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《中国文化常识》

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前言

《中国文化常识》、《中国历史常识》和《中国地理常识》是由中华人民共和国国务院侨务办公室组织北京华文学院、南京师范大学和安徽师范大学编写的一套汉语教学辅助读物，供海外华裔青少年通过课堂学习或自学的方式了解中国文化、历史、地理常识，同时供家长引导孩子学习使用，在海外反响很好。

近年来，随着中国经济社会的迅速发展和国际影响的不断扩大，海外学习汉语的人数，尤其是非华裔汉语学习者人数大幅度增加。为了进一步适应广大海外汉语学习者了解中国文化的需求，促进中外文化交流，中华人民共和国国务院侨务办公室授权中国国家汉语国际推广领导小组办公室对《中国文化常识》、《中国历史常识》和《中国地理常识》进行改编。

《中国文化常识》、《中国历史常识》和《中国地理常识》改编本是一套面向世界各国汉语学习者的普及型、口语化的文化辅助读物，适用于海外对中国文化和汉语感兴趣的各类人员。在中华人民共和国国务院侨务办公室编写的中英文对照版基础上，此次改编增加了中文与德、法、日、韩、俄、泰、西班牙语、阿拉伯语的对照版本。

中国国家汉语国际推广领导小组办公室委托高等教育出版社对《中国文化常识》、《中国历史常识》和《中国地理常识》进行改编，高等教育出版社对原书的部分内容进行了增删，修订了部分数据，重新遴选和修改了插图，并翻译出版英、德、泰语版本；外语教学与研究出版社翻译出版法、日、韩语版本；华语教学出版社翻译出版俄、西班牙、阿拉伯语版本。此次改编力求在原书强调科学性、思想性和实用性的基础上做进一步创新。希望本系列读物成为您了解中国的窗口，成为您通向汉语世界的桥梁。

此次改编得到了海内外诸多专家、学者和教师的关心与支持，他们提出了许多中肯的建议，在此向他们表示诚挚的谢意。

由于时间所限，书中不免会有疏漏和不当之处，希望使用者和专家学者不吝赐正，以供今后修订时改正。

中国国家汉语国际推广领导小组办公室

2006年11月



Preface

Common Knowledge About Chinese Culture, *Common Knowledge About Chinese History* and *Common Knowledge About Chinese Geography* are a series of readers initiated by the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. The readers were jointly developed by Beijing Chinese Language College, Nanjing Normal University and Anhui Normal University. Serving as teaching aids for learners of Chinese, these readers make the general knowledge of Chinese culture, history and geography accessible to the young generation of overseas Chinese by means of either classroom delivery or self-study. These books are also for parents to help their children with the study. The previous versions of these readers were well received.



In recent years, with the rapid economic and social development in China and the rising of her international status, the world witnesses a phenomenal increase in learners of the Chinese language outside China, especially from non-Chinese ethnic groups. To meet the demand from overseas Chinese learners to better their knowledge about Chinese culture, and to foster cultural exchanges between China and the world, a revision of the above-mentioned readers has been decided by the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. They assigned the Office of Chinese Language Council International to work out the new edition of *Common Knowledge About Chinese Culture*, *Common Knowledge About Chinese History* and *Common Knowledge About Chinese Geography*.

The revised version of *Common Knowledge About Chinese Culture*, *Common Knowledge About Chinese History* and *Common Knowledge About Chinese Geography* is intended to be a popular edition of learning aid for Chinese culture in a conversational style. These readers make Chinese culture, history and geography more accessible to all people. Based on the original Chinese-English version edited by the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, the newly-revised version has kept its bilingual format, only broadening the foreign language coverage to German, French, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Thai, Spanish and Arabic.

The Office of Chinese Language Council International delegates the revision of *Common Knowledge About Chinese Culture*, *Common Knowledge About Chinese History* and *Common Knowledge About Chinese Geography* to Higher Education Press, who adds and subtracts parts of the original Chinese version with amendments to some data and illustrations. The bilingual versions of Chinese-English, Chinese-German and Chinese-Thai are developed by Higher Education Press. The versions of Chinese-French, Chinese-Japanese and Chinese-Korean are developed by Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press. The Chinese-Russian, Chinese-Spanish and Chinese-Arabic versions are done by Sinolingua. All revisions are meant to be innovative while maintaining the original focus of being accurate, instructive and practical. It is our sincere hope that this series of readers become windows for you to know more about China, and bridges leading you to the world of Chinese.

