

愛國務實與「鐵腕」 —李光耀為世人留下寶貴財富(上)

中英社評

新加坡前總理李光耀先生，昨（二十三）日凌晨在新加坡中央醫院逝世，享年九十一歲。

李光耀今年二月初因感染嚴重肺炎入院，加上年事已高，病危消息日來已不斷傳出，但當昨日其逝世消息公布時，仍然令人感到震撼、惋惜與哀悼，一位偉人就此與世長辭，新加坡人民失去了他們最敬愛的「開國之父」，世人也從此失去了一位眼光獨到與魄力、識見都不凡的政治家和戰略家。

李光耀逝世後，中國領導人第一時間表達哀思，世界各國政要也紛表哀悼。國家主席習近平向新加坡總統陳慶炎致唁電，讚揚李光耀是中國人民的老朋友，是中新關係的奠基人、開拓者、推動者。

香港特別行政區行政長官梁振英，

昨日前往新加坡駐港總領事館弔唁，在李光耀遺像前鞠躬及在弔唁冊上簽名；特首在給李顯龍的信中說，新加坡與香港一直是追求卓越的夥伴，香港會繼續與新加坡保持緊密的友好關係。李光耀將新加坡建設成繁榮昌盛、兼容並蓄和朝氣勃勃的國家，新加坡、亞洲以至全世界都會繼續記得這卓越成就。

李光耀一生最大的成就與貢獻，當然在於一手打造了一個獨立、富裕與現代化的新加坡，到過新加坡旅遊的港人，都會稱讚當地市容衛生整潔，國民英文水平高，還有由政府興建、長年期供款的「組屋」政策，令到所有「打工仔」都可以成為「有殼蝸牛」，而且為了「供樓」而努力工作。一直以來都有不少港人選擇移民新加坡或到彼邦工作，雖對當地比較嚴苛的法規不太習慣，但舒適寧靜和有秩序的生活環境仍具有頗大的吸引力。

不過，哲人其萎、蓋棺論定，李光耀一生，不論功過是非後人如何評說、也勿問知我罪我是否毀譽參半，李光耀

畢生功業具有三點非常明顯的特質，是足以為後世法，更值得所有人、特別是為政者認真研究和深刻記取的，那就是：愛國、務實和「鐵腕」。

李光耀一生愛國，愛新加坡這片土地和生活在其上的人民，愛新加坡獨特的東西文化並蓄和源遠流長的中華文化之根。很多人都以為，新加坡有今日的成就，七十年代能夠迅速躋身「亞洲四小龍」之列，皆是由於李光耀的西方文化背景與親西方路線。這一說法，最多只對了一半。

事實是，李光耀是一位最為成功的「洋為『新』用」和「『新』學為體、西學為用」的典範，所有西方的經濟、法律和文化，都只是他用來建設新加坡這個國家的手段而已，建設一個獨立富強、人民有強烈歸屬感和責任感，並以新加坡人身份為榮的國家，才是他真正的理想和目標。在建國和發展過程中李光耀從未忘記這點，從未忘記呼籲愛國。

（未完待續）



▲新加坡前總理李光耀的國葬儀式在新加坡國立大學舉行。移靈隊伍途經新加坡舊國會大廈、政府大廈、政府大廈前大草坪以及紅山、女皇鎮等，最終到達新加坡國立大學，巡行路線全長約六公里，途中有十萬計人民冒雨送別。

Patriotism, pragmatism and "iron-fistedness": the invaluable treasure left to the world by Lee Kuan Yew (Part I)

Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, former prime minister of Singapore, died yesterday (23 March) morning at the age of 91 in Singapore General Hospital.

Mr. Lee Kuan Yew was admitted to the hospital for pneumonia in early February. Also because of his seniority, a message about his being in critical condition had already been **making the rounds** lately. Still the announcement of his passing away yesterday was shocking, sorrowful and mournful. With the great man ceasing to think, the Singaporean people have lost their most beloved "founding father", and the world has also forever lost a statesman and strategist with extraordinary insight, courage, inspiration and experience.

Upon Mr. Lee's passing away, Chinese leaders instantly sent their condolences, and other world leaders also **paid homage**. In a condolence message sent to Singapore President Tony Tan Keng Yam, Chinese President Xi Jinping praised Mr. Lee Kuan Yew as "an old friend of the Chinese people", and "the founder, pioneer and promoter of China-Singapore relations."

Chief Executive of Hong Kong SAR Leung Chun-ying yesterday went to the Singapore Consulate General in Admiralty to **pay tribute**, bowing to Mr. Lee's photo framed in black and signing the condolence book. In a message of sympathy sent to Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr. Lee Hsien Loong, the Chief Executive said that "Singapore and Hong Kong have long been partners for each other in the pursuit of excellence and we continue to look to Singapore as a close friend"... Mr. Lee Kuan Yew's "legacy of how to build a thriving, proud, diverse and dynamic country will live on for generations, not just in Singapore or Asia, but the world over."

