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China's Green Rise

The Long March: A Monumental Mile of History
Blue Sky over Blue Sea

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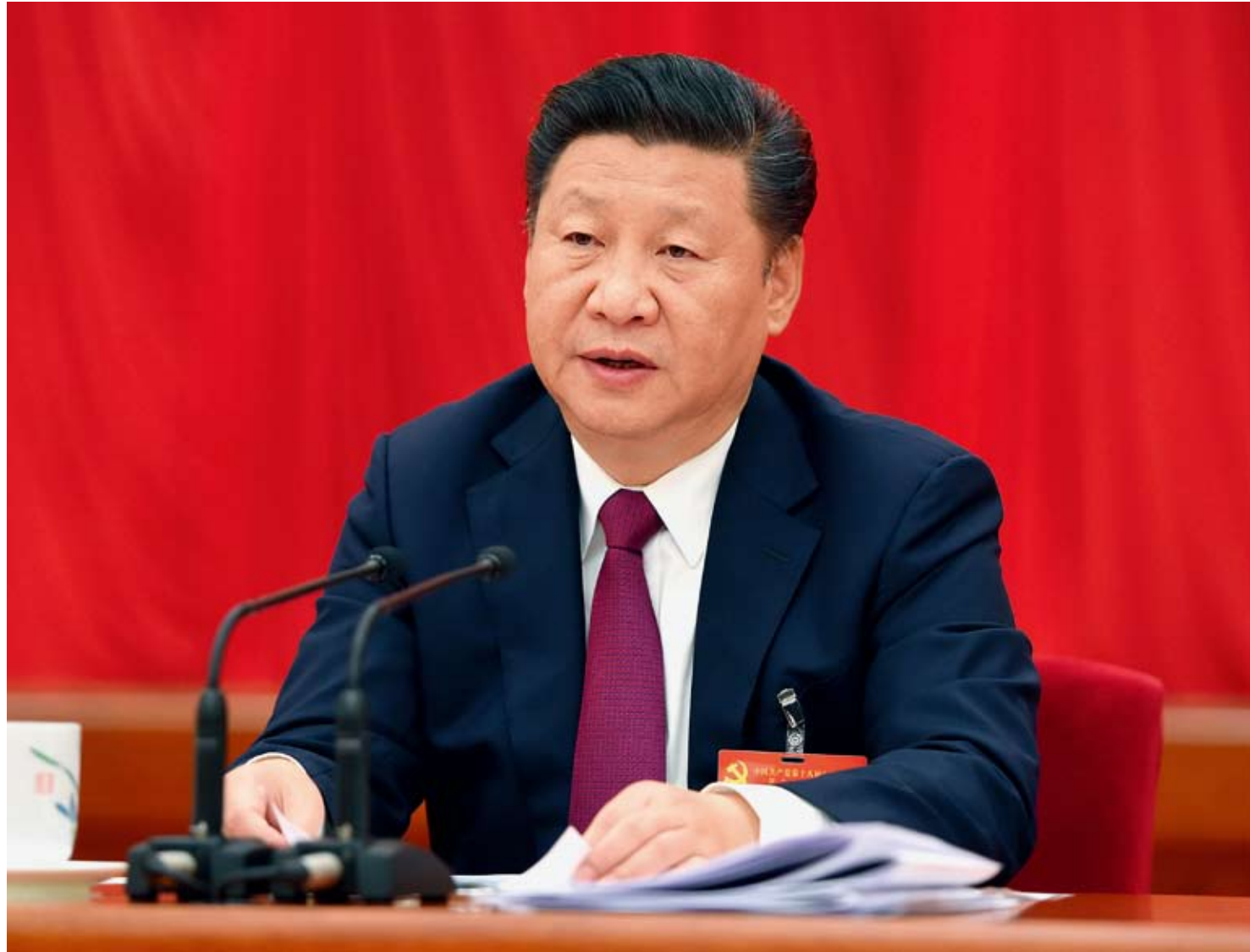
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by Li Xueren/Xinhua

6th Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee Concluded

October 27, Beijing: Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, speaks at the 6th plenary session of the 18th CPC Central Committee, which was held in Beijing from October 24 to 27. The meeting approved two documents on the discipline of the CPC, including the norms of political life within the Party under the new situation and a regulation on intra-Party supervision.

The Party has called on all its members to “closely unite around the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core,” a call to action that many observers believe will give the country the impetus to realize its two centenary goals. Party members were told to resolutely safeguard the authority of the CPC Central Committee and its central, unified leadership while pushing forward the comprehensive and strict governance of the Party.



by Li Gang/Xinhua

Space Mission

October 17, Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center: Chinese astronauts Jing Haipeng (right) and Chen Dong wave during the departure ceremony for the Shenzhou-11 manned space mission. The two Chinese astronauts boarded the Shenzhou-11 spacecraft on early October 17 for the mission, with 49-year-old Jing as the commander. The spacecraft is scheduled to dock at the orbiting spacelab Tiangong-2 within two days, and the astronauts are to stay in the spacelab for 30 days before returning to Earth.

The mission marks Jing's third space trip following his Shenzhou-7 mission in 2008 and Shenzhou-9 mission in 2012. It is 37-year-old Chen's first trip as crew on a manned spacecraft. With an impressively safe flight record of 1,500 hours as an air force pilot, Chen was selected as crew for the Shenzhou-11 mission in June 2016.



by Wang Jiankang/Xinhua

Commemorating the Long March

A visitor at a painting and calligraphy exhibition commemorating the Long March. October 22 marked the 80th anniversary of the end of the Long March, and China hopes to pass on the epic expedition's legacy across generations through various commemorative activities across the country.

Eighty years ago, the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army arrived at their destination in northern Shaanxi Province after a journey of 12,500 kilometers. The military maneuver organized by the army under the CPC from October 1934 to October 1936 would come to be known as the Long March. As China commemorates the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Long March, the epic trek still resonates with ordinary Chinese people, who acknowledge the CPC's efforts, determination and sacrifices during an era of intense hardship.



IC

Holiday Spending Spree

October 3, Nanjing City, Jiangsu Province: Tourists visit the Mausoleum of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. Domestic consumers have explicitly demonstrated rising power as a key force driving the Chinese economy by travelling and spending heavily during the weeklong National Day holiday that began on October 1.

According to the China National Tourism Administration, nearly 600 million people visited tourist attractions around the country and spent about US\$74.97 billion during the holiday, up 12.8 percent and 14.4 percent year-on-year respectively. Double-digit consumption growth is nothing unusual in this country, but it is remarkable considering that the world's second largest economy's growth slowed to 6.7 percent in the first half of this year, amid huge international uncertainty. Because of such strong consumption growth momentum and potential, some economists have even called for the Chinese government to introduce more weeklong holidays.

Internationalizing the RMB

Text by Liao Zhengrong

October 1, 2016, was a big day for China: The Chinese Yuan (Renminbi or RMB) has been included into the basket of special drawing right (SDR) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), marking a milestone in the internationalization of the RMB. The RMB has a 10.92 percent share in the SDR, while the weights of the U.S. dollar, Euro, Japanese yen, and British Pound are 41.73 percent, 30.93 percent, 8.33 percent and 8.09 percent, respectively.

Statistics from the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications (SWIFT) show that the RMB accounts for 8 percent of global trade financing and nearly 2 percent of global trade settlement. According to the latest statistics from the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the RMB's share in global foreign exchange trade has doubled over the past three years, from 2 to 4 percent. However, another important indicator shows that its share as a global reserve currency is little more than 1 percent.

Generally speaking, the RMB still remains comparatively low in market share indicators as an international currency. By contrast, the weight it shares in the SDR basket is heavy but fair. The SDR mainly assigns its shares according to the currency issuer's exports. Over the last few years, China has seen substantial growth in trade: It became the largest exporter in the world in 2009 and the world's largest trading nation when it overtook the United States in 2013. China's exports accounted for 14 percent of the world's total in 2015. The weight of the RMB as defined by the SDR is an official affirmation of its international standing.

As the RMB becomes more internationalized, its inclusion into the SDR basket will surely help enhance its market reputation and degree of acceptance. It's a win-win situation for both the RMB and the SDR. The SDR was first designed to serve as an international reserve currency, replacing the U.S. dollar. However, the market has ignored it since its inception, with no one willing to pay for its marketing. During the G20 London Summit in 2009, Zhou Xiaochuan, governor of the People's Bank of China, shared his insights on the severe impact from the dominance of the U.S. dollar in the international currency system and declared that China was working on SDR market application, provoking positive responses from the international community.

As the RMB was being included into the SDR, China promoted action to expand the SDR's international influence on the global market. Since April 2016, the People's Bank of China has published its foreign currency reserve data calculated in the U.S. dollar and the SDR. As declared by Governor Zhou Xiaochuan, China's central bank was working on issuing bonds evaluated with the SDR. Considering China's economic mass and weight, these measures would likely boost the SDR's international standing.

The current international currency system is plagued by structural defects. The dominant role of the U.S. dollar has resulted in greater risk and instability, presenting rigid challenges for the global economy in terms of maintaining sustainable, steady growth. Reform, therefore, is imperative and will surely disturb the "core benefits" enjoyed by currency-dominant countries

such as the United States. This issue is the most glaring reason no reform has yet been enacted despite many years of discussion. The SDR basket is strongly inclusive and likely to be accepted by more parties, giving it a better chance to improve the international currency system by accelerating application of the SDR. Consequently, the RMB encountered little trouble joining the SDR basket.

All involved parties have compromised to accept the RMB, with strong support from Europe in particular, which proved crucial.

Compared with weights before the RMB's inclusion, the U.S. dollar dropped from 41.9 percent to 41.73 percent, the Euro from 37.4 percent to 30.93 percent, British Pound from 11.3 percent to 8.09 percent, and the Japanese yen from 9.4 percent to 8.33 percent.

To meet necessary technical criteria, the Euro and British Pound each offered to give up "a big piece," and France offered support to amend relevant rules of "free convertibility." All these moves reflect Europe's strong will to drive reform of the international currency system and help the RMB play a more active role internationally, to better balance the system.

China will seize this opportunity to strengthen its coordination and cooperation with Europe and play a more robust role in establishing a fairer, more rational international currency system and improving the governance of international finance, so it can meet great expectations from the international community and accelerate the RMB's internationalization. 

The author serves as managing deputy director of the Institute of Peaceful Development under Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

国家基因库 National Gene Bank

Edited by Li Zhuoxi


After five years of committed effort, China announced the opening of its first national gene bank in September 2016. The institution is the largest of its kind and the fourth in the world after the National Center for Biotechnology Information of the United States, DNA Data Bank of Japan, and European Bioinformatics Institute.

Contrasting its three forerunners, the National Gene Bank of China (NGBC) features not only data preservation but also sample storage. It has been reported that NGBC has established ties with many foreign institutions, including state-level natural history museums, and the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway. In the future, it will serve as a platform for public services and open its sample and data resources to various parties in accordance with

relevant rules.

As far as human DNA is concerned, NGBC mainly preserves samples of blood and tissues as well as cells and urine, and provides sample support for the prospective study of serious diseases, laying a solid foundation for diagnosis, prediction and personalized medical services.

In terms of non-human resources, the bank primarily stores tissues and cells of rare animals of great economic value. It also preserves plant, marine and microbial resources in an effort to collect all information that could be valuable for future research.

"We want to build the world's largest database for biological information—like a Google for life health data," declared Mei Yonghong, director of the NGBC. 



Gene sequencing workers at the National Gene Bank of China stationed in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province. NGBC has stored 10 million gene samples so far. In the future, more banks will be established to gather biological data and living biological samples and create platforms for genome editing.

隐性饥饿 Hidden Hunger

Edited by Li Zhuoxi

"Hidden hunger" refers to malnutrition caused by a nutrition imbalance or deficiencies of vitamins and minerals as well as excessive intake of other nutrition. Research shows that such malnutrition can lead to birth defects and developmental disabilities, raise the death rate of children and expectant mothers, and severely degrade a nation's population quality and economic prospects.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in 2016, some 2 billion people on the planet suffered from hidden hunger, 300 million of whom in China. As unveiled by China's

National Health and Family Planning Commission in its 2015 status report on nourishment and chronic diseases of Chinese residents, most Chinese people have irrational dietary patterns which don't meet intake standards for minerals such as calcium and iron, and vitamins such as A and D. Long-term vitamin shortages and nutrition imbalances result in malnutrition for a large number of people, particularly those plagued by poverty residing in remote mountainous areas, who in turn suffer from various chronic ailments.

Today, nutrient enrichment technology has been widely acknowledged as the most effective means to tackle the hidden hunger.



Along with a massive quantity of individual nutrients such as carbohydrates, lipids, and protein, humans need 16 minerals, including calcium, iron, and zinc, and 13 kinds of vitamins. Long-term deficiencies or intake imbalance of micro-nutrients will quietly damage health despite the sufferer not feeling hunger.

The technology enriches the content of micro-nutrient elements that can be absorbed by human body, found in crops. Since 2004, the International Food Policy Research Institute has managed the Harvest

Plus Program globally and Harvest Plus-China in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences. Today, Chinese scientists have developed over 10 species of such crops. 



Wuzhen: Venice of the East

Text and photographs by Shakoor Rather



A street in Wuzhen.

It's hard to beat the magic of a boat cruise down an ancient waterway alongside fishermen rowing into the setting sun. Waterfront houses with flower gardens greet passersby navigating under crescent-shaped bridges crossing the canal as dusk engulfs the final moments of the day.

Such a spectacle heralded the beginning of my summer journey through a wonderland of traditional Chinese crafts, museums and folklore in Wuzhen.

A wooden house facing the water caught my attention, reminding me of a navigational canal called Nallah Maar that my grandfather often mentioned in his tales. That canal, which was the lifeline of old Srinagar, connected a lagoon to the famous Dal Lake.

Archived images of the canal show tourists flocking to the waterway and boatmen offering rides on the crystal clear water past rows of old Persian style houses with flowerbeds.

Stories of the canal, which was gone by the time I was born, mesmerized me as a child. My stroll through Wuzhen awoke those childhood memories that had long been hidden under a pillow.

Located at the center of the six ancient towns south of the Yangtze River, 17 kilometers north of the city of Tongxiang, Wuzhen displays China's history via ancient stone bridges, stone pathways and delicate wood carvings.

Renowned Chinese writer Mao Dun was born in Wuzhen, and his best-known work, *Lin's Shop*, describes the life in the town.

Wuzhen is divided into six traditional districts: workshops, local-styled houses, culture, food and beverage, shops and

stores, and the customs and life district. A tourist boat took me through the magical town, and I spotted an architectural marvel: "Bridge within a Bridge." The serendipitous attraction was born of two ancient bridges that can be seen through each other's arch. Another example of innovative architecture is the Moon Bridge, which is designed to evoke the full moon. These bridges look especially beautiful under moonlight, when the night sky reflects off the water underneath.

Later, I found myself fascinated by a shadow play performance, a form of traditional Chinese art. Performers tell entertaining stories by projecting characters made of sheep or cattle hide onto a white screen. They control the puppets with bamboo sticks, creating lifelike action in the shadows.

While walking past a plethora of museums and craft shops, I saw a traditional Chinese cobbler working on the roadside. Based on the piles of heeled stilettos, resoled boots and polished loafers, it seemed that he had a lot of work, but the wrinkly cobbler was happy to entertain my uninvited attention.

Like a generous tourist, I put my shoes on his anvil and asked him to polish them. To strike up a conversation, I asked him how business was.

"The days when I was too busy for chitchat are gone. Now I have plenty of time," he replied.

He told me that he once handled 100 repair jobs a day as he rubbed his wretched old brush against my brown oxfords, turning them into a shiny mirror.

"Five yuan," he said politely.

I took out a 10-yuan banknote from



Waterfront houses along the canal cast shadows on the glistening water.



A roadside cobbler mends shoes and hearts alike.

my wallet, handed it to him and rushed out. As I left, he stared at the banknote with a familiar smile.

China is anything but ordinary—I found a museum dedicated to beds! The Ancient Bed Museum at Dongzha Street is China's first devoted to the collection and display of antique beds.

A framed bed with hoof-shaped legs and rails like brushes caught my eye. "Bed of a Thousand Craftsmen" is a beautiful piece of workmanship from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). As its name indicates, it took over a thousand craftsmen three years to make the bed.

At the Museum of Foot Binding in Wuzhen, artifacts and photographs privy to the painful pursuit of the "three-inch lotus," a euphemism for the bound foot, were on display. In ancient Wuzhen, as well as the rest of China, foot binding was

a controversial custom practiced for over 1,000 years.

It houses 825 pairs of shoes designed to bind female feet as well as numerous pictures and other relevant items.

While ancient stone bridges, stone pathways and delicate wood carvings flavor Wuzhen's legacy, Nallah Maar has been relegated to fossilized remnant of erstwhile prosperity that Srinagar once enjoyed in the pristine past.

It's heartbreaking to imagine the canal being filled in the 1970s to make way for a road through the old city after the arrival of motor transport.

My greatest takeaway from my stay in Wuzhen was realization that in the ancient water town built around a series of canals over 1,300 years ago, very little has changed. The place has been carefully restored and masterfully renovated.

The author is a journalist of the Press Trust of India.

