

The Story of Jade

ATTRIBUTES OF JADE

A long time ago, there was a man who had a miraculous experience which he believed was caused by a piece of jade in his possession. When he died, he passed his jade on to his son. The jade was then passed from one generation to the next with the belief that 'jade keeps you from evil and disasters'. This is part of jade's deep attraction to the Chinese, aside from its intrinsic beauty, also a symbol of protection.

The nobility and uniqueness characteristics of jade attract people, some keep it as personal possession like ornaments and jewelry, while others treat it as a symbol. The various colors of green, red, yellow, lavender, black and white, accompanied with quality craftsmanship provides a wide range of variety to jade lovers.

Jadeite jade is closely bound with the Chinese and Chinese culture but it does not originate from China. At the present time, Burma (Myanmar) is still the only place in the world that produces the highest quality of 'jadeite'.

The value of jadeite depends on its degree of transparency and color. If you are interested in experiencing something unique, do not hesitate to make a purchase of jadeite.

ABOUT JADE AND JADEITE

Jade, or Jadeite, to be precise, has long been revered by Asians as symbol of good luck, good health, and power to resist evil spirit. besides the very mythical nature of the stone, and despite the much misconception of what can be called by that term, Jade, with its pearly luster and tough and resistant

nature, continues to be treasured by the value-conscious and the status conscious alike. Despite the fact that the Chinese have had a love affair with Jade for the last several thousand years, the most important Jadeite deposits are not in China, but in upper Burma, which exports raw jade to China, and Hong Kong in particular, for further processing.....

Color of the Jade: green, also white, brown, blackish, violet, reddish, yellow, often spotted.

Jade has been treasured in China as the royal gemstone, "yu" for 5,000 years. The character for jade resembles a capital I with a line across the middle: the top represents the heavens, the bottom the earth, and the center section, mankind. The word "yu" is used in Chinese to call something precious, as in English we use gold. Jade was thought to preserve the body after death and can be found in emperors' tombs from thousands of years ago. One tomb contained an entire suit made out of jade, to assure the physical immortality of its owner. For thousands of years, jade was a symbol of love and virtue as well as a status symbol.

In the 19th Century, it was discovered that the material from the new world was not the same mineral as the jade from China. The mineral from Central America, a pyroxene, was called jadeite to distinguish it from the original nephrite.

Today it is jadeite jade that is considered the real jade, commanding prices much higher than nephrite because it comes in much more vivid green colors and finer translucency than nephrite jade. Jadeite jade is produced in Burma, which is now known as Myanmar. Every year, the state-owned Myanmar Gems Enterprise holds the Myanmar Gems, Jade, and Pearl Emporium where boulders are sold by tender to the top jade dealers from around the world.

taken from:

http://www.jadeshop.com/html/about_jade.html