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A 2,800-YEAR-OLD ROYAL TOMB DISCOVERED



Sino-Soviet Joint
Communique



A friendly greeting between Han and Tibetan nationalities.

Photo by Wu Xuehua

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Party Chief Addresses Soviet Public

□ While in Moscow, Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, introduced China's policy of reform and opening to the outside world, its development plans and foreign policy to the Soviet public in a lengthy speech (p. 7). Also published is the full text of the Sino-Soviet Joint Communique signed during Jiang's visit (p. 13).

Tibet's Human Rights Today and Yesterday

□ The Dalai Lama and some people abroad have in recent years been saying that old Tibet was "a heaven of peace" and new Tibet a place without human rights. Is this true? An article on Tibet's human rights today and yesterday provides readers with a wealth of facts which show that old Tibet was a barbarous and brutal feudal serf society and new Tibet a place where people enjoy the right of democracy and freedom. Published also in this issue is an article on the autonomous rights Tibet enjoys today (pp. 16 and 20).

Discovery Sheds Light on Civilization

□ The discovery of a 2,000-year-old tomb in central China places the history of China's iron metallurgy one century earlier than had been formerly believed (p. 23).

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COVER: A variety of cultural relics such as this bronze pot were discovered in the tomb of a king buried 2,800 years ago.

Photo by Wang Gangfa

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Jiang Winds Up His Soviet Tour

A border pact and better mutual understanding achieved during Chinese Party leader Jiang Zemin's visit to the Soviet Union made another Sino-Soviet summit a "success." It symbolizes "a new chapter in Sino-Soviet relations," as Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev described it.

As a reciprocation to the China visit by Gorbachev in 1989, Jiang's official visit during May 15-19 was designed, as the Chinese leader said, to "further develop the relationship of good-neighbourliness, friendship, mutual benefit, co-operation and long-term stability with the Soviet Union."

Jiang attributed the healthy and steady progress in Sino-Soviet relations in the past two years mainly to the 1989 Beijing summit between Deng Xiaoping and Gorbachev, which "ended the past and opened up the future."

Since then, Jiang said, the relations between the two countries have stood the test of time despite volatile world situations.

He told his Soviet hosts that he believed the development of the bilateral relations had great potential and a bright prospect.

Gorbachev agreed that the trust and open co-operation between the two neighbouring countries are becoming one of the strong pillars of stability, security and development in Asian and the whole world.

He noted that the new development in Sino-Soviet relations is not directed against any third party.

During the summit, an agreement on the eastern sector of the 7,500-km Sino-Soviet border was signed by the Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and his Soviet counterpart Alexander Bess-

mertnykh.

Sources say that the agreement, which also dealt with a maximum reduction of armed forces on both sides of the border, was hammered out after Gorbachev's 1989 visit to China.

Jiang told his hosts at the summit that China, as a true friend of the Soviet Union, hoped the socialist cause will thrive in the Soviet Union. "We wish to see a united Soviet Union with social stability and economic prosperity," he said.

He stressed that reform is a process to optimize and develop the socialist system with its superiority. He reiterated the Chinese people's determination to build a so-



LIU SHAOSHAN
Mikhail Gorbachev feasts Chinese leader Jiang Zemin and his party on May 15.



WANG XINQING
Jiang Zemin sings Chinese and Russian songs with his compatriots and Soviet friends at the Chinese Embassy on May 16.

cialist system with Chinese characteristics despite difficulties and problems ahead of them.

Gorbachev said an important aspect of contacts of his country with China is to enrich the experience in reforms of the two countries.

While calling for renovating socialism, Gorbachev said he stood for constructive and evolutive methods while keeping the revolutionary essence of the process.

He expressed thanks to the Chinese side for its support to his country's reform, and voiced his understanding of the Chinese leaders' efforts to build socialism with Chinese characteristics.

He believed that social and political stability is one important condition for ensuring success in deepening the reform.

During his visit, the Chinese Party leader also visited Leningrad and the Likhachev Automobile Plant in Moscow, which was Jiang's intership site and helped China build its first auto plant in the 1950s.

Li: No Hagging On Status of Tibet

Chinese Premier Li Peng stressed that Tibet is an inalienable part of China and this is a fundamental principle that leaves "no room for hagging."

In an interview with Xinhua News Agency on May 19, on the eve of the 40th anniversary of Tibet's peaceful liberation in 1951, Li also reiterated that the Chinese government's policy towards the Dalai Lama is consistent. "The central government is always ready to talk to the Dalai Lama, but he must quit his activities to split the motherland and change his position for 'Tibet independence.' Any question except 'Tibet independence' can be discussed," Li said.

He pointed out that of late, the

Dalai Lama has raised a hue and cry over "Tibet independence." "How can this create the atmosphere necessary for contact?" Li asked.

