

为何新马民众对中国比对美国更有好感

## Why the Singapore and Malaysian Public Have More Positive Feelings toward China than the United States

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香港《南华早报》网站7月23日发表题为《为什么新加坡和马来西亚对中国的看法好于对美国的看法？》的文章，作者为萧炜深和约瑟夫·锡帕兰。全文摘编如下：

On July 23, the website of Hong Kong's *South China Morning Post* published a piece titled "Why Singapore and Malaysia Views China More Favourably Than the United States?" The authors were Maria Siow and Joseph Sipalan. An edited summary of the entire piece is below:

皮尤研究中心6月底公布的一项民调显示，新加坡对中国最具好感度，对华好感度方面马来西亚紧随其后。约67%的新加坡受访者和60%的马来西亚受访者对中国抱有好感，表示他们的国家与中国关系良好。相比之下，51%的新加坡人对美国持积极态度，只有44%的马来西亚人对美国持积极态度——在所有受访国家中比例最低。

According to a poll released by Pew Research Centre at the end of June, Singapore has favourable feelings toward China. Malaysia closely followed in favourable feelings toward China. About 67 percent of Singapore respondents and 60 percent of Malaysian respondents feel positively toward China and expressed that their countries had good relations with China. In comparison, 50 percent of Singaporeans possessed vigorous attitudes toward the United States, while only 44 percent of Malaysians held vigorous attitudes toward the United States—the lowest among all interviewed countries.

在19个受访国家总计约2.5万名受访者中，新加坡和马来西亚对中国的看法最为正面。

Among 25,000 respondents from 19 countries, Singapore and Malaysia had the most affirmative views of China.

新加坡国立大学政治学者庄嘉颖认为，中国的经济繁荣以及在应对新冠疫情方面所取得的显著成功，对很多马来西亚和新加坡民众颇具吸引力。庄嘉颖还说，中国庞大的经济体量及其军事大国地位也被一些新加坡人视为成功的标志。“在新加坡，务实意识十分普遍，务实意识会把物质上的成功解读为值得肯定且具有效仿价值。”

Political scientist Chong Ja Ian from NUS believed that China's economic prosperity and obvious success in handling COVID-19 is attractive for many among the Malaysian and Singaporean public. Chong also said that China's economic heft and position as a military power is seen by some Singaporeans as a mark of success. “In Singapore, pragmatism is very common. Pragmatism causes material success to be read as worthy of affirmation and of value to emulate.”

庄嘉颖强调，中国大力强化中华文化，此举可能也会“对追寻文化和民族根源的新加坡人颇具吸引力”。近年来，中国一直大力推进保护文化遗产，呼吁本国民众珍惜、尊重并深入了解中华文明。

Chong emphasised that China's move of strengthening Chinese culture may be “attractive to Singaporeans who are seeking cultural and ethnic roots.” Recently, China has been strongly pushing the protection of cultural heritage, encouraging its own public to value, respect, and more deeply understand Chinese civilization.

庄嘉颖还指出，当前有很多新加坡人对美国和欧洲持负面看法，认为美欧“太过放肆且失败频频”，包括从种族关系到政治内讧、枪支暴力和经济困局等一系列国内问题，以及入侵伊拉克和阿富汗等国。

Chong also pointed out, currently many Singaporeans have negative views of the United States and Europe and believe that the United States and Europe are “overly presumptions and beset with failure,” including race relations, political upheaval, gun violence, economic difficulties, a whole series of internal problems, as well as the invasion of Iraq, Afghanistan, and other countries.

庄嘉颖说：“这些新加坡人可能认为，美国的欧洲盟友在这些方面与美国沆瀣一气。”他还指出，这些新加坡人往往对他们所认为的美国和欧洲的对立面（比如中国）表示认同。

Chong said, “These Singaporeans may believe that the United States' European allies are confused together with the United States.” He further pointed out that these Singaporeans often express identification with what they see as the opposite of the United States and Europe (such as China).

