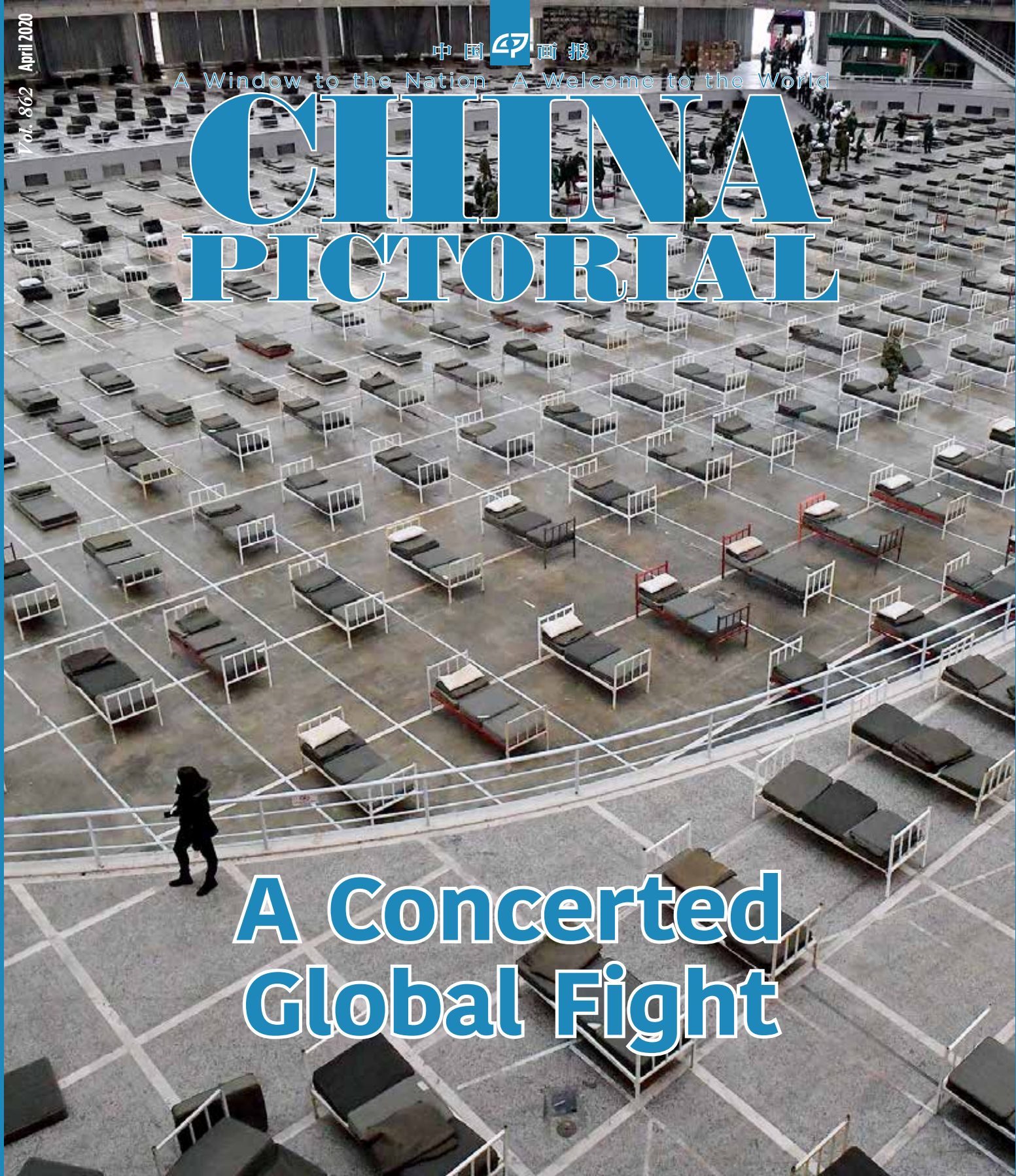


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## A Concerted Global Fight







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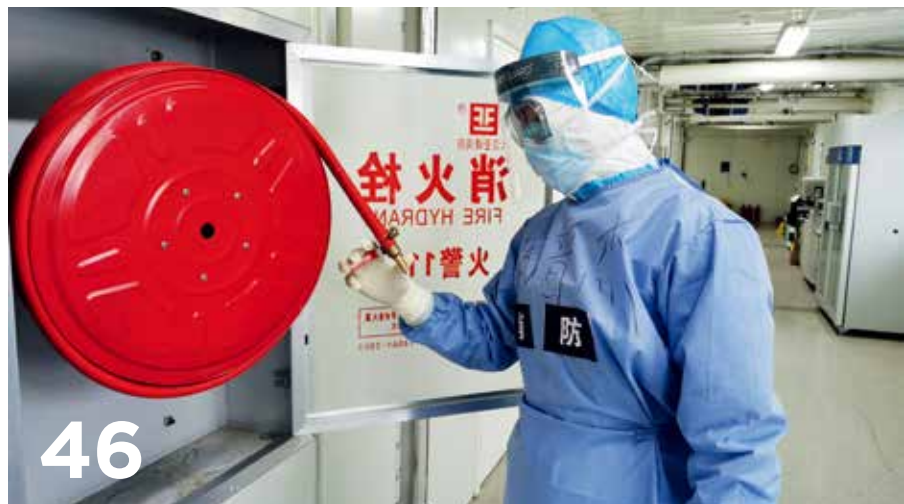
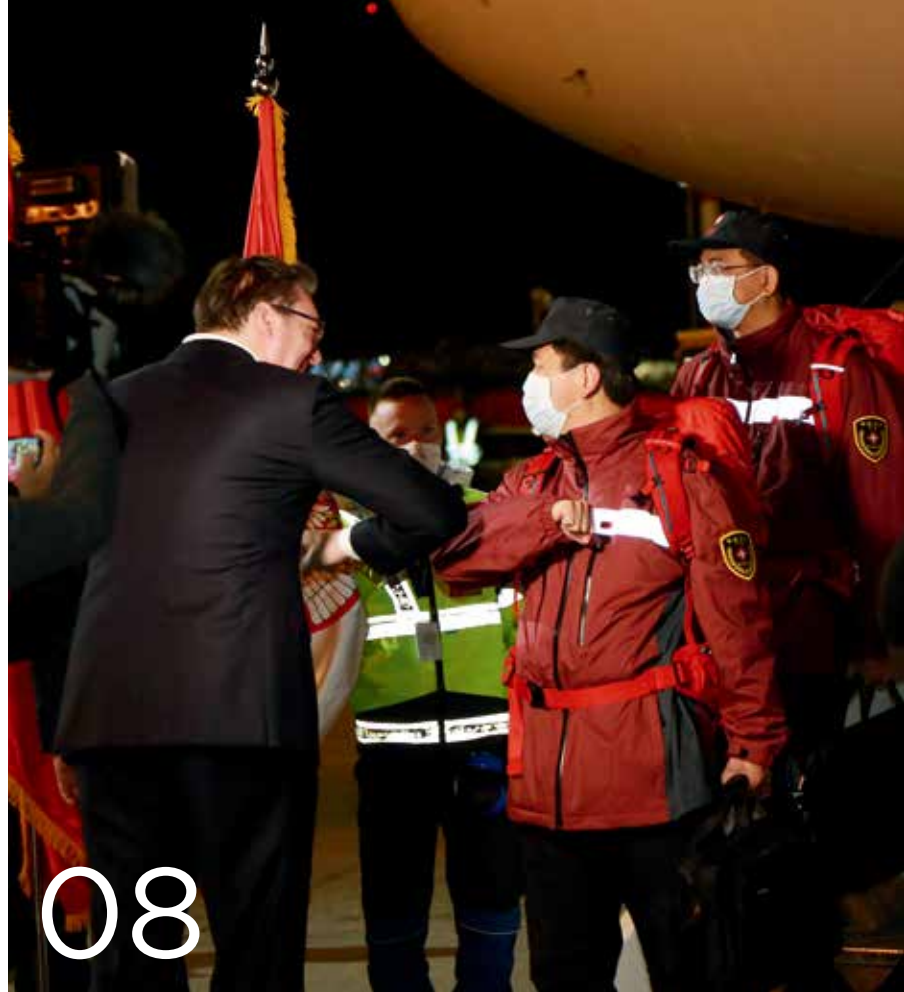
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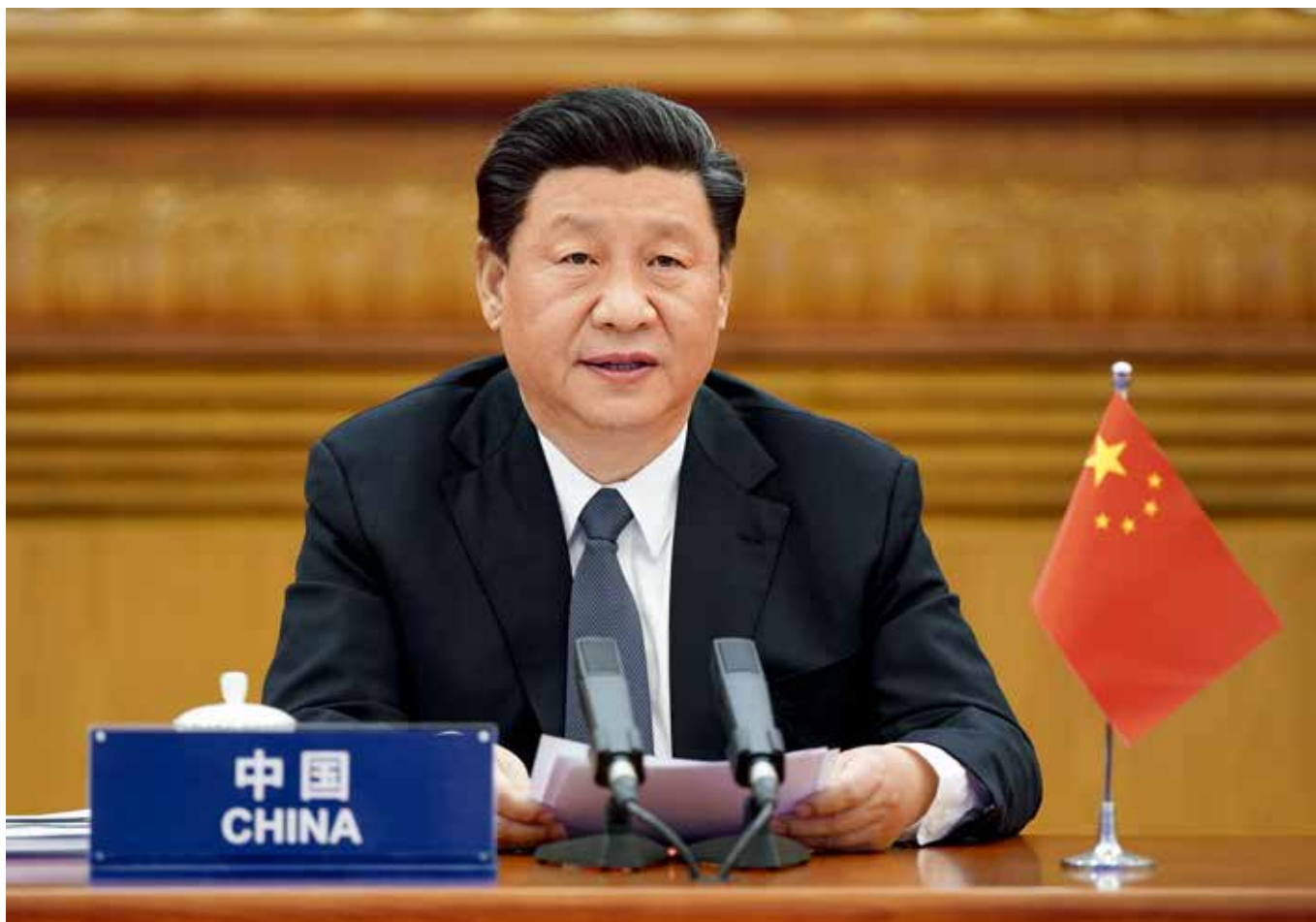
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by Li Xueren/Xinhua

## All-out Global War Against COVID-19

March 26, Beijing: Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the G20 Extraordinary Virtual Leaders' Summit on COVID-19 via video link.

Stressing that the outbreak is spreading worldwide and the situation is disturbing and unsettling, Xi called on countries to move swiftly to stem the spread of the virus. "It is imperative for the international community

to strengthen confidence, act with unity and work together in a collective response," Xi stated. Calling major infectious diseases the enemy of all, Xi said the international community must comprehensively step up international cooperation and foster greater synergy so that humanity as one could win the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Virus Empties Public Spaces

March 2, Paris, France: The Louvre, the world's most visited museum, is seen closed. The museum began to be shut down on March 1 due to the widely spreading COVID-19 pandemic. As of March 28, there had been 601,478 confirmed cases globally, with 27,862 deaths, according to data from Johns Hopkins University's Center for Systems Science and Engineering. By March 28, the United States had the most COVID-19 cases, exceeding 104,000, while Italy had reported over 9,100 deaths, the highest among all countries and regions in the world.



by Gao Jing/Xinhua

## Back to Class

March 19, Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region: Students attend an English class at Urumqi No.1 Senior High School.

As of March 19, over 10 provincial-level regions across China had announced dates and arrangements for starting the new semester, most of which prioritized graduating middle and high school students. Among them, Qinghai, Guizhou and Xinjiang have already resumed classes for some students, while the rest have scheduled reopening of schools in late March or early April.



by Wang Fei/Xinhua

## Outdoor Job Interview

March 6, Beijing: A job interview is held outside an office building to observe epidemic prevention guidelines.

The count of Chinese college graduates will reach 8.74 million in 2020, an increase of 400,000 over 2019. To ease job market pressure brought by the novel coronavirus outbreak, more options were offered to soon-to-be graduates. In early March, China's Ministry of Education issued a circular encouraging college graduates to pursue higher education, join the military, find jobs or start businesses in sectors including modern agriculture and public social services.

A recent State Council executive meeting called for more market-oriented approaches to facilitate employment and entrepreneurship for key groups of labor such as college graduates and migrant workers while encouraging national scientific research projects to recruit more college graduates.



by Guo Shasha/China Pictorial

## Diners Gingerly Return

January 14, Beijing: A McDonald's employee checks the body temperature of entering customers.

As the epidemic prevention and control situation improved in China, many restaurants and other catering businesses began restoring operations, with some resuming dine-in service under the premise of implementing strict epidemic prevention measures.



by Guo Shasha/China Pictorial



# Global Collaboration: The Most Powerful Weapon Against the Pandemic

Text by Wang Lei

*If this pandemic splinters mankind, the virus can be declared the victor. But if the pandemic motivates closer cooperation around the world, humanity will emerge victorious, and a solid foundation will be laid for the world to face down future global challenges together.*

At press time, the coronavirus disease has spread to nearly 170 countries and regions worldwide, infecting more than 400,000 people and threatening the health of billions of people. The outbreak of COVID-19 has greatly affected world economic growth and social stability on all fronts. Only fighting the pandemic with concerted efforts from all mankind will enable us to overcome the impact of the crisis.

While taking a unified nationwide approach to combating the novel coronavirus that has already achieved encouraging results domestically, China is taking an active part in the global fight against COVID-19 by providing both material and expert support and sharing research results and experience with other countries. The international community including the World Health Organization has highly praised China's contributions, with many commending China for helping the world gain precious time to fight the pandemic.

Many of the great changes of the world have been complicated by the pandemic, and a possible global economic slump and political disorder should serve as a good reason for all countries to face up



March 21, 2020: People wearing masks riding on Second Avenue in New York City. On March 20, Illinois, Connecticut and New York announced mandates requiring people to stay at home as much as possible to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus. by Wang Ying/Xinhua


to problems with mutual respect and understanding as they jointly confront the virus. The virus knows no borders, ethnicity or political system. No country can detach from the connected world. While taking

their own measures, countries need to provide advice and suggestions, playing an instructive role in curbing the spread of the virus and guarding global public health security. Concerted efforts such as



sharing experience and research findings can convey solidarity and confidence. The United States and China, two major countries in the world, need to make humanity's security the priority, effectively control disagreements and promote collaboration on global governance alongside other countries to secure victory against the disease as quickly as possible.

China and the United States should take this opportunity to shift to closer cooperation and more benign competition. For example, now would be a great time for the two countries to coordinate research and testing of vaccines, share information in a timely manner, cooperate on medical material production and global delivery and make a joint plan to aid other countries, especially developing countries severely lacking medical resources. Additionally, the United States and China, the world's largest and second-largest economies, can work together to stabilize the global financial system and take unprecedented measures to prevent economic recession. Friendly cooperation between the two countries would certainly improve the outlook of world economics and politics.

If the pandemic causes wider fractures and animosity among mankind, the virus can be declared the victor. Conversely, if the pandemic sparks closer cooperation worldwide, we humans will not only emerge victorious against the virus, but also lay a solid foundation for us to face future challenges with concerted efforts. 

