【中英文對照賞析】

An Honest Official and a "Pavilion of Clear Conscience"

朱裳與「無愧亭」

公有領域



Zhu Shang (1482-1539) was born in Shahe City, Hebei Province, during the Ming Dynasty. He was a wise man with integrity. He upheld justice and won the hearts of the people he served.

In 1515 Zhu was in charge of the salt industry in the Hedong area. At the time Qian Ning, one of Emperor Wuzong's trusted royal guards, had long been profiting from allowing his people to trade salt privately in Hedong. Qian was domineering, had the Emperor's support, and no one dared to talk about his illegal salt business.

Zhu stepped in, banned Qian's private salt trade, and punished those involved.

Zhu cared about his people and their livelihood. He wrote "A Poem about Scooping Salt" after seeing how hard the men worked in such tough conditions on hot summer days to make salt. In the poem, he vividly and truthfully described the tough lives of the ten thousand salt makers who were there by conscription and how they missed their families. He expressed deep sympathy for these people.

Emperor Wuzong was an extravagant man who couldn't have cared less about state affairs. He endowed the eunuchs with great political power and let them run the country.

Li Jian was a eunuch who collected high taxes in Shandong in the name of paying tribute to the emperor, leaving the locals in misery. Wang Xiang, an honest official, discovered it and patrolled the area.

Wang submitted a formal complaint to have Li removed from office. Li disputed it in front of the emperor and spoke ill of Wang. The emperor then put Wang in prison.

When Zhu returned to the royal court and found out what had happened, he wrote two letters to the throne, one to ask for Wang's pardon and the other to have Li removed from office. Zhu asked the emperor to discern right from wrong, loyalty from treachery. The emperor spared Wang the death penalty.

The emperor put a crafty official, Jiang Bin, in an important position so that Jiang could rob the peasants of their farms and build imperial homes for the emperor to enjoy. Jiang encouraged the emperor to leave the royal court and tour the country. The emperor abandoned state affairs for months and lived a dissolute life. When many of the court officials complained, asking the emperor to get back to the court and rule the country, it angered him. He imprisoned over 40 officials, had 107 of them kneel down in public for five days, and had 146 of them lashed in court.

Zhu heard about this and, without concern for his own interests, wrote the emperor a letter asking him to “be honest, quit playing around, associate with noble people, and avoid villains.” Zhu advised the emperor to issue a decree to confess to his mistakes and ask the people for forgiveness.

The emperor demoted Zhu and demoted him to a remote area. This didn't surprise Zhu, but he did what he had to do as a responsible official.

Zhu was sent to Gongchang, a remote and impoverished place that had suffered years of drought and famine, recurring epidemics, and raids from western tribes. Zhu prayed for rain as soon as he arrived. It rained hard for ten days and ended the drought. He pacified the barbarians and made the town safe. He established regulations, promoted education, and encouraged agricultural production.

The town soon prospered. The year after Shizong became the next emperor in the Ming Dynasty, the royal court ranked Zhu first among the empire’s most outstanding officials.

Zhu continued to be promoted in the years to come. He was transferred to present day Zhejiang, and relieved the people there of unreasonable financial burden by cleaning up corruption. He executed conservancy control of the rivers nationwide and proposed many policies to contain the Yellow River from flooding. He was personally involved in monitoring the construction.

Zhu's fatherwas content with a bowl of food, a set of clothes, and a quilt. Zhu's colleague knew that his father was poor and gave him a new set of clothes on his birthday. His father turned it down.

His father had brought up his son to look up to the sages and saints and be a man of integrity. Learning from his father, Zhu was always honest and aboveboard all the years he was an official. When his father passed away, his home was still a shack that had never been renovated and his farm was no bigger than before.

Even though Zhu was poor by choice, he still helped his neighbors financially whenever he could. His townsfolk respected him for being a moral man: honest, fond of his people, and outspoken when it came to justice. They built a "Pavilion of Clear Conscience" to memorialize him and his merits, and to pass down the stories of his good deeds.

Based on History of the Ming Dynasty

朱裳，明代沙河（今河北沙河市）人，從小聰明過人，「每舉足必就高處曰吾處不汙也」，十四歲即入縣學。進士及第，曾任巡按御史多年，官至副都御史，他廉潔奉公，匡扶正義，為官一任，造福一方，是一位深為百姓稱讚的清官。

正德十年，朱裳出任河東巡鹽御史。當時明武宗的親信錦衣衛左都督錢寧，恃勢胡為，飛揚跋扈，長期派人買賣私鹽從中謀利，無人敢管，朱裳堅持依法予以懲處，查禁了他們販賣的私鹽。

明武宗時期，宦官專權。當時剛正不阿的監察御史王相，在巡按山東的時候，發現宦官黎鑒假借給皇帝進貢之名，在當地盤剝百姓斂財，加重地方負擔，民間怨聲載道，苦不堪言。王相彈劾黎鑒的徇私舞弊，禍國殃民的罪行。結果，黎鑒卻在皇帝那裡誣陷王相，使王相被誣下獄。