美国密歇根大学经济学家林惠清指出，与其他一些受访国家不同，新加坡不认为中国是军事威胁，新加坡和中国没有历史积怨，当前也不存在冲突。她说：“中国是一个遥远的国度，据认为，中国并不想通过在该地区采取咄咄逼人的军事行动去破坏新加坡以及东南亚各经济体。”

Linda Lim from the University of Michigan in the United States pointed that unlike other interviewed countries, Singapore does not believe that China is a military threat. Singapore and China do not have historical grievances, and there are no current conflicts. She said, “China is a far-off country. Accordingly, China does not wish to impose military action on the region to damage Singapore and various Southeast Asian economies.”

此外，这个城市国家也不像日本和韩国那样抱有一种不安情绪——日韩两国把中国视为经济竞争对手。林女士说，新加坡将自身定位为谋求打入该地区乃至走向全球的中国企业的代理人——正如其为西方跨国公司扮演的角色。

Additionally, this city-state does not have a sense of unease, unlike Japan and Korea—Japan and Korea see China as an economic competitor. Ms. Lim said, Singapore positioned itself as an agent for Chinese enterprises to enter the region and reach out globally, just like the role it has served multinational Western corporations.

她说：“很多新加坡人——尤其是会讲普通话、接受过中文教育和原籍在中国的新公民——因与中国企业有业务往来以及受雇于中国企业而受益。因此，他们受益于中国的经济崛起。”

She said, “Many Singaporeans—especially those who speak Mandarin, received Chinese education, and new citizens originally from China—benefitted from commercial exchanges with and employment by Chinese enterprises. Consequently, they gain from China’s economic rise.”

至于马来西亚，中国已连续13年成为马来西亚第一大贸易伙伴。

As for Malaysia, China is Malaysia's largest trading partner for the 13th year running.

马来西亚独立民调机构默迪卡民调中心的负责人易卜拉欣·苏菲安说，马来西亚约有700万华人，几乎占该国人口的四分之一，他们认为中国从文化上讲对他们具有重要意义。

Independent Malaysian opinion polling organization, Merdeka Polling Centre's person in charge, Ibrahim Suffian said, Malaysia has about 7 million ethnic Chinese, accounting for almost a quarter of the population. He felt that China holds significance for them culturally.

苏菲安说：“马来西亚华人有一种自豪感，他们认为中国提供了一种替代性的发展和政治模式，其地位已与西方相匹敌。”

Suffian said, “Malaysian Chinese have a type of pride. They believe China provides a substitute development and political model, whose status rivals the West.”

苏菲安说：“马来西亚华人群体中的很多人将中国视为重要的贸易伙伴，认为中国是一个自成一体的成功案例……马来西亚商界很多人士都与中国建立起关系。”这个亚洲巨人被视为“重要的资本来源以及一个可在经济上发挥积极作用的邻近大国”。

Suffian said, “Many people among the Malaysian Chinese see China as an important trading partner, and believe that China is a case of self-contained success... Many individuals in the Malaysian business community have established relations with China.” This Asian giant is seen as “an important source of capital and a neighbouring great power that may have an active economic role.”

马来西亚沙巴马中联谊协会会长胡逸山说：“不论喜欢与否，中国的确是推动东亚地区经济发展的火车头。这就是我竭尽全力促进两国民间关系发展的原因所在。”（完）（文章来源：参考消息）

The head of the Malaysian Sabah-China Friendship Association, Oh Ee Sun said, “Whether you like it or not, China is definitely the locomotive pushing economic development in the East Asian region. This is the reason I make every effort to advance the development of non-governmental relations between the two countries.” (End)

(Article Source: Reference News)

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Below is the English-language text of comments by Linda Lim and Chong Ja Ian carried in the original SCMP report, with Mandarin translations for reference.

Chong Ja Ian, an associate professor of political science at the National University of Singapore, said populations in Singapore and Malaysia were more “primed towards pliancy to authority” and tended to place more emphasis on economic performance.

