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**Traditional Chinese Leisure Culture and Economic Development : A Conflict of Forces**

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This book explores the history of leisure in Chinese culture from a unique perspective by tracing the development of the philosophy of life, life's wisdom, and leisure values in the Chinese tradition, in an attempt to discover the cultural basis of the Chinese civilization with a tradition of being "a land of courtesy and propriety" and of "respecting teachers and valuing education". Also described in the book are the tremendous changes in the life, work, consumption, and personal conduct of the Chinese brought about by the rapid economic development of China. At the same time, facing directly the challenges and crisis for the ecology both of the natural environment and the humanistic environment of the country against the backdrop of the rapid rise of China's economy, the authors reflect on the possibility for the revival of Chinese culture and political democratization, and on the various kinds of difficulties and the "tortuous and long" road the country has yet to traverse as she continues to experience economic growth, believing that conflict, though it puts to test the wisdom of politicians and common citizens, can be transformed into a kind of positive power.

## Contents

<b>Acknowledgments</b> .....	<b>ii</b>
<b>Summary of Each Chapter</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Chapter 1 Leisure and Traditional Chinese Society</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<u>Introduction</u> .....	6
<u>Unity of Man and Nature</u> .....	6
<u>The Pictographs of <i>Xiu</i> and <i>Xian</i></u> .....	7
<u>Three Relationships between <i>Xiuxian</i> 休閒 in the Cultural Tradition of China</u> .....	8
<u>The Conception of the "Unity of Man and Nature"</u> .....	8
<u><i>Lü</i> and <i>You</i>: Pursuits in Nature</u> .....	10
<u>Spiritual Pursuits</u> .....	12
<u>Subduing <i>Dong</i> 動 (Motion) with <i>Jing</i> 靜 (Tranquility)</u> .....	12
<u>The Hermit Culture (隱逸文化)</u> .....	14
<u>Family Instructions</u> .....	15
<u>Industry and Thrift</u> .....	18
<u>Elegance and Taste in Leisure Life</u> .....	20
<u><i>Qingtán</i></u> .....	20

<u>Play</u> .....	22
<u>Womanly Work</u> .....	24
<u>The Book and the Zither</u> .....	26
<u>Seven Things for a Life of Refined Taste</u> .....	30
<u>Institutional Arrangements for Vacations</u> .....	32
<u>Conclusion</u> .....	35
<b><u>Chapter 2 Leisure in the Modern Cultural Movements of China</u>.....</b>	<b>37</b>
<u>Introduction</u> .....	37
<u>The Heyday of Chinese Civilization</u> .....	37
<u>The Prosperous Kangxi-Qianlong Era (康乾盛世)</u> .....	37
<u>Opium-Smoking as a Fad for the Leisure Class</u> .....	39
<u>The Old China</u> .....	40
<u>Sun Yat-sen and the “Sick Man of Asia”</u> .....	40
<u>The New Culture Movement</u> .....	41
<u>The New Life Movement and the <i>Life Weekly</i></u> .....	43
<u>Recreation in Old China</u> .....	43
<u>Effort to Preserve Traditional Culture in Hard Times</u> .....	44
<u>The Cheongsam and the Chinese Tunic Suit</u> .....	46
<u>The New China</u> .....	47
<u>The Campaign to Purge China of Drugs and Prostitution</u> .....	47
<u>A Time of Severe Scarcity (1950s to 1970s)</u> .....	48
<u>The Great Leap Forward</u> .....	48
<u>Entertainment and Public Service</u> .....	49
<u>The Cultural Revolution</u> .....	51
<u>The Reform and Opening up of China</u> .....	60
<u>The Implementation of the “Reform and Opening-up” Policy</u> .....	60
<u>Attention to Lifestyles</u> .....	61
<u>Argumentation for the Policy Decision to “Shorten the Workweek”</u> .....	61
<u>Evolving Meanings of <i>Xiuxian</i></u> .....	62
<u>The Soulless State of Leisure in Contemporary China</u> .....	63
<u>Conclusion</u> .....	64
<b><u>Chapter 3 The Rise of China’s Economy and Trends in Leisure Development</u>.....</b>	<b>66</b>
<u>Introduction</u> .....	66
<u>The Rise of China’s Economy</u> .....	66
<u>Changes in China’s Economic Policy</u> .....	68
<u>Deng’s Strategic Design for China’s Modernization in 3 Steps</u> .....	69
<u>The Period of Rapid Economic Growth</u> .....	69
<u>Formation and Development of a Market for Leisure Consumption</u> .....	70
<u>Who Will Lead the Future Consumer Market?</u> .....	72
<u>System Design</u> .....	80
<u>Emancipation of People’s Minds and the Policy of Reform and Opening-up</u> .....	80
<u>Consumerist Enthusiasm Released by Policy on Tourism</u> .....	80
<u>System Design and Consumption Structure</u> .....	83
<u>Public Service</u> .....	87

<u>Public Service: A New Challenge for Governments at All Levels</u> .....	87
<u>Public Service: Old Issue and New Developments</u> .....	89
<u>The 13th Five-Year Plan for National Economy</u> .....	91
<u>Human Rights in China: History and the Current State</u> .....	92
<u>The History of Human Rights in China</u> .....	93
<u>The National Character of the Chinese</u> .....	94
<u>The Current State of Human Rights in China</u> .....	96
<u>The State of China's Economy</u> .....	99
<u>Thresholds to be Surmounted by China's Economy in the Future</u> .....	99
<u>Innovation is Better than Replication</u> .....	100
<u>The Need for Humanistic Economic Thinking</u> .....	100
<u>Creating an Atmosphere for the "Market of Ideas"</u> .....	102
<u>Conclusion</u> .....	102
<b><u>Chapter 4 Aspects of Leisure Life in Contemporary China</u>.....</b>	<b>105</b>
<u>Introduction</u> .....	105
<u>Three Important Changes in the Social Organism of China</u> .....	105
<u>Changes in Family Structure</u> .....	105
<u>The Unprecedented Generation of Only Children</u> .....	107
<u>Increase in the Total Amount of Free Time</u> .....	108
<u>The Imbalance between Work and Leisure</u> .....	109
<u>Do not Let the Child Lose at the Starting Line</u> .....	109
<u>The Costs to Children of Growing up in China</u> .....	111
<u>The Working Population – Walking on the Balance Beam</u> .....	114
<u>Migrant Workers</u> .....	126
<u>The Elderly</u> .....	130
<u>Conclusion</u> .....	137
<b><u>Chapter 5 A Conflict of Forces</u> .....</b>	<b>139</b>
<u>Introduction</u> .....	139
<u>Chinese vs. Western Learning</u> .....	139
<u>Chinese Learning: Origins and Later Developments</u> .....	139
<u>Western Learning</u> .....	147
<u>Mutual borrowing between Chinese and Western Learning</u> .....	149
<u>Tradition and Modernity</u> .....	149
<u>Folk Beliefs in Traditional Family-Centered Learning</u> .....	150
<u>Modern Issues</u> .....	154
<u>Understanding China</u> .....	157
<u>Material and Spiritual</u> .....	161
<u>People's Livelihood and Lifestyles in a Modern Country</u> .....	161
<u>A Brief Look at People's Lifestyle Today</u> .....	162
<u>Hidden Worries about China's Cultural Capital</u> .....	165
<u>Conclusion</u> .....	166
<b><u>Conclusion and Further Thinking</u>.....</b>	<b>167</b>
<b><u>Index</u>.....</b>	<b>172</b>