



「Formosa」台灣

Taiwan - the Formosa

「母親是山、母親是海、母親妳的名字叫台灣」早已忘了這首歌是誰唱的，據說遠在十六世紀時期葡萄牙人航海經過台灣海域緣岸，當年葡萄牙水手看見了這個島周圍海上視野綻藍的海洋，清藍天空，鬱藍山脈，魚群海面逐波，讚嘆這個島「台灣」為「Formosa」美麗之島。雖然當時的葡萄牙人將重心放在中南半島，台灣對他們而言只是一個路過的美麗景點，但是「Formosa」這個名稱卻被日後的荷蘭人沿用至今，所以到現在仍有很多人喜歡將他們所知道的美麗島台灣稱之為「Formosa」。台灣是寶島，事實也好，言過其實也好，台灣確是生養我們的所在，是我們心神與繫的家鄉。台灣是寶島，「寶島」的「島」字已經說出了我們生長在一個四面環

"Mountains being the mother, seas being the mother, and the mother is known as Taiwan", a long-forgotten lyric that the author could no longer be traced, it was said that the Portuguese sailors had marveled the island of Taiwan in the 16th century, set against the blue seas, lush green mountains and schools of fish chasing the waves, by uttering the name of Formosa, meaning a beautiful island, while sailing along the edges of seas surrounding Taiwan. Although the Portuguese then had set their focus on the South China Sea peninsula, Taiwan was but a scenic site that they passed along the way, yet the name Formosa was adopted by the later Dutch, hence leading to the fact that many still preferred to refer to the beautiful island of Taiwan they know as Formosa. Taiwan being a treasure island or otherwise notwithstanding, Taiwan has indeed nurtured our existence, and the homestead that binds our soul and mind. Taiwan is an island of treasure, for the island speaks of the seafront environment we live in. As a matter of fact that Taiwan is an island state. In the past, we seem to have forgotten the immense seas that surround us. Given that Taiwan is referred to as Formosa, we seem to have neglected the meaning of the word island. Without the seas, Taiwan is but a notched island, making it a treasure island with flaw.





海的環境，說出了台灣是一個島國的事實。過去，我們似乎忽略了離開海岸圍繞著我們的曠闊大海。台灣稱寶島，然而，過去我們似乎辜負了「島」這個字的深義。少了海洋，台灣是個缺角的島嶼，台灣是個有瑕疵的寶島。

台灣面積雖占全球面積的比例只有萬分之幾，但由於位於全球最大亞洲大陸棚區邊緣，再加上具有複雜的海底底質、地形、水深、海流與水溫等生態的多樣化，以致海洋生物棲地的多樣性非常高。台灣的海域原本已擁有極豐富的海洋生物及漁業資源，且物種龐雜，據統計台灣的海洋生物種類高達全球物種的十分之一，水產經濟物種亦達近二千多種，其平均值較其他沿海國家更高出五百倍。但是近年來，由於工商業快速發展，沿岸開發計畫日益增多，環保工作尚未落實，發電廠、工廠、石化廠、都市及家庭等所排放的廢水、廢棄物污染海岸，水污染及漁業公害事件持續發生，且水污染情形日趨嚴重，對沿岸海域漁業資源及環境生態造成相當大的破壞與漁業資源的枯竭，海洋的危機，實已透過食物鏈，大氣變遷的循環，影響著生活在台灣的每一個人。

一個島國其陸地自然資源總是有限，如何突破島國的有限宿命轉而向寬闊的海洋尋求無限的機會，這是海島國家不能欠缺的自我認知。過去因為台灣的不重視，海域被看待如同化外之境，這美麗的海洋因個人利益被無盡的索取豪奪。突然，我們驚覺「海洋」雖然擁有那麼多，但卻在人類永無止盡的慾望之下，竟也會發生抓不到魚的現象，即所謂的「全球性漁源枯竭」。回想起來，實因我們太對不起「海洋」，而不是她不再繼續供養我們。

我們的祖先來自海洋，海洋是台灣子民的生命，健康的海洋更是台灣永續經營的保證。

Taiwan, though accounting for a mere tens of hundredths of the earth's land mass, is nevertheless blessed with an abundance of biodiversity as a marine habitat for its situated by the edge of the world's largest continental reefs, coupled with diverse ecology of the complex geology of the seabed, topography, water depth, ocean current and water temperatures. Taiwan's sea waters are more than teeming with an extremely rich source of marine creatures and fishery resources, but in great varieties; statistics show the variety of Taiwan's marine biology is reaching one-tenth of the species worldwide, with close to over two thousand aquatic economic varieties, commanding an average higher than five hundred times of other sea-bordering countries. Yet in recent years, amid the rapid development of industry and commerce fueling coastal development projects to

rise, coupled with the lack of sound environmental preservation work, the presence of power plants, factories, petrochemical plants, wastewater deriving from urban and household discharge, debris polluting the shores, water contamination and fishery public hazard incidents have all added to burden the sea resources, let alone water pollution has become worse. All of such have gravely impacted the coastal marine fishery resources and environmental ecology, where the ocean crisis bears a direct impact on everyone in Taiwan through the food chain and the cycle of atmospheric change.

As an island's natural resources on land are somewhat limited, how best to surpass the fate as an island nation to embrace the infinite opportunities the sea has to offer is a crucial self-awareness to all of island nations. In the past, the fact of neglect of the ocean by Taiwan government had led to Taiwan's sea bounty being plundered relentlessly for personal gains. All of a sudden, we come to stunning realization that despite the plenty that the sea offers, there would one day be such a phenomenon that the fish stock is going to be drying up, the phenomenon of global deprivation of fishery resource, besieged by mankind's insatiable desire. In afterthoughts, it is we that have done wrong to the ocean, rather than that she no longer nurtures us.

With our ancestors coming from sea, the oceans are the cradles of the





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居住在這島上的每一個人，只有一起努力，結合眾人的智慧，共同來建構這塊海洋中的樂土，永續台灣，永續海洋。讓我們共同來找尋海洋意象裡的沉穩、開闊、豐美、包容、深邃。海洋就在我們身邊，台灣海港處處，台灣船舶眾多，我們不可能沒有海洋文化，只是過去被鄙棄了，被忽略為是邊陲文化，被認為是少數人的文化。轉過頭來找回海洋，重新定位自己，當我們再自稱為是台灣寶島時，我們胸臆間浮出的台灣輪廓應該包括我們的海洋。

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people of Taiwan, and healthy oceans would continue to be a warranty for Taiwan's sustainable management. The only viable means is for everyone on the island to jointly develop this paradise at sea by polling the brainpower together for ensuring a sustainable Taiwan and a sustainable ocean management. Let us jointly rediscover the calm, openness, bountifulness, encompassing and nurturing of the sea. With the sea being all around us, and plenty of seaports and ships that Taiwan has, it is unfathomable that we could live without a maritime culture, for it was simply being neglected and overlooked as a fringe culture, a minority culture. By turning back to rediscover the ocean, and reposition ourselves, the image that conjures up in our mind should include the sea that we are bestowed upon when proclaiming our homestead as Formosa once again.

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