

ALAN THWAITS

66 HOPEDALE STREET, BOSTON, MA 02134-1238
617-987-2085 ALANTHWAITS@GMAIL.COM
HTTP://ALANTHWAITS.COM

WEBSITE

[Chinese-English translator, history, art, economics, ancient Chinese](#)
[Translating from Chinese into English in the fields of history, art, economics](#)
[Japanese-English translator, history, art, China](#)
[Translating from Japanese into English in the fields of history, art](#)
[English editor, China, Japan, history, art, philosophy](#)
[歴史、美術、藝術、書法、印章（璽）の中英翻譯](#)
[歴史、藝術、經濟學的中英翻譯樣品](#)
[歴史、美術、芸術、書道、印章の和英翻譯](#)
[歴史、芸術の和英翻譯サンプル](#)

CHINESE AND JAPANESE TRANSLATOR

LANGUAGES

Japanese to English, Chinese to English (native English speaker)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Art, painting, philosophy, history, China, Japan

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Archaeology, architecture, economics, ethics, folklore, religion, law

EXPERIENCE

In 1979–1981 I translated Japanese for two years in Tokyo. In 2003 I began translating Chinese and Japanese as a free lance. My clients include publishers, scholars, art dealers, and translation companies.

CHINESE TRANSLATIONS

Experienced in the following fields:

- Biographies of Chinese scientists
- Chinese aesthetics
- Chinese economics
- Chinese fiction set in the Qing period

- Chinese imperial seals
- Chinese musical performances
- Chinese paintings
- Chinese poetry
- Chinese population problem
- Chinese porcelain
- Daoism
- Literary Chinese
- Qing women's court apparel and accessories
- Scholars' rocks
- Scientific ethics
- Television programming
- Traditional Chinese furniture
- Traditional Chinese law
- Zhou dynasty bronze inscriptions

JAPANESE TRANSLATIONS

Experienced in the following fields:

- Chinese ceramics
- History of East Asian education
- History of Japanese Sinology
- Japanese ceramics
- Japanese economic history
- Japanese naval history
- Japanese painting (Nihonga)
- Japanese swords
- Japanese traditional mathematics
- Japanese ukiyo-e artists
- Japanese war artifacts
- Peintures de mœurs

IN-HOUSE TRANSLATING

Assistant Editor at Japan Echo, Tokyo, 1979–1981. Translated articles on the economy and politics of Japan for *Japan Echo*, *Pacific Friend*, *Press Guide*, and *Information Bulletin*. Translated a portion of *Kura: The Japanese Storehouse* (Japanese to English).

LANGUAGE STUDY

- Modern Japanese at the International Christian University (ICU), Tokyo, 1970–1971.
- Modern Chinese at the Harbin Institute of Technology, 1993.
- Four years of modern Chinese and two years of classical Chinese at Harvard University, 1990–1996.

FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME

Full-time freelance translator and editor

PAYMENT

Can receive payment by check in U.S. dollars, international bank transfer, and credit card.

With my extensive editorial experience, I can provide you with quality translations in many academic subjects, especially philosophy, history, art, and Chinese and Japanese culture. I welcome the opportunity to work for you and am confident that I can deliver a quality product.

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SUMMARY

- Considerable experience in translating Chinese and Japanese.
- Have published in Chinese.
- Extensive editing experience at MIT, in Japan, and as a free lance.
- PhD in philosophy.

IN-HOUSE TRANSLATING

ASSISTANT EDITOR JAPAN ECHO, TOKYO 1979-1981

Translated articles on the economy and politics of Japan for Japan Echo, Pacific Friend, Press Guide, and Information Bulletin. Translated a portion of Kura: The Japanese Storehouse. (Japanese to English)

FREELANCE EDITING

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 2006-PRESENT

Edited encyclopedia articles on primarily on East Asian history for content and style. Copyedited the following encyclopedias:

Medieval Warfare and Military Technology: An Encyclopedia, 2009.

Oxford Encyclopedia of African Thought, 2009.

Oxford International Encyclopedia of Legal History, 2009.

Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World, 2008.

Oxford Encyclopedia of Maritime History, 2007.

Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History, 2007.

