



# CHINA AND HER CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Series of 15 Illustrated Lectures

given by

## VERNE DYSON

*Orientalist, Author,  
Director of Institute of Chinese Studies*

under the auspices of

MASTER INSTITUTE  
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
310 RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
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## CHINESE LITERATURE

### Nov. 18—An Introduction to Chinese Literature.

The origin of lyric poetry in China—The Five Classics and the Four Books—The editorial work of Confucius—The influence of the classics.

### Nov. 25—The Shu and the Shih—the Greatest of the Chinese Classics.

“The Book of History” and “The Book of Odes” described—Some of the world’s oldest literature—The subject matter of each work.

### Dec. 2—The Li Sao— An Elegy on Encountering Sorrows.

The most revered of Chinese poems—The tragic story of its author, Ch’u Yuan, poet and statesman—His death and the rise of the Dragon Boat Festival, the annual search for his body.

### Dec. 9—Chinese Mediaeval Literature—the Novel and the Play.

The tardy development of fiction and dramatic works in China, and the reasons—Literature in the Mongol period.

### Dec. 16—Notable Chinese Works Translated into English.

The earliest translations—Great novels translated into English: “The Dream of the Red Chamber”, “All Men Are Brothers”, by Pearl S. Buck, etc.—Translations of short stories—Deems Taylor’s use of “Ming Y.”

**T**HIS lecture course has been outlined to give a desirable background knowledge and comprehensive view of the History, Literature and Art of the "Middle Flowery Land" and to afford a substantial beginning toward an understanding of the famous country of Cathay.

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I

## CHINESE HISTORY

**Oct. 14—China's Earliest Golden Age, 2357-2189 B.C.**

The kindly monarchs, Yao, Shun, and Yu—  
The paragons of succeeding dynasties—Confucian praise.

**Oct. 21—The Great Chou Dynasty, and the Making of Chinese Civilization.**

A great epoch in the history of human thought—Rites and ceremonies—Literature and philosophy—Confucius.

**Oct. 28—The Ch'ins and the Unification of China.**

Shih Huang Ti, the Conqueror—The destruction of feudalism—The building of the Great Wall and the burning of the books.

**Nov. 4—Mediaeval China.**

The glorious Han and T'ang periods—The flowering of the Art of Life—The sad times of the Sung.

**Nov. 11—Modern China.**

The Mongols, the Mings, and the Manchus—China's impact with the West, and the resulting upheavals—The present renaissance.

### III

## CHINESE ART

#### Jan. 6—An Introduction to Chinese Art.

The chronological appearance of the various art forms in China—The pre-historic Yangshao culture—The finds at Anyang—Early bronzes—Caligraphy—Sculpture—Ceramics.

#### Jan. 13—Silk and Jade.

The romantic story of silk—Its legendary origin—The silk trade with ancient Greece and Rome—Silk in art—The jade cult of the Chinese, and its influence upon their life and culture.

#### Jan. 20—Chinese Scroll Paintings.

The origin of painting in China—Caligraphy and painting—Early art canons—The influence of Buddhism—The “philosophic landscape”—The inner meaning of art to the Chinese.

#### Jan. 27—The Story of Chinese Porcelain.

The transition from pottery to porcelain—The early imperial kilns—The Ming and early Ch'ing periods—Chinese porcelain in the Philippine Islands, and the work of Professor H. Otley Beyer.

#### Feb. 3—Chinese Art Symbols.

A study of the designs and symbols common in Chinese art, as an aid to understanding and appreciation—The early “death pattern” found in stone age graves—The Pa Kua, or Eight Diagrams—Nature symbols—The dragon and the other sacred animals—Miscellaneous designs—Taoist, Confucian, and Buddhist symbols.

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The above lectures are illustrated with maps, charts, lantern slides, and actual objects (educational exhibits).

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