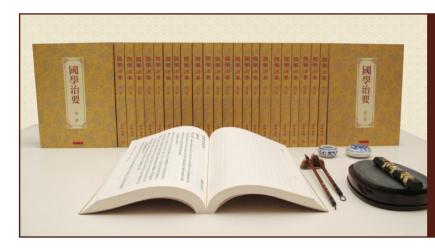


Compilation of Chinese Literature on Cultivation (Hardcover)

8 books / set • 2 sets / case Each case: 44.5cm(L) x 29.5cm(W) x 24cm(H) Weight: 8.36kg / set



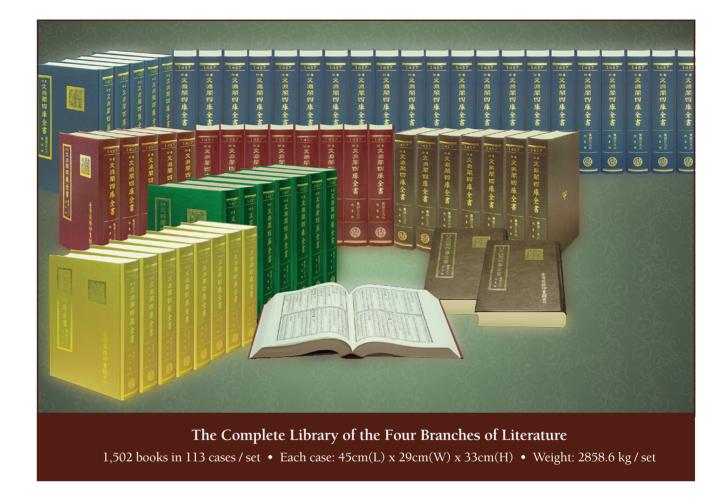
Compilation of Chinese Literature on Cultivation (Paperback)

8 books / set • 2 sets / case Each case: 43.6cm(L) x 29.4cm(W) x 23cm(H) Weight: 7.65kg / set

Compilation of Chinese Literature on Cultivation

Traditional Chinese culture is both extensive and profound. These distinctive Chinese cultural traditions have been recorded and categorized into four parts, namely classical works, historical works, philosophical works and belles-lettres. The precious ideas and qualities of traditional Chinese culture have figured prominently in history, and continue to this day. This collection, the Compilation of Chinese Literature on Cultivation, embraces comprehensive and profound theories as well as principles of Chinese civilization. The content was selected after careful consideration and assembled into seven volumes. This is a substantial number of documents for people who want to study and are passionate about traditional Chinese culture. This collection is a shortcut to study the Complete Library of the Four Branches of Literature. The content is abundant but not superfluous; succinct but not rough. According to one's need, one may delve into only one volume, but studying the other companion volumes will help achieve a more complete understanding. This collection is indeed a valuable resource for people who are fond of learning and pursuing advanced studies.

The modern accomplished Buddhist practitioner, Venerable Master Chin Kung, has devoted his entire life to the promotion of the education of traditional Chinese culture. This education includes Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism. He advocates and studies the Buddhist teachings of true sincerity and compassion and truly practices the concept of "Harmonious society, harmonious world." The Master follows the example of Master Yinguang by using donated money to print valuable books for the benefit of human beings. He has printed one hundred sets of the Complete Library of the Four Branches of Literature, two hundred sets of Selections from the Four Branches of Literature, ten thousand sets of Imperial Compilation of Books on the Principles of Governing, and ten thousand sets of Compilation of Chinese Literature on Cultivation. These books will be provided to leaders, politicians and virtuous people as reference material to govern their countries and advance world peace. We hope these treasured books can be promoted and used extensively. We hope the wisdom of the ancient sages will benefit and nourish mankind. The Master appeals to people with lofty ideals to pay profound attention to the teachings of the saints and sages, to popularize religious education, and to carry forward the splendid traditional Chinese culture. We sincerely wish that the utmost virtues and wisdom of ancient saints will grace all the people in the world and bless world peace!

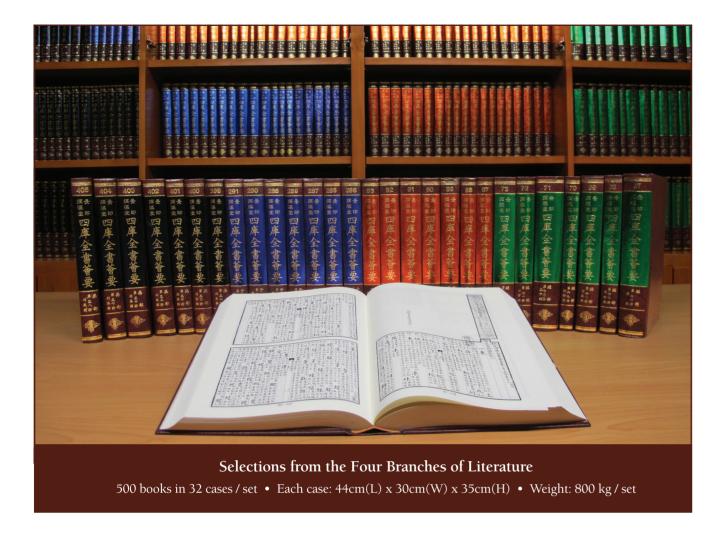


The Complete Library of the Four Branches of Literature

It is thanks to the concerted effort of practicing the teachings of morality, ethics and causality by both royals and subjects, the Chinese nation has maintained a five-thousand year civilization and social harmony with enduring peace and stability. The promotion of the education was ingenious, convenient and proper that had extensively influenced all domains of national politics, economies and infrastructure. Of all the historical documents, the *Complete Library of the Four Branches of Literature* has the most comprehensive record.

