

英汉对照

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莎士比亚年谱

Shakespeare:
The Chronological Life

商务印书馆

(英汉对照)

SHĀ SHÌ Bǐ YĀ NIÁN Pǔ

莎士比亚年谱

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PREFACE

There are advantages, and also difficulties, in compiling a chronological life of Shakespeare in the style of Chinese literary biographies.

Shakespeare lived in England in 1564-1616, corresponding to the period from the 43rd reign year of Jiajing to the 44th reign year of Wanli of the Ming dynasty in China. Being no nobleman or high official, his words and deeds were not recorded. Yet many facts of his life can be dated or find evidence in writing. This is because English churches register christenings, marriages and burials; English courts keep case papers and lawyers drafts of all kinds of deeds; the Stationers' Company entered applications for the publication of books, including plays; the Royal Chamber Accounts recorded the payment of rewards to players who had given court performances; etc. Thanks to social stability in England over the past four hundred years, many of these documents have remained intact, and the facts embedded in them have been reclaimed by Shakespeare scholars.

Though low in social status as an actor and playwright, Shakespeare won appreciation for his plays by all, from Queen Elizabeth and King James to students and common folk. He became known for his two narrative poems at the age of thirty, and his plays made discerning critics proud of him as a son of the English nation. There was therefore no lack of references to him in contemporary writings and diaries.

Indeed, there are far more extant biographical materials of Shakespeare than those of Tang Xianzu, the famous contemporary Chinese playwright, let alone those of Cao Xueqin, the great Chinese novelist, who, though born 150 years later, had a more unfortunate lot.

Being arranged chronologically and accompanied with select

background political and cultural events, these biographical materials of Shakespeare speak for themselves and present an authentic account which is easy to consult and convenient for use in further studies.

But there are difficulties. For one thing, there is the gap in the history of Shakespeare's life when he left Stratford and went up to London. Here recourse is necessary to tradition, and a few stories are quoted for reference. For another, it is difficult to pinpoint the time of writing of Shakespeare's plays. Much deliberation has been done in order to put them in their proper places.

Of course, all the facts and documents I owe to the prominent biographers, and in particular to E. K. Chambers (1930), Peter Alexander (1939), A. L. Rowse (1963), S. Schoenbaum (1977) and M.M. Reese (1980). But the choice, discrimination, arrangement and translation are mine. I hope the result will be of help to students of Shakespeare.

Qiu Ke'an
April 1984

前言

用中国年谱的方式写莎士比亚的传略,有它明显的好处,但也有很大的困难。

莎士比亚生活在 1564—1616 年的英国,相当于中国明朝嘉靖 43 年到万历 44 年。他并非贵族或高级官员,没有当代人记录他的言行。然而不少有关他生活的事实是有根据的,或有确切的年代日期,或有书面材料作证。这是由于英国教会惯于录存婴儿受洗、成人结婚、亡者埋葬这些事实;英国法院保存各种诉讼的文件,律师保存各种书契的底稿;英国书业公所立有申请出版书籍(包括剧本)的登记册;英国宫廷记有历代宴乐观剧付偿的帐目,等等。而四百多年来英国社会比较稳定,许多这类材料居然完整无损地收藏着,为 20 世纪研究莎士比亚的学者们挖掘了出来。作为演员和剧作家,莎士比亚的社会地位不高,但他写的戏是雅俗共赏,上至女王伊丽莎白一世和国王詹姆斯一世,下至学生和平民,莫不十分推崇;他的诗使他 30 岁就获得令名,他的剧使有识的文人为英国产生莎士比亚而感到骄傲。为此,在当代人著作和日记中提到莎士比亚的地方也属不少。的确,莎士比亚传记材料之繁多和详实可靠,远远超过中国同代的汤显祖,更不用说虽然晚生 150 多年然而命运凄惨的曹雪芹了。

