

Editors' Message

Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission, Taiwan has strived to promote the Chinese culture for decades. But until China's economic development that has really led the global popularity of learning Chinese language. The China National Office for Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language (NOCFL) through establishing Confucius Institute worldwide to carry out the teaching Chinese language and culture in foreign countries.

Both agencies deal with teaching and learning Chinese characters are still limited on the basis of traditional Chinese dictionary by memorizing characters individually. These chronic difficulties are derived from the radical system that it is a barrier to learn Chinese (i.e. 240 radicals or more, 20 exceptions, more than one thousand of difficult words can only be searched by stroke count). Furthermore the new Pinyin or Bopomofo dictionaries are ineffective to the beginner of the Overseas Chinese students or foreigners. Everyone sees the dictionary as a big learning hurdle and comments that Chinese is the world's most difficult language to learn. Majority of people are afraid of difficulties although some are studious and eager to study. With the current system and dictionary, regardless of whether learned from the books or computer, they just learn to memorize by rote of vocabularies and conversations only. It is extremely hard to expect them to learn the depth of Chinese culture, and not even to mention the fusion/integration with the Western culture, or complement and benefit to each other.

CJ Guidance has published several series of cultural books (*see "Purchase Books" tab*) to promote the Chinese culture. Our editors have notice above trend and try to avoid the similar mistakes. Hereby, we create an innovative QL 973 Searching Method for beginners. It is a graphic searching method (also an inputting method and both have applied the US patent). The compiled Chinese-English bilingual dictionary includes 8,419 traditional and 2,235 simplified characters. It is our intension to teach whoever does not know Chinese language will be able to use the searching method in ten minutes. Both the method and dictionary will also improve one's ability to recognize and memorize more characters in the same period time. Furthermore, it promotes the literacy and application of Chinese language.

Both principal editors of this dictionary are majors in engineering, one with a master's degree of architecture from U Penn, and one major in computer science. With their scholastic father's guidance they have sought innovation for a dictionary that can facilitate overseas Chinese descendants and foreign students to learn the Chinese language. All applied ideas and rules are free from Philology sectarian arguments and political issues between traditional and simplified characters. It is universal and works.

Editorial Department



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