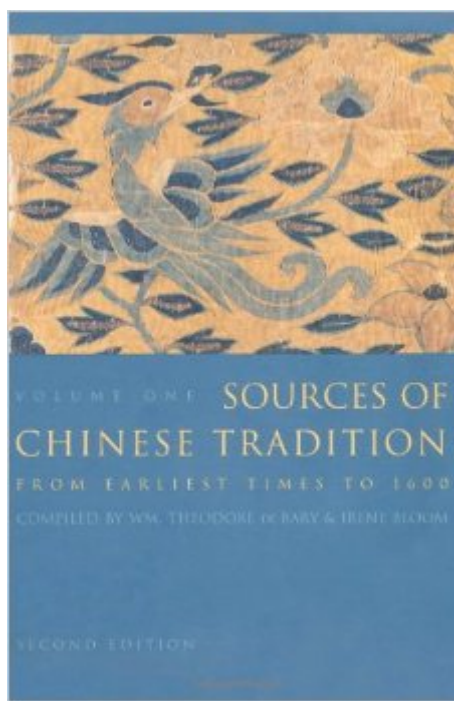


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# Sources Of Chinese Tradition, Vol. 1



## Synopsis

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Revival and Neo-Confucianism*, details the revival of Confucian thought in the Tang, Song, and Ming periods, with historical documents that link philosophical thought to political, social, and educational developments in late imperial China.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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book gets the majority of its bulk from direct translations of actual Chinese texts, and as such it is an indispensable tool for any student interested in Chinese religions and philosophies. There is very little input on the part of the editors and I, personally, was very thankful this. It can be dreadfully difficult trying to find sources that aren't mired in thousands of pages of theory and speculation, and sometimes a person just needs the root text! An awesome book.

I'll make this short...For anyone interested in Chinese history, literature, or culture, this volume is an absolutely essential collection of primary sources, and includes prefaces and explanations by China scholars. There is no one better than de Bary, and this new edition includes everything from the 1960 edition up through the Jiang Zemin era.

I am a native Chinese and I am a political science major student in a relatively prestigious school. I have been knowing Chinese history for years, with living in China and study Chinese history in my high school. HOWEVER, this book is truly amazing and revealed many things and insights about my own cultural roots. A must read! Highly recommended!

Bought it for a college course and surprise (!) ended up reading it! It can be a bit dry of course, but it's a pretty interesting read if you're into that kind of stuff. If you have no interest in history well then obviously this book is not for you. Also it is HUGE. I definitely did not read the entire textbook. At whatever price you are paying for this book, the price per page is less than a penny. It weighs about 5 pounds and is fatter than two cheeseburgers stacked on top of each other. Still, decent read, heavy, and if you can get it for under 10 dollars you are probably getting a good deal.

the book content is great and detailed, yet it is not as new as I expected, still, I am really satisfied with the price and the quality!

An amazing resource for Chinese history in a beautiful layout. I would definitely recommend this and the 2nd volume to anyone interested in diving into primary Chinese source material.

The book is quite boring. I only got it because of a requirement for a Chinese history class. Full of ideologies from great Chinese philosophers.

De Bary and colleagues have compiled useful original documents to illustrate the major trends and traditions in China over the millennia

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