

Name of Menorah Incense Burner

Place: Imperial Sacrificial Altar

Gold-plated silver round smoke stove, Emperor Guangxu of the Qing Dynasty

According to the Historical Museum of the Altar of Heaven^{*20}, it is clear that the system of the rites and festivals was specifically stipulated and administered precisely.

Under the reign of Emperor Yao^{*21} during the Dynasties of Legendary Five Emperors^{*22} (2600 BC – 2200 BC), Sima Qian^{*23} (around 145 BC - 86 BC) recorded in the Shiji (Records of the Grand Historian) that the Emperor himself worshiped the sky, sun, moon and stars in order to be given the authority to rule the world in peace. This is considered to be the oldest record of worship of the universe. At present, around 30 ruins which had been used for the worship during the Neolithic Age have already been found.

Within the period of Shang and Zhou Dynasties^{*24}, during the Zhou Dynasty in 11th century BC, it is said that the ritual was a significant