GALE CENGAGE LEARNING 2004-PRESENT

Edited encyclopedia articles on China, history, philosophy, thought, ethics, the environment, and psychoanalysis for content and style. Worked for such imprints as Macmillan Reference and Charles Scribner's Sons. Copyedited the following encyclopedias:

Encyclopedia of Modern China, 2009.

Encyclopedia of Environmental Ethics and Philosophy, 2008.

New Dictionary of Scientific Biography, 2008.

International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences, 2007.

Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2006.
Encyclopedia of Religion, 2005.
Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Ethics, 2005.
Encyclopedia of the New American Nation, 2005.
International Dictionary of Psychoanalysis, 2005.
New Dictionary of the History of Ideas, 2005.

NIIT 2003

Edited a variety of textbooks on information technology and business for style and presentation.

UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO PRESS 1978

Copyedited *Labor and Management*, edited by Keiichiro Nakagawa, 1979.

IN-HOUSE EDITING

EDITOR THE MIT PRESS 1988–2003

Edited the press's most technical books primarily in cognitive science, psychology, philosophy, and linguistics, and on occasion in biology, physics, logic, economics, political science, and the history of science. Marked technical mathematics, logic, and linguistics.

EDITOR PRESS INTERNATIONAL, TOKYO 1977–1979

Edited economic and business articles for China Newsletter, Focus Japan, and the White Paper on International Trade. Translated a portion of "The Other Side of the Twain," a series in the Mainichi Daily News.

LANGUAGES

CHINESE Professional translator
JAPANESE Professional translator
FRENCH Proficient in speaking and reading
GERMAN A reading knowledge

EDUCATION

PHD in philosophy, Claremont Graduate University, 1988. Area of specialization: philosophy of language.
MA in philosophy, Claremont Graduate University, 1978.
BA in history, Drew University, 1973.
STUDIED CHINESE at Harvard University, 1990–1996. Four years of modern Chinese and two years of classical Chinese.
STUDIED MODERN CHINESE at Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin, China, 1993.
STUDIED JAPANESE HISTORY AND LANGUAGE at the International Christian University, Tokyo, 1970–1971.

FREELANCE TRANSLATING

CHINESE TRANSLATIONS

“Viewing a Remnant of the Sixth Scroll of *The Kangxi Emperor’s Southern Tour*” (Chinese court painting, Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2010.

Three bronze inscriptions, on a *ding* and two *gui* (Zhou bronze inscriptions, Chinese to English). Ralph M. Chait Galleries, 2010.

“The Qianlong Emperor’s Seal ‘Treasure of Concern over Phenomena at Eighty’ ” (Chinese imperial seal, Chinese to English). Sotheby’s London, 2009.

“The Qianlong Seal ‘Treasure of the Hall of Diligent Government in the West Garden’ ” (Chinese imperial seal, Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2009.

“A New Population Theory,” by Ma Yinchu. (Chinese economics and population policy, Chinese to English). In *Encyclopedia of Modern China*, edited by David Pong. Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2009.

“Palace Furniture Lacquerware.” (Chinese court furniture, Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2009.

“An Empirical Analysis of Income Inequality between a Minority and the Majority in an Urban Area: The Case of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region” (Chinese economics, Chinese to English). Hitotsubashi University, 2008.

“The Grand Review” (Chinese court painting, Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2008.

“Dong Bangda’s *Zhongqiu shiyi tu* (Mid-autumn Poetic Painting)” (Chinese court painting, Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2008.

“The Way Follows What Is Natural” (Chinese aesthetics, scholars’ stones; Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2008.

“Desk Screen Resembling a Splashed-Ink Painting of a Landscape of Cloud-Covered Mountains” (Chinese furniture, Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2007.

“It Is Easy to Enter the Realm of the Strange; One Merely Has to Appreciate an Object’s Beauty” (Chinese aesthetics, painting; literary Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2007.

Three descriptions of scholars’ rocks: “Xuanzhi xiu” (Mountain Peak Shaped like Black Magical Fungus of Chinese Medicine), “Dongtian xiu” (Daoist Caves), “Yunwu feng” (Mountain Peak Dancing among the Clouds) (scholars’ stones, Chinese to English). Sotheby’s Hong Kong, 2007.

