轉口港經濟及與日內瓦的比較

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日內瓦與新加坡早期的商業繁榮，都建基於因同屬一個社群而彼此信任的商人網絡。在日內瓦，由銀行家和商人組成的「新教國際」將日內瓦與里昂、巴黎、阿姆斯特丹和倫敦連繫起來。在新加坡，華人僑民的方言群、阿拉伯商人的哈德拉毛網絡以及孟加拉灣的朱利亞商人，發揮着同樣的作用。在兩個例子中，網絡都將信貸、資訊和人員帶過政治邊界。

兩者的分別在於網絡的數目和國家的角色。日內瓦的商業精英在宗教和文化上相對單一，新加坡的轉口港則自始便是多個網絡的交匯點，各有自己的語言、宗教和機構。新加坡的殖民地政府提供了這些網絡交匯的中立框架：自由港、法院和警隊。各社群的內部組織，則大體交由其領袖自行處理。這種安排——由強大的國家保障共同框架，多元社群則自行處理內部事務——是轉口港經濟留下的持久遺產之一。

數字一覽

抵達新加坡的中式帆船噸位：1841–1842年18,400噸，1865–1866年3,280噸。瓦卓武吉士船隻：1824年90艘，1825年約120艘，1830年代每年約200艘帆船，每艘船員約30人。阿拉伯居民：1824年15人，1871年465人。1824年人口普查

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中的印度籍居民：756人。陳篤生1844年捐予華人貧民醫院的款項：5,000元。東南亞佔新加坡貿易總額的比例：1825年48%，1865年43%（黃麟根）。[1]

註釋

1. Wong Lin Ken, “Singapore: Its Growth as an Entrepot Port, 1819–1941”，經Cambridge Core瀏覽，2026年9月：東南亞於1825年佔貿易總額48%，1865年佔43%。 ↩

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