We would especially like to express our sincere appreciation to many experts, scholars and Chinese teachers both at home and abroad for their pertinent suggestions.

Developed under a tight schedule, the new editions might be blotted with oversights and inappropriateness. We sincerely welcome readers, especially those better versed in the relevant fields to contribute ideas for the correction and future revision of these books.

The Office of Chinese Language Council International
November, 2006

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中国传统思想

Traditional Chinese Ideology



概述

Introduction



中国人注重人与自然的和谐，在中国传统思想中，“天人合一”是一个著名的话题。中国传统思想更注重个人修养的提升，更关注“修身养性”；更为重视智慧的体悟而对逻辑推理不是特别在意。

可以说，中国有一套完整的影响了中国几千年的思想体系，而这套体系最重要的组成部分就是孔子、孟子开创的儒家思想和老子、庄子开创的道家思想以及佛学思想。其中，对中国影响最大、最深远的是儒家思想。



Introduction



Compared with Westerners, the Chinese people paid more attention to the harmonious relation between human beings and nature; “Nature and Man are one.” is a familiar statement in traditional Chinese ideology. Much emphasis is laid upon the moral cultivation and temper refinement as well as the spiritual enlightenment on the part of the individual rather than upon the logic reasoning.

of a holistic system of thoughts, which is largely composed of Confucianism initiated by Confucius and Mencius, Taoism initiated by Laozi and Zhuangzi, as well as Buddhism with Chinese characteristics, among which Confucianism played a fundamental role in shaping the traditional Chinese ideology.

For thousands of years, China, so to speak, has been under the influence



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1. 老子
Laozi
2. 庄子
Zhuangzi
3. 汉字“禅”
The character of *chan* (Chan)
4. 木刻佛像版画
Wood engraving of Buddhist images

孔子

Confucius



孔子（公元前551—公元前479），名丘，字仲尼，鲁国人。中国春秋末期伟大的思想家和教育家，儒家学派的创始人。

孔子的远祖是宋国的贵族，殷王室的后裔。在孔子很小的时候，他的父亲就去世了，以后孔子的家境逐渐衰落。虽然孔子年轻的时候很贫困，但是他立志学习，他曾经说过：“三人行，必有我师焉。”后来，他开始授徒讲学，他一共教授了3 000多个学生，其中不乏贫困家庭的孩子，改变了以往只有贵族子女才有资格上学的传统。孔子晚年还编订上古书籍，保存了很多古代的文献，我们现在看到的《诗经》、《尚书》、《周易》等等都经过他的编订。

孔子的很多思想即使在今



天看来也很有价值。比如，孔子丰富了“仁”的内涵，他认为要做到“仁”，就要关爱别人，“己所不欲，勿施于人”；他还认为，“君子和而不同”，也就是说，在处理人际关系上要承认人与人之间的差异，不要用单一的标准来衡量对方，这样才能够达到社会的和谐与稳定；他在教育上还主张用启发的方法促使学生独立思考，在学习书本知识的同时还要有自己独立的见解等等。

孔子的言行被他的弟子们收集在《论语》一书中，孔子的思想也被后人吸收和发扬光

大，成为中国传统思想的最主要的组成部分，并逐渐传播到周边国家，形成了影响范围很广的儒家文化圈。

孔子是属于中国的，他在中国家喻户晓，绝大多数中国人的思想都或多或少地受到他的学说的影响；孔子也是属于世界的，联合国教科文组织曾将他列为世界十大文化名人之一。



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- 1、3. 孔子
Confucius
2. 孔子纪念币
Coins commemorating Confucius
4. 孔庙供奉的孔子
Confucius enshrined in the Confucian Temple



Confucius



Confucius (551 BC — 479 BC), whose personal name was Qiu and styled Zhongni, was born in the Lu State. Confucius was a great thinker and educator in the late Spring and Autumn Period. He was also the founder of Confucianism.