新加坡國立大學政治學副教授莊嘉穎表示，新加坡和馬來西亞民眾較「傾向服從權威」，也較為注重經濟表現。

“This utilitarian form of pragmatism may make [China’s] authoritarian-driven prosperity as well as apparent success in handling Covid, at the time the survey was conducted, appealing to many in Malaysia and Singapore,” Chong said.

「這種強調功利的務實主義可能使（中國）以威權推動的（經濟）繁榮，和在民調進行時，處理新冠狀疫情的表面成效，對許多馬來西亞和新加坡人有所吸引力。」莊佳穎說。

China’s large economy and its status as a major military power are also seen by some in Singapore as signs of success, he said. “A sense of pragmatism that is common in Singapore is to read material success as worthy of approval and emulation.”

中國的龐大經濟，以及它作為軍事大國的地位，對一些新加坡人而言，也是一種成功的象徵，他說：「在新加坡常見的某種務實主義，會認為物質成功值得贊同與效仿。」

Chong noted that Beijing’s efforts in strengthening Chinese culture may also “appeal to Singaporeans who may be seeking cultural and ethnic roots”.

莊指北京強化中國文化，或許也會「招引正在尋找文化和族裔根源的新加坡人。」

In recent years, Beijing has pressed for the protection of the country’s cultural heritage and has called on its people to cherish, honour and deepen knowledge of Chinese civilisation.近年來，北京推動文化遺產保護，也鼓勵自己的民眾珍惜、尊重和深化對中國文明的瞭解。

Meanwhile, there are also Singaporeans who disapprove of the US and Europe for their “excesses and failings”, including domestic problems ranging from race relations to political infighting, gun violence, economic troubles, and the invasions of countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan, Chong noted.

在同一個時候，也有新加坡人不贊同美國和歐洲的「過激和缺陷」。這些問題包括族群、政治鬥爭、槍械暴力、經濟困境、以及對如伊拉克和阿富汗等國進行侵略，莊表示。

“These Singaporeans may see US allies in Europe as complicit in these acts,” Chong said, adding that these Singaporeans tend to approve of what they see as the opposite of the US and Europe, in this case China and its leadership.

「這些新加坡人可能將美國在歐洲的盟國視為同謀。」莊還稱這些新加坡人一般會贊同與美國和歐洲對立的立場。在以上議題上，這（種立場）恰好是中國和其領導層（的觀點）。

The academic said the lingering resentment by some Chinese-educated Singaporeans against historical policies that diminished their prospects may have influenced them to view China's rise more favourably.

這位學者也指出某些受華文教育的新加坡人，仍然對有損他們前途的舊政策遺留著不滿。這種情節可能導致他們更願意歡迎中國的崛起。

In the 1970s, Singapore shut down a number of vernacular schools as it made English the medium of instruction for all students.

在1970年代，新加坡（政府）推廣英語為通事教育語言時，關閉了許多通俗語言學校（包括不少華文學校）。

The move led graduates of traditional Chinese schools to feel aggrieved over what they saw as a rollback of Chinese language and culture, and more importantly, a loss of career opportunities to those who were educated in English.

傳統華校畢業生認為這個政策壓抑華文語言和文化，也使他們與英校畢業生相比之下，喪失事業機會，而感到十分委屈。

“They may see the rise of China into a global power as a vindication of their views. They associate themselves with the success of [China] and support the positions Beijing and its leaders take,” he said. “Some of this is in response to the condescension they experienced from the Anglophone Singapore elite.”

「他們或許將中國變成世界大國視為對自己看法的肯定。他們把（中國）的成功聯想為自己的成功，也因此支持北京及其領導的立場。」他說。「這部分也是他們之前受到新加坡英語語系精英歧視的反應。」

Linda Lim, a Singaporean economist at the University of Michigan, noted that unlike some of the other countries surveyed, Singapore did not see China as a military threat and had no historical animosity or current conflict.

