## Still facing a sea of troubles

## 日本为捕鲸要"退群"

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BY wangxingwei from 21st Century Published 2019-01-11

**导读**:日本向来有捕鲸的传统,而近期更是宣布退出国际捕鲸委员会,重启商业捕鲸。消息一出,日本的这一做法遭到了国际社会的多方批评。

n. 鲸,鲸鱼(whale的名词复数);

Whales are often called the "giants" of the ocean and may seem to have no rivals. However, they still face some threats.

常被称为"海中巨兽"的鲸鱼看上去所向无敌。然而,它们仍然面临着一些威胁。

Japan has announced that it will withdraw from the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in 2019, and will resume commercial whale hunting from July, 2019.

日本宣布将于2019年退出国际捕鲸委员会,并从2019年7月起重启商业捕鲸。



Whales have suffered from hunting for centuries. CFP

adj. 水生的
Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said the withdrawal was in line with the country's "basic policy of promoting sustainable use of aquatic living resources based on scientific evidence", according to The Sydney Morning Herald.

据《悉尼先驱晨报》报道,日本内阁官房长官菅义伟表示,这符合日本"基于科学证据促进可持续利用水生生物资源的基本政策"。

However, Japan's withdrawal received much criticism. "The declaration today is out of step with the international community, let alone the protection needed to safeguard the future of our oceans and these [huge] creatures," Sam Annesley, executive director of Greenpeace in Japan, told the Guardian. Greenpeace is a Netherlands-based environmental organization.

然而,日本此番"退群"却遭致多方批评。"今日的声明偏离了国际社会的统一步调,更谈不上捍卫我们的海洋以及这些(巨型)生物的未来所应给予的保护,"绿色和平组织日本执行董事萨姆•安内斯利在接受《卫报》采访时如此表示。绿色和平组织是荷兰的一家环境保护组织。

Whales have suffered from hunting for many years. For example, according to the UK's Natural History Museum, in the 1800s, there were about 250,000 blue whales around the world. However, there are now only about 2,000 left. The World Wildlife Fund has classified them as "endangered". This decrease was largely due to hunting.

鲸鱼多年来一直难逃被捕杀的厄运。比如,据英国自然历史博物馆的数据显示,19世纪全球约有25万头蓝鲸。然而,如今却只剩下了约2000头。世界野生动物基金会已 将其列为"濒危动物"。蓝鲸数量上的锐减,很大程度上源于人类捕猎。

n. 熄灭;消灭

To protect whales from extinction, IWC introduced a ban on the commercial hunting of whales in 1986.

为保护鲸鱼免遭灭绝,国际捕鲸委员会于1986年出台禁令,严格禁止商业捕鲸。

However, the ban has not entirely prevented whale deaths. About 45,000 whales have been killed since the ban was introduced, according to the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society.

然而,这项禁令无法完全阻止鲸鱼的死亡。据国际鲸豚保护协会的数据显示,自禁令出台以后,仍有约45000头鲸鱼被捕杀。

Norway and Iceland have allowed commercial whale hunting for years. And Japan allowed whale hunting even before its announcement of withdrawing from IWC. Japan claims that it hunts whales in order to study them, but critics say the nation is using science as a cover for commercial whaling, The Independent reported. 挪威和冰岛多年来都允许商业捕鲸。而日本甚至在宣布退出国际捕鲸委员会之前,便已允许捕鲸。据《独立报》报道,日本称其捕鲸行为是出于科研,但批评者认为日本打着科研的幌子,进行商业捕鲸。

Whale-hunting is an old tradition in Japan. Organized whaling started in Japan as early as the 1600s. During the post-World War II period, eating whale meat became more popular because of food shortages.

捕鲸的传统在日本由来已久。有组织的捕鲸行为在日本可以追溯至17世纪。二战后由于食物短缺,鲸鱼肉变得更受欢迎。

But even though food shortages are no longer a problem, it seems that eating whale meat is not going to stop anytime soon. It's seen as an important part of Japanese culinary culture.

Shinrato Sato, 47, who owns a Japanese restaurant in Tokyo, said whale meat is very popular in his restaurant.

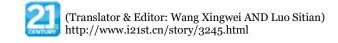
现年47岁的佐藤信太郎在东京经营着一家日式餐厅,他表示,鲸鱼肉在餐厅里很受欢迎。

"The older generation finds it melancholic and begin to talk about their childhood school lunches, while younger people are reminded that whale meat is OK to eat," he told CNN.

"老一辈人很怀念吃鲸鱼肉,还开始谈起了童年时的学校午餐,而年轻人也认为吃鲸鱼肉没什么问题,"他在接受CNN采访时如此表示。

However, Willie Mackenzie, an ocean campaigner at Greenpeace, believes the practice can be ended. Many countries adopted similar practices in the past, but they have "been left there (in the past) for the most part," Mackenzie told CNN.

但绿色和平组织的海洋活动家威利·麦肯齐认为不该再这样做了。许多国家在过去都有类似的情况,但"大多数国家都摈弃了这些做法,"麦肯齐在接受CNN采访时表示。



## 辞海拾贝 🔲

Rivals对手Resume恢复

Sustainable 可持续的 Aquatic 与水相关的

Safeguard保卫Culinary饮食的

Melancholic 伤感的

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