

一部包罗万象的知识宝典

一套营养丰富的文化大餐

◎ 主编 / 孙静确

BILINGUAL ENCYCLOPEDIA FOR TEENAGER

双语青少年百科

Society 社会卷



世界人口趋向平稳 World Population
to Level Off · 由小面包看大变化
Breads of Change · 卓越领导人的7大
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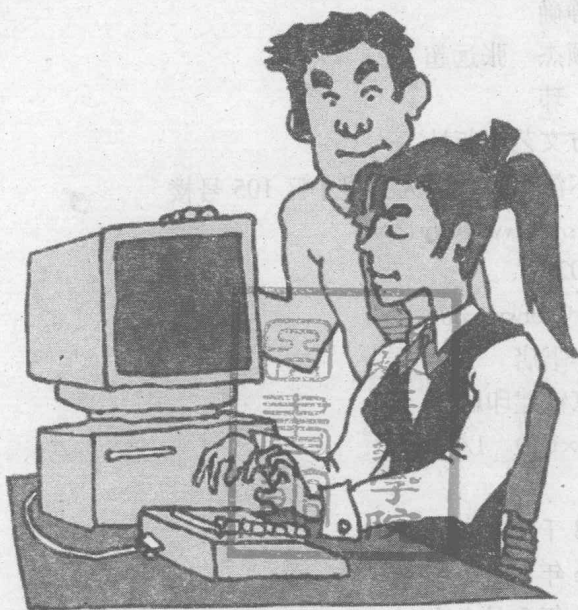
双语

青少年百科

DOUBLE LANGUAGE
ENCYCLOPEDIA FOR TEENAGER

社会

□主编 / 孙静确



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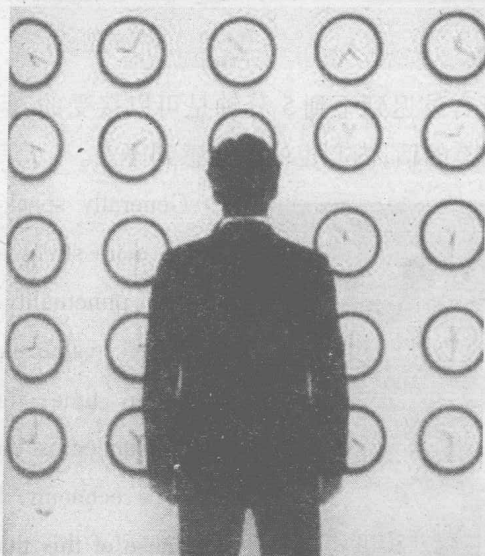
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Time-Oriented Culture

时间文化

People's attitude toward time is the best weatherglass to reflect one nation's culture in terms of punctuality, pace of life and time-oriented philosophy.



人们对待时间的态度好比是一个民族文化的晴雨表,能准确地反映出这个民族的时间文化。时间文化可以从守时性、生活节奏以及时间哲学三方面折射出来。

Punctuality

守时性

Punctuality or not is the most accurate yardstick to judge a nation's culture of time. For example, the following are some facts about the Chinese and the Americans' culture:

守时性是判断一个民族时间观时最准确的一把尺子。例如,我们可以从下面这些事实中看出中美两个民族的时间观:

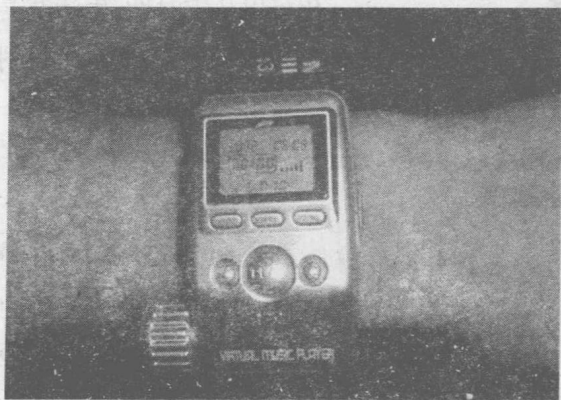


It's common for a Chinese leader to be 30 minutes late for a conference or an opening ceremony, with no apology at all.

