

亚细安读物 ASEAN READERS

马来西亚民间故事

Favourite Stories from Malaysia

胜利书局编辑小组译

Leon Comber



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SHING LEE



mann Asia

HEINEMANN EDUCATIONAL BOOKS (ASIA) LTD.

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© English Edition

Leon Comber 1972

© Chinese Translation

Heinemann Educational Books (Asia) Ltd.

and Shing Lee Book Store 1979

First published 1979

Reprinted 1980

Illustrated by Elias Shukor

Printed in the Republic of Singapore by
Singapore Offset Printing Pte. Ltd.

PREFACE

The year 1979 has been given the name of the International Year of the Child. To mark this auspicious year which was inaugurated by the United Nations, Shing Lee Book Store and Heinemann Educational Books (Asia) Limited have jointly published a collection of folktales from the ASEAN countries, for students in upper primary and lower secondary classes.

Entitled "ASEAN READERS", the collection, presented in a series of five books, includes stories from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. It provides worthwhile reading as not only does it introduce the student to the rich and varied ASEAN traditions and cultures, but the tales also enable the essence of ASEAN's traditional values to permeate the reader's consciousness.

"ASEAN READERS" is a varied and well-chosen collection of both educational as well as inspiring stories. For instance, *The Boy and the Pearl* describes the twin virtues of kindness and helpfulness; *The Ship of Rock* reminds us to show filial piety to our parents; *The First Monkeys* teaches that a feeling of pity and tenderness for others should always be cherished; *White Onion and Red Onion* indicates clearly that it does not pay to be evil; and *The Glass Diamond* warns that greediness will eventually bring about greater losses. By letting the individual characters in these tales voice most of the 'advice', the student will find it much easier to absorb and retain the percepts they embody.

To help encourage bilingualism among the young, "ASEAN READERS" is therefore published as a bilingual edition. The Chinese stories, for example, may be translations of the English ones, but in every translation painstaking efforts have been made to ensure accuracy. The language has been kept simple and straightforward. Furthermore, difficult words are printed in both languages to facilitate the student's grasp of the stories and, simultaneously enlarge his vocabulary.

前言

为了配合1979年——国际儿童年，我局与 Heinemann Educational Books (Asia) Ltd. 首次携手合作，联合出版一套图书——“亚细安读物”，以供小学高年级及中学低年级的学生阅读。

“亚细安读物”共分五册，包括新加坡、马来西亚、印尼、菲律宾及泰国等民间故事。这套丛书的推出，主要是在于让学生们认识及了解亚细安各国的风俗习惯及文化背景，进而使学生从亚细安的优良传统里吸取其精华的一面。

书中的许多故事都富有教育性和启发性，如“小孩与珍珠”通过一个小孩和一只小蚝的故事，发扬了人类善良的天性与救人为乐的美德。“岩石”教导为人子女者要有孝心，不能忘了父母的哺育之恩。“猴子的由来”借国王与皇后的残忍指出了做人应具同情心。“白洋葱与红洋葱”则说明了心地狠毒的人最终必会受到惩罚。“玻璃钻石”提醒人们不可贪心，否则将会遭致更大的损失。书中许多意味深长的话都是借人物的口说出，因此使学生较易吸收。

此外，“亚细安读物”是以中英文对照的形式出版。这，有助于学生两种语文的学习。书中的中文虽是由英文翻译而来，然而，它是意译而成的华文结构，文句浅白，使学生易于阅读与运用。另外，每个故事之后，尚附有中英词汇对照，借此帮助学生了解故事的内容，加强中英词句的收集。

To further stimulate the student's interest, as well as to challenge his understanding, a short exercise is included at the end of each story.

"ASEAN READERS" has within each story all the exotic colours of the individual ASEAN countries which they represent. It is the book for every student, a start to the knowing of our neighbours.

再者，每个故事之后都附有练习题，包括问答、填充、是非、选择、词句重组、汉语拼音……等，使之不流于刻板枯燥，这样，不但不会使学生感到乏味，而且能使学生对它发生深厚的兴趣。

“亚细安读物”是一套充满民间色彩的读物，希望学生们会喜爱。鉴于学识有限，难免有些疏漏错误之处，尚希爱好本书读者，多多指正，以便再版时，逐一修正，则不甚感激。

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1

THE MAN AND THE CROCODILE

人和鳄鱼



A man was hurrying along a river bank. "Help, help! Please have pity on me." He looked all around him. Then he stared. It was a crocodile. There were tears streaming down its cheeks. It could not move because a tree had fallen on top of it and pinned its tail to the ground.

The man said, "Look, Mr. Crocodile, if I release you, will you eat me up?"