He urged the Dalai Lama to set store by the integrity of the motherland and the unity of all nationalities, take a correct attitude and make the correct choice.

Asked about the central government's policy towards Tibetans living abroad, the premier said that the central government, always solicitous about the plight of the Tibetans living abroad, adopts the policy that "all patriots belong to one big family, whether they come forward early or late."

"All patriots belong to one big family" means national unity on the basis of patriotism, Li said. And "whether they come forward early or late" means that even those who were engaged in separatist activities in the past will be still considered as patriots so long as they mend their ways and relinquish their stand for "Tibet independence."

In recent years a small number of separatists residing abroad took advantage of free entry into and exit from Tibet to conduct activities of splitting the motherland and even plotted and instigated riots in Tibet. This is absolutely impermissible, Li said.

During the interview, Li refuted overseas allegations that there are "human rights" problems in Tibet, pointing out that the Tibetan people had no real democracy and freedom until the Democratic Reform in 1959.

"Which system guarantees human rights, the past feudal serfdom or the present socialist system, the Tibetan people with their personal experience are most eligible to say. It is not difficult for anyone without bias to arrive at the correct conclusion by comparing new Tibet with the old," he noted.

Li accused some foreign forces for fabricating the so-called "human rights" problem in Tibet and

wantonly interfering in China's internal affairs.

"Under no circumstances will the Chinese people, Tibetans included, tolerate this," he said, adding that such rumour-mongering constituted a violation of established principles governing international relations.

When asked about the changes that have taken place in Tibet in the past 40 years, Li cited the abolition of the dark and backward feudal serf system and the noticeable economic and cultural development. He also said that the fine traditional Tibetan culture has been carried forward and developed. Educational, scientific, cultural and public health facilities have been expanded.

The premier said that from 1952 to 1990, the central government allocated and invested 17.77 billion yuan (\$3.4 billion) in capital construction in Tibet but has never levied a single yuan on the Tibetans.

In the future, Li pledged, the central government will continue to carry out policies beneficial to the development of Tibet's economy and culture and to the betterment of the life of the Tibetan people.

Bush's Remarks on MFN Commented

China hopes the United States will consider the long-term interests of the two countries and settle the most-favoured-nation (MFN) issue in a prudent and proper manner, said Duan Jin, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry.

American President George Bush said on May 15, "I want to see MFN for China continue, and I am making a strong pitch for it."

"I look at the importance of China as a country. We don't want to isolate China," he continued.

China and the United States have granted MFN to each other since 1980. Under the American

law, the president has to make a decision on the extension of China's MFN every year, and then Congress votes on his decision within 60 days from July 3, when the annual term of MFN expires.

The MFN status gives Chinese goods exported to the United States the same tariff treatment as those received by the 180 other countries.

Revoking the status will lead to a dramatic rise in the prices of Chinese exports to America.

Products from China now account for one-third of the American toy market, 10 percent of the footwear market and 15 percent of the imported clothing market. A price rise will hurt local consumers.

Ending the MFN status will also close Chinese markets to American exports. Last year, US exports to China totalled US\$4.8 billion. Among those to be adversely affected would be American wheat growers, whose 1990 sales approached US\$1 billion; commercial aircraft manufacturers, for whom China has become a dependable US\$500 million a year market; and phosphate fertilizer manufacturers who consistently sell one-sixth of their entire annual output to China.

At the same time, it will deal a heavy blow to Hong Kong. About 70 percent of American imports from China are shipped through Hong Kong.

Therefore, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman urged the United States to handle the issue prudently for a long-term point of view.

As for future Sino-American relations, he said, so long as China and the United States abide by the principles as stipulated in the three communiqués between the two countries, bilateral ties can be improved and developed.

China has been doing this and will continue to do so, the spokesman said, adding that he hopes the United States will do the same. ■

Death in Coalpit Raises Cry for Safety

A safety campaign will be launched later this month following an explosion in a Shanxi coal mine.

The gas explosion on the afternoon of April 21 killed all 147 workers in a mining shaft of Sanjiaohe Coal Mine, Shanxi Province. The disaster is regarded in China as the worst mining accident in three decades.

An initial investigation shows that a lack of dust-removing equipment was the main cause of the accident, according to Hu Fuguo, vice-minister of energy resources.

Ninety percent of those who were killed in the coalpit were poorly trained labourers. And the mine was poorly managed, Hu said, adding that 30 lives had been claimed by a similar accident in the same mine in 1980.

Those who are responsible will be punished according to relevant laws and regulations and the families of the deceased will be compensated.

Industrial accidents in Chinese coal mines, especially in those run by local governments and individuals, are known to be serious despite the unavailability of casualty figures.

These mines, less equipped than their central-government-run counterparts, turn out about 500 million tons of coal a year. But working conditions and management are poor, resulting in a higher rate of mining accidents.