The author is a research assistant with the Institute of World Political Studies of the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations.

## 共享员工 Shared Employees

Edited by Li Zhuoxi

The COVID-19 epidemic forced China's catering, tourism, hotel and other service industries to suspend operations for an extended period of time. While most employees of traditional industries remained idle, the online order volume of new retail enterprises embraced explosive



A delivery rider shuttles through the streets of Wuhan to deliver food to people in need. After the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic, online orders of new retail enterprises exploded.  
by Ma Gengping/China Pictorial

growth, and the sector grappled with a severe shortage of staff. Many emerging enterprises in China began temporarily hiring idle employees of enterprises that hadn't resumed operations due to the epidemic. These "shared employees" were hired by supermarkets, e-commerce platforms, retail stores and other companies or factories that suffered a shortage of workers.

Retail enterprises like Hema Fresh, Suning Logistics, JD's 7Fresh, Yonghui superstores and bike-sharing enterprises such as Helloglobal successively issued plans to hire "shared employees" from restaurants, hotels, cinemas and other industries that suspended operations. U.S.-based retail giant Walmart joined the effort by temporarily employing more than 3,000 people from other industries to work in its Beijing, Fuzhou and Shenzhen stores.

Sharing employees stimulated a labor overlap between the traditional catering industry with a temporary labor surplus and emerging e-commerce retail platforms grappling with a temporary labor shortage to effectively redistribute human resources. The innovative strategy proved effective in helping many Chinese enterprises on both sides respond to the epidemic.

## 社会救助兜底脱贫 Social Assistance to Fight Poverty

Edited by Li Zhuoxi


"Strengthening social assistance to fight poverty" is a measure taken by China to ensure all impoverished people who are eligible are covered by the social security system and have access to supportive policies.



November 2018: Through boosting employment and other sources of income, Gui'ao Agricultural Science and Technology Park in Gui'an New Area, Guizhou Province helps increase incomes for many locals living in poverty.  
by Wang Yuncong/China Pictorial

On March 6, 2020, President Xi Jinping urged acceleration of efforts to lift the remaining 52 poor counties and 1,113 poor villages out of poverty and enhance social security guarantees for impoverished people who lack the ability to work at a symposium on securing a decisive victory in poverty alleviation.

On March 8, the Ministry of Civil Affairs held a teleconference on poverty relief at which it rolled out a slew of measures to strengthen social assistance for the people most in need and fight poverty. Efforts will be intensified to support disadvantaged groups, and social organizations are encouraged to participate in poverty relief. Relevant civil affairs will be coordinated to ensure targeted assistance is provided for areas of extreme poverty including the "three regions and three prefectures."

(The "three regions" refer to Tibet Autonomous Region, Tibetan-inhabited region in Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Qinghai provinces, and the southern part of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region composed of Hotan, Kashgar, Aksu and Kizilsu Kirgiz Autonomous Prefecture. The "three prefectures" are Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture in Sichuan, Nujiang Lisu Autonomous Prefecture in Yunnan, and Linxia Hui Autonomous Prefecture in Gansu.) 





# A Global Circle of Wagons

Text by Zoe Zhao

*The COVID-19 outbreak is a pandemic requiring international collaboration across national boundaries, ideologies, political systems and cultural values.*





March 21, 2020: Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic (left) welcomes a team of Chinese medical experts with experience fighting COVID-19 as they arrive in Belgrade, capital of Serbia. In the face of the pandemic, China has called on the international community to join hands in fighting the common enemy. by Shi Zhongyu/Xinhua



So far, China has set a good example for the global fight against COVID-19. The country's strict and effective prevention and control efforts not only safeguarded the lives and health of its own people, but also greatly contributed to global public health. However, as the novel coronavirus outbreak is easing its grip in China, it is spreading to every continent



Viruses respect no borders. China has maintained a strong sense of responsibility to build a community with a shared future for humanity at the critical moment of global response to the pandemic. ㄚㄚ

and was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) on March 11, with its epicenter shifting to Europe. On March 26, Chinese President Xi Jinping attended a special Group of 20 (G20) leaders' summit to coordinate multilateral response to the pandemic in Beijing. Xi called for a resolute all-out global war against the COVID-19 outbreak, adding that it is imperative for the international community to strengthen confidence, act with unity and work together in a collective response. Xi also emphasized that countries need to leverage and coordinate

their macro policies to counteract the negative impact and prevent the world economy from falling into recession.

### Wuhan in Recovery

China has struggled through the most difficult period of the coronavirus outbreak, with new infections continuing to decline in early March. The situation of the virus containment in Hubei, the hardest-hit province and the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak in China, especially its capital city Wuhan, has further improved. By mid-March, spread of the infectious disease was essentially contained in Wuhan and other parts of Hubei Province.

The rate of recovery among patients in Wuhan, as well as across the entire country, has continued to increase. On March 3, the number of cumulative recoveries in Wuhan surpassed the number of remaining infections. On March 6, Wuhan slashed the daily increase of confirmed cases to below 100, down from a peak of more than 13,000 in early February. By March 10, all of the 16 temporary treatment centers in the city had closed. By the end of March 18, a total of 70,420 patients had recovered and been released from hospitals nationwide, including 57,678 in Hubei. By the same time, regions in Hubei outside of Wuhan reported no new infections for two weeks, and Wuhan reported zero new cases of coronavirus for a 24-hour period, its first day without a new infection since the city's lockdown on January 23.

As the epidemic situation markedly improved in Wuhan, the first group of 3,787 medical workers





March 26, 2020: The G20 Extraordinary Virtual Leaders' Summit on COVID-19 is held via video link. Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the summit in Beijing and says that the international community must comprehensively step up international cooperation and foster greater synergy so that humanity as one could win the battle against COVID-19. by Pang Xinglei/Xinhua

in 49 medical assistance teams dispatched to the city began returning to their homes on March 17. During the COVID-19 outbreak, 346 medical teams were mobilized to aid prevention and treatment efforts in Wuhan. The teams were comprised of over 42,600 medical personnel including 19,000 professionals dedicated to treating severely ill patients. According to Chinese authorities, medical teams from across the country that have accomplished their assistance missions will continue to retreat from Wuhan in a gradual, orderly and safe manner. Those still treating patients may stay for some time, and those treating critically ill patients will be the last to leave.

With the virus basically curbed, regular life and orderly resumption

of work and production in Wuhan are gaining momentum. On March 18, the local disease prevention and control task force announced a slow rollout of residents in Wuhan communities determined "infection-free" being allowed to engage in outdoor activities inside residential blocks.

According to guidelines released by the task force, rural areas of Wuhan labeled as free of the virus are permitted to restore normal behavior and launch agricultural production. Transportation of agricultural materials was ordered to commence smoothly as relevant businesses resume full operations. If a residential community maintains an "infection-free" status for more than a week, its inhabitants can begin resuming more

outdoor activities. Convenience stores, drugstores and small-sized food markets in such communities can resume business after meeting sanitation requirements, implementing disinfection measures and conducting health checkups of sellers, among other precautionary measures. As of the end of March 19, a total of 5,607 residential communities in Wuhan were deemed free of infection, 78.9 percent of the total. Nearly 95 percent of local rural villages, 1,844 in total, were also labeled "infection-free."

### China's Resolute War Against the Virus

Since the COVID-19 outbreak, China's top leadership has spared no efforts to control and prevent the



# 城中社区党员群众服务中



March 10, 2020: Chinese President Xi Jinping inspects efforts to prevent and control the COVID-19 outbreak in Wuhan, Hubei Province. He talks with community workers, police officers, community doctors and volunteers at a service center of Donghu Xincheng residential community in Wuhan. by Xie Huanchi/Xinhua

epidemic. During his meeting with WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus in Beijing on January 28, Chinese President Xi Jinping emphasized that the Chinese government's top priority was people's safety and health.

On March 10, President Xi inspected Wuhan, Hubei Province, pledging a continuous fight after prevention and control efforts "turned the tide." The president's inspection of Wuhan included a visit to Huoshenshan Hospital, a provisional hospital dedicated to treating severely ill COVID-19 patients, and Donghu Xincheng

residential community, where he greeted people quarantined in their homes. During his trip to Wuhan, Xi visited patients, medics, community residents and workers, police officers, military personnel, officials and volunteers who had been fighting the virus.

At Huoshenshan Hospital, the first stop of his inspection, Xi praised medical workers as "the most beautiful angels" and "messengers of light and hope." He talked with patients through video and expressed wishes for their quick recovery. In Donghu Xincheng residential community, Xi learned

about the community's efforts to prevent and control the epidemic and ensure supply of daily necessities for local residents. He also expressed gratitude to community residents and frontline workers.

After the field inspection, Xi chaired a teleconference at which he delivered an important speech. Xi declared that initial success had been achieved in stabilizing the situation and turning the tide. The positive trend in preventing and controlling the novel coronavirus outbreak would not have been achieved without sacrifice, devotion, perseverance and great efforts from





Medical workers are performing a tracheal intubation, which exposes them to the risk of infection, for a COVID-19 patient in critical condition at Huoshenshan Hospital in Wuhan, capital of Hubei Province. by Chen Jian/China Pictorial

all of the people in Wuhan. The concrete actions of Wuhan people testified to the strength and spirit of China, as well as Chinese people's love for family and nation. Xi also stressed that the disease is a big test of the country's governance system and capacity, adding that the authorities should learn from experience gained in improving the governance system.

Xi's visit to Wuhan signaled a new stage in the fight against the virus. Not long ago, China was the hardest-hit place on the planet, but the concerted efforts of the Chinese people evolved the country into a



March 4, 2020: A medical worker from Fujian Province dispatched to Wuhan to aid the fight against COVID-19 leads patients to practice *baduanjin*, a traditional Chinese fitness exercise, in the temporary treatment center in Dongxihu District, Wuhan. by Chen Jian/China Pictorial





March 10, 2020: Medical workers conduct blood gas analysis for a patient in the No.2 Department of Infectious Diseases in Guanggu Campus of Maternal and Child Hospital of Hubei Province. The hospital is a designated medical facility for treating COVID-19 patients. by Xu Xun/China Pictorial

stronghold in the global war against the infectious disease. The president's visit consolidated faith that the virus can be defeated, and marked the country shifting its attention from fighting the disease at home to reaching out to help on the global front.

### United Efforts to Fight a Common Foe

Since the COVID-19 outbreak, China has actively cooperated and exchanged information with the WHO and other countries. It quickly shared the full genome sequences of the new virus after

the pathogen was identified on January 7. The WHO declared that the tremendous collective will of the Chinese people helped gain a few weeks that were very important for the world. United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed gratitude to



March 25, 2020: Wuhan resumes operations of a total of 117 bus routes, around 30 percent of the city's total bus transport capacity. Ms. Li (left) shows her health QR code and health certificate issued by her residential community to the bus safety supervisor before boarding. by Chen Jian/China Pictorial

the Chinese people who sacrificed many aspects of their normal lives to impede the spread of the virus.

Viruses respect no borders. Today, COVID-19 continues spreading throughout the world. By mid-March, it had crept into more than 160 countries and regions. As of March 19, more than 230,000 cases of COVID-19 had been reported globally, among which 9,840 people lost their lives. On March 19, the coronavirus death toll in Italy overtook that of China, as hospitals became overwhelmed and the government prepared to prolong emergency lockdown measures.

In the spirit of openness, transparency and responsibility, China has been working closely with the WHO, intensifying analysis and predictions of global epidemic development, improving measures for dealing with risk of imported infections and strengthening exchange and cooperation with other countries.



March 20, 2020: Dried noodles are produced in a workshop of Kemen Noodle Manufacturing Co., Ltd. in Wuhan, Hubei Province. With the virus basically curbed, orderly resumption of work and production in the city is gaining momentum. by Ma Gengping/China Pictorial

China has maintained a strong sense of responsibility to build a community with a shared future for humanity at the critical moment of global response to the pandemic. It is actively participating in regional and international cooperation to



March 20, 2020: Workers disinfect Hankou Railway Station in Wuhan, which has been closed for 58 days due to the coronavirus outbreak. The railway station used to see a peak daily passenger flow of 160,000 before the lockdown of Wuhan. by Duan Wei/China Pictorial

fight the outbreak and extending a helping hand to other countries. China has called for greater efforts to improve coordinating mechanisms for epidemic control strategies with other countries, enhance sharing of experience





March 10, 2020: Xu Yonghao (center), a member of the Chinese medical expert team, demonstrates wearing a protective suit and getting prepared to go into a place with high risk of COVID-19 infection in Baghdad, Iraq. Xinhua



March 16, 2020: A worker attaches a label to disaster relief materials bound for Italy in Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang Province. With the novel coronavirus making its way throughout the world, China has tried its best to help countries severely affected by the pandemic. by Zheng Mengyu/Xinhua

in prevention and treatment, and advance joint scientific research.

By March 21, China had shared its experience in fighting the outbreak with numerous countries and dispatched medical teams to Italy, Iran, Iraq and Serbia to

assist the fight against the virus. The Chinese government shipped supplies to 82 countries, the African Union and the WHO including reagent kits, masks and protective suits. Many of the relief packages have already arrived in recipient

countries. Many Chinese cities, enterprises, and nongovernmental organizations are also working to provide medical supplies and other necessary assistance for other countries.

“China created a window for the





March 13, 2020: Latvian medical experts attend a video conference with Chinese health officials and experts as well as their counterparts from Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries in Riga, Latvia. The video conference is held as part of the cooperation between China and CEE countries (17+1). China shares its insights on the virus outbreak and offers feasible measures to fight the pandemic. Xinhua

whole world to get ready and get ready fast,” said Bruce Aylward, a Canadian epidemiologist and leader of the WHO-China Joint Mission on COVID-19. The COVID-19 outbreak is a pandemic demanding international collaboration

across national boundaries, ideologies, political systems and cultural values. Global cooperation, information sharing, scientific work and epidemic control experience are all needed to fight the common enemy of all humans. In the face of

a pandemic, multilateral cooperation has become about more than just public health — it serves as a critical test of multilateralism and of the ability of the world to move toward a shared and brighter future for all. [EP](#)



# A Concerted Global Fight

Text by Yi Mei

*While combating the disease at home, China is working hand in hand with other countries and contributing its strength and wisdom to the battle against the pandemic.*



March 12, 2020: Francesco Rocca (sixth right, back row), president of the Italian Red Cross Society, poses for a group photo with nine Chinese medical experts in Rome, Italy. Along with the nine Chinese medical experts, China also sent a planeload of 31 metric tons of equipment to Italy as the European country suffers surges of new infections, a shortage of protective and medical devices and heavy fatalities. Xinhua

**A**s China sees a big drop in new COVID-19 cases, the virus has shifted to other parts of the world, with Europe becoming a new epicenter of the outbreak.

According to World Health

Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the threat of the coronavirus triggering a worldwide pandemic is now “very real.” Facing an increasingly severe situation worldwide, China is contributing

to the global fight against the novel coronavirus disease while continuing to ensure its epidemic prevention and control domestically.

## Returning the Favor

A friend in need is a friend





March 16, 2020: A Chinese medical expert shows correct handwashing techniques in Baghdad, capital of Iraq. The Red Cross Society of China donated a set of nucleic acid testing equipment, two PCRs and 50,000 nucleic acid testing kits to Iraq. Xinhua



March 18, 2020: Chinese experts adjust equipment in a nucleic acid testing laboratory in Baghdad, capital of Iraq. Xinhua

indeed. China has never been alone in its fight against the virus. The international community gave the country considerable support. Leaders of over 170 countries and heads of more than 40 international and regional organizations

sent messages of sympathy and support to China. Many countries, international organizations and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) lent a helping hand by donating medical supplies, which played an important role in battling

the epidemic.

A drop of water shall be returned with a flowing river. China will never forget the help it received from the international community and stands ready to help other countries as much as possible.





China and South Korea have established a joint prevention and control mechanism on coping with the novel coronavirus. The two sides held their first videoconference on March 13, 2020. Xinhua



February 29, 2020: Five experts from the Red Cross Society of China arrive in Tehran, Iran, along with China-aided medical supplies, to help the country fight the novel coronavirus pandemic. courtesy of the Chinese Embassy in Iran

At press time, about 590,000 pieces of medical supplies including protective suits, masks and gloves from China had flown to Italy through charter flights. Before that, China sent several teams of doctors and paramedics to Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Italy and Serbia. Additionally, medical materials donated by the Chinese government, organizations and companies have arrived in countries including Japan, South Korea and France.

China has also shared many technical documents including its epidemic prevention and control measures and diagnosis and treatment plans with more than 100 countries around the world and over 10 international and regional organizations.



