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尹邦彦 编注
尹海波



中国历代名人名言

双语对照

A Collection of Chinese Maxims

双语对照本





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前言

中国历代先圣时贤、名士俊杰的著述中广纳着极丰富的隽语箴言，是“蒸馏过的人生”，是人类语言文化银河中璀璨的宝珠，闪烁着人生智慧的光芒。这些“胸藏万斛珠玑，腹隐无边锦绣”的箴言隽语，巧譬妙喻，明理析奥，以其思维美、内容美、语言美一向为人们激赏和传诵。哲理性的千古名言是一股崇高的精神力量，犹如暮鼓晨钟，实能振聋发聩，启人深思。

编写这样一部汉英对照之书稿的想法也酝酿多年了，我们用“狮子搏兔，用尽全力”的精神从事这项工作。但愿本书能使读者品味中华传统文化的精深充盈，体味前贤时隽内心的所思、所想与抱负，能使翻译爱好者在欣赏和研议佳译的“信、达、雅”时，“若披惠风，若饮甘露”。

本书系一部既供阅读又可检索的熔哲理性、知识性、简明性、实用性、鉴赏性于一炉的参考书，因此对条目的收录严格坚持思想标准和艺术标准相结合的原则。“群言百家，不可胜览；耳目所爱，不可胜载。”本书精选条目一千一百余则，按其内容性质分以下七大类：1. 论励志（含报国、信仰等内容）；2. 论为政（含军事、法律、人才等内容）；3. 论为学（含教学、惜时、文论等内容）；4. 论修身（含劝世、诚信、戒奢等内容）；5. 论感情（含咏物、恋爱、婚姻、心态等内容）；6. 论世态（含社交、人生历程、善恶等内容）；7. 论哲理（含益智、辩证、认知等内容）。一事兼类，时常有之，但也只能从属一类。所收条目的体裁亦体现了多样化，其中有典籍、古典小说、现当代小说、散文、诗歌、对联、演讲、书信、题词等。每则条目均有出处，标示朝代（清代以后的作者不注）、作者、书名或篇名，唯五经与先秦诸子，则省标作者，而秦朝以前的朝代一律标示先秦。为节省篇幅，凡条目为诗文或对联

的,则接排,中间用斜线“/”分隔。有些典籍中难懂晦涩的字句的语意配以注释,还对部分条目的历史背景和文化信息予以解释,乃至对其时代意义进行分析,主要方便青年读者或那些以汉语作为外国语的读者。这方面的工作得益于历代有关的权威著作,间有一得之愚献给读者,如能给诸君带来启发,则诚然不胜欣慰。英文译文大多援引国内外正式出版的译本,对其中少数译文则进行改译,也有部分译文系自译。书后有详尽的参考书目,其中英文译作附有译者的姓名。在本书出版前夕谨向有关作者、译者表示万分的感谢。书中,有相当数量给人以鼓舞,又常让人掩卷深思的精彩条目乃是首次入编辞书。

本书在酝酿和编纂的过程中承蒙译林出版社前社长章祖德先生、总编辑刘锋先生的指点和帮助,对他们表示深深的谢意。衷心感谢何重玲女士和陈娟女士在借阅图书资料、校对书稿、料理编务等方面的支持,感谢镇江斯科勒翻译公司尹红女士在精心录排书稿中所付出的努力。还当感谢江苏科技大学科技处为本书编写提供了科研经费,同时感谢校、院有关领导的关心和鼓励。书稿虽经多次修改,但限于水平,难免出现失误、不当的地方,还望广大读者加以批评、斧正。

尹邦彦 尹海波

2007年9月

编注者声明

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谨此谢忱!

尹邦彦 尹海波



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On Aspiration

论励志



天行健,君子以自强不息。

(先秦)(《周易·乾》)

Heaven moves constantly, likewise, the gentleman makes untiring efforts to strengthen himself.

(根据傅惠生译 *The Zhou Book of Change* 改译)

注:系中国传统文化最富代表性的精神所在,也是孔子的座右铭。

大道之行也,天下为公。

(先秦)(《礼记·礼运》)

When the way of the sages prevails, a public and common spirit will rule all under the sky.

(自译^①)

注:“天下为公”是孙中山先生最爱题写的四个大字,也体现了孙先生终生为之奋斗的伟大抱负。

敖不可长,欲不可从,志不可满,乐不可极。

(先秦)(《礼记·曲礼》)

Pride must be curbed, desires must be restrained, complacency must be guarded against, and pleasures must not be indulged in without restraint.

(安增才译)

注:敖通“傲”,即傲慢。长,意为滋长。从通“纵”,即放纵。

古之欲明明德于天下者,先治其国;欲治其国者,先齐其家;欲齐其家者,先修其身。

(先秦)(《礼记·大学·圣经章》)

The ancients who wished to illustrate illustrious virtue throughout the empire, first ordered well their own states. Wishing to order well their states, they first regulated their families. Wishing to regulate their families, they first cultivated their persons.

