

汉译英参考译文:

Intangible Cultural Heritage with an Unceasing Charm

Every event that showcases Chinese intangible cultural heritage is one more opportunity to feel the beauty of artistry, craftsmanship, tradition and life. It is another experience in which we learn about our history and appreciate the culture of which we are all so proud.

A number of events have been held recently, under the theme of “Intangible Cultural Heritage Shared by the People”, where participants have experienced at close range the charm of Chinese traditional culture: the “Cloud Video Exhibition of Intangible Heritage”, the exhibition “Passing the Torch – A Hundred Years of Artistry and Craftsmanship”, to name just a few. More than 7,000 stores participated in these activities on and offline, offering some 60,000 products.

As more traditional art forms and artistry have been recovered and redeveloped to become part of our modern-day life, intangible cultural heritage (ICH) has come into fashion in recent years for cultural tourism. This is seen in performances of Hezhen Yimakan storytelling and the epic of *King Gesar*, in the green tea production process of the West Lake in Hangzhou, in Chao embroidery and porcelain, its opera and kung fu tea, in traditional Li textile techniques of Hainan Province and the traditional carpet-making of Tibet, etc. The impressive skills and artistry, passed down from the generations, have brought about products

that people love and purchase, as well as cultural festivals and celebrations that allow them to relive memories of their own traditions. Intangible traditional culture, in its varied, traditional forms, exudes tremendous vitality as it goes through continuous recreation.

ICH is an important part of the best of our traditional culture, representing the intellectual wealth of people of all ethnic groups and 5,000 years of uninterrupted Chinese civilization. A systematic approach is therefore needed for its protection, for it to pass down and grow. Not long ago, the fifth National List of Representative Items of Intangible Cultural Heritage was published, which includes for protection a number of new items with significant historical, literary, artistic and scientific value. To date, a total of 1,557 items have been designated national-level intangible cultural heritage assets. Listing and protection mechanisms have been set up at the national, provincial, municipal and county levels. These systems, designed for the Chinese context, cover more than 100,000 ICH items. China has thus put

in place fairly extensive lists, which could prove to be important resources as China interacts with other civilizations in the world.

General Secretary Xi Jinping stressed, “There should be more effective protection of intangible cultural heritage, and there should be more training in this area so that our traditions are carried on and kept alive with its unceasing charm.” Intangible cultural assets are never merely “antique objects” for the few, or gorgeous names without much substance. They represent the crystallization of the wisdom of many generations. They are like living fossils, part of our life that we can relate to, see and experience every day. Every event that showcases Chinese intangible cultural heritage is one more opportunity to feel the beauty of artistry, craftsmanship, tradition and life. It is another experience in which we learn about our history and appreciate the culture we are all so proud.

Intangible cultural heritage has become alive and popular across the country as more creative and innovative approaches have been adopted to renew and develop traditional culture. In many places, ICH has found its way into classrooms, as well as into tourist destinations and shopping malls. In poorer counties that are supported by the

national government, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism has set up traditional artisanal workshops that hire local people, and thus help bring them more income, as an effective way to eliminate poverty and improve livelihood. In other places, ICH preservation has been included in village rules and regulations, as part of the effort to build a more beautiful countryside. As more traditional art forms and artistry are discovered and developed, and people come to know and love them, ICH will have the vibrancy that allows it to sustain and flourish. Clearly, ICH can promote economic and social progress and benefit us as it becomes part of our life, for us to see and cherish.

A nation thrives on both its material and intellectual strength. In its 14th Five-Year Plan for the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage published recently, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism proposed six objectives for ICH protection, including more extensive investigation, documentation and research. These cultural assets are indeed jewels of the Chinese culture, and they are a source of confidence and strength to hundreds of millions of Chinese people as they set forth on the path of national rejuvenation.

* 原文参见中国翻译协会官网“韩素音国际翻译大赛”栏目。