把莎士比亚丰富的传记材料编年列出,配以一定的背景材料,眉目清楚,有些宝贵材料,全文译出,有根有据,便于研究和查考。

现在我国关于莎士比亚的生平,仅有一些简单的写、译本,材料来源年代较早,有些还是通过俄文转译的,颇有不足之处。甚至有些所谓“莎士比亚有无其人”、“旁人代作”等过时的谬论,还在流传。这篇年谱可以补这个不足;在它面前,上述谬论也就不攻自破了。

但是也有很大的困难。难处一是在他从故乡到伦敦的这一转变时期缺乏论述,二是剧本写作的时间多半难于精确地确定。对于前者,只

能从纷纭的传说中选择几条,作为参考。对于后者,我不能不反复比照研究各家之说,作出自己的判断,相信不致离谱太远。

写这篇年谱,所有材料都取之于以前英美的传记作家,特别钱伯斯(1930)、亚历山大(1939)、劳斯(1963)、舍恩鲍姆(1977)、里斯(1980)诸家是我的主要依托。但是选择、衡量、编排和翻译则是我的。希望这篇东西对于我国莎士比亚学者能有所帮助。

最后,关于译名问题说几句话。莎学译名统一是我关心的事。我的做法是:人名、剧名译法主要依从商务的《英语姓名译名手册(修订本)》和人民文学出版社的《莎士比亚全集》;地名译法主要依从商务的《外国地名译名手册》。但是个别也有修改的。遗憾的是,大百科全书的《外国文学卷》另有一套译法。个别莎剧的其他译本,里面的人地名译法往往也不同。因此做到绝对统一固然办不到,大体统一也还困难。我这小书附了英文汉译的索引,希望对今后莎学译名的趋于统一有所助益。

裘克安

1984年4月

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1564 (6th year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth I of the Tudor dynasty, England; 43rd year of the reign of Jiajing of the Ming dynasty, China.)

April 26, William Shakespeare was christened at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, central England. On the register at the Church, under April 1564, is the entry:

“26 Gulielmus filius Johannes Shakspere XXX”
The baptism was administered by the Anglican parish vicar John Bretchgirdle.

His grand-father Richard Shakespeare, yeoman farmer of Snitterfield, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-east of Stratford, had died before February 10, 1561.

His father John Shakespeare, date of birth unknown, had left farming to learn handicraftsmanship in Stratford and had lived at Henley Street since 1552. After finishing apprenticeship he had become a successful glover and also traded in grain, wool, malt and sheep and deer meat and skin. In 1556 he bought the eastern house at Henley Street and another in Greenhill Street. In 1557 he married and began to take part in the Stratford Common Council. In 1561—63 he was one of the two chamberlains keeping the borough accounts and in 1563—65 continued to do the job. This showed that he could read and write.

His mother Mary Arden, the youngest daughter of a branch of the important Arden family, formerly called Turchill, inherited one house, 50 acres of land and other interests at Wilmcote, 3 miles north-west of Stratford.

His two elder sisters died in childhood. He was the third child and the eldest son.

July, the plague reached and began to rage in Stratford. Within the year nearly 250 people, mostly children, died — one sixth of the town's population (500 households, 1,500 per-

sons).

This year, England concluded peace with France at Troyes and so was able to gather strength for resistance against Spain. John Hawkins left on his second voyage to the New World. The Queen granted a new royal charter to the English Merchant Adventurers Company.

The same year, the Italian sculptor Michaelangelo and the French religious reformist John Calvin died. English playwright Christopher Marlowe was born.

1565 (Shakespeare 1. 7th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

July 4, Father was elected an aldermen on the Stratford borough Council, which was composed of 14 aldermen and 14 burgesses, and served as such until 1586. Henceforth he was addressed as "Master". He wore a special ring on his thumb. On Sundays and other holidays he went in the streets in his black furred gown, preceded by serjeants.

This year, Sir Thomas Gresham founded the Royal Exchange in London. John Hawkins introduced sweet potatoes and tobacco into England.

1566 (Shakespeare 2. 8th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

Summer, the Queen made her first visit to Warwick and Kenilworth.

October 13, Younger brother was christened Gilbert.

1567 (Shakespeare 3. 9th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

July, Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland, was forced to abdicate in favour of her son James VI, who was only one year old, with the Earl of Moray as regent.

