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宋朝篇

宋朝始于 960 年，一直延续到 1279 年。这一时期，中国经济大幅增长，成为世界上最先进的经济体，科学、技术、哲学和数学蓬勃发展。宋代中国是世界历史上首先发行纸币的国家。宋朝还最早使用火药并发明了活字 (movable-type) 印刷。人口增长迅速，越来越多的人住进城市，那里有热闹的娱乐场所。社会生活多种多样。人们聚集在一起观看和交易珍贵艺术品。宋朝的政府体制在当时也是先进的。政府官员均通过竞争性考试选拔任用。

The Song dynasty started from 960 to 1279. In this period, China's economy soared and became the world's most advanced economy, with science, technology, philosophy and mathematics flourishing/prospering/booming/thriving. During the time of the Song dynasty, China is the world's first country to issue/release paper money. The Song dynasty first used gunpowder and invented movable-type printing. The population of Song dynasty grew rapidly and more and more people lived in cities, where there were lively/hilarious places of entertainment. The social life was various. People gathered to watch and trade precious artworks. At that time, the government system of Song dynasty was also advanced. Government officials were selected and appointed after passing competitive exams.

唐朝篇

唐朝始于 618 年，终于 907 年，是中国历史上最灿烂的时期。经过三百年的发展，唐代中国成为世界上最繁荣的强国，其首都长安是世界上最大的都市，这一时期，经济发达，商业繁荣，社会秩序稳定，甚至边境也对外开放，随着城市化的财富的增加，艺术和文学也繁荣起来。李白和杜甫是以作品简洁自然而著称的诗人。他们的诗歌打动了学者和普通人的心，即使在今天，他们的许多诗歌仍广为儿童及成人阅读背诵。

The Tang dynasty, from 618 to 907, is the most glorious period in Chinese history. Having experienced 300 years' development, China of Tang dynasty became the world's most prosperous country, the capital of which, Chang'an, was the biggest city in the world. In this period, the economy became developed, trade prospered with stable social order and open border. As urbanized wealth increased, art and literature also flourished. Li Bai and Du Fu was known for their simple and natural poems. Their poems have touched the heart of scholars and ordinary people, and even today, many of their poems are still widely read and recited by children and adults.

明朝篇

明朝统治中国 276 年，被人们描绘成人类历史上治理有序、社会稳定的最伟大的时代之一。这一时期，手工业的发展促进了市场经济和城市化。大量商品，包括酒和丝绸，都在市场销售。同时，还进口许多外国商品，如时钟和烟草。北京、南京、扬州、苏州这样的大商业中心相继形成。也是在明代，由郑和率领的船队曾到印度洋进行了七次大规模探险航行。还值得一提的是，中国文学的四大经典名著中有三部写于明朝。

The Ming dynasty, described as one of the greatest ages with ordered governance and stable society, ruled/governed China for 276 years. In this period, the development of handicraft industry promoted market economy and urbanization. Quantities of goods, including alcohol and silk, were sold on the market. At the same time, lots of foreign goods, such as clock and tobacco, were imported. Beijing, Nanjing, Yangzhou and Suzhou became large commercial centers successively. It was also in the Ming dynasty that the fleet, led by Zheng He, conducted seven major expeditions into the Indian ocean. It is also worth mentioning that three of the Four Great Classical Novels of Chinese literature were written in the Ming Dynasty.