朱裳外巡回朝後，查明王相被誣陷的事實，即上了兩道奏折：《救御史王相疏》和《劾鎮守黎鑒疏》，陳述王相的正直及所蒙的冤屈，劾奏黎鑒的八條罪狀，向明武宗分辯忠奸是非，使王相得免於死。明武宗貶王相為江蘇高郵縣的判官。

明武宗重用宦官，揮霍無度，不理朝政。如他重用奸佞江彬大興土木，搶奪民田，到處擴建皇莊。還在皇宮裡開店，讓大臣們購買。江彬慫恿明武宗外出巡遊，先是到昌平，後來又喬裝改扮到宣府鎮，這件事遭到文武百官的反對，可是明武宗不聽諫言，又下詔南巡。眾臣紛紛上書阻攔，明武宗大怒，下令把 40 多人下獄，107 人在午門前罰跪五天，受到廷杖的 146 人，想以此堵住朝臣的進諫。

這時，朱裳從外地巡按回京，他聽說此事後，不顧個人得失，決意上書。他力諫明武宗「正心、講學、戒遊佚、近君子遠小人」，並直言不諱地要求皇帝下「罪己詔」，即頒發自責的詔書，承認自己的錯誤，向黎民百姓謝罪，明武宗未予採納。

朱裳再次上書，「極陳小人熒惑之害」，希望皇帝勵精圖治，懲辦奸佞，明武宗於是將朱裳貶到偏遠的鞏昌（今甘肅隴西）任知府。在當時那樣的環境中，朱裳敢於進諫，不畏強權，表現出其憂國憂民的正義責任感和以天下為己任的歷史擔當。

朱裳到鞏昌任知府。鞏昌偏遠落後，連年旱荒，瘟疫流行，西夷猖獗，百姓困苦。朱裳到任後，虔誠向上天祈雨，致大雨連下十天，緩解了旱情，民眾稱其為神人。

朱裳首先制服了西夷，使境內有了一個安定的環境，隨後建立規章制度，施行教育，鼓勵生產，時間不長，人民安居樂業，全府面貌為之大變。

由於他的「治行卓異」，明世宗嘉靖二年，朝廷「綜核吏治，天下吏卓異者五人，裳居第一」，獲得了朝廷嘉獎。

嘉靖七年，朱裳任浙江右參政，提督糧儲，凡有征派必親自前往。政務之餘，他還常常「與諸生講學不倦」。

嘉靖九年，他任浙江左布政使，剔奸除弊，懲惡揚善，堵塞各種徇私舞弊的漏洞，使浙江吏治大為改觀，興起了清廉之風，使貪官汙吏不得不有所收斂，百姓的負擔得以減輕。嘉靖十二年，朱裳任右副都御史，督察全國河道水利治理，由於黃河水患禍及人民生命財產，他提出了許多治河方略，並親自參與施工，督修河道。

朱裳希望百姓生活在堯舜那樣的理想社會，他每到一處，注重教化，淳化民風。他體恤民生，如他負責監督河東鹽務時，親眼目睹了鹽丁們服役時的辛勤勞作，寫下了《撈鹽詩》，真實、生動地反映了明代徵調萬名鹽丁在鹽池從事撈鹽生產的艱辛，以及他們對親人的思念，表達了對民生疾苦的深切同情。

朱裳為官數載，始終潔身自好，生活簡樸，他以清貧為樂，自號「安貧子」。

他任浙江左布政使的時候，將父親接到自己的住處贍養（其母胡氏在他十六歲時去世）。朱裳父親不僅自己省吃儉用，而且對兒子要求十分嚴格，一再教育朱裳要以先賢聖人為榜樣，廉潔守正。自己雖年老，一碗飯、一身衣、一床被子足矣。朱裳同僚看到他父親的衣服實在太破舊了，知道他家境貧寒，便利用祝壽的機會給其父送了一件新衣，但被其父堅辭謝絕。

後來，朱裳擔任右副都御史後，他的父親去世，他回家守制，家中仍是「草舍席門」，「一如寒士」。他在外為官多年，沒為家裡添置一畝田，沒有翻修一間屋，卻常常盡其所有賙濟鄉鄰，救人之窘，鄉親們有了事都願意找他解決。

人們敬佩朱裳的人品，為人正直，清廉愛民及正義敢言的風骨，在家鄉為其修「無愧亭」一座，立石碑表彰他的功德業績，流芳千載。同時也勉勵後人為人為官要做到「無愧」——無愧於天地，無愧於蒼生，無愧於自己的良知。

（源自《明史》）
（轉自明慧網）

看中國
VISION TIMES
全球最大的中文週報　22家分社發行五大洲
《看中國》網站每天50萬人訪問，每月點擊量高達3000萬次
全球都在看中國　全球都愛《看中國》