Mr. Lee's greatest achievement and contribution in his lifetime, needless to say, lay in that he had built up from zero an independent, prosperous and modern Singapore. Hong Kong people who have visited Singapore all appreciate it that the city state is clean and its people are **proficient** in English. And Singapore's "public housing policy", under which the majority of the residential housing estates are publicly developed and governed with long-term mortgage loans provided to buyers, has enabled all wage-earners to own their homes and made them work hard to pay their mortgage loans. There are always some Hong Kong residents who prefer to migrate to live in Singapore or go there to work. They may not be so accustomed to the stricter laws and regulations there, but are still attracted by the comfortable, tranquil and orderly living environment.

Now since the wise man passed away, his merits and demerits can be judged. No matter how Mr. Lee Kuan Yew's merits and demerits will be evaluated, no matter whether and how he will be praised or criticised, his lifetime achievements have three distinguished features that can be learned by later generations and worthy to be sincerely studied and remembered by all, especially by those in government. These are: patriotism, pragmatism and "iron-fistedness".

Mr. Lee Kuan Yew loved his country throughout his whole life. He loved this piece of land called Singapore and the people living on it. He loved the Singaporean culture, a unique accommodation and incorporation of Eastern and Western cultures with a root in the long-standing Chinese culture. That Singapore can have made its achievement today with its prompt rise to become one of the "Four Asian Dragons" in 1970s, many people **attribute this to** Mr. Lee Kuan Yew's Western cultural background and his pro-West line. Such a view is at best just a half-truth.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew set a most successful example of how to make foreign things to serve Singapore and to establish Singaporean learning as the fundamentals while making

Western learning for practical uses. For him, all Western things, economic, legal or cultural, were just means to be used for building his country called Singapore. His real ideal and goal was to build an independent, thriving and strong country with its people having strong senses of belonging and responsibility and taking pride in being Singaporean. In the process of building up and developing the country, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew had never forgotten this and never forgotten to appeal for patriotism. (To be continued)

24 March 2015

WORDS AND USAGE

Make the rounds (idiom) – To be passed from person. (流傳)

*Examples: 1. That story has made the rounds in our office.
2. The rumour making the rounds in Washington is that the ambassador will be leaving.*

Pay homage (to sb) (idiom) – To show your respect for someone, especially by praising them in public. (向…表示敬意)

*Examples: 1. In his speech, he paid homage to Washington and Jefferson.
2. Fans paid homage to the actress who died yesterday.*

Pay tribute (to sb/sth) (idiom) – To praise someone or something. (向…表示敬意，致敬)

*Examples: 1. We will have a reception to pay tribute to the work of the committee.
2. The minister paid tribute to the men who had fought the blaze.*

Proficient (adj.) – Skilled and experienced, good at doing something. (熟練，精通)

*Examples: 1. She is proficient in two foreign languages.
2. He has become very proficient at computer programming.*

Attribute sth to sb/sth (phrasal verb) – To say or think that something is the result or work of something or someone else. (把…歸因於…，認為…是…引起的)

*Examples: 1. The doctors have attributed the cause of the illness to an unknown virus.
2. The company attributed its decline to some bad investments.*



時事英語

香港本是「水貨之都」

近來，本港一些傾向「港獨」的激進分子大搞所謂「反水貨客」活動，四處竄擾遊客和行人，激起公憤。

「水貨」乃相對於「行貨」而言。「行貨」指經由正式代理商（authorized dealer）進口的貨品，英文是dealer goods，即goods imported through an authorized dealer。一件「行貨」可稱為a dealer product。一件「水貨」是parallel import，多數則可說parallel imports。Parallel是形容詞，意為「平行的」，所以「水貨」的正式名稱是「平行進口貨品」，即非經代理商而跟「行貨」一起「平行」進口的貨品。水貨並不同於冒牌貨（counterfeit goods）。至於水貨是否非法進口貨品，則視乎各地法例而定。水貨因減少了代理商這一環節，價格一般較行貨便宜，但缺乏行貨所提供的售後服務（after-sale services）。

由於水貨屬於合法製造而經非正式或非法渠道輸入的貨品，所以又常被視為「灰色貨品」（grey goods），水貨市場又稱為「灰色市場」（grey market）。水貨交易是parallel trading，水貨交易商就是parallel trader。香港所說的「水貨客」其實多指帶水貨過關的人，應該叫做parallel import carrier。