The safety campaign, to be organized by the Ministry of Energy Resources, may result in the closing-down of many coal mines with inadequate safety measures.

The vice-minister noted that safety in coal mines, along with railway transport and civil aviation, has been top priority in the government's effort to improve industrial working conditions.

"But serious accidents still oc-

cur with alarming frequency, causing heavy losses of lives and property," the official said.

The ministry urged the 7 million miners across the country to join in the safety campaign. ■

China Joins Tripartite Narcotics Operation

China will co-operate with Myanmar (Burma) and the United Nations International Drugs Control Programme (UNIDCP) to stamp out the illegal Narcotic trafficking.

Chinese Premier Li Peng, UNIDCP executive director Giorgio Giacomelli, and Myanmar's Vice-Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw signed the agreement for a joint anti-drug operation on May 14 in Beijing.

Giacomelli and Ohn Gyaw arrived in Beijing in early May for talks on the fight against drug trafficking. It is known that most refined narcotics come from the "Golden Triangle" area adjoining Thailand, Myanmar and Laos.

The premier was glad to learn that China, Myanmar and the UNIDCP had a broad and fruitful discussion.

He said that shortly after New China was founded in 1949, China eliminated drug abuse and drug trafficking.

"Unfortunately, in recent years drug trading and drug abuse has begun to appear again in China. It is a threat to the people's health and social security and it flies in the face of the fundamental policy of China."

Li said that the Chinese government attached great importance to drug control. Recently the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress worked out a new law which imposes harsh penalties on drug traffickers.

"We hope to achieve satisfactory results in the fight against drug trafficking and to halt drug abuse with the support of the people," said Li. ■

China on Its March Towards the 21st Century

On May 17, 1991, visiting General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Jiang Zemin delivered a speech in the Kremlin in Moscow to the Soviet public. Following is the full text of the speech.—Ed.

It gives me great pleasure to visit the Soviet Union at the invitation of Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev in May, when spring is very much in the air. I feel especially warm and happy to have the opportunity to meet you here today, because many of you not only care for China but also have an intimate knowledge of it. I am visiting your country with the friendly sentiments and good wishes of the Chinese people of all nationalities towards the Soviet people of all nationalities. In the past two days, we have been accorded a warm welcome by the Soviet leaders and people of various circles and deeply impressed by the sincere affection of the Soviet people for the Chinese people. Yesterday my colleagues and I held talks with Comrade Gorbachev and also met with other leading comrades of the Soviet state and the Soviet Communist Party. We exchanged views extensively on the development of bilateral relations and on the current international situation and international issues of common concern and briefed each other on the domestic situation and the reforms under way in our respective countries. We were satisfied with the results of the talks.

Comrades, you may still remember that at about this time two years ago a historic meeting took place between Comrade Deng Xiaoping and Comrade Gorbachev, which opened a new chapter in the annals of Sino-Soviet relations by ending the past and opening up the future.

We are pleased to note that thanks to the joint efforts of the



On May 15, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev holds a ceremony welcoming General Secretary Jiang Zemin's visit.

LIU SHAOSHAN

two sides in the past two years fresh progress has been made in various fields in Sino-Soviet relations. State and Party leaders of the two countries have maintained their contacts and links; our economic and trade relations have further developed; exchanges in science, technology, education, culture, sports and other fields have increased steadily; and mass organizations, non-governmental institutions, academic bodies and the general public of the two countries have gradually increased their interchanges in all forms. The normal progress and healthy development of the contacts between the two Parties, in particular, have given an impetus to the development of the friendly relations of co-operation between the two countries and the

friendship between the two peoples.

Facts show that the establishment and development of a long-standing and stable relationship of good-neighbourliness and friendship between China and the Soviet Union, the two great socialist countries, conform to the fundamental interests of the two peoples and the interests of peace and stability in the world. We hold that owing to their difference in historical background, social conditions and the level of economic and cultural development, it is natural and normal for the two countries to differ in views and opinions on some issues. The important thing is that such differences and divergences should not be allowed to affect the development of normal state-to-state relations. Sino-Soviet relations have

been able to develop in a normal and healthy manner in the past two years, because both sides have treasured and attached great importance to our normalized relations, because both sides have followed the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful co-existence in handling state-to-state relations and abode by the principles of independence, full equality, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs in handling Party-to-Party relations. The improvement and development of relations between China and the Soviet Union is not directed at any third party, nor at any other country. In our future contacts, we will continue to follow these principles. We are convinced that the development of Sino-Soviet relations has a broad prospect. We will work actively to further develop the friendly and co-operative relations between the two countries and the two Parties and further consolidate and enhance the great friendship between the two peoples.