March 18, 2020: Chinese medical experts and Italian doctors pose for a photo in Padua, Italy. With their experience and expertise, Chinese scientists and doctors from the front lines of the fight against COVID-19 can help other nations formulate their own response plans and contain the pandemic. Xinhua

## Communication and Coordination

“While combating COVID-19 at home, China is ready to contribute to the global response,” declared China’s Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang at a regular press conference on March 11, 2020. “We will step up communication and coordination with the WHO and the international community. Exchange of information is an important part of a joint global response.”

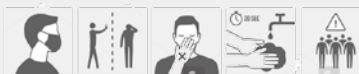
After the COVID-19 outbreak, China shared its genetic sequence with the WHO as quickly as possible and notified other countries. With openness, transparency and a high sense of responsibility for global public health security and public

wellbeing, China will continue sharing information with the international community including the WHO. China will also strive to enhance coordination and cooperation to advance joint responses at regional and global levels to curb the spread of the virus.

China has published seven editions of guidelines on COVID-19 diagnosis and treatment and six editions of guidelines on prevention and control so far, all of which have been translated into multiple foreign languages.

“All the guidelines are based on our frontline observations, collection of clinical data, laboratory findings, chest X-rays and CT scans,” explained Cao Bin, vice president of China-Japan Friendship

## Tips for Individual Prevention and Control of Novel Coronavirus



- Wear a face mask.
- Wash your hands often.
- Open windows for fresh air.
- Maintain at least a meter of social distancing.
- Avoid crowds.
- Dine separately.
- Monitor your own health condition. If you feel sick, do not go to work.
- Develop a flexible working style.
- Report to appropriate personnel if you feel any symptoms.

### 1. What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Fever, fatigue and dry cough are the most common symptoms. Some patients may also have a stuffy or running nose, sore throat and diarrhea. Severe patients mostly suffer from breathing difficulty or an abnormally low concentration of oxygen in the blood.



### 2. How should I choose a mask?

Wearing a mask is an important protective measure against infectious respiratory diseases. If you are in severely affected areas, wearing a surgical mask is recommended, otherwise use a disposable medical mask.

### 3. What if someone in my residential community gets infected?

Don't panic, because the infected patients will be hospitalized, and relevant authorities will monitor their close contacts. Disease control personnel will conduct terminal disinfection of their homes. Other residents in the same community should wash their hands and open the windows often, wear masks in crowded places, and monitor their own health conditions.

### 4. What if I develop a fever, cough or some other discomfort without any history of contacting a suspected COVID-19 patient?

If you experience symptoms like fever and cough, do not simply rush to the hospital unless you suffer from other major chronic conditions because you could still just have a common cold or flu. You can stay at home for observation, treat the



Hospital, from the front lines in Wuhan. “From the very beginning, the Chinese government has maintained face-to-face connections with the WHO, and I introduced our clinical findings to the WHO from the first wave of cases.”

Cao also helped his American colleagues publish the first paper in the *Blue Journal* to explain COVID-19 to American citizens. “They told me it helped a lot,” stressed Cao.

China has held more than 20 expert seminars and remote meetings with the WHO, ASEAN, EU, APEC, African Union, CARICOM, SCO and other international and regional organizations, as well as with Japan, South Korea, Russia, Germany, France, Laos and the United States to share China’s experience and practice in preventing and controlling the epidemic through laboratory findings, epidemiological investigations and clinical diagnosis and treatment. China and South Korea have established a joint prevention and control mechanism headed by the two countries’ foreign ministries and involving officials from departments of public health, education, customs, immigration and civil aviation, which aims to strengthen communication and coordination related to the virus.

### Science-based Cooperation

China has increased cooperation with the international community on science and technology as it expands collaboration with other countries in pharmaceuticals, vaccines and testing reagents, contributing Chinese wisdom and strategies to a push for an early global victory over the virus.

The WHO R&D Blueprint lists three antiviral therapeutics as a priority: remdesivir, lopinavir and a monoclonal antibody to this new

coronavirus. Chinese doctors are leading the development of the first two priority antivirals.

“The whole international society, including the WHO, is eager for the results of clinical trials on the Chinese mainland,” notes Cao, who also works with the trial team. “The good news is that the first trial, for lopinavir, has finished. Chinese doctors will share the results with the WHO and the international society as soon as possible.”

Cao noted that there are two trials for the drug remdesivir: remdesivir-1 and remdesivir-2. In remdesivir-1, the team included patients with mild to moderate coronavirus symptoms. Remdesivir-2 is designed for severe and critical pneumonia cases. Both trials are progressing smoothly. “As soon as we finish the trials, we will share the data with the international community,” he said.

After working in Wuhan for more than two months, Du Bin, director of the Medical ICU at Peking Union Medical College Hospital, still believes that prevention and control are the most



March 16, 2020: A total of 300,000 masks from China arrive at Liege Airport of Belgium. These masks are donated by the Jack Ma Foundation and the Alibaba Foundation, which have increased efforts to provide support and supplies to countries affected, especially Italy, Belgium, Spain, Slovenia, France, Austria, Denmark, Germany, Ireland and the Netherlands. Xinhua



February 20, 2020: Overseas Chinese volunteers give out masks to locals in Nagoya, Japan. Only by solidarity and mutual assistance can mankind achieve an early victory over the pandemic. Xinhua

important strategy to fight the virus because treatment is secondary while prevention and control have primary effects.

“The Chinese approach to control the epidemic may not be the only one,” admitted Du. “We saw what happened in Singapore and Japan. My colleagues and I have also learned from their experience. In each starkly different situation in terms of the number of cases and the community support system, you can adopt different approaches that may achieve similar success.”

“This is an opportunity for us to learn from each other, like how

the medical community shares traditional Chinese medicine and Western medicine,” Du continued. “The beauty of the world lies in the diversity of its people, not being identical.”

The COVID-19 outbreak is neither the first nor the last challenge for mankind. The pandemic has no borders. The right thing for the world to do is to make concerted efforts. While combating the disease at home, China is working hand in hand with other countries and contributing its strength and wisdom to the battle against the pandemic. ㊦

symptoms and learn to manage the illness. If your conditions worsen, put on a mask, seek medical treatment at the nearest fever clinic and avoid public transport.

#### 5. How can I protect against COVID-19 in public transportation?

Buses, subways, ships and airplanes normally serve many travelers at once. In such places, you should wear a mask to reduce the risk of exposure to viruses. When you cough or sneeze, cover your nose and mouth completely with a paper towel and immediately drop the used paper in a closed bin to prevent the spread of germs.

#### 6. What if I need to use central air conditioning?

If you must use a central air conditioning system, learn about its type, range of air supply and air inlet before using it. When using it, ensure that all rooms in the building are well-ventilated and have sufficient fresh air supply. If confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases are found in the building, immediately shut down the central air conditioning system and conduct compulsory cleaning and disinfection.

#### 7. How can we protect against COVID-19 in the office?

If you share an office with others, you should wear a mask, wash your hands often and keep the office well-ventilated. Regularly disinfect shared items such as doorknobs, switches and computers.

#### 8. How can I protect against COVID-19 when attending meetings?

You should wear a mask. Attendance should be kept low, and the duration of the meeting should be minimized. Attendees should sit at least a meter apart from each other. During the meeting, keep windows open to ensure the room is well-ventilated. When the meeting is over, disinfect public items such as microphones and conference tables.

#### 9. How can I avoid the spread of COVID-19 in a public elevator?

An elevator is a closed space. Wear a mask when taking an elevator and wash your hands immediately after touching the buttons. Take the stairs instead of an elevator if you can. Elevators should be disinfected regularly at least once or twice a day, depending on the number of users and the frequency of use, and solid ventilation should be ensured.

Source: Beijing Center for Disease Control and Prevention



# COVID-19 Next Step: Viral Education

Text by Ole Döring

*Viruses have been evolving longer than humans. Whether or not human social structures evolve to minimize viral spread is in our hands.*

The virus is infecting the world. COVID-19 is not only conquering physical bodies but also changing the way we think. Interaction between thoughts and microbes can challenge the sanity of people still mentally rooted in the 20th century, diminishing common sense of responsible health practices. National governance measures have proved ineffective in some cases. But a few countries, including China, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), are learning and adapting eagerly. While the virus weakens bodies, the epidemic is affecting how we think, talk and act. In our networked cyber society, the front lines of disease control have become a cultural struggle.

A sort of “emotional panic virus” has spread. Wild speculation about the causes of the outbreak has run rampant and absurd accusations have been tossed out against authorities as scapegoats have emerged and misinformation has disturbed social peace and delayed necessary measures. The nature of unclear health risks creates great uncertainty. Our social guidance systems including schools and governance provide orientation and certainty so citizens can trust the institutions. However, COVID-19 has been



Hand disinfection is one of the most effective ways to prevent novel coronavirus infection. Xinhua

spread by human activity alone, and each member of society bears some individual responsibility.

Hardly anything is as subtle, powerful and uncontrollable as such a virus. This situation warrants highly orchestrated strategies. The only path forward is solidarity and respectful cooperation of all people globally. Mistakes shine light on areas in need of learning and

reform because the next epidemic is already lurking.

Greater focus on responsible public behavior by experts, officials and pundits will significantly enhance mankind's ability to adapt to different global challenges and conflicts. The new disease is now called “COVID-19.” The name deliberately captures standardization of research and demands further



March 1, 2020: A man wearing a mask in the street of Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic. That day, the Caribbean country confirmed its first case of COVID-19. The COVID-19 pandemic has posed a great challenge to the global public health system. Xinhua

clarification to counteract irrational reactions. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus explicitly warned against incitement, discrimination and misinformation related to the virus. The new term is free of blame, politics or nationality and only begs for action. To liberate humanity from infighting and foster greater solidarity to confront the disease as one force, we should integrate global social and biological capacity in terms of health resources.

The WHO emphasized that the most serious “illness” connected to COVID-19 is the infodemic: information prematurely released or poorly explained. The digital social sphere fosters the greatest share of modern communication, and it blurs

the lines between authorities, social groups and individuals, making information more difficult to verify. When individuals cease to behave in a healthy manner and surrender to their instincts, biology will dictate what happens in the bodies and affects everyone else. When we are overwhelmed with data we cannot process, panic conquers our ability to do the right thing.

Notably, addressing the physical side of the epidemic is well in hand. The global medical community and authorities around the world are working day and night, so everyone else should comply with recommendations to observe hygiene and proper nourishment. But have we learned to prevent and

cure the social and moral cancers the disease has brought to light before they mushroom into global issues that jeopardize peace and create even worse existential threats than a microbe? In our cooperative social division of labor, are we doing enough to integrate science and medicine to foster peace of mind? Only a new culture for collaborative prevention can accomplish this and promote health on the social and individual scale, increase health literacy and solidify social stability. Control cannot be left to authorities or technology alone. Modern global health demands development of a trans-disciplinary effort with the objective of making citizens responsible agents instead of just



passive patients.

How should language be used to describe the situation? We distinguish social groups such as wealthy and poor, men and women, healthy and ill. In the context of disease, these are often confused or superseded by biological correlatives. For epidemiological strategy, it is crucial that common languages prevail, to present the social and practical rationality embedded in information. For example, to determine the probability of dying from COVID-19, one must account for male-female distribution of cases but also the fact that most male fatalities have been smokers. Gender cannot be controlled, but tobacco consumption certainly can. Proper information about the possible effects of human decisions opens options for behavioral changes. Such factors become even more compelling when it is clarified that intake of tobacco (for respiratory conditions) or sugar (for diabetics) determine the odds of dying from COVID-19 more than gender or ethnicity.

It is important to realize that changing perceptions are far from trivial. Describing social reality through a biological lens reduces humanity to medical objects. We cannot build social rules through a microscope. If individual connection, social roles and economic fairness are not immediately evident to the actor, the value of health remains abstract. We risk spreading ambiguity in terms of practical information for individuals such as prioritizing and targeting health behavior and changing routines. Prescriptions for social and personal health resilience are usually far less dramatic than alarmist messaging: Be considerate and avoid all unnecessary or potentially unhealthy behavior in all areas including food, waste, consumption, mobility and interaction. Take care and



March 13, 2020: Empty shelves of a supermarket in Amsterdam, capital of the Netherlands. As COVID-19 spreads, the public have begun to stockpile all kinds of daily necessities. Xinhua

continually act as a decent citizen. Success hinges on adherence, not compliance.

The notions of health literacy and responsible citizens are crucial for prevention because sane action requires contextual awareness. Education enables navigation of conditions involving unclear risk and uncertain prospects. Actions taken in the name of hygiene can be

useless or even detrimental to health and safety. For example, loading up on protective masks and stockpiling of disinfectants have created severe scarcity and resulted in shortages that undermine trust in health infrastructure. Responsibility suggests proportional distribution so devices and resources can reach the people who need them most. Individuals should consider letting go of



perceived increased security for the benefit of society as a whole.

Responsibility reverses complicity. While compliance involves some understanding of what should be done according to regulations, adherence is the result of more profound understanding: As a citizen, I know why this is the right thing to do, even if it does not immediately benefit me.

“

The WHO emphasized that the most serious ‘illness’ connected to COVID-19 is the infodemic: information prematurely released or poorly explained. ”

It is not easy to see the damage caused by irresponsible behavior or the benefits of a shift from obeying commands to doing the right thing independently. But the transformation can be facilitated through communication, education and incentives designed to promote conscientious behavior instead of panic.

Most current measures are designed for immediate response to contain the spread of the virus. We must buy time to improve. We need time for vaccines and improved health infrastructures as well as governance. However, time is a valuable resource for many reasons. Rather than wait to be saved, citizens should embrace a helping role. Such behavior is subtle and sustainable. While we endeavor to better understand how the virus weakens the strong and kills the weak, everyone can do more to become a less attractive host and spreader. Focus on what goes on between our heads and hands. The virus is an opportunist and subject to scientific scrutiny. But humans are free to make their own reasonable and responsible choices. Reason is subject to neither science nor the virus. We can do more than just wait out the storm.

The deliberate changes the virus has provoked in our lifestyles are blending with many already known to be needed for other macro-challenges such as climate

change, environmental destruction, poverty and inequity. The United Nations has clearly outlined strategies to foster a better future ranging from the 17 Sustainable Development Goals to the Decades of Ocean Science and Ecosystem Restoration. These will affect our industries. Tobacco and fossil fuels will be remembered as relics of the dirty industries of the 19th and 20th centuries after going obsolete alongside habits that propagated deadly viruses. The silver lining may be that entrepreneurs in the real economy are becoming even more entrepreneurial as they adapt, innovate and transform.

Today’s global health perspective reminds us that the world is round. Eventually, small actions accumulate into something we embrace or fear. There is much we can do to create a better outcome. Humanity’s ultimate concern should be strengthening holistic health resilience. Viruses will always be with us, as they always have been. Whether or not we optimize human behavior is in our hands. ”

The author is an accomplished philosopher, sinologist and global health ethicist. He lives and works in Berlin and Hong Kong. Recently, he co-founded the European Centre for Chinese Thinking and the Institute for Global Health Berlin.



# The World Can Trust China to Overcome the Coronavirus Epidemic

Text by Wali Zahid

*China has shown its iron will and strengths of governance capability and system in the fight against COVID-19.*



March 4, 2020: Escorted by medical staff, a 72-year-old woman surnamed Li, a COVID-19 patient, is released from Huoshenshan Hospital in Wuhan after recovery. by Xu Xun/China Pictorial

In January this year, China was struck by an outbreak of the novel coronavirus pneumonia (COVID-19). Although not as deadly as its earlier counterparts, the epidemic impacted the lives of millions of Chinese people, bringing the nation a setback.

China took immediate action to contain COVID-19 by locking down or quarantining major hubs and cities. It was only because of China's iron will, capability and governance system that most of the fatalities from the deadly virus could be contained to Wuhan, the city at the epicenter of the epidemic in Hubei Province.

When I spoke to a leading expert with Pakistan's chief biological program, he said that only China was able to contain the outflow with such decisiveness and without panic. Had it been any other country, the number of deaths and the spread of the virus could have been worse.

The same is the spirit of overseas Chinese. While researching the face mask shortage around the globe, I found that overseas Chinese were buying masks in their residence countries and sending them back to China to meet the huge need. This was an amazing sense of national care and unity.

The bigger challenge now is the international spread of the novel coronavirus. By March 2, the deaths in other countries including Japan, South Korea, Iran and Italy were in triple digits when compared with about 3,000 deaths on the Chinese mainland.

With the West and the developed world shutting its doors to Chinese travelers, Pakistan was the first country that resumed the flights to and from China, only suspending travel for three days.

Pakistan, an all-weather friend and iron brother of China, stood strong with its northeastern



February 8, 2020: Pakistani Abdul Zahir Hamad (left) and his wife, Mauritian Hosany Sumayyah, both doctors serving as volunteers, express their hope for an early victory in the fight against COVID-19 at an expressway checkpoint in Wenzhou, eastern China's Zhejiang Province. by Weng Xinyang/Xinhua

neighbor. The upper house of the Parliament of Pakistan, the Senate, unanimously passed a resolution expressing solidarity and support for the government of China and our Chinese brothers and sisters.

