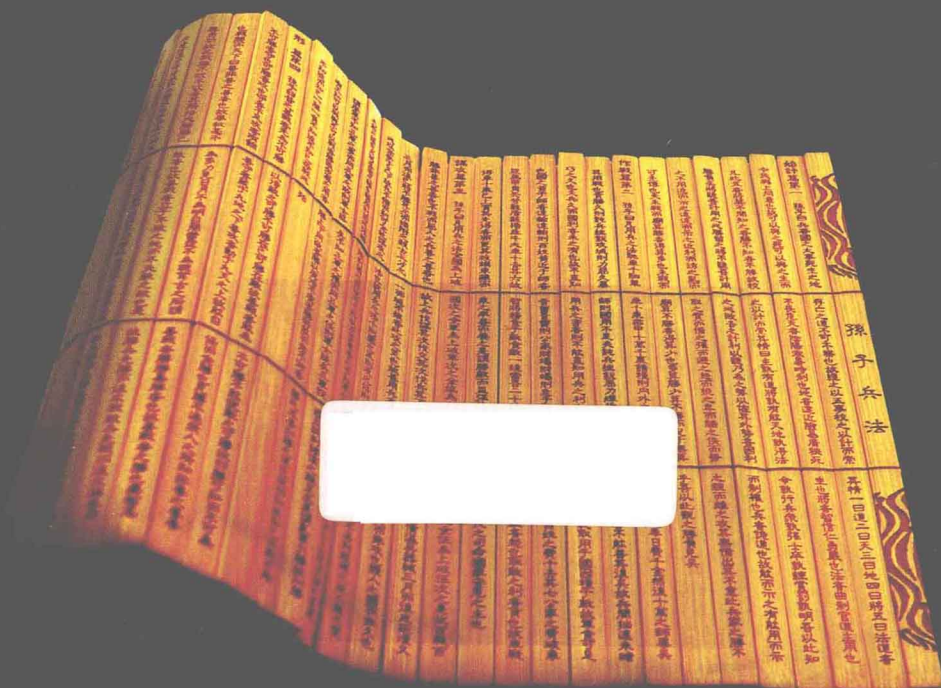


Ancient Books on the Art of War

古代兵书

王慧◎ 编著





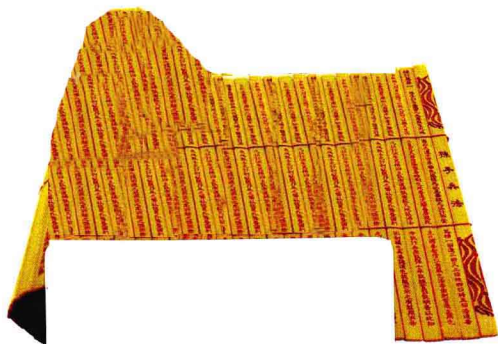
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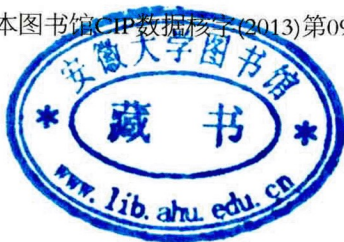
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中国古代战争频繁，自上古时代起就不断发生战争。封建制确立之后，政权不断更迭，战争更是此起彼伏。而中国历代总结战争经验的兵书更是卷帙浩繁。历代兵书中所蕴含的内容博大精深，书中所体现的以仁为本的战争观、“知彼知己，百战不殆”的战争指导思

Since ancient times, China has witnessed consecutive and frequent wars and conflicts. With the establishment of feudalism, the war appeared to be more common due to the regime change. Meanwhile, numerous ancient canons and books on the art of war also emerged from the turmoil, in which the profound content, the kindness



想、“不战而屈人之兵”的“全胜”战略、因势用兵的作战思想和选贤任能的用将之道……共同构成了中国古代军事思想的主要内容。《孙子兵法》、《吴子兵法》、《孙臆兵法》、《武经总要》、《武备志》等著名兵书，更是为世界各地的军事家所推崇，在世界军事理论史上占据着重要的地位。

