

# CHINA PICTORIAL

## Two Sessions One Future





Ningbo Ruyi Joint Stock Co. Ltd.,  
ADD : 656 North Taoyuan Road Ninghai,  
Zhejiang, 315600 China  
Tel : 0086-571-87153626  
E-mail : ruyi@xilin.com  
Site : www.xilin.com

International quality global certification



# PROFESSIONAL MAKES VALUE 专业决定价值



Hand/Electric Pallet Truck; Manual/Power Stacker; Tow Tractor; Order Picker; Forklift Trucks

COMPLETE WAREHOUSE SOLUTIONS





# 塞罕坝

牢记使命 艰苦创业 绿色发展

半个多世纪，三代人耕耘。  
沙地变林海，荒原成绿洲。  
寒来暑往，  
塞罕坝机械林场的森林覆盖率  
已达80%  
栽种树木按二米株距排开，  
可绕地球赤道一圈。

Saihanba is a cold alpine area in northern Hebei Province bordering the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. It was once a barren land but is now home to 75,000 hectares of forest, thanks to the labor of generations of forestry workers in the past 55 years. Every year the forest purifies 137 million cubic meters of water and absorbs 747,000 tons of carbon dioxide. The forest produces 12 billion yuan (around US\$1.8 billion) of ecological value annually, according to the Chinese Academy of Forestry.





April 2018

**Administrative Agency:** 主管: 中国外文出版发行事业局  
China International Publishing Group (中国国际出版集团)

**Publisher:** China Pictorial Publications 主办: 人民画报社

**Address:** 社址:  
33 Chegongzhuang Xilu 北京市海淀区车公庄西路33号  
Haidian, Beijing 100048 邮编: 100048  
**Email:** imagechina@chinapictorial.com.cn 邮箱: imagechina@chinapictorial.com.cn

**President:** 社长:  
Yu Tao 于涛

**Editorial Board:** 编委会:  
Yu Tao, Li Xia, He Peng 于涛、李霞、贺鹏  
Wang Lei, Yu Jia, Yan Ying 王磊、于佳、闫颖

**Editor-in-Chief:** Li Xia 总编辑: 李霞

**Editorial Directors:** 编辑部主任:  
Wen Zhihong, Qiao Zhenqi 温志宏、乔振琪

**English Editor:** Liu Haile 英文定稿: 刘海乐  
**Editorial Consultants:** 语言顾问:

Scott Huntsman, Mithila Phadke 苏格、弥萨罗

**Editors and Translators:** 编辑、翻译:  
Gong Haiying, Yin Xing 龚海莹、殷星  
Zhao Yue, Zhang Xue, Wang Shuya 赵月、张雪、王舒雅  
Li Zhuoxi, Xu Shuyuan 李卓希、许舒园  
Zhou Xin, Hu Zhoumeng 周昕、胡周萌  
Li Yiqi, Lu Anqi 李艺琦、鲁安琪  
**Operation:** Zhang Yingjie 编务: 张英杰

**Design:** Alinea Productions 设计: 利雅法盛

**Web Maintenance and** 网络总监:  
**Graphic Design Specialist:** 数据设计师:  
Andrey Maleev 安德烈·马列耶夫

**Advertising Department:** 广告部:  
**Telephone:** 86-10-88417354 电话: 010-88417354  
or 88417419 88417419

**Publishing and Distribution Director:** 出版发行部主任:  
Qiu Mingli 邱明丽  
**Telephone:** 86-10-68412660 电话: 010-68412660

**Remittance to:** 邮购收款人:  
Publishing and Distribution Department, 人民画报社出版  
China Pictorial 发行部

**Legal Adviser:** Yue Cheng 法律顾问: 岳成

**Printing:** Toppan Leefung Changcheng 印刷: 北京利丰雅高长城  
Printing (Beijing) Co., Ltd. 印刷有限公司

**Overseas Distribution:**  
China International Book Trading Corporation (Guoji Shudian),  
35 Chegongzhuang Xilu,  
P.O. Box 399, Beijing 100044, China  
**Telephone:** 86-10-68413849  
**Fax:** 86-10-68412166  
China Book Trading (Canada) Inc.  
**Telephone:** 1-416-497-8096

出版日期 每月1日  
国内刊号: CN11-1429/Z  
国际刊号: ISSN0009-4420  
京海工商广字第0121号

In China, subscriptions are available at any post office.

Subscription and distribution agency in Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan:  
Hong Kong Peace Book Company, Ltd.  
17/F, Paramount Building, 12 Ka Yip Street, Chai Wan, Hong Kong

Visit China Pictorial on the Internet:  
[www.china-pictorial.com.cn](http://www.china-pictorial.com.cn)

Follow us on:



## Features

- 16 Landmark Sessions Chart New Course
- 24 On President Xi's Mind
- 30 Reinforcing Constitutional Guarantees for National Rejuvenation
- 34 Institutional Reform with Introspective Revolutionary Spirit
- 38 Chinese Solution to Corruption
- 42 China's Economic Growth Shifts from High-speed to High-quality
- 46 Yang Wei: Fighter Designer
- 48 Wang Yaping: Space Teacher
- 50 Zheng Zhijie:  
Supporting Three Critical Battles with High-quality Financial Work
- 52 Zhou Hanmin: China's Reform into Deep
- 54 Zhang Yuyan: Accelerating Reform for a New Round of Opening Up
- 56 Xiang Weiwei: Rural Vitalization Needs Millennials





16



10



60



12



64



68



72

## 04 Express

### Comment

08 Chinese Solutions for Party Systems

### Sensing China

10 Teaching in China

### New Ideas and New Goals for a New Era

12 BDS: Weaving a Global Navigation Network

### Ecology

58 Shimmering New Green Tax

## Society

60 A Village School at Lugu Lake

### Culture

64 The Beatles Have Come

68 The People of Anxi County

72 Treasures of Tibetan History and Culture

### 78 On Display





by Ju Peng/Xinhua

## Xi Jinping, Kim Jong Un Hold Talks in Beijing

March 28, Beijing: Xi Jinping (2nd right), general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Chinese president, and his wife Peng Liyuan (1st right) meet with Kim Jong Un (2nd left), chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK)

and chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), and his wife Ri Sol Ju at the Great Hall of the People. At the invitation of Xi, Kim paid an unofficial visit to China from March 25 to 28. During the visit, Xi held talks with Kim.



VCG

## ➤ Pyeongchang Winter Paralympics Closes

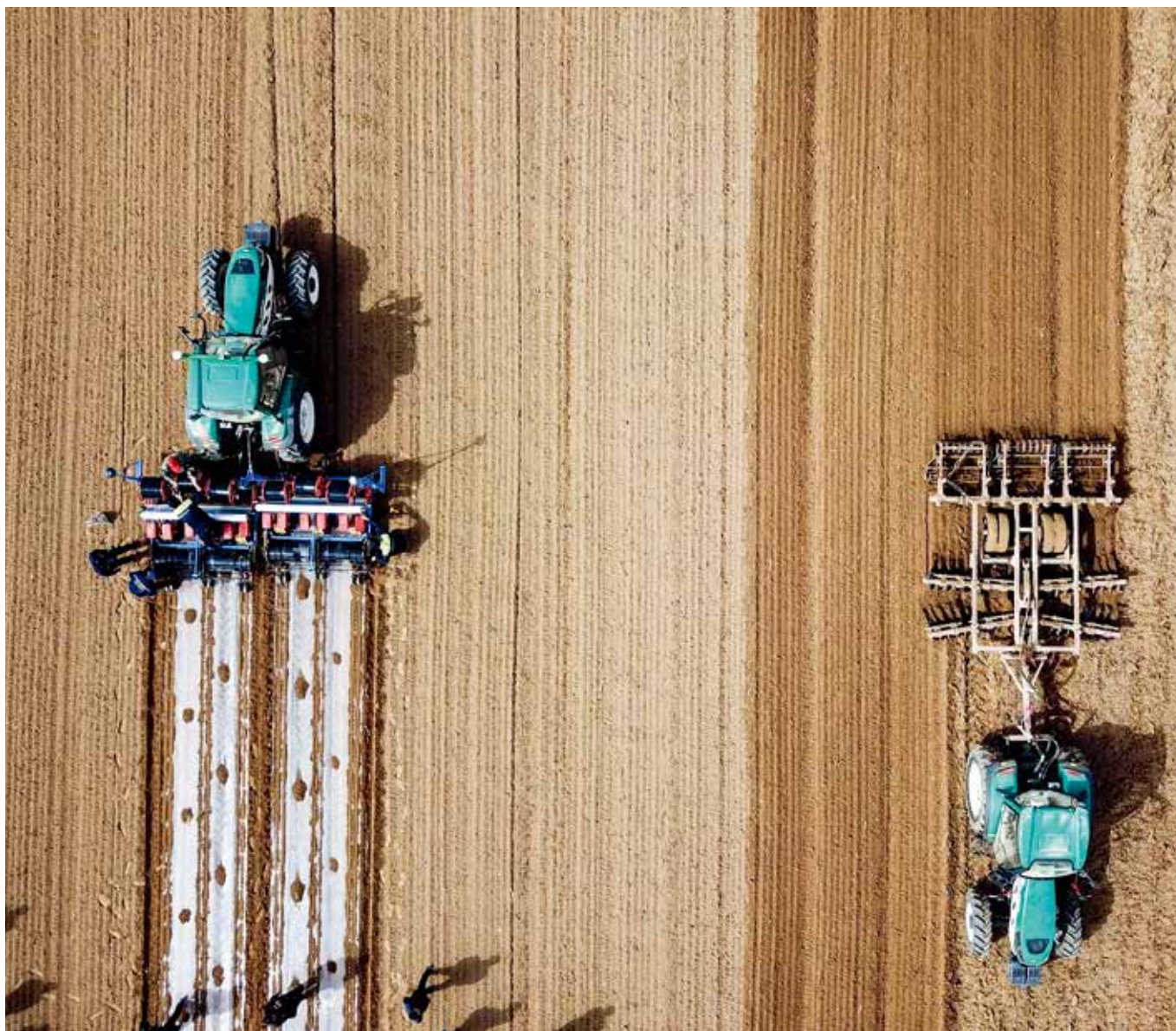
March 18, Pyeongchang, South Korea: Actors perform at the Beijing 2022 presentation during the closing ceremony of the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Paralympic Games. The show, inspired by the song “I Want to Fly,” was a perfect match with the emblem of the Beijing 2022 Winter Paralympic Games.

The 10-day Pyeongchang Paralympics attracted a record 567 athletes from 49 countries and regions around the world including the Democratic People’s

Republic of Korea (DPRK) that participated in the Winter Paralympics for the first time. China collected one gold in the wheelchair curling for its first-ever Winter Paralympic medal.

The next Winter Olympics and Paralympics will be held in Beijing in 2022, when the Chinese capital will become the first city to host both Summer and Winter Olympics and Paralympics. With this performance, China once again gave the world a warm invitation to Beijing.





by Hu Huhu/Xinhua

## Smart Tractors for Farming

March 23, Kuqa County, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region: A self-driving tractor sows cotton seeds in a field in Yaha Township. The smart tractor, with an automated navigation system, can automatically perform farm work including plowing and seeding.

“Rural vitalization” was one of the major aspects of developing a modernized economy in the report delivered to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC). China has outlined tasks and targets for

a rural vitalization strategy addressing issues related to agriculture, rural areas and rural people.

“Farming is set to become an attractive and demanding profession. As rural areas become beautiful and prosperous, the country is continuing to step up its efforts to revitalize its vast rural regions,” declared Han Changfu, who is now China’s Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, at a news conference on the sidelines of the first session of the 13th National People’s Congress in March.





IC

## ➤ From Suzhou to Venice

Suzhou, Jiangsu Province: Visitors take a boat down the river along the Pingjiang Lu in Gusu District.

Themed “Freespace,” the 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale, also known as the 16th International Architecture Exhibition, will be held from May 26 until November 25, 2018. This year, 71 studios from 65 countries will show their work in Venice.

Suzhou was invited as the 2018 Across Chinese Cities guest city by the Biennale. To present the long history, rich culture and new development of Gusu District in Suzhou, a series titled “On the Streets of

Pingjiang Lu” will be presented as a special display at the Biennale. By capturing the streetscape, architecture and culture of the historical street as well as recent planning and opportunities for transformation, it aims to radiate the new value of Gusu District and Suzhou City as well as the direction of regional innovation on development.

The Venice Architecture Biennale is one of the most influential platforms in fields of architecture and urban development in the world, and China is among its participating countries.





# Chinese Solutions for Party Systems

Text by Jiang Wei

*China's new political system avoids shortcomings of one-party rule such as a lack of democratic supervision as well as the political upheaval caused by vicious competition between multiple political parties as they vie to rule the country.*

Recently, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met with members from the China Democratic League, the China Zhi Gong Party and the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese as well as those without party affiliation who gathered in Beijing to attend the first session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), China's top political advisory body. During the meeting, Xi stressed that China must unremittably consolidate and improve the multi-party cooperation and political consultation system under the leadership of the CPC and tap into the unique potential of multi-party cooperation to provide practical advice and pool wisdom and strength for advancing socialist democratic politics.

After nearly 69 years of painstaking construction and reforms since its founding in 1949, the People's Republic of China has developed a political party system unlike any other country around the world—a system featuring multi-party cooperation under the leadership of the CPC, in which

the CPC is the ruling party and other political parties participate in the discussion and management of state affairs. This political party system was born in China, so it has distinct Chinese characteristics: With the supreme leadership of the CPC as the prerequisite, the new type of party system aims to achieve unity, cooperation and win-win integration. In China, various non-Communist parties are neither rivals nor opposing parties, but friendly parties that participate in the operation of state affairs. The system has absorbed various innovations of world civilizations and is rich in democratic values.

Moreover, the new type of political party system respects the will of the people and adopts a democratic decision-making mechanism. China's major policies and decisions are not made by any single political party, but are designed through democratic consultation and scientific deliberation between the CPC and all other political parties. They pool their wisdom to draw the blueprint for the future of the Chinese nation and unite to smoothly handle state affairs. China's new type of political system has avoided shortcomings of one-party rule such as a lack of democratic supervision as well as the

political upheaval caused by vicious competitions among multiple parties vying for the chance to rule.

What constitutes this new type of political system?

First, the system combines theory and practice. The theoretical choice of the CPC-led multi-party cooperation and political consultation system is rooted in the history of modern and contemporary China after the Opium War in the 19th century. It is the choice of the Chinese people, of their own will, in the pursuit for salvation of the nation. The system is an outcome of the blending of Marxist party theory and China's actual conditions. The development of a political consultation system combining the strength of the CPC, non-Communist parties and non-party personages has resulted in a great political invention. The history and achievements of the People's Republic of China have shown that a new type of political system that integrates theory and practice can authentically, broadly and persistently represent and pursue the fundamental interests of Chinese people of all ethnic groups.

Second, the CPC-led multi-party cooperation and political consultation system integrates democracy and



republicanism. All political parties work together for the common goal of building a stronger country and improving the people's lives. They understand and communicate with each other to effectively avoid vicious competition between parties.

Third, China has built a more rational and efficient decision-making mechanism: consultative democracy. In a broad sense, democracy could be categorized as either electoral or consultative. Considering its huge population, China needs an efficient and rational decision-making mechanism. Political consultation emphasizes the role of the system and respects procedures while avoiding social fragmentation caused by disagreements between multiple political parties. The political consultation system advocates concepts like "the whole world is one community," "inclusiveness" and "seeking common ground while shelving differences" and represents an important contribution to human political civilization.

The CPC-led multi-party cooperation and political consultation system is a unique innovation forged in China. It is rooted in the soil of China. Benefiting from achievements in the progress of human politics, it breaks the set pattern of party alterations and widens mankind's vision. It also showcases China's latest achievements in party politics and erects a monument in the development of world politics. China's new type of political party system provides a "Chinese solution" for mankind to create a democratic, harmonious and beautiful political and social life. 

The author is a research fellow at the Party Building Base of Beijing Municipal Party Committee School and the Coordination and Innovation Center for the Research of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in Beijing Colleges and Universities.

## 冰上丝绸之路 Polar Silk Road

Edited by Li Zhuoxi

The Chinese government declared in a white paper titled "China's Arctic Policy" that China is willing to work with all parties concerned to build a "Polar Silk Road" by developing Arctic shipping routes. By focusing economic cooperation on prospective investments in Arctic shipping routes and exploration of Arctic resources, China endeavors to contribute to the infrastructure construction and digitalization of the Arctic. China's Belt and Road Initiative will bring opportunities for

Spitsbergen Island in northern Norway is located along the Arctic shipping routes. The emergence of the Arctic shipping routes would cut the distance of trade between China and EU member states to about two-thirds of the traditional route. VCG



concerned parties to jointly build a "Polar Silk Road" and facilitate connectivity and sustainable economic and social development in the Arctic.

The Arctic shipping routes include sea routes that pass through the Arctic Circle to connect the three major economic centers of North America, East Asia and Western Europe through the Northeast Passage and Northwest Passage. The former is the shortest sea route between China and Europe.

More than 90 percent of China's foreign trade is shipped by sea, but if cruising along traditional shipping routes, cargo vessels from China bound for EU member states must go through the Strait of Malacca, the Indian Ocean and the Suez Canal to finally reach European ports. The Northeast Passage would cut the distance to about two-thirds of the traditional route.

Therefore, the opening and utilization of the Arctic shipping routes will promote overall growth of the Arctic economic circle and bring major changes to global trade and shipping patterns. Now, economic opportunities in the Arctic are increasing, but infrastructure there is weak and in need for the Chinese market, capital and technology.

