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流利阅读

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Chinese court orders man to pay ex-wife \$7,700 for housework in landmark divorce case

A court in China has ordered a man to pay thousands of dollars in compensation to his former wife for housework she shouldered during their five-year marriage, in a landmark divorce ruling that has sparked discussion in the country over the value of unpaid domestic duties. In its ruling, the court ordered the husband to pay his ex-wife around \$7,700 as "housework compensation".

The ruling is the first of its kind under China's new civil code. In effect since January, it includes a clause enabling a spouse to seek compensation from their partner during divorce for taking more responsibility in caring for children and elderly relatives.

The ruling became a trending topic on Weibo, China's Twitter-like service. While some comments applauded the ruling as a recognition of the hard, unpaid labor at home, others said the amount awarded was too little to cover five years of housework and childcare.

The right to seek housework compensation in divorce proceedings is not a new concept in Chinese law. In 2001, housework compensation was added to a revision of China's marriage law with the precondition that it only applied to couples who agreed to separation of property, in which each spouse retains exclusive ownership of property acquired during the marriage.

In reality, however, legal experts say few Chinese couples have reached formal agreement to keep their property separate, so it's rare for divorcing spouses to qualify for court-approved housework compensation. That's why the precondition was scrapped in China's new civil code, Xia Yinlan, a professor specializing in marriage law at the Chinese University of Political Science and Law, said.

今日导读

最近，北京市房山区人民法院的一起离婚案件引起了广泛关注，因为这是一起涉及“全职太太”离婚家务补偿的案件，也是明确支持家务补偿的“民法典第一案”，具有里程碑意义。全职太太、离婚、家务补偿，几个极具话题度的词语，在舆论场中迅速碰撞出火花。对于这场裁决，网友和法律专家们各持什么观点？“家务补偿”又有什么样的法律依据？我们一起跟着 Natasha 老师从这节课里找答案。

带着问题听讲解

标题中的 landmark 是什么意思？

短语 in effect 有哪两层含义，分别对应怎样的语境？

文中所说的“家务补偿”建立在怎样的法律依据上？

正文

Chinese court orders man to pay ex-wife \$7,700 for housework in **landmark** divorce case

在一起具有标志性意义的离婚案件中，中国法院判决男子付给前妻 7700 美元劳务赔偿金

A court in China has ordered a man to pay thousands of dollars in compensation to his former wife for housework she **shouldered** during their five-year marriage, in a landmark divorce **ruling** that has **sparked** discussion in the country over the value of unpaid domestic duties.*** In its ruling, the court ordered the husband to pay his ex-wife around \$7,700 as "housework compensation".

中国一法院判决一名男子支付数千美元的赔偿金，以补偿他的前妻在五年婚姻生活中承担的家务劳动。这一具有标志性意义的离婚判决在中国引发了关于无偿家务劳动价值的讨论。在裁决中，法院判男子向前妻支付约 7700 美元（5 万元）的“家务补偿款”。

The ruling is the first of its kind under **China's new civil code**. In effect since January, it includes a **clause** enabling a **spouse** to seek compensation from their partner during divorce for taking more responsibility in caring for children and elderly relatives.

The ruling became a **trending** topic on Weibo, China's Twitter-like service. While some comments **applauded** the ruling as a recognition of the hard, unpaid labor at home, others said the amount **awarded** was too little to **cover** five years of housework and childcare.

The right to seek housework compensation in divorce **proceedings** is not a new concept in Chinese law. In 2001, housework compensation was added to a **revision** of China's marriage law with the **precondition** that it only applied to couples who agreed to **separation of property**, in which each spouse **retains exclusive** ownership of property acquired during the marriage.***

这项裁决是中国最新《民法典》出台后的首次同类裁决。这部《民法典》自1月起生效，其中包括一项条款，规定夫妻一方因抚育子女、照料老人付出较多义务的，离婚时有权向另一方请求补偿。

在类似推特的中国社交平台微博上，这一裁决成为了一个热门话题。尽管有些评论对这项裁决表示赞赏，认为这是对家庭中辛勤的无偿劳动的认可，但也有评论认为，这笔赔偿金太少，不足以支付五年的家务和育儿费用。

在离婚诉讼中，请求家务劳动赔偿的权利并不是中国法律中的新概念。2001年，中国修订的《婚姻法》增加了“家务补偿”，但必须以夫妻实行分别财产制，即在婚姻关系存续期间，夫妻双方对各自的财产拥有专属的所有权为前提。

In reality, however, legal experts say few Chinese couples have reached formal agreement to keep their property separate, so it's rare for divorcing spouses to **qualify** for court-approved housework compensation. That's why the precondition was **scrapped** in China's new civil code, Xia

Yinlan, a professor specializing in marriage law at the Chinese University of Political Science and Law, said.

