also raised funds for the Fujian Revolutionary Government for peace-keeping after the 1911 Revolution. Gradually he became one of the recognized leaders of the Chinese community in Singapore, directly participating in politics as well as public welfare work.

From 1913 to 1931, Chen Jiageng became an industrial giant with a wealth of tens of millions of dollars, his extensive business contributing greatly to the

economy of Singapore, and of Malaya in general. Meanwhile, he realized that education was the foundation of a nation and running school was the duty of a citizen. He set up 10 schools successively in Jimei, from kindergarten, primary school and middle school to vocational schools of navigation, finance, industry and others. His crowning achievement was the establishment of Xiamen University. In addition he gave financial support to 78 primary and secondary schools in 20 counties and cities in Fujian Province. In Singapore, he raised funds and founded the Nanyang Overseas Chinese Secondary School, and helped finance a number of other Chinese schools. He also planned to turn the vocational schools in Jimei into a university, which he named Jimei University. In 1923, Chen Jiageng became the chancellor of Ee Hoe Hean Club which he managed to turn into a socio-political base for overseas Chinese in Singapore. In 1919 he was elected chairman of Hokkien Hui Kuan, which played a significant role in his leadership over the Chinese in Southeast Asia in general.



Chen addressing the NPC

Far-sighted, resolute and courageous, Chen Jiageng turned out to be a great success in industry. Honest, loving and generous, he became an outstanding organizer. Unlike many other wealthy people, Chen Jiageng denied himself luxuries, and cherished the lofty idea that money “made from society should be returned to society at large”. Therefore, he made donations, and encouraged others to do the same, to social welfare, chiefly to educational undertakings. His noble ideas and respectable personality made him a great leader that enjoyed the support of the majority of overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia.

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**Notes:**

1) In this book “silver dollar” refers to 銀圓, C\$ stands for Chinese dallors (國幣), SS\$ is the abriviation for

Straits Settlement dollar (叻币) and yuan, or RMB¥ refers to 人民币元. The word dollar or the symbol \$ does appear in some places as a result of Chen Jiageng's habitual usage; it can refer to C\$ or S\$ depending on the context.

- 2) In this book, the names of the Chinese are given in *pinyin* with only such exception as Dr. Sun Yat-sen; for those overseas, their original spelling and the Chinese characters are given in the brackets in their first appearances. For the constitutions overseas, their English names are kept as they are, and their Chinese names are given in the part of *Proper Names*.

\*\*\*\*\*

## New Words

critical ['krɪtɪkəl] *a.* 关键的, 危急的  
intrepid [ɪn'trepɪd] *a.* 无畏的, 勇猛的  
fellowman ['feləʊ'mæn] *n.* 国人  
herald ['herəld] *v.* 预示.....的来临  
profound [prə'faʊnd] *a.* 深刻的  
remit [rɪ'mɪt] *v.* 汇款  
famine ['fæmɪn] *n.* 饥荒  
relief [rɪ'li:f] *n.* 救济  
corruption [kə'rʌpʃən] *n.* 腐败  
feudalism ['fju:dəlɪzəm] *n.* 封建主义  
humanitarianism [hju:mənɪ'teərɪənɪz(ə)m]  
*n.* 人道主义  
unwavering [ʌn'weɪvərɪŋ] *a.* 不动摇的  
foster ['fɒstə] *v.* 培养, 养育  
slumber ['slʌmbə] *v.* 睡眠  
populace ['pɒpjʊləs] *n.* 平民, 大众  
legendary ['ledʒəndəri] *a.* 传说的, 传奇的  
equal ['i:kwəl] *a. & n.* 相同的 (人或事)  
celebrate ['selɪbreɪt] *v.* 庆祝, 歌颂  
contribute [kən'trɪbjʊ:t] *v.* 捐助, 贡献

poverty-stricken *adj.* 非常贫穷的  
clan [klæn] *n.* 氏族, 宗族  
prestige [pres'ti:ʒ] *n.* 威望, 声望  
farewell ['feə'wel] *a. & n.* 告别 (的)  
apprentice [ə'prentɪs] *n.* 学徒; *v.* (使)  
当学徒  
emigrate ['emɪgreɪt] *v.* 外移, 移民  
plague [pleɪg] *n.* 瘟疫, 灾祸  
kinsfolk ['kɪnzfəʊk] *n.* 亲属, 血族  
bankrupt ['bæŋkrʌpt] *a.* 破产的; *n.* 破产者  
extraordinary [ɪks'trɔ:dɪnəri] *a.* 非常的,  
特别的  
obligation [ˌɒblɪ'geɪʃən] *n.* 义务, 责任  
reputation [ˌrepjʊ(:)'teɪʃən] *n.* 名誉, 名声  
donation [dəʊ'neɪʃən] *n.* 捐赠物, 捐款  
assume [ə'sju:m] *vt.* 担任, 假定, 设想  
kindergarten ['kɪndəˌɡɑ:tɪn] *n.* 幼儿园  
vocational [vəʊ'keɪʃənəl] *a.* 职业的  
navigation [ˌnævɪ'geɪʃən] *n.* 航行, 航海  
crowning ['kraʊnɪŋ] *adj.* 最高的, 无比的

