

The Sacred Codex

Six scriptures, each in the original language it was written in, with the English translation that keeps it as literal as possible. A beginning — more passages to come.

Instructions

- Translation carries what the text carries; interpretation is always marked as such.
- Guesses only when announced as guesses; blanks as STOP — never fill a gap by invention.
- Attestation present with every body of the work: what is stated, separated from what is added.
- The private part stays private; the attestation is the public part.

How the reader receives it

The reader may receive a personal reading from the codex in their preferred method of transmission — spoken voice or written text, as they choose. The preference is the reader's, not the codex's.

1. Holy Bible

Original languages: Hebrew (Old Testament, with Aramaic portions) and Greek (New Testament).

Opening — Genesis 1:1, Hebrew:

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ

Literal English:

In beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

2. Book of Mormon

Original language: none extant. The published text is English (1830). The book's own account names its source language as “reformed Egyptian,” but no manuscript exists to quote, so no original-language line is invented here. The English below is the text as published.

Opening — 1 Nephi 1:1:

I, Nephi, having been born of goodly parents, therefore I was taught somewhat in all the learning of my father; and having seen many afflictions in the course of my days, nevertheless, having been highly favored of the Lord in all my days; yea, having had a great knowledge of the goodness and the mysteries of God, therefore I make a record of my proceedings in my days.

3. Tao Te Ching

Original language: Classical Chinese.

Opening — Chapter 1:

道可道，非常道。名可名，非常名。

Literal English:

The Way that can be wayed is not the constant
Way. The name that can be named is not the
constant name.

4. I Ching

Original language: Classical Chinese.

Opening — Hexagram 1, 乾 (The Creative), the Judgment:

乾：元，亨，利，貞。

Literal English:

The Creative: origin, penetration, advantage, correctness.

5. Qur'an

Original language: Classical Arabic.

Opening — Al-Fatiha 1:1:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Literal English:

In the name of God, the Merciful, the
Compassionate.

6. Dhammapada

Original language: Pali.

Opening — Verse 1:

Manopubbaṅgamā dhammā,
manoseṭṭhā manomayā; manasā ce
paduṭṭhena bhāsati vā karoti vā; tato
naṃ dukkham anveti cakkam va vahato
padaṃ.

Literal English:

Mind-foremost are all phenomena, mind-chief,
mind-made. If with a corrupted mind one speaks
or acts, suffering follows him as the wheel follows
the foot of the ox that pulls.