【中英文對照賞析】

Local Folks Risk Their Lives to Rescue County Commissioner

百姓冒險營救好官

In the eighth year of the Shunzhi era (1651 AD) during the Qing Dynasty (1636 – 1912 AD), Song Bida became the magistrate of Ningdu County, today's Jiangxi Province.

Much of the land in the county was barren and most of the people lived in poverty. Many of the residents in Qingtai and Huaide townships had migrated elsewhere. Therefore, Song asked the imperial court to waive their taxesso that the people could recover and rebuild their lives.

Within two years, the situation in the county improved, and all the fields were cultivated. However, heavy rains came, and the river was in danger of overflowing its banks and flooding the county.

Song, who had great respect for divine powers, prayed for the safety of the locals, and the river receded. Song then had the river dredged, and the inhabitants no longer had to worry about floods.

Wise Governance

In the thirteenth year of the Kangxi era (1674 AD), Geng Jingzhong, a powerful military commander, rebelled against the imperial court.

Song adopted a neighborhood administrative system based on households. It was an effective hierarchical command system, passed down from earlier dynasties, to train and organize civilians for combat. He was able to defend Ningdu County from attacks by Geng's troops.

However, someone filed false accusations against Song with the top military and civilian official in the province, saying that a lot of people in Ningdu County had joined the rebels. As the top official prepared to dispatch troops against Ningdu, Song wrote him a letter in blood with the facts. No troops were sent.

When the imperial court's troops headed back north after reclaiming the Tingzhou area from Geng, many women were abducted by the soldiers. One could hear their cries from a great distance. Song used his own wealth to rescue the innocent women. He wrote down their names and addresses, and saw to it that all of them were escorted back to their homes.

Farewell to His People

The supply of salt was strictly rationed, and each family had to pay a tax based on the amount of salt they received. Song asked the imperial court to allow taxes collected from salt produced in Guangdong to offset taxes collected from salt produced along the Huai River. This was a huge relief for local residents and merchants.

However, the imperial court was not happy about the reduced tax revenue generated from sales of salt from Guangdong, which was of inferior quality, and dismissed Song from office.

As the Ningdu residents saw him off with tears in their eyes, they presented him with gifts in appreciation for what he had done for them over the years. He declined to take anything.

Returning the Favor

Song headed for Nanchang, in today's Jiangxi Province, through a less traveled route. He was captured by a group of gangsters, who forced him to join them. He refused and was held captive for seven days.

Scores of armed men climbed over the wall one night, yelling, “Where is Lord Song? We are from Ningdu!” They rescued him. They from the county he had formerly governed.Song Bida always cared for his people and helped them through hardship. In gratitude, they risked their lives to rescue him..

After he passed away, Song was remembered by the people of Ningdu year-after-year.

清朝順治八年（西元1651年），宋必達就任寧都縣（今江西省）縣長。

當時，寧都縣大部分土地貧瘠，百姓生活困苦。清泰、懷德兩個鄉的百姓大多遷居他鄉。因此，宋必達請求朝廷減免賦稅，來休養生息。

過了二年，寧都縣的狀況有所改善，所有的田地都被開墾了。然而，不久之後，連綿的暴雨來襲，河水暴漲，眼看就要漫過河堤，縣城將被淹沒。

信神敬神的宋必達向神祈禱，水勢就回落了。隨後，宋必達命人疏濬河道，寧都縣的百姓從此不必再為洪水擔憂。

英明治國

康熙十三年，耿精忠叛變。宋必達說：「古有保甲，民皆可兵。（明朝的）王守仁打敗朱宸濠，曾使用的就是他們。」他採取了以家庭為單位的鄰里行政制度。這是一種有效的等級分明的指揮體系，沿襲自前朝，用於訓練和組織平民作戰。

宋必達如法訓練了二千多民兵，守住了寧都縣城。

有人卻向巡撫誣告說：縣裡的人有很多跟從叛軍。巡撫將要發兵圍剿此縣。宋必達寫了血書，陳述了事實，據理力爭，圍剿之事終於止住了。

朝廷軍隊從耿精忠手中奪回廷州地區後北上，途中許多婦女被士兵擄走。被搶掠的婦女在軍中悲號聲讓人不忍聽。宋必達傾盡自己的錢財。按照人數計費，贖出了這些被搶掠的民女，並詢問她們的姓氏、家鄉地址，護送她們回家。