(James Legge 译)

注:这段话中的各项不是“一条鞭”式的并列关系,而是一种条件式的蕴涵关系。

① 本书中凡标明“自译”的条目,均为编者所译。

择任而往，知也；知死不辟，勇也。

（先秦）（《左传·昭公二十年》）

To select one's duty to be performed is wise. Knowing clearly that one faces death and not avoiding it is valor.

（胡志挥译）

注：知与“智”通义，辟与“避”通义。

朝闻道，夕死可矣！

（先秦）（《论语·里仁》）

If I could discover Tao in the morning, let death come to me that very night.

（英译采自《钱锺书英文文集》）

注：表达了作者对知识、信仰或真理的执着追求。凡成大事者，不但需有智慧，而且需有大无畏精神，甚至能够笑对死亡。

博学而笃志，切问而近思。

（先秦）（《论语·子张》）

One who studies widely and with set purpose, who questions earnestly, then thinks for himself about what he has heard.

（Arthur Waley 译）

注：复旦大学用此作为校训。

三军可夺帅也，匹夫不可夺志也。

（先秦）（《论语·子罕》）

The commander of the forces of a large state may be carried off, but the will of a common man cannot be taken from him.

（James Legge 译）

不义而富且贵，于我如浮云。

（先秦）（《论语·述而》）

For me, the riches and honors acquired not according to moral righteousness are as empty as floating clouds.

（根据王福林译 *The Analects of Confucius* 改译）

士不可以不弘毅，任重而道远。

(先秦)(《论语·泰伯》)

A scholar can not but be broad-shouldered and stout of heart because his burden is heavy and his road ahead is long.

(根据王福林译 *The Analects of Confucius* 改译)

仰不愧于天，俯不忤于人。

(先秦)(《孟子·尽心上》)

He has done nothing to feel ashamed of himself when facing Heaven or people.

(赵甄陶等译)

人有不为也，而后可以有为。

(先秦)(《孟子·离娄下》)

Only if a man knows what is not to be done, will he succeed in doing what is to be done.

(赵甄陶等译)

生亦我所欲也，义亦我所欲也；二者不可得兼，舍生而取义者也。

(先秦)(《孟子·告子上》)

I love life, but I also love righteousness; but if I cannot keep them both, I would give up life and choose righteousness.

(辜鸿铭译)

人不可以无耻，无耻之耻，无耻矣。

(先秦)(《孟子·尽心上》)

A man may not be without a sense of shame. It will be indeed a shame when he is ashamed of having been without shame.

(自译)

天将降大任于斯人也,必先苦其心志,劳其筋骨,饿其体肤,空乏其身,行拂乱其所为,所以动心忍性,增益其所不能。

(先秦)(《孟子·告子下》)

When Heaven intends to place a significant responsibility upon a man, it will first make him suffer in his heart and mind, toughen his sinews and bones with toil, expose his body to utter hunger and subject him to poverty, difficulties and all types of tests, and thereby stimulate his mind, strengthen his character and develop his capabilities.

(根据赵甄陶等译 Mencius 改译)

穷则独善其身,达则兼济天下。

(先秦)(《孟子·尽心上》)

When poor, scholars should better their own condition; when advanced to dignity, they should better the condition of the whole empire as well.

(根据赵甄陶等译 Mencius 改译)

老吾老,以及人之老,幼吾幼,以及人之幼。

(先秦)(《孟子·梁惠王上》)

Respecting my own elders, and extending this respect to the elders of others; caring for my own children, and extending this care to the children of others.

(英译采自乐黛云 *Comparative Literature and China*)

注:家庭是创立和谐之美的重要构件。

道虽迩,不行不至;事虽小,不为不成。

(先秦)(《荀子·修身》)

Though the Way is near, if you do not travel along it, you will not reach the end. Though the task is small, if it is not acted upon, it will not be completed.

(John Knoblock 译)

注:知行统一至关重要。



上士闻道，勤而行之；……夫惟道，善貸且成。

(先秦)(《老子·四十一章》)

When the man of highest capacities hears Tao, he does his best to put it into practice.... Yet Tao alone supports all things and brings them to fulfillment.

(Arthur Waley 译)

哀莫大于心死，而人死亦次之。

(先秦)(《庄子·田子方》)

Nothing is more lamentable than the death of your mind; even the death of your body is of secondary importance.

(根据汪榕培译 Zhuangzi 改译)

注：此处强调“养心”的重要性，后指丧失理想和信心是最大的悲哀。

志强而气弱，故足于谋而寡于断。

(先秦)(《列子·汤问》)

You are strong in mind but weak in disposition, therefore you are good at planning but irresolute.

(梁晓鹏译)

志不强者智不达，言不信者行不果。

(先秦)(《墨子·修身》)

He who does not have a strong will can hardly have high intelligence; he who does not keep his promise can hardly act resolutely.