Confucius was a descendant of a noble family in the Song State, who descended from royals of the Yin Dynasty. When he was still a child, his father died, and his family went to a decline as a result, but he studied very hard. He once said, “From any three people walking, I will find something to learn for sure.” Later, Confucius began to travel about and instruct disciples. In his life, Confucius had instructed more than 3 000 disciples, some were from poor families. In this way, Confucius had gradually changed the tradition that nobody but nobilities had the right to receive education. In his later years, Confucius compiled and preserved many literary works of ancient times, including *The Book of Songs*, *The Book of Documents* and *The Book of Changes*.

Even in modern times, many of Confucius’ ideas are quite valuable. For instance, Confucius established and developed a moral and ethical system called *ren* (benevolence). To





achieve “*ren*”, he believed that one should show benevolence to others, and therefore “Do as you would like to be done by others”. Confucius also believed that “Gentlemen are harmonious but different” which reveals that difference between people should be recognized in dealing with human relationship, thereby it is inappropriate to judge with a single standard, and thus the harmony and stabilization of a society will be accomplished. In terms of education, Confucius maintained that teachers should enlighten students to think independently, and that students should formulate their own opinions when acquiring knowledge from textbooks.

The sayings and behaviors of Confucius’ were compiled in *The Analects of Confucius* by his disciples. Confucius’ ideology has been absorbed and carried forward by later generations, composing the essential part of Chinese traditional ideology. It was also spread into the border regions and areas, building up a circle of culture of Confucianism exerting profound influence on the whole East Asian countries.

Confucius belongs to China. He is a household name in China,



and most of the Chinese people have been influenced by Confucius in one way or another. Confucius also belongs to the world, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) has labeled him one of the “Ten Cultural Celebrities”.

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- 1、2. 孔子
Confucius
3. 山东曲阜孔庙中门
The Middle Gate of the Confucian Temple in Qufu, Shandong Province

“四书五经”与儒家思想

“Four Books and Five Classics” and Confucianism



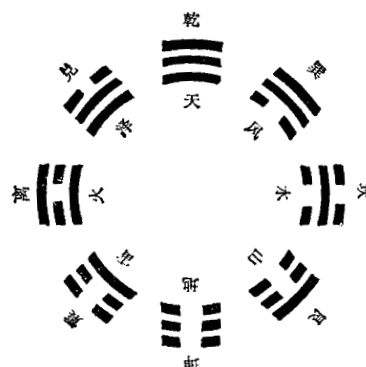
“四书”

在先秦时期就存在了，但是当时还没有“四书”这一说法，其中除了记录孔

子言行的《论语》之外，还有《孟子》、《大学》和《中庸》。《孟子》是记述儒家学派另一位代表人物孟轲的政治思想的书。而《大学》与《中庸》本来是《礼记》里的两篇文章，主要是讲如何做学问和如何修身的，到南宋时，著名学者朱熹把它们分别独立出来加以注解，和《论语》、《孟子》一起，作为学习儒家经典的初级入门教材，叫做《四书章句集注》，也简称“四书”。“五经”是指《易经》、《尚书》、《诗经》、《礼记》

和《春秋》五部典籍。

明清时期，科举考试都是根据“四书五经”里面的文句出题，考生对字句的解释必须依照朱熹的《四书章句集注》等。于是，“四书五经”成为知识分子最重要的教科书，而“四书五经”中的儒家思想也主要通过这样的方式成为当时人们为人处世的准则。“四书五经”中蕴涵的思想也深深地影响着现在的人们。