## 互联网法院 Internet Court

Edited by Li Zhuoxi

China has launched the world's first Internet Court in the e-commerce hub of Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province. With online evidence collection and speedy trials for internet-related disputes, the court is exploring new methods to handle internet-related cases. China's Chief Justice Zhou Qiang talked about the institution while delivering a work report on the Supreme People's Court at the first session of the 13th National People's Congress in March.


With the rapid development of the internet and mobile internet, many internet-related cases have emerged, involving online copyright infringement, fraud and personal information theft. Most cases are cross-regional. In traditional judicial hearings, concerned parties must appear in court many times and some even have to travel to another city, which can be prohibitively expensive for many. Furthermore, judges of grassroots courts have meager experience in handling new and difficult cases involving modern tech. Therefore, the Internet Court emerged due to demands of the times to adapt to



August 18, 2017: An internet court in Hangzhou tries a case involving online copyright infringement. IC

economic and social development and the needs of the people.

Contrasting traditional courts, the Internet Court specializes in handling internet-related cases online. By removing cases from the traditional trial system, the court makes good use of big data to comparatively analyze the criminal cases and summarize characteristics to form a set of structured and standardized judicial procedures and rules, completing the whole process from case filing to judgment. The Internet Court is also professional—its judges are not only proficient in the law, but also in matters related to the internet, economics and finance.

The establishment of an Internet Court to explore litigation rules and trial mechanisms for internet-related cases that ensures judges' professionalism could enhance the judicial system and promote fairness as well as the healthy development of the internet economy. 





# Teaching in China

Text and photographs by Michael C. Hilliard

*I loved my Chinese students and bragged about them every chance I got. I was privileged for the opportunity to teach and get to know them, and I have no doubt they are going to make the world a better place.*

I spent two years teaching at a high school in China. Although I've since moved on to a different position, the time I spent there was unforgettable.

Like most jobs, teaching has both good days and bad. Sometimes all of your classes go well and you feel like a rock star, and other times you can't wait for class to finish and the day to end. But if you endure the bad and put in the work to grow and improve, teaching offers rewards that few other experiences can match.

My first few weeks in China were an exciting blur.

I first dropped in on Guilin for three days, where I received a brief introduction to living and teaching in China before being whisked off to Xi'an. The day after arriving there, a van picked me up from my hotel and took me to the outlying district of Lintong in the northeast corner of Xi'an where the terracotta warriors were discovered. I was dropped off at the gate of an apartment complex that would be my new home, just a short walk from the school where I would teach. Not long after lugging my bags up the stairs to my apartment on the fifth floor, I was invited to join several teachers and school staffers for my first meal, a Chinese-style dinner—a large, round table with a Lazy Susan piled high with a dozen or more dishes over the course of the meal. Before I knew it,



June 12, 2016: A classroom full of students who keep their spirits high as they prepare for their grueling final year of high school.

I was walking into my first class.

I'd been forewarned that class sizes in China often range from 45 to 60 students or more, but my previous experience was mostly one-on-one tutoring or small groups. So my first time solo in front of such a big group had my heart pounding. The wide eyes and wider smiles that greeted me did a lot to boost my confidence.

For non-permanent teachers, the first few weeks or months at a new school are known as the "honeymoon period," and it's especially pronounced in ESL—all the students are still fascinated with having a new foreign teacher and on their best behavior.

My experience was no exception: At first, my students always seemed excited to see me. After class, many would crowd around me and ask for autographs. Once, a particularly thoughtful student even acted as a bouncer for me and held back the crowd so that I could get to my next class on time. I was inundated with small origami gifts and notes, and other teachers told me that the students were all talking about me in their other classes and posting about the handsome new foreign teacher on the school's website. The celebrity treatment was a surprise, but it made me think I must be doing a good job.

But, sooner or later the

honeymoon ends. While some classes continued to go well, particularly the ones with advanced students or eager learners, others would at times devolve into barely controlled chaos. I learned that keeping a class's interest for an entire 50-minute period was usually a herculean effort of creativity and classroom management, and I realized I would need to step up my game if I wanted to have an impact and be successful.

Part of the difficulty was related to my inability to speak any Chinese at first. In the short time between deciding to go to China, arriving and starting to teach, I'd learned the basics of Pinyin (romanized Chinese writing system) and a handful of words and simple phrases. Back then I could count to ten and say words like "mom," "dad" and "bread" in Chinese, but more complex things, like asking directions to the bathroom or instructing a student not to be disruptive in class, were still largely beyond my reach.

While many Chinese students are fairly competent in basic English reading, writing and grammar by the time they reach high school, their oral English skills are often lacking. Many schools can't afford foreign teachers, and many families can't afford the expense of private English lessons. In many parts of China, there simply aren't enough foreign teachers available, even for those who can afford them. For students at my school, one of the top-ranked schools in the area, having a foreign teacher was a sign of prestige, and most had never had a foreign teacher before. In English classes taught by Chinese teachers, Chinese is spoken more often than English. It shouldn't be surprising that students suddenly thrust into their first-ever class

entirely in English sometimes find it hard to pay attention.

Often, particularly in the beginning, if I asked a student a question in English using words that I was fairly confident they knew, their response would still be "*Ting bu dong*" ("I don't understand"), or a frantic glance to a classmate while desperately whispering, "*Ta shuo sha?*" ("What did he say?") It took time for me to find effective ways to help students realize that they could communicate in English better than they might have thought. I spent a lot of my evenings and weekends coming up with new games and group activities, planning lessons that incorporated movies and music, testing things out and making adjustments as time passed.

Another difficulty I discovered is that high schools in China can be really tough on students. Most seem to agree on that.

A typical day's classes might start at 8 a.m. and continue until dinner at 6 p.m., with a break for lunch at noon. Even after dinner, students return to their classrooms to work on homework for several hours, often under the supervision of a teacher. By the time students reach their senior year, it's not uncommon to stay up well past midnight to work on homework and study to prepare for the dreaded *gaokao*—China's make-or-break college entrance exam, where a few points one way or another can be the deciding factor in which universities will accept you.


The pressure can be incredibly intense. Discipline from parents and teachers is often harsh, even if it's meted out with the best of intentions. Signs in school hallways stress that the only path to success is to get up earlier and work harder. The weight



June 17, 2016: Self-portrait of the author with his high-school students during the last week of classes.

and stress of it all can be enough to break someone.

Despite it all, I was continually amazed at the perseverance and heart in so many of my students. When facing so much pressure, it's easy to become frustrated, angry or depressed, and some do. It's not easy to dig in your heels and keep pushing yourself to work harder day after day. High-school experience in China may be a battle, but I was impressed by how many students kept fighting. Not just fighting to do well in their studies, but to maintain a positive, hopeful outlook on life. Meeting so many talented students full of curiosity, warmth, passion and courage was inspiring. It was their heart as much as anything that made me decide to continue my contract for a second year.

I loved my students and bragged about them every chance I got. I was privileged to be able to teach and get to know them, and I have no doubt they are going to make the world a better place. 

The author is a senior training specialist at Objectiva Software Solutions.



# BDS: Weaving a Global Navigation Network

Text by Zhang Xue

*Ancient humans used the seven stars of the Big Dipper (called “Beidou” in Chinese) to tell directions. Today, China’s homegrown BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) has become the new guide. From the Beidou stars to the BDS, humans never cease pursuing precise measurement of space and time.*

When China’s homegrown satellite navigation system, named after “Beidou,” began operation in 2003, China became the third country to operate a self-developed satellite navigation system, following the United States and Russia.

The third phase of the BDS, known as BeiDou-3, began construction in 2017 and will be ready to serve the whole globe by 2020.

With the BDS expanding from a domestic navigation system to a global network, China is making a crucial breakthrough in technological innovation in the new era.

## Catching Up

Compared to the other three global navigation satellite systems, the United States’ GPS, Russia’s GLONASS and the European Union’s Galileo, China’s BDS is the newest on the scene.

The BDS project was first launched in the 1980s with an aim to fulfill the Chinese dream of developing its own satellite navigation system. However, not until 1994 did China start working on the BeiDou Satellite Navigation Experimental System, known as BeiDou-1. In late 20th century, China explored its own path and made plans to

develop BeiDou-1, 2 and 3 consecutively.

Three positioning satellites constituted the BeiDou-1 navigation system, two of which were launched in 2000 and the other in 2003. With only three satellites, the system managed to provide regional service. The success in the formation of the BeiDou-1 network made China the third country to own a homegrown satellite navigation system and marked the dawn of the BDS service era.

China had accelerated development of the BeiDou-2 navigation system since 2007 and completed networking on its 16 satellites in December 2012. The BeiDou-2 system began operation with expanded service to the Asia-Pacific region, providing navigation, positioning and time services.

In November 2017, China launched two satellites for the BeiDou-3 navigation system from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in the southwestern province of Sichuan. The BeiDou-3 era has almost arrived.

A Long March 3B/YZ-1 rocket launched BeiDou satellites 28 and 29 into space on February 12, 2018. This year will bring frequent launches with 18 BeiDou-3 satellites scheduled to go into space by the end of 2018. The global network of the BeiDou-3 navigation system with

November 5, 2017: A Long March-3B carrier rocket sends BeiDou satellites 24 and 25 into space from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwestern China's Sichuan Province. VCG





30 satellites will take shape with global coverage by the end of 2020.

The BeiDou-3 navigation system, inheriting advantages of previous BeiDou systems, will provide more precise location than the BeiDou-2 by 100-200 percent. China aims to provide more efficient and accurate measurement of time and space.

### **Serving Civilians**

As opposed to military use, the BDS is more applicable to civilian service. The system has been widely employed in public security, transportation, fishery, power industry, forestry, disaster relief and more. It brought drastic changes to the construction of smart cities and social governance, catching eyes worldwide.

The BDS has formed an integral industrial system that combines basic products, application terminals and operation service, deeply integrating with various economic sectors.

At the fifth anniversary of the beginning of service of the BeiDou-2 navigation system last December, China's State Council Information Office held a press conference to report on its achievements.

Ran Chengqi, director of China's Satellite Navigation System Management Office and spokesperson for the BDS, said that the BDS integrates with the internet, cloud computing and big data to build a cloud service platform that provides highly precise information on time and space. He added that the auxiliary BeiDou satellite positioning system covers more than 200 countries and regions with over 100 million users and over 200 million uses daily.

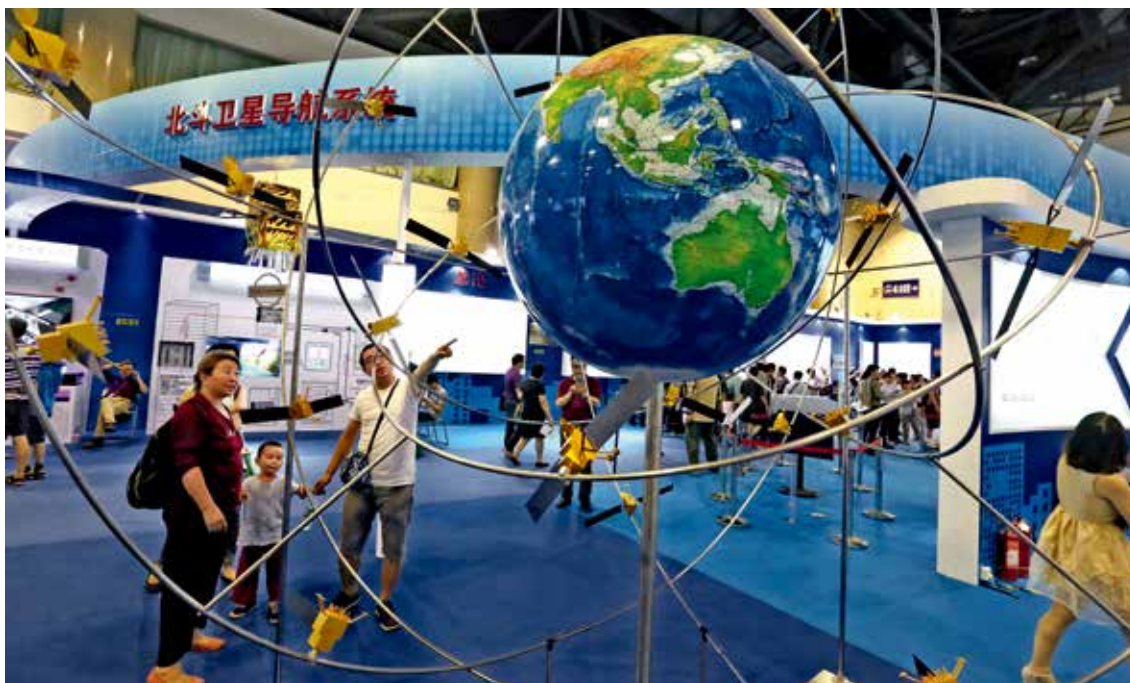
According to China's Ministry of Transport, the BDS formed the world's largest automobile positioning network in China in 2016, with 4.8 million transport vehicles equipped with the BDS hitting road. Its data shows that the system saved one-third of travel time and reduced severe accidents by half. More than 40,000 fishing boats have been equipped with the system.



Technicians prepare for the launch of a BeiDou-3 satellite. VCG

It is estimated that the BDS has saved more than 10,000 fishers since 2003. With the BDS, the time it takes to report severe disasters to authorities dropped to less than an hour, and the efficiency of aid and emergency response doubled. The BDS-based service has expanded to areas like precision agriculture, monitoring building dangers and unmanned driving.

Today, the BDS is becoming a must-have for mobile phones in China. Shared bikes use the system to realize precise management and more devices equipped with the BDS such as watches, sporting wristbands and student cards are incorporating the invisible system into everyday life.



June 5, 2016: A model of the BDS is showcased at an exhibition of China's technological achievements during the 12th Five-Year Plan period (2011-2015). VCG

## Open Arms

Developers of the BDS built the system for the world as well as for China, so it should be compatible with other satellite navigation systems and advance together with them.

The BDS is integrating globally with increasing international cooperation, evidenced by the establishment of the Project Committee on China-Russia GNSS Cooperation as well as China-U.S. and China-EU joint working groups on satellite navigation. China has contributed to win-win cooperation between multiple navigation systems by jointly building a platform to monitor satellite navigation with Russia and signing joint statements on compatibility and interoperability between satellite navigation systems with both Russia and the United States.

"The BDS has become the third satellite navigation system recognized by the International Maritime Organization," revealed Ran. "It is also the core constellation for satellite navigation recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization.

The system has gained international resources to support its satellite-based augmented service and provides free search and rescuing services around the whole world. Also, the international standards of the third and fourth generations of BDS-based positioning technology for mobile communication have already been published."

Early in December 2017, China and the United States signed a joint statement on civil signal compatibility and interoperability between BDS and GPS. The two systems will realize interoperation in civilian signals. After the two navigation systems link with each other, one terminal can receive signals from both, largely improving the stability and accuracy of positioning.

The BDS has been recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the Third-Generation Mobile Communication Standard Partnership Project. It covers nearly three billion people in more than 50 countries and regions and has become a new calling card to inspire people to learn about China. 





FEATURES

# Landmark Sessions Chart New Course

Concept by China Pictorial

*China sets sail with an amended Constitution that enshrines Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as the guiding principle for the country's rise.*

中华人民共和国第十三届全国人民代表大会第一次会议

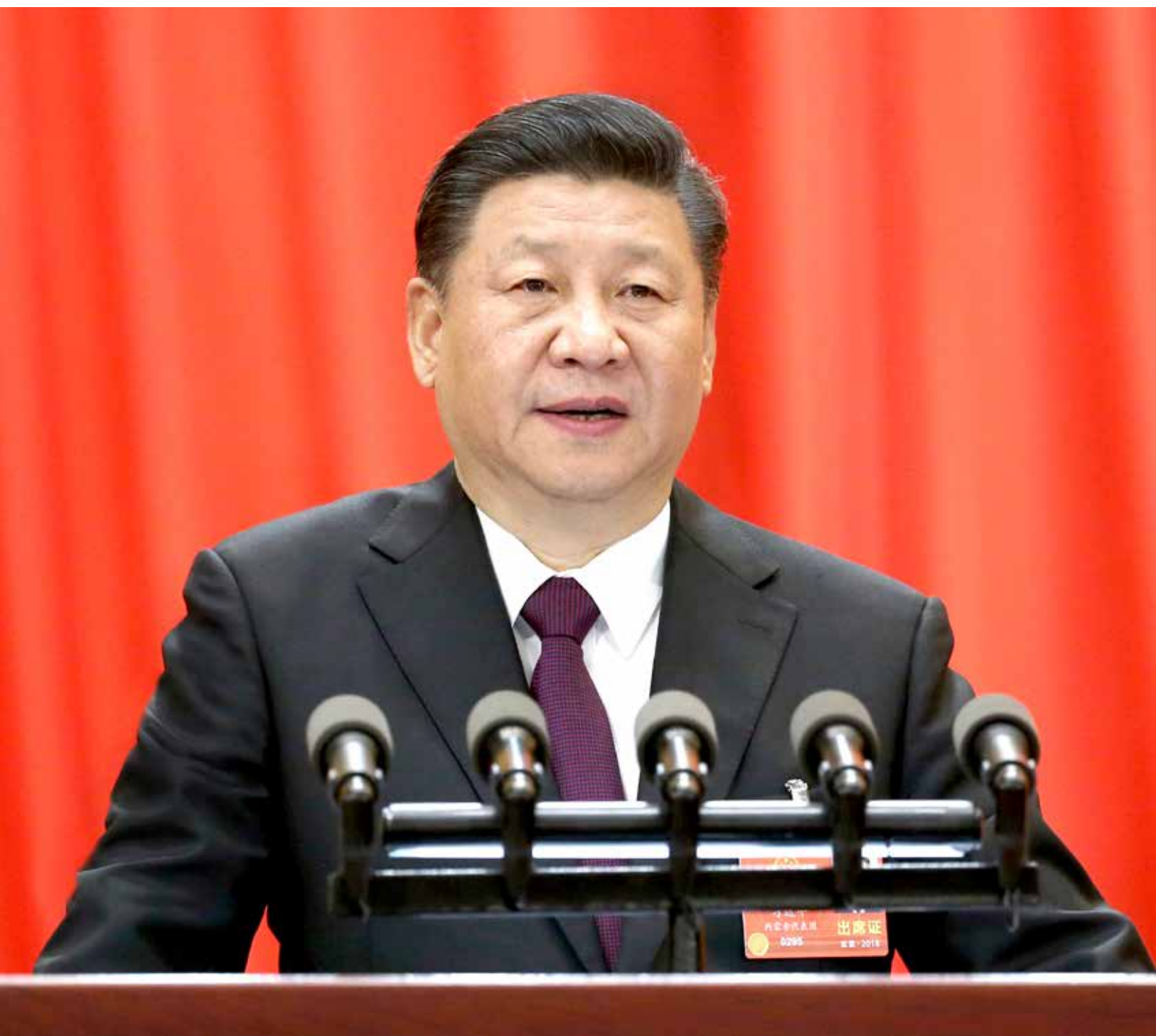






March 5, 2018: The first session of the 13th National People's Congress opens at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. by Wan Quan





March 20, 2018: Chinese President Xi Jinping delivers a keynote speech at the closing meeting of the first session of the 13th National People's Congress at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. by Yao Dawei/Xinhua

China set new course for development during the recent annual “Two Sessions” where nearly 3,000 national legislators and over 2,000 top political advisers met in Beijing to discuss and decide on critical issues concerning the country’s future.

