**Luo Yinsheng: Author of Yang Jiang’s Biography**

On the early morning of May 25, Yang Jiang, famous writer, literary translator, foreign literature researcher, and wife of Qian Zhongshu, died at the age of 105 in Beijing. On the evening of May 26, students from Shanghai Lixin University of Accounting and Finance spontaneously gathered at the gate of the school library to mourn over Yang Jiang’s death. At such sentimental moment, a journalist interviewed Mr. Luo Yinsheng, a teacher of Shanghai Lixin University of Accounting and Finance. As a biographer, he used to write biographies for Yang Jiang, Elegance and Intellectual Brilliance in A Hundred Years: Biography of Yang Jiang and Biography of Yang Jiang. The latter was personally reviewed by Yang Jiang. “A hedge between keeps friendship green.” That’s how Luo Yinsheng describes the friendship between Yang Jiang and him. He also told the journalist about his impression of Yang Jiang.

**She made people feel “life is hopeful and beautiful”**

At first sight, Luo Yinsheng thought Yang Jiang as a gentle, sober and gracious old lady. “Through further contact, Luo gradually discovered Yang’s strong character underlying, persistence in literature and toughness in case of misfortune.” After her daughter and husband died, she was very sad. But then, she could recover from the deep grief and continue to write, read, and settle the manuscripts of her husband. She made people feel “life is hopeful and beautiful.”

In the opinion of Luo Yinsheng, Yang Jiang lived a leisurely and comfortable life with few hobbies. She liked reading and writing. Just like a “reading seed”, she had extreme love to literature, reading and writing. She also liked walking around in the neighborhood or doing bodybuilding exercises at home. The building where she lived in had no elevator, but she liked walking up and down stairs, taking it as an exercise.

Luo Yinsheng lived in Shanghai. Yang Jiang lived in Beijing. They communicated with each other by letter or telephone.

As Luo Yinsheng recalled, “as Yang Jiang got old, she suffered from hearing loss and couldn’t hear the telephone. Every time we talked over the telephone, we had to shout so loudly that others thought that we were quarreling. Afterwards, Ms. Wu, the household nurse of Yang, helped us communicate with each as a loud hailer. This is the most special way of talking over telephone I have experienced in all these years.”

**Yang Jiang is another high peak**

Why write biography for Yang Jiang? Luo Yinsheng said frankly that “when mentioning Yang Jiang, many people called her ‘wife of Qian Zhongshu’”. Indeed, Mr. Qian is an incomparable high peak in terms of literary achievement, but Yang Jiang is another high peak. Actually, Yang got famous before Qian. When I was a student in the department of Chinese language and literature, I read *A Cadre School Life: Six Chapters*, a special work of Yang Jiang at that time. I liked this book so much that I read it with great respect and esteem. Writing a biography of Yang Jiang is really what I am longing for.”

Shouldn’t everyone wish their life to be recorded in a biography and to be read by others? But Yang Jiang is an exception. What impresses Luo Yinsheng most is that when he proposed writing a biography of Yang Jiang, Yang told him “Luo, I suggest you to give up the idea of writing a biography of me. I am only an ordinary person. I am not worth it. If you want to write, write a biography of Qian.” So modest and humble, Yang is just a pure lover of literature. Luo Yinsheng said “Yang’s patriotism, attitude of life, persistence in and love of literature and inheritance and promotion of traditional Chinese culture are all what we should learn.”

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