英双对照·外 国格言系列

是一个

朱刚 杨晋

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英汉对照・外国格言系列

人生心迹

朱刚 杨晋 编译

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出版者言

一则格言,其容量,尤其是能量,不啻比一部文学作品或哲学著作的。一个人到老年,对他读过的书,有的可能已经不记得其内容,却能随口背出许多或受过激励、鼓舞,或得到津逮、烛幽的格言。把格言称作生活教科书,是毫不为过的。格言含义广博深邃,悠幽隽永。它规谏惕厉人生,引人驱恶趋善,催人创造奉献,益人青春长葆。它是不言之师,而诲育终身。

古希腊索福克勒斯说:"简短的格言常常包含 大量的智慧。"

\十九世纪的英国人博恩说:"精辟的格言决不会过时。"

前者是从空间即容量方面说的,后者是从时间即久远方面说的。

载携智慧火花格言的英语是地道的,即使是 译自其他语言,也经过反复推敲斟酌。如今是珠 棲同献,但愿并赏。

格言在字面基本义之外,还会随环境、使用场合而滋益新义。同一则格言,饱经沧桑的老者

与初涉世事的青少年,体认自有不同。为避免误,导,书中一般采取直译形式,并且不注明喻指什么,而留待读者辨察赏味。

《人生心迹》、《学苑警句》、《爱的絮语》、《商海箴言》、《成功步履》组成外国格言系列,读者可依趣各取所需。而于攻其一点之外,旁及其他,则属别种享受。生活和社会从来就不是单颜色的。 脚底下的路,也当宽阔再宽阔。

编辑出版英汉对照外国格言系列读物,其意 略如上述。

前言

早在十八世纪,英国大文豪塞缪尔·约翰逊(Samuel Johnson)就注意到,世界各地的作家或普通百姓,都喜欢引用哲人的妙语佳句。这主要是因为这些妙语佳句是先辈哲人对世界切身体验的结晶,字里行间充满对人生深邃独到的见解,再加上高度凝炼、恰到好处的语言表达,更令后人为其中的睿智、机敏、幽默、深刻所深深折服。《人生心迹》所精选的便是有关人生的智慧之言。它给予读者以思想上的启迪,精神上的愉悦和表它给予读者以思想上的启迪,精神上的愉悦和表达形式上的享受,并催人奋发向上。《人生心迹》展现给读者的,主要是先哲对人生所做的内心独白。这些与他们本人独特的生活经历联系非常密切,却与读者并无距离,因而读来更显得亲切,耐人寻味,引发的联想更加丰富,感受更加深刻。

美国当代引语词书编撰家 B. 史蒂文森 (Burton Stevenson) 说过,好的引言不仅仅只是作古之人的过时之辞,随着岁月流逝,会显现其强大的生命力。史蒂文森的话至少包含两层意思:首先,优秀的引语不论年代多么久远,都不会随着作者

《人生心迹》是我们在教学科研之余收集编译的。译文也尽量反映原作的风格,并力求做到亲切、感人、温馨,反映出原文的感情色彩和理性力量。衷心地希望读者能接受它,喜欢它。果如此,我们深感欣慰。

朱 刚 一九九四年十二月

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1. Life

人生

0001 The world's a bubble, and the life of man Less than a span:

In his conception wretched, from the womb So to the tomb;

Crust from the cradle, and brought up to years

With cares and fears.

Who then to frail morality shall trust, But limns the water, or but writes in dust.

Yet since with sorrow here we live opprest,
What life is best?

Courts are but only superficial school

To dandle fools:

The rural parts are turned into a den

of savage men:

And where's a city from all vice so free, But may be term'd the worst of all the three?

Domestic cares afflict the husband's bed,
Or pains his head:

This that live single, take it for a curse, or do things worse:

Some would have children: those that have them

moan

or wish them gone:

What is it, then, to have, or to have no wife,

But single thralldom, or a double strife?
Our own affections still at home to please is a disease:

To cross the sea to any foreign soil, Perils and toil:

Wars with their noise affright us; when they cease,

We are worse in peace; —

What then remains, but that we still should cry.

Not to be born, or being born, to die?

Francis Bacon

世界是一个水泡,人生 自不幸的受孕开始, 从母腹到坟墓, 不过弹指一瞬间。 幼小弹指一瞬间。 幼小本菜间。 幼小本菜间。 战长中充满担心与恐惧, 指望脆弱的道德, 却如水中作画,尘土书写。

既然凄惨一世,人生维艰, 最好的生活又安在? 宫廷只是所收养傻瓜的 欺人学校, 乡村成了野蛮人的 栖身巢穴, 即使那座城市没有罪恶, 也比宫廷和乡村更糟。

丈夫为家事所烦, 伤透了脑筋, 独身之人,却因此自叹, 或干出更多的罪恶, 生儿育女者却为此而痛苦, 盼望子女早早死去。 结不结婚区别何在? 是单身受奴役,还是两人相争斗? 仍然期待家中的感情, 真算是神志不清; 要想跨海别渡他乡, 只有灾难与悲伤; 隆隆的炮声令人恐惧,而炮身停止, 寂静更令人难忍—— 除去这一切的一切,我们只有高喊: 别生下我吧,生下了莫如去死。

F. 培根

Because the great secret... is that the worth of experience is not measured by what is called success, but rather resides in a fullness of life, that success tends rather to obscure and to diminish experience, and that we may miss the point of life by being too important, and that the end of it is the degree in which we give rather than receive.