The Long March: A Monumental Mile of History

Text by Li Xia



September 23, 2016: Chinese President Xi Jinping and other senior state and Party leaders including Yu Zhengsheng, Liu Yunshan, Wang Qishan and Zhang Gaoli visit an exhibition marking the 80th anniversary of the end of the Long March at the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution in Beijing. by Lan Hongguang/Xinhua

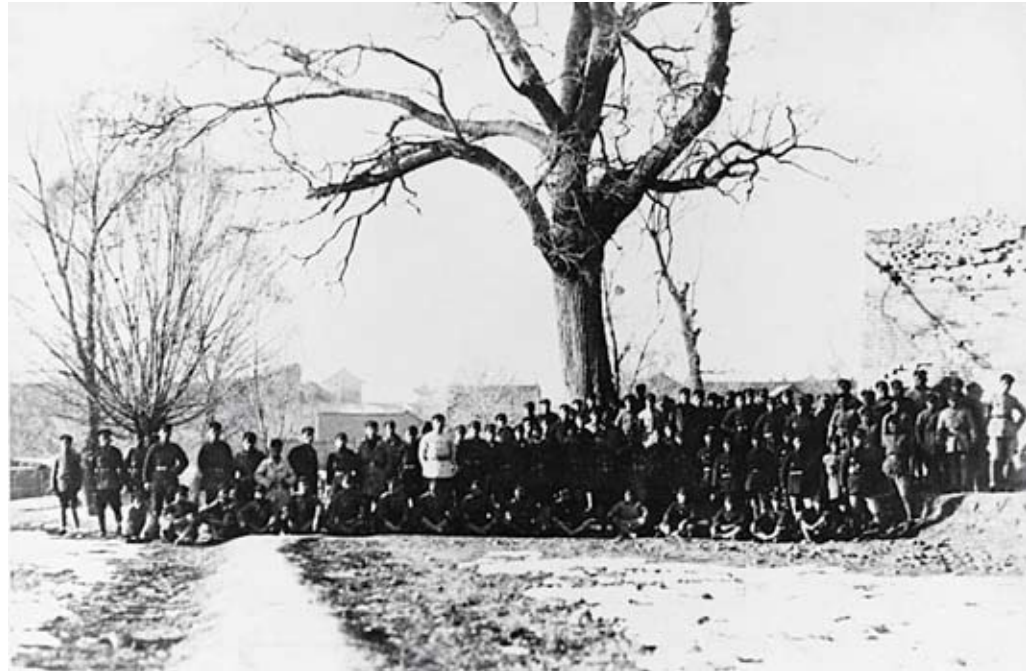
Eighty years ago, the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army arrived at their destination in northern Shaanxi Province after a journey of 12,500 kilometers. The military maneuver carried out by the army under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) from October 1934 to October 1936 would come to be known as the Long March.

The CPC and its army set out on the march westward and then veered north, enduring unbearable difficulty and suf-

fering: Lacking food, they subsisted on grass roots and tree bark. Many wore straw shoes and could barely cover themselves in the chilly winter. They crossed two dozen snow-capped mountains, enduring thin air in places few had ever traveled at altitudes of more than 4,000 meters. Of all the swamps that the Red Army crossed, Songpan Marsh in eastern Qinghai-Tibet Plateau was the most dangerous. Spanning 15,200 square kilometers, it consists of numerous muddy ponds and trenches.



September 24, 2016: Wang Tianbao (left), former advisor of China's Naval Air Force, examines a piece of iron chain from the Luding Bridge at an exhibition marking the 80th anniversary of the end of the Long March at the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution in Beijing. by Yin Gang/Xinhua



A unit of the First Front Army of the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army poses for a photo after arriving in northern Shaanxi Province. In October 1935, the First Front Army completed the Long March after breaking sieges by the Kuomintang troops and overcoming various natural barriers. CFB

"I had difficulty breathing as the air became thinner and thinner, leaving me barely able to talk," recalled late CPC leader Dong Biwu of the experience of crossing a snow-crowned mountain during the Long March. "It was so cold that the steam I exhaled froze immediately and my hands and lips turned purple. Some people and cattle slipped into the icy river and disappeared forever. Those who sat down for a rest were quickly numbed by the cold."

Along with harsh natural conditions, the Red Army was also besieged by Kuomintang forces. Stories of the Red Army taking the Luding Bridge evidence the fierceness of the battle. To stop the Red Army, Kuomintang troops removed the planks on the suspension bridge over the Dadu River, leaving only 13 iron chains. Eventually, 22 Red Army soldiers risked their lives to capture the bridge after a fierce battle. The Long March was a miracle of human history and a glorious epic written by the CPC and the Red Army.

After successfully leading the Red Army to northern Shaanxi, where support from the people was strong, the CPC defeated Japanese invaders and the Kuomintang one after the other and founded the People's Republic of China in 1949. The marvelous Long March laid an important foundation for the victory.

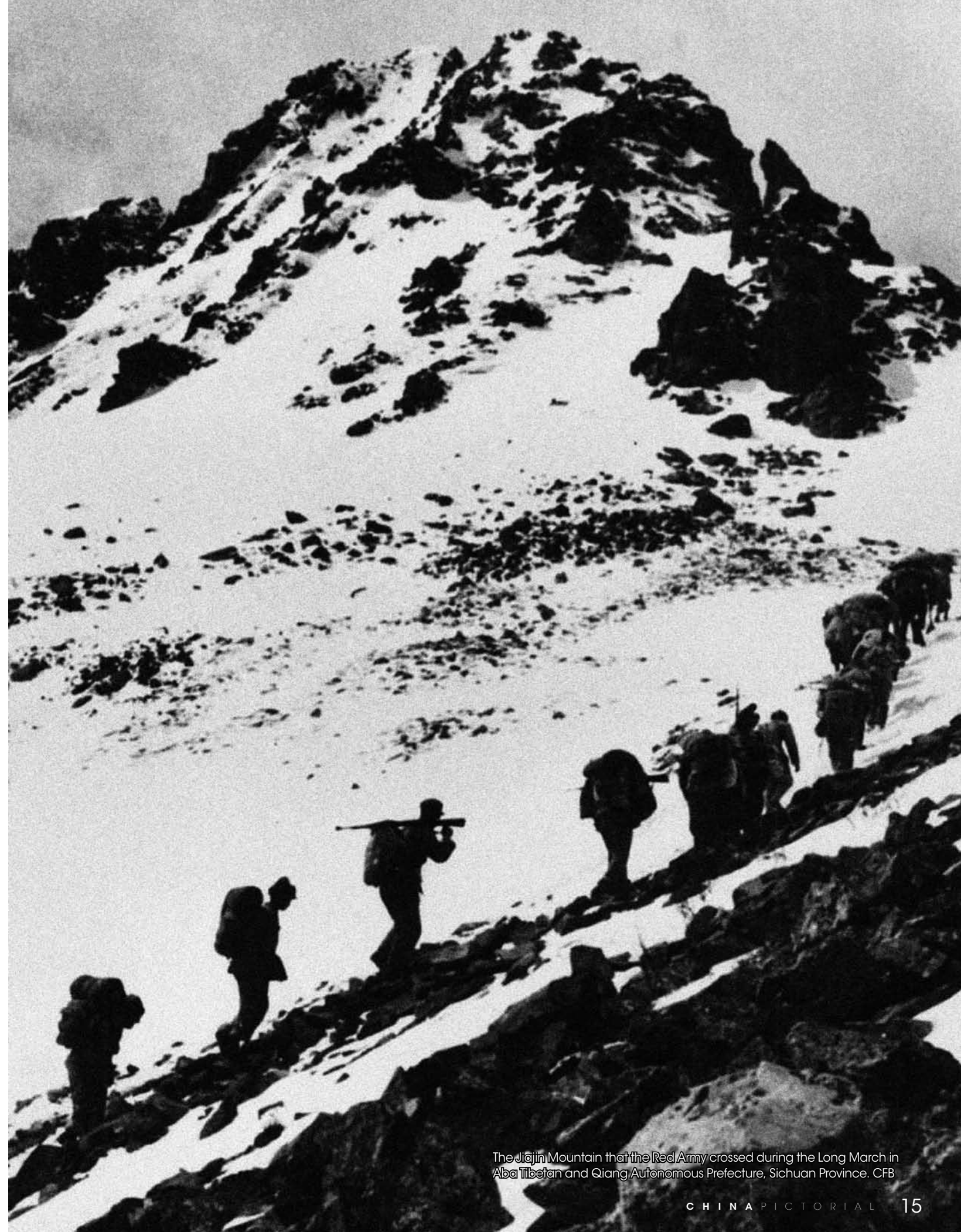
After its founding in 1921, the CPC once joined hands with the Kuomintang to launch the Great Revolution aiming to overthrow rule of feudal warlords. The Great Revolution ultimately failed, as did CPC-Kuomintang cooperation. The CPC then independently led the Land Revolution and organized armed operations against the corrupt, counter-revolutionary Kuomintang government. As a result, the Red Army and its revolutionary bases continued to expand. At its peak in 1933, the CPC-controlled Central Soviet Area that developed from revolutionary bases in southern Jiangxi Province and western Fujian Province covered 60 counties: population of



The Red Army Joint Forces Tower in Huining, Gansu Province. The memorial tower rises 28.78 meters and consists of three traditional-style pagodas. The marble plate in the middle bears inscriptions by Deng Xiaoping, which read "Memorial Tower of the Convergence of the First, Second and Fourth Front Armies of the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army." CFB

4.35 million and territory of about 84,000 square kilometers.

In 1931, the Japanese army staged the September 18 Incident as part of a move to occupy northeastern China. To save the nation, the CPC began to commit to resisting Japanese aggression. However, the Kuomintang government assembled forces to besiege the Central Soviet Area, attempting to eliminate the CPC and its army. Some CPC leaders made the mistake of steadfastly sticking to leftist dogmatism, resulting in the failure of the fifth campaign against "encirclement and suppression" by Kuomintang troops. The Red Army was forced to set out on the Long March to retreat to areas where the Kuomintang was weak, nearer to the anti-Japanese fronts, so the CPC could conserve its forces to defend against Japanese aggression.



The Jiajin Mountain that the Red Army crossed during the Long March in Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province. CFB

As Deng Xiaoping said, the Red Army “was forced to begin the Long March.” Although the Long March was a military retreat caused by the leftist dogmatic errors of some CPC leaders and besiegement by Kuomintang troops, the ultimate goal was to resist Japanese aggression and save the nation. During the Long March, the CPC publicized information to make the public more aware of resistance efforts against the Japanese invaders and mobilized people to join the Red Army. Even in remote,

secluded areas, the army’s efforts to resist Japanese aggression won respect and support from local residents.

Wherever they arrived, the Red Army helped the poor overthrow local despots, distribute the land, and abolish heavy taxes. A popular ballad goes, “supporting the Red Army to win the war is the only way for workers and peasants to be liberated.” Slogans such as “Poor starving people, come join the Red Army” and “The Red Army is the savior of the poor” were found

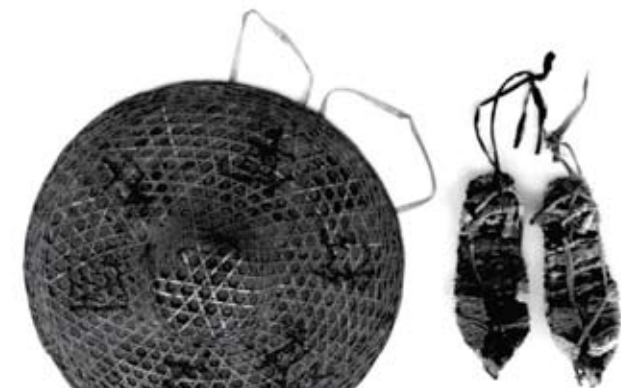
in villages the Red Army passed during the Long March.

When the Red Army arrived in Bijie City, Guizhou Province, CPC leaders met Zhou Suyuan, a local dignitary, and explained Marxist theories and the attitudes of the CPC. Zhou later became commander of the CPC-led Guizhou Anti-Japanese and National Salvation Army and joined the Long March to northern Shaanxi. When the Red Army passed regions inhabited by ethnic minorities, its General Political Depart-

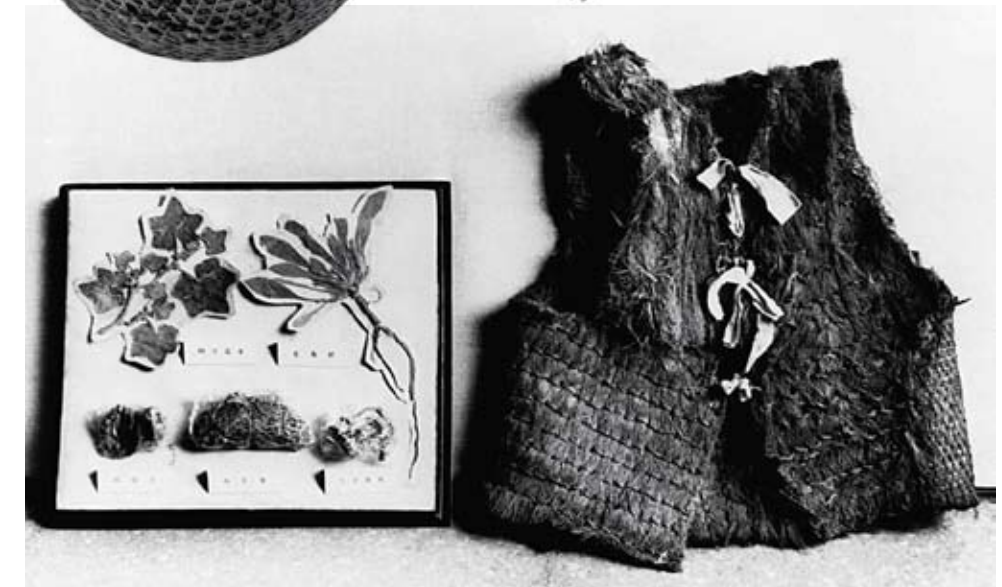
ment issued an order requiring all officers to unconditionally obey customs and rules of local ethnic minorities and clarify those customs and rules to all soldiers, rigidly oppose prejudices of Han supremacy concepts and mobilize all soldiers to publicize the goals of the Red Army to people from all ethnic minorities, especially ideas on ethnic autonomy and equality. The Red Army rigorously implemented the CPC’s policies on ethnic equality and religion, which enabled it to win trust and support from local Tibetan people including eight eminent monks at the Guihua Monastery in Zhongdian, Yunnan Province. The monastery donated 5,000 kilograms of grain to the Red Army.

In *Red Star Over China*, American journalist Edgar Snow wrote: “The highest-ranking commanders eat and dress the same as ordinary soldiers... The Communist Party has no high-paid or corrupt officials and generals, but in other Chinese military organizations, officials embezzle much of the funds intended for the military.” Despite the difficulties of the Long March, the ideals, courage, wisdom and action of the CPC inspired people along the route, and many of them joined the Red Army. For instance, in February 1935, more than 3,000 people joined in Zhaxi, Yunnan, and another 6,000 people from Sichuan Province’s Jiangyou and Zhongba joined the Red Army between April and May 1935. Preliminary statistics show that a total of 43,000 people living along the route of the Long March joined the Red Army from November 1934 to September 1936.

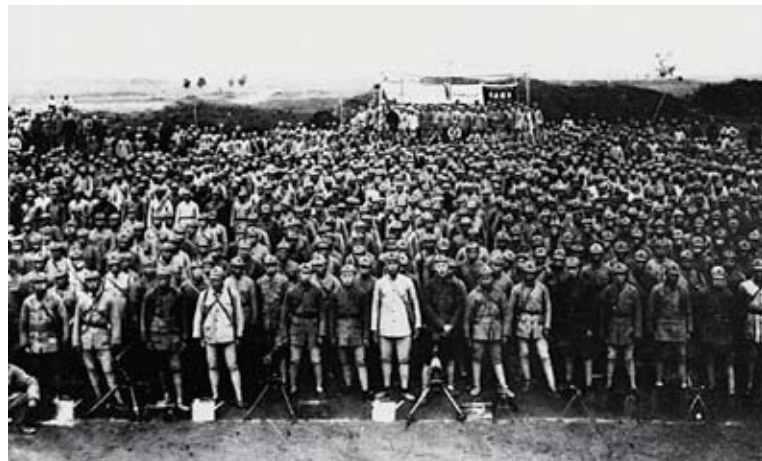
Chairman Mao Zedong once said, “The Long March is the first of its kind in the annals of history. It is a manifesto, a publicity force, and a seeding-machine. Who made the Long March a victory? The Communist Party. Without the Communist Party, a march of this kind would have been inconceivable.”



A bamboo hat and a pair of straw shoes worn by Red Army soldiers in the Long March, which are now housed in the Museum of the Zunyi Conference. The bamboo hat carries six Chinese characters that mean “Chinese Workers’ and Peasants’ Red Army.” CFB



Remains of wild vegetables eaten by the Red Army and a vest worn by a Red Army soldier during the Long March. CFB



October 1936: The main forces of the Red Army, namely the First, Second and Fourth Front Armies, converge in Huining, Gansu Province, ending the Long March that had lasted for two years. CFB



A colored paper archway built by the Red Army in northern Shaanxi to greet troops arriving from the Long March. CFB




Remains of a plank road passed by the Red Army during the Long March. CFB



Iron chains of the Luding Bridge over the torrential Dadu River. On May 25, 1935, the Red Army took the Luding Bridge after its first battle along the Long March, crushing Chiang Kai-shek’s attempt to eliminate the Red Army south of the river. CFB

The CPC overcame setbacks by conquering many with few and defeating the strong with the weak. The key to the victory of the Long March is that the CPC followed the call of the times, upheld its ideals, responded to the hopes of the people, and maintained the spirit of selflessness. This is the precious legacy that the Long March left to the CPC, which gradually facilitated the creation of huge wealth over the course of China’s revolution and subsequent economic development. Just as Chinese President Xi Jinping commented, “The Long March was a great expedition seeking ideals and faith, testing truth, and breaking new ground.”

On October 21, 2016, the CPC Central Committee held a gathering to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the victory of

the Long March. In his speech at the gathering, President Xi remarked, “The great spirit of the Long March is the precious spiritual wealth that cost the Party and the people a hefty price of painful struggle. Across each generation, we must keep in mind, learn, and promote the great spirit of the Long March, preserving its strong spiritual strength that continues to motivate the Party, the state, the people, the military, and the nation to stride toward a brighter future.” By upholding the spirit of the Long March, the Chinese people are confident about their own development and prepared to shoulder responsibilities of all mankind and its future. This is why the CPC cherishes the legacy of the Long March. 

The author is executive editor-in-chief of *China Pictorial*. Some historical points in this article are from the Theme Exhibition on the 80th Anniversary of the Victory of the Long March of the Chinese Workers’ and Peasants’ Red Army.



China's Green Rise

Concepted by China Pictorial

After China's economy begins its "new normal" phase, balancing economic growth and industrial transformation as well as development and environmental protection has become a key issue for the country.

