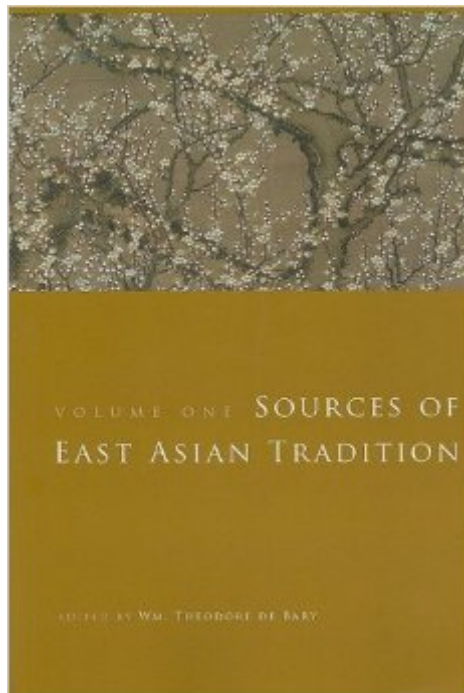


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# Sources Of East Asian Tradition, Vol. 1: Premodern Asia (Introduction To Asian Civilizations) (Volume 1)



## Synopsis

In *Sources of East Asian Tradition*, Wm. Theodore de Bary offers a selection of essential readings from his immensely popular anthologies *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, *Sources of Korean Tradition*, and *Sources of Japanese Tradition* so readers can experience a concise but no less comprehensive portrait of the social, intellectual, and religious traditions of East Asia. Volume 1 samples writings from the earliest times to 1600, illuminating life in early China and the first imperial age, as well as the profound impact of Daoism, Buddhism, the Confucian revival, and Neo-Confucianism; the origins of Korean culture and political structures, up through the Choson dynasty; and major developments in early and medieval Japan. De Bary maintains his trademark balance of source materials, including seminal readings in the areas of history, society, politics, education, philosophy, and religion, thereby continuing his own tradition of providing an exceptional resource for teachers, scholars, students, and the general reader.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Though intimidating in size, this text has great introductions and then well selected excerpts from primary texts. I would say that the reading level of this book is quite high and that ESL learners may struggle with it. I read this text with an interest in Confucianism and Buddhism, and the text does a good job of filling in many gaps for the novice. It also does a good job covering the political history of Korea, China and Japan. In short, this text really is quite comprehensive. Probably best read by those with little to an intermediate level background knowledge in all of this stuff. An expert may find this somewhat banal.

A well-written, easy to read and comprehensive guide to East Asian history/civilizations. A must read for prospective Asian Studies students or just anyone interested in learning about a fascinating and dynamic area of the world.

Used for a class on Eastern Religions. The book is a bit presumptuous. I had a hard time picking out the audience for whom it was written. The portion given to explain the writings often seemed to be disjointed from the actual writing later included. I do not think it is a good selection for an overview class. I think the goal of the book is to provide the reader a sample of many of the writings. Do not buy if you want explanations or thoughts laid out for you. I was disappointed.

good

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