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清水江烟雨 Misty rain over the Qingshuijiang River







黔

地，这片古老神秘的高原，凝滞、封闭、古风习习。先民对自然伟力敬畏、依赖和征服的心理历程，构成黔地多民族各自默契的价值标准和生存密码。循着这些隐晦的符号溯源而上，我们踟躅在历史的长河之中。

黔地奇俏多姿的地貌，温暖湿润的气候，成为我们祖辈的合理选择。虽然并非所有的废墟都值得留存和纪念，但废墟的确是祖先的壮举。当人类文化财富迅猛增值，精神智慧自由飞翔的时代来到，世界刹那间充满了各种辉煌、各种诱惑并变得空前丰富。固有的文化传统渐渐丧失其永恒合理性，新的文化传统尚在步履蹒跚，最封闭偏远的地域最易于领异标新。传统与现代的碰撞和融合，成为黔地今天的文化现实。凝滞、沉寂的大地一夜间变得生气勃勃，跃跃欲试，带着强大的历史惯性，日益卷入了现代化的进程。

黔地的往昔是一种奇迹，黔地的今天更有一份骄傲。封闭的特殊的地理位置和地域语言，孕育了黔地民族艺术原生状态的活化石品格。未经都市文明污染的乡野文化，如今指示着更富现代意义的精神内涵。我们拥有今天，承接昨天，叩响明天。今天的人们将重新理解大农业氛围中“夜郎自大”的积极文化心理。走在挂满各种文化快餐招牌的当代市井中，我们不禁回头观望容颜模糊的历史，毕竟，没有历史的地域是让人遗憾的。

黔地先民强悍的高歌和呐喊，穿过历史风云昂然入耳；他们沉稳的舞步呼应着银饰的叮当在城市的广场上回旋；祖辈世代相传，极富情感魅力的表情达意方式和文化创造成果，使当代人强烈的历史感、认同感和向心凝聚力油然而生。我们突然发现，地球上完全与世隔绝的文

精神还乡之旅

钱荫愉

化已不复存在了。

黔地各民族古老的服饰、民居、饮食、器皿和民俗传统，潜藏着隐秘的巫术意识、图腾意识和至今难以破译的隐语密码，使这块土地成为东方奇特的艺术宝库。当现代文明的冲击波使人们感受到了新的生命困惑和疑问时，古风流俗，以其纯朴亲和的精神特质，诱发着现代社会的原始情愫。人们急迫地想要探究那种人神共处、人鬼共处、人兽共处、与世界万物共生的精神家园；追寻我从哪里来，到哪里去，重新确定自己的生命定位。一切行将消逝的远古遗风都变得弥足珍贵，成为人类向祖先神灵询问自身的唯一凭证，成为现代人精神还乡的指路明灯。

长时间以来，偏远民族因其落后的生存方式和经济状态，被排斥在历史进步的进程之外；单纯强调文字文明的偏见，使某些民族的无字文化

被误读为愚昧和无知。如今，乡野的民食、民服、民俗、民居已堂而皇之地被请进现代殿堂，在眩目的闪光灯下成为一种时髦文化。我们不重复传统，但我们不遗忘传统，传统是由一代又一代的人来重新解读的。

黔地先民的梦幻和欲望，虽经岁月的剥落和蒸发，但过滤不去的是那更为纯粹的精神文化潜质。追踪这种潜质的蛛丝马迹，是《黔境古风》的意义所在。寻觅的结果使寻觅本身变得日益重要。在历史长河的每个皱纹里，都沉淀着黔地汉、苗、侗、布依、水、仡佬、回、彝、土家、壮、瑶、满等各民族的生命记载，他们是几千年大山文明史的真正参与者和受益者。

我们珍惜每个民族的历史创造和文化智慧。

我们的精神还乡之旅永无止境。

A SPIRITUAL JOURNE

Guizhou, short for 'Qian', lies on an ancient and mysterious plateau. In the past progress here was slow due to its isolation from the outside world. Old traditional conventions abounded. Awe of nature, dependence on Nature and great aspirations to conquer it, nourished people's sense of social values and helped form their ethical codes, which were understood, accepted and followed by people of all nationalities in Guizhou. Journeying back into the past, we shall unfold the passing moments of this eternal history.