From various perspectives, this issue examines practices in some industries or regions during the country's transformation and analyzes ways China can innovate to realize green development.

Green Finance: China's Mark at the G20 Summit

Text by Zi Mo

At the G20 Hangzhou Summit in September, green finance took a lot of the spotlight. For the first time, green finance was included on the G20 summit agenda after it was proposed by China. Additionally, the *G20 Green Finance Synthesis Report*, which was accepted and endorsed by the G20 leaders at the summit, attracted massive attention and became an important Chinese contribution to G20 history.

Pressing Need

According to the *G20 Green Finance Synthesis Report*, green finance can be understood as financing of investments that provide environmental benefits in the broader context of environmentally-sustainable development. It aims to direct financial resources to the development of resource-efficient technology and protection of the ecological environment. It is a strategic approach to motivate enterprises to place greater attention on environmental protection and consumers to gradually form environmentally-friendly consumption habits. Feng Qiaobin, professor of the Department of Economics at the Chinese Academy of Governance, believes that the core of green finance is “to channel social funds to green fields for the purpose of environmental protection and sustainable development, through introduction of financial leverage.”

With the development of the world economy, environmental pollution, resource exhaustion, and ecological imbalance have become life-and-death issues globally. Against this backdrop, the concept of green finance was introduced in the early 1990s. In 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, two major documents on global environmental issues, *Agenda 21* and the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, were signed. With environmental protection and emission reduction as key focal points of the conference, the concept of green finance was introduced and promoted.

In June 2003, the Equator Principles were proposed. Since then, this set of voluntary standards adopted by financial institutions to determine, assess and manage social and environmental

risk in project-related transactions has promoted international usage of the green finance mechanism.

On January 25, 2016, less than three months after China took over the G20 presidency, the country jointly organized a G20 Green Finance Study Group (GFSG) with Britain. Co-chaired by the People's Bank of China and the Bank of England, central banks of both countries, GFSG soon held its first meeting in Beijing. More than 80 participants from all G20 members, as well as a number of invited countries and six international organizations, actively participated in the GFSG. The acting secretariat of the study group is the United Nations Environment Programme.

Over the following months, GFSG conducted research on the banking industry, bond market, institutional investment environment, risk analysis and the indicator system. The group later produced the *G20 Green Finance Synthesis Report* and submitted it to the G20 Hangzhou Summit in early September.

The report provides a number of voluntary options for G20 members and other governments, including providing policy signals which support green investments, promoting voluntary principles for green finance, expanding learning networks for capacity building, supporting the development of local green bond markets, promoting international collaboration to facilitate cross-border investment in green bonds, encouraging and facilitating knowledge sharing on environmental and financial risk, and improving the measurement of green finance activities and their impacts.

Wang Yao, director of the Research Center for Climate and Energy Finance at the Central University of Finance and Economics, says that G20 could speed up the greening process of financial institutions worldwide. Through efforts at the global level, more financial instruments will be created, and an increasing number of products and services related to credit, securities, and insurance will emerge. These new instruments, products and services will help more social funds be allocated to environmentally-friendly industries such as environmental protection, energy conservation, clean energy and green building, thus furthering development of green finance.



Participants pose for a group photo after the two-day G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting concluded in Washington DC on April 15, 2016. The meeting covered a broad range of topics, including the global economic situation, international financial architecture, financial reform, and green finance. IC

Chinese Green Finance

Green finance, as a new financing concept, is becoming a major impetus to realize green growth and sustainable growth worldwide.

Although China's foray into green finance is relatively late compared to developed countries, it has become a strong international performer.

After more than three decades of high-speed development that has caused an unbalanced situation in terms of economic development and environmental protection, China chose to adopt the green development concept. In 2007, China's Environmental Protection Administration (now Ministry of Environmental Protection), People's Bank of China, and China Banking Regulatory Commission jointly issued a document outlining strategies to use environmental protection policies and regulations to prevent credit risk, a move that signaled the dawn of green finance in China to many. In 2008, China's Ministry of Environmental Protection and

financial regulatory authorities released successive, new policies to promote green insurance, green bonds, and green credit, marking the formal launch of green finance policy. In 2011, an evaluation and research project on green credit was launched, and a data center for China's green credit was organized. These efforts aimed to provide authoritative information support for commercial banks' green credit, as well as management and risk assessment. In March 2016, China proposed the establishment of a modern financial system and included development of green finance in its 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020). On August 31, 2016, China's seven ministerial-level administrations jointly released a document on constructing the green financial system. The document was a notable consensus between China's top decision makers and various administrations that is sure to bring great support to the movement, promote China's green investment and financing, and accelerate the green transformation.

Thanks to the top-level design of the government and joint efforts from the public and private sectors alike, green finance has witnessed a rapid development in China in recent years. China is now one of the only three countries in the world to introduce a green credit indicator system and the first in the world to issue definition standards for domestic green bonds. The concept of green finance has been embraced by an increasing number of Chinese financial institutions, especially banks. In the first seven months of 2016, a total of 120 billion yuan of green bonds were issued by China, accounting for 40 percent of green bonds issued globally during that period. China has become the largest green bond market in the world.

In terms of carbon trade, China piloted a carbon emission trade project in seven provinces and municipalities in 2011. More than 1,900 enterprises and institutions that discharge pollution were listed on the carbon trade platform, and a total of approximately 1.2 billion tons of carbon emission quota were allocated. At present, certified emission trading managed by China's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) takes up 80 percent of the world's total. By 2017, China will launch a unified carbon market nationwide, which will surpass the EU emissions trading system and become the world's largest.

China has also been working with other countries and international organizations to promote the development of green finance. In June 2016, China and the EU agreed on a 10-million-euro project aiming to strengthen cooperation in carbon trading. In July, the New Development Bank launched by BRICS nations issued green bonds in China. It was the first time a multilateral development bank was approved to issue yuan-denominated green bonds in China.



Visitors at Hangzhou Jiangyangfan Ecological Park. The park was built where West Lake slush was dumped. Both government agencies and private enterprises were involved in design and construction, and the park has become a pristine example of eco-friendly cooperation between public and private sectors. CFP



The Furong Lake project in Xuchang, Henan Province, completed trial water storage on September 6, 2015. With total investment of 350 million yuan, the project aims to build an environmentally-friendly water park and an eco-city by optimizing limited water resources. by Niu Yuan/IC

Ma Jun, director of the Green Finance Committee of the China Society for Finance and Banking, believes that existing problems, such as mismatches between green projects and the duration of funding sources, information asymmetry, and a lacking of green analytical abilities in investors, will ultimately be resolved. Ma says that greater access to medium- and long-term green financing

will happen through the development of the green bond market, third party certification, and a green rating system.

China has reached a strategic peak of green finance development, and will no doubt accelerate global green finance governance through efforts to boost international cooperation in green finance utilizing available mechanisms such as G20. CFP



"China's Solar Valley," a solar research base in Dezhou, Shandong Province, covers 200 hectares, the largest of its kind in the world. CFP



A solar project in Wuhu City, Anhui Province. CFP

Paris Agreement

And a Greener World

Text by Zi Mei

On September 3, 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping, U.S. President Barack Obama and Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon attend the deposit of instruments of joining the *Paris Agreement* in Hangzhou. Xi pledged that China, a responsible developing country and an active player in global climate governance, will implement development concepts of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared growth, advance energy conservation, emission reduction and low-carbon development, and embrace the new era of an ecological civilization.

According to the *Paris Agreement*, China pledged to peak carbon emissions by 2030 and lift the proportion of non-fossil energy in primary energy consumption to 20 percent by the same date.

National Emissions Trading Market

In 2012, an authoritative organization estimated that nine stations managed by Hangzhou Public Bicycle Company reduced carbon emissions by 615.55 tons. The company sold its emissions savings for 21,000 yuan on the Beijing Environmental Exchange. Hangzhou Public Bicycle Company became the first of its kind in China to participate in emissions trading ("cap and trade"). After the deal, the company's trading partner, a company selling health-care products, could affix on its products a carbon reduction label so they could be sold in overseas markets.

In emissions trading, an entity needing to emit a large amount of carbon can purchase the right to emit more and an entity that

does not produce emissions can trade or sell its right to emit carbon to other entities. The trade makes the right to emit carbon a commodity and reduces emissions overall. At present, China has set up seven pilot carbon trading markets in cities including Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai.

Recently, China announced the establishment of a national carbon trading market in 2017. According to the National Development and Reform Commission of China, the market will cover 2 to 3 billion tons of carbon emissions and surpass the European Union as the biggest greenhouse gas trading market in the world.

Authorities have not yet designated a specific date for the 2017 scheme. "It is really difficult to set up a huge national carbon trading

market," explains Tang Sisi, a carbon market analyst with ICIS China.

According to Tang, the establishment of a national platform requires complicated preparations including extensive data collection, intricate plans, a registration system and a market regulation mechanism.

"It is better to get all your ducks in a row than to rush anything that isn't ready," Tang adds. "Solid preparation and sound design can guarantee the smooth operation of the market and benefit its development and China's environment."

In recent years, global emissions trading, led by the European Union, has experienced a downturn. Therefore, many are not optimistic about China's late entry into the game. But insiders believe that the establishment of a national carbon market evidences

Beijing's concern and determination to address climate change via market mechanisms.

"A carbon market is a sophisticated system sated with uncertainty from perspectives of legislation and capacity building," comments Hu Min, director of Low Carbon Program with Energy Foundation China. "Political will from high levels of the government is critical to overcome roadblocks and guarantee market health."

Energy Restructuring

Twenty-eight-year-old Ehmet Erep was a herder in Halajun County of Artux City of southern Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region who now works in a sheep breeding center where solar panels produce 2.23 million kilowatt-hours of energy per year. Rich in

sunshine, southern Xinjiang has taken advantage of the resource to develop solar energy that increases local incomes.

Photovoltaic modules transform sunlight into electricity. Since 2013, China's photovoltaic installed capacity increased by 10 million kilowatts for three years in row. By the end of 2015, the country's solar capacity had reached 43 million kilowatts, surpassing Germany to become the largest solar energy producer in the world.

The development of solar power is just one piece of China's energy restructuring. According to the Chinese government, the country will continue to use fossil fuel cleanly and develop non-fossil energy including wind power, solar power, geothermal energy and nuclear power. By 2020, new energy will account for 15 percent of total energy consumption, natural gas will take up 10 percent and coal


consumption will drop below 62 percent. By 2050, new energy and renewable energy is expected to reach 45 percent of total demand.

"As for energy restructuring, China is greatly developing renewable energy," remarks Xie Zhenhua, China's chief climate negotiator. "In the past decade, non-fossil and renewable energy sources have grown fast: Hydropower has increased 2.57 times, wind power 90 times and photovoltaic power 400 times, with installed capacity that accounts for 24 percent of the world total."

Because China has abundant coal reserves but comparatively few oil and gas, coal remains the country's primary fuel. In 2015, coal accounted for 64.4 percent of energy consumed in China, followed by oil at 17.6 percent, hydroelectricity at 8.5 percent, natural gas at 6 percent, wind power at 1.6 percent, nuclear power at 1.4

percent and solar power at 0.5 percent.

Additionally, China is still undergoing urbanization and has extensive infrastructure to build. And if China grows to become a middle- or high-income country, its demand for energy will climb. If clean energy resources fail to grow fast enough, coal will continue to be the pillar fuel for a long time. "For instance, during the 13th Five-Year Plan period, if China's GDP maintains a 6.5-percent growth, we will see a two-percent increase in demand for energy and a five-percent bump in electricity demand," explains Lin Boqiang, director of the Energy and Economy Center of Xiamen University.

Despite the impressive growth in renewable energy, China's energy restructuring still has a long way to go. 



Dragonfly-shaped robots displayed at the renewable energy expo. Many solar-powered devices could be found at the expo. CFP



A wind farm in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. CFP



September 2, 2016: Technicians from State Grid check solar panels in Zigui County, Yichang City, Hubei Province. CFP



August 27, 2016: A technician takes samples of molten iron from a furnace to check quality at Wuhan Iron & Steel Group in Wuhan City, capital of Hubei Province. Wuhan Iron & Steel Group and Baosteel, China's two largest steel makers, merged to become the world's second largest steel producer. CFP

Green Steel

Text by Hu Zhoumeng

In March 2016, Mark Zuckerberg, founder of social networking website Facebook, posted a photo of himself jogging through Tian'anmen Square in heavy smog. The photo went viral in China and generated heated discussions on Chinese social media. Most urban Chinese residents aren't as relaxed about the pollution situation as Zuckerberg. Stocking heavy-duty masks at home and checking air quality have become routine tasks.

Dense smoke discharged by steel plants is a major component of smog. In recent years, the iron and steel industries have become key targets for China's environmental management. Environmental protection laws and regulations have become increasingly stringent over the years and are already exerting significant pressure on iron and steel enterprises. And China's steel industry faces intimidating challenges from other factors. Against the backdrop of global economic slowdown and comparatively stable domestic demand from the real estate industry and urban construction projects, demand for crude steel has dropped sharply, leaving China's iron and steel industries in deep trouble. For many affected enterprises, green business operation has become their last hope.

Tough Task

For a long time, iron and steel enterprises have been heavy polluters in China. At present, pollutants such as acid rain, smoke, and dust caused by the industry account for 7 to 14 percent of China's total industrial emissions. And China's iron and steel industrial emissions load is much larger than that of developed countries. For example, smoke and dust emissions per ton of steel production are only 0.25 kilograms at advanced international levels, while the figure is quadrupled for the average level of medium- and large-size iron and steel enterprises in China.

Installation of environmental protection facilities is crucial for clean iron and steel production. However, usage of such processes increases total production cost. For example, equipment featuring sintering desulphurization technology can effectively reduce acid rain pollution. But this technology bumps up the price of each ton of iron ore by eight yuan. Compared with large enterprises, it is understandably more difficult for small- and medium-size enterprises to cover environmental protection costs. Thus, their environmental protection

efforts and efficiency differ greatly. The average operational spending of environmental protection equipment for Chinese iron and steel enterprises hovers at 55 yuan for per ton of steel production. For leading enterprises such as Baosteel Group Corporation, the figure has reached more than 100 yuan for per ton of steel production, while some small plants only spend 10 to 20 yuan for the same amount. Some smaller companies even turn off environmental protection facilities to save money.

China's revised *Environmental Protection Law*, which was dubbed the "strictest in history," took effect in early 2015. It toughens supervision and levies harsher penalties on environmental offenses. Enterprises that fail to meet emissions standards will be required to cut production or be shut down. Thanks to the mounting pressure, Chinese steel enterprises have increased investment in environmental protection equipment. By the end of 2015, non-compliant enterprises, with combined production capacity of 100 million tons, had been required to withdraw from the market.

In September 2016, China ratified the *Paris Agreement* on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Hangzhou. Earlier, when Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris in late 2015, he reiterated China's climate change commitments, including its pledge to cut its carbon emissions per unit of GDP by 60-65 percent from the 2005 level by 2030, and peak its carbon emissions by the same date. To fulfill these goals, Chinese steel enterprises will have to endure even stricter environmental constraints.

Pioneering Industrial Leaders

In late 1978, the piling work of Baosteel Group Corporation started on the banks of the Yangtze River in northern Shanghai. Across three decades of development, Baosteel has grown into one of the most competitive and modern iron and steel companies in China and the world. It has made the Fortune Global 500 list for consecutive years and employs more than 120,000 people around the world.

To achieve clean production, Baosteel reformed its production environment. Since 2013, Baosteel has invested 5.8 billion yuan in a closed upgrade of its raw material storage yard. It reduced space for material storage and built greenbelts between the production areas and living quarters, which not only reduced energy consumption, but also abated pollution in the surrounding environment. The enterprise has also developed abundant new green products such as high-strength low-alloy (HSLA) steel. Although it is more difficult to produce, HSLA steel can enhance fuel efficiency when it is used in motor vehicles, thus reducing air pollution. Since 2003, Baosteel has sold more than 14 million tons of



January 10, 2016: Comparatively cleaner smoke rises from a smokestack of a steel enterprise in Shenyang City, Liaoning Province. The enterprise's furnaces were upgraded from coal-fired to gas-fired. Since China's revised environmental protection law took effect in early 2015, Chinese steel enterprises have increased investment in environmental protection equipment. CFP




Steel production at the Baosteel Group Corporation in Shanghai. The year 2015 was difficult for China's steel industry. With crude steel production capacity at 1.2 billion tons, utilization rate dropped to less than 67 percent. For the first time, the country's steel industry endured an industry-wide deficit. CFP

HSLA steel for cars, reducing carbon emission volume by as much as a hundred 45,000-hectare national forest parks would, together.

Baosteel's road to environmentally-friendly production has certainly witnessed ups and downs. In late 2014, one of its subsidiaries failed its environmental monitoring and was fined 45,000 yuan by the Shanghai Environmental Protection Bureau. After China's revised environmental protection law took effect in 2015, law enforcement was strengthened and high-polluting steel enterprises faced more severe punishments. Against this backdrop, in 2015 Baosteel allocated more than 1.3 billion yuan as environmental protection funds, doubling the figure of 2014. Last year was tough for China's steel industry. This year, with a crude steel production capacity of 1.2 billion tons, utilization rate dropped to less than 67 percent. For the first time, the country's iron and steel witnessed an industry-wide deficit. Profits took a nosedive across the industry, and Baosteel was no exception. However, Baosteel Deputy General Manager Zhi Xiwei noted that a steel enterprise's capacity to save energy and perform environmentally-friendly production would be decisive for its future survival conditions and competitive power. Baosteel's investment in environmental protection in 2016 will be comparable to that in 2015.

Commitment to environmental protection has made Baosteel more popular in its hometown. Baoshan District in Shanghai is the major production base of the enterprise, and local residents have been greatly impressed by Baosteel's environmentally-friendly measures. To support Shanghai's efforts to replace and upgrade coal-fired furnaces in recent years, Baosteel generated power by recycling waste gas heat from steelmaking, and supplied electricity to its neighboring communities, reducing air pollution caused by burning coal. Baosteel's energy conversion work has helped ease Shanghai's environmental burdens, transforming the city's discarded paint and paint buckets into raw materials to make steel. Now, its annual processing capacity has reached 8,000 tons. Reducing urban waste is another target of Baosteel. Nowadays, e-commerce provides incredible convenience for consumers, but also produces heavy volumes of packaging waste. Considering the space taken by landfills and the cost of incineration, Baosteel hopes to transform such garbage into fuel to make steel.