本书介绍了中国历代兵书的主要内容，简要阐述了其中所蕴含的主要军事思想，同时结合历史战役，生动形象地展示了博大精深的中国古代军事思想，向读者展现了一个充满智谋的军事天地。

oriented concept, the guiding thought of knowing the enemy and yourself, the win-win strategy of forcing enemy to retreat without a fight, the idea of deploying army according to different situation and the method of choosing appropriate officers... all make up the major content of ancient Chinese military theory. Many prestigious military canons, including *Master Sun's Art of War*, by Sun Wu, *Master Wu's Art of War*, by Wu Qi, *Sun Bin's Art of War*, by Sun Bin, *Main Points in Military Theory*, by Zeng Gongliang and Ding Du, and *Book of Military Theory*, by Mao Yuanyi, and etc., are held in considerable esteem by strategist worldwide and occupy important position in the world military theory history.

This book introduces the major theory of ancient Chinese books on art of war and briefly explains the major military thought reflected. And with the demonstration of several famous ancient battles, it exhibits the audience the extensiveness and profoundness of Chinese military theory and lively battle fields which are full of wisdom and scheme.



兵书的起源

Origin of the Books on the Art of War 001

早期的干戈记事

Early Records on Wars 002

最早的兵书

Earliest Books on the Art of War 008



历代兵书

Books on the Art of War Through History 017

《孙子兵法》

Master Sun's Art of War 018

《吴子兵法》

Master Wu's Art of War 026

《司马法》

Official Sima's Art of War 034

《孙臆兵法》

Sun Bin's Art of War 042

《六韬》

Six Strategies 050

《尉缭子》

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兵书的起源

Origin of the Books on the Art of War

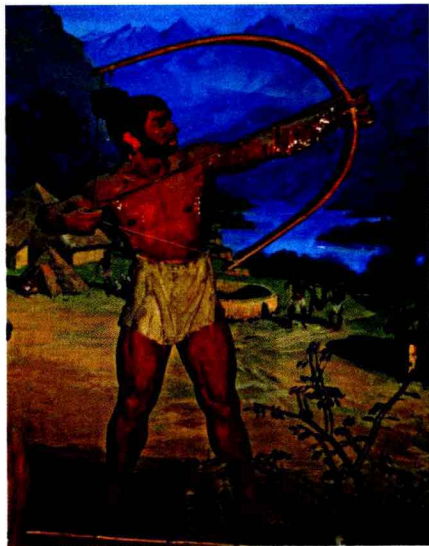
兵书是中国古代军事著作的总称，是对古代军事斗争经验的总结。兵书的产生和其他社会事物一样，是社会发展到一定阶段的产物。在正式的兵书诞生之前，甲骨文、金文中便有了许多关于中国古代战争的记载。在此基础上，春秋战国时期产生了中国历史上最早的兵书《军志》和《军政》。

The books on the art of war is a general term of ancient Chinese military canons, also the conclusion of the experience on ancient military battles. Similar to other social matters, its origin is the product of the development of society. Before the birth of formal books on the art of war, there are many inscriptions on bones, tortoise shells or bronze articles record the ancient Chinese wars. Based on that, the earliest relevant books, *Military Strategy* and *Military Theory* appeared in the Spring and Autumn Period (770 B.C.–476 B.C.) and Warring States Period (475 B.C.–221 B.C.).



> 早期的干戈记事

在古代，由于人类的生产力低下，只有在肥沃的土地上及水域周围才能生存下去。而这样的地带又是有限的，所以便通过战争来获取



• 原始人始用兵器

Weapon Used by Ancient People

> Early Records on Wars

In ancient times, owing to the low productivity, people could only survive on the fertile soil and along the riverside. However, such area was rare and limited. So the ancient ancestor would try to obtain the fertile soil through wars and then hunt, fish and plant on these lands, which was the most primary surviving method. As it were, the war has come into being ever since the appearance of human beings.

The earliest record on wars can be found in the inscriptions on bones or tortoise shells, including Shang's attack towards the Zhou Tribe and the King of Shang's military strategies, etc.

From the establishment of the Western Zhou Dynasty (1046 B.C.-771 B.C.) to its collapse witnessed by King You of the Zhou Dynasty in 771 B.C., this country had been through many



• 利簋

簋是中国古代用于盛放饭食的器皿。利簋又称“武王征商簋”，高28厘米，器内的底面铸有4行铭文，共32字，主要记述的是“武王伐纣”的故事。

Li Gui

Gui, is a type of food vessel in ancient China. *Li Gui*, also called *Gui* of King Wu's War Declared on Shang, with a height of 28 cm and four lines of inscriptions, totally 32 Chinese characters, at its interior bottom, which records the story of King Wu's War Declared on King Zhou.



