

Get to know Wuxi through 10 surnames

10个姓氏认识无锡

Each surname earns glory for the city

一姓一族一座城

无锡市人民政府新闻办公室 编著

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序言



无锡地处长江三角洲中心，京杭大运河穿城而过，是中国著名的“四大米市”之一，被誉为“太湖明珠”。全市总面积约 4 627 平方千米，常住人口约 650 万人。

这座具有三千多年历史的国家历史文化名城，是中国吴文化、民族工商文化和乡镇企业文化的发祥地。

这里经济发达，多年来经济总量一直位居中国各城市前列，人均 GDP 超过 2 万美元。

这里集江、河、湖、泉、洞之美于一体，是“国际花园城市”和中国 10 个重点旅游城市之一。

这里交通便利，是连接南北、沟通东西的区域性交通枢纽，水、陆、空交通网络完备，每周有 700 多架次航班往来于 30 余个海内外城市。

这里生态环境优良，是中国最具国际生态竞争力城市；这里社会和谐稳定，是中国最具幸福感城市之一。

太湖佳绝处、运河水弄堂、灵山吉祥地、百年工商城，魅力无锡欢迎您！



Preface

Wuxi, covering an area of about 4,627 square kilometers and with a residential population of about 6.5 million, is located in the center of the Yangtze River Delta. Sitting on the ancient Grand Canal and bordering Taihu Lake, Wuxi has been renowned as “the bright pearl on Taihu Lake” and one of “the four major rice markets”.

Being the cradle of Wu culture, China’s national industry and commerce, and in recent decades, township enterprises, Wuxi is known as a national cultural city with a history of over 3,000 years.

Taking advantage of its strategic location and local culture, Wuxi has one of China’s highest GDPs. Its per capita GDP has exceeded \$20,000, very high for the country.

The natural beauty of Wuxi is best manifested in the rivers, canals, lakes, springs and caves that criss-cross or dot the metropolitan city, thereby earning it the title of “International Garden City” and ranking it among the top 10 tourist destinations of the country.

As Wuxi is conveniently situated, it is an important transportation hub connecting north and south, east and west. It is easily accessible by all means of transport—water, land, or air. Each week, over 700 flights are taking passengers to and from 30-odd cities at home and abroad.

Notwithstanding its growing industry and business, the city has maintained an excellent ecological system, and a harmonious and stable social environment, which together have placed its inhabitants’ happiness index among the highest in the country.

Hailed as “the most picturesque city on Taihu Lake”, “the water alley on the Grand Canal”, “the blessed land under Lingshan”, and “a century-old industrial and commercial center”, Wuxi extends its warm welcome to you.

姓氏

中国人第一次见面打招呼时，一般会问对方：“您贵姓？”如果两人姓相同，一句“五百年前是一家”就能迅速拉近关系。姓氏，不仅是一个中国人的符号，也标示了血脉渊源。

譬如，中国著名的思想家、教育家、政治家孔子的姓为“孔”。经过两千多年的繁衍，孔姓宗族的后人已超过八十代。其后裔现遍及世界各大洲，其中，中国、韩国、朝鲜、日本、马来西亚、新加坡、美国等国家数量较多，英国、瑞士、加拿大、澳大利亚等国也有一定数量的孔氏后人。

中国人的姓氏演变时间长、数量庞大。从原始部落开始产生“姓”为符号后，“姓”随人口繁衍发生分解，衍生出分支“氏”。“姓”和“氏”到了夏、商、周时期，前者用来“分辨能不能通婚”，后者用以“区别贵族和贫民”。后来，随着社会发生重大变革，姓氏制度逐渐消亡。秦汉以来，“姓”“氏”合一。

到宋朝，有人编了本《百家姓》，前后共收录姓氏568个。这本书流传了一千多年，不光使中国姓氏文化得以传承，也为中国儿童提供了学习汉文字的启蒙教科书。而今天，中国人的姓氏过万（注：《中国姓氏大辞典》共收录23 813个姓氏），每个姓氏背后都有独特的文化传承。譬如，有些姓来源于国名、封地名、居住地名；有的姓源起于封号、官职或职业技艺；还有的姓源自祖先的名（自称）、字（别人称呼你），或家中排行。

无锡，在3 000多年的历史传承中，许多地方以姓氏命名。中国历史上的几次人口迁徙，使无锡名人荟萃。每一个姓氏的融汇，背后都承载着一个姓氏宗族的辉煌与荣耀。这些在历史长河中留下荣耀的姓，最终影响了无锡这座城市，也影响着一个叫“CHINA”的国度。

Surname

When the Chinese meet for the first time, they usually ask each other's "noble" surname. If they happen to have the same surname, they will add that their ancestors must have belonged in "the same family 500 years ago", in the hope of promoting their relationship. Surname is not just a label, but a sign of one's lineage as well.

For example, Confucius, the famous Chinese thinker, educator and political figure, was surnamed Kong (whose personal name is deemed to be Kong Qiu). Over the past two thousand years, the Kong clan has had over eighty generations. Now, the Kong descendants are scattered around the world. Most are found in China, ROK, DPRK, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and the US, while some are living in Britain, Switzerland, Canada, Australia, etc.

Chinese surnames have evolved over a long time and there are many of them. In ancient times, surnames fell into two types. One was *xing* (or lineage name), and the other was *shi* (or clan name). Since the adoption of the first *xing* in the primitive tribes, they had taken varied forms as the clans multiplied. In the process, *shi* was derived. In Xia, Shang and Zhou dynasties, *xing* and *shi* began to take up new functions. The former was used to determine the suitability of marriages, while the latter was used to distinguish the noble from the poor. With the significant social changes, the distinction between *xing* and *shi* was gradually abandoned and *xing* and *shi* had become the same since the Qin dynasty.

In the Song dynasty, a book entitled *The Book of Family Names* was written, which includes 568 surnames in total. This book has been in circulation for over 1,000 years, preserving the Chinese surname culture, and serving as the first reader for children of school age to learn the Chinese characters. Nowadays, the number of Chinese surnames has exceeded 10,000. *The Dictionary of Chinese Surnames*, compiled in 2010, has a total of 23,813 entries. Each indicates one unique heritage of culture. For example, some surnames originated from country names, fief names and residence names; others came from feudal titles, official positions and vocational skills; still others were derived from what the ancestors called themselves, what others addressed the ancestors, or simply the order of birth among their siblings.

Many places in Wuxi took their names from surnames throughout its history of over 3,000 years. Several population migrations in the Chinese history have made Wuxi a renowned place, where distinguished people are concentrated. The development of every surname embodies the glory of a clan. These brilliant and glorious surnames that have weathered historical upheavals have been influencing the city, and the country at large as well.



惠山祠堂群

中国最大的家族姓氏文化博物馆

03

一个人，有了一个姓氏，也就成了这个姓氏的传人。而一个姓氏的背后常常是一个庞大的家族。

无锡市区西部，京杭大运河畔，惠山脚下，有一个占地约0.3平方千米的古镇，这就是中国非常有名的家族文化圣地——无锡惠山祠堂群。

祠堂是中国特有的文化建筑，是一个家族纪念祖先的地方。在过去，家族中的子孙办理婚、丧、寿、喜等人生大事时通常都要到祠堂去，在历代祖先的牌位面前举行仪式。一个家族的族亲们也常在祠堂商议族内重要事务或者救济、帮助族人。在中国人的心里，祠堂不仅是一个家族的议事厅，更是家族成员的灵魂庇护所。

和其他地方分散、独立、类型单一的祠堂不同，无锡惠山祠堂群保存着唐代至民国时期的百余座祠堂建筑，形成了沿河、临街、近泉、靠山的密集祠堂群落，就像一幅天然的中国水墨画，也是一座露天的历史博物馆。

直到现在，每逢清明和冬至，无锡惠山祠堂群都会迎来祭扫高峰。因为祠堂的存在，再远的族人也会想着到祠堂里看看，寻根问祖，祭拜祖先，祈祷平安。

这些祠堂里藏着至少70个姓氏的家族秘密。这些姓氏中，涉及不少著名历史人物，他们并非全是无锡人，有的在无锡做过官，有的在无锡做了好事……人们至今还在纪念他们。

Huishan Ancestral Halls

China's biggest museum of family surname culture

When one is born into a family and gets a surname, he or she naturally passes it on. Behind each surname, there is often an extended family.

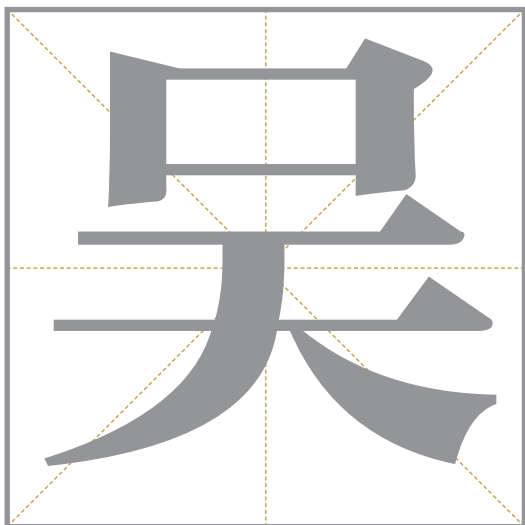
In the west urban area of Wuxi, at the foot of Huishan Mountain, on the Grand Canal, there stands a small ancient town, occupying about 0.3 square kilometers. It is the famous family cultural shrine of China—Huishan Ancestral Halls.

Ancestral halls as cultural buildings are peculiar to China, where the families remember their ancestors ceremoniously. In the past, the important events in one's life, like birthday celebrations, weddings and funerals, were all held in such halls, before the tablets of all ancestors. Relatives in the family also gathered here to make important decisions, or to help relieve other families in the same clan. Deep at heart, the Chinese see the hall not only as the council place of the entire clan, but also as the harbor of their souls.

Unlike the ancestral halls elsewhere, which are often disconnected and unvaried in design, the cluster of ancestral halls in Huishan are like a huge museum in the open air. Here well preserved are more than 100 shrines, spanning from the Tang dynasty to the period of the Republic of China. They form, as it were, a colony of memorials along rivers, streets, springs or hills, practically making a Chinese ink-wash painting.

Every Qingming Festival and Winter Solstice see the prime time for sweeping the graves. No matter how far away the descendants are, they will visit their ancestral halls, trace their roots, worship their ancestors and pray for peace.

Enshrined in the ancestral temples are at least 70 family names, which involve many famous historical figures. Not all of them were natives of Wuxi; some used to be officials in Wuxi and some made unforgettable contributions to the city. Anyway, the Wuxi people still remember them.



wú

05

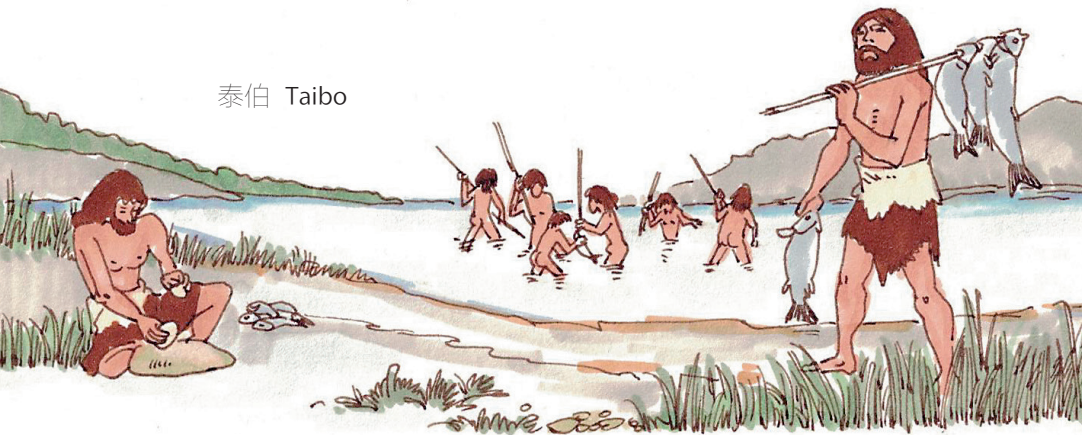


wú tài bó
吴泰伯

中国有很多姓，常见的单字姓就有6 931个。其中，“吴”这个姓与无锡的关系最密切，因为“吴”曾经是一个国家的名字，这个国家的范围包括了今天的无锡，这个国家的臣民将国家的名字作为自己的姓氏。所以，“吴”被认为是无锡最土生土长的姓氏，可以说是无锡首姓。坊间也有戏说：“除了姓吴的，其他都是外地人。”

Of the 6,931 common single-character surnames, Wu (吴) has the closest connection with Wuxi. It used to be the name of a state which covered today's Wuxi, and the subjects who lived here adopted Wu as their surname. Therefore, Wu can be said to be the most native and prominent surname in this city. The local people sometimes joke that there are only two groups in the city: the Wus and the non-Wus.

泰伯 Taibo



3 200多年前，在中国的陕西宝鸡岐山一带，生活着一个叫“周”的部落。部落首领周太王生有泰伯、仲雍、季历三个儿子。季历的儿子姬昌出生时有祥瑞，而且这个孩子生得聪明伶俐，很有王者风范，老首领不止一次在人前说：“周部落若有强大起来的一天，不靠昌，靠谁呢？”

按照古代的礼法，父亲的王位应该由长子泰伯继承。但早已看透父亲心思的泰伯决定让出继承权，以让姬昌将来能成为首领。他和二弟仲雍趁父亲生病，借口去采药，离开了故乡。兄弟俩千里迢迢，跋山涉水，最终来到了梅里（今无锡东边梅村一带）。

当时的梅里一片荒蛮，生活着没有开化的土著。但这里有山、有水、有梅花，美丽的大鸟飞落在水边，土著人过着简朴的渔猎生活。

于是，泰伯和仲雍学当地土著剪短了头发，涂抹了文身，把黄河流域先进的农耕、蚕桑技术传授给当地人，成为开发江南的始祖。他们筑城守民，治理河道，赢得了当地土著的拥戴，前来归顺的土著多达千余家，由此形成了上万人的庞大部落。泰伯被尊为首领，他给自己的部落取名“句吴”。

江南经常下雨，一下雨到处都是水，不下雨又很干。为了把很多小河沟里的水都引到主渠里，形成灌溉渠，泰伯带领百姓在吴地兴修水利，开凿了中国第一条人工运河，这就是至今还存在的“伯渎河（又称泰伯渎）”。这条河一直通到苏州，有约41千米长。

在生活上，泰伯改变了当地人吃半熟东西的习惯，使“半生为食”成为“全熟为食”；又改变了他们住简易棚子的习惯，改“搭棚为窝”为“建村立巷”。当初军事较多，泰伯又在梅里筑了“泰伯城”，用以自卫。

泰伯的功绩，奠定了江南古文明的基础。

泰伯让王位的故事被后人称颂，孔子评价泰伯是有最高德行的人。

泰伯一生没有子女，死后传位于二弟仲雍。无锡百姓感念他，将他厚葬于鸿山。泰伯墓现在作为千年古迹供后人瞻仰。仲雍下传四代至周章的时候，周武王（周文王姬昌的儿子）重新分封天下，把“句吴”分封成一方诸侯国。自此，“吴”便成为一个国家。古时候流行以国为姓，历史上就有了吴姓。

In the 12th century BC, there was a tribe called “Zhou” in today’s Qishan in Baoji, Shaanxi Province. The chieftain of the tribe had three sons: Taibo, Zhongyong and Jili. When Ji Chang, the son of Jili, was born, there were good omens. And Ji Chang turned out to be clever, with kingly manners. So the old chieftain favored him and often commented that his grandson Ji Chang would surely lead the tribe into prosperity.

