

# The Genius of CHINA

3,000 years  
of science,  
discovery  
and invention

*By Robert Temple*

*Introduction by Joseph Needham*

**B**ased on the immense, authoritative *Science and Civilisation in China* by Professor Joseph Needham — the world's foremost scholar of Chinese science — *The Genius of China* is a captivating introduction to the astounding and unparalleled achievements of ancient China.

Undisputed masters of invention and discovery for 3,000 years, the ancient Chinese were the first to chart the heavens, discover the circulation of blood and even isolate sex hormones. From the suspension bridge and the seismograph to the parachute and the fishing reel, ancient China's diverse contributions helped inspire the European agricultural and industrial revolutions. It is just as much a surprise for the Chinese as for Westerners to realize that *modern* agriculture, *modern* shipping, the *modern* oil industry, *modern* astronomical observatories, *modern* music, decimal mathematics, paper money, umbrellas, wheelbarrows, multi-stage rockets, guns, underwater mines, poison gas, hot-air balloons, manned flight, brandy, whiskey, the game of chess, printing and even the essential design of the steam engine, all came from China. Now this handsomely designed, lavishly illustrated edition — organized by invention for easy access — captures the spirit and excitement of centuries of ingenuity and growth in one colorful, endlessly informative volume.

— from the publisher

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