Due to its varied striking land formations and mild humid climate, Guizhou proved to be a wise choice of the ancestors of ethnic groups as a cradle for their growth. Remains from olden times provide valuable reminders of the heroic feats of these ancient forebears. When the time came for human civilization to undertake dramatic growth, and human beings' wisdom began to enjoy free play, our world was plunged into a fundamental change. Swirling and swelling, it is now experiencing new ideas, procedures, revolutions, temptations, puzzles, births and deaths, all rich, colourful, and magnificent! There has been a clash and a fusion between the old and the new. The old traditional conventions are losing their value, while new ones are stumbling out of the cradle into this world. It is a common occurrence that the most isolated and the most remote are the most sensitive to the new. Guizhou, a dormant giant, is now awakening! Spring has brought him vitality and ambition. He is marching, propelled by historical inertia, into the modern world. This is the

cultural and social reality of Guizhou today!

The Guizhou of the past was full of wonder, and that of the present is full of pride. The typical closed geographical location and the regional languages gave birth to its unique culture and has preserved its original features. Exposed to the modern world, this primeval giant of rustic culture, unpolluted by city life, is striding towards modernization. Guizhou, which has inherited the personality of majestic mountains, encountered the challenges of the wilderness and enjoyed the successful growth of cities, is now walking into the future, bringing its historic heritage along. Today we Guizhou people need to redefine our understanding of the 'parochial arrogance of Yelang' (a small ancient Kingdom in Guizhou) and take a new look at it.

While we are immersed in a new culture which is rich in its diversity and full of practicality and possibility, it is necessary for us to look back into the fading past. After all, it would be sad if we lost our history. While we are enjoying the vigorous and heroic songs and dances of the ancestors and appreciating their simple silver ornaments tinkling in the colourful neon lights of the modern city, we suddenly realize that today no culture can be isolated from its times and the outside world. And then this rich and bright cultural heritage, passed on through generations, sparks, in our hearts, a profound respect for history, a new outlook on life and a strong yearning for the future.

The diversity of life-styles and regional cultures of various ethnic groups in Guizhou which can be

BACK TO THE PAST

Qian Yinyu

understood from a study of mysterious totem worship and cipher codes, have remained as a cultural treasure-chest in this province. While the demands of modern life are pushing people into wonder and confusion about such progress, traditional social conventions, complicated and coloured by sorcery, arouse an interest in olden times and an eagerness to study the remote past when human beings, gods, ghosts, animals, and everything coexisted in the same world. Trying to find our new identity in the real world, we seek for answers to these questions: Where did we come from? Where are we heading for? Then, the old traditions which are fading out, soon becomes valuable landmarks that direct the search for our roots. They brighten the path of our spiritual journey.

In our pursuit, we have learned what we little suspected: the affinities, blood relationships and cultural links of the ethnic clans in olden times and the evolutions of their social values. Worship of nature, of the totem, and of the ancestry in various forms reveals the attitudes and philosophies of different nationalities towards their origins and lives and destinies and origins. These provide the people of modern times with evidence for and confidence in their old civilizations.

Often systematically, the history and culture of remote ethnic groups were neglected because of their crude life-style and poor economy. They were considered ignorant, for only written history was given important consideration. However, today, the historical heritage of ethnic people in Guizhou is acknowl-

edged to be shining with historic significance. This rustic ethnic culture-including matters of housing, customs, costumes, food- has been ushered into the scientifically modern hall and become fashionable in the shining of neon lights. We have become more and more clearly aware that life reflects not only the features of the times but also the national spirit. We shall not necessarily imitate old traditions, yet we shall not forget them, either, for later generations should know and be able to decode them and be enriched by them.

The dreams and aspirations of the ancestors of Guizhou ethnic people, have undergone the cleansing process of time and tide, and the essence of ethnic culture remains. Following cultural and historical clues in seeking this essence is what this work 'GUIZHOU'S HIDDEN CIVILIZATION' aims to do. The fruit of this pursuit has proved the necessity and importance of the work involved. Ancient ruins and each turning point of history have left significant records of people of all nationalities in Guizhou: Han, Miao, Dong, Buyi, Shui, Gelao, Hui, Yu, Tujia, Zhuang, Yao, Man and many others, who are the real masters of this mountainous culture.

We respect the life-styles and moral values of each group.

We cherish the history and cultural wisdom of each group.

We shall pursue our endless journey back into history.

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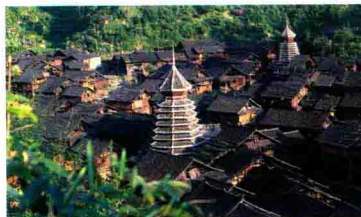
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