In keeping with the traditional practice, the eldest son Taibo would be the next chieftain. As Taibo had always known his father’s preference, he decided to give up his claim to the highest position. He consulted his younger brother Zhongyong and both of them agreed it would be wise to leave Zhou, so that their youngest brother Jili would inherit the reign of power, and so when Jili died, his son Ji Chang, the old chieftain’s favorite, would come into power.

So when the chieftain was terminally ill, the two elder brothers left on the excuse of collecting herbs for him. Over mountains and across rivers, they finally found themselves in Meili (today’s Meicun, in the east of Wuxi).

At that time, Meili was still largely wilderness, inhabited by some uncivilized natives, who led a simple life by collecting, fishing and hunting. However, these people were blessed with beautiful hills, clear water, plum blossoms, and many large elegant wading birds.

Taibo and Zhongyong identified themselves with the natives there by cutting their hair short and painting tattoos. They introduced the natives to advanced farming and sericultural skills, which originated in the Yellow River reaches, where the two brothers had come from. Naturally, they became the pioneers in the development of Jiangnan (the south of the lower reaches of the Yangtze River). In addition, they led the construction of city walls and



irrigation systems, and won the trust, love and support of the local people, who recognized the two as their leaders. Hearing the welcome news, more natives in the neighborhood joined them. Eventually, a tribe with a population of over 10,000 formed. As the ruler of the tribe, Taibo named their tribe “Gou Wu”.

It often rained in the south of the Yangtze River. On rainy days, it was flooded everywhere. At other times, the area was arid. For the development of agriculture, Taibo led his people in channeling many ditches into the main channels, and digging an irrigation canal called “Bodu Canal”, the first of its kind in the country, which is still functioning. This canal, about 41 kilometers long, connects Wuxi with Suzhou.

In daily life, Taibo encouraged the local people to eat well-cooked foods instead of half-done or raw foods, and to establish communities in villages. Considering that there were constant attacks from savage tribes at that time, Taibo built the “City of Taibo” for defense.

Taibo’s exploits laid the foundation for the civilization in this area, and Confucius rated Taibo as a figure of the highest virtues.

Taibo died without issue, and passed his position on to his brother Zhongyong. In honor of him, the Wuxi people had a proper burial for him in Hongshan, leaving the lasting monument—Tomb of Taibo. After Zhongyong, there were successively four kings till Zhou Zhang, who was granted Gou Wu as a fiefdom by the King Wu of Zhou dynasty. Since then, the state Wu had been officially established. It was the custom for the subjects to adopt the name of their country as their family name, so Wu, as a surname, came into use.



十二宗亲 Twelve clans

吴国的第24代君王公子光，掌权后改号阖闾。此人深谋远虑，任贤使能，很有才干。攻打楚国，五战五捷。他在位的时期吴国国力大增，发展最快，国土面积也扩展到最大。

从公元前11世纪初泰伯创立句吴部落，到公元前473年夫差亡国，吴共有25任君王。最后，吴国虽然在历史上消失，但吴氏子孙代代繁衍，3 000多年来已遍及祖国各地和世界五大洲，全球人数据说多达3 900万人。吴姓与周、蔡、翁、曹、辛、柯、洪、江、方、龚、汪这11个姓氏同宗共祖，血脉相连，被称为中华至德宗亲十二姓氏。

后来，吴姓中出现过许多名人，如明末清初“第一诗人”吴梅村、军界大亨吴佩孚、中华人民共和国成立后故宫博物院首任院长吴仲超、戏剧家吴祖光、“核物理女皇”吴健雄、著名画家吴冠中……

When the 24th king of Wu, Prince Guang, came to power, he named himself He Lv. This king was a man of foresight, and he was wise enough to appoint the right people to the right positions. He showed remarkable prudence and tactics when he coordinated the attack on the state of Chu. Under his reign, the state of Wu grew more powerful at the fastest rate, and expanded the territory by conquering neighboring states.

From the establishment of the tribe “Gou Wu” by Taibo in the early 11th century BC to the fall of the kingdom under King Fuchai in 473 BC, there were a succession of 25 kings in Wu. While Wu as a state vanished from history, the descendants of the Wus have spread around the world over the past 3,000 years, and it’s said that their population has reached a staggering 39 million. Eleven other surnames evolved, namely, Zhou, Cai, Weng, Cao, Xin, Ke, Hong, Jiang, Fang, Gong, and Wang. Together with Wu, they trace to the same ancestors, tied by the same lineage.

Later, the Wu clan produced many celebrities, such as “the first poet” Wu Meicun in the late Ming and early Qing periods, the army leader Wu Peifu, the first curator of the Palace Museum (after the founding of the People’s Republic of China) Wu Zhongchao, dramatist Wu Zuguang, the “Queen of Nuclear Physics” Wu Jianxiong, and the famous painter Wu Guanzhong.

小游戏 A simple game



- A: 温酒器 *Wine heater*
- B: 火锅 *Hot pot*
- C: 香炉 *Censer*

10



- A: 盛水罐 *Water tank*
- B: 乐器 *Musical instrument*
- C: 秤砣 *Weight*



- A: 剑柄 *Sword handle*
- B: 装饰物 *Ornament*
- C: 收纳容器 *Container*

历经漫长发展,吴国日益强大。历代国君中,最有建树的要数吴王阖闾。如今,在无锡西边的阖闾江口,当年伍子胥为吴国建造的都城原址上,建有一座阖闾城遗址博物馆。此外,梅村附近的无锡鸿山遗址博物馆,也展示着许多发掘于吴国大地上的古代器物。

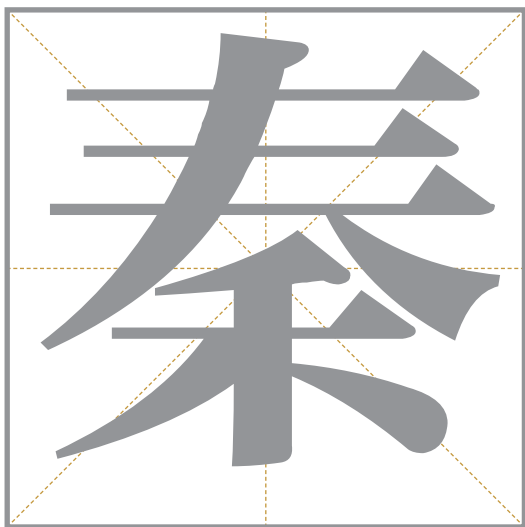
有趣的是,这些出土文物中,很多是当时人们的日常用具,因造型奇特,现在就连许多中国人也不能说出他们的用途。

请猜猜看,左列这些物品都有什么用?

After a long period, the state of Wu gradually became more powerful. Among all the kings of Wu, He Lv was the most outstanding, with the greatest achievements. Nowadays, at the riverside of Lv River in the west of Wuxi, on the original site of Wu's capital city built by Wu Zixu, stands He Lv City Ruins Museum. In addition, in the Hongshan Ruins Museum near Meicun, many ancient artifacts unearthed in the area of Wu are on display.

Interestingly, these exhibits which were mostly everyday utensils look so unusual that not many modern Chinese know what they were meant for.

Have a guess. What were these utensils (on the left) for?



qín



qín guān
秦观

“秦”是个古老而很有来头的姓，因为秦代表过一个王朝。英国广播公司2016年播出的纪录片《中国故事》提到，外国人对中国的称呼也源于此（China与“秦”音近）。

无锡秦氏，有文字记载大概900多年。资料显示，大文豪秦观（字少游）生前非常爱慕无锡的山水，所以死后，他的儿子将他迁葬到了无锡惠山。

The surname Qin (秦) is very ancient and awesome, because it represents Qin, the first dynasty in feudal China. According to *The Story of China*, a documentary by British Broadcasting Corporation, aired in 2016, the English name “China” came from “Qin” (The pronunciation of “Qin” is similar to that of “China”).

Written records on the surname Qin of Wuxi cover a history of about 900 years. Literary master Qin Guan (courtesy name Shaoyou) in the Northern Song dynasty had loved the landscape of Wuxi very much. After he died at home in Gaoyou, his son removed his remains to Huishan, Wuxi.

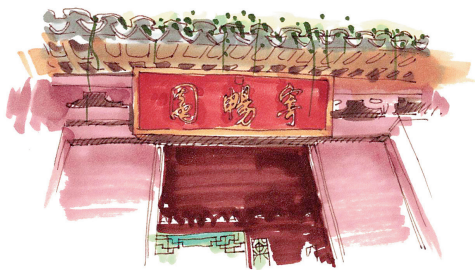
寄畅园 Jichang Garden

秦观的子孙，于南宋末年迁居无锡。后嗣血脉在无锡延续最辉煌的时期要数明代，当时崇宁路两岸都是秦姓聚居之处，其子孙逐渐向大娄巷、小娄巷、中市桥巷、东河头巷、虹桥下、县下塘等地蔓延，形成了聚族而居的大家庭规模。

秦家在无锡之所以代代兴旺、人才辈出，诗礼传家、崇尚读书是重要原因。明清两代，无锡秦家是江南典型的“科举世家”。据统计，科举时代，秦家共出了34个进士，77位举人。34名进士中，有13人点了翰林，入翰林院任职。秦弼、秦勇均和秦蕙田三人均列入一甲第三名探花，无锡市中心的“三凤桥”就是因此而得名。

秦家在无锡留下了许多珍贵的人文遗迹，其中最著名的是被誉为“江南第一园”的寄畅园。寄畅园也叫秦园，是秦观后裔秦金在朝廷任职时，买下寺院僧人的宿舍，建造而成的园子。秦金为这座园子起了个优雅的名字——“风谷行窝”。

秦园传至后代秦耀手里时，这位朝廷大官因卷入朝廷政治风波，被免去了官职。心情郁闷的秦耀回到老家无锡，自此寄情于山水之间，秦园也更名为“寄畅园”。秦氏后人陆续对寄畅园进行扩建修缮，终于使之成为江南最美的园林之一。清代康熙和乾隆两代皇帝都曾六下江南，先后14次游览寄畅园。乾隆皇帝因为酷爱寄畅园，不仅为其写了多首诗词，还命人按照寄畅园的格局在北京颐和园内建了一座“惠山园”，该园后改名“谐趣园”。1952年，秦氏后代将寄畅园献给了国家。



The offspring of Qin Guan moved to Wuxi in the late Southern Song dynasty. By the Ming dynasty, Qin's clan reached their heyday: people living on both sides of Chongning Street were mostly Qin's descendants. As the family grew, the offspring started to "colonize" the surrounding areas and spread into many other streets and alleys.

The Qin family placed high premium on discipline and learning, which enabled them to produce many talented people and thrive from generation to generation. In the Ming and Qing dynasties, Qin's family in Wuxi was the typical family in Jiangnan, which had good performance in imperial examinations. According to the statistics, during the centuries when the imperial examinations were adopted to screen for talented people for official positions, the Qins produced 34 *Jinshi* (a successful

candidate in the final round of the imperial examinations) and 77 *Juren* (a successful candidate in the imperial examinations at the provincial level in the Ming and Qing dynasties). Additionally, 13 out of the 34 passed the review of the Hanlin Academy and took office there. Qin Shi, Qin Yongjun and Qin Huitian all ranked third in the entire nation. To honor them, people named one place in Wuxi “Sanfeng Bridge (Three Phoenixes Bridge)”.

Qin’s family left Wuxi considerable cultural relics, of which the most famous is Jichang Garden, which is praised as the “No.1 Garden in Jiangnan”. Jichang Garden had been called Qin Garden. It was built by Qin Jin, one of Qin Guan’s descendants, who had bought the dormitory of a monastery and renovated it while in office. He also gave the garden an elegant name: “Phoenix Nest in the Valley”.

Later, this garden was passed on to one descendant, Qin Yao. He had been a high-ranking official in the government and was removed from his office because of a political disturbance. After the depressed man retired to Wuxi, he could only let off steam by tending this garden. He even changed its name to Jichang Garden (Jichang means “embodying a light mood”). The garden was expanded and repaired several times. In the Qing dynasty, Emperors Kangxi and Qianlong visited Jichang Garden as many as 14 times. Emperor Qianlong loved it so much that not only did he write poems about it, but he also ordered people to build a garden in the Summer Palace modeled after the design of Jichang Garden. The younger replica was first named Huishan Garden, then renamed Xiequ Garden. In 1952, Jichang Garden was donated to the public by the descendants of Qin.



清名桥 Qingming Bridge

秦耀有两个儿子，一个叫秦太清，一个叫秦太宁。受父亲影响，兄弟俩尽管都饱读诗书，却淡泊名利，不愿意入朝为官。他们在家乡无锡办学馆，认真培育可造之才。

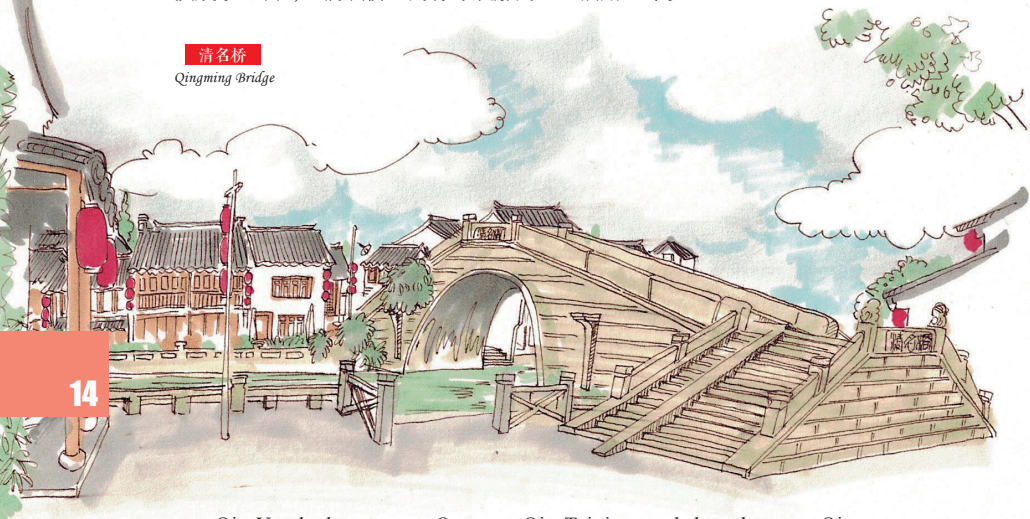
据说秦太清近80岁时，想办一场寿宴，宴请亲朋好友。秦家人缘好，平时省吃俭用，却最乐于助人。所以消息一出，亲朋好友、邻里、学生

纷纷送上寿礼。出人意料的是，两老平时从不收人半点礼物，这次竟然全数收下了。正月初一，80岁的寿星秦太清当众宣布：城南隔河相望少座桥，我们兄弟俩希望趁健在时为地方做点事，打算把历年的积蓄拿出来造一座桥，大家所送的寿礼也将全部充作桥资。

为感谢这对大公无私的秦氏兄弟，人们就从两位老人的名字里各取了一个字，命名无锡城这座独一无二的石拱大桥为“清宁桥”。后来，因为要避讳清代道光皇帝的名字（爱新觉罗·旻宁），桥名中的“宁”字被换成了“名”，“清名桥”的称呼从那时一直沿用至今。

清名桥

Qingming Bridge

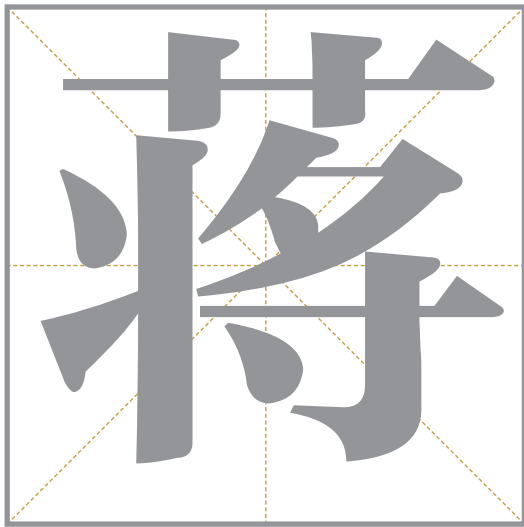


14

Qin Yao had two sons. One was Qin Taiqing, and the other was Qin Taining. Knowledgeable as they were, they were, under the influence of their father, indifferent to fame and fortune, and preferred not to seek a position in the government. Instead, they started schools in their hometown to cultivate talents.