The first session of the 13th National People’s Congress (NPC) opened on March 5 and lasted half a month, and the first session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) convened on March 3 and concluded on March 15. The sessions were the first high-profile national political gatherings since the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) last October and carried tremendous significance as China marches toward the goals set by the milestone Party congress—to basically realize socialist modernization by 2035 and build a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful by the

middle of the century.

According to this year’s government work report, China aims to grow its GDP by about 6.5 percent in 2018, which is consistent with last year’s target. Looking to greener and more sustainable engines such as consumption and services, the world’s second-largest economy is showing a clear intention to shift from high-speed growth to high-quality development. To achieve the growth target, China will also open its doors wider to foreign investors, further liberalize and facilitate trade and investment and better integrate with the international market.

To improve the people’s living standards, China will advance institutional social reforms this year, covering old-age pensions, public hospitals and healthcare. Greater efforts will be made to boost employment, raise incomes, relieve poverty and reduce disparities in urban-rural development.

China rolled out a massive institutional restructuring plan of the State Council, or China’s cabinet, to cut bureaucracy. The

March 17, 2018: Xi Jinping is elected Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People’s Republic of China at the fifth plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th National People’s Congress (NPC) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.  
by Xie Huanchi/Xinhua







March 18, 2018: Xi Jinping (left, front) shakes hands with Li Keqiang at the sixth plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Li Keqiang was endorsed as Chinese premier at the first session of the 13th NPC. by Ju Peng/Xinhua

national legislature approved a plan to cut 15 State Council entities at the ministerial or vice-ministerial levels and strengthen the cabinet's roles in economic management, market supervision, social management, public services, and environmental protection. The institutional reform of the cabinet, the eighth since 1982, is expected to make the government better structured, more efficient and more service-oriented.

Unveiling specific goals and priorities for this year's work as it conventionally has, China also elected new state leadership to work towards these ambitions. Xi Jinping was re-elected president of the People's

Republic of China (PRC) unanimously by the NPC and he took the oath of allegiance to the Constitution in public. This was the first time a Chinese president took such an oath upon assuming office, only six days after the national legislature added oaths of allegiance into the newly amended fundamental law. Xi was also elected chairman of the Central Military Commission of the PRC. Following his lead, new heads of other state organs all took the oath of allegiance to the Constitution including the NPC, the State Council, the National Supervisory Commission, the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate. This move is part of



March 17, 2018: Li Zhanshu (left, front) shakes hands with Zhang Dejiang, chairman of the Standing Committee of the 12th National People's Congress (NPC), at the fifth plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Li Zhanshu was elected chairman of the 13th NPC Standing Committee at the meeting. by Xie Huanchi/Xinhua




March 14, 2018: Yu Zhengsheng (right), chairman of the 12th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), shakes hands with Wang Yang at the fourth plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Wang Yang was elected chairman of the 13th CPPCC National Committee at the meeting. by Li Xueren/Xinhua

the Chinese leadership's renewed commitment to the rule of law.

The National Supervisory Commission, endorsed by the amended Constitution, is a newly founded body intended to strengthen China's fight against corruption. The NPC passed the national supervision law to serve as a fundamental and guiding regulation to fight corruption and improve state supervision as part of an effort to guarantee reform of the supervisory system. A nationwide network of supervisory commissions has taken shape in China. Sharing offices and staff with the Party disciplinary inspectors, the supervisory commissions incorporated existing supervisory, corruption prevention and control agencies within governments and procuratorates. The commissions are expected to independently exercise supervisory power without interference from the government,

social organizations or individuals.

Most importantly, the Constitution enshrines Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as the guiding principle for the country's rise as the NPC adopted the first amendment to the fundamental law in 14 years. Deemed the latest achievement in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context, the Thought is a form of Marxism for contemporary China and the 21st century.

As the curtains closed on the Two Sessions, China set sail with its people primed to fight for a better life in the new era. The target of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects is only two years away. Precisely as President Xi said at the closing meeting of the NPC annual session, "The new era belongs to each and every one of us, and every one of us is part of this new era, witnessing, blazing new trails and building this new era." 





## National People's Congress



PRC President and Vice President

**Xi Jinping** President of the People's Republic of China

Xi Jinping, male, Han ethnicity, was born in June 1953 and is from Fuping, Shaanxi Province. He began his first job in January 1969 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in January 1974. Xi graduated from School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tsinghua University where he completed an in-service graduate program in Marxist theory and ideological and political education. He holds a Doctor of Law degree.

Xi is currently General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission, President of the People's Republic of China (PRC), and Chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission.



**Wang Qishan** Vice President of the People's Republic of China

Wang Qishan, male, Han ethnicity, was born in July 1948 and is from Tianzhen, Shanxi Province. He began his first job in January 1969 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in February 1983. Wang graduated from the University Regular Class at the Department of History at Northwest University, China, with a major in history. He is a senior economist.

He is currently Vice President of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

PRC Central Military Commission

**Xi Jinping** Chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission

NPC Standing Committee



**Li Zhanshu** Chairman of the 13th NPC Standing Committee

Li Zhanshu, male, Han ethnicity, was born in August 1950 and is from Pingshan, Hebei Province. He began his first job in December 1972 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in April 1975. Li graduated from Department of Political Education, Night College, Hebei Normal University where he completed an in-service undergraduate program. He holds an executive MBA degree.

Li is currently a member of the Standing Committee of the 19th CPC Central Committee Political Bureau and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress.



## CPPCC National Committee



**Wang Yang** Chairman of the 13th CPPCC National Committee

Wang Yang, male, Han ethnicity, was born in March 1955 and is from Suzhou, Anhui Province. He began his first job in June 1972 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in August 1975. He received a university education at the Central Party School, and holds a Master of Engineering degree.

Wang is currently a member of the Standing Committee of the 19th CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, Chairman of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), Vice Premier of the State Council and a member of its Leading Party Members Group.

## Timeline

### March 3

The first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee opened and Chairman of Standing Committee of the 12th CPPCC National Committee Yu Zhengsheng delivered a work report.

### March 5

The first session of the 13th NPC opened and Premier Li Keqiang delivered a government work report.

### March 6-9

NPC deputies and CPPCC National Committee members discussed the government work report, the annual budget plan, the plan for national economic and social development and

the draft amendment to the Constitution.

### March 10

NPC deputies and CPPCC National Committee members discussed the work reports of the

## State Council

**Li Keqiang** Premier of the State Council

Li Keqiang, male, Han ethnicity, was born in July 1955 and is from Dingyuan, Anhui Province. He began his first job in March 1974 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in May 1976. Li is a graduate of Peking University's Law Department where he earned a Bachelor of Law degree, and of the university's School of Economics where he completed an in-service graduate program in economics and was awarded a Doctor of Economics degree.

Li is currently a member of the Standing Committee of the 19th CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, Premier of the State Council, and Secretary of its Leading Party Members Group.

## National Supervisory Commission

**Yang Xiaodu** Director of the National Supervisory Commission

Yang Xiaodu, male, Han ethnicity, was born in October 1953 and is from Shanghai. He began his first job in May 1970 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in September 1973. He received a graduate degree at the Central Party School.

Yang is currently a member of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, a member of the CPC Central Committee Secretariat, Deputy Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and Director of the National Supervisory Commission.

## Supreme People's Court

**Zhou Qiang** President of the Supreme People's Court

Zhou Qiang, male, Han ethnicity, was born in April 1960 and is from Huangmei, Hubei Province. He began his first job in August 1976 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in September 1978. He graduated from the Southwest University of Political Science and Law where he completed a graduate program in civil law. He holds a Master of Law degree.

Zhou is currently a member of the 19th CPC Central Committee, President of the Supreme People's Court, and Secretary of its Leading Party Members Group.

## Supreme People's Procuratorate

**Zhang Jun** Procurator-General of the Supreme People's Procuratorate

Zhang Jun, male, Han ethnicity, was born in October 1956 and is from Boxing, Shandong Province. He began his first job in January 1973 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in May 1974. He graduated from the Law Department at Renmin University of China where he completed a graduate program in criminal law. He holds a Doctor of Law degree.

Zhang is currently a member of the 19th CPC Central Committee, Procurator-General of the Supreme People's Procuratorate and Secretary of its Leading Party Members Group.

Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate.

**March 11**

NPC deputies voted on the draft amendment to the Constitution.

**March 12**

NPC deputies discussed the work report of the NPC Standing Committee.

**March 13**

NPC deputies and CPPCC National Committee members discussed the draft national supervision law and the institutional reform plan of the State Council.

**March 14**

National political advisers elected the chair, vice-chairs, secretary-general and members of the Standing Committee of the CPPCC National Committee.

**March 15**

National political advisers voted on the work report of the Standing Committee of the 12th CPPCC National Committee and an amendment to the CPPCC Charter at the closing meeting of the first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee.

**March 17**

National legislators voted on the institutional reform plan of

the State Council, elected the president and vice-president, the chairman of the Central Military Commission, and the chair, vice-chairs and secretary-general of the NPC Standing Committee.

**March 18**

National legislators confirmed the nomination of the premier of the State Council and vice-chairs and members of the Central Military Commission, and elected the head of the national supervisory commission, chief justice and procurator-general, and members of the NPC Standing Committee.

**March 19**

National legislators approved nominations of vice-premiers,

state councilors, ministers, central bank governor, auditor general, secretary-general of the State Council and leaders and members of specialized NPC committees.

**March 20**

National legislators voted on the government work report, the annual budget plan, the plan for national economic and social development, the work reports of the 12th NPC Standing Committee, the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate, and the draft national supervision law at the closing meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC. President Xi Jinping addressed the meeting.





March 4, 2018: President Xi Jinping delivers an important speech while attending a joint panel discussion with political advisors from the China Democratic League and the China Zhi Gong Party, those without party affiliation and those from the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese during the first session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). Words spoken by Xi at the 18-day Two Sessions this year attracted worldwide attention.  
by Sheng Jiapeng/Xinhua

# On President Xi's Mind

Edited by Gong Haiying

*Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered seven important speeches during the 18-day Two Sessions this year, expressing his concerns and insights on major issues related to China's development in the new era.*

From the commencement of the first session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) on March 3, 2018, to the closure of the first session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) on March

20, together popularly known as the "Two Sessions" in China, words spoken by Chinese President Xi Jinping aroused worldwide attention. During the 18-day Two Sessions, Xi delivered seven important speeches for occasions such as panel discussions and the closing

meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC, conveying his concerns and insights on major issues related to the country's development in the new era. Some buzz-worthy themes mentioned in those speeches are worthy of discussion and study for people from all walks of life.

## New Type of Party System

**Source:** “As a basic political system in China, multi-party cooperation and political consultation led by the Communist Party of China (CPC) is a political invention jointly innovated by the CPC, the Chinese people, all non-Communist parties and those without party affiliation—a new party system sprouting from Chinese soil.”

**Interpretation:** On March 4, 2018, Xi Jinping attended a joint panel discussion with political advisors from the China Democratic League and the China Zhi Gong Party (both non-Communist parties in China), those without party affiliation and those from the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese (a national organization comprising returned overseas Chinese and their families) during the first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee. In a speech there, Xi elaborated: First, the system

is new because it combines Marxist political party theory with China's reality, and truly, extensively and in the long term represents fundamental interests of all people and all ethnic groups. Second, the system is new because it unites all political parties and people without party affiliation towards a common goal. Third, the system is new because it pools ideas and suggestions through institutional, procedural and standardized arrangements and develops a scientific and democratic decision-making mechanism.

March 5, 2018: President Xi Jinping joins a panel discussion with NPC deputies from the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. by Xie Huanchi/Xinhua



## President Xi Jinping at the Two Sessions

### March 3

Xi attended the opening meeting of the first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee.

### March 4

Xi attended a joint panel discussion with political advisors from the China Democratic League, the China Zhi Gong Party, those without party affiliation and those from the sector of returned overseas Chinese.

### March 5

Xi attended the opening meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC and joined a panel discussion with NPC deputies from the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

### March 7

Xi attended a panel discussion with NPC deputies from Guangdong Province.

### March 8

Xi attended a panel discussion with NPC deputies from Shandong Province.

### March 9

Xi attended the second plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC.

### March 10

Xi attended a panel discussion with NPC deputies from Chongqing Municipality.



## High-quality Development

**Source:** “The Chinese economy has transitioned from a phase of rapid growth to a stage of high-quality development.”

**Interpretation:** High-quality development has been a primary tone for China’s economic and social development, which President Xi Jinping reiterated frequently during this year’s Two Sessions. Animal husbandry, coal, rare earth and natural gas were formerly backbone industries supporting the economic growth of northern China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. When joining a panel discussion with NPC deputies from the autonomous region on March 5, Xi noted that the focus of high-quality economic development should be on transforming and upgrading industries and called for more efforts to foster new industries, new driving forces and new growth points and to develop the modern energy sector, pointing a clear path forward for energy-oriented regions to achieve high-quality development.

January 22, 2018: Qiao Xiuzhong, a resident of Lianxing Village in Wuyuan County, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, grazes sheep in his courtyard. The village has 457 families living in solar-powered houses with central heating. by Liu Lei/Xinhua



## Innovative Development

**Source:** “Development is the primary task, human capital is the primary resource, and innovation is the primary driving force.”

**Interpretation:** The southern Chinese province of Guangdong has long been a window for China’s reform and opening up and a forerunner of scientific and technological innovation. It has served as a role model for China’s development and transformation. President Xi Jinping highlighted development, human capital and innovation when joining NPC deputies from Guangdong in a panel discussion on March 7. He warned that China would not become strong if it failed to stick with innovation-driven development and transform old driving forces into new ones. Xi pointed out that innovation is a prerequisite for strength and human capital is a prerequisite for innovation, noting that human resources policies and innovation mechanisms are the focus of future reform.

March 17, 2018: Visitors at the Guangzhou International Children’s Innovation Education Expo. by Lu Hanxin/Xinhua



## Rural Vitalization Strategy

**Source:** “The rural vitalization strategy is a grand campaign that requires holistic planning and needs to be promoted in a scientific manner.”

**Interpretation:** Shandong Province, located on the shores of the Yellow Sea and Bohai Sea in eastern China, ranks near the top in terms of economic development nationally. A major Chinese agricultural province, Shandong has long topped the country in the growth of agricultural output. At a March 8 panel discussion with NPC deputies from Shandong Province, President Xi Jinping stressed that implementing the rural vitalization strategy was a major decision made by the 19th CPC National Congress and a historic mission essential to accomplishing the goals of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and developing China into a modern socialist country. It is high on the agenda for government work in agriculture, rural areas and rural residents in the new era. He also noted that the quality of a moderately prosperous society and socialist modernization is determined by agricultural competitiveness, the rural environment and rural incomes.

January 24, 2018: A villager packs apples at Zonglu Fruits Cooperative in Mengyin County, Shandong Province. Shandong is one of China’s major agricultural provinces. by Xing Guangli/Xinhua



## Political Ecology

**Source:** “Just like natural ecology, political ecology can be easily polluted and, if damaged, will be very expensive to rehabilitate.”

**Interpretation:** Chongqing is one of four municipalities directly under the central government and the largest economic center and transport hub in southwestern China. It occupies a unique position of strategic importance in the country's coordinated regional development and opening-up landscape. On March 10, while joining a panel discussion with NPC deputies from Chongqing, President Xi Jinping stressed that a clean and upright political ecology is an essential requirement for safeguarding the authority and centralized and unified leadership of the CPC Central Committee, an urgent need for ensuring full and strict governance over the Party and a vital guarantee for fulfilling reform and development targets.