Arthur Christopher Benson

那个重大的秘密就是: 只要我们生活得充实, 生活经验本身就自有价值, 不一定非要获得所谓的成功不可。成功倒往往会掩盖生活经验, 使它萎缩下来; 人一

旦过于自傲,可能会失去人生的意义:人生的意义全在于给予,而不在于接受。

A. C. 本森

What is life? A madness. What is life? An illusion, a shadow, a story. And the greatest good is little enough: for all life is a dream, and dreams are only dreams.

Pedro Caldron de la Barca

什么是生活?生活就是发疯。什么是生活?一种幻象,一个影子,一个虚构的故事。生活中最伟大的东西也渺小的可怜,因为生活仅仅是一场梦,而梦总归是梦。

P. C. 拉巴尔卡

0004 Life is a long process of getting tired.

Samuel Butler

生活就是让人越来越疲惫的一个漫长过 程。

S. 勃特勒

Life at the greatest is but a forward child, that must be humored and coaxed a little till it falls asleep, and then all the care

is over.

Oliver Goldsmith

再伟大的生活也不过像个孩童,得哄着骗着让他入睡,而一旦睡着,便再也不用管他了。

O. 哥尔斯密

O006 Be not afraid of life. Believe that life is worth living, and your belief will help create the fact.

William James

不要害怕生活。一旦坚信活着是有价值的,这个信念就会帮助你创造出这个事实。

W. 詹姆斯

Adversity is sometimes hard upon a man; but for one man who can stand prosperity, there are a hundred that will stand adversity.

Unknown

恶运有时对人是严酷的;但是如果有 一百人能承受得起恶运的打击,只有一个 人能承受得住幸运的考验。

无名氏

8000

Remember that you ought to behave in life as you would at a banquet. As something passed comes around it comes to you; stretch out your hand, take a portion of it politely. It passes on; do not detain it. Or it has not come to you yet; do not project your desire to meet it, but wait until it comes in front of you. So act toward children, so toward wife, so toward office, so toward wealth.

Epictetus

切记,生活犹如筵席,一道菜传了过来,到你面前时再伸出手彬彬有礼地取出一点,然后继续往下传,别全部据为己有。如果还没传到你面前,别尽思量着去获取它,而要耐心等待。对待孩子、妻子、职位、财富莫不如此。

爱比克泰德

0009

We may follow any mood, we may look at life in fifty different ways—the only thing we must not do is to despise or deride, out of ignorance or prejudice, the influences which affect others; because the essence of all experience is that we should perceive something which we do not begin

by knowing, and learn that life has a fullness and a richness in all sorts of diverse ways which we do not at first even dream of suspecting.

Arthur Christopher Benson

我们可以随心所欲,从各种角度看待人生——但千万不可由于无知和偏见而鄙视或嘲笑别人所接受的种种影响,因为,全部人生经验的精髓就在于:我们了解事物,总要从不知道开始,而且我们必须明白,生活之丰富多彩,千变万化,是大大地超出我们原来的想象的。

A. C. 本森

0010

The very children know the story of King Groesus to this purpose, who being taken prisoner by Cyrus, and by him condemned to die, as he was going to execution cried out, "O Solon, Solon!" which being presently reported to Cyrus, and he sending to inquire of him what it meant, Groesus gave him to understand that he now found the teaching Solon had formerly given him true to his cost, which was, "That men, however fortune may smile upon them, could never be said to be hap-

py till they had been seen to pass over the last day of their lives," by reason of the uncertainty and mutability of human things, which, upon very light and trivial occasions, are subject to be totally changed into a quite contrary condition... (His) meaning was, that the very felicity of life itself, which depends upon the tranquillity and contentment of a well-descended spirit, and the resolution and assurance of a well-ordered soul, ought never to be attributed to any man till he has first been seen to play the last, and, doubtless, the hardest act of his life.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne

连孩子都知道克罗伊斯^①国王的故事。他被居鲁士^②抓获并被判处极刑,在去刑场的路上他叫喊道:"哦,梭伦!梭伦^③!"。有人立刻将此事报告给居鲁士,他便差人去问其中的缘由,克罗伊斯告诉

① 克罗伊斯:(?-546B. C.),古代吕底亚国的最后一位国王。——译注

② 居鲁士二世: (580B. C. -529B. C.), 古代波斯政治家。——译注

③ 梭伦: (630B.C.—60B.C.), 古代雅典政治家、诗人。——译注