今日

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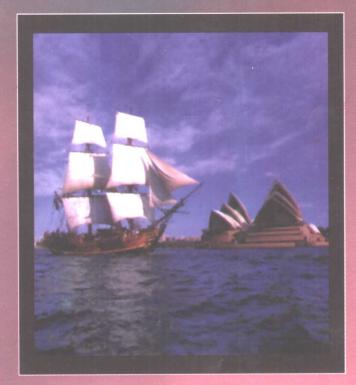
Australia Today

赵家

琎



外教社



上海外语教育出版社

Australia Today

赵家琎

编著



上海外语教育出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

今日澳大利亚:赵家琎编著.

一上海:上海外语教育出版社,2000

ISBN 7-81046-820-0

Ⅰ. 今… Ⅱ. 赵… Ⅲ. ①汉语 - 英、汉

②澳大利亚-概况-英、汉 IV. H319.4:K

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 20245 号

出版发行:上海外语教育出版社

(上海外国语大学内) 邮编: 200084

电 话: 021-65425300 (总机), 65422031 (发行部)

电子邮箱: ljyjb@sflep.com.cn

网 址: http://www.sflep.com http://www.sflep.com.cn

责任编辑: 陈鑫源

印 刷:上海长阳印刷厂

经 销:新华书店上海发行所

开 本: 850×1168 1/32 印张 8.375 字数 214 千字

版 次: 2000年6月第1版 2000年6月第1次印刷

印 数: 2000 册

书 号: ISBN 7-81046-820-0/K • 036

定 价: 12.40 元

本版图书如有印装质量问题,可向本社调换

1996年岁末,赴澳前夕,上海外语教育出版社社长庄智象教授为我饯行,约写一本关于澳大利亚概况的书,我欣然从命。

1997年来澳,适逢中澳建交 25 周年,我赶上了天时、地利、人和的大好时机。这一年,国务院总理朱镕基、政协主席李瑞环相继访澳,中澳友好合作关系全方位、多层次地蓬勃发展。我国将澳大利亚确定为出境旅游目的地的消息,在全澳引起了强烈反响。在这种形势下,当地的中英文报纸,我所任教的迪肯大学(Deakin University)和霍姆斯格伦学院(Holmesglen Institute of TAFE),迪肯的黎杨莲妮(Linnei Li)教授,都提供了很多鲜活的宝贵资料,加上澳洲学生学习中文的需求,这一切激励着我,收集资料,早日成书,作为向 50 周年国庆和中澳文化交流的献礼。

澳大利亚,是南太平洋最大的国家,拥有丰富的自然资源,在经济、社会、科技、文化与教育的发展方面,具有自己的特色;在国际和地区事务中,发挥着重要作用。在短短的200年间,澳大利亚从一个英国的罪犯流放地,发展成为经济发达、环境优美、人民安居乐业的多元文化国家。它有哪些特点和西方社会的问题?哪些方面是它的优势?哪些经验可资借鉴?总之,如何从全球化(globalization)的视角,予以考察评说,这正是我想在本书中探讨的。

这本书的重点,是今天的澳大利亚。本书采用最新资料和现实生活中一些题材,简述其社会全貌,内容上,力求三个方面的结

合:即澳洲的全貌与特质相结合;澳洲的现状与全球的发展相结合;澳洲的实践与中国的需要相结合,目的在于吸收澳洲之所长,为我国现代化所用。为此,在每一章副标题、第一节或概述中,尤其是在"历史"、"人民生活"这二章,点明澳洲的社会特点和负面问题,着重写了"华人淘金史"、"环境保护"、"社会保障"、"文化艺术"、"澳洲华人"和"澳中关系"等章节。有关澳外交、中澳关系等涉及政策问题的评述,按照我国人民日报的提法。至于各章节篇幅,则根据内容之轻重安排,从而形成了极不相等的页数,这也算是本书的一个特色吧。

本书的对象,是高中以上读者。作为一本知识书,它既可用作我国大学生和教师的参考教材,也可供赴澳留学、旅游、经商和涉外人员参考,还可供海外华人和外国留学生阅读。为了适应上述读者需要,本书在"州和区"、"经济"、"对外贸易"、"医疗卫生"等章中,编写了有关澳中交往的内容,提供了不少数据;在"旅游"、"教育"、"移民与签证"等章中,还列出了澳洲的有关规定。本书在文字上,尽量简明浅显,凡有可能,力求叙述生动有趣。在编写体例上,则采取当代教科书的章节格式和"参见条"形式,以便本书纵向连贯,横向打通,体例上富有时代气息;并在"目录"中详列细目,便于读者通读或查考。为了促进中澳教育与交流,"附录"中还编入了澳洲高等院校通讯地址、赴澳学习互联网址,以及澳洲人来华留学的联系地址。可惜的是,来不及编入索引了。

忆及80年代中期,我有幸在维也纳联合国组织工作,那时中国商品欧洲难觅,到了90年代中期,赴美访问研究,中国商品已打入美国市场。而今,本世纪末,中国商品已畅销澳洲和东南亚市场,从衣装、小商品到家用电器和电脑部件,从超市到高档商店,"中国制造"的商标,比比皆是。海外华人无不感慨地说:"今非昔比,中国强大了。"中国的兴旺还表现在精神物质的输出。今日澳洲,中文书店林立,市区图书馆内中文书刊琳琅满目,汉语作为外语的教学始自小学,这兴许是我写本书的一个成因。

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两年多来,为写本书几乎没有假日休息,数易此稿。虽说电脑写作方便,书稿仍未尽如人意,只好再版时修订了。今日得以草就,感谢家人关心支持,方爱伦、赵菁协助校阅,但愿本书能为中澳友谊之桥添砖加瓦。

1999年是中澳关系史上重要的一年。它将迎来建国 50 华 诞,澳门回归,国家主席江泽民访问澳大利亚,江苏和维多利亚结成姐妹省州 20 周年。

世纪之交,喜事连连,神州儿女,风华正显。谨以此书献给我的祖国。

赵家琎 1999年5月30日

PREFACE

At the end of 1996, before coming to Australia, I accepted the hospitality offered at a farewell dinner, hosted by Professor Zhuang Zhixiang, Director of Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press, and agreed with great pleasure to write a guidebook to Australia.