Two traditional Chinese poems on a pair of bowls (Chinese poetry, Chinese to English). Ralph M. Chait Galleries, 2007.

Five articles on traditional Chinese law: “Deposit: Chinese Law,” “Hire: Chinese Law,” “Loan: Chinese Law,” “Partnership: Chinese Law,” and “Sale: Sale of Land in Chinese Law” (Chinese legal history, Chinese to English). In *The Oxford International Encyclopedia of Legal History*, edited by Stanley N. Katz. Oxford University Press, 2008.

A large portion of *Zhangzhou yao* (Zhangzhou kilns) (Chinese ceramics, archaeology; Chinese to English). Fuzhou: Fujian Renmin Chubanshe, 1997. For *Zhangzhou Export Ceramics: The So-Called Swatow Wares*. Jorge Welsh, 2006.

“Sah, Peter P. T.” and “Hou, Te-pang” (history of science, Chinese to English). In *New Dictionary of Scientific Biography*, edited by Noretta Koertge. Gale, 2006.

A portion of the novel *Yongzheng huangdi* (The Yongzheng Emperor), by Eryuehe (Chinese literature, Chinese to English). For Production (translation company), 2006.

“Celebrating Chinese Women” (Qing women’s court apparel, Chinese to English). Special Exhibition, Bishop Museum, 2006.

Introduction to *Huan wu Laozi*, a new interpretation of Laozi (Chinese philosophy, Chinese to English). 2005.

The standards of scientific integrity of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and of the Chinese Academy of Engineering (Chinese ethics of science, Chinese to English). Macmillan Reference, 2004.

A pamphlet on programming for China Central Television (CCTV) (general, Chinese to English). 2003.

Chinese newspaper articles on the performances of an *erhu* (Chinese fiddle) player (music, Chinese to English). 2002.

Chinese newspaper articles on the performances of a *yangqin* (Chinese-hammer-dulcimer) player (Chinese music, Chinese to English). 2000.

JAPANESE TRANSLATIONS

“The Development of Naitō Konan’s Progressive View of History: A Point of Convergence with Zhang Xuecheng’s *Wen shi tong yi*” (history of Japanese Sinology, Japanese to English). Kansai University, 2010.

“Naitō Konan and the Eastern Cultural League: Pan-Asianism in the Early Shōwa Period” (history of Japanese Sinology, Japanese to English). Kansai University, 2010.

“The Private Academies of East Asia” (history of East Asian education, Japanese to English). Kansai University, 2010.

On the history and aesthetics of Japanese swords (Japanese art history, Japanese to English). Expressions (translation company), 2007.

Japanese war artifacts (Japanese history, Japanese to English). For Mondial, 2007.

An essay on Japanese painting (Nihonga) (Japanese art history, Japanese to English). Sekai Bungei Sha (publisher), 2007.

“Goshū akae ni tsuite” (Red-Design Swatow Ware), by Hasebe Gakuji (ceramics, Japanese to English). For *Zhangzhou Export Ceramics: The So-Called Swatow Wares*. Jorge Welsh, 2006.

Essays on peintures des mœurs (Japanese art history, Japanese to English). Sekai Bungei Sha (publisher), 2006.

A research paper on Indian castes (Indian social history, Japanese to English). Prof. Fujii Takeshi of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, 2005.

“Hokusai” (history of Japanese art, Japanese to English). In *Encyclopedia of Maritime History*, edited by John B. Hattendorf. Oxford University Press, 2005.

“Kure” (a naval port) (Japanese naval history, Japanese to English). In *Encyclopedia of Maritime History*, edited by John B. Hattendorf. Oxford University Press, 2005.

“Marine Artists: Japanese” (history of Japanese art, Japanese to English). In *Encyclopedia of Maritime History*, edited by John B. Hattendorf. Oxford University Press, 2005.

“Tōgō Heihachirō” (Japanese naval history, Japanese to English). In *Encyclopedia of Maritime History*, edited by John B. Hattendorf. Oxford University Press, 2005.

“Yokosuka” (Japanese naval history, Japanese to English). In *Encyclopedia of Maritime History*, edited by John B. Hattendorf. Oxford University Press, 2005.