告別百姓

縣裡原先吃的是淮鹽，自從（明朝的）王守仁治理贛地，改吃粵鹽。百姓苦於鹽引的拖累。宋必達請求朝廷允許用粵鹽的稅額添補淮鹽的稅額，商人、居民都得到便利。

但因為粵鹽不中朝廷的意，宋必達被論罪罷官。寧都人都哭著為他送行，贈送給他的禮物，他一概不收。

報恩

宋必達被罷官後，從小路前往南昌，在中途被賊人綁架，脅迫他投降，他堅決不屈服，被關了七天。

一天半夜，忽然有數十人持著兵器，翻牆而入，說：「宋爺在哪？我等都是寧都百姓。」他們救出了宋必達，擁著他走出了囚室，宋必達於是得以脫險。

宋必達在寧都縣為官時，處處為百姓著想，救百姓於水火之中。百姓為了回報他治下的豐功偉績和恩情，他們冒著生命危險前來營救。

宋必達去世後，寧都百姓每年都祭祀、懷念他。

（《清史稿卷四百七十六列傳二百六十三循吏一》）

（轉自明慧網）

Virtuous Minister Refuses to Give False Testimony

拒不誣陷他人的元代賢臣趙良弼

Zhao Liangbi (1216 – 1286 AD) served as a minister in the imperial court of the Yuan Dynasty (1271 – 1368 AD). He took full responsibility for all his decisions and one knew that he would bear the consequences if necessary when it came to important decisions. Regardless of pressure, he refused to give false testimony against innocent officials.

Two deputies of Hunduhai, head of the rebel forces, were caught. Zhao Liangbi and two inspectors were dispatched by the imperial court to decide if the two should be executed immediately.

The two inspectors--Lian Xixian and Shang Ting--worried that they might overstep their authority if they ordered the two to be executed. They sent a letter to Kublai Khan, founder of the Yuan Dynasty, expressing their willingness to accept any blame or punishment for the unauthorized killing.

Before the messenger headed to the imperial court, Zhao drafted a secret petition. He told the messenger to submit it in case Kublai Khan blamed Lian and Shang. He said that he would assume full responsibility. It turned out Kublai Khan simply dropped the issue.

Fei Yin, a powerful official from Sichuan, out of personal grudges, filed a report in which he listed nine criminal offenses and illegal activities that Lian Xixian and Shang had supposedly committed. Fei went on to claim that Zhao Liangbi could give testimony in support of these charges.

Kublai Khan called on Zhao to explain the issue. Zhao replied, “Both Lian and Shang are loyal and virtuous. They would never do anything to betray your trust. If carving out my heart could convince you, I wouldn't hesitate to do it!”

Kublai Khan was still suspicious of Lian and Shang's loyalty. He accused Zhao of lying and threatened to cut off his tongue. Zhao said he would rather die than give false testimony, which eventually removed Kublai Khan's suspicion.

Fei Yin, who sought personal revenge by making false charges, later rebelled against Kublai Khan, which resulted in his death.

Adapted from the History of Yuan, Volume No. 159, Biographies No. 46

元朝的大臣趙良弼，是女真人。當他犯錯時，他從不把責任推到別人身上，而是自己承認錯誤；當執政者要用割他的舌頭，逼他作證、指證其他大臣有謀反之心，他誓死不誣陷他人。因為這種美德，他的事跡被記載在正史中。

渾都海（人名）反叛元朝朝廷。趙良弼與汪惟正、劉黑馬兩名「宣撫使」（職務名）決議，立即處死「渾都海」的黨羽元帥「乞臺不花」、「迷立火者」（人名）。廉希憲與商挺顧慮會犯「擅殺」的罪名，派使者入朝請罪。使者臨行時，趙良弼把一份密奏交給他，叮囑道：「擅殺之罪在我而不在宣撫司。若皇上責怪廉希憲等人，望使者把這份密奏呈上。」但世祖皇帝並未追問此事。

四川人「費寅」（人名），因私人恩怨而上告廉希憲、商挺在京兆地區有圖謀不軌的九條罪狀，並說趙良弼可以作證。世祖皇帝召問趙良弼。趙良弼含淚回答說「二臣忠良，保證他們無異心。臣願把心挖出來證明。」世祖仍懷疑廉、商二臣有二心，譴責趙良弼，甚至要割他的舌頭。趙良弼誓死也不亂說，世祖的疑心才消除。挾私報復的「費寅」反而因造反而被誅。

公有領域



（《元史卷一百五十九列傳第四十六》）

（轉自明慧網）

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