

Contents



Foreword 1

The Dawn of Civilization 3

Graphic Characters of the River Civilization 4

Different Fates of Graphic Characters of the River Civilization 11

Common Choice of Graphic Ideograph 13

Origin of Han Characters 17

Legends in Ancient Time 18

Exploration of the Origination of Han Characters 22

Evolvement of Forms of Han Characters 29

Ancient Drawing-like Characters 30

Modern Characters Dissimilar to Drawings 48

Mainstream in the Develop-ment of Han Characters 60

Formation of Han Characters 65

Ancient Formation of “Six Categories” 66

Formation Methods of Han Characters 70

Form and Structure of Modern Han Characters 90

Causes of the Square Form of Han Characters 96

Mystery of Modern Han Characters 101

- Pictographic Elements in the Form of Modern Han Characters 102
- The Use of Pictographic Elements in the Form of Han Characters 110

Han Characters and Chinese Language 117

- Han Characters Adapt Themselves to Actual Chinese Language 118
- Han Characters Are the Basic Structural Units in Chinese Language 120
- Han Characters Have Strong Word-formation Ability 121
- Han Characters Have the Property beyond Dialects and Times 124
- “Sinosphere” 125

Chinese History Narrated in Han Characters 133

- Social Life in Ancient Time 134
- Show of Ancient Civilization Sights 149



The Art of Han Characters 193

- Calligraphic Art of Han Characters 194
- Appreciation on Famous Calligraphy Treasures 200
- Commercial-art Han Characters 208
- Seal Art of Han Characters 216

Stepping into Information Age 223

- Computer Processing of Han Character Information 224
- Cheers and Worries in the Information Age for Han Characters 229

