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Reginald F. Johnston

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The British colonial administrator and scholar Sir Reginald Fleming Johnston (1874–1938) travelled extensively in the Far East, developing a deep interest in Chinese culture and spirituality. His fourteen-year posting to the relatively quiet port of Weihaiwei allowed him to indulge this interest and to travel to places not usually visited by Europeans. Well acquainted with the philosophy of Confucius, Johnston had happily quoted the Confucian classics in his court judgments at Weihaiwei. In 1918, he was appointed tutor to the young Puyi (1906–67), who had been China's last emperor before his forced abdication. This 1934 publication, developed from lectures, presents an accessible interpretation of the tenets and fortunes of Confucianism, notably the impact of the New Culture Movement on the philosophy's place in Chinese society. Among other works, *Johnston's Buddhist China* (1913) and *Twilight in the Forbidden City* (1934) are also reissued in this series.

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**BY THE SAME AUTHOR**  
**TWILIGHT IN THE FORBIDDEN CITY**

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敬摹曲阜縣石刻孔聖真像

CONFUCIUS

(This Chinese woodcut, as the inscription states, is a reproduction of the portrait carved in stone and preserved in the great Confucian Temple at Ch'ü-Fou, in Shantung.)



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LECTURES

1933–34

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by

REGINALD F. JOHNSTON

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## PREFACE

**T**HE LECTURES now published in an expanded form were delivered in the Great Hall of the University of Bristol in November and December, 1933. I desire to express my thanks to the University for giving me this valued opportunity of addressing a Bristol audience on the subject of the present condition and prospects of Confucianism in China, and to my old friend, Dr. Thomas Loveday, Vice-Chancellor, for the courtesy and hospitality extended to me by him during my visit to the city and University.

REGINALD F. JOHNSTON.

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London University.