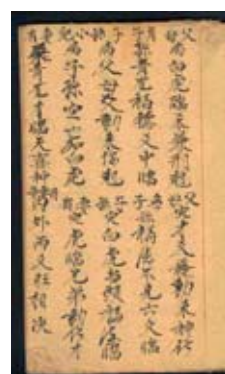


“Four Books and Five Classics” and Confucianism

“Four Books”(Si Shu) came into existence before the Qin Dynasty, although they were not called “Four Books” at that time. *The Analects of Confucius* (*Lun Yu*), one of the Four Books, is a collection of words and deeds of Confucius. The other three are *Mencius* (*Mengzi*), *The Great Learning* (*Da Xue*) and *The Doctrine of the Mean* (*Zhong Yong*). *Mencius* recorded the political thought of Master Meng Ke (*Mengzi*) who was another prominent figure of Confucianism. *The Great Learning* and *The Doctrine of the Mean* are two chapters from the corpus of *The Records of Rites* (*Li Ji*) originally. They are the collections of treatises on the rules of propriety and ceremonial usages. Zhu Xi, the well-known scholar of the Southern Song Dynasties, offered elaborate comments on the two books. Together with *The Analects of Confucius* and *Mencius*, they

were called *The Collected Notes on Passages in the Four Books*, commonly known as “Four Books”. They were regarded as the elementary textbooks for Confucianism study. Five Classics refer to five ancient classics: *The Book of Changes* (*Yi Jing*), *The Book of Documents* (*Shang Shu*), *The Book of Poetry* (*Shi Jing*), *The Records of Rites* (*Li Ji*) and *The Spring and Autumn Annals* (*Chun Qiu*).

In the dynasties of Ming and Qing, the sentences from “Four Books and Five Classics” were the basis for the Imperial Examinations. Examinees had to explain them according to *The Collected Notes on Passage in the Four Books*. Therefore, “Four Books and Five Classics” became the most important textbooks for scholars of the time. Then



the Confucian thought of “Four Books and Five Classics” became the guideline of behavior. Further more, as the most important ancient corpus of China, it still has great influence on the current generation.

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1. “四书”
Four Books
2. 《易经》：八卦图
Book of Changes: Eight Trigrams
3. 卦占吉凶
The divination of good or ill luck with
Eight Trigrams

老庄与道家思想

Laozi, Zhuangzi and Taoism

中国道家思想的创始人是春秋末年的老子。老子，姓李，名耳，曾经做过周代管理政府藏书的史官。老子的著作《道德经》虽然只有5 000多字，但是对后来的中国人却产生了非常深远的影响。



老子用“道”来说明宇宙万物的产生和演变，他告诉人们在思想和行为上也要遵循“道”的特点和规律，顺应自然，要以柔克刚，因为表面脆弱的东西往往本质坚强。

后来的庄子继承和发展了老子的思想。庄子，名周，曾经做过宋国“蒙”这个地方的漆园吏。庄子在他的著作《庄子》中，继承和发展了老子的“道法自然”的观点，主张将外在的万物与自我等同起来，将生与死等同起来，庄子追求的是精神世界的超越和逍遥。因为老子和庄子的思想有很多相似性，所以后人习惯以“老庄”并称。



Laozi, Zhuangzi and Taoism

The founder of Taoism was Laozi, whose family name was Li and given name was Er. He lived in the later years of the Spring and Autumn Period, and worked as an archivist in the Imperial Library of the Zhou's court. His masterpiece *Tao Te Ching* (*The Book of the Way and Its Virtue*), although with only about 5 000 characters, had a significant impact upon the thoughts of later generations. Laozi applied "Tao" to elucidating the origin and evolvement of the universe. Moreover, Laozi maintained that the characters and law of "Tao" could be applied to guide people's thinking and behavior, which should be in conformance with the nature.



Laozi believed that what appears soft and weak can actually defeat what is hard and strong, inasmuch as what looks fragile is hard in nature.

Proficient in the philosophy of Laozi, Zhuangzi was an inheritor and promoter of Taoism. Zhuangzi, whose given name was Zhou, once worked as an official in charge of painting work at the town of Meng in the Song State. In the book bearing his name, Zhuangzi succeeded to and developed Laozi's viewpoint that "Tao is defined by nature", and claimed that everything exterior can be equated with self, and life and death are equal. What Zhuangzi had been pursuing is a spiritual realm of absolute free-

dom. Since there are so many similarities between Laozi and Zhuangzi in terms of thinking, descendants usually mention them comparably.

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1. 老子
Laozi
2. 《庄子》
Zhuangzi
3. 庄子讲学
Zhuangzi gives lectures.