肥沃的土地，进而在这些土地上狩猎、捕鱼、耕种，这是早期人类最基本的生存方式。可以说，从有人类开始便有了战争。

中国最早关于战争的记载可以在甲骨文上找到，例如关于商王令军队去进攻周族的记载、关于商王率军布阵打仗的记载等。

公元前11世纪，西周王朝建立，直到公元前771年周幽王丧国，期间经历了许多著名的战争。这一时期，中国的青铜器铸造非常兴盛，人们开始在铜器上用金文记录战争。

记录战争的金文以利簋铭文最为著名。利簋铭文所记载的内容大致为：一天清晨，天还没有亮，周

famous battles and wars. In this period, due to the blooming of the production of bronze articles, people started to record the wars in the inscriptions on the bronze articles.

The most famous bronze ware inscription about the battle is the one on *Li Gui* (a round-mouthed food vessel with two or four loop handles), which is quoted as: one day in the morning, when the day was still dark, King Wu of State Zhou sent the army to attack Shang's city and defeated the fatuous King of Shang Dynasty, Zhou. It was one of the most prestigious battles in Chinese history, called Battle of Muye. In the late Shang Dynasty (1600 B.C.-1046 B.C.), King Wu led his army and arrived at Muye (today's southwest area of Qi County of



• 牧野之战 (图片提供: 微图)
Battle of Muye

武王便派遣军队征讨商朝，并且战胜了昏庸的商王。这段记述描写的是中国历史上最著名的战役之一——牧野之战。在商朝末年，周武王率军进抵牧野（今河南淇县西南），商纣王派守卫国都的军队及临时强迫征来的大批奴隶迎战。武王严阵誓师，激励部众斗志，而纣王阵中的奴隶却纷纷倒戈。武王乘胜追击，商军大败，纣王逃回朝歌，随后自焚。武王占领了商都，灭亡了商朝（前1600—前1046），结束了商纣王昏庸的统治。

Henan Province), while King Zhou of the Shang Dynasty was forced to summon the city defending troop and bunches of slaves to resist the attack. King Wu took a mass pledge at the front and inspired his followers. On the other hand, King Zhou's slave soldiers defected one after another. King Wu chased Shang's troop in the field and King Zhou fled back to his city Zhaohe and burned himself in his own courtyard. King Wu took the city and declared the end of the Shang Dynasty and the tyranny of the King Zhou.

甲骨文与金文

甲骨文是商周时期刻在龟甲、兽骨上的文字，是中国早期的象形文字，图画性比较强，现今共发现有4500字左右。

金文，又称“铭文”，是铸刻在商周青铜器上的文字。金文大都是铸出来的（少数是刻），一般铸于青铜器之上。西周时期的钟、鼎、乐器、食器、兵器等青铜器上，可以见到精美的铭文，所以金文又有“钟鼎文”之称。

Bone Inscriptions and Bronze Ware Inscriptions

Bone inscriptions indicate the primitive characters carved on tortoise shells and animal bones in the Shang and Zhou dynasties(1600 B.C.-256 B.C.). It is the early hieroglyphics in China with a strong graphic feature. So far, there are about 4,500 characters found in total.

Bronze ware inscriptions, also called epigraph, indicate the characters carved on bronze ware. The most of them were cast out of its mould and only seldom were carved out. They mainly appear on the bronze ware of the Shang and Zhou dynasties(1600 B.C.-256 B.C.), including bell (*Zhong*), *Ding* (ancient cooking vessel), musical instruments, food vessels, weapons and etc., in the Western Zhou Dynasty (1046 B.C.-771 B.C.). So it is also called *Zhongding* Inscriptions.



• 刻在兽骨上的甲骨文
 Bone Inscriptions on the
 Animal Bone



• 西周史墙盘铭文拓片
 Rubbing of Bronze Plate Inscriptions
 Produced by Official Historian Qiang
 (Western Zhou Dynasty, 1046 B.C.-
 771 B.C.)