Pakistan has also donated medical supplies, along with sending medical teams, to aid China in helping contain this epidemic. Airports and the aviation authorities of the two countries are working in close coordination to monitor passengers and create a safe environment for citizens.

It was because of these efforts that Zhao Lijian, spokesperson of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, acknowledged Pakistan's role and said on February 24: "After the COVID-19 outbreak, Pakistan spoke in support of China at the earliest time possible, donated supplies despite its own difficulties

and kept exchanges between the two countries as usual... We stand ready to strengthen cooperation with the international community including Pakistan to jointly tackle the epidemic and promote global public health. In a highly responsible manner, we are also ready to step up communication and coordination with Pakistan, safeguard the health and safety of Pakistani nationals in China like they are our own, and take good care of them."

In addition to banning Chinese passengers and suspending flights to and from China, the West also racially labeled the novel coronavirus as the "China virus," which was in contrast to China's response to the deadly H1N1 outbreak.

China has dedicated many resources to ending this epidemic. True to "China speed," a 1,000-bed provisional hospital with





February 24, 2020: Bruce Aylward, an epidemiologist who led an advance team from the World Health Organization (WHO), speaks during a press conference of the China-WHO joint expert team in Beijing. by Xing Guangli/Xinhua



March 25, 2020: A bus conductor checks passengers' body temperatures and health QR codes before they board in Wuhan, Hubei Province. by Chen Jian/China Pictorial

up-to-date technology and equipment was built in Wuhan in just 10 days. Although a specific antiviral medicine is not yet available, China has completed clinical trials of various supportive drugs and found an early interim remedy.

Since January, I have been sharing daily statistics of the

reported cases, deaths, and fortunately now the increasing number of recoveries on my social media platforms. This is necessary because too much fake news is circulating on Twitter and Facebook. China, along with the World Health Organization (WHO), is taking major steps to


combat fake news and produce a daily dossier of reported cases, deaths and recoveries.

I asked my friends on social media what they think of China and its response to the epidemic.

Ch. Amjad Farooq, who runs a Twitter handle on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), said: "The shock of [the] corona[virus] epidemic is surely temporary and China is dealing with the most challenging situation with utmost care and as per ethics and principles laid down by the WHO. The fundamentals of China's long-term economic development in the form of the Belt and Road Initiative will remain unchanged."

Zamir Ahmed Awan, a professor at the National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), said: "Trust Chinese governance and leadership to overcome COVID-19."

Dr. Aziz Ur Rehman, who is an advisor to the President of International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI), said: "China has to show a true leadership in the area of global pharmaceutical R&D. It has done quite well in recent years in terms of manufacturing of generic pharmaceutical products and active pharmaceutical ingredients of originator drugs, but China's ability to develop innovative drugs, vaccines and diagnostics as an industry leader has yet to be established."

We must trust the Chinese people and assure them that they are not going through this difficult time alone. They would overcome the epidemic soon, although the path to full economic and financial recovery may take some time. 

The author is president of the Institute of Media and Communications (IMC), a longtime China watcher and a Pakistani futurist.

# Fighting COVID-19 Demands Joint Efforts

Text by Swaran Singh

*The COVID-19 outbreak should reinforce the urgent need to replace parochial inter-state competition with inter-societal cooperation.*



March 8, 2020: Health workers check the body temperatures of French visitors at Luxor International Airport in Egypt. Xinhua



**R**epeated episodes of epidemics in the past two decades present significant lessons about novel challenges from our ever-expanding connectivity. The infusion of technology is fast transforming human interactions with ever-growing stakes in mutual cooperation. This marks a deeper shift from parochial inter-state competition to stronger inter-societal cooperation that defines human future.

Amongst various epidemics, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) of 2003 infected over 8,000 people, leaving nearly 800 dead across 26 countries. There were also other hits by swine flu, avian flu, etc. Irrespective of their frequency and virulence, increasing global connectivity poses a challenge by

exponentially accelerating their spread and impact.

This explains why COVID-19, which is believed to be much less virulent than SARS, has seen such a large spread and loss of life all over the world. According to World Health Organization (WHO) reports, the global death toll from COVID-19 had surpassed 3,000 as of March 3, with the number of infections crossing 90,000 in more than 70 countries. The COVID-19 outbreak is displacing other urgent issues like terrorism, climate change or weapons of mass destruction from news headlines.

No doubt, the month-long containment and lockdowns in China have stabilized the epidemic in the country—a recent report has indicated a clear decline in the rise of infections and deaths. However, infections are spreading

fast in the rest of the world as well as reoccurring amongst patients who had already recovered and been discharged from hospitals.

As of March 3, over 160 deaths and more than 10,000 cases of infections had been recorded outside of China, and the figures are still on the rise. Next to China, it was South Korea that had reported the highest number of cases of infections, with the figure approaching 5,000 including 28 deaths, and Iran had suffered the highest number of 66 deaths including a member of a council that advises Iran's Supreme Leader.

Developed countries with better healthcare are no exception. As of March 3, Japan, Singapore and Australia, with much smaller populations, had respectively confirmed 268, 108 and 33 cases of



March 25, 2020: A patient gets ready for infusion treatment at the clinic of the Union Hospital affiliated to Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology in Wuhan after it resumes normal operation. by Xu Xun/China Pictorial



March 4, 2020: Empty beds are seen in a temporary treatment center built at the site of the Wuhan Living Room Exhibition Center to treat COVID-19 patients. The temporary treatment center closed on March 8 after the last batch of patients moved to other hospitals.  
by Chen Jian/China Pictorial

infections; in Europe, Italy had been hit the hardest with 2,036 infections and 52 deaths; the United States had also recorded 108 cases with nine deaths.


Countries are talking of sealing borders and scrutinizing foreign visitors, with masks disappearing from markets and people stocking essential commodities. Fighting fake information and rumors is also becoming another challenge for authorities.

India, with a billion-plus population, had reported six infected cases as of March 3, including one in its capital New Delhi. The New Delhi case has caused two prestigious schools

to shut down and sparked media discussions on the upcoming crisis for India. All this underlines the vanity of political contention and military modernization which offer no answer to the emerging threat. This should reinforce the urgent need to replace parochial inter-state competition with inter-societal cooperation.

Tourism has already borne the brunt worldwide with, among others, tourist attractions such as the Louvre museum in Paris shut down for visitors. Other sectors of human activity, especially international trade, have been hit the hardest by the sudden decline in

demand which portends further global economic slowdown.

With emerging economies and developing countries contributing to over two-thirds of global economic growth, the large populations of China and India should find their way to a shared future together. The onus therefore lies on China and India to stand up to turn this challenge into their historic opportunity. 

The author is a professor with Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi) and adjunct senior fellow with the Charhar Institute (Beijing).





March 24, 2020: A worker sets up beds in a temporary treatment center transformed from a conference center in the Chilean capital of Santiago. At present, the COVID-19 pandemic has been spreading exponentially in many countries around the globe. The idea of building temporary treatment centers to treat COVID-19 patients initiated by China has been widely followed by more and more countries to alleviate the shortage of hospital beds. Xinhua

# Fighting the Pandemic Together: **For a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity**

Text by Zhao Lei

*Epidemics could happen in any country. Only with countries supporting each other in the time of crisis can the world embrace a bright and healthy future.*

China is the initiator and actor of building “a community with a shared future for humanity.” The Communist Party of China (CPC) called for raising “awareness about human beings sharing a community of common destiny” in the report at its 18th National Congress in 2012. Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward the notion of building “a community with a shared future” as early as March 2013, when he delivered a speech at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. “It is a world where countries are linked with and dependent on one another at a level never seen before. Mankind, by living in the same global village in the same era and on the same earth where history and reality meet, has increasingly emerged as a community with a shared future in which everyone has in himself a little bit of others,” Xi said in the speech.

**Faced with disasters once in a while, the world needs to raise awareness about a community with a shared future for humanity.**

The Spanish flu pandemic of 1918 infected hundreds of millions of people and killed about 50 million people, with a 2.5-percent fatality rate. Over one hundred years later, with the advancement in the research of epidemiological technologies, mankind has more “weapons” to fight against epidemics. However, it is an indisputable fact that as people move around the world more conveniently and frequently, the spread of viruses is accelerated. Some experts point out that an epidemic can spread worldwide in just 36 hours in this more interconnected world.

In the history of epidemic prevention and control, countries around the world have joined hands



March 8, 2020: A group of young workers at a local coffee shop in Wuhan provide free coffee for medical personnel fighting on the front lines. Talking about the reason to do this, Sina (first right), a member of the team from Iran, said that COVID-19 is the common enemy of the whole world, so people in different countries should work hand in hand to fight the pandemic. by Duan Wei/China Pictorial

to win many battles. For example, smallpox was finally contained after its vaccine prevailed in Europe, Africa and the Americas. Originating in Africa, the Zika virus began spreading explosively to many countries in Latin America in 2016. About four million people were estimated to be affected, which resulted in international collaboration in disease control and prevention and vaccine research and development.

Since 1976, epidemics related to the Ebola virus have been reported more than 30 times, among which the year 2014 witnessed its largest outbreak in West Africa. According to statistics released by the World Health Organization (WHO), by the end of 2014, infected cases and suspected cases of Ebola had reached 19,031 in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea and 7,373 victims had died. Thanks to joint efforts from countries around the world, the spread of the virus was restrained. China alone made donations of money and materials totaling US\$120 million to affected countries and international organizations. Additionally, China sent 1,200 medical workers and public health experts there, completing

nearly 9,000 sample tests, checking more than 900 cases and training 13,000 local health workers.

**China has always promoted the construction of a community with a shared future for humanity.**

As early as 1963, upon the instruction of then Premier Zhou Enlai, the Chinese government sent its first overseas medical aid team to Algeria at its invitation, initiating China's healthcare collaboration with the international community.

According to the white paper *China and the World in the New Era* issued on September 27, 2019, over the six decades since China began to provide foreign assistance in the early 1950s, the country has provided 166 countries and international organizations with nearly 400 billion yuan (about US\$58 billion) in aid, and dispatched over 600,000 aid workers, of whom more than 700 sacrificed their lives for the development of other countries. China has provided medical aid to 69 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and Oceania. By 2018, in more than 30 Asian, African and American countries, China had launched over 200 development





January 7, 2015: A Chinese medical worker sent by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to assist Sierra Leone talks with a local girl who was infected with the Ebola virus. Thanks to the efforts of medical staff of the Ebola observation center at the Sierra Leone-China Friendship Hospital, she was eventually cured. by Dai Xin/Xinhua



March 12, 2020: The ground service workers for China Eastern Airlines carefully load the anti-epidemic packages containing fragile items at Pudong International Airport in Shanghai. At 5:30 p.m. that day, a charter plane carrying 8.6 tons of supplies and more than 300 kilograms of checked baggage flew to Italy with the blessing and support of the Chinese people. courtesy of China Eastern Airlines

cooperation programs on disaster relief, healthcare, protection of women and children, refugee relief, and environmental protection. China has become the second-largest contributor to both the regular and peacekeeping budgets of the UN, and the largest troop contributor among the permanent members of the UN Security Council. In 2015, China announced that it

would set up a 10-year, US\$1 billion China-UN Peace and Development Fund, which was officially put into operation in 2016.

Several decades ago, malaria still cast a shadow over China. After years of research and control efforts, since 2017, malaria has been eradicated in China. But malaria remains rampant in Africa and Southeast Asia. At present, malaria, AIDS and

tuberculosis are considered the three most urgent public health issues. According to the WHO, malaria infects 212 million people every year, causing 430,000 deaths—nearly 1,200 people per day. About 90 percent of infected cases and 92 percent of death cases happen in Africa.

On July 4, 2019, the U.S.-based magazine *The Atlantic* published an article titled *China Is Leading the Next Step in Fighting Malaria in Africa*. It read that “Chinese cooperation in the continent’s science and public-health sectors may show the world that the country has far more to offer Africa than just roads, railways, and things.” In 2017, Chinese scientists working with a Chinese philanthropist and his company, New South, had already begun eradicating malaria from the small African nation of Comoros. Since 2008, China has set up 30 malaria-fighting clinical stations and provided them with 190 million yuan (US\$27.4 million) of antimalarial compound artemisinin, which is discovered by Chinese scientist Tu Youyou from the sweet wormwood plant and considered “the most effective and widely used antimalarial drug in the world.” In 2018, China aided the construction of the first control and prevention center for tropical infectious diseases in Sierra Leone in an effort to help build African countries’ own capacity for public health. As long as there is an emergency in the world, China is ready to help.

**The essence of a community with a shared future upholds global multilateralism and offers help to people in need.**

Since 2008 when the financial crisis broke out worldwide, unilateralism, protectionism, far-right politics and de-globalization have

increased. Many countries proposed “our country first,” believing that as long as they themselves are doing well, everything is ok. But some emergencies including the pandemic remind the international community that only when all others are doing well can everyone be fine.

After the outbreak of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), China has adopted the most comprehensive, strict and thorough measures to fight against the epidemic. Considering the fast spread of the virus, it is time for countries worldwide to make joint efforts to contain the disease.

Research teams worldwide are racing against time to develop vaccines. From February 11 to 12, 2020, a forum on the novel coronavirus was jointly held by the WHO and the Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness in Geneva, Switzerland, aiming at achieving a research roadmap to coordinate global research resources to determine the focus of research on the virus, discuss clinical treatment schemes and advance the development of vaccines. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus emphasized that science is science, and it is no help to politicize science. “The virus is our common enemy,” he said. Indeed, the pandemic is a test of the solidarity of the international community. Cynicism and indifference do not help solve problems.

**The roadmap to construct a community with a shared future is to establish global partnership, sharing happiness and bitterness and getting through thick and thin.**

After the outbreak of COVID-19, some foreigners chose to stay in Wuhan, the epicenter of the epidemic, to contribute efforts to




February 29, 2020: Members of the “Mask Panda Action Team,” a volunteer group initiated by overseas Chinese communities in Japan, distribute free masks to local people in Tokyo to help the prevention of COVID-19. by Du Xiaoyi/Xinhua

fighting the disease. Many countries show their concern and support for China, warming the Chinese people’s hearts.

For example, donations and support from Japan touched the Chinese people. Shops in Tokyo and Osaka selling protective products put up signs bearing words like “Stay strong, Wuhan! Stay strong, China!” and some even lower the prices of anti-epidemic supplies. On the boxes of masks donated by the Japanese HSK Bureau, a Chinese-language verse said that “mountains and rivers set people of the two countries apart, but we share the same winds and moon under the same sky.” The lines conveying message of friendship between the two countries through ages moved many Chinese people into tears.

Former Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama expressed that Japan and China are in a community with a shared future, hoping everyone will overcome the crisis. China is

not alone. Japan would stand shoulder to shoulder with China to fight the disease. “We never forget China’s great help when Japan was hit by an earthquake in 2011,” he said. “I heard medical materials are in sharp shortage in China now. I am very worried. We hope we can contribute in all ways.” This is not the voice of Japan but also the attitude of the international community.

Indeed, in an era of globalization, both opportunities and risks are shared. Epidemics could happen in any country. Only with countries supporting each other in the time of crisis can the world embrace a bright and healthy future. By standing together through the storm, we will see a rainbow after the rain. Disasters are merciless, but love will always prevail. 

The author is a professor at the Institute for International Strategic Studies of the Party School of the Central Committee of the CPC (National Academy of Governance).




# Total Mobilization Against the Pandemic

Edited by Hu Zhoumeng Designed by Cecile Zehnacker

**A**t the turn of 2020, China was struck by a sudden public health challenge. After the outbreak of novel coronavirus pneumonia (COVID-19) in Wuhan, Hubei Province, the

whole country quickly assumed battle positions for the war against the epidemic. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee with Xi Jinping at the core, China has adopted firm and strong

prevention and control measures while maintaining close communication and cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the international community to effectively curb the spread of the epidemic. 

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

BY MARCH 5

→ Leaders from over 170 countries and heads of more than 40 regional and international organizations had expressed sympathy and support for China.

→ Over 500 people from more than 300 political parties and organizations in 120 countries had sent messages of support to President Xi Jinping and the CPC central committee.



NATIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION  
OF CHINA

→ continuously provided the latest information on the novel coronavirus

→ shared with the world the genetic sequence of the novel coronavirus as well as primers and probes for virus detection

→ shared various documents on epidemic prevention and control including diagnosis and treatment plans with more than 100 countries and over 10 international and regional organizations

→ carried out more than 20 technical exchange programs through expert panels and remote meetings to share its prevention and control experience in laboratory testing, epidemiological investigation and clinical diagnosis with international and regional organizations, and relevant countries:



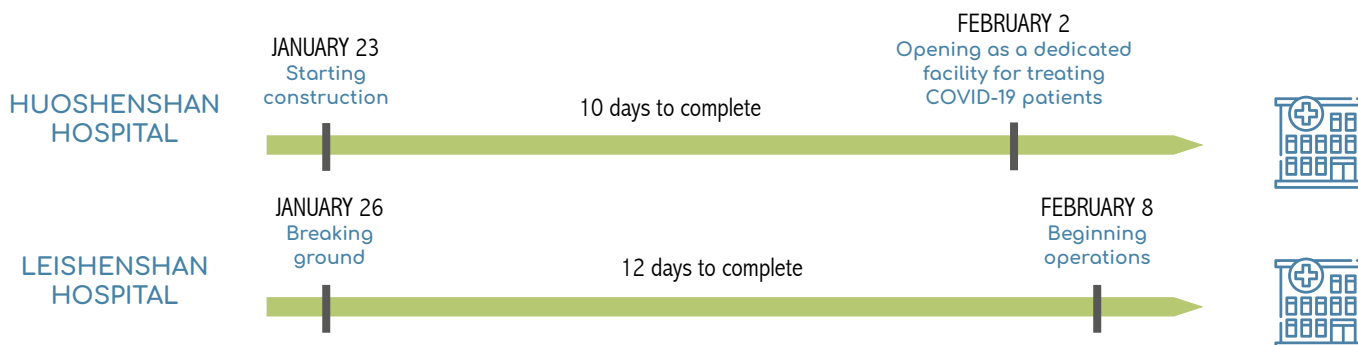
BY MARCH 2

→ 62 countries and 7 international organizations had donated masks, protective clothing and other urgently needed epidemic prevention and control materials to China. China had provided testing reagents to Pakistan, Japan and the AU among others and shared diagnostic and therapeutic solutions with many countries.

→ The Chinese government, the Red Cross Society of China and many Chinese enterprises delivered reagents to Iran and African countries. China also sent a volunteer expert team to Iran.

Source: The State Council Information Office press conferences and other published materials

## CONSTRUCTION OF HOSPITALS IN WUHAN



BY FEBRUARY 28

5,000 → 23,000



in specialized hospitals dedicated to treating patients infected with the novel coronavirus in Wuhan

including 9,000 beds for patients in severe conditions



Stadiums, exhibition centers and training centers were converted into temporary treatment centers for patients with mild symptoms



16 such temporary treatment centers built



with more than 13,000 beds



treated 12,000 patients

## NATIONWIDE EFFORTS TO AID HUBEI

## Medical staff

AS OF MARCH 8



346 medical teams sent to Hubei Province

with 42,600 medical workers from all over China

## Elite Medical Groups

## NATIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION OF CHINA

dispatched three top-level medical groups



1

Academician  
Zhong Nanshan

2

Academician  
Wang Chen

3

Academician  
Li Lanjuan

Goal: To help Wuhan strengthen consultation and treatment of severe and critical cases of COVID-19, actively explore new drugs and new therapies, incorporate effective treatment methods into the diagnosis and treatment plan quickly, and guide national medical treatment work



AS OF FEBRUARY 13



22 national emergency medical rescue teams



Three mobile P3 laboratories



had been sent to Wuhan to improve the city's ability to test for the virus, treat and cure patients

BY FEBRUARY 28



Nearly 1,000 medics had been dispatched to support Wuhan from the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention and other relevant centers all over the country



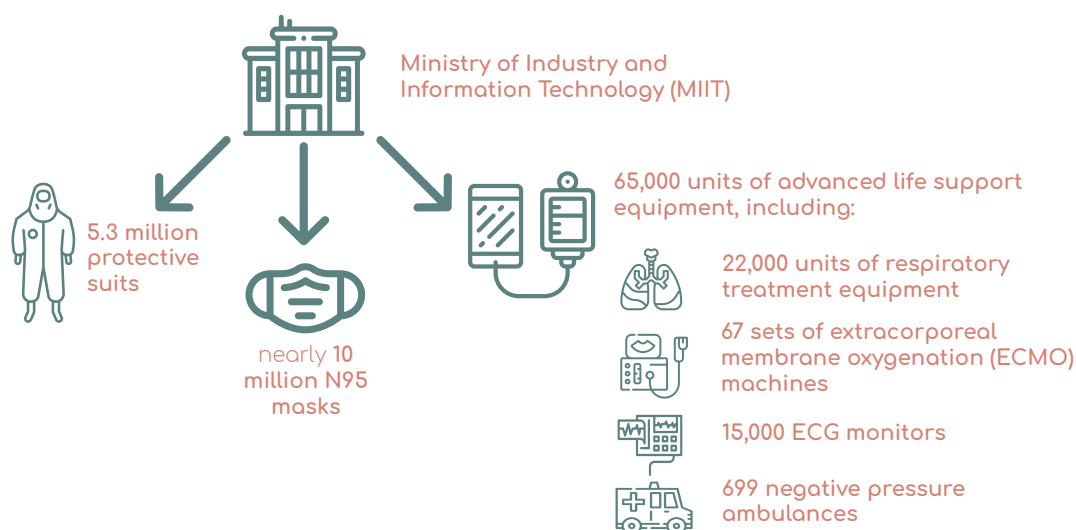
to carry out tracing, investigation, analysis, prevention and control work



13 expert groups had been sent to provide on-site guidance and rapid assessment for the disease

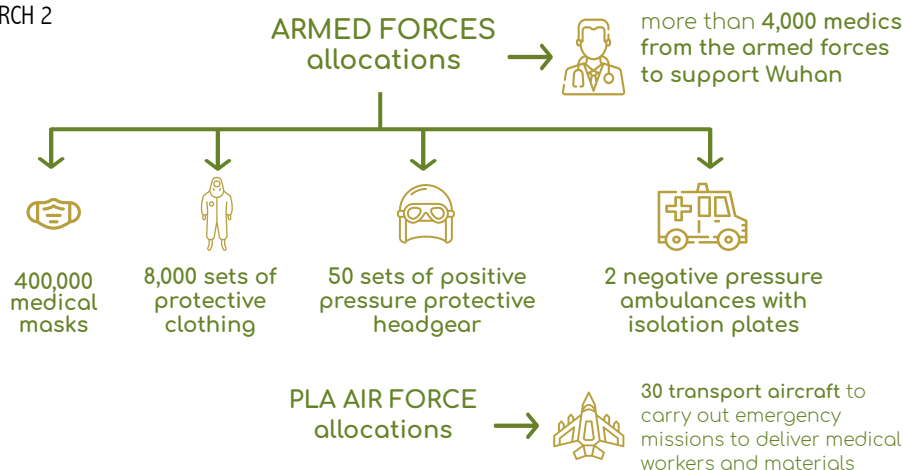
## Medical Supplies

BY MARCH 5



## Support from the Armed Forces

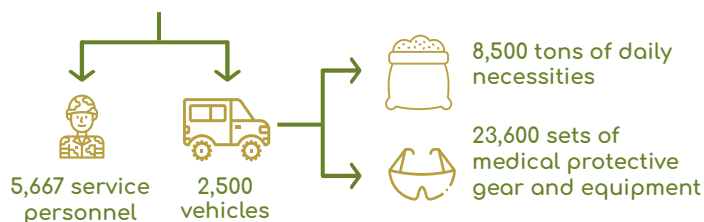
FROM JANUARY 24 TO MARCH 2



AS OF MARCH 1

## CENTRAL MILITARY COMMISSION (CMC)

logistic support force in Hubei



## DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT

BY FEBRUARY 28

academician-led  
medical groupsnational expert  
teams

- organized for control and prevention of the COVID-19 epidemic
- had revised the diagnosis and treatment plan for COVID-19 patients six times.



personnel from various disease control and prevention institutions and laboratories

- organized to guide virus testing work in cities and counties in Hubei



daily nucleic acid testing capacity

300 → 20,000 

sample-to-result diagnostic process

2 days → 4 to 6 hours

BY FEBRUARY 28

up to 544 doses of plasma from  
convalescent COVID-19 patients  
collected245 COVID-19  
patients treated  
through plasma  
therapy

BY FEBRUARY 21

NATIONAL  
ADMINISTRATION  
OF TRADITIONAL  
CHINESE MEDICINEmore than 630 traditional  
Chinese medicine (TCM)  
hospitalsnearly 3,200 medical personnel to  
support HubeiOver 2/3 of patients infected with  
the novel coronavirus in Hubei  
had received TCM treatment.



## PRODUCTION OF MEDICAL MATERIALS

BY MARCH 6

### Daily output



BY FEBRUARY 13



BY FEBRUARY 24



## TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT

### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

BY JANUARY 26



263,500 front-line prevention and control personnel mobilized



6,672 quarantine stations set up in the service areas of expressways, waterway and highway passenger stations



4,196 green corridors opened on expressways to ensure transportation of urgently needed goods



54,700 vehicles reserved for emergency transportation

FROM JANUARY 24 TO FEBRUARY 14

### CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION OF CHINA



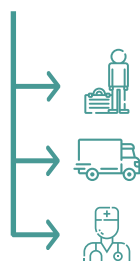
arranged and coordinated 21 Chinese air carriers



to complete 241 flights to support Wuhan



transporting a total of 29,364 personnel



9 flights carried 1,185 Hubei passengers stranded overseas back to China

48 charter flights conducted overseas transport missions

181 flights carried out missions to transport medical workers and supplies

FROM FEBRUARY 3 TO 22

### HUBEI



set up 5 emergency supplies transfer stations around Wuhan

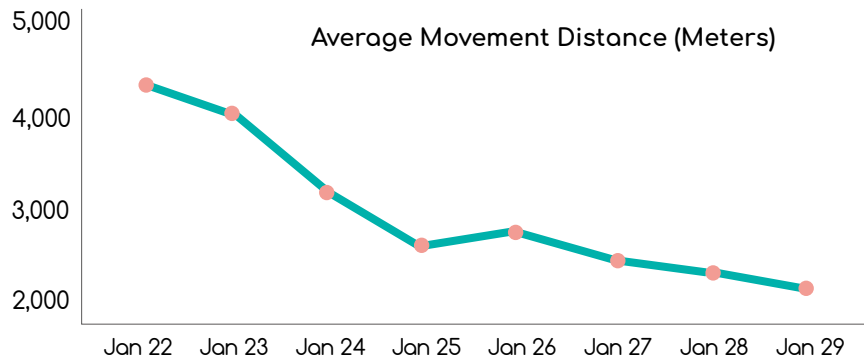


which received and transferred about 1,172 tons of food including grain, cooking oil, vegetables and fruit

## A SPECIAL SPRING FESTIVAL

Affected by the outbreak of COVID-19, the Chinese people broke from the traditional custom of visiting relatives and friends for Spring Festival and mostly stayed at home.

Virtually everyone in China actively responded to the government's call to reduce outings and avoid crowds to reduce possible infections.



### JANUARY 24-28 SURVEY

Due to trips reduced, people spent more time on their smartphones to study and entertain themselves.

### TOP 10 EDUCATIONAL APPS

1. Baicizhan
2. Xuexi Qiangguo
3. Super Curriculum
4. Daily English Listening
5. Liulishuo<sup>(1)</sup>
6. Xueersi
7. Zuoyebang
8. Shanbay
9. Xiaoyuansouti<sup>(2)</sup>
10. 51Talk

(1) "Speaking Fluently" in English

(2) An app for sharing and answering questions from primary and middle school students

### TOP 10 ENTERTAINMENT APPS

1. Tencent Video
2. Huoshan Video
3. Kuaishou
4. Douyin (TikTok)
5. Honor of Kings
6. iQIYI
7. Knives Out
8. UBOOK
9. Easou
10. Sougou Yuedu

The mature e-commerce, logistics and payment system has greatly relieved shopping inconvenience caused by the epidemic.

### FROM JANUARY 24 TO 29

Top three cities with the highest online consumption volumes

- Beijing
- Shanghai
- Tianjin

Top three categories of consumer products with the highest online sales

- Mobile communications
- Computers and office supplies
- Home appliances

Top three categories of consumer products with the highest online consumption quantities

- Food and beverages
- Medicine and healthcare products
- Home decoration and building materials

Source: 2020 Spring Festival Big Data Report of China Unicom





March 11, 2020: The eight firefighters of the Huoshenshan fire station get ready for a disinfection drill for epidemic control and prevention efforts. They undertake the responsibility to ensure the safety of Huoshenshan Hospital. by Chen Jian/China Pictorial





# Frontline Firefighters: Guardians of Huoshenshan Hospital

Text by Gong Haiying

Photographs courtesy of Huoshenshan Firefighting and Rescue Station unless otherwise credited

*“Medical workers are fighting on the front lines. We must protect their safety as well as that of all patients. There is no room for any mistakes.”*

**A**t 11 p.m. on March 11, 2020, eight firefighters from Huoshenshan Firefighting and Rescue Station (hereinafter “Huoshenshan fire station”) of Wuhan Firefighting and Rescue Detachment finished a shift at Huoshenshan Hospital, a provisional hospital dedicated to treating severely ill COVID-19 patients. They entered the hospital at 4 p.m. to conduct comprehensive checks and inspection of over 1,000 fire extinguishers and 1,167 smoke detectors and provide fire prevention and control training for medical workers and patients.

The mission was the firefighters’ second trip into the “red zone” of the hospital since the Huoshenshan fire station was inaugurated on February 3. “Red zone” refers to the highly infectious areas of the hospital for treating diagnosed patients. “We must follow strict procedures involving protective suits when

entering and exiting the hospital,” reported Zhou Jinjie, a political instructor at the fire station. His memory of wearing protective suits remained fresh. “The N95 respirator hurt my nose and ears, and I felt somewhat suffocated. But medical workers dress like that for six-hour shifts without eating, drinking or even going to the bathroom. When I think of their sacrifices, what we’re doing seems like nothing.”

The eight firefighters of the Huoshenshan fire station undertake the responsibility to ensure the safety of the hospital. “Medical workers are fighting on the front lines,” declared Zhou. “We must protect their safety as well as that of all patients. There is no room for any mistakes.”

## Starting from Scratch

Wuhan is home to over 3,600 fire commanders and full-time firefighters. After the novel coronavirus





March 11, 2020: Zhou Jinjie, a political instructor at the Huoshenshan fire station, checks the firefighting equipment in the “red zone” of Huoshenshan Hospital.



March 11, 2020: Zhou Jinjie holds a walkie-talkie and gets ready to go into rescue efforts. In order to reach any designated place in the hospital after receiving an emergency alert, the Huoshenshan fire station established an around-the-clock response mechanism that produces instant fire updates from the hospital.

by Chen Jian/China Pictorial



From February 19 to 22, the eight firefighters worked up to 16 hours per day in order to ensure the fire safety during the remodeling of Huoshenshan Hospital. The picture shows long working hours fogging up Zhou Jinjie's goggles.

outbreak, many firefighters signed up to work on the front lines.

“All eight members voluntarily applied to work at the new Huoshenshan fire station,” Zhou noted. “I finished my application at 4:30 a.m. on January 26.” On the morning of January 31, Zhou and his seven teammates received formal notification that they had been

selected to work at the station. That night, they immediately packed, prepared various firefighting equipment and supplies and arrived at the location designated to build the fire station: an abandoned supermarket near Huoshenshan Hospital.

“I was very excited to find out I could help out on the front lines,” Zhou recalled. “Of course I also felt

a bit afraid because I didn’t know what kind of working environment I would face and how the epidemic would develop. Everything was unknown.”

He Jinxiong, a communication support expert of the eight-member firefighting team, also admitted that he was “a little bit scared at first.” “I was imagining what would happen

if I got infected,” he explained. “But I still felt that I should come and contribute everything I can to the fight against the epidemic.”

According to plans, Huoshenshan Hospital was set to receive its first wave of patients on February 3, which gave the eight firefighters only 48 hours to finish preparations to ensure fire prevention and control. The moment they arrived at the abandoned supermarket, they found nothing but piles of rusted railings and steel frames. They had to clean out the place as fast as possible. “We brought about seven or eight tons of firefighting equipment,” recalled Zhou. “We knew we could overcome any difficulties because we were so encouraged by the construction scene of the hospital. In a sense, we were quite excited. For two days and two nights, we hardly slept. We just grabbed instant noodles when we needed to eat and returned to work immediately.” Working so hard enabled the firefighters to finish one task after another, and eventually the fire station began operation right alongside the hospital. The hospital was in total compliance with fire safety regulations the day it opened.

### 24/7 Standby

After the fire station was completed, the firefighting and rescue mission could finally begin. Because Huoshenshan Hospital was dedicated to treating severely ill COVID-19 patients, it contained many oxygen tanks. High-power electrical connections were at full capacity day and night. A single spark could cause a disaster. “We carried out daily inspection of firefighting equipment and scanned for security risks throughout the hospital with real-time monitoring,” stated Zhou. “We devised emergency plans in advance to deal with risk.”



He Jinxiong, a communication support expert of the eight-member firefighting team, is responsible for installing the communication facilities and the command and dispatch system for the Huoshenshan fire station. by Duan Wei/China Pictorial



He Jinxiong (center) and his two teammates use a drone to take three-dimensional pictures of Huoshenshan Hospital in order to produce emergency plans.