Baosteel General Manager Chen Derong once opined that his enterprise's green transformation mission would be long and difficult. Compared with Baosteel, other Chinese steel enterprises face even greater challenges due to lack of funds, management, and personnel reserves. However, green upgrades are the only option for China's steel industry, which faces not only commercial challenges, but worries that affect all of humanity. 

Zhejiang's Economic Restructuring

Text by Cai Rupeng

Zhejiang Province is considered not only a cradle of the market economy in China, but also a major flagship for the country's economic restructuring.

One of China's traditional manufacturing powerhouses, Zhejiang's products are sold across the world due to their affordability. After the 2008 worldwide financial crisis, however, the export-oriented local economy faced unprecedented pressure. In the first quarter of 2009, Zhejiang's GDP grew by only 3.4 percent, ending the province's 19-year streak of double-digit growth.

In 2015, its GDP growth rebounded to 8 percent, ranking among the top tier of China's provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions.

According to Zhu Weijiang, vice director of the Policy Research Office of the Provincial CPC Committee of Zhejiang, the key reason the province managed to reverse the downward trend of GDP growth within a few years is that Zhejiang took the lead in economic restructuring and formulated a series of combined policies to enable the local economy to grow at a rational speed.

Return of Zhejiang Businessmen

Foreign demands dropped sharply while domestic consumptions slowed down after the 2008 financial crisis. In this context, as an export-centered local economy, Zhejiang began to rethink investment's role in driving economic growth.



February 24, 2016: A bird's-eye view of Dream Town, a startup incubator converted from 12 barns in Hangzhou. by Huang Zongzhi/Xinhua



August 8, 2016: A bird's-eye view of the newly-completed No. 2 Sewage Treatment Plant in Wuyi County, Zhejiang Province. CFP

Foreign investors, state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and private businesses are widely considered the three main sources of investments. However, Zhejiang didn't perform well in terms of introducing investments from foreign investors and centrally-administrated SOEs. So, it started looking towards the millions of Zhejiang businessmen scattered across the planet.

More than six millions of investors with origins in Zhejiang operate businesses outside of the province, including two million abroad. Preliminary statistics show that those businessmen invested a total of 4.5 trillion yuan, creating economic output of 6 trillion yuan combined.

In early 2012, Zhejiang promulgated *Opinions on Supporting Entrepreneurship and Innovation of Zhejiang Businessmen to Ac-*

celerate Zhejiang's Development, according to which governments at various levels in the province are required to introduce investments totaling 1 trillion yuan through the "Return of Zhejiang Businessmen" program within five years.

To accomplish the goal, the provincial government of Zhejiang formed a lead group to oversee the efforts of 11 cities, 20 relevant provincial departments and 29 chambers of commerce in implementing the program. The group will be tasked with rewarding or punishing leaders of those departments and institutions based on performance.

By 2015, the program had enabled Zhejiang to attract inbound funds of 835.2 billion yuan, injecting major momentum into the province's economic restructuring.

Tapping Potential

Employees of Zhejiang CFMOTO Power Co., Ltd. were excited to see an honor motorcade comprised of 45 motorcycles they produced speed past Tian'anmen Square in Beijing during the V-Day military parade on September 3, 2015.

Only four months after the company accepted the assignment, they delivered the first prototype. Behind such high efficiency is the company's transformation from "traditional" to "intelligent" manufacturing. By adopting intelligent manufacturing technology, the company's per capita productivity increased by 30 percent, and its inventory turnover grew by 50 percent.

The success of CFMOTO can be largely attributed to a program carried out by Zhejiang since 2013, aiming to modernize outdated industries, replace human labor with machines, promote land usage efficiency and e-commerce development, and cultivate famous enterprises, products and experts.

According to Xu Jianfeng, director of the Institute for Regional Economy under Zhejiang Academy of Social Sciences, the province's rapid economic development after the implementation of the reform and opening-up policy in the late 1970s mainly relied on traditional industries, low-cost labor, and consumption of environmental resources. The local economy has entered a period of advanced industrialization since 2008. Because of surging prices of land and labor coupled with growing pressure on environment, the previous extensive development mode was already unworkable. Zhejiang's 2013 program is intended to boost the steady, sound development of the local economy through enhancing resource usage efficiency, without increasing investment in resources.

Thanks to the program, Zhejiang's economic structure has been further optimized over the past three years. In the first half of 2015, the ratio of the province's service incremental value in its GDP surpassed 50 percent for the first time. Meanwhile, its industrial upgrade merged into the fast lane, with profit growth rates of industrial enterprises above designated size (namely, those with annual revenue from primary businesses over 20 million yuan each) and growth rates of overall labor productivity both exceeding that of local GDP. A group of large enterprises played the lead role in local economic development, and the profits of 38 provincial-level pilot enterprises increased by 25.2 percent.

August 28, 2016: A bird's-eye view of Lusan and Tantou wetland parks by the Wuyi River in Zhejiang Province. by Zhang Jiancheng/IC





October 14, 2016: A motorcycle for the national honor motorcade on display in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province. CFP



August 9, 2014: A swimming event themed "Sharing the Benefits of the Five Water Management Actions" is held on the Qiantang River in Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang Province. by Wu Jincheng/Xinhua



February 24, 2016: Startup founders communicate with each other at a seminar in Dream Town, Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province. by Huang Zongzhi/Xinhua



November 24, 2015: Longquan Celadon Porcelain Museum in Longquan City, Zhejiang Province. by Huang Zongzhi/Xinhua

Water Management

Pujiang County in Zhejiang Province has been hailed as the "capital of crystal glass of China," but the industry has also caused severe water pollution. In 2013, the county became determined to improve the situation by reducing the number of crystal manufacturers from 22,000 to 1,200. The move substantially upgraded the water quality of the Puyang River, making it meet requirements for water function zones. Moreover, the county's crystal glass industry saw an increase in output through tailored incentive measures despite the decrease in quantity of manufacturers.


Pujiang is one example of Zhejiang's efforts to promote industrial upgrade via water pollution control.

In early 2014, the province launched a campaign known as "Five Water Management Actions" (sewage treatment, flood control, urban drainage, guarantee of water supply, and promotion of water conservation). Thanks to the campaign, not only has its industrial structure improved, but water utilization has been enhanced and industrial pollution of water resources has been reduced remarkably. In the past two years, the province's total volume of industrial wastewater discharge dropped by 14.8 percent.

Specialized Small Towns

The "Specialized Small Towns" program is another important measure that Zhejiang took to accelerate its economic restructuring and upgrade in the past couple of years. The province plans to construct some 100 Specialized Small Towns. Unlike any administrative towns or industrial and scenic zones, Specialized Small Towns are independent urban platforms that combine unique industrial orientation, cultural connotation, tourism resources, and community functions, each covering about three square kilometers—equal to half the area of West Lake in Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang Province.

By 2015, the first group of 37 Specialized Small Towns had completed fixed-asset investments totaling 48 billion yuan, attracting more than 3,300 enterprises and 13,000 professionals, as well as many high-value-added investments, projects, and taxes.

Those Specialized Small Towns involve not only the seven key industries that support Zhejiang's future development including information economy, environmental protection, health, tourism, fashion, finance, and high-end equipment, but also traditional industries such as tea, silk, rice wine, herbal medicine, celadon porcelain, wood carving, root carving, stone carving, and classical stationery. 

Guizhou: Big Green Data

Text by Li Xuan

People often describe Guizhou Province in southwestern China as a place with “80 percent mountains, 10 percent water and 10 percent flat land,” which vividly illustrates the province’s geographic tendency towards steep mountains. Green hills and clear rivers, as well as karst landforms, give Guizhou breathtaking scenery, but they also compose a fragile eco-system. The province ranks low both in total GDP volume and per capita GDP in China, and tops the nation in impoverished population. For a long time, Guizhou struggled to balance economic development and environmental protection. In late 2013, Guizhou turned its eyes to big data. In February 2016, a national big data comprehensive pilot zone was established in Guizhou, slingshotting the province from lagging behind to a big data leader.

Embracing Big Data

Guizhou’s relationship with the big data started with a crush. In July 2013, Zhongguancun Science Park in Guiyang, capital of the province, was established, and it attracted a handful of hi-tech enterprises from Beijing. While working with these enterprises, local officials frequently heard the phrase “big data.”

At the time, many Western countries were already beginning strategic layouts for big data industries. In March 2012, the U.S. government announced a research and development plan on big data with a total investment of US\$200 million, elevating the big data development to the national strategic level. In early 2013, Britain announced the allocation of 800 million pounds to develop eight advanced technologies, with 189 million going

to projects related to big data. In June 2013, Japan released its new IT national strategy for 2013 to 2020, with the development of open public data and big data as the core.

Seeing this opportunity, Guizhou quickly decided to invest heavily in the implementation of big data strategy in hopes of getting a head start. “Guizhou’s implementation of big data strategy not only made big data their strategic choice for industrial innovation, but also made it a strategic engine for the province’s overall development during the 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-2020),” remarks Chen Min’er, secretary of Guizhou Provincial CPC Committee. “We will use big data to promote social and economic development, better serve the public, and enhance the government’s administrative capacity.” While Guizhou dove head first into the ambitious project, most Chinese cities and provinces stayed with the wait-and-see approach. By the end of 2013, only a few Chinese cities, such as Beijing, Chongqing, and Nanjing, had proposed projects to develop the big data industry.

Design to Implementation

Guizhou soon produced a blueprint for the development of big data business. By seeking answers to the three major questions —“Where does the data come from?” “Where should the data be stored?” and “Who will use the data?”— Guizhou plans to gradually set up the Big Data Content Center, Big Data Service Center, and Big Data Financial Center. They are expected to enhance the government’s administrative ability, promote industrial transformation and upgrade, and improve people’s lives through application of big data.

In terms of top-level design, “Guizhou on the Digital Cloud” is the first major project to cover the entire province. At first, the province planned to construct seven “clouds” for e-government, intelligent transportation, smart logistics, smart tourism, manufacturing, e-commerce, and food safety, which meant that the related provincial-level administrations in Guizhou would be first to share data on the “Guizhou on the Digital Cloud” platform. However, for the past two years, many more local government agencies began to participate in the project.

“Guizhou on the Digital Cloud” is the first cloud platform in China to accomplish integrated data management and sharing among provincial government departments, enterprises, and public institutions. Significantly, it empowers various governmental agencies to break bureaucratic barriers and exchange data.

Data exchange among governmental sectors will provide massive space for more efficient government management. For example, precise tracking of poverty-alleviation funds was an impossible task in the past. Although the fiscal department possessed detailed financial data, it couldn’t tell which funds had been used for poverty alleviation because it didn’t have access to the necessary contextual information held by the poverty-reduction department. If the two departments can efficiently exchange their data, precise tracking will be possible. According to Guizhou Poverty Alleviation and Development Office, at present, efforts to connect it to Guizhou Provincial Department of Finance have been made, and data exchange between the two will soon happen.

“Playing a lead and trailblazing role, Guizhou’s big data development will produce great experience from which others can learn and promote the working concepts in other places in China,” says Sun Zhigang, head of the leading group for Guizhou’s big data development.



May 20, 2016: Journalists are invited to tour the big data center of China Mobile, one of China’s largest mobile telecommunications providers, in Guiyang, capital of Guizhou Province. CFP



May 23, 2016: Software engineers at a scientific and technical corporation in Guizhou Province. Guizhou launched its big data project in 2014, two years earlier than most other Chinese areas. by Tao Liang/Xinhua



December 14, 2015: An engineer debugs the system in an IDC (Internet Data Center) machine room of the cloud computing industrial park of China Telecom, Guizhou Province. by Tao Liang/Xinhua



December 15, 2015: Visitors at Guiyang Big Data Application Center. by Tao Liang/Xinhua



May 28, 2015: A girl takes pictures of robots at the 2015 Big Data Expo in Guiyang. CFP

October 11, 2016: People from ethnic minorities dance in Jianhe County, Qiandongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture, Guizhou Province. Environmentally-friendly tourism has greatly promoted Guizhou's development in recent years. CFP

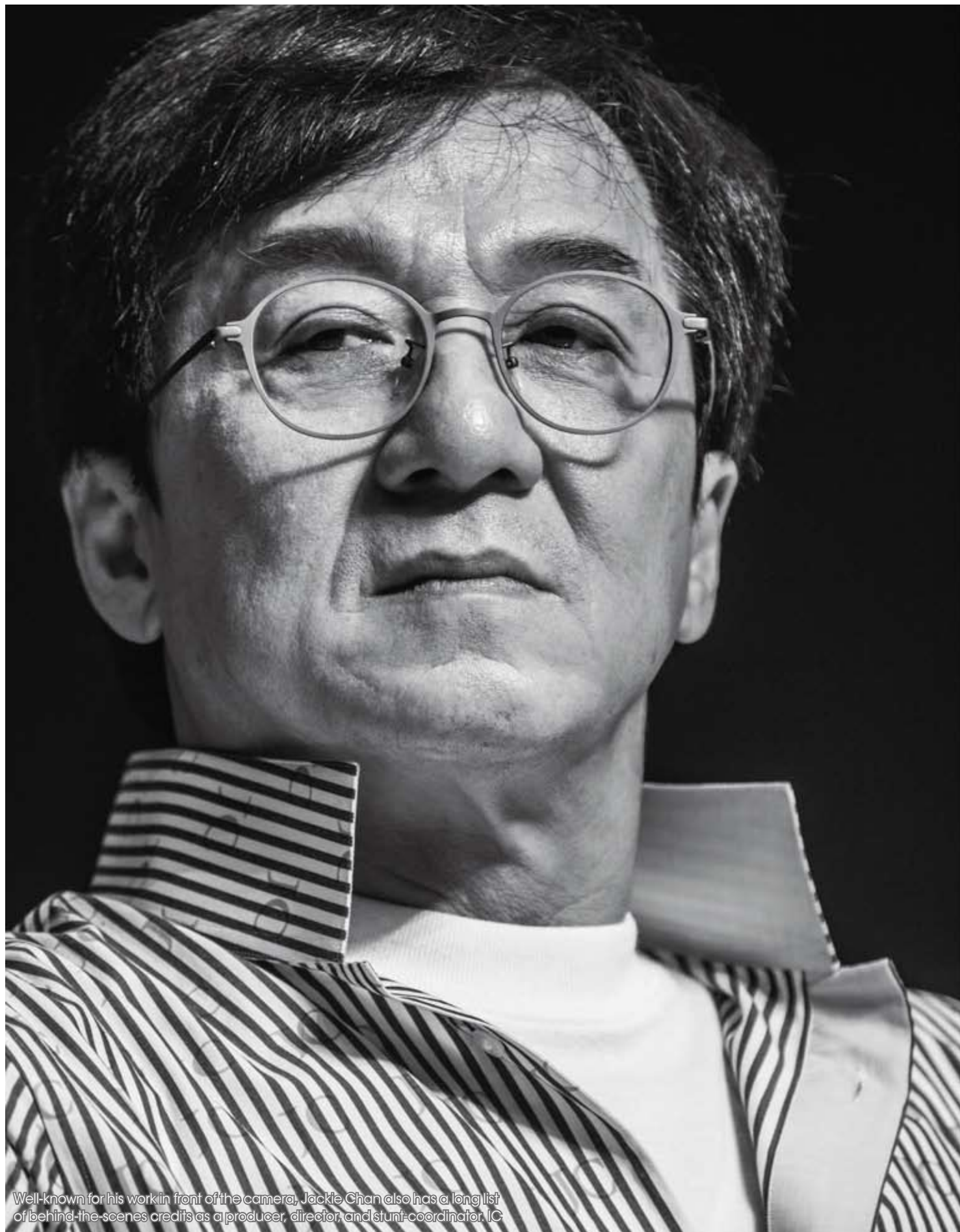


Green Environment Compatible with Big Data

Because of its unique eco-system, Guizhou is generally recognized as the most suitable place in southern China to house data centers.

The most distinctive feature of a data center is its high energy consumption, with electricity accounting for 50 to 70 percent of the total cost. About half of the power cost goes to air conditioning for machines and equipment at data centers that produce a lot of heat. Guizhou's climate is like spring year round. The data center in Gui'an New Area, between Guiyang and Anshun, doesn't even need an air conditioner thanks to the abundant natural cool winds. At the same time, Guizhou features rich electric resources, which makes it capable of providing dependable power at a favorable price. And because of the good air quality in Guizhou, air only needs to be slightly filtered to meet the requirements of computer rooms. Because of these advantages, China's three major mobile network operators, China Mobile, China Telecom, and China Unicom, have all placed their southern China data centers in Guizhou.

Over the past two years, Guizhou has already taken the lead in big data application in China. Since it has become the national big data pilot zone, Guizhou is sure to have more opportunities for experiments and pioneering projects in the near future. 47



Well-known for his work in front of the camera, Jackie Chan also has a long list of behind-the-scenes credits as a producer, director, and stunt coordinator. LC

Jackie Chan: Rumble in Hollywood

Text by Ru Yuan

Arguably the best-known working Chinese movie star, Jackie Chan will accept an honorary Oscar this November for his impressive career in film. The first Chinese person to receive the Academy's Governors Award, Chan spent decades acting in more than 30 Hong Kong martial arts films, as well as several he wrote, directed or produced, "stunning spectators with dazzling athleticism, innovative stunt work and boundless charisma," according to the Academy. In his 50-plus years in the film industry, Chan has been involved in more than 100 films. Bruce Lee might have opened the door to Hollywood for Chinese actors, but Jackie Chan finished the race he started, conquering Hollywood with his spectacularly unique style.

A New Style

Born in Hong Kong in 1954 as Chan Kong-sang, Chan studied at the China Drama Academy, a local Peking Opera school where he began learning martial arts and acrobatics at the age of six. The talented child soon became one of the school's standouts and began to appear in small roles.