青铜器过伯簋上的铭文记录了周昭王南征之战。过伯簋约铸于周昭王十六年（前980），系方座簋，高18.4厘米，器内铸铭文16字，记载了过伯随周昭王攻伐荆楚的史实。周昭王十六年（前980），昭王率领众将进攻南方的荆楚（今湖北）。荆楚等诸侯国和族军在汉水南岸布设防御工事，想利用天然的水屏障来阻击周军。周军过江后，下令将船凿破，以示不获全胜绝不收兵。昭王获胜后因无船可用，便限令当地船夫在3日内制造可供15000人渡江的船只。船夫由于难以完成，便将以前的破船用胶粘合。当周军渡



The bronze ware Guobo *Gui* records the Southern Campaign Led by King Zhao of the Zhou Dynasty in 980 B.C., which was cast with a square base, with a height of 18.4 cm and 16 characters inscribed on the interior describing a fragment story of Guobo following King Zhao's army to launch a strike over Jingchu area. In 980 B.C., King Zhao of the Zhou Dynasty initiated a war opposed to the vassal states in Jingchu area (today's Hubei Province). And the local soldiers set series of defense fortifications along the southern bank of Han River in order to resist Zhou's attack depending on its natural terrain. After Zhou's army across the river, King Zhao ordered to sink all the ships to express his determination for victory. So when King Zhao won the war, he had no ship

• 周昭王像

周昭王（？-前977），西周第四代国王。

Portrait of King Zhao of the Zhou Dynasty

King Zhao of the Zhou Dynasty (?-977 B.C.), is the fourth King of the Western Zhou Dynasty (1046 B.C.-771 B.C.).



• 班簋
Ban Gui

江时，胶着水溶化，大多沉没，荆楚联军乘机出击，大败周军。

而青铜器班簋的铭文则记载了周成王征东夷之战，并详细记载了周成王下令征伐东夷（中国东部民族的泛称）的经过。某年八月，周成王命令毛伯班征伐东夷。这次战争出动的武装力量，既有从数千里外的陕西调来的王室军队，又有相距较远的诸侯国军队，还有就近的吴国和吕国的军队。其间毛伯班运筹决策、计划部署，经过三年征战，终于告捷。

to employ. So he ordered the local boatman to build the ships for 15,000 soldiers within three days. As it was an impossible mission, the boatman was forced to use glue to stick the former sunk wreckages together. While Zhou's army crossed the river, the glue was melted and most of the boats sank in the river. At this time, the joint troop of Jingchu seized the opportunity and chased out the Zhou's army.

The bronze ware *Ban Gui* records the Battle to Dongyi (general term for ethnic groups living in the eastern areas of China) led by King Cheng of the Zhou Dynasty with detailed description. In the August, King Cheng appointed Maobo Ban to launch a strike over Dongyi people with the troop made up by the imperial army dispatched from Shaanxi Province and also the vassal armies as well as the troop from the near State Wu and State Lü. During this war, Maobo Ban made a thorough plan and logical deploy. In three years, he finally won the war.



> 最早的兵书

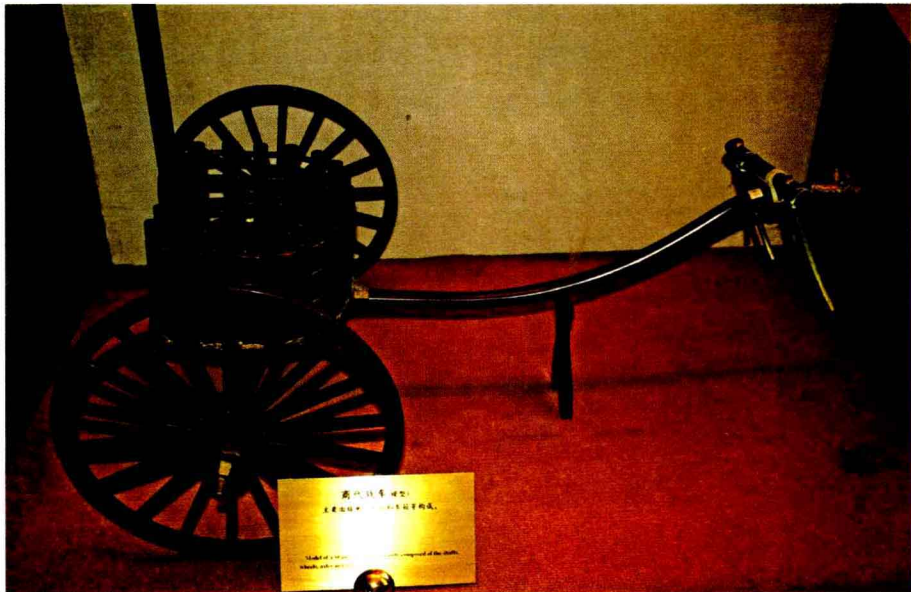
中国古代兵书的内容十分丰富，种类繁多。虽然哪一本是最早的兵书目前尚不能确定，但还是能够从春秋战国（前770—前221）以来的《左传》、《孙子兵法》等文献中找到一些早期兵书的内容。