Because of the inconvenience of frequent in-person visits to the isolated areas, He Jinxiong used a drone to take three-dimensional pictures of the hospital to produce an electronic model which was often used for drills. “The three-dimensional realistic map is highly precise,” Zhou beamed. “We use it to get familiar with the roads, water

sources, and building structures related to the hospital. This data empowered us to conduct simulated field exercises involving specific areas, passages and doors.”

Zhou said that in less than 20 days, they collected over 5,700 sets of data, conducted 25 simulated field exercises, and formulated 115 emergency plans. Each plan is as





Liquid oxygen tanks are important facilities for COVID-19 patients. Pictured is a firefighter conducting daily inspections on the liquid oxygen tanks at Huoshenshan Hospital.

explicit as possible. They include specific measures such as how to connect hoses and who should take which tasks. Tasks included coordinating personnel evacuation and fire containment. All firefighters are very familiar with every step

and their respective duties although they haven't gotten a chance to go into a real combat yet. "I hoped we never had to go into full emergency mode in Huoshenshan Hospital," Zhou stressed.

Firefighting and rescue efforts

require immediate action and quick response. To this end, the Huoshenshan fire station established an around-the-clock response mechanism that produced instant fire updates from the hospital. Each ward area was assigned a firefighter to contact directly. "We are on standby around the clock," said Zhou. "With the time needed to get into protective suits calculated, we can reach any designated place in the hospital within three and a half minutes after receiving an emergency alert. Without the quick response mechanism, it would take at least five minutes. A lot can happen and change in a minute and a half."

The eight firefighters also conduct fire prevention and control training for medical staff, patients, and security personnel in the hospital to make sure that everyone would know what to do before firefighters arrive, if a fire breaks out.

Working in Wuhan during



On February 27, the firefighters started disinfecting the bus waiting area for recovered patients being discharged from Huoshenshan Hospital twice a day. Pictured are firefighters conducting disinfection. by Duan Wei/China Pictorial



March 11, 2020: Firefighters pose for a group photo after providing fire prevention and control training for medical workers and patients in the "red zone" of Huoshenshan Hospital.

lockdown meant firefighters took on an expanded work scope. "On February 27, we started disinfecting the bus waiting area for recovered patients being discharged from the hospital," Zhou revealed. "We did it twice a day." He was happy to realize the important role that his team played in the bigger emergency rescue effort. For example, they pitched tents for recovered patients released from the hospital waiting for buses and once transported urgently needed supplies and materials to medical workers in the hospital at 2:30 a.m.


By the end of March 21, Wuhan had reported zero new cases of coronavirus for four consecutive days, a marked improvement in the epidemic situation. The fear that the eight firefighters had once suppressed had transformed into motivation and encouragement. On March 11, some patients in the hospital saw the firefighters working and expressed thanks: "Because of



March 11, 2020: Firefighters get ready for the day's work. Huoshenshan Hospital is Wuhan's forefront in the fight against the epidemic. The firefighters will continue working here until the hospital discharges its last patient. by Chen Jian/China Pictorial

you, we feel especially safe." Those words tugged on their heartstrings all the way through their heavy protective suits.

"Huoshenshan Hospital is

Wuhan's forefront in the fight against the epidemic. We will continue working here until the hospital discharges its last patient," Zhou said. 



# Taking the Fight Around the World

Text by Shang Huiwen Photographs courtesy of CGCC

*Right after the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic in China, the China General Chamber of Commerce – USA (CGCC) showed up to help in various ways. Enthusiastic support from CGCC and its partners played a significant role in helping China overcome difficulties.*



The Second Hospital of Wuhan Iron and Steel Corporation (WISCO) receives medical materials donated by CGCC.

**O**n March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. Among the many countries affected is the United States, where

CGCC is based.

To support the fight against the pandemic, CGCC and its foundation are currently scrambling to purchase medical supplies for donation to hospitals in need throughout the

United States. A donation of 12,050 3M 1860 masks and ASTM Level 3 masks to Jersey City Medical Center was completed, and CGCC is still reaching out to more hospitals throughout the United States,

including Bellevue Hospital Center in New York City. At the same time, CGCC is also actively assisting several state governments including New York and Connecticut in procuring medical supplies from China.

This is CGCC's second wave of mass solicitation of material donations for epidemic-hit regions, following a recent initiative to assist Wuhan, the epicenter of the outbreak in China.

Early on January 23, the day before Lunar New Year's Eve, the atmosphere in the CGCC office was different from usual. Colleagues had gathered to discuss the COVID-19 outbreak in China. After seeing news of the medical materials shortages plaguing many hospitals in Wuhan, everyone was anxious about figuring out ways to help the city.

That day, Candice Niu, executive director of CGCC, received an urgent call from Xu Chen, president of CGCC and head of Bank of China USA, who had news that the CGCC foundation had approved US\$30,000 to purchase anti-epidemic materials for donation to Wuhan hospitals and launched initiatives on its website and WeChat platform to encourage member enterprises to participate in fundraising. The staff of CGCC quickly got to work collecting donations.

To optimally facilitate material donation, the CGCC office adjusted its division of labor. The team actively contacted major medical material suppliers, processed orders and searched for new sources of supplies day and night. Sherry Qu, a native of Wuhan, was tasked with coordinating with Wuhan hospitals and talked to doctors there every day despite the time difference. Caren Pan was appointed director of material donations. She checked all materials received or purchased



The CGCC team cheering for Wuhan.



We had to do something upon seeing such a crisis occurring back home. ”

by CGCC to ensure that they met relevant medical standards. Luna Yu oversaw customs declarations, and April Luo handled logistics. They spent most of their time sorting through detailed lists of materials, filling out forms and communicating with relevant parties in China. The concerted efforts of the team ensured that each shipment of materials on average took only one week in transit to hospitals.

### CGCC Branches in Action

Right when the fundraising was

launched, the Los Angeles branch of CGCC took the lead in establishing a donation team thanks to 15 enterprises joining up immediately. With the full support and cooperation of the volunteer team of the North America subsidiary of China High-Tech Group Corporation, the Los Angeles branch of CGCC established a special team and clarified division of labor to complete purchasing, counting, sorting, labeling and packing donated materials in just five days.

Lilith Xu, a Wuhan native in the volunteer team, had deep feelings about the epidemic. “During the procurement period, both Sharon Guo responsible for financial affairs and me switched our work focus,” stated Xu. “Material donations became the top priority. The company also adopted a flexible policy in procurement. If you find a source of medical supplies, you can purchase them directly and worry about the documentation





CGCC staffers sorting out donations.



Some supplies donated by CGCC.

“

The concerted efforts of the team ensured that each shipment of materials on average took only one week in transit to hospitals. The hearts of CGCC staff, its many partners and numerous ordinary people are with China. ”

later. The company's support helped us purchase materials as quickly as possible.”

At the same time, the Houston branch of CGCC organized more than 40 enterprises in the southern part of the United States to participate in the fundraising in the name of companies or individuals. To support China's anti-epidemic front lines as quickly as possible, Zhi Yiyong, the U.S. head of Shanxi Guanjiaying Flange Forging Group Co., Ltd., braved inclement weather to expedite funds to the Houston branch. Shu Chang, head of the North American Branch of Hubei Baiyunbian Group Co., Ltd., immediately pledged donating

US\$50,000 to purchase epidemic prevention materials. “Baiyunbian Group's headquarters is in Wuhan,” explained Shu. “The enterprise grew up in Hubei Province. As a native Hubei enterprise, we had to do something upon seeing such a crisis occurring back home.”

After hearing the call for donations from the Washington branch of CGCC, several member enterprises offered help immediately. An employee of China Telecom Americas Co., Ltd. organized donations through a circle of friends. He called on each person to donate 20 Canadian dollars. He matched each donation with another 20 Canadian dollars. In less than three

hours, he had received donations from dozens of friends. He raised over 1,000 Canadian dollars from people living in Toronto to assist medical staff of Wuhan and continually insisted on anonymity.

### Donation Transportation

When the donation drive kicked off, SF Express was the first partner to come to mind for many in CGCC. Kevin Zhao, CGCC's contact at SF Express, immediately agreed to help facilitate transportation of donated medical supplies to China. He set up a WeChat group for logistics coordination which included participation from a dozen colleagues in China and the United States. They patiently helped CGCC check customs declarations and provided oversight for every procedure from pick-up, packaging, loading onto flights, and customs clearance until such donations arrived at designated hospitals.

International transportation schedules changed daily. In mid-February, flights from China to the United States were all suspended, so transportation routes needed constant modification. Moreover, most supplies required a lot of space, which resulted in steep



SF Express picks up donated supplies from the CGCC office to transport them to China.

freight charges. Keven Wu, a clerk of SF Express USA in New York, has been actively helping communicate with the headquarters, and China Southern Airlines, Air China and especially SF Express USA came through with big freight discounts, so money could be spent on more medical supplies. Such couriers delivered the donated supplies to China within a week.


### Fresh Faces

On February 13, the CGCC office welcomed a special group. The 18-member team was formed thanks to the donation campaign launched by CGCC. Team leader Henry Han had been continuously

focused on the needs of hospitals treating COVID-19 patients. When they couldn't buy in bulk, Han and his teammates would make repeated purchases online for smaller quantities. After a dozen days of efforts, they managed to collect 300 pieces of medical gear worth US\$1,587. To catch the earliest flight to China, Han and his teammates shipped the supplies to CGCC's New York office as quickly as possible.

In early March, the epidemic control situation in China greatly improved after a steep increase of medical supply production. Some of the donated supplies collected by CGCC were no longer needed

by the intended recipients by the time they were ready. CGCC volunteer Wang Yan in Wuhan figured out who still needed such things. Wang scoured the city within nearly two weeks and dispersed the supplies to security guards, sanitation workers, construction workers and personnel at community health centers.

On March 5, the fifth and final round of supplies was sent to China by SF Express. By then, CGCC sent 61,986 pieces of medical supplies worth US\$82,200 in five shipments to 10 different hospitals. The hearts of CGCC staff, its many partners and numerous ordinary people are with China. 





# Embracing Responsibility

Text by Zhi Mo

*A university in Wuhan emerged as a leader in the battle against the COVID-19 outbreak.*

The West Campus of Union Hospital affiliated to Tongji Medical College of HUST is a designated hospital for treating severe COVID-19 patients. During the epidemic, the hospital once conducted treatment with the help of 17 medical teams from places including Beijing, Guangzhou and Heilongjiang. by Chen Jian/China Pictorial

**H**uazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST) in Wuhan was in the spotlight as a major battlefield for the fight against the novel coronavirus.

HUST is a leading comprehensive university under the administration of China's Ministry of Education. Tongji Medical College of HUST contributed the largest number of hospital beds and the most medical workers to fighting the virus, said Shao Xinyu, chief of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Committee of HUST, in an interview with China Central Television on February 21, 2020.

Experts in public health and

preventive medicine, realms in which HUST has been a national leader, made tremendous contributions to combating the virus by providing professional suggestions to China's central and local governments regarding epidemic analysis, prevention and control measures and scientific popularization.

Shao admitted that the epidemic dealt a heavy blow to Wuhan, Hubei, the country and even the world. In the face of the epidemic, no one should shirk responsibility. As a university, HUST teaches knowledge and skills and helps students develop values, ethical standards and humanitarian concern, which are even more important.

## Strong Fortress

All 10 hospitals affiliated to the university's Tongji Medical College were designated to treat COVID-19 patients, providing more than 8,900 beds as well as 33,000 medical workers, a figure almost equal to the total number of medical workers dispatched to Wuhan from other places across the country, which stood at 38,000 as of February 22. Beds contributed by Tongji Medical College of HUST accounted for nearly 40 percent of all hospital beds in Wuhan available for novel coronavirus infected patients.

Of the 10 hospitals, Union Hospital and Tongji Hospital were designated for severely ill COVID-19

patients. Four hospitals were designated for patients from Jiangnan and Qiaokou districts and the Donghu Lake Scenic Area, three were designated for children, pregnant women and disabled people, and the final one took charge of a temporary treatment center and sent its staff to Leishenshan Hospital, a provisional hospital dedicated to treating severely ill COVID-19 patients.

Doctors at Union Hospital were among the first to begin fighting the virus. On January 20, Zhong Nanshan, a renowned Chinese respiratory scientist, announced that 14 medical workers in Wuhan had been infected with COVID-19. All were from Union Hospital.

However, the infection news didn't deter other doctors from diving into the war. On January 27, a doctor from Union Hospital wrote a letter to apply to join the fight. "I do not care about rewards and will fight the virus even if I must sacrifice my own life." That line became frequently quoted by other medical workers in their applications. Zhu Bin, another doctor from the infectious disease department of Union Hospital, was working at a Shanghai hospital when the epidemic broke out. In late January, he decided to return to Wuhan early. Since many flights and trains to Wuhan had been canceled as part of epidemic control, Zhu had to take a plane to Changsha, capital of neighboring Hunan Province, and then a taxi to Wuhan. The whole trip took two days.

Affiliated hospitals of Tongji Medical College of HUST have also been offering online consulting services and developing relevant diagnosis and treatment guidelines.

On January 21, Tongji Hospital formulated a quick diagnosis and treatment guideline for clinical practices in Hubei Province.

On January 24, the fever



A medical worker in the West Campus of Union Hospital escorts two patients, one in a wheelchair and the other holding her arm, on the way for a medical examination.  
by Chen Jian/China Pictorial



February 29, 2020: Ms. Fu, 97, is cured and discharged from the West Campus of Union Hospital. She happily gives a thumbs-up to medical workers before her departure.  
by Chen Jian/China Pictorial

outpatient department of Tongji Hospital opened an online service for patients nationwide. The number of inquiries on the first day surpassed 10,000, effectively enabling many patients to consult a doctor remotely.

On January 26, the first nucleic acid testing laboratory for the virus in Hubei was established at

Union Hospital.

The pathology team from the Department of Forensic Medicine of Tongji Medical College carried out postmortem exams of nine people who died from the disease to learn more about its pathogenesis and provide reference for future treatment. The Institute of State Governance of HUST conducted





Medical staff of Tongji Hospital affiliated to Tongji Medical College of HUST in the Sino-French Wuhan Eco Demo City have finished their work for the day. They pose for a group photo before they leave the hospital. by Ma Gengping/China Pictorial

comprehensive research into virus prevention and control and the modernization of public health governance and proposed a series of targeted suggestions and solutions.

### Leading Medical School

Tongji Medical College of HUST is one of the top medical colleges in China. It has produced many renowned doctors who became academicians such as hepatobiliary surgeon Chen Xiaoping with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and obstetrician and gynecologist Ma Ding, who joined the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

The college's history stretches back over 100 years. Its predecessor was a German medical school established by Erich Paulun in Shanghai in 1907, which filled a gap in China's modern medical education at the time.

The medical school was named Tongji German Medical College



A medical worker of Tongji Hospital in the Sino-French Wuhan Eco Demo City carefully keeps a daily log. by Ma Gengping/China Pictorial

in 1908, with Tongji meaning “working together in the same boat to overcome difficulties.” In 1927, the college was renamed Tongji University and in February 1950, it relocated to Wuhan and merged with Wuhan University Medical College to form the Central South Tongji Medical College. It was

renamed Wuhan Medical College in August 1955 and then Tongji Medical University in July 1985. After merging into HUST in 2000 as the institution's medical college, Tongji took over seven special and comprehensive hospitals in 2016, increasing the number of its affiliated hospitals to 10.



March 6, 2020: At Tongji Hospital in the Sino-French Wuhan Eco Demo City, a medical worker waves goodbye to a couple who have been cured of COVID-19 and are about to be discharged from the hospital. by Xu Xun/China Pictorial

## Key Role

HUST was formed by the merging of Tongji Medical University, Wuhan Urban Construction College and Huazhong University of Technology in 2000.

Over the past decades, Tongji Medical College of HUST and its predecessors have played important roles in mitigating major national disasters. During the schistosomiasis outbreak in the suburbs of Shanghai in 1950, the predecessor of Tongji Medical College called on its teachers and students to go to the front lines to help prevent and control the disease.

During the great Wuhan flood of 1954, over 1,000 people from the medical college joined disaster relief and medical care efforts. When a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck Tangshan in northern China's Hebei Province in 1976, 130 medical workers from Tongji Medical College rushed to the city to treat

over 15,000 injured people over more than a month.


A total of 45 medical teams from the medical college took part in relief work in the most dangerous areas of Hubei during the 1998 Yangtze River flood.

In 2003, during the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak, nearly 20 experts from hospitals affiliated to the medical college joined various research and command centers battling the virus, and 12 medical workers were sent to work at Xiaotangshan Hospital, a provisional hospital in Beijing dedicated to treating SARS patients. Medical workers from hospitals affiliated to Tongji Medical College also provided medical services after the 8.0-magnitude earthquake hit Wenchuan, Sichuan Province in southwestern China in 2008.