在密西根大學任教的新加坡籍經濟學者林願清表示，與受調查的其他國家相比，新加坡不把中國視為軍事威脅，也沒有歷史敵意或當前的爭議。

“China is too far away and, it is believed, would not want to undermine the Singapore and Southeast Asian economies by aggressive military action there,” she said.

「中國太遙遠，也被人認為沒有意圖利用挑釁的軍事行動破壞新加坡和東南亞經濟。」她說。

The city state also doesn't share the anxieties of Japan and South Korea, which view China as an economic competitor. Rather, Singapore has positioned itself as an agent of Chinese companies seeking to go regional or even global, just as it has for Western multinationals, Lim said.

這個城邦（新加坡）沒有日韓認為中國是經濟競爭者的憂慮。相反地，新加坡把自己設為協助中國企業區域或國際化的代理，就如它協助西方企業一樣。

“Many Singaporeans – especially the Mandarin-speaking, Chinese-educated, and new citizens originally from China – benefit from business with and employment in Chinese companies, so they benefit from China's economic rise,” she said.

「不少新加坡人——尤其是講華文、受華文教育、和原本來自中國的新公民——受益於中國公司的生意和就業機會，所以中國經濟崛起對他們有好處。」她道。

On human rights, Lim said Singaporeans had been conditioned to perceive individual freedoms “as unimportant or even dispensable” due to six decades of uninterrupted rule by the People's Action Party, “which explicitly emphasises pragmatism over principle”.

在人權方面，林說新加坡人在人民行動黨，「明顯強調務實勝出原則」，一甲子的連續統治下，被教化成將個人自由視為「不重要或可以放棄」的事情。

“This makes them approve of China's definition of human rights and democracy as being subordinate to or even defined by economic well-being, and to accept weak human rights and individual freedom standards in Singapore itself as necessary for ‘stability’,” Lim added.

「他們因此同意中國把人權和民主附屬於或定義成經濟表現的理解，也接受衰弱的人權和個人自由標準為新加坡『穩定』的必然條件。」林說。

China has often maintained that its top priority is to ensure the subsistence and development rights of its people, while lifting its citizens out of absolute poverty. Beijing's "people-centred" philosophy on human rights states that "helping people pursue a happy life" is the best way to protect human rights.

中國在讓公民脫離絕對貧窮的條件下，經常堅持人民維持生計和發展權力是優先考量。北京「以民為本」的人權哲理稱「協助民眾追求幸福生活」是保護人權的最佳方式。

"Based on their own past experiences, Singaporeans accept and see a patriarchal-authoritarian, one-party state – with a strong leader like [former Singapore leader] Lee Kuan Yew – as not only acceptable, but even necessary," Lim said.

「根據他們自己以往的經驗，新加坡人接受也認同一個如（新加坡前領導）李光耀強人帶領，以父權、威權這樣一黨國家的必要。」林說。

This makes Xi and his centralisation of political power "acceptable and even desirable", she added.

她指，這使習和他的集權「容易被接受，甚至合議。」

Lim said one source of influence had come from "recent immigrants, permanent residents and short-term visa holders from China".

林說其中的影響來自「近期從中國來的移民、永久居民、和短期簽證持有者。」

"They are so numerous that they cluster among themselves, with their own business and social associations, media and social media outlets that have close relations with China state organisations and readily propagate China state views," Lim said.

「他們因為人數多，能夠彼此相互聚集，成立跟中國官方組織有著密切關係的商會和社團、媒體和社交平台，也願意推廣中國國家視角。」林說。

"Many don't speak English and also now dominate the Chinese-language media, cultural and educational space in Singapore, which spills over to and influences locally-born Singaporeans. You don't need China state propaganda efforts and information campaigns to exert influence."

「很多不講英語，現在也在華文媒體、文化和教具領域有主導地位。這造成溢出效應，影響土生土長的新加坡人。要有影響力，未必要依賴中國國家宣傳和資訊動員。」