Chinese ceramics or Chinese porcelain is a form of fine art developed in China during the dynastic periods. China has always been richly endowed with the raw materials needed for making ceramics. Chinese Ceramics range from construction materials such as bricks and tiles to hand-built pottery vessels fired in bonfires or kilns to the sophisticated porcelain wares made for the imperial court. The first types of pottery were made about 11,000 years ago, during the Paleolithic era. Porcelain is usually discovered Chinese porcelain's history: from the earliest china in the Han Dynasty, to Qing Dynasty masterpieces, with details on china in the West and East Asia. It took years for the process to be replicated anywhere else, but by then the ubiquity of Chinese porcelain was firmly stamped in the books of history. Though there is some controversy about this, it is thought that porcelain was invented about the time of the Eastern Han Empire. It is thought that the first porcelain was made by firing the ceramic materials to the necessary temperature. Porcelain was a Chinese invention and is so identified with China that it is still called "china" in everyday English usage. A Ming-dynasty blue-and-white porcelain dish with a dragon. Increasingly over their long history, Chinese ceramics can be classified between those made for the imperial court to use or distribute, those made for a discriminating Chinese market, and those for popular Chinese markets or for export. Porcelain, on a Western definition, is "a collective term comprising all ceramic ware that is white and translucent, no matter what ingredients are used to make it or to what use it is put."[1] The Chinese tradition recognizes two primary categories of ceramics: high-fired (cé, 瓷) and low-fired (táo 陶),[2] so doing without stoneware, which in Chinese.