Respecting尊敬 the elders老年人

老龄化问题，中国日本养老院区别，经济学人

1. Amid在什么之中 the stress压力 and sadness悲伤 of choosing an old-age home老人院 for her husband, it took Li Wangke, a retired退休的 academic大学教授, a while一段时间 to realise why one facility养老院 was so good at reawakening唤醒 his playful活泼, chatty健谈 side面. She had visited other homes that had fine food and lavish昂贵的 amenities便利设施, reflecting反应 the affluence富足 of the couple夫妻’s southern南方的 Chinese home town, Guangzhou. But one newly opened home stood出色 out for easing减轻—at least至少 somewhat某种程度—the symptoms症状 of the disease ravaging ravage 严重破坏 his brain. Rather than pampering溺爱 her 83-year-old husband, its staff员工 assessed评估 his rare稀少的 neuro-degenerative神经退行性的 illness, then with warmth热情 and firmness坚定的 pushed逼迫 him to do as much尽可能多 for himself as possible. They cajoled**哄骗** him to talk, exercise锻炼 and even play ping-pong. He seems a “different person”, says Ms. Li. **cajole sb. into doing哄骗做某事**
2. After several visits she discovered发现 that the home’s methods had been imported进口 from Japan, a former前 wartime战时 foe敌人 that older Chinese are commonly普遍的 thought to detest讨厌. Her husband, also a retired academic, moved in in late October十月底. “It’s from here that I learned that Japan takes really good care of its elderly老年的,” she says.
3. China’s needs are vast巨大的. Degenerative退行性的 brain diseases are too often经常 confused困惑/搞错 with mental精神的 illness疾病. Sufferers病人 are shut关起来 away in family homes with unskilled没有技能 helpers, typically通常情况 migrant移民 women from the countryside农村. Some families share分享 guilty内疚 tales故事 of sending relatives亲戚 to psychiatric精神病的 wards病房, where they are strapped用带子捆，系，扎 to beds and fed feed pills药丸. More than 10m Chinese are estimated被估计 to have some form形式 of dementia老年痴呆. “That is a big, almost frightening让人恐惧的 number,” says Akira Wate, the general manager总经理 of MCS’s home in Guangzhou.
4. By 2030 China is projected预计 to have 23m dementia sufferers—almost the population of Australia. During a visit to China in October by Shinzo Abe安倍晋三, Japan’s prime minister, the two governments named提出 old-age care as作为 an area for co-operation合作. China and Japan are trying to edge边缘/优势/v慢慢的移动 closer in these stormy, Trumpian川普 times. One bond密切联系 involves涉及到 demographics人口特征. With almost one in nine1/9 citizens over 65, China is at the point点 on the ageing变老 curve曲线 that Japan hit达到 in 1987. It has a lot to learn from its Asian rival对手’s experience.
5. Chinese old folk人们 and Japanese care-home operators经营者 have discovered revealing揭露 things about each other. MCS was full of confidence when it opened its 106-bed home in Nantong. Half a year later, just six beds were filled. For Asian neighbours that revere尊敬 the old, China and Japan turn结果却是 out to differ—a lot. Notably明显的, China is an exceptionally非常 low-trust低信任 society. But bonds of family duty are stronger than in Japan, say MCS’s bosses, noting注意到 the frequency频率 of visits and the solicitude关怀 of residents居民’ children.
6. In orderly有秩序的 Japan, entering进入 a home is straightforward直率的/简单的, says Mr. Wate. An older person shows signs of dementia, facilities中心/设施场所 are recommended推荐, their child might visit one, admission进入 follows紧随其后. In China, suspicion怀疑 is the starting-point出发点, with the domestic国内的 news full of stories of fatal致命的 fires火灾 or bullying欺负 at nursing护理 homes. Unprompted被促使/主动的, Ms. Li relates叙述 how her daughter, a banker, warned警告 her against taking private firms’ promises承诺 at face value按照表面的意思. **at face value对。。。信以为真**
7. Chinese customers worry constantly一直 about being ripped 敲竹杠off. When it entered China, MCS set its prices high and built single-bed rooms to Japanese standards, offering the privacy隐私 and calm平静 that pensioners领退休金 in Japan demand. But Chinese clients wanted company陪伴 and the lively活泼的 din喧闹声 known as renao热闹，拼音, relates讲述 Grace Meng, MCS’s boss in China. They questioned the emphasis强调 on doing things for themselves, grumbling抱怨 that, “I paid money, so you have to do everything for me,” Ms. Meng says. Her firm changed its model, building shared rooms, lowering prices and offering day日 rates费用 to demonstrate展示 its methods. The home in Nantong is now profitable有利润的.
8. Historical历史的 distrust不信任 of Japan has not been a big problem. MCS neither既不 boasts夸耀 of nor也不 hides its origins起源. As well as a Chinese scholar学者’s study书房 and mahjong tables, its home in Guangzhou has a Japanese roof屋顶 garden with benches长凳, stone lanterns灯笼 and an artfully艺术性 trained pine. A few residents refuse拒绝 to speak to visiting Japanese executives主管, admits Mr. Wate, who is of mixed混合 Chinese and Japanese ancestry血统. Most are pragmatic务实的, associating联系 Japan with good service. 使得植物按照特定的方向成长train
9. Family dynamics互动/动态/诱惑力的 cause more headaches than nationalism爱国主义. In Japan, generous大方的 government insurance保险 covers覆盖 most care-home护理中心 costs成本, giving old folk much autonomy独立自主. In China many in need 需要of care must either或 sell property房产 or ask children for help. Average monthly fees at MCS’s home in Guangzhou are 14,000 yuan ($2,224)—more than a typical pension. That makes entering a home a collective集体的 decision决定 by as many as four or five family members. The elderly also need convincing. Many want to preserve保存 their savings储蓄 to help the young. Because trying to stay at home is the norm行为准则, the average age of MCS’s residents in China is 85, about a decade十年 older than at its dementia-related facilities in Japan.
10. Still, China is quicker to embrace拥抱；欣然接受 change than outsiders圈外人 might suppose假设. Ms. Li recalls回忆 the traditional line: “Raise children to care照顾 for you when you get old.” But her children have demanding要求高的 jobs, and she hates asking them to take too much time off. Nor are hired helpers the solution解决方式. When her husband loses control of his bowels, no hired helper will clean him, she says matter-of-factly实事求是. Such helpers are “very impatient不耐烦”. The Chinese once believed that only bad children send their parents to care homes, she concedes勉强承认. “We don’t think that way anymore.”
11. Rather相当 few少 Chinese will ever be able to afford承受的起 Japanese-style homes, it is true. That does not make their expertise专业技术 irrelevant不相关的. If China’s old enemy can raise the profile of kindly亲切的, attentive服务周到 dementia care, that alone单独 would be a historic历史上重要的, neighbourly睦邻友好的 act. 使得。。。更加引人注目