This year, John Hawkins made his third voyage to the West Indies via Africa, continuing his slave trade; he was accompanied by Francis Drake.

The same year, actor Richard Burbage and playwright Thomas

Nashe were born.

1568 (Shakespeare 4. 10th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

From this year to 1588, for 20 years England struggled against Spain. The constant threat stimulated internal unity and the growth of English nationalism. Having made maritime gains one after another, England finally defeated Spain.

September 4, father was elected high bailiff (equivalent to mayor) for one year.

This year, Mary Stuart was defeated by Moray, fled Scotland and was imprisoned in England.

The same year saw the publication of the "Bishops' Bible", an edition promoted by Archbishop Parker and based on the "Great Bible" (1539 — 41). It was made the official version to be used in all Anglican churches.

1569 (Shakespeare 5. 11th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

April 15, younger sister was christened Joan.

Summer, when father was bailiff, Stratford for the first time received London players, who gave borough-subsidized performances in the Guildhall. According to bookkeeping records, the Queen's Men were paid 9 shillings, and the Earl of Worcester's Men 1 shilling. These were the earliest opportunities for the boy Shakespeare to watch plays.

September, Shakespeare probably entered the petty school attached to the Stratford Grammar School — the King's New School — to learn English reading and writing, from the alphabet to catechism, as well as simple arithmetic, from an usher.

End of September, father's term as bailiff concluded, but he continued to be an alderman.

November, Earl of Westmorland and Earl of Northumberland put up a rebellion in northern England against Queen Elizabeth

and for feudal regional independence and a Catholic rule. To participate in quelling the rebellion, the Stratford corporation recruited men, and made weapons and harnesses as contributions to the troops under the command of Earl of Warwick. Vagabonds were pressganged.

1570 (Shakespeare 6. 12th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

This year, Elizabeth was excommunicated by Pope Pius V. The rebellion in northern England was crushed, and Westmorland and Northumberland fled to Scotland. Active Catholics were controlled or suppressed in all parts of England.

This year, playwright Thomas Dekker was born; the translation of Aesop's *Fables* by Robert Henryson was published.

1571 (Shakespeare 7. 13th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

Midsummer, like other Catholic establishments in England, the chapel of the Guild of the Holy Cross at Stratford was divested of its valuable furnishings. The Romish vestments in the church were inventoried and sold for the use of councillors and their ladies. Stained-glass windows were removed.

September 5, father was elected Chief Alderman (equivalent to deputy mayor) for one year.

September, Shakespeare probably entered the King's New School — the Grammar School that was free for children of councillors. Only boys were accepted. They mainly learnt Latin grammar, conversation, rhetoric, speech making and poetry writing. They read Latin writings, from easier to more difficult, such as Aesop's fables, Mantuanus' poems, Sallust, Plautus, Seneca, Terence, Cicero, Ovid, Horace and Virgil. Among them the comedies of Plautus and Terence, the tragedies of Seneca and Ovid's long poem *Metamorphosis* were to exercise the greatest influence on Shakespeare's writings. The masters of the School, Simon Hunt (1571—75) and Thomas

Jenkins (1575—79), were both university graduates.

On Sundays and other holy days, the young Shakespeare went to church with the grown-ups to listen to sermons, read from the Bible, sing psalms and say prayers. These were already done in English in Anglican churches. Children were required to commit to memory important passages from the *Bishops' Bible* and the *Common Prayer Book* and answer questions of catechism. That was the main way Shakespeare improved his English. During 1569—84 the vicar of the Holy Trinity Church at Stratford was Henry Heiccroft, a Protestant graduate of Cambridge University.

September 28, Shakespeare's second younger sister was christened Anne.

1572 (Shakespeare 8. 14th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

January, father together with the bailiff of that year, Adrian Quiney, rode to London on borough business and to engage in some litigation about his private property. The two got £8 for travel expenses.

March 24, Francis Drake, leading seamen in three small ships, set off for the West Indies. In summer they attacked Spanish ports on Caribbean coasts and captured many treasures. They returned the next year.

