



Ancient China

Short Booklet

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Introduction:

China is one of the world's four ancient civilizations with more than 5000 years of history. Including their traditional clothes, emperors, greatest inventions, arts, world-renowned places and buildings, and the historical sites in China. This short booklet talks about ancient China. It also contains pictures that represent China's identity.

IV. Chinese arts:

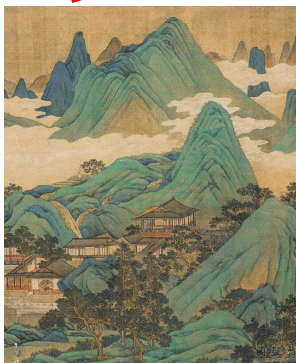
The three perfections were calligraphy, poetry, and painting. They would often be combined together in art. These became important starting with the Song Dynasty.

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Calligraphy - This is art of handwriting. The Ancient Chinese considered writing an important form of art. Calligraphers would practice for years to learn to write perfectly, but with style.

野有 / 死 麋,	In the wilds / is a dead river-deer.
白茅 / 包之,	White rushes / wrap her.
有女 / 懷春,	A lady yearns / for someone dear.
吉士 / 誘之,	A fine man / seduces her.
林有 / 豫樹,	In the woods / are clustered bushes,
野有 / 死鹿,	and in the wilds / a river-deer is dead
白茅 / 純束,	and wrapped up / in white rushes.
有女 / 如玉,	There is a lady / as fine as jade.
舒而 / 脫脫兮,	Oh! Slow down, / don't be so harsh,
無感 / 我輓兮,	let go / of my girdle's sash.
無使 / 慈也吠,	Shhh! / You'll make the dog bark.

Poetry - Poetry was an important form of art as well. Great poets were famous throughout the empire. During the Tang Dynasty, poetry became so important that writing poetry was part of the examinations to become a civil servant and work for the government.



Painting - Painting was often inspired by poetry and combined with calligraphy. Many paintings were landscapes that featured mountains, homes, birds, trees, and water.