The approaching steps of the new century are already distinctly audible. Mankind will enter into the 21st century in a decade. This is an important historical period. The last decade of the 20th century is a very crucial period in the historical course of China's socialist construction for modernization. The Seventh Plenary Session of the 13th Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the Fourth Session of the Seventh National People's Congress of China have charted the course for China's economic and social development in the coming ten years and drawn up a magnificent blueprint towards the end. This is of great and far-reaching significance for ensuring the progress of our country and nation in the 21st century. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese people are striving for the realization of their second-step strategic objective for national economic and social

development.

I. Adhere to the Path of Building Socialism with Chinese Characteristics

It is known to all that China was once a semi-feudal and semi-colonial country with a backward economy and culture. In the 100 years from the mid-19th century, it was subjected to all kinds of bullying and aggression by imperialism and suffered from great misery and humiliation. In their struggle to save and revitalize the country, many people with lofty ideals groped in the dark, advanced wave upon wave, and even laid down their lives for the cause. Unfortunately, none of them succeeded. The salvos of the October Revolution brought China Marxism-Leninism which, once integrated with the Chinese workers' movement, gave birth to the Chinese Communist Party. Following a protracted and arduous struggle under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese people at last overthrew the "three big mountains"—imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism—and founded the New China.

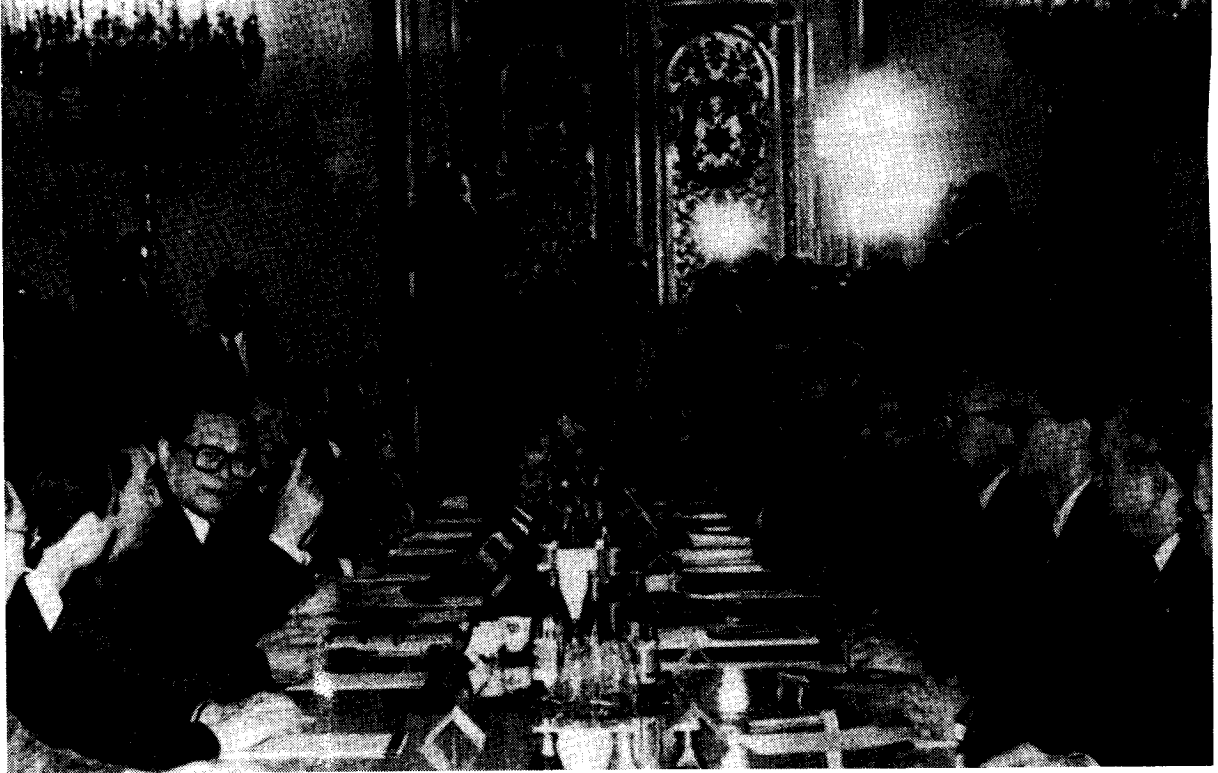
Tremendous achievements have been scored in all fields since the founding of the People's Republic more than 40 years ago. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese people of all nationalities have made concerted efforts in overcoming various difficulties and succeeded in turning a poor and backward China into a socialist country with initial prosperity. Through our hard work for more than 40 years, we have solved the problem of inadequate food and clothing for a population that accounts for one fifth of the world's total, built an independent and rather comprehensive system of industry and national economy and developed science, technology, education, culture, public health and sports, thus enhancing China's overall national strength. The Chinese people have come to realize from their own experience that only socialism can save China and only by building socialism can China prosper.