Jackie Chan appeared briefly in Bruce Lee's most famous film, *Enter the Dragon*, as a prison thug, just before Lee's death in 1973. Chan was included with a handful of Hong Kong stars who were hyped as Lee's successors. However, his unimpressive five-foot-nine figure made him seem miniscule compared with most muscle-bound action film actors at that time. From the very beginning, Chan knew that he had to develop his own style in order to stand out.

Chan's major breakthrough was the incorporation of comic elements into action films. His work injected new life into the genre, and soon Chan found more room to explore his expertise in martial arts and acrobatics. The comedic elements successfully set Chan apart from other kung fu actors. "When Bruce Lee punched someone, he just kept doing like it didn't hurt," Chan once said in an interview. "But when I hit someone, I shake my hand and go, 'Ow!'"

Chan's comedic kung fu genre features acrobatic fighting style, comic timing, usage of improvised weapons, and breath-taking stunts. The storylines of his films also veered far from traditional martial arts movies. For example, in his 1978 film *Snake in the Eagle's Shadow*, instead of learning fighting from either of the title

animals, Chan is inspired by a cat.

Thanks to the release of *Drunken Master* in 1978, the new genre quickly became popular. In the film, a young kung fu student learns a style in which the fighter appears to be drunk. Grossing nearly 2.5 times that of *Snake in the Eagle's Shadow*, the film became an overnight sensation and box office smash in Asia as well as art houses in the United States. The film even enjoyed a restored American re-release.

Since then, comic kung fu has been Chan's signature. For about four decades, almost all Chan's action films, including *Project A* and *Armor of God* in the 1980s, *Rumble in Bronx* and *Mr. Nice Guy* in the 1990s, and *Rob-B-Hood* and *Rush Hour* trilogy in the 21st Century, have featured this style.



A still from Chan's 2016 film *Skiptrace*. CFP



Chan shooting *Dragon Blade*. The 2015 film was a commercial success, grossing US\$120 million on the Chinese mainland. CFP



A still from *Rush Hour 3*. The *Rush Hour* trilogy has earned Chan great popularity in the West. CFP



A still from *The Forbidden Kingdom*. The 2008 Chinese-American martial arts adventure fantasy film starred Jackie Chan and Jet Li, another internationally recognized Chinese action star. IC



August 20, 2015: Jackie Chan visits a nursing home at Dagze County, Tibet Autonomous Region, and poses for a picture with seniors living there. by Liu Dongjun/Xinhua

East Meets West

Now one of the internationally recognized Chinese actors, Chan broke into Hollywood in 1995, when *Rumble in Bronx* was released in the United States and grossed US\$10 million in its opening weekend. The film finished as the sixth best-earning film in North America that year, making Chan an A-list actor. Soon, he was cast in big-budget Hollywood productions such as the *Rush Hour* franchise and *Shanghai Noon*.

Analysts point out that Chan's unique style, international cast, light-hearted plots, and self-performed stunts explain his success in the West. Western audiences appreciate his death-defying stunts performed without special effects or stunt

doubles, such as a jump from a helicopter before it explodes, a 21-story slide down a skyscraper, roller skating behind cars, and a clock tower drop.

Because of Chan's commercial success in the West, he began to work more with Hollywood in the late 1990s. However, he eventually became frustrated with the industry over the limited range of roles and lack of control over the filmmaking process. "Sometimes, I felt the action style was too Americanized, and I didn't understand American humor," he once remarked in an interview with U.S. media. Also, Hollywood's safety regulations seem smothering. "I know they want to make sure that I'm safe when I do my stunts, but sometimes it would be a simple thing, but they make it into a huge ordeal," he explained.

Chan began to focus more on his homeland in the early 21st Century. Not satisfied to join Hollywood's crowded ranks as another face, Chan longed to entertain spectators on both sides of the Pacific. "Sometimes, I wish I could strike a balance," he remarked.

For many years, Chan has been accelerating convergence between the Hollywood and Chinese entertainment industries. His latest effort was a 2015 historical action drama—a swords-and-sandals, East-meets-West epic titled *Dragon Blade*. In the movie, Chan plays the commander of the Protection Squad of the Western Regions (a Chinese historical term referring to what is now China's Xinjiang and Central Asia) during the Han Dynasty (202 B.C.–220 A.D.), who furiously fights Roman warriors played by John Cusack and Adrien Brody.

Thinking Bigger

Chinese characters appeared in Hollywood movies as early as the 1930s, with the emergences of Fu Manchu and Charlie Chan. But at that time, most portrayals

were negative. Thanks to better communication and understanding, Western spectators now have more positive feelings of Chinese characters in movies in recent years. However, despite evolving roles, the Chinese films most embraced by Western viewers usually involve kung fu.

Chan hopes that foreign audiences will embrace a wider variety of Chinese movies, but he knows that such a mission is no easy task. "I am conducting experiments and changing styles in recent years," he revealed. "And I hope that eventually, when spectators think of me, they don't just think of action-comedy."

In recent years, Chan has donated most of his free time to philanthropy and public work. He established the Jackie Chan Charitable Foundation in 1988 and Dragon's Heart Foundation in 2004, respectively. While the Jackie Chan Charitable Foundation offers scholarship and help to young people from Hong Kong, Dragon's Heart Foundation places focus on the urgent needs of children and the elderly in remote areas of the Chinese mainland. Through these organizations, Chan has supported youth sports activities in Hong Kong, built 27 schools in impoverished areas in the Chinese mainland, and provided clothing, wheelchairs and other necessities for poverty-stricken seniors.

Chan is also a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, and has championed charitable work and cause. He campaigned for animal conservation and promoted disaster relief efforts to help victims of earthquakes and floods in the Chinese mainland as well as those hurt by the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami.

"I could retire and spend every day messing around," he said. "But I want to do good things with the years I have left: help people and spend my money on good things. That's the most important thing."

Ding Junhui: Prodigy to Master

Text by Ru Yuan

On September 26, 2016, 29-year-old Ding Junhui won the Snooker Shanghai Masters for the second time by beating Mark Selby 10-6. Previously winning the event in 2013, Ding became the first-ever player to take the Shanghai Masters twice.

The title was Ding's first in 30 months and 12th of his professional career. The victory also brought him even with Australian Neil Robertson in total tournament wins. Only five players in the history of the sport have won more.

Snooker Prodigy

At the 2005 China Open, a young Chinese boy surprised the snooker world by beating legendary seven-time world champion Stephen Hendry in the final. Because of the 18-year-old rookie Ding Junhui, an estimated 120 million Chinese people, as many as the combined population of the U.K. and France, watched the game on TV. The teenager continued to shake up the sport later that year by defeating Steve Davis to win the U.K. Championship and become the first player from outside the U.K. to win the tournament. In many ways, Ding was an overnight sensation for the Chinese public.

For a long time, media outlets from both China and beyond used "prodigy" to describe Ding. Born in Yixing, a small city in Jiangsu Province, in 1987, Ding's unusual snooker gift was discovered by his billiards-obsessed father when the boy was only eight. Some media outlets recounted a story of his father leaving a game with friends to use the restroom, and his son running the table before he returned.

Soon, no one in his hometown could even compete with Ding. Realizing that their child would benefit greatly from systematic billiards training, Ding's parents took the boy to Dongguan, Guangdong Province, where China's national snooker team trains. To pay for Ding's training in Guangdong, the family eventually sold their home in Yixing. "They didn't tell me they were selling the house at the time, so I didn't feel the pressure," Ding revealed. "But playing with the outstanding players in Guangdong helped me greatly. My skills progressed rapidly."

At 13, Ding won his first award by finishing third in an Asian Invitational Tournament. In 2002, he amazed the snooker world by winning both the Asian under-21 and senior titles and the World Under-21 Championship in Latvia. By the age of 15, Ding had been already unbeatable in China, winning various national and regional snooker youth championships and making waves on the Asian circuit.

Before Ding's major victories at the China Open and U.K. Championship in 2005, plenty of insiders had already noticed the emerging star.

Mature Pro

After his rapid improvement and outstanding performance, Ding turned professional in 2003. The same year, the 16-year-old set off for Wellingborough, U.K.

Understandably, Ding had a hard time at first. He slept in a small bedroom in a modest flat and practiced seven or eight hours a day thanks to a lack of friends and family. "I was scared," he recalled. "Nobody came to the U.K. with me. I was so far from home, and I didn't speak English." Ding endured long stretches of loneliness and benefited greatly from the more systematic training in the U.K., which led directly to his first major professional successes in 2005.

However, as his progress continued, Ding felt pressure piling up. "In China, people don't just 'want' me to win, they 'believe' I will," he continued. "But I am just human. The pressure becomes huge." Professional players have ups and downs, and they need the ability to climb up from low points. But for a long time, questions surrounding Ding's ability to control his temper and emotions remained. For a while, insiders even suggested that compared to his perfect mechanics, Ding's psychological shortcomings would relegate him below top tier.

Several situations contributed to this theory. In 2007, when Ding was defeated by Ronnie O'Sullivan in the Masters final, he was in tears before the match was over. From 2007 to 2010, he failed to get past the second round of the World Championship

in Sheffield. "I even broke my cue," Ding admitted, "and I complained about the table when I lost."

Luckily, Ding and his team began to place more attention on the problem in recent years. "I believe Ding's poor control of his temper is caused by a sense of insecurity," remarked Ren Haojiang, a snooker promoter and close friend of Ding. "Traveling around to play since a young age has damaged his sense of security. For a young kid, losses result in lost confidence. But as time goes on, Ding has become a more mature and tougher player."

In the modern sports world, individual players are seldom able to dominate for extended periods of time. However, iconic figures are always helpful in promoting marginalized sports to new audiences. After years of effort and hard work, not to mention mental maturity, Ding is well positioned to serve as such a role.

Rise of Chinese Players


Throughout his career, Ding has always been watched closely in his home country, where more people play pool than in the rest of the world combined. With Ding's rise on the international stage, many believe that China may see more "quality" participation in the snooker world.

China is certainly a huge market for the game. An estimated

50 million people in the country play, and snooker clubs have mushroomed in recent years. Shanghai alone had about 1,500 snooker clubs in 2015, soaring from 200 in 2008. With snooker's increasing popularity in the country, many major tournaments are now broadcast live in China, with an average audience of 79 million. Major competitions featuring Ding easily attract more than 100 million viewers.

According to the Chinese Billiards and Snooker Association (CBSA), many young talented players could soon join Ding on the world stage. CBSA believes that although Ding was a lone wolf when he caused the first wave of development more than a decade ago, the second wave is represented by millennials such as Xiao Guodong, Liang Wenbo and Cao Yupeng, and the third is led by teenagers such as Yuan Sijun and Zhou Yuelong.

With the huge number of highly skilled Chinese players emerging, even World Snooker Chairman Barry Hearn once remarked during an interview that soon half of the world's top 16 players could be Chinese.

While Ding's rise a decade ago successfully changed the image of snooker in China, which was once considered for dropouts and the unemployed, the country is now eyeing something bigger for the game. 



October 10, 2016: Ding plays in the first round of 2016 English Open held at Event City in Manchester. CFP

Transformation of the Greater Khingan Range Region

Text by Zhang Chunxia

Nestled in the northwestern part of Heilongjiang Province in northeastern China, the Greater Khingan Range is an important state-owned natural forest region that serves as a biological protective screen for northeastern and northern China. Since 1964, the Greater Khingan Range has provided much of the timber that supported the country's economic development, which led to a dramatic drop in its forest resources.

The Nanweng River in autumn. Nanweng River Wetland is China's highest-latitude forest wetland reserve in a cold temperature zone. Located far from human activity, the ecological system is well preserved. by Zhang Zhehui

To restore the environment, commercial logging was banned in the Greater Khingan Range on April 1, 2014, which resulted in 30,000 woodcutters losing their jobs. In a move aimed to enable the people inhabiting the area to continue making a living, administrators of the Greater Khingan Range are working to transform its economic structure while protecting the environment.

Source of Income under Tree

“The Greater Khingan Range covers 83,000 square kilometers, about 10,000 of which grows wild blueberry,” beams Tian Fuhe, head of Amuer Blueberry Plantation. “Its output accounts for 90 percent of the nation’s total and Amuer accounts for as much as 25.4 percent.”

The Greater Khingan Range features coniferous forests growing in acidic soil

and a wide difference in day and night temperatures, conditions agreeable for blueberries. “The sun rises at 3 a.m. and sets at 9 p.m. The fact that this resource is caused by the climate gives us a sort of monopoly. Our blueberry is uniquely delicious.”

Located in the northern part of the Greater Khingan Range, the Amuer Forestry Bureau is considered the “home of wild blueberries in China.” During harvest season, locals wake up at 3 a.m. and take motorcycles up the mountain to collect blueberries. Picking wild blueberries becomes more difficult and dangerous as available plants are harder to find, according to Tian Fuhe. Because of this, the Amuer Forestry Bureau founded the Amuer Blueberry Plantation seven years ago to breed blueberry seedlings and train technicians. Today, the plantation covers 10.1

hectares and grows 1.2 million seedlings. All the blueberry fields under the administration of the bureau now cover 40 hectares. Along with plantations, the bureau also succeeded in attracting investment to build the Arctic Ice Blueberry Chateau and a Blueberry Town, which attract many tourists each year.

Actually, Amuer is not the only place in the area developing the blueberry industry, which has widely become a primary source of income in the Greater Khingan Range. Over 160 blueberry products have been developed, ranging from blueberry juice, wine and dried fruit to healthcare products. Lingonberry Boreal Biotech Co., Ltd. has invented more than 30 products from extracts of blueberries and flora in the frigid zone. In March 2015, the company went public.



Amuer Blueberry Plantation covers an area of 10.1 hectares and grows 1.2 million seedlings. by Zhang Chunxia



Qianshao Forestry Bureau has set up a breeding center that has raised more than 70 deer and 110 forest hogs. by Zhang Chunxia



Beihong Village, one of the northernmost villages in China. by Lou Yu



Erlang Mountain is famous for winter scenery and Taoist culture. by Chen Decheng

Today, the Greater Khingan Range’s reserve for wild blueberries has expanded to 7,450 hectares and its area of cultivated blueberries has reached 130 hectares. The production value of the blueberry industry measured 480 million yuan last year, making it the main source of income for locals. Meanwhile, others plant mushrooms such as black fungus and Hemlock varnish shelf in places that have been logged, which has also increased incomes.

Sustainable Tourism

Known as “China’s north pole,” the Greater Khingan Range is the northernmost tip of China, where Russia can be reached by crossing a river. On the northern slope of the Greater Khingan Range, Beiji (literally, “North Pole”) Village is the country’s northernmost village and has the best spots to see the northern lights. Many visit the village seeking China’s northernmost amenities and structures and its snowy and icy scenery in winter.

At the entrance of the village is a family hotel owned by a local couple who used to be farmers. In 2007, they renovated their house into a family hotel. In order to accommodate more tourists, they later expanded the house so they could offer six rooms instead of four. The business earns tens of thousands yuan a year and has become the main source of income for the family.

“Villagers used to subsist on farming and forestry,” explains Li Xueming, head of Beiji Township. “Their average income was less than 10,000 yuan a year. Thanks to the development of tourism, over 140 of the 680 households in the village operate family hotels and the per capita income in the village increased to 21,000 yuan last year.” In peak season, they welcome as many as 3,000 tourists a day.

The Greater Khingan Range has rich tourism resources including forests, snow and ice scenery, stone forests, wetlands and prehistoric cliff paintings. Since 2014 when commercial logging stopped, the region has

sprouted ecological tourism, which has been given top priority among the six primary industries amidst the region’s transformation.

“We have beautiful landscapes as well as snow and ice,” notes Jia Yumei, secretary of the Party Committee of the Greater Khingan Range Region. “Tourism, especially winter tourism, is key to our brand.”

Hailed as one of the Top 20 Most Attractive Places in China, the Greater Khingan Range has become a new tourist hub in northern China. In 2015, the region received 4 million tourist trips and earned more than 4 billion yuan in tourism revenues. From January to August of 2016, the figure reached 3.548 million and 3.43 billion, up by 19.5 percent and 22 percent year on year respectively.

“As a tourist attraction, the Greater Khingan Range is highly dependent on nature, so we have to follow environmentally-friendly guidelines,” Jia emphasizes. “We have to carefully plan every development, strengthen environmental monitoring and protection and improve ecological capacity.”

Blue Sky over Blue Sea

Text and photographs by Jia Daitengfei

“Xisha, Nansha, Zhongsha: my home since ancient times. There, my grandpa dug for pearls and shells, and my father caught fish and shrimp,” goes a children’s ballad popular along the coast of the South China Sea, evidencing the close relationship between locals and the sea.

In Chinese, “*san*” means “three.” On July 24, 2012, Sansha City was founded in Hainan Province, instantly making it the southernmost prefectural-level city in the country with the largest sea area and smallest land area. Despite the meager population, for generations, local residents have made tireless efforts to keep sea and sky alike, blue.

A beach in Sansha. Historical records show that Chinese people have lived in and developed the region for several thousand years.



The nesting season for sea turtles is from April to October. Today, the Xisha Islands are one of the few places in China where sea turtles nest.

Protection of Sea Turtles

On the afternoon of July 25, 2016, Fu Yongbo, who works at a station for protecting sea turtles on the island group called Qilianyu (“Seven Connected Islets”) in Sansha, patrolled the beach of North Island as usual. He slowed down and lowered his voice upon seeing a one-meter-long sea turtle laying eggs on the beach several meters away.

Green sea turtles lay and hatch eggs on the beaches in the area between April and October. The Xisha Islands are one of the few places in China where sea turtles nest and breed. Mothers arrive with the night tide and dig holes in which they lay eggs as small as ping pong balls. They even surround the nest with empty holes to ward off predators.

“Generally speaking, they won’t chance laying eggs until it’s dark,” explains Fu. “But this turtle did it in the light this

time—maybe because a typhoon is coming.” A female sea turtle lays an average of 70 to 80 eggs each time, five times a year. Statistics show that only one of 100 eggs can survive infancy, and it takes 20 years for green sea turtles to reach maturity.