中国领导人开会或出席开幕典礼迟到半小时是非常正常的,他们连道歉的话都不说。

It's acceptable for an American boss or official to arrive late by less than 5 minutes, with words like "Sorry" and a sense of guilt.

美国公司的老板或政府官员迟到不到5分钟是可以接受的,但他们通常会说一句“抱歉”之类的话,内心也的确会感到不安。



Generally speaking, the more stress is laid on punctuality, the more value is placed on time, the more advanced is the nation's economy. It is because of this that people have different

attitudes toward time. Consider the facts about people's value of time:

一般说来,越是强调守时性,说明这个民族越重视时间,他们的经济也越发达。正因为如此,人们才持不同的时间观。请看下面有



关时间观的事实:

An American or Englishman accepts all excuse for arriving 5 to 15 minutes late.



美国人或英国人对于迟到 5 ~ 15 分钟可以接受;

An Arabian thinks nothing of 2 hours' late.

阿拉伯人,对迟到 2 小时也不会当回事。

The proverb is representative of a nation's time concept:

谚语最能代表一个民族有关时间的想法:

Chinese: Think three times before you act. (from Confucius)

中国人:三思而后行。(源于孔夫子)

American:

Time is money.

美国人:时间就是金钱。

He who hesitates is lost.

当断不断,必受其患。



Harry S. Truman said something to the same extent, "A President either is constantly on top of events or, if he hesitates, events will soon be on top of him."



哈里·S·杜鲁门说过同样的话：“总统要么驾驭事务，要么为事务所驾驭——如果他当断不断的话。”

Pace of Life

生活节奏

Americans are always in a hurry, they seem to be under permanent pressure to think that there is something more to do the next moment. This fast pace is reflected in



the popularity of fast-food restaurants, one-stop stations and micro-ovens. They hate to waste their time and would frown if their time is wasted by interruptions or by poor service. They appreciate the practice of doing

things as quickly as possible, as in their eyes, “Patience is the virtue of asses.”



美国人总是匆匆忙忙的，他们总处于“等一会儿还有别的事情要做”的压力之下。这种快节奏反映在快餐非常普及这一事实上，反映在遍地开花的加油站上，反映在方便快捷的家用微波炉上。他们不愿意浪费时间，也反感别人以打断谈话或服务差劲等方式



浪费他们的时间。他们欣赏快刀斩乱麻式的工作作风,因为在他们看来,“耐心乃驴子的美德”。



In contrast, people in Indonesia believe in “rubber time”, to the extent that time can stretch or shrink. In Africa, people who do something in a

rush are actually asking for trouble; they'd be suspected of trying to cheat! In their culture, a slow pace is the rule, the law. A fast pace is most unusual, worth doubt.

与此相反,印度尼西亚人认为存在“橡胶时间”,也就是说他们觉得时间是有弹性的,可以伸缩。在非洲,如果某人做事匆匆忙忙的,那可就坏事——别人肯定会怀疑他在骗人!在他们的文化中,办事不慌不忙、不急不躁才是规矩和法律,而快节奏反而是不正常的,令人生疑。

Here is a contrast between the slow pace people (SPP) and the fast pace people (FPP):

下面是有关快节奏与慢节奏民族的对比:



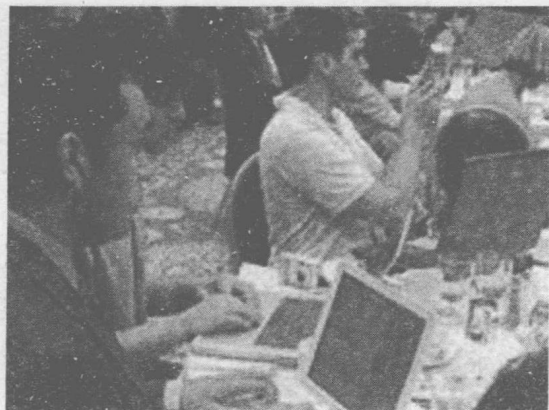


SPP—Consider an appointment as a target to achieve, if possible.