China's socialist modernization is an entirely new undertaking. In the course of our progress, we have experienced both successes and setbacks. An important lesson we have drawn from it is that socialist construction must proceed from the realities in China. We have also realized keenly that the fundamental task of socialism is to develop social productive forces. The superiority of socialism lies in the fact that the productive forces inherent in the system are bound to grow faster and become more developed than those under capitalism. Reform is the only way to develop productive forces; it is by nature the self-refinement and development of socialism and is aimed at accelerating the growth of productive forces and all-round social progress to constantly add to the vigour and vitality of socialism. Our reform should always be socialist-oriented. It is our most important experience that reform and opening to the outside world must be integrated organically with continuous consolidation and perfection of the socialist system.

Upon the suggestion of Comrade Deng Xiaoping, our Party summed up our past and more recent practical experience at the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee and then at the Party's 12th and 13th national congresses. And upon this basis, we have drawn the scientific thesis that China is in the primary stage of socialism, and formulated the basic line of taking economic construction as the central task, upholding the four cardinal principles and adhering to reform and opening to the outside world, and worked out a series of principles and policies that have proved effective. To combine the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with China's actual conditions, go our own way, and build socialism with Chinese characteristics—that is our basic conclusion.

II. China's Tremendous Achievements in Construction and Reform

China's reform started from the countryside and then proceeded into urban areas to cover all sec-



On May 16, Jiang Zemin holds talks with Gorbachev.

WANG XINQING

tors. While it took only a few years for the rural reform to produce the desired result, an all-round reform of the economic system has proved to be much more complex and arduous. Reform is a great practice, and we are exploring our way ahead.

To achieve our Party's goal, we have combined reform with development and worked out a three-step strategy for economic and social development:

— First, to take ten years to double the 1980 gross national product in terms of constant prices and solve the problem of inadequate food and clothing. We have accomplished this task ahead of schedule.

— Secondly, to quadruple the 1980 GNP in terms of constant prices by the end of the century so that the people nationwide could live a relatively comfortable life. We are now working hard towards this end.

— Thirdly, to make China's per capita GNP reach in general the level of moderately industrialized nations by the middle of the 21st century, basically realizing the socialist modernization.

During the 1980s, China's GNP increased by 136 percent and its national income by 131 percent in terms of constant prices. Consider-

able progress was also made in science and technology, education and culture, and the overall national strength grew further. The average level of consumption of the rural and urban residents went up by 80 percent after adjustment due to the price factor.

We made these tremendous achievements in the 1980s mainly because we carried out the reform of the economic system and opening to the outside world. The reform has brought about significant changes in the fabric of the economic system:

1) The single-sector system of public ownership of the past was gradually transformed into a system containing diverse economic sectors with public ownership as the main body. Over the past decade, we upheld the socialist public ownership as the mainstay and in the meantime encouraged an appropriate development of individual economic activities and the private sector in the urban and rural areas as well as enterprises with sole foreign investment and joint ventures. We gave the public ownership a principal part in the economy, while giving other economic elements a role that is supplementary and beneficial to the socialist economy. Such a policy is suited to

the current level of productive forces in China and conducive to the development of the socialist planned commodity economy.

2) The single-mode system of distribution of the past was gradually changed to a system which is mainly "to each according to his work" and supplemented by other modes. This change is of great importance for eliminating egalitarianism and bringing into play the enthusiasm of working masses and various sectors of society. We allow and assist some people and areas to get well-off before others through honest labour and lawful operations; at the same time, we encourage those who have become well-off first to provide assistance to those still in poverty so as to achieve common prosperity and prevent a wide gap between the poor and the rich. Common prosperity and prevention of the polarization of society is an important principle of the socialist system; it also demonstrates the immense superiority of this system.

3) The excessively centralized system of planned economy of the past was gradually transformed into a system and an operational mechanism that combine a planned economy with market regulation and are suited to the development

of a planned commodity economy based on public ownership. This is the important content of as well as the basic orientation towards deepening the reform of the economic system. We have accumulated some experience in this respect, but continued efforts are still needed to explore specific ways and forms of restructuring in the course of practice.

We have made big strides in opening to the rest of the world on the basis of self-reliance, with the result that our foreign trade and economic and technological exchanges and co-operation with foreign countries have expanded rapidly. China's total volume of import and export in 1990 more than trebled that of 1980. We have established five special economic zones, opened 14 coastal cities, including Dalian, Tianjin, Shanghai and Guangzhou, set up 13 economic and technological development zones, as well as the economically open zones in the deltas of the Yangtze River and the Zhujiang River, the triangular region in the southern part of the Fujian Province, the Shandong Peninsula and the Liaodong Peninsula. Last year, we made a decision to open and develop the new Pudong area of Shanghai. As a result, a nationwide pattern of opening to the outside world is taking shape by gradually advancing along the line of "special economic zones—coastal open cities—coastal economically open zones—the interior."