Summer, the Queen again visited Warwick and Kenilworth, and she made a halt at Sir Thomas Lucy's at Charlecote, a few miles east of Stratford.

This year, Duke of Norfolk was executed on charge of conspiracy with Philip II the King of Spain and spies of the Pope to assist Mary Stuart in gaining the English throne. The English Parliament asked for Mary's death. The failure of the northern rebellion and the Norfolk plot signified the final victory of the Elizabethan regime over the old feudal forces.

The same year, the Scottish religious reformer John Knox died;

playwright Ben Jonson and poet John Donne were born.

1573 (Shakespeare 9. 15th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

This year, the Earl of Leicester's Men performed at Stratford.

The same year, Henry Wriothesley (later third Earl of Southampton and Shakespeare's patron) was born. Architect and stage designer Inigo Jones was born.

1574 (Shakespeare 10. 16th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

March 11, second younger brother was christened Richard.

1575 (Shakespeare 11. 17th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

Summer, the Earl of Warwick's Men and the Earl of Worcester's Men performed at Stratford. The Queen visited Kenilworth for more than a fortnight. To entertain her, the Earl of Leicester threw banquets in the castle, organized performances on the lawn and the lake and ordered fireworks at night. About 4,000 from the surrounding villages and towns crowded there to catch a sight. Kenilworth was 12 miles northeast of Stratford, and the young Shakespeare probably went to have a look. (cf. MSND II i 149.)

October, for £40 father bought the western house in Henley Street and another house in the town, the latter for letting. About the same time, he took steps to apply to the Heralds' College in London for a grant of a coat of arms, insignia for a family of property and position; but nothing came of it.

The same year, early English farce *Gammer Gurton's Needle* was staged, author unknown.

The same year, by the Queen's orders, vagrancy was forbidden. Three-time offenders would be executed. Small groups of players not favoured by noble patrons were liable to be treated as vagrants. The English parliament decided on *habeas corpus* for MPs and their servants. Italians started to make

imitation Chinese porcelain.

1576 (Shakespeare 12. 18th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

This year, the Earl of Leicester's Men and the Earl of Worcester's Men performed at Stratford.

December, "The Theatre", the first English permanent playhouse, built by James Burbage at Shoreditch in the northeast suburb of the City of London, opened. Previously plays were given in churches, streets, inn courtyards, palaces and noble houses or local government halls. Low in social position, the players organized themselves, sought patrons and barely escaped being treated as beggars and vagrants. Then their position improved and their art developed in quality. In the initial stage, The Theatre was mainly used by the Earl of Leicester's Men.

The same year, a China Company was founded in London with the intention of trading with China.

1577 (Shakespeare 13. 19th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

January 23, father failed to attend a meeting of the Stratford Council. Thereafter he almost completely ceased to take part in Council affairs. He no longer paid contributions, even those of a small amount. He gradually mortgaged some of his estates, but always kept his houses in Henley Street. Probably his business deteriorated and, burdened with the expenses of a growing family, had to raise cash and even incur debts. On the other hand, he might have Catholic sympathies and stopped going to Anglican church, dispersed and disguised his properties to avoid confiscation, and withdrew from public affairs in a town that was increasingly Puritan.

This year, John Whitgift was made Bishop of Worcester, and at once set about compiling a list of all those in his diocese (encompassing Stratford) who absented themselves from the

church. He sent the list to the Privy Council in London and sought to punish both Catholic and Puritan recusants.

Autumn, "The Curtain", the second English permanent playhouse, built by Henry Laneman at Shoreditch outside London City, opened. But it was not very successful, and often served only as a supplement to The Theatre.

November 15, with the support of the Queen, Francis Drake set out at the head of a fleet of 5 ships on a voyage around the world.

Among books published this year were William Harrison's *Description of England* and Richard Eden's *History of Travel in East and West Indies*.

1578 (Shakespeare 14. 20th reign year of Elizabeth I.)

Summer, the Earl of Leicester's Men performed at Stratford.

