

外国社会与文化系列丛书



新西兰社会与文化

主编 王素华



WUHAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

武汉大学出版社

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主编 王素华

参编人员 张汉群 王素华 刘琦 刘沛 张云峰



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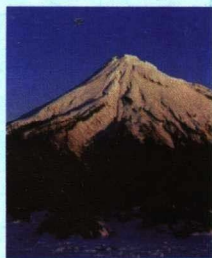
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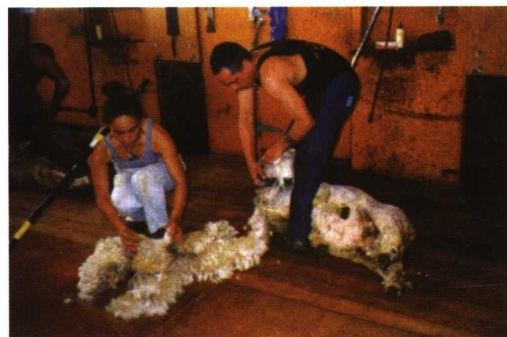
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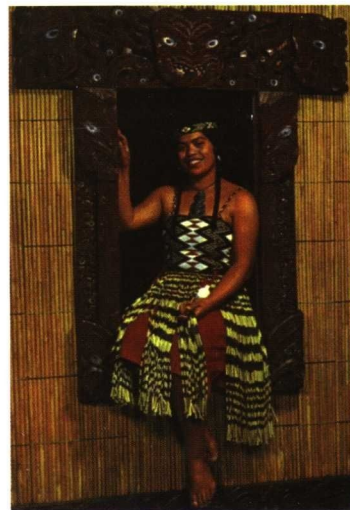
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► 毛利少女

N E W Z E A L A N D



前 言

我们正处在一个改革开放的时代。

每一个社会都希望了解别的社会，在了解过程中借鉴和学习，进而完善自己的社会，这也是开放意义之所在。

新西兰是南太平洋上一个景色如画的岛国。这个国家主要由南、北两大岛组成，其国土面积与英国相差无几，而那里仅有360多万居民，几乎是英国人口的1/20。那里属温带海洋性气候，冬天不冷，夏天不热，阳光充足，空气清新，雨量充沛，四季如春。新西兰被誉为“世界上最大的牧场”，其畜牧业用地约占全国总面积的一半；在这个遍地牛羊的国度里，牛羊数目比人口多好几倍。其肉类和奶油出口为全球第一，仅羊肉出口就占世界总出口的一半多，羊毛出口则居世界第二。不断发展的民族经济给新西兰人民带来了极大的实惠，新西兰人生活质量很高，绝大部分人拥有自己的房子和汽车，新西兰是世界上生活水平最高的国家之一。

正是由于新西兰是一个富饶、安定的国家，拥有良好的社会环境和较高的教育水平，所以她吸引了越来越多的海外留学生和移民，而且，越来越多的中国人也希望了解新西兰的各方面情况。

尽管新西兰与我国在20世纪70年代初就建立了外交关系，两国之间的交往也日益频繁，但时至今日，普通的中国人对新西兰仍然知之甚少。近年来国内掀起了一股“大洋洲热”，赴澳大

利亚、新西兰留学、移民、投资的人数剧增。

正是基于这样一种原因，为了方便广大读者全面地了解新西兰，编者参阅了大量文献，并在新西兰友人 Lywran Willmott 的帮助下编写了这本书，向各层次的读者介绍新西兰在政治、经济、社会、文化、历史、教育等方面的特点，希冀对读者尤其是准备赴新西兰留学、工作和移民的人们有些参考作用。

由于编者水平所限和时间仓促，书中错漏之处难免，欢迎广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2007 年 3 月 29 日

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I . A General Survey

1. The Official Name, the National Flag and the National Anthem

The Official Name

Where does “New Zealand”, this official name of the nation originate? And what is its implied meaning?

According to the now available historical documents, about 1,000 years ago, the Maori people drifted across the seas in their canoes from Samoa and Cook Isles on the Pacific towards New Zealand, looking for a new land. When they arrived, they didn't know the name of this land. On seeing the mountain peaks in the dense fog, they could not help crying out, “Aotearoa”. It means “Land of the Long White Cloud” in English. As time passes, Aotearoa has become New Zealand's Maori name.

“New Zealand” is a name made by the Europeans. It is noted that the first European who discovered New Zealand Isles is the great explorer Abel Tasman of Holland, who found New Zealand Isles in 1642. At that time, he thought New Zealand Isles was similar to the

place of Zealand in Holland, so, to honor Zealand, and also to make a distinction, a word "new" was added before Zealand. That's how the name "New Zealand" comes into being. And this name is used up till now.

The National Flag

The New Zealand Flag is the symbol of the realm government and people of New Zealand. Its blue background which is reminiscent of the blue sea and clear sky surrounding the country. The cross in the top-left corner is a Union Jack. This is here because New Zealand used to be a colony of Great Britain. The stars of the Southern Cross emphasize this country's location in the South Pacific Ocean.

The current flag first came into use around 1900, and was made the official flag of the country in 1902, replacing the Union Jack.

The New Zealand Flag may be flown on any day of the year. It is particularly appropriate to fly it on days of national commemoration and on other important occasions.

The National Anthem

In general, one country has only one national anthem, but New Zealand holds a rare position in the world in that it has two national anthems of equal standing — *God Defend New Zealand* and *God Save the Queen*.

New Zealand government holds great celebration on their National Day every year. At the beginning of the ceremony, all the people at present stand up and sing their national anthem *God Defend New Zealand*, for National Day celebration is an important and solemn occasion. On some other official occasions, New Zealanders also

prefer *God Defend New Zealand* to *God Save the Queen*. When the Queen or other royal family members visit New Zealand, of course *God Save the Queen* can be heard.

There are five parts in *God Defend New Zealand*. The beginning and the final parts are as follows:

*God of Nations at thy feet,
In the bonds of love we meet,
Hear our voices, we entreat,
God defend our free land.
Guard Pacific's triple star
From the shafts of strife and war,
Make her praises heard afar,
God defend New Zealand.
May our mountains ever be
Freedom's ramparts on the sea,
Make us faithful unto Thee,
God defend our free land.
Guide her in the nation's van,
Preaching love and truth to man,
Working out Thy glorious plan,
God defend New Zealand.*

2. Location and Climate

Location

New Zealand is an island country in the Pacific Ocean in the Southern Hemisphere. New Zealand consists of two large islands,