法律专家表示，在现实中，很少有中国夫妻达成财产分别拥有的正式协议，因此离婚配偶能够获得法院批准的家事补偿的情况很少。中国政法大学婚姻法专业教授夏吟兰说，这就是《民法典》废除了前提条件的原因。

重点词汇

landmark

/ˈlənd.mɑːrk/

n. (常作定语) 里程碑，重大转折；地标

相关词汇: **land** (**n.** 地)

相关词汇: **mark** (**n.** 标志)

例句: ***The Forbidden City is a landmark of Beijing.*** (地标)

同义词: **milestone**

搭配短语: **a landmark decision** (里程碑式的)

搭配短语: **a landmark discovery** (里程碑式的)

shoulder

/ˈʃoʊl.də/

v. 承担, 担负

词性拓展: **shoulder** (n. 肩膀)

例句: **Dare to act and dare to shoulder responsibilities.**

文化补充: 英语里有许多表达和人的身体部位有关, 比如 **stick one's neck out** 的意思是 **take a risk** (冒风险); 而 **turn a blind eye** 则表示“视而不见, 故意忽略”。

ruling

/ˈruː.lɪŋ/

n. 裁决, 裁定

相关词汇: **rule** (n. 规则; v. 裁决)

英文释义: **an official decision made by somebody in a position of authority, especially a judge**

spark

/spɑːrk/

v. 引起, 导致, 触发

词性拓展: **spark** (n. 火花)

例句: **A single spark can cause the entire station to explode.**

搭配短语: **to spark interest**

搭配短语: **to spark protest**

in effect

(法律语境) 在实行中, 有效; 实际上

同义词组: **in fact** (实际上)

相关词汇: **effect** (n. (法律) 生效)

近义词: **use**

例句: **Pandemic-related regulations are still in effect.**

clause

/klaːz/

n. (法律文件的) 条款, 款项; 从句

搭配短语: **a confidentiality clause**

spouse

/spaʊs/

n. 配偶

trend

/trend/

v. (在社交媒体或网站上) 被多次提及

词性拓展: **trend** (n. 趋势)

搭配短语: **the top trending searches list**

applaud

/əˈplaʊd/

v. 赞许，称赞；鼓掌

例句： *The audience applauded loudly.* (鼓掌)

例句： *She should be applauded for her honesty.* (称赞)

award

/ə'wɔ:rd/

v. 判给，裁定

词性拓展： **award** (n. 奖项；赔偿金)

搭配短语： *an award of libel damages*

搭配短语： *to award / give a penalty*

cover

/kʌv.ə/

v. 足够支付

英文释义： *to provide enough money for sth.*

例句： *The award should be enough to cover her tuition fees.*

proceedings

/prə'si:.dɪŋz/

n. 诉讼，诉讼程序；一系列事件

相关词汇： **proceed** (v. 继续进行；起诉)

例句： *Work is proceeding according to plan.* (继续进行)

搭配短语： *to proceed against sb.* (起诉)

revision

/rɪ'vɪʒ.ən/

n. 修订版；修正，修改

词义辨析： **revision, amendment**

两者都可以表示“修订版”，但 **revision** 常常指修改幅度较大的“修订版”，而 **amendment** 更强调在原有基础上，进行小范围的修正和完善。

precondition

/pri:.kən'dɪf.ən/

n. 前提，先决条件

词根词缀： **pre-** (表示“先于”)

相关词汇： **condition** (n. 条件)

例句： *A ceasefire is a precondition for talks.*

retain

/rɪ'teɪn/

v. 保持，保留

词义辨析： **retain, maintain**

这两个词都有“保持”的含义，但是侧重点不同，**maintain** 强调“维持在某个水平”；而 **retain** 侧重“拥有（某样物品）”。

搭配短语： *retain the ownership of the content*

exclusive

/ɪk'skluː.sɪv/

adj. 独有的, 独占的

例句: ***They have exclusive rights to offer live cricket matches.***

qualify

/ˈkwɑː.lə.faɪ/

v. 有资格, 准予

例句: ***His skills qualify him for the work.***

相关词汇: ***qualified*** (**adj.** 有资格的, 胜任的)

例句: ***I think that I am qualified for the job.***

scrap

/skræp/

v. 放弃, 取消

英文释义: ***to decide not to use a plan or system because it is not practical***

近义词: ***abolish, cancel***

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