"No, no. How could I be so ungrateful?" said the crocodile.

The man pulled the tree off the crocodile's tail. The crocodile quickly twisted round and seized the man by the leg.

"Wait!" the man cried, very frightened. "Let's ask my friend, Mr. Mouse-deer, whether this is the right way for you to repay my kindness."

When the mouse-deer arrived he pretended that he did not believe the story that the man told him.

"I can't believe that you would be so good to Mr. Crocodile," he said. "Probably you were trying to harm him and he caught hold of you. Er ... er, Mr. Crocodile, would you please show me where you were lying when the man came along?"

"Why, certainly," said the crocodile. "I was here."

As he let go of the man, the mouse-deer shouted to the man to drop a log on the crocodile. The crocodile could not move.

The man bowed low and thanked the clever mouse-deer.

"Ah," said the mouse-deer, "don't try to be too kind. It's man's nature to be ungrateful."

He called out to an old sleeping-mat that was floating in midstream. "Hai there, old mat, what's the reward for those who do kind acts?"

有一天，一个人匆匆忙忙地从河边走过。忽然，他听到凄厉的喊声：“救命啊！可怜可怜我！”于是，他向四周看了看，原来是一只鳄鱼，它的尾巴被一棵大树压住，动弹不得，只有在那里直流眼泪。

那个人便说：“鳄鱼先生，如果我放了你，你会不会把我吃掉？”

“不，不，绝对不会，我怎么会那么忘恩负义呢！”鳄鱼回答说。

于是，那个人使用力把大树拉开，鳄鱼的尾巴一得到解脱，便立即扭转身子，用脚把那个人抓住。

“等一等！”那个人害怕地大声喊道：“让我们一起去问一问我们的朋友鼠鹿先生，你该不该用这种方式来报答我对你的恩惠。”

鼠鹿装着不相信那个人对他所讲的话。“我不相信你会对鳄鱼那么好，”它说，“可能是你想害鳄鱼，反而被它咬住。唔……，鳄鱼先生，最好你可以把刚才的情形做一次给我看。”

鳄鱼爽快地答道：“当然可以！”

鳄鱼把那个人放开后，鼠鹿便大声叫那个人用大树干把鳄鱼压住。鳄鱼又再次不能动了。

那个人向聪明的鼠鹿行了个礼，并向它道谢。

鼠鹿却感叹地对他说：“唉！待人不要太仁慈，因为人的天性是忘恩负义的。”

鼠鹿接着向一张漂浮在河中央的旧地席喊道：“嗨！你的善行得到什么奖赏？”

“鼠鹿先生，”地席答道，“只要看一看我就知道了。

“Mr. Mouse-deer,” answered the mat, “just look at me. Once I was bright and new. Now that I am old you can see what has happened to me.”

And then an empty cooking pot floated past. The mouse-deer asked it the same question and received the same reply.

EXERCISE 1

- A. 1. Why did the crocodile want the man to help him?
2. What did the mouse-deer say to the crocodile?
3. How did the mouse-deer help the man?
4. What answer did the mouse-deer receive from the empty cooking pot?

- B. Write a word with an opposite meaning in each space.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. bottom..... | 3. quickly |
| 2. ungrateful..... | 4. empty |

- C. Put the correct pronoun in each blank.

The crocodile could not move because a tree had fallen on top of tail. “Can you help?” the crocodile asked. “Yes, can,” said the man, “but will bite me?”

以前我是又新又光亮的，现在我老了，就得到如此的下场。”

此时，正好有一个空饭锅漂过，鼠鹿问它同一个问题，结果又得到同样的答案。

Vocabulary 词汇

hurrying 匆忙

seized 抓

pity 可怜

repay 报答

streaming 流

pretended 假装

release 放

harm 伤害

ungrateful 忘恩负义

reward 报偿

twisted 扭转

练习题

(A) 问答

- 1 鳄鱼为什么需要那个人的帮助？
- 2 鼠鹿对鳄鱼说了些什么？
- 3 鼠鹿怎样帮助那个人？
- 4 那个空饭锅怎样回答鼠鹿的问题？

(B) 试写出下列各词的反义词来。

- | | |
|--------|------|
| 1 下面 | 3 匆忙 |
| 2 忘恩负义 | 4 空 |

(C) 完成下面的句子。

- 1 一只鳄鱼的尾巴被_____。
- 2 鳄鱼说：我怎么会那么_____。
- 3 鼠鹿对那个人说：可能是你想害鳄鱼，反而_____。
- 4 鼠鹿感叹地说：唉！待人_____。

2

THE GOLDEN CHAIN

Many years ago, there was a fisherman in Malaysia whose name was Mahmud. He was a kind man but he dreamed of nothing else but how to get rich. He was not really interested in catching fish. He had heard tales from his father and grandfather of treasure ships being sunk off the coast of Malaysia. So he visited all these places in the hope of being able to fish up some treasure from the bottom of the sea.