慢节奏——认为约会只是一个目标,尽力去完成就是了;

FPP—take a promise seriously and try to keep it by all means.

快节奏——非常严肃地对待许诺,会竭尽全力去兑现自己许下的诺言。



SPP—are dedicated to people and human relationship.

慢节奏——致力于开拓人际关系,工作位居次席;



FPP—are devoted to work rather than to human relationship.

快节奏——全心全意地投入到工作中去,人际关系是次要的。

SPP—change plans easily.

慢节奏——经常性地变更计划;

FPP—follow and stick to the plans.

快节奏——坚定不移地执行计划。



SPP—decide to be punctual or not based on human relationship.

慢节奏——守时与否取决于人际关系；

FPP——stress punctuality.

快节奏——守时第一。

SPP—show strong tendency to build lifetime friendship.

慢节奏——强烈倾向于建立永久的友谊；

FPP——are used to short-term relationship.

快节奏——只习惯于短期的友谊。

Time-Oriented Philosophy

时间哲学

Past-oriented philosophy—in which the greatest attention is paid to history and tradition and custom, so much so that the past is often regarded as the guide for decision-making. The following are typical features of such philosophy:

忆旧型哲学——人们的注意力集中在历史、传统与习俗之上。人们对过去是如此的关注，以致于将它视为决策的向导。这种哲学具有以下一些典型特征：

Consider the past and you'll know the present.

认为回忆过去可以知晓今天；

Historical dramas, like those TV series about the Qin Dynasty, the Tang Dynasty and the Qing Dynasty, dominate present entertainment circle and lead boxing-office sales.





历史剧,例如有关秦朝、唐朝、清朝历史的电视连续剧,如今依然主宰着中国娱乐界,并在票房收入中唱主角;



Chinese children still worship Monkey King, the supernatural hero of feudal era.

中国儿童崇拜的偶像依然是孙悟空——一个封建时代的超自然英雄。

To this type belong Japan and Britain.

日本和英国也属于这种类型。

Future-oriented philosophy—in which the focus is on the future where happiness is to be found. People are always making plans for future rather than experiencing the present. The following are its typical features:

未来型哲学——重心放在未来,认为未来是一切幸福之所在。人们忙于为未来做周密的计划而不是急于享受现在。其特征如下:



The Americans always want to wear the latest fashions and drive the freshest brand



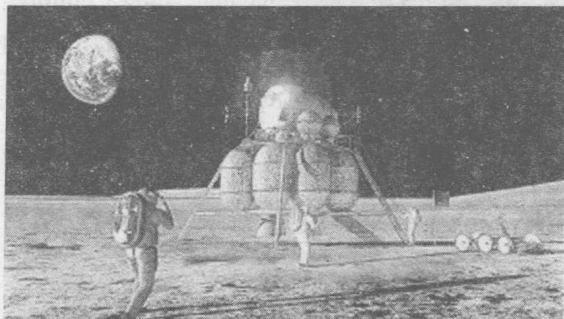
of car.

美国人总想穿最流行的时装,开最时髦的新款轿车;

Having conquered the moon, the Americans are planning to explore the universe beyond the galaxy.

在征服了月球之后,美国人又计划着探索银河系以外广阔的未知世界;

Americans' movies are featured by superheroes from the Mars or other planets.



美国的电影以有关火星或其他外星人的超级英雄为特色;

Having been No. One in economy, science and technology as well as military, the

Yankees are striving to build NMD to get bigger and stronger.