It is said that when Qin Taiqing was about to turn 80, he decided to have a birthday party. Because his family lived a simple, frugal life and were always ready to help others, they had good fame. When the news came out, his friends, neighbors and students all came to congratulate him with presents. Contrary to his usual practice, Qin Taiqing accepted all the presents this time. On the Spring Festival, the 80-year-old declared that he and his brother had decided to donate their savings plus the gift money he had received to have a bridge built in the south of the town, since it was badly needed there.

To show gratitude to the two brothers, the local people named this unique stone arch bridge Qingning Bridge. The two characters of *qing* and *ning* in the name were respectively chosen from their given names Taiqing and Taining. Later, the bridge was renamed Qingming Bridge, as the original *ning* happened to occur in the Emperor Daoguang's name (Minning). It used to be a taboo to use the same character in the reigning emperor's name (except the surname). Today, it still goes under the name "Qingming Bridge".



jiǎng

15



jiǎng chéng
蒋澄

蒋姓以国名为氏，始于公元前8世纪的西周。据考证，蒋姓原本出自一家，因此有“天下无二蒋”的说法。因蒋姓来源比较纯正，历史上被称为“蒋氏正宗”。汉代以后的蒋姓，大都出自宜兴蒋澄一脉。

Jiang (蒋), originally the name of a state, was used as a surname in the Western Zhou dynasty in the 8th century BC. According to research, the surname Jiang has one origin only, so one saying goes, “There is only one Jiang family in the world.” Because of the unmixed blood of the family, it was historically called “pure” Jiang clan. After the Han dynasty, most of the Jiangs were descendants of Jiang Cheng of Yixing.

蒋重珍 Jiang Chongzhen

宜兴位于无锡西，蒋姓是宜兴巨族，宜兴历史上散落着数十座蒋家祠堂。据地方志统计，中国科举时代，宜兴一共出了920位进士，蒋氏一门就有85位。

无锡雪浪山的蒋子阁，是无锡历史上第一个状元蒋重珍读书的地方。宋代，蒋重珍的祖父由宜兴向东迁居至胡埭。蒋重珍幼年家境清寒，但父母竭尽所能培养他读书，他也聪明好学，从小看书就过目不忘。10岁时蒋重珍师从名家尤袤，直到老师去世，蒋母都一直在旁伴读。蒋重珍14岁后，寄居雪浪山谭云阁（即后来的蒋子阁）读书。17岁时在家中开馆授课，自任老师。此后，他边教书边自学，学问进步很快。

据说退休官员张正甫曾请蒋重珍去家里讲学。当时，张家书堂前有一株红梅，已经枯萎。蒋重珍当时正准备第二年进京赶考，于是他向枯梅发愿：“如果能考上，梅树就重生开花。”从此，蒋重珍讲学之余，精心栽培这株梅花。第二年春天，枯枝上竟真的开出了红梅。而蒋重珍在35岁时（1223年）进京赶考，果然一举夺魁，成为无锡历史上第一个状元。

红梅花开，状元高中。从此，那株老梅被后人称为“状元梅”，而蒋重珍也以“一梅”为号（注：中国古人的“号”，类似于今天的笔名）。



状元梅
Zhuangyuan Plum

Jiang family is one of the most distinguished in Yixing, which is located in the west of Wuxi. Dozens of Jiang's ancestral halls were found in Yixing. According to local chronicles, during Chinese imperial examination era, 920 *Jinshi* came from Yixing and among them, 85 were from the Jiang clan.

Jiangzi Pavilion in Xuelang Mountain, Wuxi, was where Jiang Chongzhen, Wuxi's first *Zhuangyuan* (the top one in the imperial examination), hit the books. During the Song dynasty, the grandfather of Jiang Chongzhen moved east from Yixing to Hudai. In his childhood, Chongzhen's family was poverty-stricken. Even so, his parents managed to provide for his schooling, and the son did not disappoint them. Chongzhen had the talent, diligence and a retentive

memory. Since Chongzhen started having the famous scholar You Mao as his tutor at the age of 10, his mother was his faithful companion at study, until the teacher's death four years later. At 14, Jiang Chongzhen lodged in Tanyun Pavilion (later called Jiangzi Pavilion) to concentrate on his study. Three years later, he became a tutor himself, working from home. Since then, he had taught other children and himself at the same time, and made rapid academic progress.

It is said that Chongzhen was called in by a retired official Zhang Zhengfu to give his children lessons. At that time, there was a withering plum tree in the front of Zhang's school room. Jiang was preparing for the imperial examination in the next year, so he prayed before the dry tree: "Revive and bloom again, if I am to succeed in the coming exam." Since then, Jiang took good care of the tree after his lessons every day. The following spring, the tree came back to life and was in bloom. Interestingly and sure enough, Jiang came out on top in the imperial examination. He was 35 that year (1223), setting a record to be the first *Zhuangyuan* in the history of Wuxi.

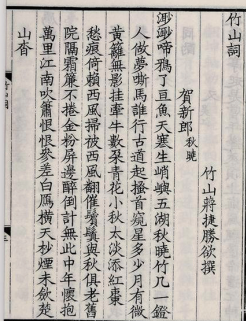
Therefore, the old red plum tree was called Zhuangyuan Plum by later generations, and Jiang Chongzhen took "Yimei (a plum)" as his *hao* (similar to today's pseudonym).

中国历史人物蒋介石的祖籍是宜兴蒋家村，他曾到无锡蒋子阁祭拜过蒋重珍，寻根到宜兴认祖归宗，祭拜先祖

The Chinese historical figure, Chiang Kai-shek, was from Jiangiacun in Yixing. He once went to Jiangzi Pavilion in Yixing to remember Jiang Chongzhen. He also found his root in Yixing and prayed at the tombs of his remote ancestors.

蒋子阁
Jiangzi Pavilion





竹山詞
Zhushan Ci

蔣捷 Jiang Jie

蔣捷，中國南宋末年四大詞人之一，生于亂世。據說在 1274 年考中進士，還未入仕途，蒙古大軍的錚錚鐵蹄就踏破了錦繡山川。

蔣捷出身名門，接受的是典型的儒家家教，人品高潔，自然不會入元朝的仕途。雖中進士，却選擇退隱江湖，客舟為家，浪蕩浮生，共留詩詞九十多首，傳《竹山詞》。

“家國不幸，詩家幸”。報國無門，一腔鬱悶無從宣洩，只能轉化成詩詞。字里行間，你或能看到二十世紀流亡作家的影子。他的代表作為《虞美人·听雨》：

少年听雨歌楼上，红烛昏罗帐。壮年听雨客舟中，江阔云低，断雁叫西风。

而今听雨僧庐下，鬓已星星也。悲欢离合总无情，一任阶前点滴到天明。

Jiang Jie, one of the four most famous composers of *ci* poetry toward the end of the Southern Song dynasty, was born in troubled times. It is said that, in 1274, he passed three major examinations and got the title of *Jinshi*. However, before he could serve in the government, the Mongolian cavalry invaded the Song dynasty and disrupted everything.

Jiang Jie had been born into a noble family embracing classical Confucianism. Since he was a man of great virtues, he never ever debased himself by serving in the Yuan dynasty government set up by the conquering Mongols. He retreated into the shadows, wandering around the country and leaving more than 90 poems with a poetic collection entitled “Zhushan Ci”.

Ironically, “the misfortune of the country and the people should nourish poetry”. Jiang could do nothing but express his pent-up anger and misery in his *ci* poetry. You may agree that his poetry anticipated the writers in exile of the 20th

century. For example, his magnum opus, “Listening to Rain (Tune: The Beautiful Lady Yu)” (translated by Xu Yuanchong):

*While young, I listened to rain in the house of song,
Overjoyed in curtained bed
Beside a candle red.*

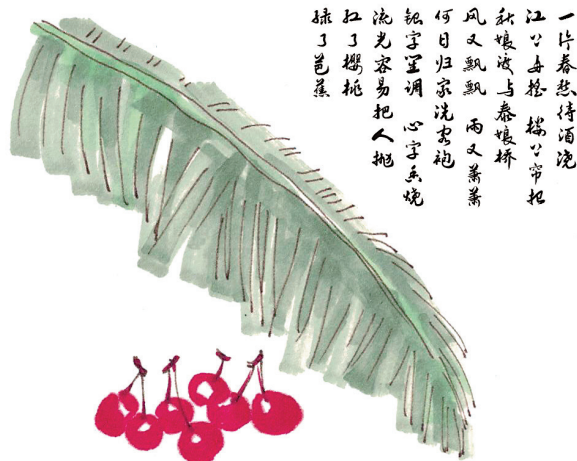
*In prime of life I heard rain on the river long,
In lonely boat, when wailed wild geese
Beneath low clouds in western breeze.*

*Now that I listen to rain under temple's eaves,
My hair turns grey
Like starry ray.*

*Who cares if men will meet or part, rejoice or grieve?
Can I feel joy or sorrow?
Let it rain till tomorrow!*

而大家耳熟能详的“流光容易把人抛，红了樱桃，绿了芭蕉”，也出自蒋捷之手。

When Jiang recalled that everything had changed as time went by, he just used one line in “My Boat Passing by Southern River”: *Oh, time and tide will not wait for a man forlorn: with cherry red spring dies, when green banana sighs* (translated by Xu Yuanchong and Xu Ming).



古时候,中国人的“名”和“字”是不同的。旧说婴儿出生3个月后,由父亲命“名”;男子20岁举行冠礼时,再取“字”。

有了一定成就或身份后,还会取不同的“号”。“号”是“名”和“字”以外的称谓,也称别号、雅号、尊号,或别字。

比如孔子,他姓“孔”,名“丘”,字“仲尼”,尊称“孔子”。

更通俗的解读就是:

“名”相当于小名、乳名,一般只有父母或长辈才能叫。

“字”则相当于现在的学名,用于同辈之间互相称呼。

“号”则相当于笔名,有尊敬之意,同辈或后辈都可以叫。尊称,则一般是晚辈对长辈或前辈的称呼。

到了宋代以后,中国文人之间特别喜欢以“号”相称,因此造成别号、尊号盛行,一个人的真实姓名反而遭到冷落。

因为“号”既可以自取,又可以别人尊称,随意而取,任意而改,所以,有些文人取了很多“号”,甚至多达几十个或上百个。譬如近代文人鲁迅,据说其一生所用名号超过140个,而他的真名“周树人”很多人却未必知晓。

In ancient China, “given name” and “courtesy name” were different. It was said that when a baby was three months old, the father would give it a name. When a boy came of age at 20, he would get a “courtesy name” at the coming-of-age ceremony.

If he made certain achievements or made a name, he would be given different *hao*. *Hao* is another form of address, also known as nickname, style name, honorific title, or alias.

Consider Confucius. His surname was “Kong”, his given name, “Qiu”, his courtesy name, “Zhongni”, and his honorific title, “Confucius”.

To put it in plain words:

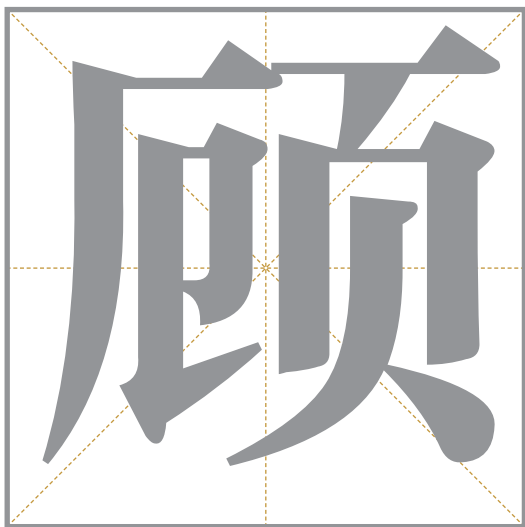
“Given name” is equivalent to the child’s pet name, generally used by his parents or other elders.

“Courtesy name” is equivalent to the official name when registering for school education, usually used by one’s schoolmates.

Hao, like a pseudonym, carries some respect and is used by one’s peers or the younger generation. Honorific titles are generally employed by younger people or people of lower status.

In the Song dynasty, *hao* became very popular among scholars. On the other hand, their real names were quite often ignored.

Because *hao* can be created by the owner himself or by others and they are arbitrarily invented and modified with few restrictions, it is not uncommon for some scholars to have dozens of or even a hundred *hao*. Modern celebrity Lu Xun, for example, is said to have used more than 140 *hao* in his life. However, his real name, Zhou Shuren, seems to have long faded into oblivion.



gù

21



gù yú hóu
顾余侯

顾姓在无锡一带繁衍，已经有两千多年了。究其先祖，可追溯到历史上因“卧薪尝胆”闻名于世的越王勾践。勾践的第八代孙——期，被封为“顾余侯”。大概在汉代初年，顾余侯以官名为姓，改姓顾，江南“顾”姓由此诞生，并在江浙一带繁衍生根。

The Gu (顾) family in Wuxi has a history of more than 2,000 years. Their ancestry can be traced back to Goujian, the famous king of Yue, who is known for “wo xin chang dan (undergoing some self-imposed hardships before avenging oneself)”. Qi, of the eighth generation of Goujian, was made Guyuhou (Marquis Guyu). In the early years of the Han dynasty, Guyuhou changed his surname to Gu. Since then, the Gu clan have established themselves in parts of Jiangsu and Zhejiang.

顾恺之 Gu Kaizhi

顾姓在无锡史上最有名的人是顾恺之，他有“画祖”“画圣”之称。

魏晋时期，江南吴地有顾、陆、朱、张四大家族。顾恺之即来自排名第一的顾氏家族。从史料来看，因父亲顾悦之倾慕无锡的山水风光，常客居无锡，所以顾恺之出生在无锡。

顾恺之的画是画坛一绝。最有代表性的《洛神赋图》，是“中国十大传世名画”之一。画卷根据中国历史人物曹植的《感甄赋》而作，描绘了凡人男子与仙女的爱情。卷中人物在不同时空交替、重叠，营造出的空间美感让世人感叹：“此图一出，无人再敢绘。”顾恺之还有一幅传世名作《女史箴图》一直深藏于皇宫，是中国存世时间最长的传奇画作，现收藏于大英博物馆。



《洛神赋图》第一卷（局部） Part of the first volume of Tale of the Goddess of Luo River

顾恺之的“传神论”代表了一个时代的美学思潮。在他看来，眼睛是传神之物，不可轻易下笔。

The “spirit-giving” theory proposed by Gu Kaizhi represented the aesthetic trends of thought of this era. In his view, in painting figures, the eyes were the spirit and key feature. If they had to be portrayed, it must be done with the greatest discretion.

One of the most famous people in the Gu clan in the history of Wuxi is Gu Kaizhi, known as “the father of Chinese painting” or “the guru of Chinese painting”.

In Wei-Jin periods, there were four famous families in the area of Wu surnamed Gu, Lu, Zhu and Zhang. Gu Kaizhi, as the surname suggests, was from the Gu family. According to records, Gu Kaizhi’s father Gu Yuezhi

admired the landscape of Wuxi very much, and often came to spend time in Wuxi, where Gu Kaizhi was to be born.