One day, while he was dozing in the hot sun, he felt something tugging at his fishing line. He pulled it in to see what he had caught. It was such hard work that he wondered what it was. As his fishing line came out of the water, he was surprised to see that he had caught a heavy golden chain.

He leaned over the side of the ship to pull in the chain. "It must be worth thousands of dollars," he thought. "I shall be able to buy a big house with padi fields around it."

The chain seemed to be endless. The more he pulled, the more there was. "I can buy some jewellery for my wife," he thought. "There will be no need for me to work any more. I can hire men to work for me." The chain filled his boat. He did not notice that it was so heavy that his boat was beginning to sink. "I can buy a rubber estate and a coconut plantation — a herd of buffaloes. My wife can have a chicken farm too. I can open a bank account. I — I — Ugh!" The water closed over his head. He tried to swim up through the water but his legs were trapped in the golden chain.

二 金炼

很多年前，马来西亚有个渔夫叫玛默。他是个善良的人，但终日什么都不想，只想发大财，也不怎么兴趣捕鱼。他从父亲和祖父那儿听到许多有关盛满金银珠宝的船只沉在马来西亚海岸的故事，所以他时常到这些地方去，希望能从海底捞到一些金银珠宝。

有一天，当他在炎阳下打瞌睡时，觉得有东西在拉动他的鱼线，便想把它拉上来看看。他边拉边觉得奇怪，究竟是什么东西需要费那么大的力气。当他把鱼线拉出水面后，看见是一串很重的金炼，真使他感到惊喜万分。

他靠在船边，一面把金炼拉上来，一面在想：“它一定值几千块钱，我可以买一间大房屋和稻田。”

那串炼好象拉不完似的，他越拉就越长，他又在想：“我可以买一些首饰给我的妻子”，“我可以雇人来替我工作，那么我自己就不必做了。”金炼已装满了他的船，使船的重量不断增加且开始往下沉，但他却没有发觉，并继续地想着：“我可以买胶园、椰园、……、水牛。我的妻子可以有个养鸡场。我可以开一个银行户口，我……我……啊！”海水已经掩过他的头。他想向上游，但双脚却被金炼缠住，不能动弹。

从此之后，就没有人再见到这位渔夫了。

那天傍晚，渔夫没有回家。他的妻子、孩子和朋友们都很伤心。他的妻子感慨地说：“他是个好人，只可惜太贪心了。俗语说得对，贪心足以毁了人的一生。”

That was the last that was ever seen of him.

His wife, children and friends were very sad when he did not return home that evening. His wife said, "He was a good man but it was a pity that he was so greedy. The old saying is quite right — 'Greed leads a man to his destruction just as a camel is led by its driver.' "

EXERCISE 2

- A. 1. Where did the fisherman find the chain?
2. What was the chain made of?
3. What did the fisherman do with it?
4. What did his wife say when he did not return home?
- B. Complete the word on the right. The first letter is already put in.
Example: A person who treats sick people. doctor
1. A man who catches fish. f.....
 2. A man who sells jewellery. j.....
 3. Mother, father and children or relatives. f.....
 4. A man serving in the navy. s.....
- C. Turn the following statements into questions.
Example: He was a kind man.
Was he a kind man?
1. He was sleeping in the hot sun.
1.
 2. It was hard work.
2.
 3. I can buy some jewellery for my wife.
3.
 4. He did not return home.
4.

Vocabulary 词汇

tales 故事

treasure 金银珠宝

dozing 打瞌睡

tugging 拉动

worth 值

hire 雇

notice 发觉

destruction 毁灭

练习题

(A) 问答

1. 渔夫在那里找到那串炼?
2. 那串炼是用什么制成的?
3. 渔夫打算怎样利用那串炼?
4. 他妻子对他的死有什么感慨?

(B) 在右边的空格里填上职业名称, 如:

替人看病者 医生 。

1. 捕鱼为生者_____。
2. 卖首饰者_____。
3. 耕田者_____。
4. 航海者_____。

(C) 是非题

- | | |
|---------------------|---------|
| 1. 玛默不想发大财。 | () |
| 2. 玛默钓到一串金炼。 | () |
| 3. 玛默结果被水淹死。 | () |
| 4. 玛默的妻子对丈夫的死感到很高兴。 | () |