November, the Stratford Council voted to exempt John Shakespeare from the payment of 4d. weekly which every alderman contributed towards poor relief.

November 14, owing a debt to his wife's brother-in-law Edmund Lambert, father mortgaged to him part of his wife's inheritance of the Asbyes estate in Wilmcote for £40; he mortgaged another estate of 86 acres to another brother-in-law Alexander Webbe.

This year saw the publication of John Lyly's *Anatomy of Wit*, being the first part of his *Euphues*, and volume 1 of Raphael Holinshed's *Chronicles of England, Scotland and Ireland*.

The same year, 12-year old James VI took over government of Scotland. The Earl of Leicester secretly married Viscountess Hereford and lost the Queen's favour. Drake's fleet met with a storm while passing Magellan's Strait in September. His, the only remaining, ship sailed northward along the west coast of the Americas, and his men sacked various ports till they came to the Gulf of California. They landed and named

the place Albion, where they put up a marker signifying the Queen's possession of the territory.

1579 (Shakespeare 15. 21st reign year of Elizabeth I.)

This year Shakespeare probably left school in order to help father with his trade and business and contribute towards family economy. According to John Aubrey, who wrote *Brief Lives* in the latter part of the 17th century, "I have been told heretofore by some of the neighbours that when he [Shakespeare] was a boy he exercised his father's trade, but when he killed a calf he would do it in a high style and make a speech." "Killing a calf" was an item in the repertory of popular entertainers, which Shakespeare presumably imitated. Thomas Plume noted (1657?) in his manuscript, "He [Shakespeare] was a glover's son — Sir John Mennis saw once his old Father in his shop — a merry Cheeked old man — that said — Will was a good Honest Fellow, but he durst have crackt a jest with him at any time."

April 4, younger sister Anne was buried, having died at 8.

This year, Lord Strange's Men performed at Stratford.

October 15, father sold his share in a property in Snitterfield for £4. to his brother-in-law Alexander Webbe's son Robert.

December 17, a young woman, Katherine Hamlet, was drowned in the Avon at Tiddington near Stratford. There was a coroner's inquest in Stratford with a 12-men jury to decide whether it was an accident or suicide, for according to religious rules suicides could not be buried in church graveyards. (cf. *Hamlet* vi.)

This year, Stephen Gosson published *The School of Abuse* attacking contemporary theatre, and Thomas Lodge answered with his *A Defence of Poetry, Music and Stage Plays*. Sir Thomas North's translation of Plutarch's *The Lives of the Noble Grecians and Romans* was published, and so was the poet Ed-

mund Spenser's *The Shepherd's Calendar*. Dramatist John Fletcher was born, 15 years younger than Shakespeare.

The same year, Francis Drake's ship visited the Molucca Islands and Java and rounded the Cape of Good Hope. Father Thomas Stephens was the first Englishman to settle in India (at Goa).

1580 (Shakespeare 16. 22nd reign year of Elizabeth I.)

May 3, third younger brother was christened Edmund.

June, father was fined £20 in the Queen's Bench in London for failing to appear and provide security that he would keep the Queen's peace, and another £20 for failing to present a certain John Audley before the court, for whom he had pledged. He was clearly in trouble, but the largeness of his fines showed that the court still rated him as a man of property.

September 29, father was unable to pay the debt he owed his wife's brother-in-law Edmund Lambert.

November, Francis Drake returned to Plymouth and became the second man to circumnavigate the earth after the Portuguese Ferdinand Magellan (1522).

This year, John Lyly's *Euphues and his England* was published. Dramatists John Webster and Thomas Middleton were born.

The same year, London was hit by an earthquake. The last performance of a mystery play series of Medieval Catholic tradition took place in Coventry, 20 miles from Stratford, and was probably watched by Shakespeare. Outside London on the southern bank of the Thames, the Newington Butts Theatre began to be used, but, being rather out of the way, it was not successful. From 1580 to 1586, at the Blackfriars theatre in London of the first stage, short plays and music were performed for profit by choir-boys from the Chapel Royal and St Paul's Cathedral.