Gu Kaizhi's paintings are quite outstanding. His most representative work, *Tale of the Goddess of Luo River*, is one of "China's top ten famous paintings". This painting was inspired by "Gan Zhen Fu", an article about the dream of the author Cao Zhi, a Chinese historical figure. It depicts the pure and sincere love between a human and a goddess. In this painting, characters alternate and overlap naturally, and the portrait of scenery shows the spatial sensuality. Once the painting was out, artists exclaimed that "nobody dares to paint this subject again".

Gu Kaizhi had another masterpiece *The Admonitions of the Instructress to the Court Ladies*, which had been locked away in the imperial palace. It is one of China's oldest works of art, now in the collection of the British Museum.



顾毓琇 Gu Yuxiu

无锡市中心的学前街，有一座顾毓琇纪念馆，旧时这里是顾氏的族祠。附近的虹桥湾则是顾氏聚居之地。

顾毓琇毕业于麻省理工学院，以短短三年半时间在那里读完了本科、硕士、博士，创造了麻省理工学院的纪录，也成为第一个获得该校博士学位的中国人。回国后，顾毓琇担任过多所高校的教授或校长。顾毓琇是国际公认的机电学科权威、自动控制理论先驱，并且在其专业领域，有用其名字命名的理论。

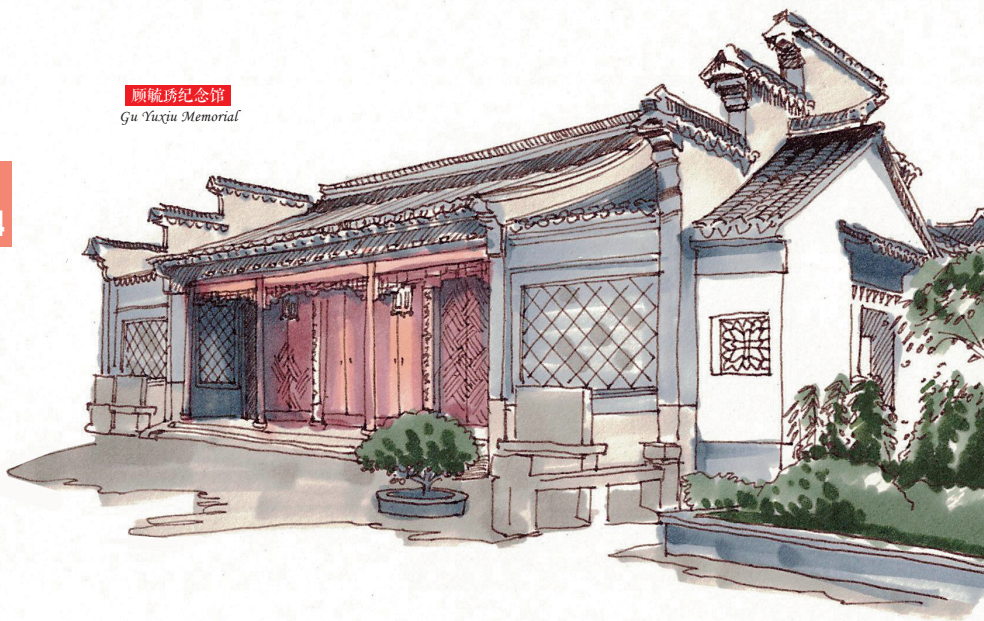
顾毓琇不只是一个优秀的理工人才，他是一个文理全才、奇才，他在其他领域取得的成就同样堪称传奇。

他是位多产诗人，曾获国际诗人大会“桂冠诗人”称号，一生写下

了7000多首诗，笔名顾一樵，获得过巴西人文学院金奖；他也是成就斐然的现代戏剧家，自编自导过多部话剧；他还是一位音乐家，曾将中国的古曲民乐“自度曲”翻成五线谱，也是第一个将贝多芬的《第九交响曲》翻译成中文的人；他是出色的教育家，除了创办清华大学理工学院，创建了清华电机系、无线电研究所、航空研究所外，还兼任国立音乐学院（中央音乐学院前身）首任院长，创立了上海戏剧专科学校（上海戏剧学院前身）。顾毓琇在专业之外的头衔和成就，让世人惊叹。

最后要告诉你的是，包括顾毓琇在内的顾家五兄弟个个都是博士，分别是顾毓琦（德国汉堡大学博士）、顾毓琇（美国麻省理工学院博士）、顾毓琮（美国康乃尔大学博士）、顾毓珍（美国麻省理工学院博士）、顾毓瑞（台湾文化大学博士）。“一门五博士”是顾氏家族为无锡这座城市平添的一大佳话。

顾毓琇纪念馆
Gu Yuxiu Memorial



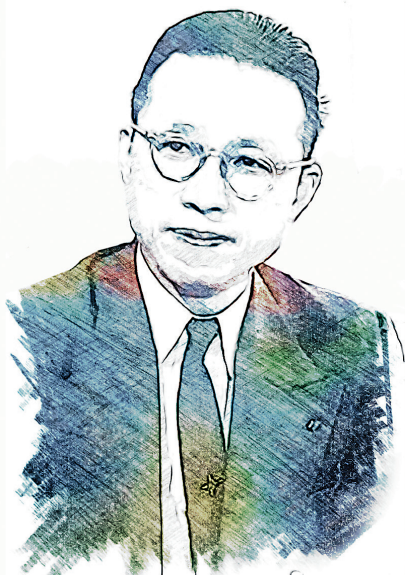
Gu Yuxiu Memorial lies in Xueqian Street, where the ancestral hall of the Gu's clan used to be. The Hongqiao Bay nearby is mainly inhabited by the Gu's families.

Gu Yuxiu graduated from MIT. He got his Bachelor's, Master's and Doctor's degrees within a matter of three and a half years, setting a record at MIT. He was also the first Chinese to have received a doctorate at MIT. After returning to China, Gu worked as professor or president in several universities. Gu is internationally recognized as an authority in electrical engineering, and a pioneer in automatic control theory. In the professional field, several theories were named after him.

Not just a talent in science and technology, Gu Yuxiu was a versatile wizard in humanities and arts as well. His achievements in other fields are also fabulous.

He was a prolific poet who wrote more than 7,000 poems in his life under the pen name of Gu Yiqiao. He was given the laureate title by the World Congresses of Poets and also awarded the Pro Mundi Beneficio Medal. He was a highly successful modern dramatist and he wrote and directed several plays. He was also a musician: he translated Chinese ancient folk music “Zi Duo Qu (self-recreated songs)” into staff, and he was also the first to translate *Symphony No. 9 in D Minor* of Beethoven into Chinese. He was a great educator: in addition to establishing the School of Engineering of Tsinghua University, he created Electrical Engineering Department, Research Institute of Radio Engineering and the Aeronautic Research Institute in Tsinghua University, served as the first president of the predecessor institution of the Central Conservatory of Music and founded the predecessor institution of the Shanghai Theater Academy. Gu Yuxiu’s titles and achievements outside his major professional field are astonishing.

Gu was one of the five sons in his family. Besides him, the other four had the Doctor’s degree too. They were Gu Yuqi (Universität Hamburg, Germany), Gu Yuquan (Cornell University, US), Gu Yuzhen (MIT, US), Gu Yurui (Taiwan Culture University, China). “A family of five doctorate holders” is the envy of all other families in Wuxi.



顾毓琇
Gu Yuxiu

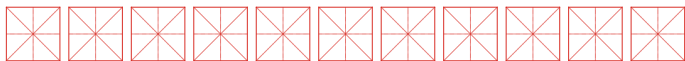
上联 First line

fēng shēng yǔ shēng dú shū shēng shēng shēng rù ěr
 风 声 雨 声 读 书 声 声 声 入 耳

对联是中国特有的文字智力游戏。无锡东林书院有一副对联，上联是“风声雨声读书声 声声入耳”，请你试着填出字数相等、字词相对、词性相同、声调协调的下联。

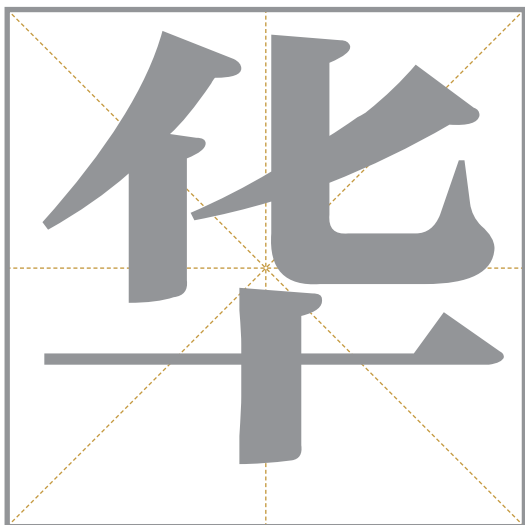
The couplet is a kind of intellectual game with Chinese characters. Donglin Academy in Wuxi has one couplet. The first line is “No sounds of the wind, the rain and the reciting escape my ears (风声雨声读书声 声声入耳)”. You can try thinking of the second line which should correspond with the first in word class, rhythm and sense, with the same number of characters.

下联 Second line



明代思想家、东林党领袖顾宪成所写的这副对联，下联为“家事国事天下事 事事关心”。对联的诗意和深意，成为后世齐家治国平天下者们共同的心声和座右铭。顾宪成因早年得罪万历皇帝被免职，回到家乡，与其弟顾允成、好友高攀龙一起在无锡开堂授课，并领衔复建了东林书院。书院中人因讲习之余常谈论时事，大胆批判社会黑暗面，观念锐意创新，被称为“东林党”。

It was Gu Xiancheng, the leader of Donglin Group and a thinker in the Ming dynasty, who thought of the couplet, and the second line he gave was “The affairs of the households, the country and the world are all concerns (家事国事天下事 事事关心)”. The implication of this couplet finds echo in the hearts of the people with lofty ideals. Gu was an official in the government. Somehow, what he did angered Emperor Wanli and he was removed from his office. After he returned home, with the support of his brother Gu Yuncheng and his friend Gao Panlong, he started a school and gave lectures in Wuxi, and he also led the efforts to rebuild Donglin Academy. People in the Academy often talked about the political affairs after school, radically exposing the dark side of the society and expressing novel ideas, and soon they came to be labeled as “Donglin Group”.



huà

27



huà bǎo
华宝

相传，华这个姓氏就起源于陕西华山一带。

华氏在无锡约有1700多年的历史，是明清时期无锡第一望族。据历史记载，居住于无锡的华氏，尊晋朝孝子华宝为远祖。在无锡惠山脚下的家族祠堂中，最古老的一座，就是纪念华宝的“华孝子祠”。

It is said that the surname Hua (华) originated in the area of Mount Hua in Shaanxi Province.

The Hua clan has settled down in Wuxi for more than 1,700 years. It was the most prestigious family in Wuxi during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Records show that the Huas in Wuxi are the descendants of a filial son Hua Bao in the Jin dynasty. Hua Xiaozici, established in honor of Hua Bao, is the oldest among the ancestral halls at the foot of Huishan Mountain.

华宝 Hua Bao

华宝的父亲华豪在出征前，承诺年幼的华宝说：“等我打完仗回来，为你结发戴冠。”按照古时礼制，男子20岁为弱冠，要行“冠礼”以表示成人。但战争不幸夺走了父亲的生命，出于孝义，华宝终身恪守与父亲的约定，既不戴冠，也未娶妻。华宝因此被称为“孝子”，后皇帝赐“孝子”匾额。唐代，华宝在惠山的故宅，被改建成了“华孝子祠”。这座祠堂屡经兴废，最后一次修复是在清代乾隆二十七年（1762年）。

华宝70岁时，过继了弟弟华宽的儿子。华宝的18世孙全家曾迁居京都汴梁。其后嗣——华原泉，又在靖康年间随宋高宗南渡，重返无锡故乡，住在梅里乡的隆亭（今东亭）。后世子孙主要聚居荡口、东亭两镇。而荡口华氏，更是绵延成一方富庶大户。

华孝子祠

Hua Xiaozici

28



Hua Bao's father Hua Hao, before setting out for the battlefield, promised his son little Hua Bao, "When I come back, I will hold the coming-of-age ceremony for you." According to the ancient ritual, when a man turned 20, a ceremony should be held to cap him to indicate that he had come of age. But unfortunately, his father got killed in action. Hua Bao never got the chance to

have the ritual from his father, and he chose never to marry in his whole life, in keeping with the commitment between him and his father. Therefore, Hua Bao was thought of as a filial son. Soon he was awarded the plaque, from His Majesty himself, which read “Xiaozi (Filial Son)”. In the Tang dynasty, Hua Bao’s former residence in Huishan was converted into the ancestral hall Hua Xiaozi Ci. The hall went through ups and downs. It was last renovated in 1762.

When Hua Bao was 70, he adopted a nephew, the son of his brother Hua Kuan. Hua Bao’s 18th generation migrated to the capital of Song dynasty—Bianliang. However, following the Emperor Gaozong of Song dynasty, who moved his capital to the south to avoid being harrassed by the nomads from the north, the descendant Hua Yuanquan came back to Wuxi and lived in Longting (today’s Dongting), Meili. His descendants now mostly inhabit Dangkou and Dongting. The Hua family in Dangkou in particular has developed into a big wealthy family.



三笑姻缘 Laugh in the Sleeve

“唐伯虎点秋香”的三笑姻缘故事，在中国几乎是无人不知。故事说的是江南才子唐伯虎（唐寅，字伯虎，明代著名书画家、文学家）隐名埋姓，以教书先生的身份潜入华府，追求佳人秋香并最终与之成婚。故事中华府的华太师，传说就是华察。华察时任翰林院修撰，还担任过皇子侍读和出使朝鲜的特使。

当然，这个故事纯属虚构，现实中的华太师比唐伯虎小了27岁，而有案可稽的真实秋香更比唐伯虎大了二十岁左右。

The story “Laugh in the Sleeve” is almost a household tale. Tang Bohu (Bohu was his courtesy name), whose personal name was Tang Yin, was a scholar and famous artist in Jiangnan in the Ming dynasty. He concealed

his true identity to serve as a tutor in the house of a high-ranking official surnamed Hua, called “Hua Taishi”, just to court the beauty—Qiuxiang, a maid servant of Lady Hua. Tang finally married her in spite of some turns and twists. The official in this story was said to be Hua Cha. Hua Cha once was a historiographer in Hanlin Academy, and also served as a royal tutor and a special envoy to North Korea.

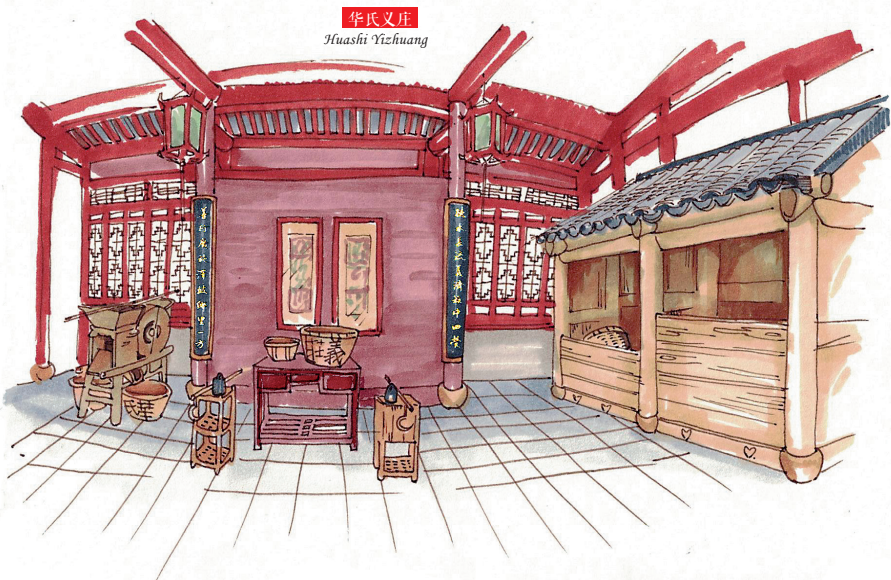
However, this story is fictitious. In reality, Tang Bohu was 27 years older than Hua Taishi, and about 20 years younger than the real Qiuxiang.