香港是個自由港，除了少量貨物如香煙（cigarettes）和嬰兒奶粉（baby formula）外，絕大多數商品都可自由進出口。香港也無法例限制水貨交易。所以本港實際上是世界上水貨交易最活躍的地方，堪稱「水貨之都」（capital of parallel trading）。市面上許多商品包括汽車和電器都有水貨和行貨可供選擇。商家一般也會表明所賣的是行貨還是水貨，任君選擇。即便帶貨北上的「水貨客」，大部分也是香港人。

因此，在香港要反水貨、反水貨客，如何反？香港是法治社會（society with the rule of law），一切需依法辦事。「反」也者，禁止也。香港是否應立法全面取締（outlaw）水貨和水貨客？恐怕那樣一來，香港就會頓時變成「死港」。

亦然



編採速記

公義與私隱的角力

俗語說，有借有還真君子。意指向人借貸要依時奉還，這是人與人之間的信託和承諾。令人遺憾的是，偏偏就有那麼一批借錢不還的人拖欠教育貸款，申訴專員公署發表報告，透露「在職家庭及學生資助事務處」遭大專生拖欠逾兩億元貸款，情況嚴重到申訴專員公署也支持將欠債「黑名單」交予負面信貸資料庫。只是私隱專員公署竟再度反對，反建議將外判追債公司追討欠款。

到底是公義大還是私隱大？這一次，申訴專員公署主持公道，除了促請學資處加辣追債，更發文指出學資處提供毋須入息資產審查的低息貸款，其實已是極大優惠，還款安排也非常寬厚（可以長達十七年），處方實有責任確保公署管理得宜，對於拖欠還款金額較大、拖欠還款期較長而又沒有充分理由申請延期還款的嚴重個案，必須設法遏止。

不過，私隱專員繼2012年後，竟然再度反對學資處將欠貸「黑名單」交予負面信貸資料庫。私隱專員更稱，負面信貸資料庫是銀行業界以封閉方式管理的系統，政府交出市民資料後，對欠款人帶來的後果可以不成比例地嚴重，認為處方可循入稟或其他方法追討，並將追債工作外判。私隱果然大過天，欠債從此極可能不用還？試問，如此取態難道不是偏袒賴帳者？

看來，這不止是公帑應不應還的問題，更涉及到為人處世的責任和道德問題。這屬於通識教育科六大單元之一「個人與人際關係」，值得探討。也值得作為未來公開試題目，真的可以鼓勵多角度思考和批判性討論，相信也不會引起政治化的非議吧。只是，考評局的擬題委員會會不看上眼呢？

呂少群



走出校園

體驗「黑暗中的對話」

「黑暗中的對話」是一個香港頗多人認識的活動，它不但讓大眾認識視障人士的生活，更為他們提供工作。在未進體驗館時，工作人員會分派「盲公竹」，大家都好奇地在地上左掃掃，右掃掃的，想像着視障人士是怎麼靠「盲公竹」活動的。直到工作人員揭開布簾，大家都引頸往裡頭看。

哇！真的是黑漆漆一片，什麼也看不到。雖然這樣的心底話顯得很愚昧，但卻很直接地表現我的緊張。體驗館內忽然傳來一道歡愉的聲音：「你們好，我是Cindy啊！你們叫什麼名字啊？」我嚇了一跳，忽然想起她應該是工作人員，之後我們一一報上名字，黑暗中探索便開始了。在探索的過程中，導師會一直讓我們用不同的感官，試着去感受環境，有時我們會去到一個房間裡，有時會去到音樂廳。在黑暗中，除了視覺，其他感官都會變得活躍。雖然看不到，卻因為其他感官的感受，令陌生環境變得更具體。

體驗完畢，館方安排一個小小的分享會，那時我才第一次看到Cindy，她戴着太陽眼鏡，有點兒緊張地扯着手指，臉上帶着腼腆的笑容。我感到恍惚，直到她開口說話，才喚起了我的熟悉感。我想後天的視障人士就是這樣的吧，對於不熟悉的环境，還感到不習慣，當聽到熟悉的聲音，即使看不到樣子，也會感到分外親切。

Cindy分享了自己的故事，她不是視力全失的視障人士，而是患上了黃斑病變，她在看我們時，只能看到模糊的人影，因此我們的樣子是完全模糊一片的。她又分享了如何分辨鈔票、學習點字的困難等。最令我驚訝的是她會獨自煮食，還能做出一桌子的菜，我佩服她能克服被切到或被火燙的恐懼，戰勝障礙。

雖然我是抱着貪玩的心態去參加這次體驗的，但透過與視障人士最直接的接觸，我得以了解他們的人生觀。我們也應該要學會在遇到困難時堅持下去，這是我從這個活動得到的最深啟發，我希望你們也能參與這種體驗，從而得益。人生就是不停地體驗，才能找到自己存在的意義，然後再影響別人。

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