The district of Fuling in Chongqing at the convergence of the Yangtze and Wujiang rivers. Chongqing is the largest economic center and transport hub in southwestern China and occupies a unique position of strategic importance in the country's coordinated regional development and opening-up landscape. IC



## Military Upgrade through Sci-tech Innovation

**Source:** “Efforts should be made to strengthen sci-tech innovation in the area of national defense, accelerate construction of a military-civilian integrated system for innovation, improve independent research and innovation abilities in defense science and technology, transfer advanced research achievements into equipment and weaponry, and promote a transition featuring better quality and performance with intensive application of advanced technologies in army building.”

**Interpretation:** On March 12, at a plenary meeting of NPC deputies from the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and armed police, President Xi Jinping called for close attention to advances in defense technology and development of new weapons around the world. He suggested giving more support to key fields and striving for a leading position in the worldwide competition in defense science and technology. Xi also stressed that the military needs to be open-minded and share their research and development resources with others, tap into the potential of global society in scientific and technological innovation and create a highly competitive atmosphere for innovation in defense science and technology. 

February 20, 2017: A model of China's FD-2000 long-range air defense missile system on display at a defense technology and equipment exhibition in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The Chinese booth covers 1,458 square meters, the largest at the event in the past few years. by Zhao Dingzhe/Xinhua



### March 11

Xi attended the third plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC.

### March 12

Xi attended a plenary meeting of NPC deputies from the People's Liberation Army and the People's Armed Police Force.

### March 13

Xi attended the fourth plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC.

### March 15

Xi attended the closing meeting of the first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee.

### March 17

Xi attended the fifth plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC and was elected president of China and chairman of the Central Military Commission by unanimous vote.

### March 18

Xi attended the sixth plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC.

### March 19

Xi attended the seventh plenary meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC.

### March 20

Xi attended the closing meeting of the first session of the 13th NPC.



# By the Numbers Government Work Report 2018

Compiled and designed by: China Pictorial

On March 5, 2018, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang delivered a government work report to the first session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) in Beijing, reviewing China's achievements over the past five years and laying out the requirements and direction of policies for economic and social development in 2018.

The government work report set a number of targets, particularly focused on three critical battles, namely, to defuse major risks, fight poverty and address pollution, providing an important opportunity for people both at home and abroad to understand China's development strategies and its positive influence on the global economy.

## 2013 ~ 2017 Economic and Social Development

### Economic Performance



China's contribution to global growth



Government revenue



Consumption's contribution to growth



The share of the service sector in the economy



### Poverty Relief



### Technological Innovation



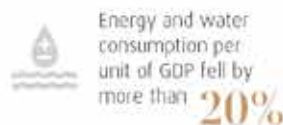
### Jobs and Businesses



### People's Wellbeing



### Environmental Protection



2018

## Targets for Economic and Social Development

### Economic Performance



Surveyed urban unemployment rate <5.5%  
Registered urban jobless rate <4.5%



### 2018 Fiscal Targets

Fiscal policy will continue to be proactive in direction.



**2.6%** Deficit as a percentage of GDP  
0.4 percentage point lower than last year.



**21 trillion yuan**  
Budgeted government expenditure

2018

## Proposals for the Work of Government

### Internet Accessibility



### Fiscal Policy



### Poverty Relief



### Overcapacity Reduction



### Environmental Protection



Achieve a continuous decline in **PM<sub>2.5</sub>** density in key areas

### Rural Vitalization



Implement the policy on extending second-round rural land contracts by another **30** years on expiration

### Infrastructure Development



**Housing renovation plan**  
Launch a new three-year renovation plan to address housing in rundown urban areas



**732 billion yuan**  
Investment in railway construction

**1.8 trillion yuan**  
Investment in highway and waterway projects

### 1 trillion yuan

Investment in ongoing water conservancy projects

**537.6 billion yuan**  
Central government investment budget

An increase by **↑ 30 billion yuan** over last year





# Reinforcing Constitutional Guarantees for National Rejuvenation

*The amendment to China's Constitution adapts to new situations and new missions in the new era, which is vital for development to stay abreast of the times and governed by rule of law.*

Recently, the first session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature, adopted an amendment to the country's Constitution by an overwhelming majority. The revision conforms to the trends of the times, the needs of China's development and the common aspirations of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese people. It is an important move to advance law-based governance and modernize the country's system and capacity for governance. It is tremendously significant in practical terms and a far-reaching historic opportunity to highlight the pivotal role of the Constitution in upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics and creating a strong constitutional guarantee for the realization of the "two centenary goals" and the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation.

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, has stressed that in order to govern the country according to law, we must first enact Constitution-based governance, and that in order to exercise state powers according to law, we must first carry out Constitution-based exercise of state powers. From the decision of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee to launch

## Constitutional Amendment Process

The Constitution must continuously improve and develop with the advancement of socialist practice under the CPC leadership. In the new era, the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics urges the revision of the Constitution.

**September 29, 2017**

General Secretary Xi Jinping presided over a meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, which passed a decision to amend the Constitution and set up a constitutional amendment group headed by Zhang Dejiang, with Wang Huning and Li Zhanshu serving as deputy heads.

**November 13, 2017**

The CPC Central Committee issued a notice of soliciting opinions on revising part of the Constitution, elaborately organizing discussions and listening to the opinions of various regions and departments on all aspects to propose amendments to the Constitution.

During the drafting of the proposal, General Secretary Xi Jinping chaired the meetings of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and its Standing Committee several times, and deliberated on the draft for the purpose and direction of the next stage of work.

In the first round of soliciting opinions, 2,639 pieces of suggestions on the constitutional amendment were provided by various departments and regions and people outside the Party.

March 17, 2018: Xi Jinping takes a public oath of allegiance to the Constitution at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Xi was elected Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China.  
by Ju Peng/Xinhua





the constitutional revision to the solicitation of opinions within and beyond the Party on the proposal to revise part of the Constitution, from discussion and ratification of the proposal at the second plenary session of the 19th CPC Central Committee to the motion on the draft amendment to the Constitution reached at a meeting of the NPC Standing Committee that was eventually passed at the first session of the 13th NPC, the entire process of amending the Constitution conformed to the spirit and principles of scientific, democratic and law-based legislation. It vividly manifests the practices of the CPC in guiding legislation, guaranteeing law enforcement, supporting the judiciary and playing a lead role in observing laws. This is the culmination of the organic integration of the CPC leadership, the people running the country and law-based governance.

An ancient Chinese saying goes, “Good governance is achieved when laws keep pace with the times, and merit is realized when governance fits in reality.” China’s Constitution is a set of principles for governance that embodies the wishes of the Party and the people. It plays a vital role in China’s governance under the leadership of the CPC. We should keep pace with the times and improve the Constitution while maintaining its consistency, stability and authority. This is the fundamental rule governing China’s efforts to advance the rule of law. Since the adoption of its first Constitution in 1954, China has never stopped improving the Constitution. The current Constitution was enacted in 1982 and amended five times thereafter.

The 2018 amendment enables the Constitution to stay abreast of the times as it facilitates construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics and provides constitutional guarantee for China’s reform, opening up and socialist modernization. Data shows the incorporation of the great achievements and valuable experiences of the Party and the people into the country’s Constitution in a timely manner to achieve the organic integration of the propositions of the Party, the will of the nation, and the wishes of the people is a key factor behind the CPC’s success in governance.

Socialism with Chinese characteristics has crossed a threshold into a new era. This is a new historic crossroads for China’s development. The Constitution must constantly improve along with the development of Chinese practice in building socialism with

#### December 12, 2017

The General Office of the CPC Central Committee issued a notice and asked for advice to a certain extent within the Party on the draft of the proposal for the amendment to the Constitution. Various departments and regions submitted 118 written reports and 230 amendment suggestions.

#### December 15, 2017

General Secretary Xi Jinping presided over a conference of people outside the Party. He listened to the opinions and suggestions of the central committees of non-Communist parties, heads of the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce and non-party personages. Ten copies of written speeches were submitted by people outside the Party.


The constitutional amendment group held 13 working group meetings and four plenary meetings to review and study the opinions and suggestions on various aspects.

From thousands of suggestions to the 21 pieces of constitutional amendment advice by the CPC Central Committee, the CPC Central Committee insisted on revising only part of the Constitution, without making radical changes, to ensure its continuity, stability and authority.

#### January 2-3, 2018

Upon the arrangement of the CPC Central Committee, Zhang Dejiang presided over four seminars and listened to the heads of Party and state departments, experts from think tanks and heads of standing committees of provincial-level people’s congresses for their opinions and suggestions on the CPC Central Committee’s draft proposal on the amendment to the Constitution. A total of 52 written documents were submitted by attendees at the seminars.

Chinese characteristics under the leadership of the CPC. Changes in the amended Constitution include confirming the guiding position of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era in the country's political and social activities, declaring that "the leadership of the Communist Party of China is the defining feature of socialism with Chinese characteristics" in the first article of the "General Principles" chapter of the Constitution, improving the system governing the Chinese president's tenure and deepening reform of the national supervisory system. In accordance with new situations and new methods to uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, this revision incorporated major theoretical achievements, principles and policies adopted at the 19th CPC National Congress into the country's fundamental law, included major theoretical, practical and institutional achievements made by the Party and the people and embodied the new achievements, experiences and requirements of the Party and the country in development. This move will definitely give the Constitution a more central role in regulating, guiding, driving and guaranteeing that the country better upholds and develops socialism with Chinese characteristics.

General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that safeguarding the authority and dignity of the Constitution is the foundation for safeguarding the authority and dignity of the common will of the Party and the people, and that guaranteeing the enforcement of the Constitution is the foundation for ensuring the realization of the essential interests of the people. Amending the Constitution aims to improve enforcement and give it a greater role as the country's fundamental law. Ensuring the full implementation of the Constitution is a primary mission and the foundation for building a socialist country ruled by law. We should consider this constitutional amendment an opportunity to lift the Constitution to a prominent position during practice of comprehensively advancing law-based governance in the new era, take strong measures to strengthen enforcement and supervision of the Constitution, and provide solid and robust political and institutional guarantees for the implementation of the Constitution, uplifting law-based governance and Constitution-based governance to new heights. 

Source: People's Daily

#### January 18-19, 2018

During the second plenary session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, its draft proposal on constitutional amendment fully absorbed the participants' opinions and suggestions, and was further revised and then passed.

#### January 26, 2018

The CPC Central Committee delivered its proposal on revising part of the Constitution to the NPC Standing Committee.

#### January 29-30, 2018

The 12th NPC Standing Committee held its 32nd meeting. Entrusted by the CPC Central Committee, Li Zhanshu explained the proposal on constitutional amendment to the NPC Standing Committee. The meeting discussed over the CPC Central Committee's proposal on constitutional amendment, and decided to submit the draft amendment to the Constitution to the first session of the 13th NPC for deliberation.

#### March 5, 2018

Entrusted by the Standing Committee of the 12th NPC, Wang Chen, vice chairman and secretary general of the Standing Committee of the 12th NPC, gave an explanation of the draft amendment to the Constitution to the first session of the 13th NPC.

NPC deputies conducted a comprehensive and careful deliberation of the draft amendment to the Constitution. Members of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), who attended the first session of the 13th CPPCC National Committee, also launched a heated discussion about the draft.

#### March 11, 2018

The draft amendment to the Constitution was formally adopted at the first session of the 13th NPC.



# Institutional Reform with Introspective Revolutionary Spirit

Text by Wang Wei

*Reform of Party and state institutions represents an introspective revolution marked by profound changes to improve governance.*



A man takes a picture in front of the gate of the former Ministry of Agriculture. According to an institutional restructuring plan of the State Council adopted by the national legislature in March, China will establish a new Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. The former Ministry of Agriculture will be dismantled. VCG

**R**eform of Party and state institutions represents an introspective revolution marked by profound changes to improve governance. China continues deepening reforms in all areas, and only by tackling obstacles and solving problems plaguing Party and state institutional function systems can we improve and develop the system of socialism with Chinese characteristics and give full play to the advantages of China's socialist system.

This reform is neither a groundbreaking change to the social system and political structure nor a minor tweak, but a profound self-revolution.

Marxist economic philosophy outlines the objective laws of the contradictory movement and interaction between the economic base and the superstructure of a society. When the superstructure is not fully adapted to the economic base, it must be changed with reform to fix the underperforming parts. Proactive reform of the superstructure will promote and even greatly emancipate productivity.

Considering the continuous development and improvement of the economy, society and living standards, the superstructure has to be constantly reformed to meet new requirements. This is a basic law of the development of human society.


Party and state institutions belong to the superstructure, so they have to adapt to the requirements of the economic base. During the process of deepening reforms in all areas, the Party and state institutional function system is not only an integral part of socialism with Chinese characteristics, but also provides tremendous support for the improvement of governance capacity.

Facing new requirements to fulfill various tasks in the new era, the current structure and functionality of Party and state institutions are neither totally suitable for implementing the five-sphere integrated plan and the four-pronged comprehensive

strategy, nor for modernizing China's system and capacity for governance. So, deepening the reform of Party and state institutions is a pressing task.

Reform of Party and state institutions will strengthen the superstructure and fuel an introspective self-revolution that will ultimately improve the socialist system.

As a saying goes, when every mean is exhausted, change is needed. Changes cause development, and development leads to sustainability. This self-revolution through top-level design requires adjustment of the social structure and improvement of social systems from top to bottom. It is intended to bring profound changes that promote the modernization of the system and capacity for governance of the state. Therefore, it should be well planned and carried out in an orderly manner, step-by-step. This reform should follow the principles of adhering to the overall leadership of the Party, committing to a people-centered approach, ensuring optimization, coordination, and high-efficiency and ensuring every dimension of governance is law-based. Any reform causes temporary pains, and some even demand the determination of "cutting off a limb to save the whole body."

Friedrich Engels once remarked that we must understand things in relation to the conditions of our times, and these conditions determine how far our understanding will reach. Institutional reform is a process that will neither be accomplished overnight nor once and for all. It requires us to focus on solving problems based on the changing realities. If necessary, we can drill through mountains and build bridges over waters to promote the self-revolution of institutional reform to its end. 

 The author is an associate professor at the Institute of Marxism under the Party School of the Central Committee of the CPC.



# List of Ministries and Commissions of the State Council after Reform

After reform, the State Council, or China's cabinet, will consist of 26 ministries and commissions in addition to the General Office of the State Council. The number of ministerial-level agencies under the State Council was reduced by eight and that of vice-ministerial-level agencies by seven. The list of the ministries and commissions after reform is as follows:

- 1 Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 2 Ministry of National Defense
- 3 National Development and Reform Commission
- 4 Ministry of Education
- 5 Ministry of Science and Technology **restructured**
- 6 Ministry of Industry and Information Technology
- 7 State Ethnic Affairs Commission
- 8 Ministry of Public Security
- 9 Ministry of State Security
- 10 Ministry of Civil Affairs
- 11 Ministry of Justice **restructured**
- 12 Ministry of Finance
- 13 Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security
- 14 Ministry of Natural Resources **new**
- 15 Ministry of Ecological Environment **new**
- 16 Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development
- 17 Ministry of Transport
- 18 Ministry of Water Resources **optimized**

19	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	new
20	Ministry of Commerce	
21	Ministry of Culture and Tourism	new
22	National Health Commission	new
23	Ministry of Veterans Affairs	new
24	Ministry of Emergency Management	new
25	People's Bank of China	
26	National Audit Office	optimized

## Other Institutional Adjustments of the State Council

- 1 Form a state market regulatory administration
- 2 Form a state radio and television administration
- 3 Form a China banking and insurance regulatory commission
- 4 Form an international development cooperation agency
- 5 Form a state medical insurance administration
- 6 Form a state grain and reserves administration
- 7 Form a state immigration administration
- 8 Form a state forestry and grassland administration
- 9 Regroup the State Intellectual Property Office
- 10 Submit administration of the National Council for Social Security Fund to the Ministry of Finance
- 11 Reform state and local taxation systems

The institutional restructuring plan of the State Council was approved at the first session of the 13th National People's Congress on March 17.



# Chinese Solution to Corruption

Text by Zhou Lei

*The addition of supervisory commissions to the Constitution evidences the importance of the new type of state organs in the national governance system and provides guiding principles for further reforming the supervisory system and enabling the supervisory commissions to better fulfill their duties.*

**O**n March 11, 2018, the first session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature, adopted an amendment to the Constitution. The bulk of the revision is related to supervisory commissions, which evidences the importance of the new type of state organs.

Using experience gained since the anti-corruption campaign especially after the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the CPC Central Committee with General Secretary Xi Jinping at its core made the strategic move to reform the national supervisory system—an important political innovation that affects the entire landscape and requires major adjustments of China's political system, power and relations. An innovation in organization and institutionalization, the establishment of a centralized, authoritative and efficient system of supervision over all those who exercise public power will certainly promote full and strict governance over the Party and ongoing anti-corruption campaign.

## Heavy Influence

The amendment gives constitutional power to the supervisory commissions, which is a major move in the reform of China's supervisory system. Given early successes in some pilot areas, further supervisory system reform is an important innovation in China's political system reform. It involves major adjustments of China's political system, power and relations. The supervisory commissions—both national and local—are created by the people's congresses to which they are responsible and by which they are supervised. The establishment of the commissions enriches and improves the system of people's congresses, China's fundamental political institution, and reinforces CPC leadership and rule of law.