During the current COVID-19 outbreak, the medical college has been making all-out efforts to give

frontline medical workers as much support as possible because they are so overworked, reported HUST President Li Yuanyuan.

On February 8, 2020, HUST called on alumni around the world to help out Wuhan and Hubei. As of February 23, over 50 HUST alumni associations, tens of thousands of alumni and many enterprises established by HUST alumni had donated materials worth over 300 million yuan (US\$43 million) to more than 100 hospitals in Wuhan and other cities in Hubei, and more than 16 million yuan (US\$2.3 million) to HUST to support epidemic prevention.

In the fight against the epidemic, HUST faculty, students and alumni have shown an amazing spirit of unity, Li declared. HUST has always aimed to cultivate high-caliber talent with patriotism, dedication and professional skills, as world-class universities tend to do. 





# Ngari: Preservation and Modernization

Text by Li Jian

*Ngari is preserving its cultural legacies while developing tourism and trade.*

August 10, 2019: A bird's-eye view of Lhasa, capital of southwestern China's Tibet Autonomous Region. Since the peaceful liberation of Tibet, Lhasa has seen rapid development in transportation, education, public health and other fields. Xinhua









July 4, 2019: The street leading to the Potala Palace in Lhasa is packed with vehicles. Since the peaceful liberation, modern transportation has emerged and become part of people's lives in Tibet. Xinhua



**N**gari, located in the western part of Tibet Autonomous Region in southwestern China, borders India and Nepal to the south and Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region to the north. It has vast land, magnificent landscapes, a lengthy history and splendid culture. The famous Mount Kailash attracts pilgrims from all over the world. The sacred mountain is the origin of the Xiangquan (known as the Sutlej in India) and Peacock (known as the Karnali in India) rivers, cradle of an ancient civilization. Numerous relics can be found along the rivers. It was the center of an ancient civilization on the Western Himalayas.

### A Visit to Gurujiang Monastery

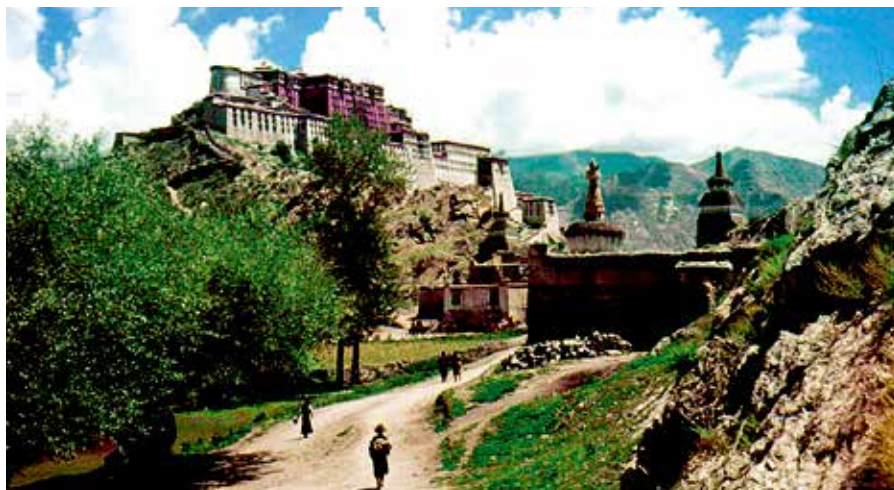
The watershed of the Xiangquan River rests at the crossroads of the civilization of the Central Plains (mostly in Henan Province as well as parts of nearby Chinese provinces), ancient Indian civilization, ancient Persian civilization, Central Asian civilization, and West Asian civilization. Italian Tibetologist Giuseppe Tucci made two visits to areas along the Xiangquan River respectively in 1933 and 1935 and recorded his trips with a wealth of photos, travel logs and academic works.

The full experience of the Xiangquan River civilization requires a trip to Gurujiang Monastery, located between ancient Khyung Lung Dngul Mkhar (Silver Palace of Garuda Valley) and the Khardung Ruins. According to a monk in the monastery, it was built in the 1930s by a lama named Qiongzhui from Baqên County, Nagqu Prefecture of Tibet. The lama was photographed by Tucci when he passed the monastery in 1935. His disciples included Tenzin Wangza, who served as vice chairman of the Ngari committee of the Chinese People's Political

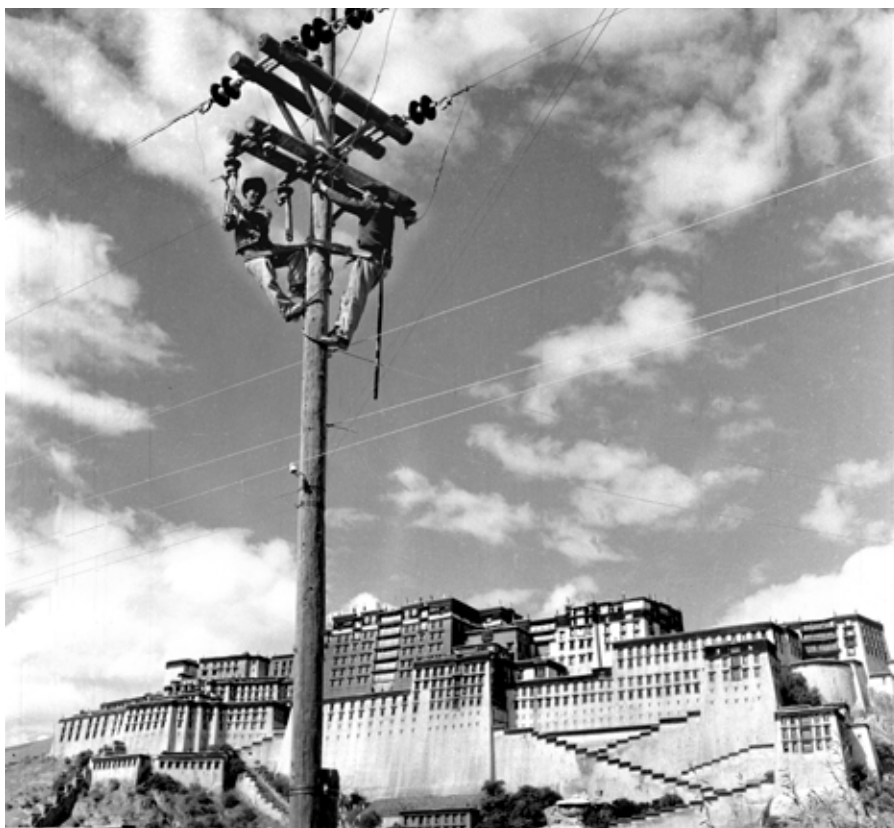
Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and made major contributions to the research of the modern history of Ngari and the development of Tibetan medicine.

Gurujiang Monastery rose to

fame in recent years thanks to an ancient tomb dating back to the Kingdom of Zhangzhung. It was discovered at the gate of the monastery in 2005. Invaluable cultural relics were unearthed from the tomb



1955: People walk at the foot of Marpori (Red Hill), on which the Potala Palace was built. Tibet's modernization had just begun at that time. by He Shiyao/*China Pictorial*



1965: Tibetan electricity workers on a utility pole in Lhasa are checking the power lines. With the help of Han workers, the first Tibetan workers in modern industries emerged. They find jobs in all industrial sectors in Tibet. by Ru Suichu/*China Pictorial*





1



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1 1956: Two students from Lhasa Middle School, the first of its kind in Tibetan history, observe an outdoor thermometer at a weather station. The middle school opened that year, and many children from poor families have since been enrolled for systematic education. by He Shiyao/*China Pictorial*

2 1960: A Tibetan worker (left) and a Han worker are checking a punching machine in Lhasa. With the industrial development of Lhasa, a group of modern Tibetan workers has emerged. by He Shiyao/*China Pictorial*

3 1960: Residents living along Pargor Street, a commercial center in Lhasa, are cleaning the street. The traditional appearance of the ancient city is largely preserved here. by He Shiyao/*China Pictorial*

4 1965: A female Tibetan deputy attends the first People's Congress of Lhasa. by Ru Suichu/*China Pictorial*

including brocades with inscriptions and golden masks dating back some 1,800 years. A particularly striking find was a piece of ancient silk with Chinese characters, testifying to the area's economic and cultural exchange with the Central Plains region since antiquity. In May 2018, some of the unearthed relics were displayed in the Capital Museum in Beijing to great acclaim.

### Tsha Tsha: Evidence of Cultural Exchange

The area around Gurujiang Monastery is also home to some fascinating relics of ancient Buddhism, such as tsha tsha statues. The word "tsha tsha," literally

meaning "duplicate," is considered to have originated from ancient Indian Sanskrit. In Tibetan, it refers to a kind of small clay statue of the Buddha. The ritual and method to make tsha tsha were introduced to Tibet from India in the 8th century during the Tibetan Tubo Kingdom (618-842). Several ancient clay pagodas still stand several hundred meters to the east of Gurujiang Monastery. The lamas in the monastery discovered some tsha tsha statues in those pagodas and brought them back for protection.

The monastery now houses a total of 10 tsha tsha statues of four kinds. In western Tibet, a variety of tsha tsha statues were unearthed





1989: Two actresses in brightly colored costumes during the Shoton Festival, one of the most important traditional festivals for Tibetan people. by Jin Yaowen and Liu Wenmin/CFB

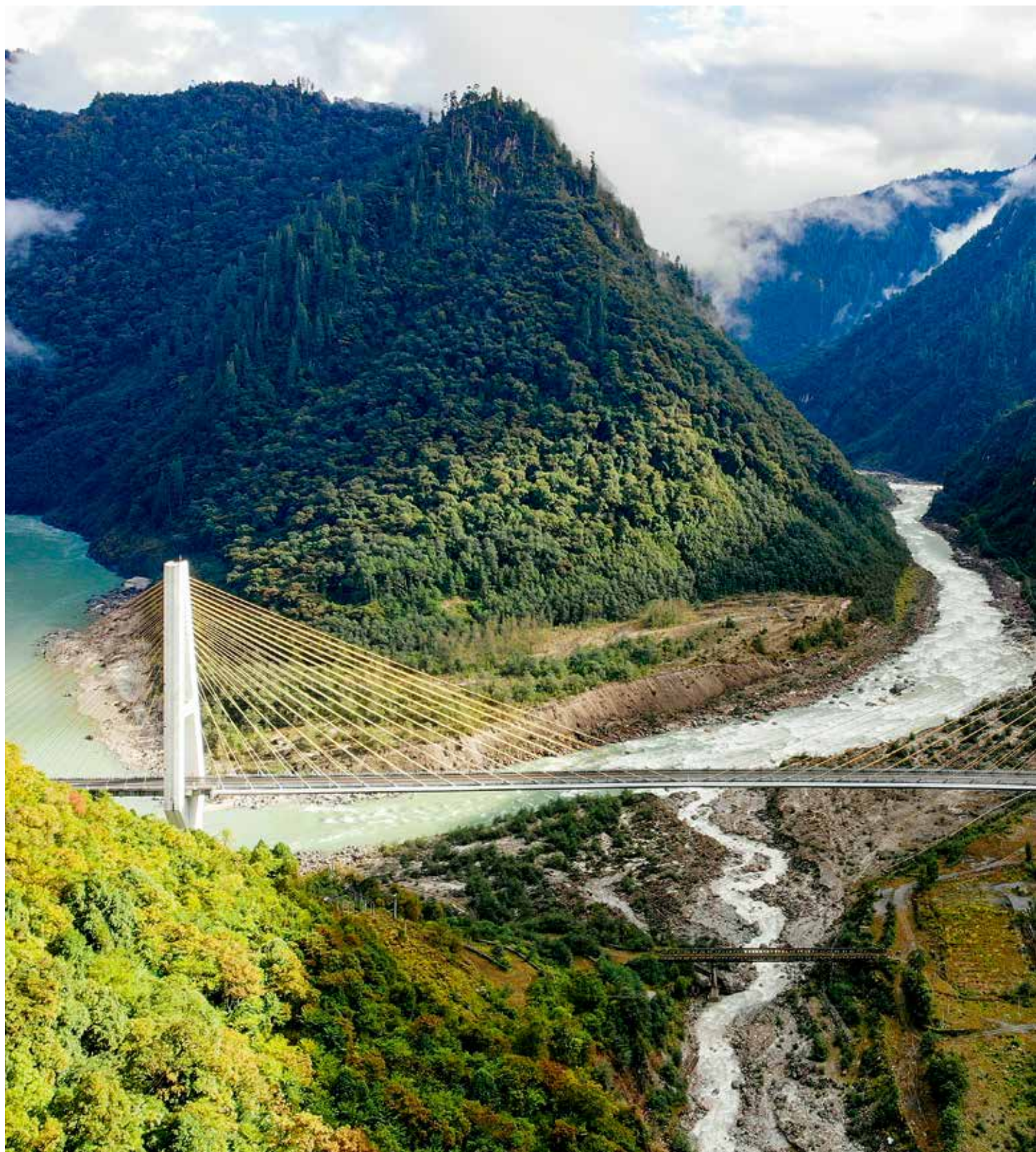


2011: Smiling Tibetan youths in Qusum County. Tibetan people have led a happy, affluent life. by Wan Quan/China Pictorial



2017: Two women from a local farmers' cooperative are knitting Tibetan rugs in Shigatse. After joining the cooperative, they have not only learned new skills, but also earned more money. by Guo Shasha/China Pictorial





October 27, 2019: The Polonggou Bridge on the Sichuan-Tibet Highway is the longest cable-stayed bridge in Tibet, with a total length of 743 meters. Xinhua





May 9, 2013: Farmers work in a tulip field in Quxur County of Lhasa, capital of southwestern China's Tibet Autonomous Region. They succeeded in introducing tulips from Yunnan Province. In recent years, Tibet's agriculture and animal husbandry have been modernizing steadily. Xinhua



Sheep graze beside Drigu Lake in Tibet. The autonomous region in southwestern China has attached great importance to ecological preservation and environmental protection. by Cheng Qiang/CFB



March 1, 2020: Workers are checking and repairing rail tracks on the Qinghai-Tibet Railway. Xinhua





August 2019: Mount Kailash viewed from afar. The sacred mountain attracts numerous pilgrims every year from all over the world. by Li Jian

from Tholing Monastery, and those found nearby Gurujiang Monastery hearken to a more ancient time and starkly contrast the tsha tsha statues from the 11th century that have been found in Nagri. However, they look more similar to finds from the 8th and 9th centuries unearthed in Dulan County, Qinghai Province. Those statues hearken to the style of the Pala Empire in eastern India, so they were probably made in the earlier period of the Tibetan Tubo Kingdom. If true, the clay pagodas could also be dated back to the Tubo period, which would represent significant revelation on the development of Buddhism from the 8th to 10th centuries as well as on the cultural exchange between China and India.



August 2019: Khyung Lung Dngul Mkhar (Silver Palace of Garuda Valley) viewed from the top. Situated more than 4,300 meters above sea level, the ancient ruins was the capital of the Kingdom of Zhangzhung dating back at least 2,000 years. by Li Jian

Famous Khyung Lung Dngul Mkhar, only about 10 kilometers from Gurujiang Monastery, is believed to be the capital of the Kingdom of Zhangzhung. It rests more than 4,300 meters above sea level and has a history of at least 2,000 years. The ancient city resembles a huge bird perching on the edge of a cliff on the north bank of the Xiangquan River. Hundreds of caves dug out of the mountains were homes of ancient people. At the highest point of the site are ruins of the king's palace. To protect the historical site, the local government invested huge amounts of money in 2010 to build walkways to avert damage from tourists.

### Modern Development

In recent years, the Chinese government has worked to help Ngari preserve its ancient Tibetan culture while embracing modernization and promoting industries such as tourism and trade.

Mount Kailash in Burang County is the main peak of the Gangdise Range. Every year, tens of thousands of Indian pilgrims visit the sacred mountain. In recent years, major investments by the central government and the government of Tibet Autonomous Region enabled the small town of Tarchin at the foot of the sacred mountain to become increasingly prosperous. It has evolved from a nomadic hub into a widely known tourist destination. Many local Tibetan herders have become involved in the tourism industry. Gangsa Village at the foot of the mountain has also flourished by developing yak transportation and tourism. A survey showed that the village gained revenues of 15 million yuan (US\$2.1 million) in 2018 and paid out every villager a dividend of 12,200 yuan (US\$1,720).

Located at the convergence of China, Nepal and India, Burang




2014: The "sunning of the Buddha" ceremony is held at Drepung Monastery during the annual Shoton Festival, attracting numerous pilgrims and tourists. by Bian Zhiwu/CFB



August 2017: A tsha tsha sculpture unearthed near Gurujiang Monastery. by Li Jian

International Market has a history of more than 600 years. It currently hosts more than 300 regular merchants from Nepal and India. Such places continue to maintain economic and cultural exchange between China and South Asia. The chairman of the Chamber of Burang International Market is an Indian from Dharchula. "My family has been doing business here since my grandfather was in charge,"

he revealed. "I have lived here for more than 60 years. I'm very fond of this place, and can speak both Tibetan and Chinese. I hope that the relationship between China and India continues to improve and that business continues expanding." 

