



Tajiks pray before the evening meal in the village of Garm, some 250km from Dushanbe, on July 12, 2009.

七月十二日，在距離塔吉克首府杜尚別兩百五十公里的加爾姆村，民眾於晚餐前祈禱。

PHOTO: AFP

照片：法新社

Teachers aged under 50 in Tajikistan can no longer grow beards but are allowed to give their lessons in rain boots, according to new government guidelines.

"Men over 50 are allowed to have beards no more than three centimeters long, while younger men should be clean shaven," according to a copy of an education ministry decree widely reported by state-run newspapers.

"As for footwear, it can be anything that fully covers the foot, including galoshes," it added.

With thousands of people living on the breadline and the country struggling to rebuild, the government says the rules are part of educational reforms and that they meet "the mentality and customs of the people."

Long beards are often greeted with suspicion by the government, which fought a bloody civil war against Islamist forces in the 1990s that left tens of thousands dead and the economy in ruins.

Galoshes, a waterproof overshoe

made of rubber, are popular among farmers in the rural countryside and viewed as a necessary protection from the rain that frequently pelts the mountainous state. (AFP)

塔吉克共和國新出爐的政府管理要點明定，五十歲以下的教師禁止蓄鬍，但可以穿著雨靴授課。

塔吉克官方報紙大幅報導教育部政令中的一則消息：「五十歲以上的男士可以蓄鬍，但不得超過三公分長，而年輕男士則必須把鬍子刮乾淨。」

規定中還提到：「至於鞋類，只要是完全包覆腳掌的鞋子都可以，包括雨靴。」

在數以千計的民眾靠政府救濟過活，國家也正努力重建的情況下，塔吉克政府表示，這些規定是教育改革的一部分，也符合「人民的思想和習俗」。

塔吉克政府常將蓄長鬍的民眾當作可疑份子。塔吉克在一九九〇年代和回教軍隊陷入一場腥風血雨的內戰，造成數萬人喪生及國內經濟崩解。

防水的橡膠套鞋相當受到農村農夫喜愛，在塔吉克這個多山且時常下傾盆大雨的國家，更被視為生活必需品。

(法新社／翻譯：袁星慶)

## Tajikistan says no to beards, yes to galoshes for teachers

### 塔吉克禁止教師蓄鬍 開放穿雨靴授課



A Tajik man walks by a riverside, above left, and a man prepares for the evening meal in the village of Garm, Tajikistan on July 12, 2009.

七月十二日，在塔吉克的加爾姆村，一名男子在河邊步行（上圖左），一名男子在準備晚餐。



PHOTOS: AFP

照片：法新社

#### 1. guideline /'gaid,laɪn/ n.

管理要點 (guan2 li3 yao4 dian3)

例：According to the guidelines, you have to provide evidence from your doctor if you miss more than four days' work. (根據公司管理要點，請四天以上的病假需出示醫生診斷證明。)

#### 2. suspicion /sə'spɪʃən/ n.

懷疑 (huai2 yi2)

例：When another bike was stolen, suspicion immediately fell on Jack. (另一台腳踏車被偷後，大家立刻懷疑起傑克。)

#### 3. pelt /pelt/ v.

下大雨 (xia4 da4 yu3)，投擲 (tou2 zhi2)

例：The minister was pelted with eggs as he arrived at the conference. (部長抵達會場時遭人投擲雞蛋。)

#### 4. mountainous /'maʊntənəs/ adj.

多山的 (dou1 shan1 de5)

例：Inexperienced hikers should avoid the mountainous areas in the south of the state. (經驗不足的健行者應避開南部山區。)

#### on the breadline

生活極困苦的

Somebody who is on the breadline is extremely poor and has barely enough resources to survive. The phrase originates from the depression-era US, when lines of poor people would wait for handouts of free bread from the government.

Example: "According to the statistics, the number of people on the breadline has gone down by 25 percent in the last ten years."

若說某人「on breadline」，就表示他或她的生活極為窮困，僅能勉強餬口。這個片語源自美國經濟大蕭條年代，貧民排隊等領政府發放的免費麵包。

例如：「根據統計，低收入戶人數在過去十年內已減少了兩成五」。