The defining feature of socialism with Chinese characteristics is the leadership of the Communist Party of China, which has been rightfully written into the country's Constitution as the nation steps into the new era. Reform of the supervisory system aims to enhance the Party's centralized, unified leadership over the campaign against corruption and form

a centralized, unified, authoritative and efficient supervisory network. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, intra-Party supervision has been strengthened by disciplinary inspection tours and oversight by resident discipline inspection agencies at both central and local levels, covering the state apparatus, every social organization and all public institutions. Through the reform, supervision will cover everyone working in the public sector who exercises public power. While reinforcing intra-Party supervision, it will also solidify the leadership of the CPC.

Also, further reform of the supervisory system serves as an important measure to modernize China's system and capacity for governance. China's previous anti-corruption mechanism and system were not fully compatible with the requirements of its five-sphere integrated plan and four-pronged comprehensive strategy. The establishment of the supervisory commissions, which work together with the Party's disciplinary inspection commissions as one office, can effectively improve the

March 23, 2018: The National Supervisory Commission is inaugurated in Beijing. At the ceremony, members of the commission took the oath of allegiance to the Constitution. Xinhua



Party's governance and capacity to utilize institutions and laws, marking progress in the country's advancement of rule of law.

### Higher Efficiency

The reform of the supervisory system will pool anti-corruption resources and unify power to fight corruption. Before the reform, anti-corruption resources were primarily distributed to administrative and judiciary bodies. This overlapping management mode enabled partial peer monitoring and prevented power abuses but failed to optimally integrate anti-corruption resources and strength, which weakened China's anti-corruption efforts.

For example, the country formed corruption prevention departments both within various government bodies and through the procuratorial apparatus, which led to overlapping functions and decentralized leadership. According to global anti-corruption experience, a specialized organization dedicated to anti-corruption work is essential to address misconduct. For example, Singapore, France and China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region all have a single unified organ to handle corruption.

The amended Constitution empowers supervisory commissions to operate in parallel with their administrative and judicial counterparts. The amendment reads:

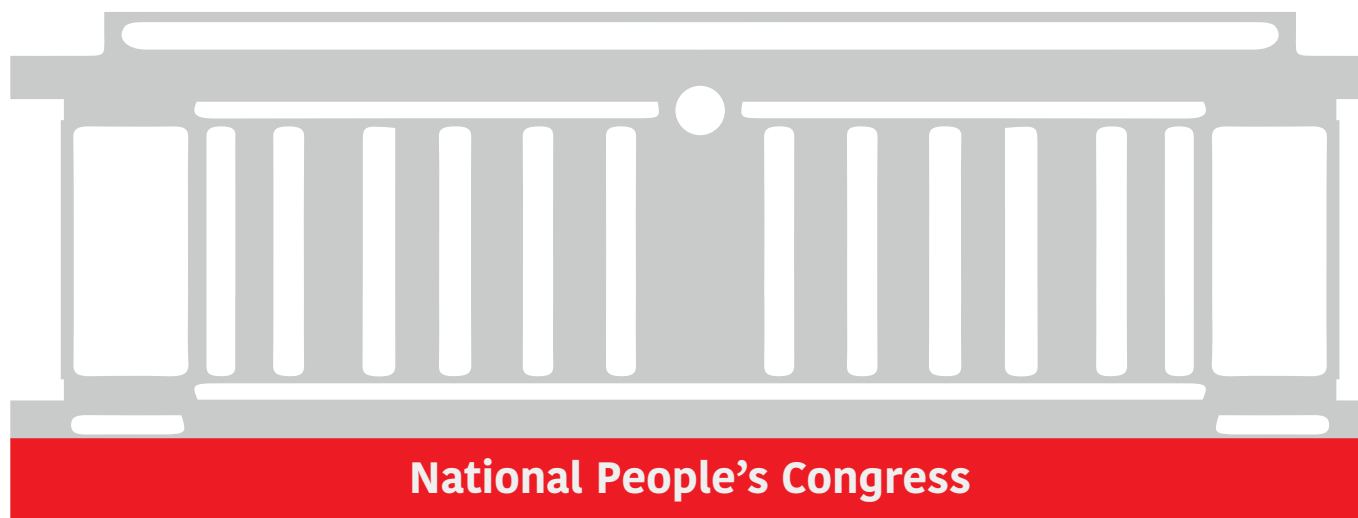
"All administrative, supervisory, judicial and procuratorial organs of the State are created by the people's congresses to which they are responsible and by which they are supervised." This means that the National People's Congress will lead the Central Government, the National Supervisory Commission, the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate. And supervisory power stands shoulder-to-shoulder with administrative, judicial and procuratorial powers, which will improve China's balance of power.

Additionally, the supervisory commissions can extend their power to every authority, from monitoring a "narrow government"



# National Supervisory Commission

The Highest State Supervisory Organ



State  
Council

National  
Supervisory  
Commission

Supreme  
People's  
Court

Supreme  
People's  
Procuratorate

Director of the national supervisory commission: **Yang Xiaodu**

Major duties: **supervision, investigation and punishment**

The national supervisory commission, merged by the Ministry of Supervision and the National Bureau of Corruption Prevention, is the national agency of a new anti-graft and supervisory network that was endorsed by the constitutional amendment adopted by China's national legislature.

## Scope of supervision

- Civil servants as stipulated by China's civil service law;
- Personnel authorized by law or entrusted by state organs to administer public affairs;
- Executives of state-owned enterprises;
- Personnel engaged in management in state-run education, scientific research, culture, health care and sports institutions;
- Personnel engaged in public affairs management at self-governing mass organizations;
- Others who perform public duties in accordance with law

## Main function

- Independent exercise of supervisory power in accordance with the provisions of law, not subject to interference by any administrative organ, social group or individual



to a “broad government.” Traditional administrative supervision in the country only covers administrative bodies and their officials. But as the Party has strengthened its efforts to build a clean and honest government and new types of corruption have emerged, the previous supervisory system was unable to cover every corner, leaving significant public power out of control. After the reform, coverage of supervision expands from all apparatuses of the Party and the state to state-owned enterprises and public educational and research institutions as well as managers of grassroots self-governing public organizations, ensuring all public powers stay under surveillance.

The amendment also stipulates that supervision methods must be law-based to promote a fight against corruption governed by rule of law. According to China’s supervision law, supervisory organs must act within the law while conducting supervision, investigation and disposition. As the reform of the national supervisory system deepens, the practice of *shuanggui* (an intra-Party disciplinary practice that requires a CPC member under investigation to cooperate with questioning at a designated place and a designated time) will be replaced by detention, which solves a long-term legal bottleneck and realizes standardized and law-based anti-corruption operation. The exercise of supervisory power must conform to relevant regulations and approval procedures, guaranteeing the legal rights of the detained and keeping supervisory power within the cage of institutions.

### Stable Progress

By the end of 2017, reform of the supervisory system had been carried out in several pilot regions. Due to

limited time and difficult tasks, the reform has faced many challenges. “Since the national supervisory commission was set up, our reform has entered uncharted waters,” declared Xiao Pei, deputy secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection of the CPC. Reformers must pay attention to the methods and



The supervisory commissions can extend their power to every authority, from monitoring a ‘narrow government’ to a ‘broad government.’



professionalism of the entire supervisory team. Team members must learn the Party Constitution, rules of intra-Party political activities, intra-Party supervisory regulations and accountability rules as well as specifics in the country’s Constitution, national supervision law, criminal law, criminal procedure law and civil servant act. The supervisory team should be armed with both political and legal awareness.

Second, authorities must explore internal operation mechanisms for supervisory commissions. Based on the national supervision law, detailed enforcement rules must be stipulated as soon as possible and focus on improving the methods of handling discipline problems and supervision, standardizing procedures for disciplinary reviews and enforcement and perfecting procedures and regulations to form a cohesive,

means while pressing ahead.


First, authorities need to integrate ideas related to ways and means to enhance the skill and

efficient and check-and-balance working mechanism.

Third, authorities need to devise a reasonable method to define supervision subjects and employ different punishments for different types of corrupt officials. The number of monitored targets is expected to double. To perform such a tough job, supervisory commissions need to apply information technology such as big data to set up a daily surveillance mechanism and enhance their capacity to use technology to fight corruption.

Fourth, starting with the supervision law, authorities need to gradually establish China’s anti-corruption legislation system to improve the system for addressing conflict of interest, the rules of property declarations and the regulations on informer protection. Over time, some of these regulations should become laws to strengthen the power and enforcement of them.

Fifth, authorities need to boost external oversight of the supervisory commissions. While conferring necessary power to the organizations, authorities need to restrict them to prevent abuse of power by keeping them under supervision of the people’s congresses and the public.

In summation, after it gathered its experience in ensuring full and strict self-governance, the CPC carried out reform of the supervisory system, which will help the government become cleaner, better and more capable. And the reform will create an efficient mechanism for long-term self-supervision of the Party and provide a Chinese solution to fight corruption globally. 

The author is a research assistant with the Center for Anti-corruption and Governance at Tsinghua University.



# China's Economic Growth Shifts from High-speed to High-quality

Text by Hu Angang

*The projected target of 6.5-percent GDP growth in 2018 is designed to align with China's economic transition from a phase of high-speed growth to a stage of high-quality development.*

Since 2012, after completing a period of preliminary growth and a period of rapid growth, China's economy has entered a third, more prosperous period. Meanwhile, a "new normal" has arrived, marking a shift from high-speed growth to high-quality development, from a middle-income society to a high-income country, and from "some get rich first" to "common prosperity." The country has since ushered in a new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

On March 5, 2018 at the first session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC), Premier Li Keqiang unveiled projected targets for development this year in the Report on the Work of the Government: GDP growth of around 6.5 percent, CPI increase of around 3 percent, at least 11 million new urban jobs, urban unemployment rate within 5.5 percent and basic parity in personal income growth and economic growth.

These targets consider the need to secure decisive victory in the construction of a moderately

prosperous society in all respects by 2020 and are designed to align with China's economic transition from a phase of rapid growth to a stage of high-quality development.

In 2017, China's economy continued growing steadily and healthily, achieving better-than-expected performance. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the reform and opening up that began in 1978, as well as a crucial year for achieving the 2020 development goals and implementing the 13th Five-Year Plan. This year will herald efforts to put the guiding principles of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) into action. In this new stage of development, China needs solid progress in all aspects of economics to achieve high-quality development that is more innovative, coordinated, environmentally friendly, open and fair.

First, China needs to strengthen innovation-driven economic development and maintain continuous improvement of the quality of economic growth. Innovation capacity is the fundamental driver

of high-quality development. Wider implementation of an innovation-driven development strategy will further enhance overall labor productivity, total factor productivity and potential growth rate and further promote the trend of technology-driven development. This year, major measures to help innovation play the lead role in vitalizing the real economy include full implementation of a plan to develop strategic emerging industries, progress in fostering emerging industries to create stronger new momentum for economic development, acceleration of the upgrade of traditional industries and vigorous promotion of advanced manufacturing to nudge made-in-China towards middle and high ends. Additional new policies will accelerate the development of the modern service industry and services trade and strengthen the construction of infrastructure networks concerning water conservancy, railways, highways, water transportation, aviation, pipelines, power, information and logistics.

Second, China needs to design new, effective mechanisms to promote more coordinated economic development.

## China's Overall Economic Data in January and February 2018



The total value added of industrial enterprises above the designated size rose by **7.2%**

**0.9 percentage points** higher than the same period of the previous year.



Consumer prices rose by **2.2%**

**0.5 percentage points** higher than the same period of the previous year.



Total imports and exports surpassed

**4.5 trillion yuan**

**0.5 percentage points**

higher than the same period of the previous year.

Exports eclipsed **2.4 trillion yuan**, an increase of 18%.

Imports reached nearly **2.1 trillion yuan**, an increase of 15.2%.

Total retail sales of consumer goods reached an **increase of 9.7%** year-on-year.

**6.1 trillion yuan**



The coordinated development philosophy is crucial to tackling imbalanced growth hindering high-quality development. In 2018, China needs to further optimize its economic structure and fully unleash the potential of service consumption and green consumption in driving economic growth to achieve a more balanced economic structure. China will continue implementing the coordinated regional development strategy to make the regional development occur more rationally. China will also accelerate the construction of beautiful special towns and beautiful countryside areas and promote integrated urban-rural development.

Third, China needs to focus on green development and advance its ecological progress. The green development philosophy is important to achieving harmonious coexistence between man and nature, which

is a characteristic of high-quality development. This year is crucial to comprehensive improvement of environmental quality. To achieve this goal, China needs to reform the system to build an ecological civilization and improve the functional area system. It needs to promote an energy production and consumption revolution to create a clean, low-carbon, safe and efficient energy system. Moreover, the country needs to launch low-carbon pilots and demonstrations, play an active role in international cooperation on climate change and make Chinese contributions to global environmental governance.

Fourth, China needs to make its economic development more open and develop new advantages in international cooperation. The open development philosophy is essential for China to increase its economic

strength and overall national strength. It is expected to solve problems related to interactions with the outside world along the road to high-quality development. This year, China needs to improve the structure, institutions and mechanisms for opening up to create a new and more comprehensively open landscape. In the process, it needs to lighten market access in an orderly manner, fully implement the management model of pre-establishment national treatment and a negative list, improve laws concerning foreign investment and strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights. China will continue improving the business environment to attract foreign investment and expand the scope of non-financial foreign direct investments. China will promote the orderly, healthy development of outbound investment and gradually form a global trade,






An aerial view of Shanghai at night. In the new stage of development, China needs solid progress in all aspects of economics to achieve high-quality development. VCG

investment, financing, production and service network.

Fifth, China needs to realize fairer economic development and let all people enjoy the new fruits of development. Enhancing living standards is the ultimate goal of development. To safeguard and improve the people's livelihood, it requires solving the most specific problems of utmost and immediate concern to the people. The government must do all it can within

its capacity and accurately define the most prominent issues and their root causes. In 2018, China needs to improve the level and quality of public services and take correct measures in areas like education, employment, income, social security, medical care and senior care to meet the public's growing demand for better living standards—and enable people from all walks of life to share the fruits of reform and development. 

Water is life.  
**Cherish  
every drop!**



# Yang Wei Fighter Designer

Interviewed by Hu Zhoumeng Text by Wang Lei

*The successful production of the J-20 signifies that China has entered the “realm of freedom” in the field of military aircraft research.*

**O**n February 9, right before the opening of the 2018 Two Sessions, a piece of news captured public attention at home and abroad: Senior Colonel Shen Jinke, spokesman for the People’s Liberation Army Air Force, confirmed that the China-developed stealth fighter J-20 had been officially commissioned into combat service, marking an important step in forming comprehensive combat capabilities.

Alongside this news, Yang Wei, deputy to the National People’s Congress, chief designer of the J-20 and academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, was also pulled back into the spotlight. Over the years, he has engaged in design, research and development of military aircraft and served as chief designer of seven fighter jets including the J-20, remodeled versions of the J-10 and the JC-1.

Yang was sentimental about the J-20. Recently, he wrote a letter to the J-20 in 2035: “When you were born, you were a flash in the southwest corner of China, evoking joy on our side and suspicion on the other. When you grew up, you stunned spectators with your debut at the Zhuhai Airshow, bringing pride to our side and excitement to the other. Later on, you became a strong guard of the motherland, with responsibility on this side and deterrence on the other. And today, you

have become the legend of the fighter jet family, the leader on our side and guiding hope on the other.”

When interviewed by *China Pictorial*, Yang talked more about innovation in the J-20 than technical improvements. “The successful production of the J-20 shows that we have entered the realm of freedom

in the field of military aircraft research. The term ‘realm of freedom’ means that we don’t need to follow others’ rules, but instead use innovative thinking to do research according to China’s own strategic goals and ways to play



The Chinese people cherish peace and will never engage in aggression or expansion, but we have confidence to conquer all attempts at aggression towards us. ”

the game.”

Yang Wei explained that the current global aviation industry can be divided into three tiers: the United States is on the first tier, China, Russia and Europe are on the second tier, and other countries are on the third tier. After a number of advanced aircraft such as the J-20, J-16 and J-10



joined the air force over the past two years, China's fighters have reached the high end of the second tier.

In Yang's opinion, China's military aviation industry has progressed rapidly, which was attributed to the implementation of the innovation-driven development strategy put forward by Chinese President Xi Jinping. "The Chinese people cherish peace and will never engage in aggression or expansion, but we have confidence to conquer all attempts at aggression towards us." In the process of defending the country, more advanced equipment is needed. The equipment is advanced because breakthroughs are constantly being made. Therefore, for the defense industry, the necessity of "innovation" is more demanding and dynamic than other industries.

Yang opined that if China wants to reach the first tier, its most fundamental support will be innovation. "Innovation is not only reflected in technical equipment, but also in equipment development plans and game modes."


Yang elaborated that the strategic objectives and needs of China's military aviation industry are not entirely consistent with other powers of the world. "In the past, the overall design, structure, and performance indicators of Chinese fighter jets were all made abroad, and we just followed suit. Now, after years of development, we have a strategic goal of our own, and are bold enough to create by ourselves where previous knowledge is still absent. The 'realm of freedom' is equipment and technology, which were designed based on the independent demands of China's strategy."

When China's military aircraft research achieves unique strategic demand, independent development roadmaps and innovative application ability, the country evolves from a follower to a subject of study. "It was my dream to lure our rivals to study us, and today it has come true."

After entering the "realm of freedom,"



what is next for Chinese fighter jets? "We can see the future by looking back at history, and we will stick to technological improvement and innovation," Yang said. For example, since the J-10 was massively equipped in the air force as early as 2004, the fighting capacity of the J-10 continued to improve. In the future, just like the J-10, new models like the J-20 will be released, with new capabilities and adaptations for emerging tasks. At the same time, China, the United States and Russia's advanced fighter jets belong to the "fifth generation."