虽然已在经济、科技以及军事等诸方面成为世界头号强国,美国佬仍在费尽心机地建造国家导弹防御系统,想变得更加强大,成为“巨无霸”。



World Population to Level Off

世界人口趋向平稳

The United Nations latest forecast of the world's population in 2050



is 9 billion people lower than the U. N. estimated just two years ago, a result of women having fewer children and the worldwide toll of AIDS, a report says.

联合国最新预测，到 2050 年世界人口将

低于 90 亿，这要比两年前的估计还要低一些，原因之一是妇女不愿意要更多孩子和全世界艾滋病的死亡威胁。

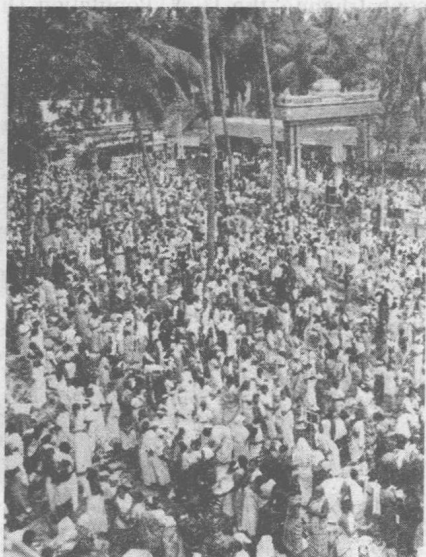
U. N. estimates for 2050 are down from 9.4 billion to 8.9 billion.





The population is expected to stabilize at 9 billion by 2300. The long-range report marks the first time the U. N. has issued projections for years as distant as 2300, 150 years further out than earlier estimates.

联合国估计 2050 年人口将从 94 亿下降到 89 亿。到 2300 年预计将稳定在 90 亿。这篇长幅报告第一次表明了联合国数年来发布的种种预测, 远到 2300 年, 比原先预计多出了 150 年。



Though it's hard to be accurate in long-term forecasts, the U. N. reports are widely considered the "gold standard" by demographers.



虽然如此长期的预测很难做到准确, 但是联合国报告还是被人口统计学家广泛地认同为“金本位”。

“The bright news is that people are choosing small families, so we're likely to stabilize well below 10 billion, most likely at 9 billion. But the next 3 billion are coming in the next 50 years, so we need to continue our work to help women and families



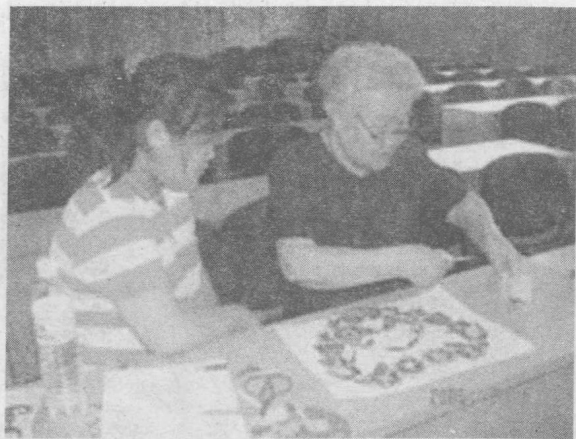
have the number of children they want—which they tell us is two,” says Joseph Chamie, the U. N. Population Division director.



“令人愉快的消息是人们正在选择小型家庭,因此我们可以将人口稳定在 100 亿以下,极有可能是 90 亿。但是另外 30 亿人口会在未来 50 年内出现,因此我们需要继续工作来帮助妇女和家庭养活她们的

孩子——他们说孩子的数量是两个,”联合国人口计划署主任约瑟夫·夏米说。

Chamie calls small families good news because the global fertility rate is currently 2.7 children per woman. If the fertility of countries was to keep constant, the world population would become much more.



夏米称家庭小型化是个好消息,因为全球人口出生率现在是每位妇女 2.7 个孩子。如果每个国家都保持这个常量的话,世界人口