华氏义庄 Huashi Yizhuang

义庄，是中国古代特有的、由家族设立的慈善机构，主要功能是对族人实施扶危济困，为本族贫寒子弟提供钱粮、衣物等资助。

无锡的第一座义庄就是荡口的华氏义庄，它也是江南一带保存最完整、规模最大、存续时间最长的义庄之一。这座义庄建于清朝乾隆年间，曾获得乾隆皇帝的嘉奖。后来，华氏子孙还陆续创办了芬义庄、永义庄、春义庄、襄义庄、徐义庄等。荡口一带义庄最多时达十座以上。

在华氏义庄的带动下，有着崇文重教传统的无锡大家族，渐渐也开始兴办教育，家族义庄逐渐形成规模，成为乡村最有力的经济组织和教育机构，不仅帮助缩小了民间的贫富差距，也对农村安定和经济发展推动很大。而荡口华氏子孙代代兴旺，很大程度上也受益于义庄这类慈善制度的推广。



Yizhuang (charitable estate) was a unique charity in ancient China, established by wealthy clans. It was set up mainly to relieve poor families, and to offer help to poor students by providing money, food, clothes, etc.

The first such establishment in Wuxi was Huashi Yizhuang (or Hua's Charitable Estate) at Dangkou. It was also one of the best preserved, largest and oldest charitable estates in Jiangnan. This estate was built in the Qianlong era of the Qing dynasty and even won praise from the Emperor. Later, Hua's posterity established more such charities—Fen Yizhuang, Yong Yizhuang, Chun Yizhuang, Xiang Yizhuang, Xu Yizhuang, etc. At one time, there were over ten charitable estates at Dangkou.

Following the example of Huashi Yizhuang, other wealthy families sharing the tradition of advocating literacy and education in Wuxi started some educational institutions. Their charitable estates gradually became the most powerful economic and educational institutions, which not only helped narrow the gap between the rich and the poor, but also contributed to the equity, stability and economic development of the country. The prosperity of the descendants of the Huas at Dangkou owed much to the charity system of *Yizhuang*.

铜活字印刷 Copper movable-type printing

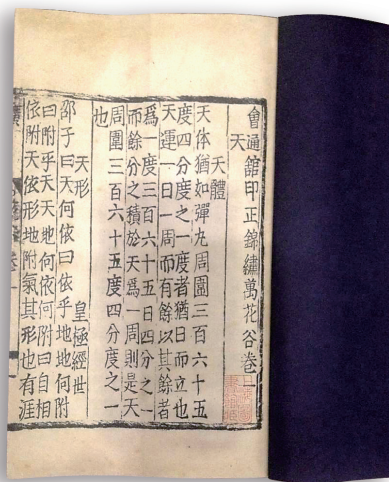
宋人毕昇首创的泥活字印刷术，是中国古代四大发明之一。不过，铜活字印刷真正在中国流行起来，却是从明代江南开始的。

位于荡口的会通馆是一家私人印书作坊，在中国印刷史上有着不同凡响的地位，其铜活字印刷声名远播，国家图书馆中收藏的许多早期刻印的典籍，有不少就出自会通馆。

会通馆的主人叫华燧。因为喜欢收藏经史古籍，华燧就在家中开辟场所专事刻印书籍，且率先采用铜制字模。他用铜活字印刷的《宋诸臣奏议》《锦绣万花谷》《容斋随笔》等典籍，堪比肩欧洲金属活字“摇篮本”。

今天，无锡荡口、甘露一带仍是著名的印刷之乡。

The clay movable-type printing invented by Bi Sheng of the Song dynasty is one of the four great inventions ancient Chinese offered to the world. However, it was in Jiangnan during the Ming dynasty that the copper movable-type





printing became popular.

Hui Tong Guan, a kind of private workshop for printing, located in Dangkou, featured high in the history of movable-type printing. Its copper movable-type printing was known far and wide. A lot of the early works in the National Library were made in it.

The owner of Hui Tong Guan was Hua Sui. As he loved collecting ancient books, he set apart some space at home for printing books, and was a pioneer in using copper types. He used copper movable types to print books such as *Song Zhuchen Zouyi*, *Jinxiu Wanhuagu*, and *Rongzhai Suibi*. These works could match the European “incunabula” of metal movable-type printing.

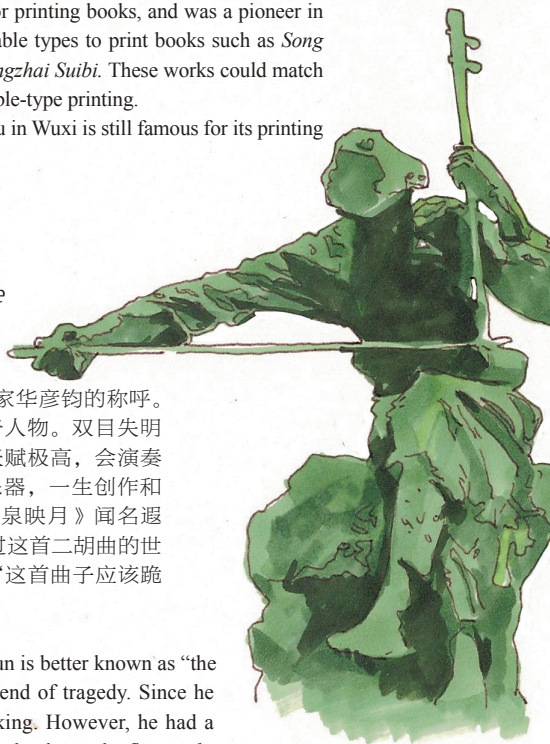
Today, the area of Ganlu and Dangkou in Wuxi is still famous for its printing business.

《二泉映月》

The Moon Reflected in the Second Spring

“瞎子阿炳”是人们对著名民乐家华彦钧的称呼。在无锡，阿炳是一位充满悲情的传奇人物。双目失明的他，以在街头卖艺为生。他音乐天赋极高，会演奏鼓、笛、二胡、三弦、琵琶等多种乐器，一生创作和演奏了270多首民间乐曲，其中《二泉映月》闻名遐迩，被誉为“东方命运交响曲”。听过这首二胡曲的世界著名指挥家小泽征尔，曾感慨道：“这首曲子应该跪着听……”

The famous folk musician Hua Yanjun is better known as “the blind man Ah Bing”. Ah Bing was a legend of tragedy. Since he went blind, he earned his living by busking. However, he had a very great talent for music and could play the drum, the flute, *erhu*, *saxian* (a three-stringed instrument), *pipa* and the like. He composed and performed more than 270 pieces of folk music, the most famous one being *The Moon Reflected in the Second Spring*, which was honored as “the Chinese Symphony No. 5 in C Minor”. When the world-famous conductor Seiji Ozawa heard it, he said, “One should be on his knees to deserve to hear the wonderful music ...”



二泉映月(选段)

The Moon Reflected in the Second Spring

(a selected section)

(大文豪谱例改编)

华彦钧(阿炳)曲

Composed by Jiu Tian Tang (Jiu Bing)

每分钟48-58拍
48-58 beats per minute

每分种48-58拍
 48-58 beats per minute

华彦钧(阿炳)曲
 Composed by Jiu Tian Tang (Jiu Bing)

二泉映月(选段)
 The Moon Reflected in the Second Spring
 (a selected section)
 (大文豪谱例改编)

每分钟48-58拍
 48-58 beats per minute

华彦钧(阿炳)曲
 Composed by Jiu Tian Tang (Jiu Bing)

冠礼，中国古代汉族男子20岁的成人礼

Guanli, the coming-of-age ceremony for 20-year-old Han males in ancient China

冠礼是中国古代汉族男子的成年礼。冠，即帽子。男子年满20岁时，要改换发髻，戴上帽子，以示成年。但在这个年龄，身体不够强壮，故称“弱冠”。

冠礼对中国古人来说是个非常讲究的仪式。据记载，贵族男子到20岁时，由父亲或兄长 in 宗庙主持冠礼。仪式要挑选吉日，选定加冠来宾，并准备祭祀天地、祖先的供品，然后由父亲或兄长引领进太庙，祭告天地、祖先。

冠礼，需依次加冠三次（即依次戴上三顶帽子），先戴黑麻布材质做的缁布冠，表示从此有参政的资格，能担负起社会责任；接着再加白鹿皮做的皮弁（*biàn*），表示从此要服兵役以保卫社稷疆土；最后加红中带黑的素冠（古代最通行的礼帽），表示从此可以参加祭祀大典。

冠礼从周朝开始一直持续到清末。后来，由于西风东渐，冠礼逐渐没落消失。

Guanli was the coming-of-age ceremony for Han males in ancient China. “Guan” refers to a hat or a cap. When a man was 20, he should change his hairstyle and wear a hat showing he was an adult. But at this age, he was not fully grown, so it was called *ruoguan* (*ruo* in Chinese means “weak”).

The ritual of Guanli was a very exquisite and solemn occasion. According to records, when an aristocratic man turned 20, his father or elder brother would preside over the ceremony in their ancestral hall. They would pick an auspicious day, select the guests, and prepare sacrifices for heaven, earth and ancestors, and finally the father or elder brother would usher the young adult into the ancestral hall to worship ancestors as well as heaven and earth.

The ceremony meant putting on three hats or caps in turn. The first was *zibu guan*, made of black linen, indicating the man had the right to take part in political life and should take on social responsibility; the second was *pibian*, made of fur of white deer. It meant that from then on, he would be prepared any time to serve in the armed forces to defend his country. The last one was a red and black hat, called *suguan* (the most popular hat worn on formal occasions), meaning he was entitled to attend the grand ritual ceremonies.

The ceremony was performed from the Zhou dynasty until the late Qing dynasty. As Western influences gained momentum, this ancient tradition fell into oblivion.



qián



wú sù wáng
武肃王

在汉字中，“钱”是所有货币的统称。而“钱”作为姓氏，在《百家姓》中位列第二，仅次于赵。

无锡惠山横街和直街交汇处附近，有一座钱武肃王祠，又称“钱王祠”，就是吴越人钱镠的后代迁徙到无锡后，为祭祀祖先所建的宗祠（五代十国时期，杭州临安人钱镠创建吴越国，钱氏名扬天下）。

As a common noun, *qian* (钱) is a general word for money. As a family name in *A Book of Family Names*, Qian was second only to Zhao (the family name of the reigning Emperor in Song dynasty).

Near the crossroads of Heng Street and Zhi Street at Huishan, Wuxi, stands an ancient ancestral hall in honor of Qian Liu, whose descendants erected the memorial after they had come and settled in Wuxi. Previously during the Five Dynasties, Qian Liu had created the vassal state Wuyue in Lin'an, Hangzhou.

纳士归宋 Submitting Wuyue and serving the Song dynasty

中国钱姓早期血脉比较单一，很少发生外族和外姓融入。江南钱氏堪称著姓望族。据考证，他们大多是吴越国王钱镠（852年—932年）的后嗣。

五代十国（907年—979年）是唐朝藩镇割据、政治分裂的产物，钱镠是这个特殊时期吴越国的创建者。他礼贤下士，广罗人才，奖励垦荒，发展农桑，兴修水利。钱镠在位期间，百姓安居乐业。

钱镠根据自己的经历，把做人的道理和处事的原则统统写进《钱氏家训》。后来，钱镠的孙子钱弘俶遵循祖训，带全族三千余人赶赴开封，主动上书“纳士归宋”，俯首称臣，以钱氏一家之利，换取江南地区免受生灵涂炭，百姓依然安居乐业，功德不可谓不厚。

因此，北宋初的《百家姓》开头即是“赵钱孙李”，赵氏为帝，“赵”姓排在第一位，“钱”姓紧随其后，位列第二，足见钱氏国王在百姓心中的地位。

钱氏家族人才蔚起，遍布于世界各地，横跨各领域。在近现代，仅无锡一地，钱氏就出了10位院士和学部委员。

钱氏家训
The Qian Family Doctrines



这本饱含人生智慧的宝典，在钱氏家族中代代相传，现在也被钱姓以外的中国人当作学习的范本和成功的秘籍

The book, full of wisdom of life, has been passed on by the Qian family for generations. It is also considered by other Chinese people to be a classic for self-cultivation and a secret to success in life, applicable to everyone.

In early times, the generations bearing the surname Qian married mainly between their own clansmen—they hardly ever mixed with other clans. In Jiangnan, the Qian is a prominent clan. Research has found that most of them are the descendants of Qian Liu (852–932).

In the period of the Five Dynasties and Ten Kingdoms (907–979) which resulted from military governorship and political separation in the declining years of the Tang dynasty, Qian Liu became the founder of the vassal state Wuyue. He was courteous, respectful of talented scholars, supportive of land reclamation (with rewards) and in favor of farming and sericultural development. Under his rule, people in Wuyue lived a relatively peaceful life.

To help educate his offspring, Qian summarized his life in *The Qian Family*

Doctrines, which upheld what he saw as virtues and wisdom. Following his teachings, his grandson Qian Hongchu led over 3,000 of his clansmen to Kaifeng, the capital city of the emerging Northern Song dynasty, and capitulated to the new Emperor. They gave up their real estates as a sign of complete submission, in exchange for His Majesty's pledge to pardon those in Jiangnan who had resisted the new regime at first. His sincerity was such that his request was graciously granted by His Majesty, who pardoned those who had put up resistance, instead of slaughtering them, as many previous emperors would have done. The people owed their very existence to the Qian clan, who had rescued them at great expenses.

A Book of Family Names, compiled at the beginning of the Northern Song dynasty, begins with "Zhao, Qian, Sun, Li". Indisputably, Zhao, the surname of the then emperor Zhao Kuangyin, came on top. It was noticeable that Qian, the surname of the above-mentioned selfless clan, came second, which is enough testimony to the great esteem in which the Qians had been held.

The Qian clan has produced plenty of talents, who are scattered around the world, in different fields. Wuxi alone has contributed 10 academicians and CASAD committee members surnamed Qian in the modern times.

钱穆、钱伟长 Qian Mu and Qian Weichang

钱穆、钱伟长叔侄，无锡鸿山镇（原鸿声镇）七房桥村人，一个是著名的历史学家、国学大师，一个是著名的“力学之父”、应用数学家。

钱家原本经济殷实，其老宅门口悬挂着“五世同堂”的牌匾，鸿声钱家当年的兴旺景象可窥一斑。但也正因为家族人丁兴旺，子嗣繁多，祖上住房和田产越分越少，传到钱穆的父辈时已无可分的家产，沦为赤贫。

钱穆年少时，靠着怀海义庄的资助才得以上学读书。他一生著述等身，对后世学术界有着重大影响。

钱伟长考入清华大学历史系时，入学物理成绩仅为5分，理科总成绩才25分。受科学救国思想的影响，他转入物理专业，刻苦努力下，以优异的成绩从清华大学物理系毕业，并最终成为中国著名的力学泰斗，堪称奇迹。

七房桥的怀海义庄有500多年历史，怀海，取“胸怀如海”之意

Huanghai Yezhuang in Qifangqiao dates back more than 500 years. Huanghai, literally means "cherishing a sea of compassion and generosity".



Qian Mu and Qian Weichang, who were uncle and nephew, came from Qifangqiao in Hongshan (formerly Hongsheng), Wuxi. Qian Mu was a famous historian and a guru of the Chinese cultural studies. His nephew Qian Weichang was known as a master of mechanics and applied mathematics.