The author is an associate research fellow with the Institute of Social Economy, China Tibetology Research Center.





Thanks to its humid climate and foggy weather, Jinzhai County in Anhui Province has been a source of Chinese medicinal materials for thousands of years. by Hong Chuanwei

# Herbal Garden

Text by Zhou Chenliang

*Residents of Jinzhai County stress ecological protection and respect natural rules as they utilize resources to promote the sustainable development of the local medicinal plant industry.*

**J**inzhai County in the central Chinese province of Anhui rests in the western part of the Dabie Mountains, which are known for

their crisscrossing rivers. Thanks to its humid climate and foggy weather, Jinzhai has been a provider of Chinese medicinal materials for thousands

of years. A total of 1,363 varieties of medicinal herbs have been documented in Jinzhai, on which generations of locals have made a living.





## Agreement between People and Herbs

Lei Zhongying is an herb picker in his 60s from Qianping Village of Jinzhai County. A hoe, a sickle and a basket are the tools of his trade. “I could already pick and recognize herbs from watching my parents by age eight,” reveals Lei. “It was a hard job. We often had to walk a long way, and without luck, sometimes we would return with nothing.” While strolling through the forest, Lei recognizes a specimen every three or four steps.

Flourishing green persists into late autumn in Jinzhai County, seemingly swallowing up farmers’



Thanks to its rich herbal resources, a large proportion of the residents in Jinzhai County are engaged in work related to medicinal herbs. by Qin Bin/China Pictorial





The township of Shahe in Jinzhai County is located between 500 and 1,000 meters above sea level, creating a large temperature difference between day and night, which is suitable for reishi mushrooms, a species of precious medicinal herb, to grow. by Qin Bin/China Pictorial

houses scattered throughout the forest. As the core area of Tianma National Nature Reserve, Qianping Village has 946 residents in more than 200 households. The area boasts 2,400 hectares of natural forest, with a forest coverage rate of 96.2 percent. Local villagers have subsisted on their findings from the mountains for generations, and the various herbs growing in the forest are the main source of supplemental income.

Over millennia, herb pickers and wild plants have reached a sort of

tacit agreement: Pickers leave the buds and only dig up fully mature herbs. “Herb-picking is actually a pretty good job,” Lei says. “You get to enjoy natural scenery, singing birds and fragrant flowers, but it is also a bit exhausting. Not many young people are drawn to this sort of work.”

“At least my daughter and grandson like to listen to my ramblings about herbs,” he grins. “My five-year-old grandson can already recognize dozens of plants.”

### Balance between Protection and Development

Thanks to its advantageous climate and fertile soil, Jinzhai’s herbs are high-quality, whether wild or cultivated. Du Jifu, deputy director of the Jinzhai Chinese Medicinal Material Industry Development Center, noted that tests have shown that the effective elements in some local herbs are twice as high as those grown elsewhere.

For example, dendrobium, a highland plant that helps the eyes, skin and health, has been considered



Wang Zongshuang, director of the Quality Inspection Office of Jinzhai County Market Supervision Administration, shows a dendrobium sample produced in Jinzhai. Tests have shown that the active ingredients in some local herbs are twice as high as those growing elsewhere. by Qin Bin/China Pictorial



Locals in Jinzhai County have gradually walked out of poverty by cultivating medicinal herbs, thanks to the county's favorable natural conditions. by Qin Bin/China Pictorial

a precious medicinal herb since ancient times. Jinzhai's Huoshan dendrobium was once used as a tribute to royal families.

Huoshan dendrobium only grows in an area of less than 8,600 hectares, 450 meters above sea level. In the unique microclimate, Huoshan dendrobium grows only five centimeters in five years, with an annual output of a mere one kilogram. Due to its strict demands for the environment, Huoshan dendrobium once teetered on extinction due to excessive picking.

In recent years, the local government of Jinzhai has invested greatly in the protection and research of the medicinal plant by strengthening management and organizing a planting base as well as a cultivation base, enabling the output of Huoshan dendrobium to increase steadily.

"Huoshan dendrobium is not the only example," reveals Du. "We adopted this method for many other herbs. Only by focusing on ecological protection, respecting natural rules and engaging in orderly exploration can we realize sustainable


development of the local medicinal plant industry."

## New Energy Boosts Poverty Reduction

In addition to reinforcing protection, Jinzhai people employ new technologies and renewable energy to enhance the efficiency of production and processing of medicinal herbs.

The township of Shahe in Jinzhai County is located between 500 and 1,000 meters above sea level, creating a large temperature difference between day and night, which is suitable for reishi mushrooms, a species of precious medicinal herb, to grow. The valleys of Shahe are covered with rows of solar panels above greenhouses containing reishi mushrooms. The growing approach was developed by 52-year-old Li Wenhai, president of Jinzhai Liyuan Edible Mushroom Cooperative.

"Reishi mushrooms love shade," explains Li. "We installed solar panels high above them so that the herbs could grow nicely under them. And the panels generate power to increase our income." The two-hectare planting base employs more than 70 people from 12 poor households. It helps each household earn more than 10,000 yuan (US\$1,450) a year.

Shahe Township set such a good example that the model has spread fast. In the neighboring Wufan Village, a 10.5-hectare base with solar panels and greenhouses for reishi mushrooms has been constructed. This method not only saves land resources, but also greatly boosts poverty reduction efforts in Jinzhai County. 





The second season of the book *Inheritance: Giving Life to Intangible Cultural Heritage*, compiled by China Central Television (CCTV) and published by Jiangxi Fine Arts Publishing House in September 2019.

# Innovating Chinese Intangible Cultural Heritage

Photographs courtesy of Jiangxi Fine Arts Publishing House

*The book shares the stories about inheritors of Chinese intangible cultural heritage while demonstrating how traditional techniques become reinvigorated with new concepts.*



In Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province, Ma Yuesi, a city-level inheritor of the traditional technique to make *guqin* (a traditional Chinese musical instrument), paints a *guqin*.



Over the past two years, the production team working on the documentary series *Inheritance* for China Central Television (CCTV) traveled hundreds of thousands of kilometers to cross 20 municipalities, provinces and autonomous regions to interview over 80 inheritors of Chinese intangible cultural heritage. Through objectively capturing the original state of these cultural legacies, the team produced a seven-episode documentary series.

The accompanying book features the content of the documentary series and employs text and images to demonstrate the superb techniques of 35 traditional Chinese crafts that have been listed as national intangible cultural heritage. Through narrating stories of their inheritors, the book introduces traditional Chinese culture and the places of origin, rules, apprenticeship, methods, development



On Wudang Mountain in central China's Hubei Province, the disciples of the 15th-generation Wudang master Chen Shixing practice martial arts on wooden piles.





- ❶ In Yanjing Town of Mangkang County, southwestern China's Tibet Autonomous Region, Tsering Tsomo (left), a county-level inheritor of a traditional solar evaporation salt extraction technique, carries saltwater with her daughter.
- ❷ In Akqi County of western China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Kurmasi Kullman, a national inheritor of eagle-training, a tradition of the Kirgiz ethnic group, trains his bird.





- ③ In Rongchang District of southwestern China's Chongqing Municipality, people repeatedly wash "xia (summer) cloth" in the river, which is the last procedure to make a kind of cloth with ramie as raw material, characterized by its softness and breathability.
- ④ In Yangshuo County of southern China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Huang Chonggui, a county-level inheritor of a night fishing technique, fishes on the Lijiang River.

and spiritual roots of the traditional techniques passed down from generation to generation. It also demonstrates how the traditional techniques are endowed with new connotations and evolve for new minds amid the rapid development of China.

It is noteworthy that the first page of each chapter in the book features a QR code with a link to online video from the corresponding segment of the documentary series, which helps readers better understand the Chinese culture embodied in these intangible cultural legacies. As one endorsement said, Chinese cultural landscapes unroll gradually in the book, capturing the consistent inheritance of the nation's civilization that has continuously inspired the Chinese people to move forward. 



# Podcasting from China

Text by Aladin Farré

*Listening to podcasts is an intimate experience. Providers must develop other ways to reach out to an audience.*

Only 53 percent of China's population had access to a smartphone in 2019, but the constantly growing number of users is pushing a traditional medium more online, with many radio talk shows shifting to greater podcast distribution. Several Chinese radio producers including Himalaya FM, Lizhi FM or NetEase are already big players in the podcasting world. In 2018, Himalaya FM claimed 40 million monthly users as investment in marketing podcasts rose sharply. In 2013, only three million U.S. dollars was invested in advertising for the medium, a figure that is expected to surpass 190 million in 2020.

Because I work in the field of documentaries and news, I listen to a lot of podcasts with hopes of better understanding the country in which I now live. I soon realized that no one was doing an English show about China's cultural industry. All the English podcasts about China focused on history, classical culture or economics. So, I decided to launch a podcast of my own about the cultural industry. I first made the decision to repay some of the wealth I have enjoyed from all the wonderful shows out there and then as a method of reaching out to producers and creators I would normally never have a chance to meet. I have already had the privilege of interviewing more than 70 people



Recording a Middle Earth podcast on "China's growing VR industry" with Eddie Lou, Gianluigi Perrone and Denise Wu. courtesy of Aladin Farré

including several cultural heavyweights such as Song Wen, founder of FIRST Film Festival, and Tang Yiqing, CEO of Happy Juzi Media.

Thus far my program has all been in English due to my skills blocking access to the burgeoning Chinese podcast industry. Not so for Joshua Ogden-Davis, a Shanghai-based translator who started working with Himalaya FM on two shows in Chinese after co-writing the book *Making Friends with Foreigners*, which was published in Chinese. "This has been a fascinating opportunity for me," he declared. "After writing our book, we got in touch with Himalaya FM and designed a show based on the book for the Chinese audience. It was followed

by a second podcast for VIP users, for which I got a commission. I have even been recognized in the street just from the sound of my voice."

But podcast creators in China vary greatly. Some like Yu Wanying who produces and hosts the show *Museeologue* focusing on museums. Wielding a degree in museology, she has been hosting the podcast since August 2015. "To be honest, I'm still partially supported by my family, but each episode attracts around 100,000 listeners," Yu stated. "I do ask them to support the show. So far, more than 200 people are patrons of the podcast." Her efforts to release top-quality content paid off when Apple Podcasts featured her on the front

page of their Mandarin podcasts for several weeks.

Others are less reliant on listeners' support thanks to backing of an established media company like Story FM. Producer Kou Aizhe manages a team that releases three episodes weekly for 900,000 subscribers. "I am a big fan of *This American Life*, and in 2016 I decided to do something like that on my own: to collect stories from people. The company 'Elephant Guild' thought such an effort would be an interesting way to develop content, so they approached me to work on this format for them,"



Audience at the recording studio of Middle Earth podcasts. courtesy of The Slab

“

I decided to launch a podcast of my own to repay some of the wealth I have enjoyed from all the wonderful shows and as a method of reaching out to producers and creators I would normally never have a chance to meet. ”

Kou said.


I launched my own show, but I didn't have many listeners at the beginning. After some promotion from other podcasts related to China, I saw my listener base multiply by a factor of 10. Listening to podcasts is a really intimate experience, and subscribers don't tend to share much about it on social media, so you must find other ways to reach out to an audience.

Interestingly, China and the West share a major commonality and a fundamental difference. First, the ecosystem of the platforms is different. The West has an approach more like "Internet 2.0" to podcasting: hosting services, program distributors and RSS subscriber applications

for users are completely independent, so it is often hard for content creators to find an audience. China has a more centralized system: Audio platforms have combined services to make it more like an audio version of YouTube. Anyone can upload anything for free to these platforms, and they will place ads on your show to cover their costs. One thing that podcasters around the world share is difficulty making a living. Even as the medium becomes more popular, content creators still rely on extremely limited income streams: commissions from a big media company or a podcasting platform like Kou Aizhe or Joshua Ogden-Davis, patronage through platforms like Yu Wanying or direct

in-show product promotion. The latter is my case because my show helps promote my consulting firm focused on helping Western society approach China and make cultural projects realities.

It is interesting that Chinese companies are reaching out to the global market so soon after podcasting emerged domestically. Himalaya FM created the podcast app Himalaya to tap the English and Japanese markets. Renee Wang, the Chinese CEO of the app Castbox, drew inspiration from China's media. "Spotify still doesn't have any sort of comments feature, but a big part of both NetEase Music and QQ Music is extensive discussion of music," she noted. "Western companies can learn a lot from Chinese apps."

My focus is the converse, because my goal is a conversational show in Chinese to serve an audience in the country where I live. It will be called "I made it." 

The author is a French producer at China Compass Productions.



With the continuous improvement of the COVID-19 epidemic situation in China, more than 200 museums reopened to the public in March.

Visitors are admitted after complying with temperature detection and sole disinfection and required to wear masks throughout the visit.

## A Blessing over the Sea: Cultural Relics on Jianzhen and Murals by Higashiyama Kaii from Toshodaiji

Shanghai Museum, Shanghai  
Date of reopening: March 13

During the Tang Dynasty (618-907), a monk named Jianzhen (688-763) took six agonizing voyages eastwards and finally reached Japan in 753 to promote Buddhism, greatly accelerating cultural exchange between China and Japan.

Toshodaiji, located in Nara, was founded by Jianzhen in the mid-8th century and is regarded as the head temple of Japan's Ritsu sect of Buddhism. This exhibition includes both relics of the Nara period and contemporary paintings from the collection of Toshodaiji to shine light on the long history of Sino-Japanese exchange.

Kinki Sharito, a pagoda-shaped gold reliquary with a tortoise base

storing the sariras that Jianzhen took to Japan, is also displayed in the show.

*The Sea Journey to the East of a Great Bonze from the Tang Dynasty,*

a representative work of 12th-century Japanese art, depicts how Jianzhen overcame hardships and troubles to reach Japan.



Part of the painting *Huangshan Mountains in Morning Mist* by Higashiyama Kaii (Japan), 1975, collected in Toshodaiji.

## Treasures from Zeng State

Museum of the Nanyue King of the Western Han Dynasty, Guangzhou  
Date of reopening: March 18

Zeng State, also known as Sui State, was a minor state under the control of the Western Zhou Dynasty (1046-771 B.C.). It existed for more than 700 years, spanning from the early period of the Western Zhou Dynasty to the late Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.). Its capital was near today's Suizhou City in central China's Hubei Province.

Many bronze wares with carved inscriptions were discovered

among Zeng State relics, testifying to the excellent bronze-casting skills in the pre-Qin period.

A total of 89 pieces of bronze antiques are displayed at this exhibition, which fully capture the prevailing features of Zeng State bronze in terms of shape, decoration, inscription and exquisite casting techniques. The show also provides detailed materials to foster broad understanding of the Chu culture.



A bronze ritual vessel from Zeng State.

## Puppetry and Shadow Plays of China

Chengdu Museum, Chengdu

Date of reopening: March 17

Shadow puppetry and standard puppet shows are two forms of Chinese folk art with long histories and rich cultural connotations. They capture the profound essence of traditional Chinese modeling and performing arts and have been honored as representatives of

the Oral and Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

This exhibition features more than 2,000 shadow puppets and more than 200 standard puppets. These vivid art works testify to the historical context and development path of the arts in China.



*Monkey King Makes Three Attempts to Borrow the Plantain Fan*, Beijing modern shadow puppetry made from donkey hide.



*Hitting the Imperial Carriage*, Hebei shadow puppetry made from donkey hide from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911).



*Emperor on Tour*, Shaanxi shadow puppetry made from ox hide from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911).

## Liu Haisu's Art Expeditions in Europe

Liu Haisu Art Museum, Shanghai

Date of reopening: March 13

Chinese painter Liu Haisu (1896-1994) was a pioneer of modern Chinese art as well as of modern art education in China. From 1929 to 1931 and from 1933 to 1935, he traveled to Europe to study. During these periods, he learned Western painting skills. He also introduced advanced Western teaching concepts to China and proposed establishing national museums and galleries to improve the country's art facilities.

This exhibition is held to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Liu's first trip to Europe. It features rich and detailed historical materials and works to commemorate the important event in the history of cultural exchange between China and the West.



*Pearl Girl* by Liu Haisu, oil on canvas, 81.3X60.5cm, 1930.



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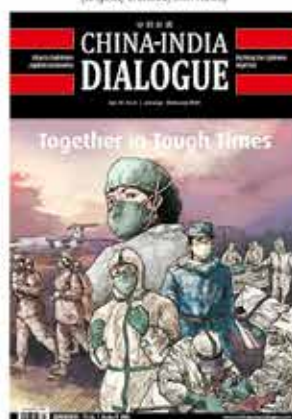
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