While carrying out an all-round reform of the economic system, we have also conducted a reform of the political system with a view to ensuring the stability and unity of society, strengthening and perfecting socialist democracy and legal system, and bringing the socialist initiatives of the masses of people into play. The Chinese Communist Party is the force at the core for leading the Chinese people in their socialist modernization effort. The leading position of the Chinese Communist Party in the country came into being in history, and is stipulated by the constitution and acknowledged by the Chinese peo-

ple of all nationalities. Therefore, we have always adhered to and tried to improve the leadership of the Party. We have strengthened and improved, and will continue to strengthen and improve, the system of the National People's Congress and the system of multi-party co-operation and political consultation under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, while establishing and improving the procedures and rules of democratic decision-making and democratic supervision, establishing a system of leadership that is conducive to improving work efficiency and firing the enthusiasm of all quarters, and restructuring institutions of state administration in line with the process of economic restructuring.

China's socialist modernization and reform is a protracted and arduous undertaking. We have made great achievements in socialist modernization and reform over the past 12 years, but some shortcomings and faults have also emerged in our practical work. They are chiefly:

— Neglecting political and ideological education for a time. While working hard for material progress, we failed to pull our weight in making cultural and ideological progress.

— Being eager to score a quick success in economic development and reform, which resulted in economic overheating.

— Excessive decentralization in some sectors of the national economy, which resulted in a weakening of the state's power of macroeconomic regulation and control.

The Party made a timely and conscientious summing-up of our experience and lessons, strengthened the state's power of macroeconomic regulation and control, promoted ideological and political education among the broad masses, improved the economic environment, rectified the economic order and deepened the reform. Thanks to concerted efforts, we have brought the excessively high speed in industrial development and inflation under control.

At present, numerous contradictions and problems are still in store for us on our road of advance. To name a few: the deficiencies of the original economic system have not been eliminated completely, the economic results of some enterprises remain poor, the industrial structure is still irrational, the state is confronted with financial difficulties, and there still exist certain elements of instability in an overall political situation marked by stability and unity.

The achievements of the 1980s have further strengthened the faith of the Chinese people of all nationalities in socialist modernization and enhanced their will and confidence in overcoming difficulties.

III. 1990s—a Crucial Decade for China's Socialist Modernization

The last decade of the 20th century is one of utmost importance to China. During the period, China is to achieve their objective for the second step of socialist modernization. We will continue to carry out the Party's basic line steadfastly and in an all-round way and adhere to the socialist road and the policies of reform and opening to the outside world. China's economic and social development will be promoted through reform and opening to the outside world, while reform will deepen and the work of opening to the outside world will further expand in the course of development.

China's goal for deepening the reform of the economic system in the 1990s is to preliminarily establish a system of socialist planned commodity economy. We hold that both planning and market are the inherent requirements of the socialized mass production and the development of commodity economy. The planning we talk about here is not one dominated by administrative means to the exclusion of a role played by market mechanism, but one that is suited to the demand of the development of commodity economy and respects the law of value; the market we speak of is not one marked by free-wheeling and anarchism, but an or-

derly one that is guided by state planning and subjected to the state's macroeconomic regulation and control. We will continue our exploration in this field and endeavour to create an operating mechanism of socialist commodity economy that combines planned economy with market regulation and conforms to China's actual conditions.

An important principle guiding China's economic construction is to maintain a sustained, stable and co-ordinated development of the national economy. Because China has a poor foundation to start with and is thickly populated, a comparatively fast economic development is required to achieve the strategic objectives of the second and third steps of socialist modernization. On the other hand, however, in order to avoid violent economic fluctuations and an unstable development, we must not be impatient for quick results and set an excessively high demand on the economic speed. In the next decade, China will maintain its economic growth at a moderate average annual rate of about 6 percent, and consistently centre its economic work on the improvement of economic results. By so doing, we will be able not only to achieve our second-step objective and leave some leeway, but also to avoid violent economic fluctuations and maintain the co-ordination of the ratios among the major sectors of the national economy.

Agricultural development remains our top priority in the 1990s. Agriculture is the foundation of economic development, social stability and national independence. The problem of providing enough food for a population of over 1.1 billion can only be solved by ourselves through a correct policy plus unremitting efforts. To develop agriculture, we will continue to deepen the rural reform and popularize advanced science and technology in agriculture, increase agricultural input by the state, the localities, the collective units and the individual peasants.