"We all wonder what to do next," he continued. "There is no doubt that China's new fighter jets are also looking for breakthroughs. As long as the country needs it, there will be new fighters." 

Yang Wei, deputy to the National People's Congress, chief designer of the J-20 and academican of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, surmises that China's military aviation industry has entered the "realm of freedom." China needs to use innovative thinking to perform further research based on its own development plans and game modes.  
by Wan Quan

# Wang Yaping Space Teacher

Interviewed by Hu Zhoumeng Text by Nancy Gong

*It is Wang Yaping's dream to make the space industry benefit the whole of society, and she is thankful to witness the dawn of a great new era.*

“It’s great to see children sowing the seeds of their space dreams and starting the journey,” said Wang Yaping, a deputy to the National People’s Congress (NPC) and China’s second female astronaut to enter space, reminiscing about the space lesson she taught five years ago while being interviewed in the “deputies’ passage” during the first session of the 13th NPC in the Great Hall of the People on March 5, 2018.

On the morning of June 20, 2013, from over 300 kilometers above ground, Wang became China’s first “space teacher” by delivering a space lecture to schoolchildren on the earth from China’s first space lab Tiangong-1. With the help of her companions, she successfully completed five basic physics experiments including weight measurement, simple pendulum motion, and gyroscopic motion in zero-gravity conditions. Tens of millions of students watched the lecture and felt the charm of a fascinating scientific world. The 40-minute global live broadcast demonstrated the progress of China’s space technology and planted the seeds of space dreams in the hearts of those children. “After I returned from my mission, I received letters

from many children who hoped to become astronauts as well,” she revealed. “It made me feel happy and proud.”

It is Wang’s dream to make the space industry benefit the whole of society, and she is thankful to witness the dawn of a great new era.

With the successful docking of China’s first unmanned cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-1

with the Tiangong-2 space lab in 2017, China’s manned space exploration has entered the space station era. “As astronauts, we are in a state of preparation every day and stay ready to head into space anytime,”



As astronauts, we are in a state of preparation every day and stay ready to head into space anytime. ㄥㄥ

Wang declared. “At the moment, all Chinese astronauts are doing their best to prepare for space station missions.”

On June 24, 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, spoke to three astronauts including




Wang Yaping, deputy to the National People's Congress and China's second female astronaut entering space, is proud to be China's first "space teacher."  
by Wan Quan

Wang who were working on the Tiangong-1 from the Beijing Aerospace Control Center. "Aerospace power is vital for building a strong nation," he said.

"As astronauts, we have to perform our duties in a down-to-earth manner, study hard, train hard, practice our skills, and remain perpetually ready to explore space for our motherland as it becomes a global aerospace power," Wang said.

As a newly elected NPC deputy, Wang Yaping, who is serving in the military, shoulders the responsibility of speaking for officers and soldiers. "General Secretary Xi Jinping called for making being a serviceman a respected

profession in the whole of society, which has inspired encouraging feedback from the whole nation," Wang said. "It has also tremendously encouraged all the officers and soldiers. I am an astronaut. It is a noble honor bestowed on me by our society. This support encourages us and gives us the strength to face down the struggles of this career."

After thorough surveys, Wang suggested that China formulate relevant laws to protect the legal status of soldiers, publicize the attractive qualities of the military profession, improve conditions for soldiers and teach the concept of respecting servicemen in schools. 



# Zheng Zhijie

## Supporting Three Critical Battles with High-quality Financial Work

Text by Wang Shuo

*Forestalling and defusing major risks, targeted poverty alleviation and tackling pollution are all closely connected to finance work and financial institutions.*

“The ‘three critical battles’ are forestalling and defusing major risks, targeted poverty alleviation and tackling pollution—key hurdles that China must overcome at the crossroads of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and prerequisites for the realization of China’s high-quality economic development that is balanced, coordinated and sustainable,” declares Zheng Zhijie, a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), deputy Party secretary, vice chairman and president of the China Development Bank (CDB) and a finance veteran with profound insight on how finance can fuel the three critical battles.

His 30-plus years in economics and finance have given Zheng rich professional experience and profound theoretical knowledge. As a scholarly manager, he has published books including *Approaching Global Quantitative Easing Policy* and *The Legal Issues and Practice of “Going Global”* and serves as a part-time professor at Nankai University, one of the most prestigious institutions of higher

learning in China.

“Some risks still persist amidst China’s economic and social development, especially in economic and financial fields,” Zheng says. “If we take these concerns lightly and

deal with them ineffectively, they will become major risks and trigger a butterfly effect.”

The first battle is to forestall and defuse major risks. Participants of the 2017 Central Economic Work Conference stressed that

financial risk control is still a priority in the battle to defuse major risks.

In this regard, Zheng believes it necessary to combine “plugging” and “dredging” measures in financial work.

Policymakers need to shut the “side



Only by winning these three critical battles will we earn the recognition of the people for our work to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects. ”



door” by raising risk awareness, resolutely cracking down on illegal financial activities, strengthening regulations covering weak links and preventing and controlling various economic bubbles.

At the same time, policymakers should open the “front door” by improving the financial sector’s capabilities to serve the real economy, promoting the healthy development of multi-level capital markets and encouraging the development of inclusive finance, high-tech finance and green finance.

“Only by winning these three critical battles will we earn the recognition of the people for our work to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects,” Zheng says. “This accomplishment would go down in history, promote deep reform of quality, efficiency and driving forces of development and lay a solid foundation for the construction of a great modern socialist country.”

Zheng closely links the three critical battles to financial work and financial institutions. He believes that the CDB, as a development financial institution, should play a bigger role as follows:

First, the bank should serve national strategies in a market-oriented way. We should serve as a safeguard that prevents systemic financial risks, help local governments properly handle debt problems and open a standardized “front door” for debt financing to serve the healthy development of local economies.


Second, the bank should continue working on capital-guaranteed financial projects with meager profits. Relying on national credit support, we raise long-term and stable funds. By using various development financial tools, we can provide long-term, stable and low-cost financial support for areas in need of targeted poverty alleviation as well as pollution prevention and control.

Third, the bank should innovate ideas and methods. So far, the CDB has issued loans of 1.36 trillion yuan (US\$215 billion) for targeted poverty alleviation projects, covering 983 national and provincial poor counties.

Following the working mechanism



in which the central government is responsible for holistic planning, provincial-level governments responsible for overall supervision, and municipal and county-level governments responsible for implementation, we have created a “three integrations” concept by integrating capital sources, systems and solutions to provide financing support, established mechanisms for virtuous circulations of funds and enhanced internal drivers of poverty alleviation. Next, we will explore more effective patterns and practices.

Fourth, the bank must strengthen comprehensive services. By capitalizing on the comprehensive advantages of the CDB in equity, loans, debt financing, financial leasing, portfolio investment and usage of a variety of financial products, we will provide diversified financial services for the development of the real economy. 

Zheng Zhijie, member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, deputy Party secretary, vice chairman and president of the China Development Bank and a finance veteran, has profound insight on how finance can fuel the three critical battles.  
by Chen Jian

# Zhou Hanmin China's Reform Into Deep

Text by Yin Xing

*The best way to commemorate the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening up is to continue further with bold and resolute steps.*

This year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening up. "Thanks to the reform and opening-up policy, our nation has stood up, grown rich, and become strong," declared Zhou Hanmin, a member of the standing committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), vice chairman of the Central Committee of the China National Democratic Construction Association and vice chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Committee of the CPPCC.

Zhou has witnessed China's development brought about by the reform and opening up, and great changes have taken place in his life because of the policy. In 1978, the year after China resumed the decade-suspended college entrance examination, Zhou Hanmin, then a worker in a Shanghai hospital, applied to take the exam. He was admitted to Shanghai University of International Business and Economics, and his life changed completely. At the end of the 1980s, Zhou participated in preparatory studies on the Pudong New

Area's opening up and related legislative work. Later, Zhou personally or indirectly took part in Pudong's opening up in 1990, the Shanghai World Expo in 2010 and the establishment of the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone (SFTZ) in 2013.

“

In the 'deep-water zone,' the greatest challenge is to modernize China's system and capacity for governance. ”

“A torch-bearer of China's reform and opening up, Shanghai undertakes the responsibility to promote the integration of the Yangtze River Delta and the development of the Yangtze

River Economic Belt, playing an important role in the country's economic and social progress,” said Zhou.

In August 2013, the State Council formally approved the establishment of the SFTZ, the first of its kind on the Chinese mainland. According to the Framework



Plan for the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone, the SFTZ shoulders important missions of accelerating the transformation of government functions, actively exploring innovation in management modes, promoting trade and investment facilitation, and accumulating new experience for further reform and broader opening up.

In 2017, in the report to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), General Secretary Xi Jinping noted that the government will grant more powers to pilot free trade zones to conduct reform and explore the opening of free trade ports. “This gave direction and drive to China’s pilot free trade zones,” said Zhou. “The core mission of free trade zones is to explore new institutions. As General Secretary Xi said, the planning of free trade ports will follow the highest international standards, with law-based governance, smooth facilitation and a fair, unified and efficient business environment.”

General Secretary Xi stressed that the aspirations of the people to live a better life must always be the focus of the CPC’s efforts. In Zhou’s opinion, this belief has helped reach the broadest consensus of deepening reform in every field and has laid a solid foundation for the success of the country’s reform.


“The great significance of the reform and opening-up policy is improving the living standards of the people,” said Zhou. “Globally, the largest contribution of China’s reform and opening up is lifting nearly 800 million people out of absolute poverty in only four decades.” Zhou believes that China has yet to finish its reform considering the long transition from escaping poverty to achieving better living standards. He thinks China’s reform has entered a deep-water zone.

“In the ‘deep-water zone,’ the greatest challenge is to modernize China’s system and capacity for governance,” explained Zhou. “Like in the last four decades, the most significant driving force for our future development is



Zhou Hanmin, member of the standing committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), vice chairman of the Central Committee of the China National Democratic Construction Association and vice chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Committee of the CPPCC, has witnessed China's development brought about by the reform and opening up. by Guo Shasha

reform. From February 26 to 28, 2018, at its third plenary session, the 19th CPC Central Committee announced a structural reform plan of Party and state institutions with focus on modernizing the country’s system and capacity for governance.”

“At this new historical starting point, the best way to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the country’s reform and opening up is to continue further with bold and resolute steps,” added Zhou. “Reform should be endless.” 

Zhang Yuyan

# Accelerating Reform for a New Round of Opening Up

Text by Gao Liandan

*China will not close its door to the world, but only become more and more open.*

In the report that he delivered to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) on October 18, 2017, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, stressed that China would promote the formation of a new pattern of all-around opening up.

On March 5, 2018, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang also proposed in the government work report delivered at the opening meeting of the first session of the 13th National People's Congress that China's general manufacturing sector will be completely opened up and access to sectors like telecommunications, medical services, education, elderly care and new-energy vehicles will be expanded.

Zhang Yuyan, a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and director of the Institute of World Economics and Politics under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, explains that the aforesaid policies proposed in the government work report fully demonstrate the general mission of the CPC Central Committee to further expand the scope and levels of opening up and promote high-quality development with high-level opening up.

All-around opening up is an important driving force to promote China's economic and social development and the only method to



Zhang Yuyan, member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and director of the Institute of World Economics and Politics under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, has deep insight on how China can promote a new pattern of all-around opening up. by Duan Wei

achieve prosperity and development. In Zhang's opinion, all-around opening up includes not only opening industrial sectors, but also expanding and balancing the opening scope to various regions and countries.

"We should be open to developed and developing countries alike," Zhang opines. "For quite a long time, developed countries were China's major economic and trade partners. In the new era, we should pay more attention to strengthening economic and trade ties with developing countries and expanding our common interests with them. We could even consider exempting some neighboring low-income developing countries from tariffs and quotas."

"As for opening various regions in China, we should expand from coastal areas to serve both coastal and inland areas," he continues. "As the Belt and Road Initiative continues accelerating its progress at home and abroad, it will definitely lead to wider opening up of the central and western parts of China."

Zhang Yuyan believes that further deepening reform and opening up will promote the formation of a new pattern of all-around opening up that will help Chinese enterprises, organizations and individuals actively participate in the international division of labor as well as in global cooperation and competition, so as to enhance China's influence on global economic governance and accelerate the long-term and stable growth of China's economy.

"As the world's second-largest economy, the outcomes of China's opening up must go two ways and promote our own development while at the same time stimulating openness and growth in other countries," Zhang remarks. "Ultimately, it will produce mutual benefits and win-win results as well as an inclusive development situation that will push the international economic order in a fairer and more reasonable direction as it promotes the construction of a community with a shared future for mankind."

On how to push forward a new pattern of all-around opening up, Zhang offers five suggestions:

First, we need to continue to uphold the concept of free trade. On the basis of equal

consultation, we should consider reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers in accordance with China's specific conditions and rhythm to help developing countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative catch and even hitchhike onto the "express train" of China's development.

Second, we must continue negotiations on bilateral and multilateral free trade zones (FTZs) in which China has already participated. And at an opportune time, we should propose negotiations to establish FTZs and multilateral investment agreements focused on countries along the Belt and Road routes.

Third, China should work to develop trade and investment laws that meet the

requirements of multilateral mechanisms and suit China's national conditions to increase the transparency of China's trade and investment policies and systems.

Fourth, based on the government's



All-around opening up includes not only opening industrial sectors, but also expanding and balancing the opening scope to various regions and countries. ”

prudent and wise regulation, we should continue to promote the marketization of the mechanism covering the renminbi (RMB) exchange rate, advance the convertibility of the RMB and accelerate wider opening of the financial services industry.

Fifth, we should accelerate the establishment of a trade adjustment and aid mechanism consistent with WTO rules and China's national conditions to provide assistance to industries and enterprises that have been hurt by external competition.

"China will not close its door to the world; it will only become more and more open," Zhang declares. "The formation of a new pattern of all-round opening up will not only benefit the Chinese people, but also people around the world." ㊟



# Xiang Weiyi Rural Vitalization Needs Millennials

Text by Hu Zhoumeng

*Young people are needed to bring continuous vigor to China's countryside.*

At 25, Xiang Weiyi is a millennial deputy to the 13th National People's Congress (NPC), China's national legislature. He now works as a village official in Cili County, Hunan Province. On March 2, 2018, on a bullet train to Beijing to attend the first session of the 13th NPC, the young man from the Tujia ethnic group enthusiastically introduced sweet potato vermicelli, red rice and tea from his hometown to other passengers.

Surrounded by forested hills, Xiangbizui Village lies in the Wuling Mountains in Hunan Province. Four years ago, Xiang graduated from college and was selected by the province to become assistant secretary of the village's Party branch. At that time, most of his peers were opting to take jobs in big cities, but Xiang decided it would be cooler to return to the countryside.

Then, the average age of village officials in Xiangbizui was more than 40 years old. When villagers first saw the young man, they couldn't help but wonder: Was the boy planning to show up and then take off? Xiang calmed their suspicions with action: He lived and worked together with villagers to harvest citrus fruits. He helped villagers understand the new rural endowment insurance, and carefully explained to them about policies and regulations related to the insurance. When arguments occurred between

villagers, he patiently reconciled their disputes. Gradually, more and more people praised him for his patience and hardworking attitude.

"A sense of accomplishment spontaneously overtakes me when I see them gradually accepting me," Xiang beamed. "It is especially heartwarming when villagers invite me to their homes for Spring Festival."



We believe that after implementing the rural vitalization strategy, our countryside will become more beautiful, and farmers' lives will become richer. ㄥㄥ

alleviation through relocation, accurate pairing assistance and other measures has reduced poor households from 27 to 7. Xiang is confident that the rest will be lifted out of poverty this year.

To enrich the villagers' cultural lives, the Excellent Culture Promotion Association

Thanks to the village committee's efforts over the past three years, more and more villagers have been lifted out of poverty. In Xiangbizui Village, inhabited by a total of 401 households, implementation of policies such as poverty

of Xiangbizui Village was established. It organized Party members' classes, women's classes and children's traditional culture classes. It invited calligraphers from around the province to give free calligraphy lectures. During the Spring Festival gala in the village, children and the elderly all received 200 yuan in red envelopes from the village's earnings from selling high-quality agricultural products such as citrus fruits.


After being elected a NPC deputy, Xiang realized that he was no longer responsible for just a village, but grassroots levels nationwide. To live up to the people's expectations, he visited local government departments and former NPC deputies as well as the villagers to learn their most urgent needs.

"Today, medical and educational issues make up most of their needs," Xiang said. "What concerns the people most is increasing the coverage and reimbursement ratio for the new rural cooperative medical care." At this year's NPC session, Xiang presented suggestions on the adjustment of the amount of insurance and the proportion of reimbursement and expressed hope that relevant policies benefiting more people would be passed as soon as possible.

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, put forward the rural vitalization



strategy in the report delivered at the 19th CPC National Congress, which excited Xiang. "We believe that after implementing the rural vitalization strategy, our countryside will become more beautiful, and farmers' lives will become richer." As a millennial village official, Xiang pays special attention to how he can provide qualified personnel for the implementation of the strategy. He hopes to retain rural personnel by perfecting the supervision and supporting system of village officials.

"The countryside desperately needs young people full of vigor and vitality," Xiang said. "The vitalization of the countryside requires participation of young people." 