Several generations ago, their family was financially comfortable. The honorable plaque “Wu Shi Tong Tang (Five Generations under the Same Roof)” shows the prosperity and fortune they once enjoyed. However, as the population multiplied, their property did not go very far, as the share of their real estates dwindled to nothing after being divided by generation after generation. By the time Qian Mu was born, his family had already been reduced to abject poverty.

Qian Mu was fortunate to get Huaihai Yizhuang’s funding, without which he would not even be able to go to school. In his long lifetime, Qian Mu authored many works, which have impacted his peers and will continue to do so for later scholars.

When Qian Weichang was admitted to the Department of History, Tsinghua University, he had scored merely 5 points in physics and a total of 25 points for sciences. However, motivated by his aspiration to save the country (which was partly occupied by the Japanese aggressors) through science, Qian Weichang shifted his major from history to physics, later graduated with honors, and eventually became a famous authority in mechanics and a legendary figure in China.

钱锺书 Qian Zhongshu



无锡钱氏有句俗话：“东有七房桥，西有七尺场。”

七房桥和七尺场，住着同宗不同支的钱氏后代。住在城中七尺场（今新街巷）的钱氏，出了一对名人父子：钱基博与钱锺书。

儿子钱锺书，是无锡众多钱氏名人里知名度最高的一位。他的长篇小说《围城》，在20世纪60年代后，被翻译成多种文字，流传世界各地。小说被拍成电视连续剧后，钱锺书的名字几乎是家喻户晓。

钱锺书通晓多种语言，又精熟中国文化，这位钱氏名人毕生致力于使中国文学艺术融入世界文学艺术的总格局，是中西方文化交流沟通的一座桥梁。

在近现代，无锡钱氏共涌现出10位院士和学部委员，分别是钱伟长、钱穆、钱锺韩（钱锺书堂弟）、钱临照、钱令希、钱逸泰、钱保功、钱易（钱穆长女）、钱鸣高，以及钱俊瑞。

The Qian clansmen in Wuxi are fond of saying, “As there is Qifangqiao in the east, so there is Qichichang in the west”, indicating that in both places (Qifangqiao and Qichichang) there are celebrities from the family.

Living in these two places were different branches of the Qian's lineage. Qichichang (now Xinjiexiang) also offered the world two famous scholars, Qian Jibo and his son Qian Zhongshu.

Qian Zhongshu outshines all the other Qians in Wuxi. His Chinese novel, *Fortress Besieged*, has been translated into a variety of languages, and has been read around the world since the 1960s. After the novel was adapted into a TV drama, Qian Zhongshu instantly became a household name.

By virtue of his proficiency in Chinese, English as well as some other languages, he devoted his life to the integration of the Chinese literature and art into the general range of world literature and art and became a bridge in the cultural communication between China and the West.

In modern times, a total of 10 academicians and CASAD committee members were born in Wuxi's Qian clan. They are Qian Weichang, Qian Mu, Qian Zhonghan (Qian Zhongshu's cousin), Qian Linzhao, Qian Lingxi, Qian Yitai, Qian Baogong, Qian Yi (the eldest daughter of Qian Mu), Qian Minggao and Qian Junrui.



“围城”的困境不局限于婚姻，更贯穿人生各个层次：不断追求和对所追求到的不满足或厌烦，两者不断循环。小说以讽刺、犀利的语言，揭示人生追求的结果很可能是虚妄。但读完《围城》，或许你又会恍然大悟：原来结果并不重要，过程才有意义。

The dilemma portrayed in Fortress Besieged is not peculiar to marriage. It is encountered through all stages of life: constant pursuit of goals, then dissatisfaction or boredom with what has been attained, and so the cycle continues. It reveals with an ironic and caustic wit that life can end up in nothingness. But after you finish reading the novel, you may realize with a flash of inspiration that what matters is not the result, but the process.



关于钱镠，有个值得一提的物件。你先来猜猜看，这个像瓦片状
的铁器，到底是什么东西？中国古人用它来干什么呢？

*About Qian Liu, one other thing is worth mentioning. First guess, what is this
tile-like iron ware? And what was it used for by the ancient Chinese?*

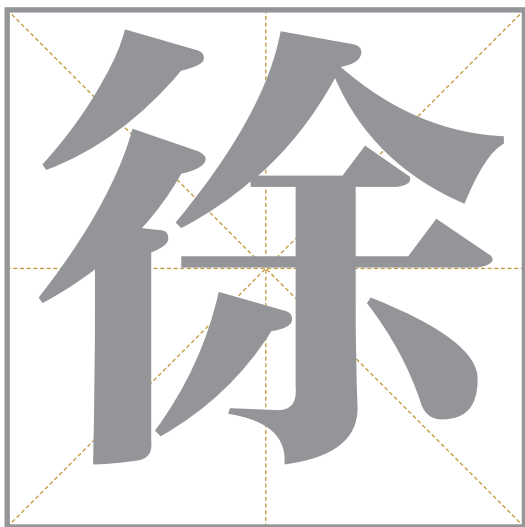
钱家的“免死金牌” Iron voucher of amnesty for Qian Liu

钱镠铁券，是中国现存于世的最早的御赐铁券。公元897年，因钱镠剿灭地方叛臣董昌，唐昭宗李晔赐给钱镠（时任镇海、镇东军节度使）铁券以示功绩。钱镠铁券现藏于中国国家博物馆，为一级文物。

铁券，是中国皇帝赐给功臣、重臣的一种凭证。被赐予铁券的家族，世代享有优厚待遇，可凭此物件逃避刑责，甚至是死罪。封建社会，皇帝的权力至高无上，圣旨便是法律，铁券负有特别的法律效用。所以，民间形象地称这块铁疙瘩为“免死金牌”。

Qian Liu's iron voucher, is China's oldest existing voucher awarded by the emperor. In 897, Qian Liu, commander of Zhenhai Garrison and Zhendong Garrison, was rewarded with the voucher for having annihilated a local rebel force led by Dong Chang. The voucher is currently kept at National Museum of China as grade-one cultural relic.

The voucher was a royal certificate granted by the emperor to those officials or officers who had made exploits, which were too great to be rewarded with the ordinary stuff. The voucher could be passed on to later generations and would be valid as long as the same dynasty was still in power. It would absolve the recipients from crimes, even capital ones. In the feudal society, the emperor enjoyed paramount power. His or her decrees were equal in value to the laws, so the voucher carried special power. People conveniently called it "a golden protection from the death penalty".



xú



xú ruò mù
徐若木

徐姓源于嬴姓。夏朝，嬴若木被封赏到徐，建立徐国，都城为徐城（今江苏省宿迁市泗洪县）。其后代以国为氏，称徐氏。早在春秋时期，吴国、徐国贵族便已经通婚。大概在魏晋时期，徐姓开始大规模南迁。后来不断迁入无锡的徐氏后人多以造船为业。

Surname Xu (徐) arose from the surname Ying. In the Xia dynasty, Ying Ruomu was granted an area called Xu, where he established the vassal state Xu, with Xucheng (today's Sihong in Suqian, Jiangsu Province) as the capital. His descendants adopted the state name—Xu as surname. As early as the Spring and Autumn period, the nobility in the states of Wu and Xu had already married each other. Probably in the Wei-Jin periods, many Xu families moved to the south. Later more of the descendants settled in Wuxi, and mostly made a living in the trade of building boats.

造船兴业之家

Boat and ship building of the Xu family

江南无锡，是远近闻名的米码头、布码头。穿城而过的京杭大运河，成就昔日辉煌的水运史。在无锡这样一个有名的水乡、桥乡与船乡，过去人们出行靠船，下田劳作靠船，甚至买卖东西也在船上。百年历史工商名城的形成与便捷的水上交通密不可分，自然也影响到一个行业——造船。

无锡特产的“西漳船”，作为优秀船型代表载入了中国水运史、造船史。甚至，流传有江浙地区的河道内用船大都要到无锡来“打船”的说法。据说，西漳船起源于明末，由无锡丁降里的徐家首制，后因摇船老大大以西漳人为多而得名。

乾隆年间，朝廷征招了无锡“五姓十三家”的13名子弟（五姓为：杨、蒋、尤、徐、邵），前往江宁、岳州等地应差建造战船。战争大获全胜后，朝廷征询这13人的赏赐要求，他们提出要“造船特权”。朝廷特赐“无锡五姓、有功朝廷、专营船业、衙门照应”十六字“龙批”。所以，无锡的“五姓十三家”最终垄断了太湖一带的造船业。

出生于无锡社岗里的徐寿，是造船史上不可忽略的人物。他和好友华蘅芳（无锡荡口人，中国近代数学奠基人），打造了中国第一艘蒸汽船——“黄鹄号”。此后，徐寿和儿子徐建寅等继而率工匠建造了中国第一批兵船、舰艇，成为中国近代军事工业的奠基人。

Wuxi is the famous “rice wharf” and “cloth wharf”. The Grand Canal, which cuts through the city, has made wonderful history for Wuxi as a port city. In the city known for its canals, bridges and shipbuilding, the local people used to depend entirely on boats and ships. They got around by boat—traveling, going to the fields, and buying and selling. The development of the century-old city of industry and commerce owed much to its convenient water transportation, which has boosted its shipbuilding industry.

Wuxi's famous local brand—Xizhang boat has been recorded in the history of China's water transportation and shipbuilding for its excellence. It has been said that those merchants from Zhejiang and other parts of Jiangsu would come to Wuxi for boats they needed for inland navigation. This brand of boats is also said to originate in the late Ming dynasty, which was first created by the Xu family in Dingjiangli, Wuxi. As the boatmen were mostly from Xizhang, the boats came to be known as Xizhang boats.

In the era of Emperor Qianlong, 13 men from 13 families of 5 surnames (Yang, Jiang, You, Xu, and Shao) were recruited to Jiangning, Yuezhou, etc. to build large ships for a war. The war ended in a complete victory on the part of the royal government, and the court enquired what they would like to have as their rewards. They asked for nothing but the franchise in building boats in the areas surrounding Wuxi. Their request was granted, and, of course, no one else was allowed to have a finger in the pie. So, the 13 families eventually monopolized the shipbuilding industry in Taihu Lake region.

Xu Shou, born in Shegangli, Wuxi, can't be ignored in the history of shipbuilding. He and his friend Hua Hengfang (an important mathematician in Chinese history, born in Dangkou, Wuxi) created China's first steamship—*Yellow Crane*. Thereafter, Xu Shou, his son Xu Jianyin, etc. continued to lead their craftsmen to build China's first batch of warships and other naval vessels, and became the founders of modern Chinese military industry.



徐霞客 Xu Xiake

无锡的徐氏家族，最出名的当属明代“游圣”徐霞客（1587年—1641年）。这是一位可以和意大利旅行家马可·波罗相提并论的人物。

徐霞客出生于无锡江阴，是中国杰出的地理学家、旅行家、文学家，被称为“千古奇人”。他30多年中走遍大半个中国，写下60余万字的地理名著《徐霞客游记》，记录沿途观察到的各种自然、地理、动植物和人文等现象。《徐霞客游记》生动传神地描绘了涉及今天大半个中国的山水名胜、奇观异景乃至风俗民情、社会生活等，是“明末社会的百科全书”。该书也是世界上最早记述岩溶地貌并详细考证其成因的书籍，在国内外具有深远的影响。

在中国之外的美国、日本、新加坡等地，先后建立了“徐霞客研究会”。《徐霞客游记》和徐霞客成为中国旅游走向全球的重要文化基石，游记的开篇之日5月19日，被定为“中国旅游日”。

Probably the most shining figure of the Xu clan in Wuxi is Xu Xiake (1587–1641) of the Ming dynasty. He was a well-known Chinese tourist, comparable to the Italian traveler Marco Polo.

Xu was born in Jiangyin, Wuxi. He was recognized as China's distinguished geographer, traveler and writer, a legend in the Chinese history. He spent over 30 years traveling in more than half of China's territory. As he toured the country, he wrote the geographical masterpiece *The Travels of Xu Xiake* of more than 600 thousand words, recording the landscape, geography, animals, plants, people and their customs, etc. along the road. His book vividly depicts more than half of China's scenic spots, wonders of different scenes, customs, and social life, as good as “an encyclopedia of the late Ming society”. It is also the earliest record of karst landform and detailed research on how it had become what it was, having far-reaching influences both at home and abroad.

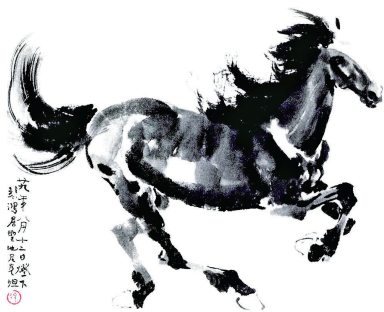
In addition to China, Xu Xiake Research Association has been established in the United States, Japan, Singapore and other places. *The Travels of Xu Xiake* and its author have become important cultural cornerstones to promote China's tourism to the rest of the world. May 19th, the day when he set out on his long travel, has been set as China's Tourism Day.

徐悲鸿 Xu Beihong

徐氏在无錫,还有个不得不提的人物——徐悲鸿(1895年—1953年)。他是中国美术史上的一代宗师,尤以画马驰名中外。

早年徐悲鸿赴法留学,因缘结识法国著名画家达仰,受益良多。后又在德国求教于画家康波夫,还师从过世界最有名的动物解剖学教授。得益于西式绘画技法的学习,徐悲鸿后来将西方素描、油画的写实与中国画的写意相结合来画马。马的肌肉、骨骼以及神情动态,用中国水墨大写意笔法,寥寥几笔而成,却表现出战马、野马在荒原大漠上的奔放,筋强骨壮,形神俱足。

徐悲鸿的画法是独创的,然而,在欧洲人眼中,他笔下的马依然还是典型的中国画。但在他之前,国人画马其实均是扁平线条的勾勒,缺乏鲜活的动感。



两幅作品对比就可看出,古人画马(如左边元代任仁发的《出图》)大都是用扁平线条描绘的侧面,且都是静态,缺乏动感,直到徐悲鸿的马出现

The left is part of A Painting of Leading Horses out of Stable by Ren Renfa of the Yuan dynasty, and the right is by Xu Beihong. It can be seen that the ancient painting of horses mostly used plain flat lines, and looks static, until the time of Xu Beihong, who gave his painted horses action and vitality.

In Wuxi, another Xu worth mentioning is Xu Beihong (1895–1953). He was a master in Chinese art history, especially famous for painting horses.

In his early years, Xu Beihong studied in France, and had the fortune of meeting the famous French painter Dagnan-Bouveret, and benefited profusely from their exchange. Later he went to study in Germany and was under the guidance of Kampf and one of the most famous professors of animal anatomy. Equipped with Western painting techniques, Xu Beihong later combined the Western sketch and realism in oil painting with freehand in Chinese painting in drawing horses. The horses' muscles, bones, and the expression in motion were drawn in freehand brushwork with just a few strokes, yet bringing back to life the robust muscular horses galloping on the desolate grasslands.