Since the beginning of this year,

China has started to implement the 10-Year Programme and the Eighth Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development. Experience in the past 40 years and more tells us that the development of economy requires, first of all, a political situation of stability and unity. We maintain that stability is an overriding factor. Without a stable political situation, construction would be out of the question, and so would be reform. The Chinese people have learned from historical experience what would result from social turmoil in a big country like China. In case of turmoil, people would not be able to live and work in peace and contentment, the economy would collapse, a civil war would break out and the country would break up. Stability and unity are the prerequisite as well as the guarantee for economic development and reform, while economic development will, in return, promote and further develop a political situation of stability and unity.

In the new decade, we are still faced with the task of ultimately reunifying our motherland. Hong-kong and Macao will return to China in 1997 and 1999 respectively. We will firmly adhere to the policy of "one country, two systems" and work hard to advance the cause of peaceful reunification. Taiwan is an inalienable part of the territory of the People's Republic of China, and the government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate government representing the whole of China. We resolutely oppose any attempt aimed at creating "two Chinas," "one China, one Taiwan," "one country, two governments" or "independence of Taiwan;" we firmly oppose the so-called "elastic diplomacy" and "substantial diplomacy" pursued by the Taiwan authorities; and we firmly oppose any attempts by countries having diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China to develop official ties with Taiwan or to conduct any contacts and exchanges of an official nature with Taiwan.

IV. China Is in Need of a Peaceful International Environment

In carrying out socialist modernization, China is in need of a long-standing and stable international environment of peace. We have always regarded it as our sacred cause to maintain world peace.

In the world today, political winds are ever changing and volatile and the international situation is marked by turbulence and instability. The old pattern of the world, which shaped up at the end of World War II, has disintegrated, but a new one is yet to take shape. The whole world is in a transitional period in which the old structure is being replaced by the new one. The international situation is characterized by relaxation at one time or in one place, but tension at another time or in another place. In a word, the world is far from being trouble-free.

People all over the world ardently hope for peace and aspire for development. Despite the host of problems facing the world today, we are deeply convinced that world peace can be maintained and the cause of development of mankind will eventually be carried forward through the common efforts of the people of all countries in the world.

China pursues an independent foreign policy of peace. No matter how the world situation changes, China will, at all times and under all circumstances, uphold independence, refrain from entering into alliance or establishing strategic relations with any big powers, and decide on its own position and policy on any international issue according to the rights and wrongs of the issue itself. China firmly supports whatever is conducive — and resolutely opposes whatever is detrimental — to the maintenance of world peace, the development of friendship and co-operation among nations, and global economic prosperity. China is willing to develop friendly and co-operative relations with all countries in the world on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. We make it the basic foothold of our foreign policy to strengthen and develop unity and co-operation with third

world countries.

China attaches great importance to developing good-neighbourly relations with its surrounding countries. Sino-Soviet relations have further developed since the normalization of bilateral ties two years ago. We support the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in its proposal for promoting the self-determined and peaceful reunification of Korea. We will continue to work actively with parties concerned for a relaxation of tension and stability on the Korean Peninsula. Relations between China and India have seen a notable improvement; a steadily stable good-neighbourly relationship between the two nations not only conforms to the fundamental interests of the two peoples, but also contributes to peace and stability in Asia as a whole. China's friendly and co-operative relations with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Myanmar are constantly expanding. China's friendly ties with Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines have made considerable progress. China has always attached great importance to enhancing its friendship and relations of co-operation with Japan, and the peoples of the two countries share a common desire to live in peace and friendship from generation to generation. China has restored diplomatic relations with the Republic of Indonesia and established diplomatic ties with the Republic of Singapore, thereby opening up vast vistas for the development of friendship between China and these two nations. China is also expanding its exchanges and co-operation with the People's Republic of Mongolia and Laos. Thanks to the common efforts of the international community, the work for the political settlement of the Cambodian question has made a major progress. China is willing to work along with the international community and within the framework of relevant United Nations documents for a political settlement of the Cambodian question at an earliest possible date, a settlement that should be compre-

hensive, just and reasonable. With progress made in the political settlement of the Cambodian question, Sino-Vietnamese relations will also be normalized step by step. China will continuously strive for the improvement and development of its relations of friendship and co-operation with its surrounding countries and make positive contributions to maintaining peace and stability in Asia and the world as a whole.

In order to foster normal international relations and ensure world peace in the 21st century, there is a need to establish a new international order. China stands for the establishment of a new international order on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. These principles are interrelated, but the most important one is non-interference in each other's internal affairs. While not seeking for hegemony itself, China is opposed to hegemonism and power politics in any form and is opposed to any country that wantonly interferes in the internal affairs of other countries and forces upon them its own political and economic systems and concept of values. There will be no tranquility in the world so long as hegemonism and power politics have not stepped down from the stage of history. China maintains that all countries in the world, big or small, rich or poor, strong or weak, are equal; China is adamantly against the big bullying the small, the rich oppressing the poor, and the strong lording itself over the weak. The internal affairs of a country should be managed by its own people, and world affairs should be handled through consultations among all countries. A new international political order is closely linked with and inseparable from a new international economic order. Many years have passed since the idea of establishing a new international economic order was put forward, but the economic gap between the developed and developing countries is still widening, with the rich getting richer, the poor poorer, and the economic dif-

ficulties of many developing countries are deteriorating. Without elimination of the old international economic order, which is unjust and inequitable, and without economic development in the developing nations, world peace and stability can hardly be safeguarded.

