

世俗化：一个历史学家的解读^{*}

Secularization: A Historian's View

[英] 休·麦克劳著 张华译

Hugh McLeod

United Kingdom

[英文提要]

In the late 17th century, Western Europe was monolithically Christian. By the late 20th century, religious pluralism ruled. While the majority of the population still claimed to be Christian, many people had little contact with their churches. Significant minorities of agnostics, atheists, and adherents to other religions began to appear. How this came about is a long and complex story, beginning around 1690 and continuing right up to the present day, with social, political, intellectual and cultural changes all playing a part in the process.

世俗化 (secularization) 一词承载着丰富的内涵。在某种意义上，它是衰败、毁灭甚至背信弃义的代名词；而在另一种意义上，它又意味着从受奴役的处境中解放出来。所以，这样一个中

^{*} 休·麦克劳 (Hugh McLeod) 为英国伯明翰大学知名教授，享誉世界的历史学家。此文根据其 2003 年 11 月在中国的讲座稿整理翻译而成，注释部分保留原样。