We all agree that Xu Beihong's technique was original. In the eyes of the Europeans, however, Xu Beihong's horses are still typical of the Chinese style. But it must be admitted that before his time, the horses in Chinese ink paintings were actually drawn with flat lines and lacked the sense of motion and depth.



yáng



yáng bāng yì
杨邦义

“杨”这个汉字的繁体字“楊”，由“木”和“易”组成。“木”指扶桑，据《山海经》记载，扶桑生长在海上的汤谷——神话传说中太阳升起之处。古代，“易”跟“阳”同义，是“日升汤谷”的形象描写。远古时代，生活在汤谷的氏族，根据太阳在扶桑树两侧的升落，来确定自己的历法，并以此为图腾，确定杨姓族徽，最终形成“杨”这个姓氏。

楊 (Yang) , the traditional version of the Chinese character 杨, consists of 木 (mu) and 易 (yang). Mu denotes the Chinese hibiscus. According to *The Classic of Mountains and Rivers*, it grew in Tanggu, where the sun was thought to rise from. In ancient times, the characters 易 (yang) and 陽 (yang) were synonymous, so 易 is a description of the image that the sun rose from Tanggu. In remote antiquity, the clans living in Tanggu made their calendar by measuring and marking where the shadow of the tree fell on both sides. They drew the image as their totem, from which Yang Clan Badge originated, and ultimately the surname Yang formed.

旗杆下杨 Yang under the Flagpole

在无锡，杨氏主要是北宋理学大师杨时和南宋名将杨邦义的后裔。杨邦义这一脉，后代以“旗杆下杨”闻名，知名度高的名人最多，对无锡的影响也最大。那么，何谓“旗杆下”？

乾隆年间，杨若迁考了殿试二等第一名。朝廷规定，凡考进一、二等的人，允许在自家屋前树立旗杆，悬挂“博学鸿词”旗帜，以示殊荣，杨家由此获得竖立功名旗杆的资格。乡邻们就把北门下塘杨氏居住的地方称为“旗杆下”。

然而，“旗杆下杨”能名声远扬，还因为这一族出了很多官宦名人。其中最有名的，就是杨廷俊的儿子——杨宗濂、杨宗瀚兄弟，以及杨宗濂的儿子——杨翰西。这几位杨氏后人，是无锡近代民族工商业的拓荒者，对无锡的实业发展产生了巨大影响。

不过，“旗杆下杨”能以实业发迹，背后也是有原因的。

早年，杨廷俊与中国名臣李鸿章，一同参加中央会试。考完第一场，李鸿章就病倒了。同住一家客栈的杨廷俊请医问药，悉心照顾李鸿章，使其得以顺利完成考试，两人结下了深厚友谊。杨廷俊未曾预料到的是，李鸿章后来做了大官，还先后重用了自己的两个儿子为幕僚。

大儿子杨宗濂（字艺芳）和三儿子杨宗瀚（字藕芳），先后入李鸿章幕府，深得赏识。颇受器重的兄弟俩，除屡立军功外，还代李鸿章办了不少实务。譬如，杨宗濂曾创办中国近代第一所陆军军官学校——天津武备学堂。杨宗瀚受命负责部分商务、洋务、交通、办学，兼办对外贸易等事宜，后又应邀出任上海机器织布局负责人（上海机器织布局是中国近代纺织工业之始）。

1895年，兄弟俩回到家乡，筹资24万银两，在无锡东门外兴隆桥购地，引进外国机器设备，创办业勤纱厂，次年冬开工生产，自此拉开无锡民族工商业发展的历史序幕。

业勤纱厂不仅是无锡最早的民族工商企业，也是中国内地第一家民办纱厂。“旗杆下杨”的“旗杆”领头作用，可说是发挥得淋漓尽致。

1906年，杨宗濂病逝后，儿子杨翰西在鼋头渚建杨艺芳祠（诵芬堂）

After Yang Zonglian's death in 1906, his son Yang Hansi built the ancestral hall of Yang Yifang (also known as Songfen Hall) in Yuantouzhu (or Turtle Head Islet).



1907年，杨宗瀚病逝。惠山古镇下河塘14号建有杨藕芳祠

Yang Zonghan died in 1907. The ancestral hall of Yang Oufang was constructed at No.14, Xiahetang in Huishan Town.



In Wuxi, most of the Yangs are the descendants of Confucian philosopher Yang Shi in the Northern Song dynasty and the famous general Yang Bangyi in the Southern Song dynasty. The descendants of Yang Bangyi are collectively called “Yang under the Flagpole”, among whom, more famous Yangs came from this line and impacted Wuxi the most. Then what does it mean by “under the flagpole”?

Under the reign of Emperor Qianlong, the laws stipulated that those who came out first class and second class in the imperial examinations would have the privilege to have a flagpole erected in front of their house, with the four characters “Bo Xue Hong Ci” written on the flag, to showcase the family’s honor. Yang Ruoqian got the first place in the second class in the final imperial examination, and therefore was granted the honor of erecting such a flagpole. The local people called the neighborhood “under the flagpole”.

The reputation of “Yang under the Flagpole” owes more to the lots of star officials in later generations. The most famous ones are Yang Yanjun’s sons Yang Zonglian and Yang Zonghan, and Yang Zonglian’s son, Yang Hanxi. These Yangs were the pioneers of modern national industry and commerce in Wuxi, bringing a great impact on the industrial development of Wuxi.

All the above of course played a major role in upholding the Yangs’ name. There were, however, some other factors at work. In the early years, Yang Yanjun and Li Hongzhang had sat the second round of the imperial examination together. Li suddenly fell ill after the first course, and he could turn to no one for help except Yang Yanjun, who helped him see the doctor and nursed him back to health, so that Li managed to sit through all the exams. That was the beginning of their profound friendship. What Yang did not expect was that Li Hongzhang was to become an official wielding enormous power in the court of the Qing dynasty, and that to pay back his timely help, Li was later to appoint two of his sons to be his chiefs of staff.

His eldest son Yang Zonglian (courtesy name Yifang) and third son Yang Zonghan (courtesy name Oufang) entered Li Hongzhang’s governor office, enjoyed Li’s recognition and made many contributions. The Yang brothers,

besides their military exploits, effected many enterprises on behalf of Li. For example, Yang Zonglian founded modern China's first military school, Tianjin Military School. Yang Zonghan was put in charge of commerce, foreign affairs, transportation facilities, education and international trade, and later was the manager of Shanghai Mechanical Textile Bureau (the beginning of modern Chinese textile industry).

In 1895, the brothers returned to their hometown, raised 240 thousand taels of silver, and then bought land outside the east gate at Xinglong Bridge in Wuxi, introduced machinery and equipment from abroad, founded Yeqin Textile Mill, and officially started production in the winter of 1896. It was regarded as the prelude to the history of Wuxi's industry and commerce.

Yeqin Textile Mill was the first domestic private industrial and commercial enterprise, not only in Wuxi but also on the mainland of China. The "Yang under the Flagpole" was practically the pacesetter in industrial and commercial endeavors, and really deserves the name "flag", which in Chinese can mean "an example".

杨寿楣（字翰西）是杨宗濂的幼子，也曾入朝为官，辛亥革命之后，弃官回乡。杨翰西先是集资创办了无锡电话股份有限公司，使无锡从此进入了电话时代。后来，又接办父亲、叔叔创建的业勤纱厂，出任中国银行无锡分行首任行长，创办润丰机器榨油厂，又先后集资创办了广勤纺织公司、广业垦殖公司、广勤胰皂有限公司、广勤机器厂、广勤丝厂、广丰面粉厂等企业。杨翰西最终让杨家从一个传统的官宦之家，完全转型为新型工商家族。

1916年，杨翰西在太湖边购置了60亩山地，创办了杨氏实业植果试验场，后又在湖边设计亭台楼阁，兴建万顷堂、横云山庄，对鼋头渚太湖风景区进行了最初的开发，迄今已经逾百年。如今，中外游客最喜欢引用“太湖佳绝处，毕竟在鼋头（郭沫若的题诗）”来赞赏鼋头渚的绝美，但欣赏“山光水色花木盛”之余，我们应该记得一百年前的“旗杆下杨”的付出。

民国年间，杨家成为无锡第一望族。杨氏名人谱上，还有位叫杨

太湖佳绝处，毕竟在鼋头

Yuantouzhu



令菲的女画家，跟齐白石一起办过画展。在欧洲办展时，她的画作被希特勒看中购得，被要求签名时，杨令菲用中文写上“致战争贩子”，美国报纸对此事有专门报道。杨氏名人还有：杨荫溥，中国现代著名金融学家；杨荫浏，公认的中国民族音乐学的奠基者；杨绛（钱锺书的夫人），著名作家、评论家、翻译家；杨芙清，中国计算机软件工程专家，与丈夫王阳元同为中国科学院院士……在惠山古镇的祠堂中，5家祠堂属于杨家，足见杨氏家族的地位和影响力。



杨宗谦（字艺芳）
Yang Zonglian
(courtesy name Yifang)



杨宗瀚（字藕芳）
Yang Zonghan
(courtesy name Oufang)



杨寿楣（字翰西）
Yang Shoumei
(courtesy name Hanxi)

Yang Shoumei (courtesy name Hanxi) was the youngest son of Yang Zonglian's. He once served in the royal court. After the revolution of 1911, he retired to his hometown. Back in Wuxi, Yang Hanxi raised some money to start up Wuxi Telephone, ushering Wuxi into the era of telecommunications. Later, he took over Yeqin Textile Mill, which his father and uncle had established. He served as the first president of the Wuxi branch of the Bank of China, and founded Runfeng Oil Extracting Factory. He successively established Guangqin Textile, Guangye Farming, Guangqin Soap, Guangqin Machinery, Guangqin Silk, Guangfeng Flour, etc. Yang Hanxi effectively converted the Yang family from a traditional family of court officials into a family of modern industrialists and businesspeople.

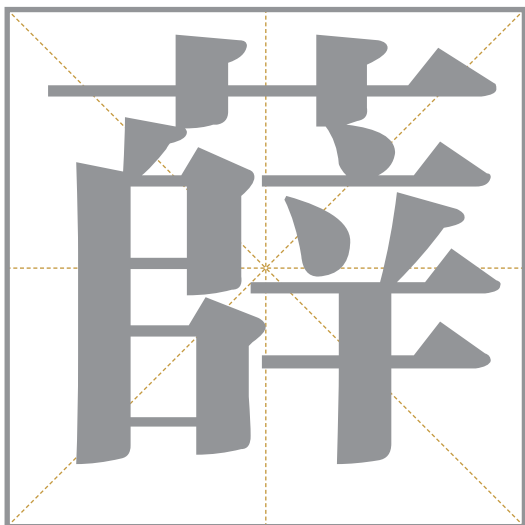
One century ago, in 1916, Yang Hanxi purchased 60 acres of mountainous land on the bank of Taihu Lake, founded the Yang's Sishi Fruit Plants Testing Field, designed pavilions on the bank of the lake, and built the Wanqing Hall and Hengyun Mountain Villa, virtually developing the scenic area of Taihu Lake. Nowadays, tourists from around the world sing high praise for the beauty of Yuantouzhu (or Turtle Head Islet) by quoting "After all, the best place at Taihu Lake is Yuantouzhu" by Guo Moruo. Next time you enjoy the beautiful scenery, be sure to remember the devotion of the "Yang under the Flagpole".

During the years of the Republic of China, the Yang family became Wuxi's first thriving family. There is, on the Yang's *Who's Who*, a female painter named Yang Lingfu, who had held an exhibition with Qi Baishi (a renowned artist). At one European exhibition, one of her paintings was purchased by Adolf Hitler. She was asked to sign it for him, yet she wrote something denouncing him as

a warmonger in Chinese. This made headlines in American newspapers. Other famous Yangs include: Yang Yinpu, a famous modern Chinese financial expert; Yang Yinliu, recognized founder of Chinese ethnomusicology; Yang Jiang (wife of Qian Zhongshu), a famous writer, critic and translator; Yang Fuqing, a computer software engineering expert, whose husband Wang Yangyuan is an academican of the Chinese Academy of Sciences like herself; ect. Among the ancestral halls of Huishan, five halls belong to the Yang family, which shows the position and influence of the family.



画家杨龙楼作品 A painting by Yang Lingfu



xuē

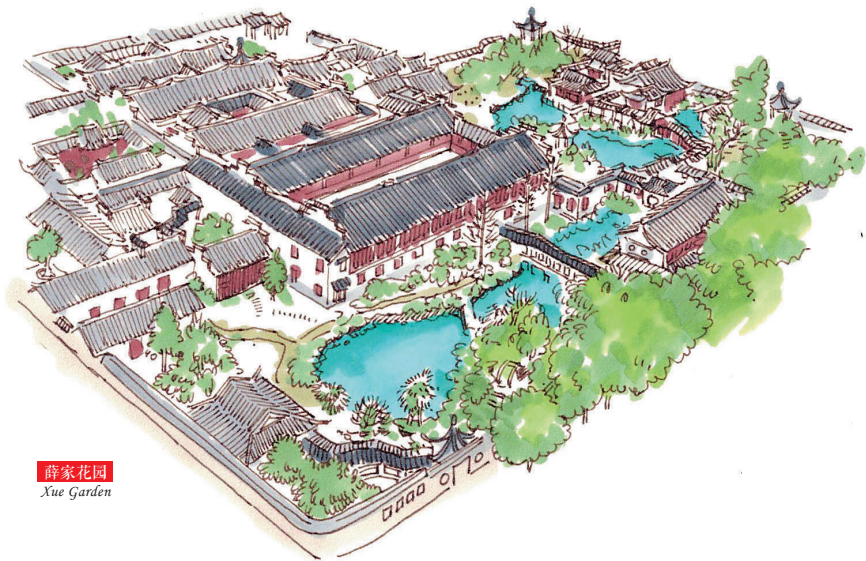
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xī zhōng
奚仲

据《姓氏考略》，薛氏的始祖是奚仲。奚仲因为发明了两轮马车，被夏禹封为薛侯（今山东滕州东南），始有薛姓。据说薛氏于明代迁徙到无锡，曾被乡邻称为“薛半城”，意思就是，无锡城有一半都是薛家的地盘。

According to *Research on Surnames*, the first ancestor of the Xue (薛) family was Xizhong. For the two-wheeled carriage Xizhong had invented, he was rewarded as Xuehou (Marquis Xue) in Xue (today's southeast Tengzhou in Shandong) by Xiayu. From then on, Xue had come to be used as a surname. It is said that the Xue family migrated to Wuxi in the Ming dynasty, and had been called "Xue Bancheng (meaning half of Wuxi was of the Xue family)", marking the dominance and prosperity of the family.



薛家花园
Xue Garden

薛福成 Xue Fucheng

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城区学前街核心位置就是薛家地盘。这里最著名的建筑是“钦使第”——薛家花园。钦使第，意思是奉皇帝之命，出使国外的钦差大使府第。匾额为光绪皇帝御笔特赐，褒奖薛福成的历史功绩。

作为中国第一代外交官，薛福成是有真才实学的“经世”之才。他早年以万言书震惊朝野，成为当时天下瞩目的名士。后又手书《筹洋刍议》名噪一时，成为倡导学习西方技术文明的洋务派名人。因政绩卓著，薛福成在1889年被清廷任命为英、法、意、比四国钦差大使。

出使欧洲的四年间，薛福成完成许多艰巨、复杂的外交谈判，如勘定中缅边界、磋商通商事宜等，成为中国办理外交空前成功的先例。作为晚清思想家、外交家，他率先提出“工商强国”的主张。

其子薛南溟，与同乡合资在上海开办永泰丝厂，后迁到无锡，创出“金双鹿”优质名牌丝，享誉国际市场。后来，永泰丝厂代表中国丝业，赴美国参加纽约万国博览会，荣获博览会金象奖。

薛南溟幼子薛寿萱，接手经营丝厂后，积极引进国际先进技术和管理工作，经过十多年的经营，无锡永泰丝厂很快就发展成为国内外丝业界瞩目的丝业集团。无锡就此成为中国缫丝工业最发达、最集中的一个城市，被称为“丝都”，薛寿萱也被誉为“丝茧大王”。

薛福成的哥哥——薛福辰，也是能人。他为官之余自习医书，自学五六年后，竟能够精通各家医书。光绪六年（1880年），薛福辰应召入宫为慈禧治病。当时，宫廷内外都知道慈禧得的是“血蛊”症，御医们的治疗药方久治不愈，没料薛福辰开的药方很奏效，让宫廷名医大为佩服，也引得名公巨卿纷纷请薛福辰治病。薛福辰也因此得了封赏升了官。是年除夕，慈禧还亲书“福”字和“职业修明”的匾额赐给薛福辰，同时还请他到长春宫听戏。

薛福成还有个弟弟——薛福保，也是个传奇人物。同治八年（1869年），薛福保和薛福成，协山东巡抚丁宝桢，诛杀了慈禧太后的贴身太监——作恶多端的安德海。这一为民除害之举，在当时无疑是轰动全国的“壮举”，朝野赞许，闻名于世。

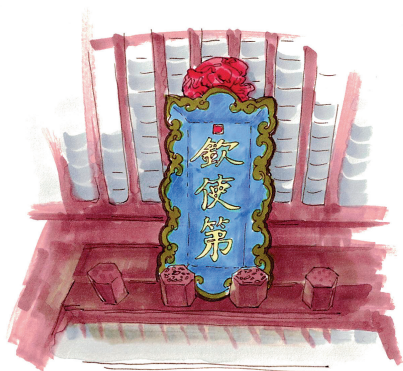
The central area of the city's Xueqian Street used to be owned by the Xue family. The most famous building here is Qin Shi Di, literally “residence of the imperial envoy”, also known as Xue Garden. The three characters Qin Shi Di were written by Emperor Guangxu himself, in recognition of the special contributions made by Xue Fucheng.