In about two hours, the turtle crawled back to the sea after laying her eggs. Sand started to loose in another nest some 50 meters away from her egg hole: Infant turtles popped up one after another from the sand. As soon as they were all gone, Fu began to place plates marking the number and time by the egg holes. “It’s a way to guarantee that every group is on registration with the exact time of birth.”

Turtle protection has been a major mission for local people over the last two decades. In the 1990s, the Chinese government placed the sea turtle under state Class II protection. Many fishermen joined the

daily patrol team offshore, and the local government established protection stations for turtles. Along with the patrols, they inspected nearby islands for two reasons: to move eggs to a safe place if they are submerged in water and to keep eggs from being stolen.

Moreover, locals now pay great attention to the living environment of sea turtles and understand the long-term plan to protect these animals. “It seems to be tradition that turtles return to the place they were born to nest and breed when they grow up,” note some locals. “It is tremendously important that we protect our beaches well.”

Shade Trees

A lack of fresh water has resulted in rare vegetation on many islets in Sansha, some of which grow in barren places covered with white sand and crumbled corals. The environment is only worsening with continuous typhoons and erosion from the ocean waves. The best example of such deterioration is Xishazhou, or West Shoal.

It is an hour-long boat trip from Yongxing Island, where the municipal government of Sansha is stationed, to get to Xishazhou. In relatively recent years, Xishazhou was uninhabited due to the harsh environment. Since the founding of the city, the people of Sansha have launched a long-term mission to plant trees and conduct campaigns of ecological protection.

Fisherman Liang Changjian from Zhao-shu Island was among the first group to plant trees there. His house lies only a few nautical miles from Xishazhou. In 2008, Liang and others planted some Casuarina trees. “The lack of fresh water was the biggest problem to grow trees there,” he says. Residents took turns delivering fresh water to the trees. Today, the trees are as tall as over two meters.



Brothers Fu Mingwen and Fu Minggang are renowned fishermen in the area around Qilianyu northeast of Xuande Archipelago of the Xisha Islands.



The vast expanse of coral reefs near Qilianyu is home to rare species of fish, shrimp, and shellfish.



In years past, children of local fishermen in Sansha had to go elsewhere for schooling because of the lack of facilities. Today, Yongxing School has been established in the city of Sansha, the southern-most school in China.



Fishermen take an after-dinner stroll on Zhaoshu Island.

Xishazhou was once a piece of land with white sand and crumbled coral. Fisherman Liang Changjian from Zhaoshu Island was among the first to plant trees there. Fishermen ship in freshwater to water the trees.



The majority of Sansha fishermen's grandfathers moved from Hainan Island. Except for family reunions during Chinese Spring Festival, local fishermen spend most of the time on the islands there. They often help with each other with various tasks.



July 25, 2016: As evening falls, the sky turns from red to purple, heralding an approaching typhoon.

Nevertheless, one piece of forest cannot save all of Xishazhou. To support the effort, the municipal government has launched a greenery project to improve watering capabilities, introducing a salt-water desalination system, rain collection, and water pumps, as well as special maintenance personnel. Participants looking to plant more trees now transport soil, coconut bran, fertilizers and coral sand from Hainan Island.

Today, 99 percent of the saplings on Xishazhou have survived: Coconut trees, Casuarina trees and Ceodes grandis line the shores, swinging in the breeze of the South China Sea.

Balancing Fishing and Environment

During the Ming and Qing dynasties


(1368-1911), fishermen in Hainan documented maritime navigation routes, which were collected in the *Routes of the South China Sea*, with details including names, accurate locations, routes, distance, and features of the islands and reefs of Xisha, Nansha, and Zhongsha. During the time, fishermen fished the waters around Xisha and Nansha islands extensively.

Even today, fishermen in Sansha continue to make a living using methods that have been handed down for generations: fishing the vast South China Sea. The massive expanses of coral reefs around Qilanyu are home to precious species of fish, crab, and shellfish. Oftentimes, when schools of fish approach the reefs at high tide, many get trapped, making them easily to be caught when the water ebbs.

Fishermen on Zhaoshu Island prefer

fishing when it's dark. They dive 20 to 30 meters into the water with an oxygen tank and flashlight seeking fish sleeping in the corals.

However, diving late at night is clearly challenging. Another method has been developed for seniors and those with physical disadvantages. They use snorkeling equipment to catch smaller fish, clean others' catches, and collect shells.

Today, traditional methods of fishing face big challenges from modern means. To improve the situation, the municipal government of Sansha has encouraged fishermen to consider the service and breeding industries. "Making better use of the sea with new methods" is a new goal for the people of Sansha. 

A journalist with *Yangtze River Daily*, the author won the Golden Lens award of People's Photography and the Golden Prize at China International Press Photo Contest.

Twilight Years

Text by Zhang Xue

Not long ago, the *White Paper on Development of China's Undertakings for the Aged* was released at the 2016 Summit Forum on China's Health and Pension Industry jointly held by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and *China Business*. According to the White Paper, by the end of 2015, China was home to about 222 million people over the age of 60, which accounted for 16.1 percent of its entire population. The figure is far past the "red line" of 10 percent, the internationally-recognized maximum desired percentage of retired people.

As predicted, by the 2050s, the elderly in China will exceed 400 million, making one in three Chinese citizens a senior. The influx of the elderly has resulted in a pressing issue for everyone getting old: Where will I go when I need care?

Pension System

China has seen accelerated urbanization since its reform and opening up – from about 20 percent in the 1980s to 56.1 percent in 2015. Massive numbers of young adults have poured into urban areas, leaving their parents with empty nests. Moreover, the country's birth rate has dropped to 1.4 children per woman since the implementation of the family planning policy over 30 years ago, shrinking the size of families. When the only child's parents grow old, each couple will have to provide for four parents, leaving a heavy burden on the young adults. "Raising sons to support parents in their old age" is no longer possible, and the establishment of a social pension system has become a general trend.

As outlined in the 13th Five-Year Plan

(2016-2020) to address China's situation, a multi-purposed system providing senior care should be established involving families, supported by community, and supplemented by institutions. Statistics from the White Paper show that in 2014, nursing institutions for the elderly cared for 2.1 percent of people over 65 years old and 8.5 percent of disabled seniors.

Public nursing homes have always been the top choice for the majority of those in need due to consistent quality and reasonable pricing. Reports on how difficult it is to get a bed in a public nursing home have become commonplace. Some news outlets reported, for example, that the wait to get into the most popular nursing home, Beijing First Social Welfare Institution, is about 100 years.

To solve the problem, local governments have designed many policies to normalize public nursing homes and offer policy support to private nursing institutions.

In 2015, Beijing municipal government promulgated administrative measures to register and assess state-run nursing institutions, categorizing four groups of clients for such institutions: seniors in exceptional poverty, those receiving support for food, clothing, medical care, housing and burial expenses, the disabled and elderly from impoverished families and entitled groups, and the disabled and elderly older than 70 from the impoverished families limited by family planning.

Additionally, the municipal government of Beijing has launched pilot projects to foster collaboration between state-run and private nursing homes. Policymakers



Playing games with the elderly at a nursing center in Xicheng District, Beijing. by Feng Jin

hope that in the near future, state-run nursing homes will play a secondary role and that most senior citizens will enjoy home-based care, home nursing service, or reside in private nursing institutions.

Booming Industry

As calculated by the White Paper, during the 13th Five-Year Plan period, China will see growth to 35 to 40 beds per 1,000 elderly people, a potential growth rate of between 30 and 50 percent in facilities for the elderly.

"As China enters an era of population aging, organizations for the seniors and the healthcare industry will thrive as key pieces of social development," commented Zhou Limin, assistant editor-in-chief of *China Business*. "After the government's publication and improvement of national policies, the industry is expected to become one of the most lucrative, creative with a diverse range of choices."

In Europe and America, most investors in nursing institutions are insurance

and real estate companies. The same has happened in China. Over the last few years, insurance giants including China Life Insurance, New China Life Insurance, and Taikang Life Insurance, real estate giants such as Vanke, Wanda, and Poly Real Estate, and myriad large state-owned enterprises have invested in establishing nursing institutions in hopes of taking the lead of the emerging sector.

"Today, investors are bullish on nursing institutions because of the promising industry chain behind them rather than immediate profits," illustrates Xu Biao from China Life Insurance, who has long been committed to investing in care for the elderly. "Investments usually take 15 years to pay off. Such an industry chain spans a wide range of trades, such as food, mobility tools, assisting devices, and tourism designed for the elderly."

International Experience

Japan tops the planet in aging population. By October 2013, citizens 65 or



This May, Hangzhou Social Welfare Center welcomed Atie (Ironman), one of the city's first robotic nurses. It has become a new partner and capable nurse, taking care of the elderly with real-time monitoring, remote video calling and remote medical services. Xinhua

older had accounted for a fourth of its total population. In 2012, sales of adult diapers overtook those for infants in the country. As defined by the United Nations, a country or region with more than 20 percent of its population above age 65 has entered a stage of "super aging."

Of the many developed countries, the experiences gained by Japan in dealing with the issue of aging may be the most valuable for China. The latter can learn concepts and technology to take care of the elderly from the former, as well as studying Japan's policy and social security system.

Industry insiders also point out that there is no way for China to completely follow another country, whether it is Japan, a European country or the United States. It is easier to introduce sophisticated facilities and equipment from abroad, but a long road still remains in upgrading service and overall quality of caregivers.

In the past, most Chinese people looked down on nursing workers, most of whom were outlanders living in big me-

tropolises such as Beijing and Shanghai for better opportunities. Caring for the elderly is a common choice for females from rural areas who haven't completed much education. Measures to provide better training would upgrade service quality and rehabilitate the image of the profession.

Today, China has opened its door wide to welcome foreign investment in the trade, hoping to introduce state-of-the-art service concepts and attract professionals to more obscure localities. So far, companies from many countries including France, Germany, and Australia have launched senior care business in China. By the end of 2015, the biggest Japanese nursing institution, Nichii Gakkan Company, had purchased six Chinese household management companies and announced plans to buy 10 more, in an effort to spread their home nursing services into many Chinese cities.

Foreign investors widely believe that China is in the early stage of providing greater care for the elderly, and that the market has great potential.

A Bumpy Ride

Text by Zhang Xue

On October 8, 2016, four municipal governments—Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Guangzhou—released drafts of detailed regulations to reform the taxi industry and regulate cab hailing apps. In Beijing, Shanghai, and Shenzhen, a rule that requires drivers to have local household registration attracted particularly-wide attention because it means many drivers will lose their jobs.

Driver Voices

When Didi (a Chinese ride-hailing app) drivers went to work on October 14,

2016, their mood was extremely somber, especially compared to two months earlier, when news broke that the profession of rideshare driver would soon be officially recognized.

On July 28, the plan to reform taxi administration and introduce new regulations for cab hailing apps was unveiled, officially recognizing the disruptive technology. According to the plan, qualified private cars can work for Didi if drivers follow certain procedures, and ridesharing is encouraged. The new policies will go into effect on November 1, 2016.

Public reaction to the news was largely positive. However, administrative problems are likely to emerge.

October 14 was the last day to submit opinions on the details of Beijing's administrative regulations. According to the draft version, drivers cannot work unless their household registration is local—a rule that will leave people like Mr. Liu out of work. Liu is a native of Jining City, Shandong Province, but he has been working in Beijing for more than 10 years. For him, getting local household registration would be an unreachable dream.

More and more people like Mr. Liu now worry about losing their jobs as Didi drivers despite assurances from the app that the situation will work out.

“Less than 10 percent of drivers in my

area have local household registrations,” Liu explains. Such numbers resemble the situation in Shanghai, which officially published statistics for its 410,000 online ride-hailing drivers.

Liu spent some 200,000 yuan to purchase his Sonata early this year especially for Didi, which requires the car to meet certain minimum requirements. He was happy to earn over 10,000 yuan a month with it, however. Previously, he was selling office furniture. “I enjoy this work because I can make my own schedule and maintain a stable income,” he remarks. “I can still sell furniture at the same time.”

Once the new regulations go into effect, people like Liu, who have backup jobs, will be able to survive. But things are different for those like Mr. Li from Baoding City, Hebei Province. Li quit his job and got a loan to buy a Camry because of the great earning potential as a driver for ride-hailing apps. He will have to hunt for another job when the new policy takes effect.

Hard to Find a Cab Again

Beijing is a megacity with 21 million permanent residents and only 60,000 licensed taxis, far short of demand. Despite the fact that the municipal government has invested heavily to develop public transportation, particularly 500 kilometers of subway, hailing a taxi can be tough. It's normal to wait an hour for a cab during peak hours.

The situation changed in 2012 when Didi, Kuaidi (Quick Taxi), Yidao (Easy to Come), and Uber began being used. These companies have competed fiercely for the market by offering big subsidies to both drivers and passengers. Some passengers enjoyed high-end car services without spending a dime, and early online ride-

hailing drivers earned impressive monthly incomes of 20,000 to 30,000 yuan. Today, drivers refer to that era as the “good old days.”

Incomplete statistics show that today, 15 million drivers work for ride-hailing apps, which has greatly satisfied demands for cabs. Nevertheless, many challenged the legality and safety of such services before the promulgation of administrative measures.

The publication of specific regulations on the administration of online ride-hailing platforms came as a surprise to no one. The surprise was that policies would be so strict.

Statistics released by Didi show that less than a fifth of their cars meet the new requirements on vehicles. In Shanghai, less than 10,000 drivers of 41,000 have local household registration. Stricter requirements for acceptable vehicle models would make prices of ride hailed through the app twice the cost of a cab, and even more. Fewer vehicles and rising prices will clearly hurt transportation efficiency—a departure from all of the advantages of cab-hailing apps that were once “cheap” and “convenient.”

Problems for Administrators

In the days after the publication of the drafts in the four major cities, second- and third-tier cities, such as Chengdu, Qingdao, Nanjing, and Chongqing, followed with detailed rules and regulations. The biggest difference is that household registration requirements for drivers are not as strict.

Many are confused by the contradictions. The government has encouraged cab-hailing and rideshare apps, but now first-tier cities like Beijing and Shanghai have enacted strict restrictions.

For administrative departments, safety

and management of the urban population are the biggest concern. As explained by Beijing transportation officials, the household registration rules for drivers were established for four purposes: To regulate the city's development, to treat “urban diseases” caused by excessive population growth, to alleviate traffic jams, and to develop cab-hailing apps at proper speed and under regulation.


“The regulations are primarily for the sake of safety and local population control,” illustrates a traffic expert. The worry is that too many laborers from surrounding areas will oversaturate the Beijing market and violate population control policies.

Arguments about the policies have been fierce. “Ride-hailing apps are part of a shared economy,” commented Hou Yiping, vice chairman of Chengdu Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). “The household registration restrictions on drivers will directly result in a decrease in vehicles and rise in prices, passing on expenses to consumers.”

Globally, regulations for ride-hailing apps are yet to develop.

Every country differs. In Japan and Singapore, where private cab hailing is illegal, Uber has still won a certain market share through collaboration with local taxi companies and drivers.

The Japanese government prohibits private drivers from performing taxi service but allows individuals to run such business. In Singapore, it is illegal for private cars to be involved in taxi service. Clients, however, can hail cabs online via apps developed by taxi companies or a third party.

Today, people expect low cost, safety and quality from ride-hailing apps. Policy-makers shoulder the burden of maintaining that balance. 



Today, Beijing's vehicle population has reached 5.61 million. During peak hours, hailing a cab is a difficult task. IC



Delhi Gate in India's capital is a landmark structure dividing Delhi into old and new districts. The district south of the gate is considered New Delhi. CFP

India's Relic Protection Legacy

Text by Chu Jiwang

Early this year, I attended the World Book Fair in New Delhi, India, where the city's efforts to protect relics and ancient ruins deeply impressed me.

Over the years, I've developed a keen interest in relics, places of historical interest, and anything concerning Buddhism. India has ancient civilization and is the cradle of Buddhist culture. I had heard a lot about the country and its wealth of well-preserved relics and places of historical interest and was excited for the opportunity to explore ancient temples and admire relics there.

My tour guide was eager to help, and our first stop was the Lotus Temple in New Delhi. As described in books about India, 80 percent of its residents are Hindus. However, I was perplexed as to how Buddhism was not the dominant religion in its own birthplace, the place where Sakya-

muni became the Buddha.

The tour guide noted that although Buddhism was born in India, the country's Buddhists account for less than 1 percent of the total population. Over the years, India has seen a rapid development in Hinduism, a religion with many gods. It was promoted heavily by the aristocratic class, who liked to build temples to spread the religion.

Nevertheless, Buddhist civilization has been well preserved and Buddhists have made great efforts protecting their temples despite the decline of Buddhism in the country.


The Lotus Temple is situated in a neat park spanning thousands of square meters. The most eye-catching structure is Lotus Pagoda. I was stunned by the pristine tract of land after a long journey along a dust road. The tour guide asked us to take

off our shoes before entering the temple, wherein we climbed dozens of stairs.