chancellor ['tʃɑːnsələ] *n.* 总理, 大臣, 秘书  
resolute ['rezəlu:t] *a.* 坚决的, 果断的  
courageous [kə'reɪdʒəs] *a.* 勇敢的  
luxury ['lʌkʃəri] *n.* 奢侈品

lofty ['lɒ(:)ftɪ] *adj.* 高高的, 崇高的  
cherish ['tʃerɪʃ] *v.* 珍爱, 珍藏  
personality [ˌpɜːsə'nælɪtɪ] *n.* 个性, 人格

## Phrases and Expressions

bid farewell to sb 向某人告别

in spite of 尽管, 不顾

commit to 承诺

turn into 成为, 变成

turn out 证明是, 生产

## Proper Names

Singapore [ˌsɪŋgə'pɔː] 新加坡

United League (also Tung Meng Hui) 同盟会

interim president 临时大总统

Chinese Republic 中华民国

Fujian Revolutionary Government 福建革命政府

The Chinese community in Singapore 新加坡华人社会

Malaya [mə'leɪə] 马来亚, 马来半岛

Xiamen University 厦门大学

Nanyang Overseas Chinese Secondary School 南洋华侨中学

Ee Hoe Hean Club 怡和轩俱乐部

Hokkien Hui Kuan (Fujianese Association) 福建会馆

Southeast Asia 东南亚

## Exercises

### I. Complete the following sentences with information given in the passage.

1. Chen Jiageng's mother was a kind and generous woman who helped to cultivate Chen's \_\_\_\_\_ for the community.



2. Chen Jiageng gave Dr. Sun Yat-sen financial support when Dr. Sun assumed office as \_\_\_\_\_ in Nanjing.
3. From 1913 to 1931, Chen Jiageng became a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ with a wealth of tens of millions of dollars, his extensive business making great contribution to the economy of Singapore, and of Malaya in general.
4. Unlike many other wealthy people, Chen Jiageng denied himself luxuries, and cherished the idea that money \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Chen Jiageng can be summed up as a man with such noble qualities as \_\_\_\_\_.

**II. Translate the following paragraph into Chinese.**

Throughout his long and productive life, this remarkable businessman, who built a fortune in South East Asia and remitted it to China to assist in education, famine and wartime relief, had many lessons to teach. Armed with wisdom, foresight and courage, Tan Kah Kee used his wealth and influence to fight corruption, feudalism and foreign invasion in a period of widespread unrest. Always guided by a deep sense of justice, humility and humanitarianism, he was unwavering in fostering his vision for a better China, utilizing his energies and outstanding leadership capability to wake up a slumbering populace. Though his contributions to his hometown are legendary, it was his deep devotion to his motherland, and his wish for a strong and united China that could stand proudly amongst equals, that are being celebrated throughout the nation today, and for generations to come.

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## 2. A Brief Biography of Chen Jiageng (II)

### 陈嘉庚传略（二）



In 1932, Chen Jiageng became the leader of the overseas Chinese community in Singapore. However, hard hit by the Great Depression world wide and attacked by the British banking groups, his business, the world-famous Tan Kah Kee & Co., had to be liquidated in 1934.

Failure in business did not diminish Chen Jiageng's zeal to work for his motherland and the local community. In 1938, a year after the outbreak of the Anti-Japanese War, he helped to organize the Federation of China Relief Funds of Southern Asia (FCRFSA) and was elected chairman. He successfully mobilized the overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia for national salvation and raised a substantial sum for China's war effort. Chen Jiageng did his utmost to persuade the Kuomintang and the Communist Party to join hands in fighting against the Japanese aggression. On October 28, 1938, Chen Jiageng sent a cable motion to the National Political Council (NPC) of which he was a member. It read "to discuss making peace before the enemy has been driven out of our soil is treason" which dealt a heavy blow to the capitulationist group headed by Wang Jingwei who was then the chairman of NPC. Zou Taofen, a noted political commentator, spoke highly of it as "the greatest motion ever known in China or even in the whole world". Chen Jiageng led the overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia in making efforts for the national salvation of China, which has gone down into history as a great event.

In 1940, Chen Jiageng personally took the Comfort Mission to China, visiting Chongqing, Yan'an and other places. In the KMT-ruled areas, he saw corruption, slackness in war efforts and the deep sufferings of the people, while in Yan'an, what