



## Sources of Chinese Tradition, Vol. 1

By William Theodore De Bary, Irene Bloom, Joseph Adler

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**Sources of Chinese Tradition, Vol. 1** By William Theodore De Bary, Irene Bloom, Joseph Adler

A collection of seminal primary readings on the social, intellectual, and religious traditions of China, *Sources of Chinese Tradition, Volume 1* has been widely used and praised for almost forty years as an authoritative resource for scholars and students and as a thorough and engaging introduction for general readers. Here at last is a completely revised and expanded edition of this classic sourcebook, compiled by noted China scholars Wm. Theodore de Bary and Irene Bloom. Updated to reflect recent scholarly developments, with extensive material on popular thought and religion, social roles, and women's education, this edition features new translations of more than half the works from the first edition, as well as many new selections.

Arranged chronologically, this anthology is divided into four parts, beginning at the dawn of literate Chinese civilization with the Oracle-Bone inscriptions of the late Shang dynasty (1571–1045 B.C.E.) and continuing through the end of the Ming dynasty (C.E. 1644). Each chapter has an introduction that provides useful historical context and offers interpretive strategies for understanding the readings.

The first part, The Chinese Tradition in Antiquity, considers the early development of Chinese civilization and includes selections from Confucius's *Analects*, the texts of Mencius and Laozi, as well as other key texts from the Confucian, Daoist, and Legalist schools. Part 2, The Making of a Classical Culture, focuses on Han China with readings from the *Classic of Changes* (*I Jing*), the *Classic of Filiality*, major Han syntheses, and the great historians of the Han dynasty. The development of Buddhism, from the earliest translations from Sanskrit to the central texts of the Chan school (which became Zen in Japan), is the subject of the third section of the book. Titled Later Daoism and Mahayana Buddhism in China, this part also covers the teachings of Wang Bi, Daoist religion, and texts of the major schools of Buddhist doctrine and practice. The final part, The Confucian Revival and Neo-Confucianism, details the revival of Confucian thought in the Tang, Song, and Ming periods, with historical documents that link philosophical thought to political, social, and educational developments in late imperial China.

With annotations, a detailed chronology, glossary, and a new introduction by the editors, *Sources of Chinese Tradition* will continue to be a standard resource, guidebook, and introduction to Chinese civilization well into the twenty-first century.

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### **Review**

"This masterful compilation is the most comprehensive sourcebook of Chinese civilization ever published in a Western language." -- PLA, Appearing in University Press Books Selected for Public and Secondary School Libraries, "Journal of Chinese Religions"

### **From the Back Cover**

This volume contains a chronological table of Chinese history beginning with 2852 B.C. up to A.D. 1849. In addition to presenting the major schools of classical philosophy, this volume discusses yin-yang theories of cosmology and geomancy and the rationale of monarchy and dynastic rule.

### **About the Author**

Wm. Theodore de Bary is John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and provost emeritus of Columbia University, where he currently holds the title of Special Service Professor. He is the author of many books, including *Waiting for the Dawn*, *Message of the Mind*, and *Learning for One's Self*, and the editor of *Sources of Japanese Tradition* and *Sources of Korean Tradition*, as well as (with Tu Weiming) *Confucianism and Human Rights*, all published by Columbia.

Irene Bloom is Wm. Theodore and Fanny de Bary and Class of 1941 Associate Professor of Asian Humanities at Columbia University, associate professor and chair of the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures at Barnard College, and program director of the Columbia University Committee on Asia and the Middle East. She is the editor and translator of *Knowledge Painfully Acquired: The K'un-chih chi of Lo Ch'in-shun* and editor, with Joshua A. Fogel, of *Meeting of Minds*, both published by Columbia.

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