I was presented with a golden opportunity to write this book. I arrived in Australia in 1997, which happened to coincide with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Australia and which provided me with very favorable conditions in international relations, geographical advantages and public support. During that year, Mr. Zhu Rongii, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, and Mr. Li Ruihuan, Chairman of the People's Political Consultative Conference, paid visits to Australia. China-Australia friendship and co-operation developed vigorously at various levels and in all directions. China's confirmation of Australia as a Chinese tourist destination generated strong and intense responses throughout Australia. The flourishing local Chinese and English newspapers, the schools of Deakin University and Holmesglen Institute of TAFE where I teach, the support from Professor Linnei Li of Deakin, and the needs of the Australian students for study materials all greatly stimulated me to collect and study relevant data for an early completion of this publication, a tribute to the fiftieth anniversary of the PR China and the cultural exchanges between China and Australia.

Australia, the largest country in the South Pacific Ocean, abounds in natural resources. Its growth is unique with its own characteristics in economy, education, science, culture and society. It plays a critical role in international and regional affairs. Within a short period of 200 years, Australia has developed from its beginnings as a former colony for British convicts into an economically advanced, environmentally attractive, peaceful, affluent and multicultural country. What are its special features and what are the Western social problems it has to deal with? What are its advantages and what experience does it have that we can use? In general, how can we view and assess it from the angle of globalization? That is the issue that I will canvas in depth in this book.

This book concentrates on today's Australia. It gives a general picture of Australian society with up-to-date data and realistic information. It seeks to be comprehensive and simple while concentrating on three main perspectives, these being an overview of Australia with its special features, its current state and development relative to the rest of the world, and its practical experience on which China could draw. The objective is to highlight Australia's strengths for application and adaptation to similar situations as they may arise in China. To meet this end, a condensed account of Australian social characteristics and problems is summarized in the first section or general remarks, particularly in the chapters of A Brief History and The People's Life,

whereas those chapters of The Gold Rush and the Overseas Chinese, Environmental Protection, Social Security, Culture and Arts, Australian Chinese and Australia-China Relations are illustrated in more detail. In regard to Australia's international relations, especially China-Australia relations, the comments are consistent with those expressed in The People's Daily. The extent of each chapter varies with the relative significance of its contents so that chapters of irregular lengths might be taken to be a feature of this book.

This publication is targeted at post-high school readers. As a resource, it could be a useful and ready reference for university teachers and students, and also a guidebook to education, tourism, commerce and foreign affairs in Australia, as well as a reader for overseas Chinese and international students in China. To meet the needs of the above range of readers, selected data are woven into the chapters under States and Territories, Economy, Foreign Trade, and Public Health; while relevant Australian regulatory provisions are included in the chapters under Tourism, Education, Visas and Immigration. It is expected that this publication offers simplicity and clarity while enhancing interest and stimulation. In terms of format, it follows the currently prevailing textbook settings for chapters, sections and cross-referencing, so that its contents are linked sequentially and across the publication. Its layout is contemporary, which, together with the detailed listings of topics, should facilitate the reader's research. To promote Chinese-Australian educational exchanges, the appendix contains the Addresses of Australian Higher Education Institutions, Studylink Australia from the Internet as well as a similar listing of their Chinese counterparts

for Australian students travelling to China. Unfortunately, time restraints exclude an index in this edition.

I recall the time in the mid-1980's, when I had the good fortune to be working at the United Nations Organization in Vienna. During that period, Chinese exports had difficulties in penetrating European markets. Then, in the-mid 1990's, while I was doing research in the United States, Chinese merchandise made a breakthrough in sales in the American market. Near the end of this century, Chinese goods labelled "Made in China" and ranging from clothing and small goods to domestic electrical appliances and computer parts are universally available at the supermarket and premium-priced stores in Australia and Southeast Asia. It is no wonder that overseas Chinese reflect emotionally that "Today's China is not that of the past as it is now a power." China's growing popularity is also shown in the export of its spiritual values. In today's Australia, there are plenty of Chinese books in the bookstores and libraries; the teaching of Chinese as a foreign language starts from Australian primary schools. All of this seems to be an inspiration to my writing of this book.

For over two years, with the repeated redrafts of this book, there has been hardly any time for rest or holidays. Despite all that is said about the convenience provided by the computer, at the end it seems necessary to revise and enhance some of the human-interest aspects in the next edition. I would take this opportunity to thank my family members for their care and assistance. Ms Fang Ailun and Ms Zhao Jing assisted me in revising the final draft. I sincerely hope that this book will strengthen the bridging ties between China and Australia.

The year of 1999 is a significant one in the history of the

China-Australia relationship. It heralds the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the PR China, the return of Macao to China and the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of Jiangsu and Victoria as sister provinces. With the visit to Australia by Chinese President Jiang Zemin, it will mark the enhancement of relationships between these two countries.

As the centuries change over, happy events fall in quick succession. The Chinese, whether at home or overseas, are in their prime and endeavoring to contribute to mankind. Here, I send my greetings to them and dedicate this book to my motherland.

Zhao Jiajin 30 May 1999

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