

Exhibition Overview of the Second World Conference of Classics

From June 9 to 10, the Second World Conference of Classics was held in Athens, Greece. Scholars and experts in classical studies and related fields from around the world engaged in in-depth discussions on topics concerning classical civilizations.

To enrich the conference program and enhance its effectiveness, a concurrent exhibition entitled “*Bringing Classics into the Modern World: Exhibition of Achievements in Classical Civilizations*” was held during the conference. The exhibition consisted of three sections: Archaeological Science, Traditional Chinese Medicine, and Classical Literature and Documents. Through multidimensional and immersive displays, it aimed to promote interdisciplinary dialogue and mutual learning among civilizations.

I. Major Achievements in Archaeological Science and Cultural Heritage Protection

The Key Laboratory of Archaeological Science and Cultural Heritage Protection of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (including the Chinese Academy of History, the Institute of Archaeology, and the University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences) was inaugurated on November 15, 2024. It serves as an important platform for integrating the Academy’s strengths and promoting high-quality development in archaeological science and

cultural heritage protection.

The exhibition presents six major research achievements released by the laboratory in Beijing in January 2026, organized into six thematic sections:

1. Establishment of a world-leading standardized database of Chinese zooarchaeological resources.

2. Discovery of the earliest Chinese bayberry (*Myrica rubra*) ancient tree, dating back 4,500 years, at the Liangzhu Culture site.

3. Digital archaeology-based reconstruction of over 5,000 years of prehistoric water-management civilization in the Yangtze River basin.

4. Archaeological research revealing the agricultural cultural history of the Yan–Liao cultural region between 10,000 and 5,000 years ago.

5. The 2018 Xuwei No. 1 Tomb project established a new paradigm integrating field archaeology and cultural relics conservation.

6. Discovery of the world’s earliest warp-resist tie-dyed textiles from the 2018 Xuwei No. 1 Tomb in Qinghai, China.

II. “He Yi Zhong Yi” Traditional Chinese Medicine Exhibition

Chapter 1: Chinese Roots

This chapter presents oracle bones, silk manuscripts, and unearthed medicinal materials, illustrating that Traditional Chinese

Medicine (TCM) originates from ancient Chinese understandings of nature, life, and related concepts, and is rooted in China's fine traditional culture.

Chapter 2: Benevolence and Medical Skill

This chapter explains that TCM is a medical science that has gradually formed and continuously developed over thousands of years through the production and daily life practices of the Chinese people of all ethnic groups and their struggle against diseases.

Chapter 3: Renewed Vitality over Time

With contemporary achievements in TCM and materials related to Tu Youyou's Nobel Prize as evidence, this chapter illustrates that TCM remains a living medical tradition that continues to develop and innovate in contemporary China.

Chapter 4: Mutual Learning among Civilizations

With representative TCM classics included in the Memory of the World Register and other artifacts as evidence, this chapter shows that TCM has become a distinctive cultural symbol of China, enabling more countries to recognize and benefit from it, and contributing to the building of a global community of health for all.

III. Classical Books and Documents Exhibition

Approximately 900 volumes of classical studies texts, research works in classical studies, and research findings on mutual learning among civilizations are on display from China and abroad.

Hundreds of volumes of Chinese and Greek classical texts are

displayed side by side, forming a dialogue between two major civilizational traditions across time and space. They pose the same fundamental questions in different languages, demonstrating the deep interconnectedness of human intellectual traditions.