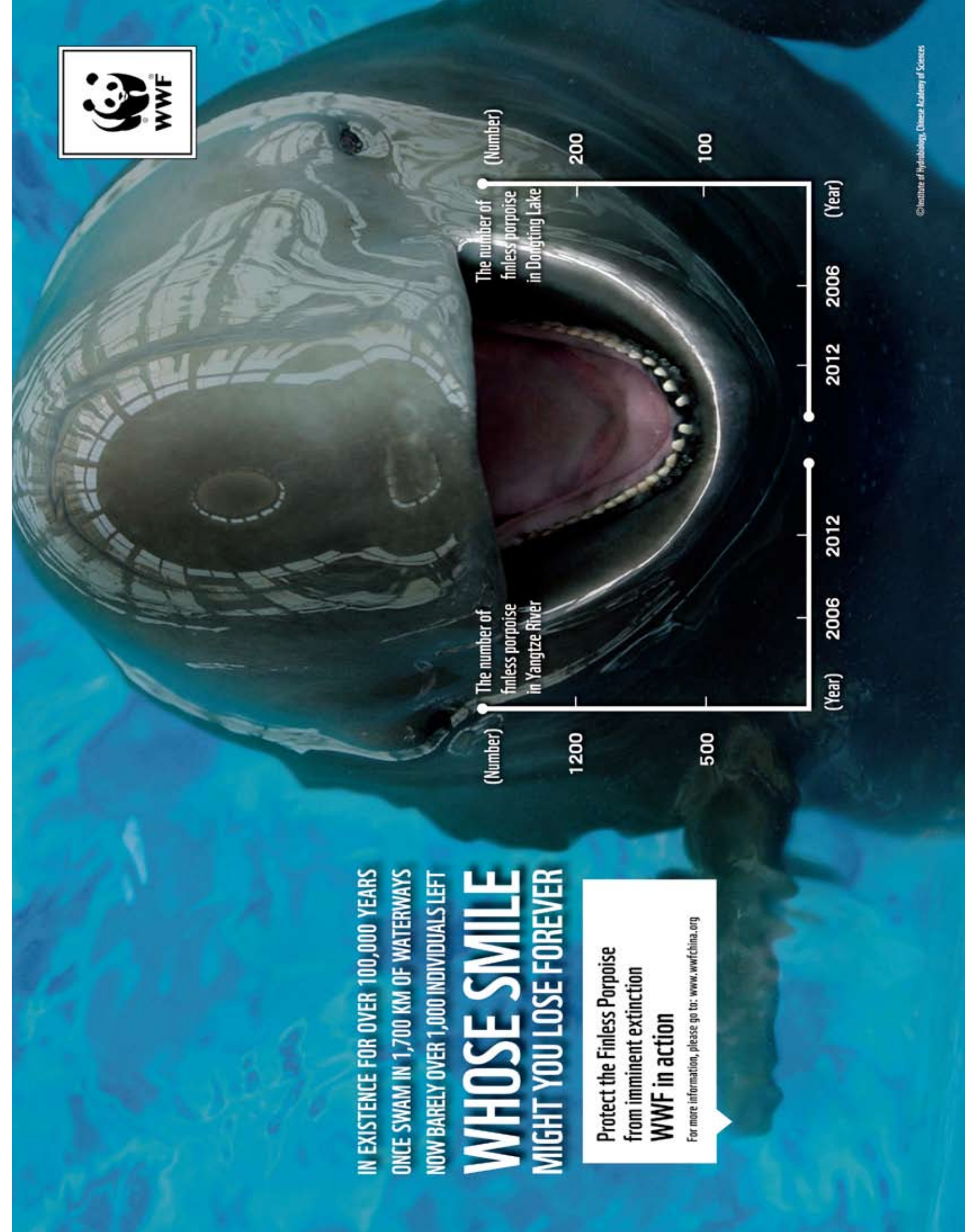
Our next stop was the Rashtrapati Bhavan ("Presidential Residence"). Parking is not allowed nearby, so we just slowed down to get a look of the mansion from the car. The magnificent structure looked majestic as it was shaded by ancient pines and cypresses within the wall.

We then headed for Delhi Gate, a famous tourist attraction in New Delhi. After India became a British colony, the gate was erected to separate Delhi into old and new areas. Big and well preserved, it is now a landmark structure of New Delhi.

"It's really impressive," I exclaimed to the tour guide. "It's tremendously significant because it maintains a legacy so that later generations will remember history."

He agreed heartily: "History should be remembered and recorded in books. Forgetting history is like forgetting ancestors, and mistakes will get repeated. We wouldn't have relics or places of historical interest if our cultural legacies were destroyed a generation later." 

Chu Jiwang is president and founder of the Ningbo Ruyi Joint Stock Co., Ltd., a major Chinese logistics equipment manufacturer. More than just an entrepreneur, Chu is a recipient of the China Charity Award, the top philanthropic honor in the country. In each issue, he shares his business insights and inspirations gained from his life experience.



A Bittersweet Goodbye

Text by Chen Chen and Xue Song

At the end of September 2016, news from Shanghai Film Technology Plant (SFTP) spread across China: The studio's final cine-film processing and printing line would wrap by the end of October.

Founded in 1957, SFTP is attached to Shanghai Film Group, one of the largest and most influential movie studios in China. As the first company in China to establish a professional film processing base, SFTP once led movie processing in annual output while releasing many Chinese classics such as *Railway Guerrillas*, *Given the Choice*, and *The Letter with Feathers*. Additionally, the company produced dubbed and subtitled versions of many imported blockbusters.

Cine-film production seems to be ebbing in China, as SFTP's announcement follows news of the closure of the film processing lines in two other major Chinese studios: Changchun Film Studio and Beijing Film Processing Technology Plant.

Pinnacle to Decline

The problem can be traced to SFTP's Film Processing and Printing Department, the heart of the plant. "The department peaked in 2002 when China began to implement market reform of movie production," explains Chen Guanping, director of the plant. "From 2002 to 2010, eight production lines were operated by over 100 workers. The emergence of digital technology has upended the cine-film industry and

led cine-film processing down a slippery slope. In the past four years, over half of our film processing and printing lines were shut down, and the last one will be gone soon."

"There is nothing we can do," continued Chen. "Digital technology has created a marketing battlefield and squeezed out the medium of film. We must switch everything to digital."

According to Chen, two or three film printers will be kept, but after a couple months of inactivity, they won't operate normally anyway.

Qian Shun'an, 60, has been working with the film processing and printing line for 39 years. "In 2009, we had so much work that no one had a spare second to chat

at work," he recalls. "Today, only three of us remain. We are working on film prints for toy slides instead of movies. We won't have anything to do in a few days when all photographic film in stock is used up."

Digital Transfer

Crosscurrent, directed by Yang Chao, is considered the last Chinese movie shot on film. It won the Silver Bear for outstanding artistic contribution (camera) at the 66th Berlin International Film Festival in February 2016.

The process of shooting on film in the modern era is only a shell of its former self. When shooting a movie, a director only sees a barren frame compared to the final product. "During early production, I see

only about one percent of the final product," explains Director Yang Chao.

Traditionally, when one roll of film is used up, shooting must stop until the loader refills the camera. "Loading requires extreme care," Yang continues. "To prevent film from being exposed to light, the loader has to cover the camera with a bag with two small openings for his hands and unload the film without sight and store it in a sealed canister. It has to be kept from light until it can be developed. The loader's job was crucial to the film production process."

Exposed film must be kept in a refrigerator, and it is usually sent back to the studio to be converted into digital files. A deliverer has to shuttle back and forth during shooting.

"Working with film makes production more tedious," remarks Yang Chao. "Working with digital cameras is totally different, and it makes everything clearer visually." Mark Lee Ping Bin, a veteran photographer from Taiwan, agrees with Yang. "Shooting digitally is less creative because you don't have to plan each shot explicitly. The movie comes together before your eyes."

Perpetual Legacy

If he were starting production on *Crosscurrent* today, Yang Chao would not have chosen to shoot on film. "Digital technology can now do everything we did on film," he asserts. "I do miss it though. But everything is more efficient now thanks to digital technology. So it's a bittersweet goodbye."



Posters for *Railway Guerrillas* and *Given the Choice*, both movies printed by Shanghai Film Technology Plant, the oldest and leading professional film processing base that has released many Chinese classics.

The year 1999 marked a milestone for digital movies when *Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace* premiered in the United States.

A poster for *Avatar*. Since the introduction of the IMAX film projection system, rolls of film have become large in size and difficult to project.

A poster for *The Grand Master*, a 2013 masterpiece of Hong Kong director Wong Kar-Wai.

Posters of *Inception*, directed by Christopher Nolan, and *The Hateful Eight*, directed by Quentin Tarantino, both A-list directors who insist on continuing to shoot on film.



A poster and still from *Crosscurrent*, directed by Yang Chao, which is considered the last Chinese movie to be shot on film. The film won the Silver Bear for outstanding artistic contribution (camera) at the 66th Berlin International Film Festival in February 2016.

Yang believes that despite cine-film slipping into obsolescence, its aesthetics are alive: Digital processes have preserved the texture and aesthetic concepts that the former medium popularized. Digital movie production techniques only create a wider range of possibilities for creators with very specific ideas.


Film restoration will continue even after the processing and printing lines at SFTP shut down. Every year, SFTP receives many old films to be restored or duplicated for preservation.

Employee Hu Yu'e has been working at the plant for more than 30 years. "Even though our duties have shifted from post-production to restoration, we are as enthusiastic as ever," she insists.

A handful of A-list directors, including Quentin Tarantino and Christopher Nolan, insist on continuing to shoot on film. Their films in recent years, including Tarantino's *The Hateful Eight* and Nolan's *Dark Knight Rises*, *Inception*, and *Interstellar*, were all shot on film.

The emergence of digital technology has made everyone a potential director, creating bigger space for future of movies.

"Cine-film's time is over," sighs Chen Guanping. "The most important thing is total devotion to your movie regardless of the production process."

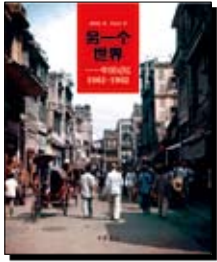
In this sense, the aesthetics of film will be preserved long after the medium itself slips into obscurity. 



September 20, 2016: Qian Shun'an, 59, works on the last film processing line of Shanghai Film Technology Plant. by Zhu Weihui/The Paper



September 20, 2016: Hu Yu'e, a veteran film restoration technician at Shanghai Film Technology Plant. by Zhu Weihui/The Paper



Another World: Memories of China 1961-1962

*Written by Cecilia Lindqvist (Sweden),
translated by Li Zhiyi, September 2016,
Zhonghua Book Company*

Cecilia Lindqvist, a well-known Swedish writer, recounts her unforgettable trip to China to study between 1961 and 1962. As a curious European student at Peking University, Lindqvist traveled to many places in China, including Shanghai, Hangzhou, Suzhou, Guangzhou, and Wuhan. Her stories are lively and sated with questions. Alongside the text are photos she took, most of which have never before been published. These images whisk readers back to China of the early 1960s.

Lindqvist learned to play the Chinese zither after becoming even more enamored with Chinese culture. “As an outsider,” she wrote in the preface of her book, “I can tell from my own experience how I had seen China during various stages of knowing the country. At first, China was like a ‘monster,’ but the more I got to know her, the deeper I fell in love with her. I owe this transformation to my frequent contact with her culture, especially language and music, and her people of different kinds.”

Born in 1932, Lindqvist is a professor, writer and photographer. Since 1962 when she finished her term at Peking University, she has returned to China many times and disseminated the Chinese culture and its social progress in her books, periodicals, and TV programs. Many of her books about China have won awards in China and her own country.

“For more than five decades, Lindqvist has seldom turned her eyes from China,” observed Wang Jiaming, who has published Lindqvist’s books in China for a long time. “In her eyes, we are removed from ourselves so that we can see from a different perspective—strange, touching and worth pondering.”



A dining hall of Peking University.



Spectators of the National Day parade.



A weekend concert of the Research Society of the Chinese Zither. Lindqvist was the only student to be admitted to the Society during her study in China.



Peking University students at the National Day parade.



Beijing Railway Station. In years past, the rickshaw was a major means of transportation.



Suzhou, a city of rivers and lakes.



A street in Beijing.

Forbidden City: Where History Lives On

Text by Cecilia Lindqvist (Sweden)

The glory yesteryear remains attractive today. The Forbidden City, also known as the Palace Museum, which served as the imperial palace of the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties, has become one of the most popular tourist spots on the planet, trailing only the Great Wall in China. During peak season, it welcomes tens of thousands of tourists from China and abroad each day. Visitors enter through the south gate and leave through the north one.

I first visited Beijing in 1961, a time when the imperial palace was isolated and quiet. Most of the people I saw within the magnificent halls and royal gardens were employees with file folders in hand, restoration workers and people from ethnic minorities wearing traditional costumes. Then, only a few hundred of foreigners resided in Beijing, most of whom worked in embassies. The Forbidden City was already a must-see attraction, and a few decades later, visitors swarmed into the palace.

Back then, the lack of temporary exhibitions made the space emptier, and important cultural components were missing. Dust could be found almost everywhere in the tranquil, dark halls. Most exhibits on display lacked illustrations and lighting. Of the nearly 1,000 halls there, only a few along the central axis were well preserved. Peripheral structures were severely damaged and dilapidated; weeds and small trees were growing from roofs.

Nevertheless, the Forbidden City was and is a treasure trove of important relics from throughout the Chinese history. Today, visitors can find bronze, porcelain, calligraphy, paintings, literature, science books, and clocks and watches acquired by the last empress dowager.

Personally, I was most drawn to China's porcelain. Before my visit, I had read a lot about porcelain from every dynasty and extensively studied various collections in the Museum of Oriental Antiquities in Stockholm in my home country. As soon as I arrived in Beijing, I applied for a library card at the National Library of China on Wenjin Street near Beihai Park so I could search for everything related to porcelain during the Tang (618-907) and Song (960-1279) dynasties.

I learned about the philosophical background of Chinese paintings as well as the theory that "man is an integral part of nature."

The technique for traditional Chinese painting—the principles of perspective—is totally different from European art. I stayed for hours in as many halls as possible, with books in hand, absorbing as much knowledge as possible.

I met and talked with experts of the Research Society of the Chinese Zither, who were extensively knowledgeable. When I continued asking them about porcelain, which had nothing to do with music, they introduced me to experts in porcelain working in the Forbidden City, to make sure I got accurate information. Meeting them only inspired even more questions.

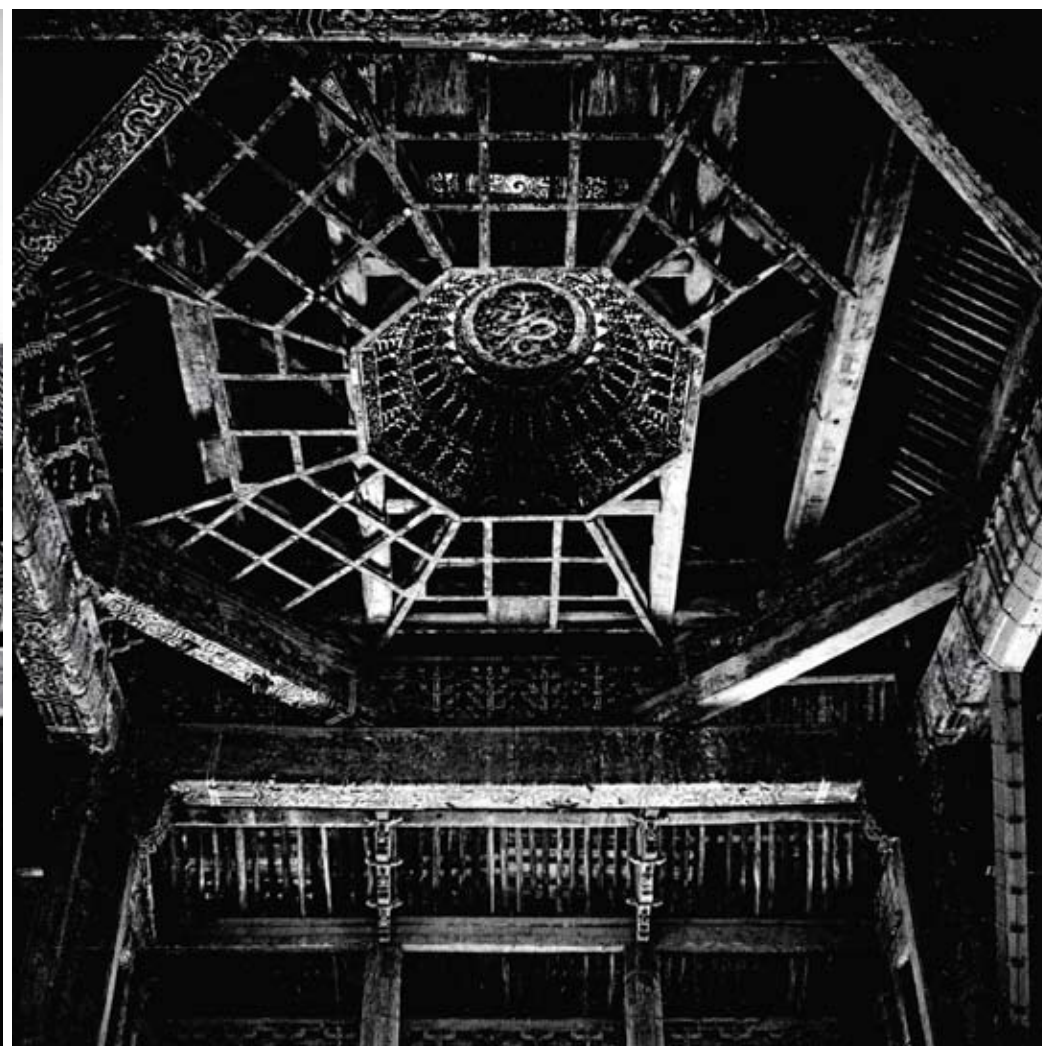
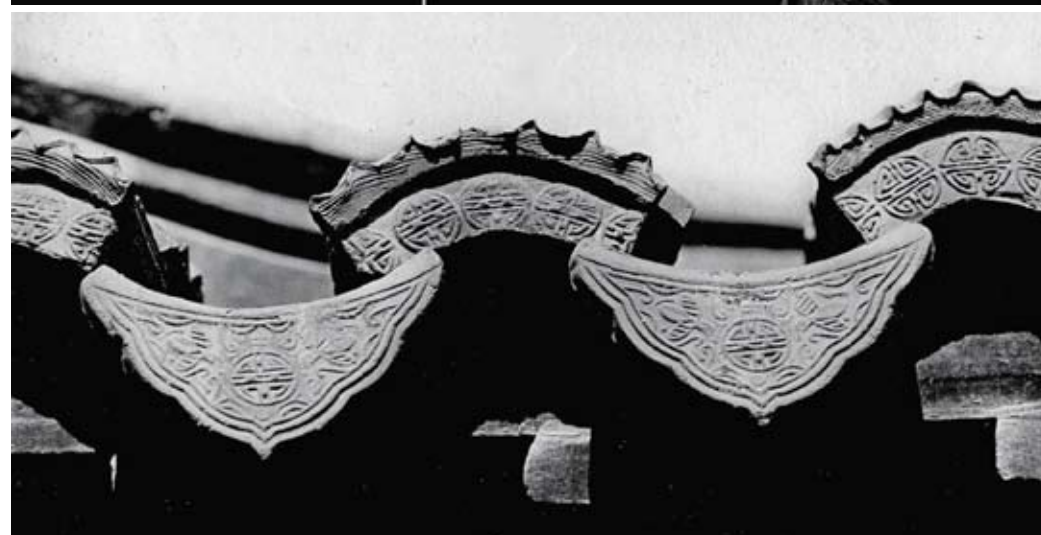
I still remember meeting Mr. Sun, then director of the Collection Department of Porcelain Ware. He was very friendly and answered my questions thoroughly and patiently. During our talk, two men carried a big box into the room. He opened it and began unpacking one piece after another, asking me to identify them. I learned about the meaning of various patterns. I concentrated so hard that I didn't even realize the room was freezing.