Xiang Weiye, a millennial deputy to the National People's Congress who works as a village official in Cili County, Hunan Province, pays special attention to how he can provide qualified personnel for the rural vitalization strategy.

by Wan Quan

# Shimmering New Green Tax

Text by Zhang Xue

*The enactment of the environmental protection tax law motivates enterprises to fulfill their social responsibility, enhances the efficiency of environmental governance and helps build a beautiful China.*

**O**n January 1, 2018, China's first environmental protection tax law went into effect. According to it, the tax is calculated monthly and declared and paid quarterly. So, in April, the tax will be collected for the first time.

The environmental protection tax law is an institutional guarantee to improve China's ecology. With maturing institutions and progressing structural reform, the philosophy of green development has been integrated into Chinese people's lives and production, promoting the country's ecological civilization to new heights.

## Two-way Mechanism

The law targets enterprises and other entities that directly emit a taxable pollutant, including air and water pollutants, solid waste and noise—the four main sources of the pollution.

Meanwhile, according to the harm on the environment of different pollutants, the law sets different tax standards to impose higher levies on worse polluters. For example, discharging formaldehyde requires paying a tax 24 times higher than emitting the same amount of smoke and dust.

The law also uses tax breaks to encourage three healthier practices: clean production, centralized

processing and cyclic utilization. For example, if a company discharges taxable air and water pollutants with densities lower than the standards regulated by the state or local governments, the entity can get a partial tax break. And legal entities responsible for centralized processing of water and household waste are exempt from taxes.

"The law adopts a two-way mechanism by granting tax reductions or exemptions to eco-friendly enterprises and imposing punishments on those violating emission standards," explains Dong Zhanfeng, vice director of the Department for Environmental Policy at the Chinese Academy for Environmental Planning.

In Wuyi County, Zhejiang Province, the inspection team for environmental protection checks a water sample from the drain outlet of an enterprise. VCG



"This encourages enterprises to cut emissions and pushes energy-intensive and heavily polluting industries to upgrade and transform, which will promote the country's adjustment of its economic structure and development mode." Dong believes that these measures will effectively promote environmental protection through tax leverage.

## Motivated Upgrade

The environmental protection tax replaced a "pollutant discharge fee" that had been collected since 1979. Polluting enterprises paid the fee, and revenues were designated for environmental improvement.

The introduction of a pollutant discharge fee played an important role in pollution control. But the regulation did not have a strong legal foundation as the new environmental protection tax law does. Because some local governments and authorities interfered, the discharge fee was often implemented in a way that hardly encouraged polluters to change their ways.

"According to the environmental protection tax law, the tax is paid in terms of the quantity of emissions," elaborates Dong. "The more you discharge, the more you pay. It is using economic methods to pressure polluting firms to upgrade their technologies and





May 26, 2017: China's largest waste landfill gas power plant begins operation in Chengdu, Sichuan Province. The project can effectively prevent waste gas from emitting and process refuse to generate electricity. Annual production can reach 140 million kilowatt hours, which would effectively reduce discharge of 900,000 tons of carbon dioxide. *Chengdu Economic Daily/VCG*

reduce their emissions.”

In Dong's opinion, by stipulating the environmental protection tax law, the government set up a long-term mechanism for environmental protection with top-level drive. Replacing the “pollutant discharge fee” regulation, the law stipulates legal restrictions enforced via economic penalties, reducing the intervention by the government and other powers.

“The entity that causes the pollution is responsible for its treatment through paying the tax,” says Dong. “This requires enterprises to fulfill their environmental protection duty and meet the requirement for building a fair environmental protection mechanism. Adopting economic means in the form of taxation can improve the efficiency of environmental governance.”

### More than Money

“Collecting this environmental protection tax is about far more than new revenues,” stresses Wang Jianfan, director general of the Tax Policy Department of China's Ministry

of Finance. Article 1 of the law clarifies that its purpose is “to protect and improve the environment, encourage energy conservation and emissions reduction and promote the construction of ecological civilization.”

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2012, China has made great progress in pollution control. The 2018 government work report showed that over the past five years, both energy and water consumption per unit of GDP have fallen by more than 20 percent, release of major pollutants has been consistently declining and the number of days of heavy air pollution in key cities have decreased by 50 percent.

“We will consolidate the gains in the fight to defend the blue of our skies,” declared Premier Li Keqiang in the government work report. “This year, we will cut sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions by 3 percent and achieve a continuous decline in PM2.5 density in key areas. We will encourage upgrading in steel and

other industries to achieve ultra-low emissions. We will raise standards on the emission of pollutants and set deadlines for meeting required discharge standards.”

“Environmental protection revenue accounts for very little of total state revenues,” reveals Cai Zili, director of the Property and Behavior Taxation Department at the State Administration of Taxation. “Collecting the tax is not about increasing revenues but building a green tax system and encouraging environmental protection by leveraging taxes. It drives enterprises to take environmental costs into consideration when calculating their budgets.”

“The new tax serves as one step of ecological progress,” says Dong. “In recent years, the Chinese government has increasingly used taxation to motivate enterprises to reduce emissions while increasing investment in environmental protection.” This year, the central government budget allocates 40.5 billion yuan (US\$6.43 billion) to prevent and manage pollution in air, water and soil, 6.46 billion yuan more than the previous year and the largest sum in recent years.

At the recent Two Sessions, the Chinese government designated “forestalling and defusing major risks,” “poverty alleviation” and “addressing pollution” as three critical battles. The latest constitutional amendment includes the concept of “ecological civilization.” A new Ministry of Ecological Environment has been launched, according to an institutional restructuring plan of the State Council approved by the National People's Congress, the country's top legislature. China has shifted to high-speed ecological advancement. 



# A Village School at Lugu Lake

Text and photographs by Qin Bin

*After 12 years of development, investments in the Dazu Primary School are paying off. Not only does its teaching performance rank among the best in the region, but it has also helped over 2,000 poverty-stricken students from the areas surrounding Lugu Lake, and even the greater Liangshan region, receive financial aid. The school, which has flourished by wise utilization of social aid, will continue to pass on its experiences to help more people.*

**L**ocated in Mukua Village of Yanyuan County in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province, the Dazu Primary School is sandwiched between a precipitous mountain and stunning Lugu Lake. The only primary school in the village, it employs 10 native teachers and three volunteer teachers from elsewhere in the country to serve 71 students.

After 12 years of development, the school is now highly respected thanks to the efforts of the three successive principals: Li Nanyang, Lin Zihong and Wang Muliang. Not only does its teaching performance rank among the best in the region, but it has also helped over 2,000 poverty-stricken students from the areas surrounding Lugu Lake and even the wider Liangshan region receive financial aid.

## Restoring Faith in School

In 2000, the Dazu Primary School was forced to shut down for reasons like dilapidated buildings and a lack of teachers. Five years later, financial aid from two enthusiastic philanthropists from Taiwan, Li Nanyang and You Jingfen, enabled residents of the entire village to participate in the restoration of the school. Residents contributed stone and timber as well as labor. Many continued working on-site even on the eve of Spring Festival.

When construction completed, Li Nanyang became the first principal of the new Dazu Primary School. He contributed most of his savings to school construction, maintenance and teaching, and recruited volunteer teachers from all over the country. He also built a

public bathroom and a clinic at the school, which are open to villagers.

However, lack of funding has always haunted the school, so the school has tried various ways to increase its budget from the start. For example, the school leased land from local farmers on which it built a small farm that produced potatoes, chickens and pigs. During harvest







Students read by the window of the library during afternoon reading class.

season, many of the students' parents came to help out.

To maintain its normal operations, the school established a student aid fund. By posting information about the mountain-dwelling children on its microblog, QQ and other social media platforms, many people discovered the village school and more and

more aid was offered. By 2012, the student number of the Dazu Primary School had increased to 120 from about 40. All of the children were granted free tuition and living expenses.

In 2011, Wang Muliang, a native of Mukua Village, was appointed principal of the school. "After the school was restored, I was left to





Students wait in line for lunch. The vegetables for lunch are all harvested from the school's own farm.



In class, a student writes in Dongba language.

concentrate on solving the problem of the children's education," he recalled. "Since then, the situation has changed. We cannot solely rely on support and donations from the public. We cannot be content with the way things are."

Wang maintained focus on his goal, and all of the staff

concentrated on improving students' scores in major subjects. Countless hours of tireless efforts by both teachers and students have finally paid off for the Dazu Primary School in recent years.

For the 2015-2016 school year, the Dazu Primary School led all other primary schools in the Lugu Lake region in all the unified examinations of Yanyuan County, except the math tests for the first and sixth graders.

"Average middle-school enrollment rate in the county was 17.9 percent in 2016, and our school's figure was 40 percent," Wang announced proudly.

In addition to emphasis on academic achievement, the school

also strives for quality education.

Alongside the major curriculum, the school offers various extracurricular activities each Friday afternoon such as environmental protection, craft making, outdoor sketching, farming activities, natural science activities, folk dance and more.

To encourage students to read, the school offers a daily reading class. The school library is open not only to students, but also past graduates and all the local villagers.

### From School to Public Service Platform

In addition to a purveyor of basic education, the school has gradually developed into a public service platform covering student

financial aid, material and medical aid to the mountain children as well as volunteer teacher recruitment.

Over the past 12 years, the platform has received donations valued at 9 million yuan (US\$1.42 million) which have provided financial aid to more than 6,000 students. About 600 people have worked in the village school as volunteer teachers.

Focusing on the development of

both the school and the village, Wang Muliang has six wishes for the future development of his school involving basic education, poverty alleviation, medical assistance, environmental conservation, cultural protection and ecological tourism.


In 2012, the Dazhu Primary School began to develop a natural ecological farm. Wang led the teachers, students and villagers to reclaim wasteland on which to grow

crops and breed animals.

Along with the farm, the school has also leased a total of 100 *mu* (6.7 hectares) of farmland from villagers. By selling self-cultivated agricultural products on their WeChat store, both the school and villagers have seen better financial gains.

Mukua Village is inhabited by 150 households, with over 900 residents, 95 percent of whom belong to the Naxi ethnic group. To inherit and protect the Naxi culture, the school launched a special course of the Dongba language—the written language of the Naxi people—to help local Naxi students and villagers learn about their language, traditional arts, crafts, songs and dances.

The school also started a weekend evening class for adults and established the Naxi Dongba cultural library. In their spare time, teachers from the school visited elderly inheritors of the Dongba language to record and preserve the Naxi culture with video, audio and pictures. In 2015, the Dazhu Primary School organized villagers to establish a folk art innovation center to protect and promote Naxi ethnic handicrafts, which have teetered on the verge of extinction.

By investing social aid into self-development, the Dazhu Primary School not only solved problems hindering children's schooling but also promoted the development of both the school and the village. By practicing the school motto—"actions speak louder than words"—with bold endeavors the institution has been widely recognized across the country. The school, which has flourished by wise utilization of social aid, will continue to pass on its experiences to help more people. 

Alongside the core curriculum, the school offers various extracurricular activities such as environmental protection, craft making, outdoor sketching, farming and science experiments.







# The Beatles Have

Text by Zhao Yong

*The Beatles had significant influence on the birth and growth of China's rock music in the 1980s and 1990s.*

On March 22, 2018, all albums by The Beatles, the most influential and successful British band of all time, were released in China in digital form, available on the country's major online music platforms. At the same time, their final album *Abbey Road* went on sale in physical shops in China, which will be followed by many others. *Abbey Road* sold over 20,000 copies on one digital platform in a single day.

The exhibition titled "The Beatles, Tomorrow" has been on display at the Today Art Museum in Beijing since March 24. The exhibition features classic music as well as hundreds of precious photos, videos, memorabilia and personal items once owned by members of the band.

Formed in the early 1960s, The Beatles exerted direct influence on the evolution of rock music in the 1960s and later. The band was also tremendously influential on the birth and growth of China's rock music in the 1980s and 1990s.

Cao Jun was once guitarist for the Chinese band The Breathing. His experience absorbing The Beatles speaks volumes. In 1980, he chanced upon a cassette tape of The Beatles. At first he didn't understand the lyrics, but still remembered the song

"Yesterday." "It was so wonderful that I continued to listen to it despite not understanding the lyrics," he recalls. "Probably the biggest single influence on my career was The Beatles."

Xu Wei, born in 1968, is another famous Chinese rock singer who pursued a music career because of passion for The Beatles. "British rock culture influenced my composing most," he says.

Renowned rock singer Wang Feng, born in 1971, regards The Beatles as a significant part of his life. "When I feel helpless I listen to their songs and think," he says. "They make me feel hope."

In the early 1980s, soon after China implemented the reform and opening-up policy, few on the Chinese mainland had access to music from the West. Pop music from Hong Kong and Taiwan, which imitated its peers in Europe and America, became the window for the Chinese mainland to learn. Cui Jian, considered the "founding father" of Chinese rock music after releasing China's first rock song "Nothing to My Name" in 1986, once said: "In the 1980s, hardly anyone knew anything about Western pop music." However, those who became familiar with Western pop music have been leading China's music scene and helping the rise



The Beatles are hailed as the most influential and successful British band of all time. In the summer of 1968, The Beatles are pictured here at Old Street Station in London. From left to right: Paul McCartney, John Lennon, George Harrison and Ringo Starr. IC



# Come

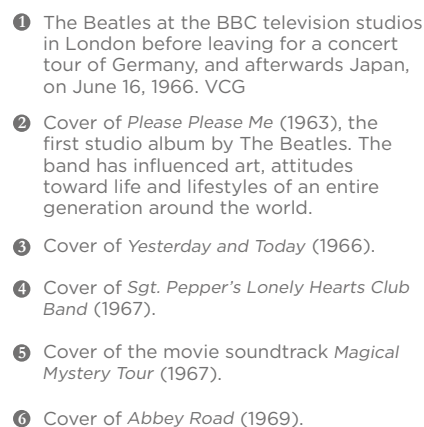


Enthusiastic rock fans at the 1992 Cui Jian show in Kunming, Yunnan Province in southwestern China. IC





# The Beatles



- ① The Beatles at the BBC television studios in London before leaving for a concert tour of Germany, and afterwards Japan, on June 16, 1966. VCG
- ② Cover of *Please Please Me* (1963), the first studio album by The Beatles. The band has influenced art, attitudes toward life and lifestyles of an entire generation around the world.
- ③ Cover of *Yesterday and Today* (1966).
- ④ Cover of *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* (1967).
- ⑤ Cover of the movie soundtrack *Magical Mystery Tour* (1967).
- ⑥ Cover of *Abbey Road* (1969).





Chinese musicians who first gained insight into Western pop music helped the rise of Chinese music throughout the 1980s and 1990s and have been leading China's music scene. From left to right: Cui Jian, Xu Wei and Faye Wong. VCG

of Chinese music throughout the 1980s and 1990s. Following the trends of “red songs” and “songs of revolution,” lyrical ballads became popular in China in the 1980s, and China’s rock music emerged during the same period. The dramatic change was inspired by introduction to bands from Europe and America.

Cui Jian, for example, found his language and expression through “chemistry” with Western music. “Every single song of mine was influenced by Western bands,” he admits. “After listening to their music, I got the impulse to compose immediately. The difference was that I changed the core to Chinese things.” Cui employed traditional Chinese instruments such as the zither, *suona* (a Chinese woodwind instrument) and flute in his music, which became an exploration of rock music with Chinese elements. A flute solo in Cui’s

“It’s Not That I Don’t Understand” (1989) not only serves as a louder Chinese expression, but also echoes the theme of the song—that the world was changing so fast. In the later stage of his career, he began releasing hip-hop-style songs such as “Hun Zi” in 2014 and “The Blue Bone” in 2015, which are considered two of the best of Chinese rap songs.

Another example is Faye Wong, the queen of Chinese power ballads, who started her career in Hong Kong. In the 1990s, she captured the fashionable elements of Western pop culture with good sensitivity and imitated them, through which she turned “weird Western music into mainstream Chinese music.” She gradually became one of China’s best pop singers. As noted Chinese music critic Wang Xiaofeng said, Faye Wong “went past Hong Kong and Taiwan and straight to the West. She adopted

the image of Bjork and imitated the Pharyngeal tone of The Cranberries. The designs of her album covers were increasingly sexier. It was her faster imitation that gave her a unique edge.”

As Cui said, the success of The Beatles can largely be attributed to their ability to make rebelliousness mainstream. Rock music and jazz from Europe and America provided China’s rock music with critique and liberalization. However, after a short period of prosperity, China’s rock music has declined since the 1990s. Today, most youngsters listen to fluffy pop music downloaded online. Rock songs that pierce the soul and make pulses race are rarely heard. 

■ The author is a professor with the School of Chinese Language and Literature of Beijing Normal University.