《军志》和《军政》一直被认为是中国最早的兵书，但是这两种兵书早已失传，只是在后来的史籍中还保留着一些片断。据研究，这两部兵书大致是西周晚期的作品。《军志》和《军政》的内容丰富，不仅仅有对军事活动的简单记载，还总结和概括了一些军事活动的经验，并在一定程度上揭示了战争和军事活动中的某些规律。

《军志》的内容现已发现的有七则，其中在《左传》中有三则，

> Earliest Books on the Art of War

The content of books on the art of war in ancient China is rich and diversified. Although the first book on the art of war can not be confirmed yet, several records about the early books on the art of war still can be found in the literatures, such as *The Commentary of Zuo* and *Master Sun's Art of War* written since the Spring and Autumn Period (770 B.C.-476 B.C.). *Military Strategy* and *Military Theory* have been considered as the earliest works. However, they had been long gone. Only some fragments of records can prove its existence. According to the research, the two books were approximately written in the late Western Zhou Dynasty (1046 B.C.-771 B.C.). They have ample content and not only are the simple record on military activities but also conclude the relevant experience



• 商代战车（模型）

Model of Chariot in the Shang Dynasty

在《十一家注孙子》中有两则，在《太平御览》中有一则，在《通典》中有一则。

《左传》中第一则的主要内容
 为“允当则当”、“知难而退”、
 “有德不可敌”。具体含义是：在
 达到了一定的军事目的后，要即时
 停止军事活动，不要无限地扩展军
 事行动；同时，军事行动要审时度
 势，如果真的遇到了困难，要正视
 困难，并及时撤退；最后，强调

and reveal some regular patterns in these activities.

Now, seven fragments of the content of *Military Strategy* now have been found in several ancient canons: three in *The Commentary of Zuo*, two in the *Master Sun's Art of War Commented by Eleven Scholars*, one in the *Taiping Imperial Encyclopaedia*, and one in the *General Canon*.

The first rule quoted in *The Commentary of Zuo* indicates that the

了德行的重要性，并认为有德行的国家是不可战胜的。把德政作为决定战争胜负的首要条件，是当时军事家难能可贵的思想。

《左传》中第二则的主要内容是“先人有夺人之心”。这句话的含义是：先发制人是作战中战胜他人所应有的一种观念。春秋时期，楚国便是在该思想的指导下，先发制人，大获全胜，从晋国手中夺得了中原霸权。



• 西周早期的鹰首短剑
Early Eagle Hilt Dagger
(Western Zhou Dynasty,
1046 B.C.-771 B.C.)

military activity should stop when it suffices and shrink back when it gets stuck and the idea that the country who values the morality shall never be defeated, meaning: once achieved the purpose, the leader should cease the attack and do not expand the activity blindly; and the leader should be sensible and can face the difficulty directly and pull back in time as a expedient; and in the last, it emphasizes the importance of the morality and explains the country who values the morality shall never be defeated. This thought that weighs the benevolent rule over the result of battles was very rare at that time.

The second rule quoted in *The Commentary of Zuo* indicates that the strategy of taking the first step is a necessary concept. In the Spring and Autumn Period (770 B.C.-476 B.C.), under the guidance of this strategy, the State Chu took the supremacy from the State Jin over a great victory.

The third rule quoted in *The Commentary of Zuo* usually employed with the second rule above, indicates that despite the failure in the strategy of taking the first step, another remedy of waiting for the later attack while the enemy was vulnerable can also turn the