Under the order of Emperor Qianlong, the book was compiled by a team led by Chief Ministers Yu Minzhong and Ji Jun of the Qing dynasty. It is a curiosity that embraced all types of Chinese literature in circulation during that time and the most important books of *Great Statutes of the Yongle Reign (Yongle Da Dian)*. Seven copies were made and distributed in various places. But most of them were destroyed during the wars and only two manuscripts remain in existence nowadays, of which Wenyuan copy is the best preserved. The collection consists of 1,500 thread-bound books with 3,460 types and more than 79,000 volumes that are categorized by classical works, historical works, philosophical works and belles-lettres. The content is all inclusive. This collection is considered the most splendid jewel of worldly knowledge and culture, and is an intelligent guide to health and happiness for human beings.





Selections from the Four Branches of Literature

The purpose of compiling the *Complete Library of the Four Branches of Literature* during the Qing Dynasty was to collect all the different types of books from across the country. The collection was vast and not easy to be retrieved. Emperor Qianlong therefore ordered to select only the best passages and assemble them into a new book, whose format is the same as the *Complete Library of the Four Branches of Literature*. The new book titled, *Selections from the Four Branches of Literature*, was assembled specifically for the King. The selected books, dated from the Qin to Qing Dynasties, were all superior in content, and comprehensive with rare deletions and changes. Its ideological content, academic worthiness and phrasings are all of the highest quality. This selection perfectly embodies the essence of traditional Chinese culture.

Although the selected types of books were only one seventh of the *Complete Library of the Four Branches of Literature*, the volumes were one third of it, whilst, the *Selections from the Four Branches of Literature* is better preserved and the content surpasses that of the *Complete Library of the Four Branches of Literature*.

Owing to wars, the Chizao Tang copy is the only one that has been well preserved and recently reprinted. This is a great fortune and merit to the history of Chinese civilization as well as humanity.



Imperial Compilation of Books on the Principles of Governing (Hardcover)

3 books / set • 6 sets / case Each case: 50.5cm(L) x 34.5cm(W) x 23.4cm(H) Weight: 3.83kg / set



Imperial Compilation of Books on the Principles of Governing (Paperback)

10 books / set • 4 sets / case Each case: 43.5cm(L) x 32.7cm(W) x 21cm(H) Weight: 4.5kg / set

Imperial Compilation of Books on the Principles of Governing

The book, *Imperial Compilation of Books on the Principles of Governing*, was compiled at the beginning of the Zhenguan period during the Tang Dynasty, under the order of Emperor Taizong, Li Shimin (ad.599-659). Emperor Taizong, along with his father, launched a revolt to settle the chaotic society when he was only sixteen years old. He had been busily engaged in warfare for more than ten years until acceding to the throne at the age of twenty seven. Thereafter, he stopped military activities and emphasized the promotion of culture and education; especially ways to stabilize society, boost social and economic development, and nourish people.

Emperor Taizong was valiant and eloquent, but due to engaging in warfare at his young age, he regrettably didn't have the opportunity to read much. But bearing in mind the lessons learnt from the downfall of the Sui Dynasty, which was the dynasty before the Tang Dynasty, the Emperor profoundly understood the difficulties of founding a country and maintaining its peace and stability. During his reign, he encouraged officials to point out and admonish his improper decisions. The Emperor ordered imperial admonishers, such as Wei Zheng, Yu Shinan and so forth to identify documents from past dynasties that were concerned about principles, methods and experiences of cultivating oneself, maintaining family relationships and governing a state. They selected the essence from the Six Classics, Four Historiographies and the Masters' Hundred Schools and compiled them into a book. The source for these documents began in ancient times and ended during the Jin Dynasty. The content was selected from more than 14,000 books, 89,000 volumes, and included quotations from 65 classical works. In all, there are more than 500,000 Chinese characters.

This is a treasured and revered book, as stated in the book's preface by Wei Zheng, "This book helps us to review and draw on the experiences of the past and make practical decisions today; it is a valuable and useful resource for future generations." Since the content was rich, profound and essential, Emperor Taizong was very fond of it and read it every day. He sighed to his ministers saying, "I can read and learn from the experiences of past dynasties, and understand how to administer current government affairs. It is all due to your effort." Hence, we understand that the stability and prosperity of the Zhenguan period was largely owed to this book. This book is indeed a treasure for all politicians.

Introductions of Chinese classics_eng_op.indd 2