As one of the first modern Chinese diplomats, Xue Fucheng was genuinely knowledgeable and capable of managing international affairs. Early in his life, he caused a sensation throughout the empire with his 10,000-word proposal to the emperor, and was a national celebrity. What earned him greater fame was his *Preliminary Proposals Concerning Learning from the West*, in which he advocated learning Western technology and civilization as a westernization effort. For his distinguished achievements, Xue Fucheng was appointed ambassador to four countries—Britain, France, Italy, and Belgium in 1889.

During the four years as an ambassador in Europe, Xue completed many difficult and complex diplomatic negotiations, such as the land border demarcation between China and Burma, consultation of business matters, etc. His success made a precedent in China's diplomatic negotiations. As a diplomat and thinker in the late Qing dynasty, he was the first to advocate the policy of building a powerful China through promoting industry and commerce.

Xue Nanming, the son of Xue Fucheng, founded Shanghai Yongtai Silk Mill (later moved to Wuxi) as a joint venture, and created the famous brand Double Golden Deer silk, well received in the international market. Yongtai Silk represented China's silk industry in the International Exposition in New York, and won the Golden Elephant Award.

Xue Nanming handed over the enterprise to his youngest son Xue Shouxuan. In more than ten years' operation, Shouxuan actively introduced



international advanced technology and management methods, and Wuxi Yongtai quickly developed into a famous silk group at home and abroad. Therefore, Wuxi became a Silk City, whose silk reeling industry was the most developed and the most concentrated in China. Xue Shouxuan was also honored as the King of Silk Cocoon.

Xue Fucheng's elder brother, Xue Fuchen, was also a genius. Besides working as an official, he taught himself traditional Chinese medicine. After working hard for five to six years, he mastered all the major medical theories. In 1880, Xue Fuchen was summoned into the palace to cure Empress Dowager Cixi's disease. Every doctor who had checked on her knew what the problem was, but none could do anything to help. Xue Fuchen's prescription was so effective that all the royal doctors had to admit that Xue was much better than themselves. Later many high-ranking officials asked Xue for medical advice. Xue was given bountiful rewards and got promotion. On the following New Year's Eve, the Empress rewarded him with the character *fu* (meaning "happiness and good luck") written by herself, and a horizontally inscribed plaque with "Zhi Ye Xiu Ming (Excellent Profession)". He was also invited to enjoy an opera in Changchun Palace, which was deemed as a supreme honor in those days.

Equally fabulous was Xue Fucheng's younger brother, Xue Fubao. The two brothers assisted Shandong provincial governor Ding Baozhen in arresting and executing the Empress's favorite eunuch An Dehai, who had done many evil and unlawful things. The heroic deed won him nationwide acclaim.

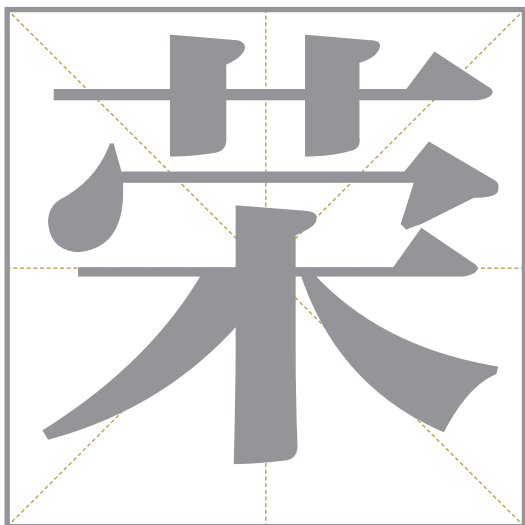
无锡经济学家群体 Economists from Wuxi

无锡不仅“盛产”风景，“盛产”财富，还“盛产”经济学家，数量超过200位，堪称中国经济学家的摇篮。

而无锡籍经济学家群体中，薛暮桥、孙冶方（原名薛萼果）是颇具代表性的人物。薛暮桥是中国经济学界泰斗，被誉为“市场经济拓荒者”，是新中国第一代社会主义经济学家和高级经济官员之一。他和“用生命来坚持市场价值规律”的孙冶方一同，都是从无锡礼社村薛氏聚居地走出的世界顶级经济学家。

Wuxi is rich not only in beautiful scenery, and wealth, but also in economists, whose number is in excess of 200. It is known as "the cradle of economists" in China.

Among those economists who were born in Wuxi, Xue Muqiao and Sun Yefang (born Xue E'guo) are representative celebrities. Xue Muqiao, an authority in economics in China, honored as "pioneer of market economy", was also one of the first Chinese socialist economists and senior economic officials. He and Sun Yefang, the one "insisting on the market law of value at the risk of his life", were both the world's top economists from the Xue family in Lishe Village, Wuxi.



róng

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róng yuán
荣援

荣是一个古老的姓氏，已经有至少 5 000 年的历史。荣姓始祖，是古代黄帝的大臣荣援，曾奉命铸造 12 铜钟，被视为中华民族音乐始祖。

明初年间迁往无锡的荣氏，有中国商界第一家族的美誉，更是中国最热衷于社会公益文化事业的一个家族。

Rong (荣) is an old family name dating back at least 5,000 years. The remote ancestor of the Rongs is believed to be the ancient Huangdi's minister Rong Yuan, who was commissioned to forge 12 bronze bells and was regarded as the father of the Chinese national music.

During the early Ming dynasty, a Rong family moved to Wuxi. They later earned the reputation as China's first family of business, and were also a family fervently committed to charity and cultural undertakings.

传奇家族 Legendary family

“荣家是中国民族资本家的首户，中国在上
世界上真正称得上是财团的，就只有他们一家。”
新中国主席毛泽东如是评价荣氏家族。

荣氏老家就在无锡西郊的荣巷。今天，这
里是无锡著名的历史文化街区，有一条约400
米长的老街，从沿街青砖黛瓦的房子仍能看出
当时的繁华。

无锡荣家，乃明代正统初年从南京迁来，
起先种植植桑，耕读传家。荣宗敬、荣德生的
祖父荣锡畴当家时，开始做一些长途贩运的小
本生意，经常驾船经太湖、吴淞江等河道往来
于上海。

战乱让荣家成员损失惨重，男丁只剩下
一个——荣熙泰（荣宗敬、荣德生的父亲），且家
里的财产只剩几间旧屋。不过，此前的商业活动，
为荣家子孙注入了活跃的商业细胞。善于发现
商机的荣宗敬和荣德生兄弟俩白手起家，成为
荣氏商业家族的第一代掌门人。他们从20世纪
初开始，创办了大量实业，不但生产面粉，还
生产棉纱，并根据生产需要发展出面粉口袋加
工和与纺织配套的机器制造业，打造出一个完
整的产业链，成为中国民族工商实业的前驱。

“面粉大王”“棉纱大王”“中国首富”，近
百年来，荣氏家族从来不缺这样的称号，他们
在商场上独领风骚，并逐步在政治上赢得较高
话语权。荣氏第二代掌门人荣毅仁40多岁时担
任了上海市副市长，他的最高职位是中华人民
共和国副主席。荣氏家族企业不仅对建国之初
的中国经济有着巨大的支撑作用，也在后来的
改革开放中再一次成为勇敢的探路者。

荣毅仁的独子荣智健，是荣氏家族第三代
掌门人，也是一位新时期的传奇港商。荣智健
等人的经济活动，对中国市场经济、新兴民族
企业发展影响巨大。可以说，整个荣氏家族在
商场上的纵横驰骋，为国家和民族工业与经济
发展，注入了强大的动力。

“The family of Rong Zongjing and Rong
Desheng are the only Chinese capitalist family who
deserve the title ‘consortium’ in the real sense of the
word,” thus commented Chairman Mao Zedong after



Rong Xitai



Rong Zongjing



Rong Desheng



Rong Yiren



Rong Zhijian

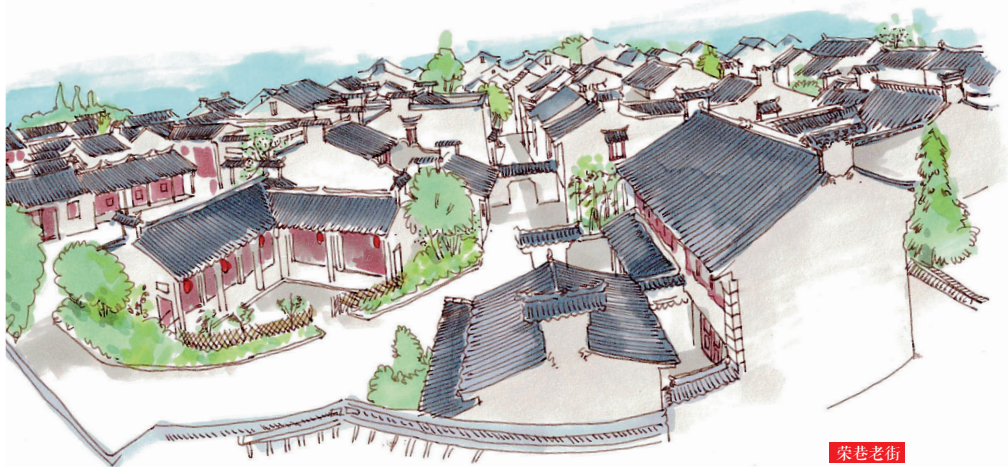
the People's Republic of China was founded.

The Rong's former residence is in the Rongxiang Street in the western suburbs of Wuxi. Today, here is the famous historical and cultural block, a street about 400 meters long with gray bricks and black tiles showing the grandeur and prosperity it once enjoyed.

Wuxi Rong family moved from Nanjing in the early years of the Zhengtong era of the Ming dynasty. At first they engaged in growing rice and mulberries, and educating the younger generations. When Rong Xichou, grandfather of Rong Zongjing and Rong Desheng, was head of the household, the family began to do some modest business involving long-distance voyages, which often took him to Shanghai by way of Taihu Lake, Wusong River, etc.

Later, terrible wars took away all the males of the Rong family, except Rong Xitai (father of Rong Zongjing and Rong Desheng). What remained was nothing more than a few shabby houses. However, previous commercial activities had instilled into the descendants some active commercial genes. Rong Zongjing and Rong Desheng were quick to seize business opportunities. They started empty-handed, and then became the first leaders of the Rongs' family business. From the beginning of the 20th century, they founded a large number of industrial entities, producing flour and cotton yarn. They also developed the flour bag processing according to production needs and machine manufacturing industry geared to the textile production, and created a complete industrial chain. They were seen as the forerunners of the Chinese national industry and commerce.

In the past 100 years, the Rongs were never without one title or another—"King of Flour", "King of Cotton", "The Richest in China", etc. Their special place in industry and commerce won them more say in politics. Rong Yiren, a second-generation leader in the family, served as vice mayor of Shanghai in his 40s, and he later went on to be the vice president of the People's Republic of



China. Rong's family enterprises not only supported China's economy soon after the birth of the new government, but also became a spearhead in the reform and opening up.

Rong Yiren's son, Rong Zhijian, is the head of the third generation of his family, who opened a new chapter of the legend in business in Hong Kong. Rong Zhijian's and others' economic activities had tremendous impact on the Chinese market economy and the development of emerging domestic enterprises. In other words, the endeavors of the whole Rong family in business, have injected huge driving power into national industry and economy.

福泽乡梓 Favor done to their hometown

荣氏兄弟富甲一方后，十分热心公益事业，他们建桥修路，报效社会，造福桑梓。无锡原本水道纵横，荣德生认为修桥比铺路更重要，于是发起成立了百桥公司，专门负责修建桥梁。

1906年，荣氏兄弟在荣氏家塾基础上，创办公益第一小学。后陆续开办竞化第一女子小学等多所学校。抗战结束后的1947年，荣德生出资创办私立江南大学，把办学活动推向高潮。私立江南大学下论文、理工、农三个学院，包括中文、外语、经济、史地、数理、机电、化工、农艺、农产制造共9个系。还在全国首创了面粉专修科。作为解放前中国著名的私立大学、江苏四大高校之一，它在短短几年间为国家培养了不少优秀人才。

成为巨富的荣德生，生活依然简朴。他乐善好施，将所得积极回报社会、回报乡人。1912年，荣德生买下太湖边龙山脚下一块土地，兴建私人花园——梅园。他精心筹划设计，倚山植梅，以梅饰山，数年中植梅千株。每逢初春，梅花绽放，暗香袭人。梅园尽管是私人所有，但本着为“天下人布芳馨”的夙愿，荣先生没建围墙，免费向市民开放。百姓赏花，商贩自由穿越其间，荣德生为自己能够给乡民带来实惠而感到欣慰。

梅园 Plum Garden



After the Rong brothers made their fortune, they contributed generously to the well-being of the public, especially of their hometown. Considering Wuxi had many waterways, Rong Desheng thought that bridges were of greater importance than roads, so he launched Hundred Bridge Company, specialized in building bridges.

In 1906, the Rong brothers expanded and updated their original old-style family private school into the No.1 Gongyi Primary School. Later, more schools such as the No.1 Jinghua Primary School for girls were built successively. The strive to start up schools culminated in 1947, two years after the unconditional surrender of Japan, when Rong Desheng founded the private Jiangnan University. The University had three colleges, namely, humanities, science and technology, and agriculture, encompassing nine departments, i.e. Chinese, foreign languages, economics, history and geography, mathematics and physics, mechanics and electrics, chemistry, agriculture, and agricultural production. It was the first university in China to have a flour major. As a famous private university in China before 1949, one of the four major universities in Jiangsu, it had trained a lot of excellent talents within a few years.

After Rong Desheng became super rich, he continued to live a simple and thrifty life. He was a loving man, always ready to help, to positively repay the society and the people. In 1912, Rong Desheng acquired a piece of land at the foot of the Longshan Mountain by Taihu Lake and constructed it into a private garden, which he named Plum Garden. He personally saw to its design and had the mountain planted with plum trees all over, which when fully grown would beautify the mountain. When the trees came into full bloom every spring, the air was filled with faint sweetness. Though it was private property, Mr Rong, true to his long-cherished wish that the world could share the fragrant flowers in his garden, built no fences, and kept it open to the public for free. Mr Rong Desheng got great vicarious pleasure to see people enjoying the beautiful plum blossoms and pedlars selling small items in the garden.



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