(汪榕培、王宏译)

仁人之所以为事者，必兴天下之利，除天下之害，以此为事者也。

(先秦)(《墨子·兼爱中》)

The cause men of virtue dedicate themselves to is definitely to promote the benefits of the world and to eliminate their harms. That is their cause.

(刘晓洁译)

夫义，天下之大器也，何以视人？必强为之。

(先秦)(《墨子·公益》)

Righteousness is the noblest character under heaven. No matter what others do, you yourself should try hard to seek for and practice it.

(刘晓洁译)

志之难也，不在胜人，在自胜。

(先秦)(《韩非子·喻老》)

The difficulty of exercising the will lies not in vanquishing others, but in vanquishing oneself.

(自译)

石可破也，而不可夺坚；丹可磨也，而不可夺赤。

(先秦)(《吕氏春秋·诚廉》)

Stone can be broken. However, it will not lose its rigidity. Vermilion can be granulated. However, it will still be red.

(翟江月译)

天下大乱，无有安国；一国尽乱，无有安家；一家皆乱，无有安身。

(先秦)(《吕氏春秋·务大》)

If the whole world is in chaos, no single state will be safe; if the whole state is in chaos, no single fief will be safe; if the whole fief is in chaos, no single person will be safe.

(翟江月译)

注：一个人情系家国，心虑天下的兴衰，才能有所作为。

师出之日，有死之荣，无生之辱。

(先秦)(《吴子·论将第四》)

On the day the army departs he has in mind the glory of death and not the shame of living.

(潘嘉玢译)



欲变节以从俗兮，/ 愧易初而屈志。

(先秦)(屈原:《九章·思美人》)

If I should follow vulgar ways, oh! / How could I change my mind of former days?

(许渊冲译)

注:反映作者决不肯从俗变节的坚定志趣。

何方圆之能周兮，/ 夫孰异道而相安。

(先秦)(屈原:《离骚》)

The round cannot fit with the square, oh! / Who go different ways ne'er meet.

(许渊冲译)

注:此句以方和圆不能相互配合,喻指自己有坚韧不拔之志。

路漫漫其修远兮，/ 吾将上下而求索。

(先秦)(屈原:《离骚》)

The way was long, and wrapped in gloom did seem, / As I urged on to seek my vanished dream.

(杨宪益、戴乃迭译)

少壮不努力，/ 老大徒伤悲。

(汉)(《乐府·长歌行》)

If one does not work hard when young, / He will ask for misery when old.

(自译)

大风起兮云飞扬。/ 威加海内兮归故乡。/ 安得猛士兮守四方。

(汉)(刘邦:《大风歌》)

A great wind came forth, / The clouds rose on high. / Now that my might rules all within the seas, / I have returned to my old village. / Where will I find brave men / To guard the four corners of my land?

(B. Watson 译)

匈奴未灭，无以家为也。

(汉)(霍去病，转引自司马迁《史记·卫将军骠骑列传》)

While enemy Huns have not yet been wiped out, why should I hasten to get married?

(自译)

临渊羡鱼，不如退而结网。

(汉)(董仲舒：《元光之年举贤良对策》)

Better go back and make a net than long for the fish by merely staring into the water.

(自译)

注：喻指要达到某个目的，就必须付诸实际行动。

燕雀安知鸿鹄之志哉！

(汉)(司马迁：《史记·陈涉世家》)

How can swallows and sparrows know the ambition of the swan?

(自译)

注：鸿鹄，天鹅。因为天鹅飞得很高，此句常用来比喻胸怀大志的人。

人固有一死，或重于泰山，或轻于鸿毛。

(汉)(司马迁：《报任少卿书》)

Though death befalls all men alike, it may be weightier than Mount Tai or lighter than a feather.

(英译采自 Selected Works of Mao Tsetung, vol. 3)

此鸟不飞则已，一飞冲天；不鸣则已，一鸣惊人。

(汉)(司马迁：《史记·滑稽列传》)

The bird may not have flown yet, once it does, it will soar to the sky. It may not have cried out yet, but once it does it will startle everyone.

(杨宪益、戴乃迭译)



知死必勇，非死者难也，处死者难。

(汉)(司马迁：《史记·廉颇蔺相如列传》)

A man who knows he must die acts courageously, for it is not hard to die, only hard to face death.

(杨宪益、戴乃迭译)

夫功者难成而易败，时者难得而易失也。

(汉)(司马迁：《史记·淮阴侯列传》)

Distinction is hard to achieve, easy to mar; opportunities are hard to find, easy to let slip.

(杨宪益、戴乃迭译)

有非常之人，然后有非常之事；有非常之事，然后有非常之功。

(汉)(班固：《汉书·司马相如传》)

The remarkable things come after the remarkable people; the remarkable achievements come after the remarkable things.

(自译)

士不以利移，不为患改。

(汉)(刘向：《说苑·说丛》)

A man of honour never changes his aspiration for profits nor wavers in the face of perils.

(自译)

不自强而成功者，天下未之有也。

(汉)(刘安：《淮南子》)

The world has witnessed no one who succeeds without making continuous efforts.

(佚名译)