He took two blue-and-white, seemingly identical plates from the box and asked me which dynasty they were from. "The reign of Emperor Kangxi of the Qing Dynasty!" I replied. "Great!" he grinned. "But which is fake?"

I lowered my voice, defeated, "Sorry! I have no idea!" He asked me to close my eyes. "Touch each one on the bottom and tell me what you feel." I did as I was told, and it was incredible! The bottoms felt completely different even though they looked exactly the same on the surface: One was flat and smooth, the other uneven and rough. Judging from the ring base, I nailed the era of the authentic piece. You could identify the duplicate by the bottom because of the different production methods.

I then asked a couple of questions about porcelain during the reign of Emperor Shunzhi of the Qing Dynasty. I had read books by some British experts who determined that nothing new and unique was produced during this period, and that most production was modeled after styles of the Ming Dynasty. I had discovered a yellow plate on display that was labeled "the only of its kind made during Emperor Shunzhi's reign."

"Why?" I asked Mr. Sun. "It's true," he admitted. "That's the only one we've ever found from that period. That's all I know. Sorry!"



The quiet Forbidden City, also known as the Palace Museum, in the 1960s.



The Muse by Pablo Picasso, pencil, printed characters, and oil on canvas, 1935.

Masterpieces from the Centre Pompidou

Text by Nancy Gong

The exhibition “Masterpieces from the Centre Pompidou” is scheduled to be staged at Shanghai Exhibition Center from October 11, 2016 to January 15, 2017, presenting a visual feast with 71 pieces of the authentic work by great modern artists from the collection of the Centre Pompidou in Paris, France.

One/Person/Year

Following the criterion of “one piece by one artist per year,” the exhibits are displayed chronologically, dating from 1906 to 1977. One masterpiece by a different French artist completed in each respective

year is on display.

The year 1906 marked the birth of fauvism, a modern art school that became in vogue during the era. In 1977, the Centre Pompidou was completed and opened to the public. A total of 71 masterpieces were chosen to cover a time span of 72 years and touch every master almost throughout France’s 20th-Century art history.

The exhibition endeavors to create enough space to present a comprehensive, complete timeline of the progress of modern art in France as well as around the world. Almost every influential Western art school in modern times is represented, ranging

from fauvism and cubism to Dadaism, surrealism, abstractionism, expressionism, and pop art. Other styles such as Orphism and op art may not have exerted a huge impact on later generations but continue to represent artists’ persistent innovative efforts.

“We endeavored to present a sketch of the contours of a century of modern art across the globe,” asserts Serge Lasvignes, president of the Centre Pompidou. “It’s a textbook-grade exhibition of the modern art of the world. These masterpieces not only outline art history—they illuminate the social changes across a century through the eyes of these artists and their works.”



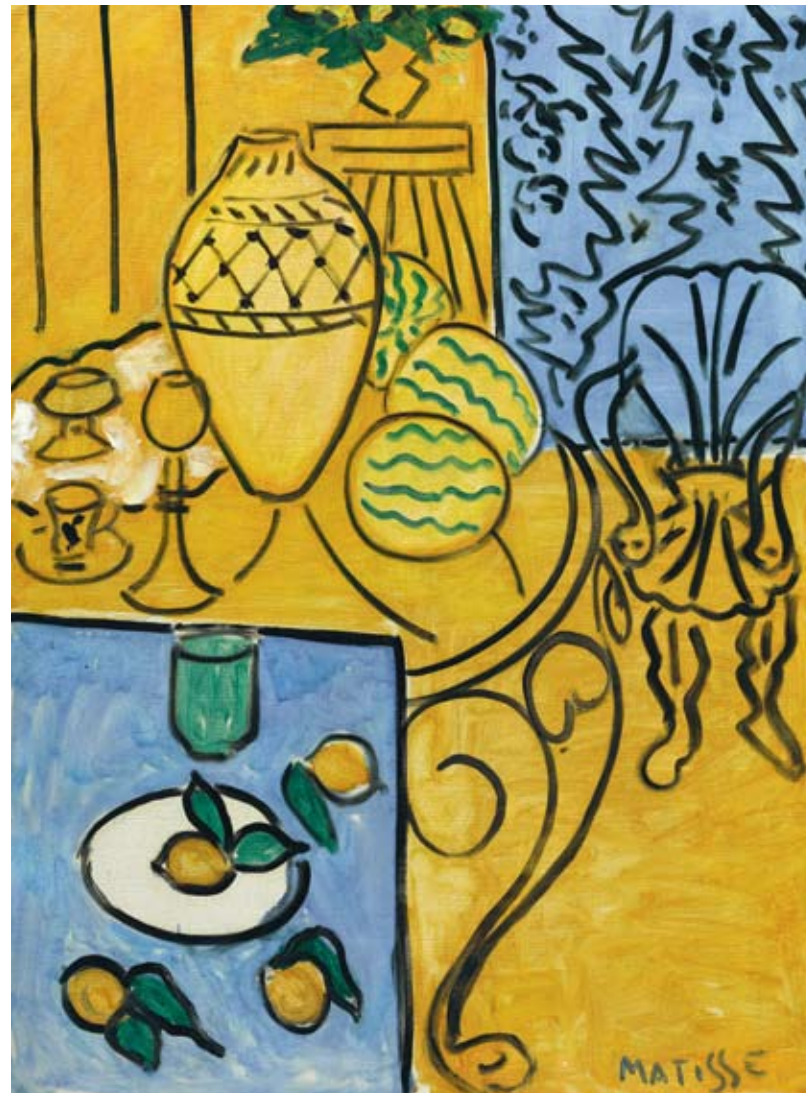
Leichtes by Vassily Kandinsky.



Behind the Gare Saint-Lazare by Henri Cartier-Bresson, photograph, 1932.



Agitated Site by Jean Dubuffet, painting, 1973.



Yellow and Blue Interior by Henri Matisse.



The Eiffel Tower by Robert Delaunay, oil on canvas, 1926.

A glaring void of work from 1945 is particularly worth noting. The blank place on the wall is serenaded by “La Vie en Rose” by Édith Piaf (1915-1963), an iconic French singer and symbol of freedom, hope, and love. It’s a special, soulful way to commemorate the end of World War II.

Gathering of Masterpieces

The event has been dubbed a great gathering of works by many master artists and representatives of new art schools that emerged in the 20th Century. Featured pieces include *The Muse* by Pablo Picasso and *Double Portrait with a Glass of Wine* by Marc Chagall.



Bicycle Wheel by Marcel Duchamp, found art, 1918-1964.



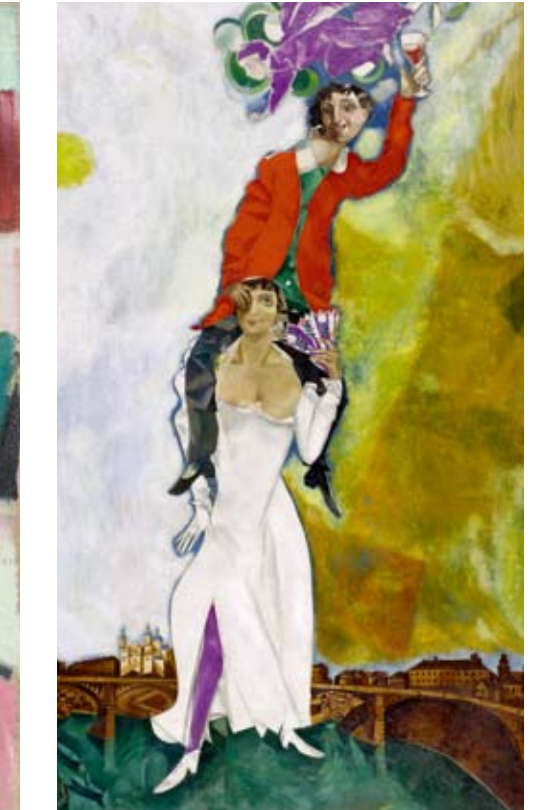
Woman of Venice V by Alberto Giacometti, bronze, 1956.



Four Leaves and Three Petals by Alexander Calder, plate metal, painted metal bar and electric wires, 1939.



Study Model for the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris by Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers, plastic, metal and wood, 1971-1977.



Double Portrait with a Glass of Wine by Marc Chagall, oil on canvas, 1917-1918.

Street Decked with Flags by Raoul Dufy, oil on canvas, 1906.


One of the most representative practitioners of Dadaism and surrealism, Marcel Duchamp produced groundbreaking and trailblazing work. His *Bicycle Wheel* created in 1913 was one of the first times a “found object” went on display in an art museum.

Henri Cartier-Bresson, hailed as the “father of modern photojournalism,” founded Magnum Photos and is considered one of the greatest photographers of the 20th Century. His “decisive moment” theory has influenced

photographers ever since his introduction. His *Behind the Gare Saint-Lazare* (1932) is displayed among the 71 masterpieces.

Richard Avedon, a leading photographer in the fashion circles, shot a portrait of Coco Chanel, a distinguished French fashion designer, in 1958. Countless stars and photographers emulated the photograph’s composition in subsequent years.

Along with masterpieces of modern Western art in the 20th Century, the

exhibition also showcases a study model for the Centre Pompidou. In 1977 when it was completed, the Centre received heavy criticism due to its uncanny structure. After many years, the structure is considered a major cultural landmark and scenic spot. Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers, young designers of the building, went on to prolific careers and won the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 1998 and 2007 respectively. 

Red Army's Long March

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the end of the Red Army's Long March. This exhibition was organized to celebrate the soul-stirring, heroic episode of Chinese revolution history and promote the Long March spirit. Centered on a theme stressing that "the Long March was a great expedition of human spirit and will," the exhibition presents moving stories and depicts historical figures with cultural relics that survived the event. The Long March spirit is characterized by sacrifice, discipline, teamwork, hard work, and faith. The exhibition employs a great variety of cultural relics including weapons, notices, comics, maps, lyrics, textbooks, manuscripts, letters written by soldiers of the Red Army, and nearly 300 pieces of fine art from the National Museum of China to capture scenes of the Long March from various perspectives.

September 22 – October 31, 2016
National Museum of China, Beijing



Climbing over the Snow Mountain by Wu Zuoren, oil painting, 280x200cm, 1951.

Chen Linggang Solo Exhibition: On Reading and Writing

Chen Linggang creates sculptures using tiny square boxes. Although his works often appear very similar, sculptures all differ slightly. He creates people, buildings and even cities in dynamic fashion, with scenes lasting a second, a day or even a year. He employs slips of paper, pages from the book, paragraphs of history, and other innocuous items. As the patterns repeat, the pieces become individual, yet co-dependent. The works are composed within a fluid, grid-like structure allowing each element to converse with each other. They feature constantly changing, pulsing rhythm. This facet not only brings more meaning to the works, but also inspires reflection on culture and self-identity.

October 15 – December 5, 2016
Red Gate Gallery, Beijing

Reading Series No. 160904 (partial) by Chen Linggang, mixed media, 2016.



Ten Thousand Things

This exhibition's title was inspired by the influential book *Ten Thousand Things: Module and Mass Production in Chinese Art* (2000) by German art historian Lothar Ledderose, an investigation into the use of modular or standardized production systems throughout the history of Chinese art in bronze, porcelain, and architecture. While refraining from referring to the book directly, Chinese artist Wu Jian'an pinpointed a striking parallel between his own working methods and Ledderose's perceptive commentary on procedures used by Chinese artists and artisans over thousands of years. As Wu explored the most experimental reaches of paper cuts, single units or groups of related units continued to provide the building blocks from which his dazzling individual works or installations evolved. This approach characterizes the four major works in the exhibition, each conceived in a different medium.

September 8 – November 12, 2016
Chambers Fine Art, New York



500 Brushstrokes #7 by Wu Jian'an, ink on Xuan paper, collage, 190x160cm, 2016.



Shanshui Within

Connecting contemporary and historical art and reflecting on the contrast between the macro and personal world, Shanshui Within endeavors to present a kaleidoscopic view of contemporary art through creative approaches. With an assembly of works by artists from many eras using myriad media and means of expression in diverse formats, the exhibition traces transformations and connections between artistic practices from different times through various subjects, types of imagery, landscapes, media, and observation. This allows for the subtle instincts and infinite imagination in the art to present undefined reflection, interaction, and intermingling of Chinese tradition and contemporary elements.

September 3 – November 20, 2016
Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai

A poster for the exhibition Shanshui Within.

Felix Gonzalez-Torres

The first solo exhibition of influential international artist Felix Gonzalez-Torres (1957-1996) in China, the exhibition displays work by the late American artist, who was renowned for his unconventional methodology and poignant sensitivity. The unique nature of his work takes this exhibition beyond a retrospective; it constitutes a genuine renewal of his art. Selected from 30 institutions and collections across the world, the exhibition includes over 40 pieces, spanning from 1987 to 1995, inviting spectators to contemplate issues, both public and private, that are still relevant today. The tension between public and private, shared and personal, comprises the recurring theme of Gonzalez-Torres' work. Many of the artist's works consist of everyday objects such as strings of light bulbs, mirrors, wall clocks or printed sheets of paper. Others are comprised of candy, mirrors, and jigsaw puzzles. His art is like a puzzle lacking univocal order. Its demure, minimal aesthetics pushes the audience to organize the pieces themselves, inviting a plurality of pictures to emerge.

September 30 – December 25, 2016
Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai



Untitled (North) by Felix Gonzalez-Torres, mixed media, 1993 © The Felix Gonzalez-Torres Foundation. Courtesy of Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York.



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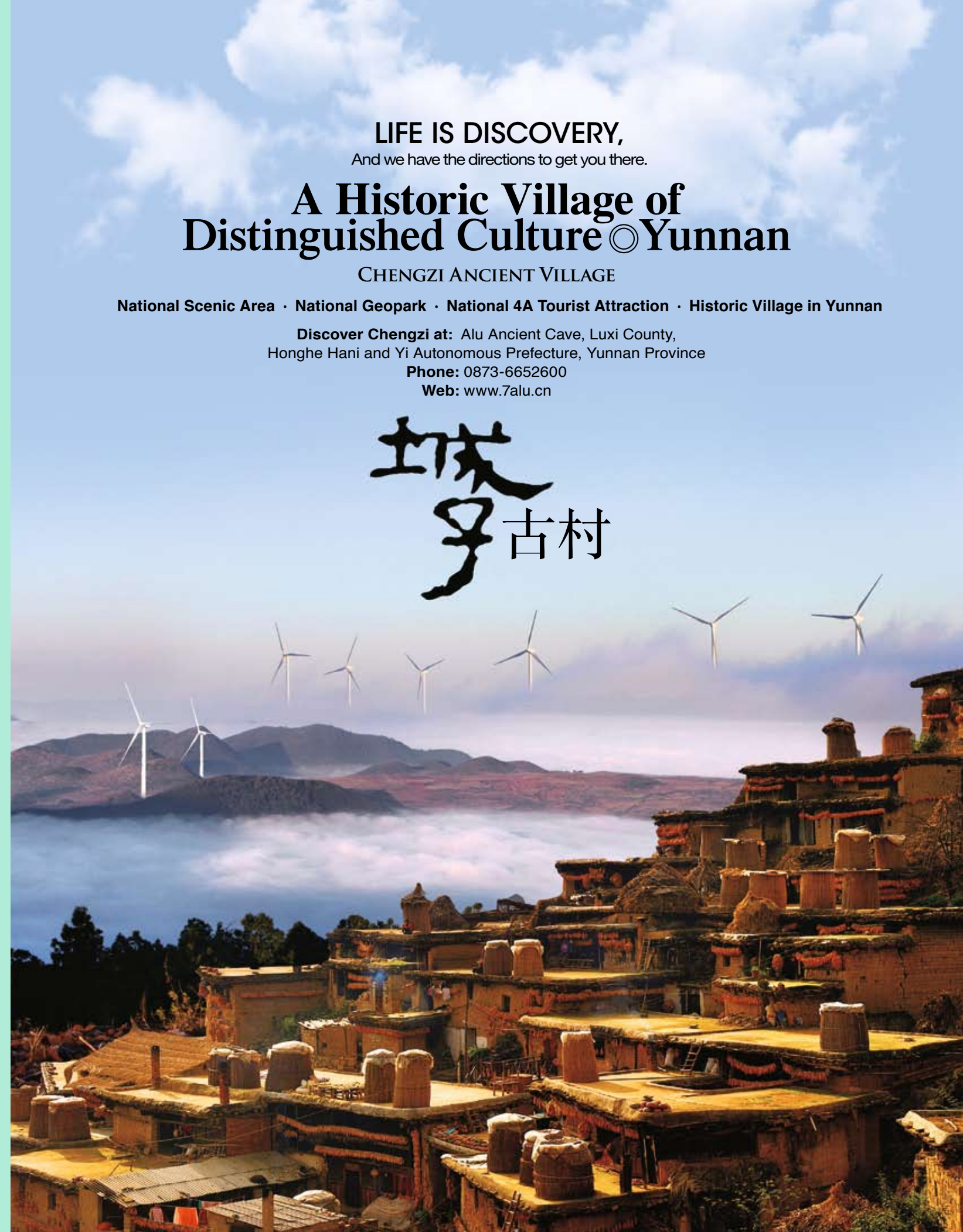
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