# The People of Anxi County

By Yann Layma (France), Published by Hinabook Publishing Company and  
Hunan Art Publishing House, September 2017

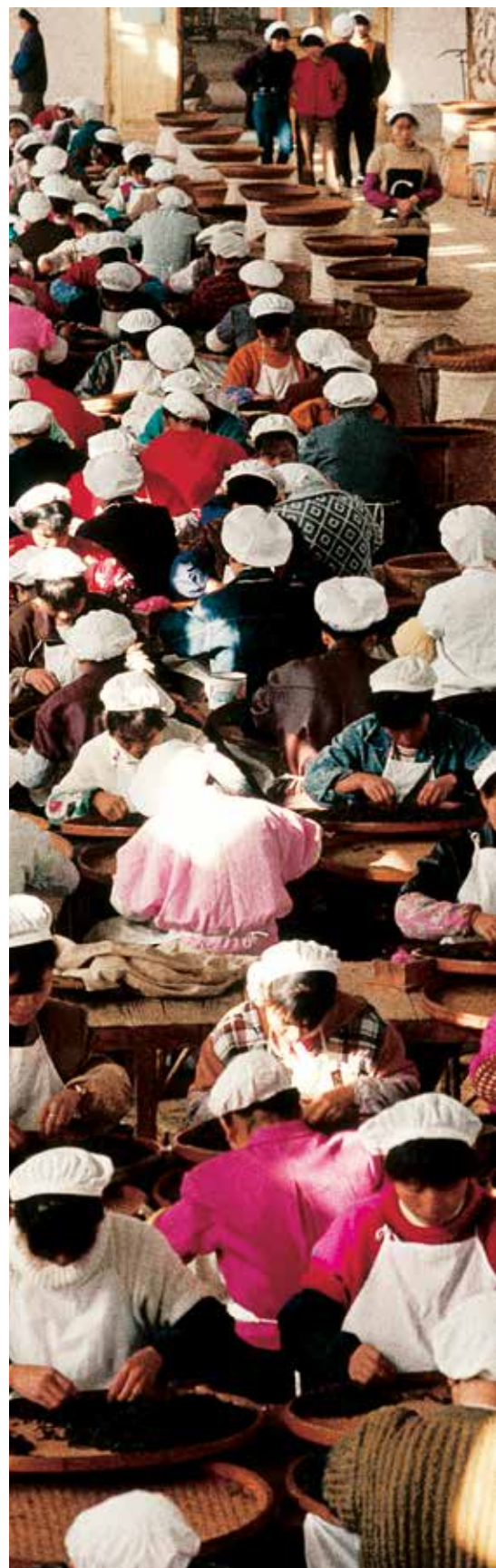
*Covering production of tea from freshly picked leaves to Tieguanyin tea on shop shelves as well as the vibrant daily lives of Anxi people, Yann Layma recorded the down-to-earth and unique Anxi life with his camera.*

Tucked away on the southeastern coast of Fujian Province, Anxi County is the origin of Tieguanyin tea, one of the ten most famous teas in China. In the preface to this book, its editor Xie Wenzhe introduced three outstanding contributions of Anxi people to the development of global tea culture:

First, during the Chenghua reign (1465-1487) of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), Anxi people created the half-fermentation tea processing

technology and unique oolong tea. The technology was added to the national intangible cultural heritage list in 2008.

Second, during Emperor Yongzheng's reign and Emperor Qianlong's reign of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), Anxi people discovered and started to cultivate the famous Tieguanyin tea. According to statistics, by the end of 2016, more than 200 million people in the world were regularly drinking Anxi Tieguanyin tea, which







Tucked away on the southeastern coast of Fujian Province, Anxi County is the origin of Tieguanyin tea, one of the ten most famous teas in China. In 1996, Yann Layma came to Anxi County for the first time to shoot pictures of a local Tieguanyin tea factory, where about 300 Chinese women were busy selecting tea leaves.



is now one of China's Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) products.

Third, in the 1930s, Anxi people renovated tea breeding methods and invented "single node cutting" technology which was granted the Scientific and Technological Achievement Award by the National Science Conference in 1978. It has spread widely to many tea-producing areas and become the most advanced and widely used tea breeding technology in the world today.

"Tea is not only a necessity in Anxi residents' daily life, but also

a profound reflection of Anxi culture," opines Xie. "Economic development has made Anxi County more and more modernized. But perhaps because of tea, Anxi people still live in very traditional ways—rich and colorful, joyous and happy, while harmoniously coexisting with traditional elements including ancestral halls, temples, Nanyin music, operas, various folk customs, and gods."

Since 1996, famous French photographer Yann Layma has visited Anxi County three times. He visited the tea fields, markets and



October 3, 2016: Local people pick tea on the mountain.



local homes and took thousands of photos. Covering production of tea from freshly picked leaves to Tieguanyin tea on shop shelves as well as the vibrant daily lives of Anxi people, Yann Layma recorded the down-to-earth and unique Anxi life with his camera.

As the preface to the book notes, “Following the ‘discovering and feeling’ method of Yann Layma kindles discussion of Anxi’s cultural phenomena, through which readers can discover how Anxi people and their hometown established a subtle relationship with the medium of culture. And if they don’t deeply feel the richness and complexity of history and the difficulties and taste of life through Yann Layma’s lens, I would be surprised.”

According to Yann Layma, he has been working to display the lives of Chinese people and their nature of pursuing peace and showing kindness to the outside world. “*The People of Anxi County* reveals life in contemporary Chinese cities and towns and shows that the local people are always smiling and happy with the achievements of China,” Layma explains. “It’s important to tell the world how beautiful China is. Foreigners should not be scared by China’s skyrocketing economy. Actually, the whole world should learn from the country’s change and development instead. The more they understand China, the more harmonious and beautiful the world will be in the future.”

Born in 1962, Yann Layma is a famous freelance French photographer. In 1985, he first ventured to China to do freelance work and started a long photographic journey of nearly 30 years. He completed more than 60




Temples are an indispensable part of Anxi life.



The interior scene of an ancestral hall. In Anxi County, people live in harmony with traditional elements such as ancestral halls, temples, Nanyin music and operas.

photographic reports, took over 600,000 pictures and compiled several photo books about China including *KALTEX in China* (1987), *Sea of Songs: The Dong People* (1990), *Magnificent China* (1995), *China* (2003) and his first

Chinese photography album *China Yesterday* (2015).

In 2005, Layma was honored with the Legion of Honor (Chevalier) for his contributions to promoting cultural exchange between China and France. 

# Treasures of Tibetan History and Culture

Text by Zhang Xue Photographs by Chen Jian unless otherwise credited

*Humans have been inhabiting the Himalayan mountains between the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and the South Asian subcontinent since remote antiquity, and the region is known for its brilliant and profound plateau culture.*

*The 200-plus cultural relics now on display at the Capital Museum in Beijing testify to the fact that the snow-capped plateau has never been isolated from the outside world. Eons of cultural exchange and integration conducted with the surrounding areas and the central plains, where the Han civilization originated, have tremendously enriched and diversified Tibetan culture.*



An edition of Kanjur Tripitaka from Emperor Yongle's reign, Ming Dynasty, 72.5×26.5cm, held by the Potala Palace Treasure House.



Recently, many precious Tibet-related cultural relics were put on display for the first time at the Capital Museum in Beijing. The exhibition has already attracted numerous visitors with items such as *Bunian Tu*, one of the 10 most celebrated surviving paintings from ancient China, a huge embroidered thangka featuring Yamantaka (a Tibetan Buddhist deity) from the Jokhang Monastery, the earliest decree issued by the Qing court to Tibet and the first officially collated Tibetan Tripitaka.

### Witness of Cultural Exchange

On February 27, 2018, the “Tibetan History and Culture” exhibition kicked off at the Capital Museum, featuring 216 extremely rare cultural relics related to Tibet.

Themed on Tibetan cultural exchange, many exhibits were borrowed from 13 sacred religious sites in the Tibet Autonomous Region including the Jokhang Monastery in Lhasa and the Tashi Lhunpo and Sakya monasteries in Xigaze. None had been previously unveiled to the public.

More than 180 of the exhibits were provided by museums and cultural heritage institutions in Tibet. A staffer of the Capital Museum stressed that many of the items from Tibetan organizations shouldn't be missed, including a local Neolithic twin pottery container, a piece of silk featuring the Chinese characters “Wang Hou” (prince and marquis), a magnificent gold mask from the Zhangzhung Kingdom and a huge embroidered thangka from the Jokhang Monastery that dates back to the Yongle reign of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644).

Highlighting the important role of Tibetan history and culture in the development of the multi-ethnic community that is the Chinese nation, the exhibition is split into four sections: Origins of Civilization, Major Links on the Plateau, Buddhist History in Tibet and Reunited as a Family.



A thangka painting about the life of the fifth Dalai Lama Ngawang Lobsang Gyatso, Qing Dynasty, 196×111cm, held by the Tibet Museum.

The plentiful unearthed archaeological relics from Tibet dating back to as early as the Late Paleolithic Age (between 50,000 and 10,000 years ago) show that since ancient times, humans have been living and prospering on the snow-capped plateau.

Han Zhanming, director of the Capital Museum, explained that the four sections are designed to trace the formation of the local cultural identity and the national identity by presenting the history and culture of Tibet as well as examples of cultural exchange between Tibet and the surrounding regions including









Part of *Bunian Tu* painted by Yan Liben, Tang Dynasty, 38.5×129.6cm, collected at the Palace Museum. courtesy of the Palace Museum

China's inland areas. Curators hope to expound on the fact that Chinese history was created by all the ethnic groups of the country.

### ***Bunian Tu*: Historical Testament to Harmonious Han-Tibetan Relations**

Of all the exhibits, *Bunian Tu* is one of the brightest stars. Visitors from near and far have flocked to the exhibition just for a glimpse of the masterpiece. The work, now part of the collection of the Palace Museum in Beijing, has rarely been shown to the public even at the Palace Museum, according to the museum's director Shan Jixiang, who visited the exhibition on its opening day.

The 1.3-meter-long silk scroll is generally believed to have been painted by Yan Liben, an artist and official of the Tang Dynasty (618-907). Its gorgeous colors, smooth lines and delicate composition make the painting one of the most representative works of the Tang Dynasty, reflecting the close connections between the Tang court and Tibet, which was then known as the kingdom of Tubo.

Based on a historical event, the painting depicts the scene of Emperor Taizong of the

Tang Dynasty meeting Gar Tongtsen Yulsung, envoy of Tubo ruler Songtsen Gampo.

Songtsen Gampo had proposed a marriage alliance with the royal family of Taizong. Princess Wencheng, a member of the Tang royal clan, was subsequently betrothed to the Tubo ruler.

The tale depicted in *Bunian Tu* is well known in China and an important historical milestone for Han-Tibetan relations. When Princess Wencheng went to Tibet, she brought a large volume of silk, classical books, seeds and hundreds of craftsmen from various sectors. Her arrival effectively brought advanced culture and production technology of the central plains to the plateau, which greatly promoted the development of politics, economy and culture in Tibet.

Subsequently, the children of many Tubo nobles were sent to Chang'an, then the capital of the Tang Dynasty, to study. For a long time since then, relations between the Tang court and the kingdom of Tubo remained close and harmonious. The painting is a historical witness to the friendly exchange between Han and Tibetan ethnic groups, with immeasurable historical value.

According to the exhibit description, the scroll is generally considered an authentic painting by Yan Liben, but some scholars believe it a facsimile of Yan's work from the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127). The painting is scheduled to remain on display for just two months because time has left it extremely delicate.

### More Highlights

The magnificent Zhangzhung gold mask and a piece of silk featuring the Chinese characters "Wang Hou" are the two most representative relics borrowed from the Tibet Autonomous Region.

In the section "Origins of Civilization," a gold mask dating back to the third century, unearthed in Ngari Prefecture of the Tibet Autonomous Region, was placed in the center of the exhibition hall. Similar in size

to a real face, the mask includes a crown above the facial part and is decorated with many layers of fabrics in the back.

The gold mask was used for burial in the Zhangzhung Kingdom (500 B.C.-625 A.D.), making it about 2,000 years old.

During that period, it was a popular custom to cover the faces of the dead with a gold mask in several Eurasian countries. And similar masks have been found in Nepal and India.

Research shows that as early as 2,000 to 1,800 years ago, western Tibet established close ties with what is now the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region as well as countries on the South Asian subcontinent. Tibet

Tibetan aristocratic clothes and accessories, Qing Dynasty, held by the Potala Palace Management Office.







conducted extensive exchange with the central plains and grassland areas of Central Asia.

The silk featuring the Chinese characters “Wang Hou” is now broken and stained after so many years, but the brown decorative patterns on the brocaded item and the blurry bird and beast designs give viewers a glimpse of its original glamor.

Upon discovering the Chinese characters “Wang Hou” surrounded by the bird and beast patterns, archaeologists determined that this kind of silk would likely be produced on the central plains of China.

This piece of silk is the earliest sample discovered in western Tibet so far, but silk pieces with similar patterns have been unearthed in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and other areas. “The characters on the brocade were written in a font similar to

the clerical script, which indicates that it was produced on China’s central plains before being transferred to Tibet, which evidences communication between Tibet and the inland areas at that time,” explained Zhang Jie, curator of the exhibition.

“With these relics, we want to correct the common misconception that Tibet was a relatively inaccessible place in ancient times due to harsh geographic conditions,” Zhang added.

“In fact, it has been open to the outside world since remote antiquity,” he continued. “Since the Stone Age, Tibet has been influenced by the civilization of the Yellow River Basin and has been absorbing the achievements of civilizations in the surrounding areas and countries, which promoted people-to-people exchange.”



Left: A piece of silk featuring Chinese characters “Wang Hou” (prince and marquis), dating back to the third century, 44×25cm, from the Tibet Autonomous Region.

Right: A pair of sandalwood suonas (Chinese woodwind instrument) decorated with gold and jewelry, Qing Dynasty, 58cm tall, caliber diameter of 15cm, held by the Potala Palace Treasure House.

## Walking on the Fade Out Lines

March 24 - May 27, 2018  
Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai



Poster for "Walking on the Fade Out Lines."

The exhibition presents 29 works from 23 artists from different countries around the world, covering forms of painting, interactive devices, photography, video and more to take patrons to visit different cities and regions. By carefully sorting cross-regional differences in the cultural context, the exhibition endeavors to help open windows of knowledge and inspire exploration of discovering the unknown.

The exhibition is co-sponsored by the Rockbund Art Museum in Shanghai and the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, one of the most renowned contemporary art institutions in Italy. Most works are from the collection of the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, which hang among creations by two Shanghai artists.



*Love Is Great* by Damien Hirst, paint, butterflies, 253.5×253.5×12cm, 1994. courtesy of Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Collection



*Still Untitled* by Pae White, cotton, polyester, 365×1,219cm, 2010. courtesy of Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Collection



*Displacement* by Zhang Ruyi, tile, concrete, resin, floor drain, mirror, peek hole, manhole cover, dimensions variable, 2018.



*Have You Seen Me Before?* by Paola Pivi, polyurethane foam, feathers, plastic, wood and steel, 108×200×100cm, 2008. courtesy of Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Collection



## Zheng Chongbin: Walking Penumbra

March 24 – May 27, 2018  
Ink Studio, Beijing

This is a solo exhibition for California and Shanghai-based artist Zheng Chongbin. The exhibition presents the artist's multi-disciplinary practice, including his newly created images, immersive light-and-space installation, video sculpture and a selection of his most recent paintings.

By comprehensively exploring the world in which we live, the artist aims to discover how people see themselves and understand reality.



Poster for "Zheng Chongbin: Walking Penumbra."

## Xie Nanxing: Spices

March 17 – May 23, 2018  
Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing

The exhibition consists of seven major oil paintings created by contemporary Chinese artist Xie Nanxing over the last two years, through which the artist explores his own relationship with European art history and iconography.

The works are set against a green wall as they explore forms of beauty, time, desire, and other themes in an experimental painting language. The exhibition also includes supplementary materials such as sketches that Xie drew in preparation for the series to elucidate his creative trajectory.

Xie Nanxing was born in 1970 in Chongqing. He now lives and works in Beijing and Chengdu. Since 1999, Xie's work has been shown in major exhibitions at home and abroad, including Documenta XII (Kassel, 2007) and the 48th Venice Biennale (1999).



Poster for "Xie Nanxing: Spices."

## Guangzhou Driftings

March 14 – April 7, 2018  
Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou

Swiss photographer Catherine Gfeller excels at landscapes. By using methods including montage, collage and superimposition of pictures, she interprets the city in different media including images, video, sound and text.

In this exhibition, the artist expands her ideas and techniques by inviting nine Guangzhou women from different fields to accompany her in exploring the city with their vision, emotions, ideas and way of thinking. With images, video, sound and text, the city is miniaturized in the exhibition hall, giving the audience the feeling of drifting through its streets.



Poster for "Guangzhou Driftings."



中国儿童少年基金会  
China Children and Teenagers' Fund



# HELLO KIDS

## LOVE PACKAGE

SCHOOL SUPPLIES, SPORTS GOODS, LIFESTYLE PRODUCTS,  
AND EMERGENCY KITS ARE PART OF THE PACKAGE FOR KIDS.



**DONATION HOTLINE: 010-6510 3490/6513 2438**





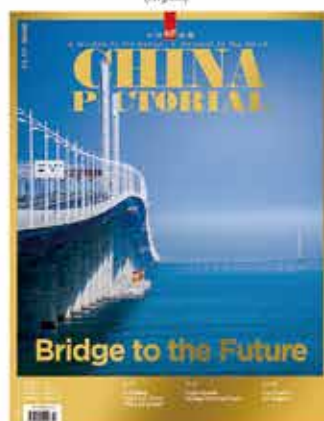
**Plant Trees    Love Trees**

**Protect the "lungs of the earth"  
to enjoy clean air.**

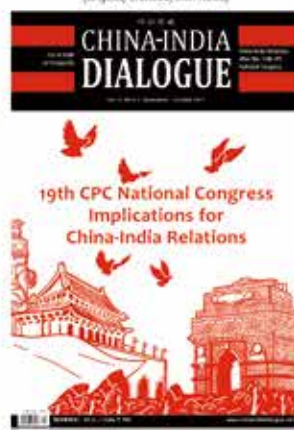
# 人民画报

China Pictorial Publications

China Pictorial  
(English)



China-India Dialogue  
(English, Chinese, and Hindi)



China Pictorial  
(Chinese)



China  
(Korean)



China  
(Russian)



New Silk Road Review  
(Russian, Chinese, and Kazakh)



A Window to the Nation    A Welcome to the World  
Chinese Passion    Global Vision

Advertisement hotline: 86-10-8841 7354 / 7355 / 7419