I stayed in your country for some time in the 1950s, which left me a fine impression. The Soviet Union is a great country, and the Soviet people are a great people. It is blessed with a vast territory, abundant resources, a long history, an excellent cultural tradition, advanced science and technology, and a solid industrial foundation. Your beautiful land has nurtured generations of revolutionaries, thinkers, scientists, men of letters and artists. The Soviet Union is the homeland of Lenin and the home of the October Revolution. During World War II, the Soviet people made prodigious national sacrifices and, along with the people of other countries, protected mankind from greater catastrophe. People in the world will forever remember this great contribution made by the Soviet people to the history of world civilization. The tremendous achievements made by the Soviet people of all nationalities in their socialist construction in the past 70 years and more are undeniable.

The friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples goes back to ancient times. A normal development of Sino-Soviet relations is not only in keeping with the common desire and fundamental interests of the two peoples, but also beneficial to peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and to the betterment of international relations as a whole. The relations between our two countries have now entered upon a new stage. Let us make joint efforts to maintain and consolidate the good-neighbourly relations between the two countries not only in this century but continuously in the 21st century.

May the great friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples develop steadily. ■

Sino-Soviet Joint Communiqué

Moscow, May 19, 1991

1. Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China (PRC), paid an official visit to the Soviet Union on May 15-19, 1991 at the invitation of Mikhail S. Gorbachev, president of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR.

Jiang Zemin and M. S. Gorbachev exchanged views in a friendly, candid and business-like manner on Sino-Soviet relationship in all its aspects and on pressing international issues of common concern.

In the course of his visit, Jiang Zemin also met with Anatoly I. Lukyanov, president of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and Valentin S. Pavlov, prime minister of the USSR. The distinguished Chinese guest visited Leningrad.

2. The current meeting between the Chinese and Soviet leaders is a continuation of the high-level meeting between Deng Xiaoping and M. S. Gorbachev in May 1989. Both sides make a high appraisal of the great significance of the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations and reaffirmed that they will continue to abide by the agreements reached at the Beijing meeting and the principles expounded in the "Sino-Soviet Joint Communiqué" dated May 18, 1989. They note with satisfaction that thanks to their joint efforts, the friendly and co-operative relations between the two countries are developing steadily in the political, economic, trade, scientific and technological, cultural, military and other fields.

Treasuring the achievements already made, both sides express readiness to further develop the relations of friendliness, good-neighbourliness, mutual benefit and co-operation. This not only accords with the interests and aspirations of the peoples of the two countries, but also contributes to the maintenance of peace and stability in the whole world.

3. The ever-strengthening ties between the Chinese Communist Party and the Soviet Communist Party play a significant role in the overall Sino-Soviet relations. As has been proved in the past two years, it is useful to exchange information, opinions

and experience in the party work under present conditions. Contacts between the two Parties in the future will be conducted continuously in accordance with the principles of independence, full equality, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

4. Both China and the Soviet Union appraise positively the expanding scopes and diversifying forms of bilateral economic and trade ties. There exist mutual-complementarity and remarkable potential for co-operation in the economic sphere between the two countries. They will endeavour continuously to fulfil their long-term programme for economic, scientific and technological co-operation and other agreements in this field, expand composite co-operative undertakings of mutual benefit, develop direct and cross-the-border ties between the provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities and enterprises in China on the one hand and the republics, territories, regions and enterprises in the Soviet Union on the other, and assure them of support from the central organs. Cash-based trade will be developed, and support will be given to all trade forms taken in worldwide practice. Both sides will make an active search for new ways and methods of economic co-operation and for possibilities of co-operation with the third countries in realizing various business projects. Both are willing to conduct an extensive exchange of economic, scientific and technological information and experience in economic reforms. They will continue joint efforts for further enhancement of the effectiveness of the economic and trade co-operation between China and the Soviet Union on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

5. The PRC and the USSR will encourage contacts between the citizens and conduct exchanges and co-operation between the legislative organs, ministries, state commissions and social organizations. Both sides will make efforts for further development of the scientific and cultural exchanges and closer contacts in education, sports and other fields.

Both sides agreed to promote exchanges and co-operation in the legal sphere, and work out and conclude an accord on judicial assistance in han-

ding civil and criminal cases. The responsible organs of the PRC and the USSR will co-ordinate in the fight against organized crime, international terrorism, drug trafficking, smuggling and other criminal activities. The forms and methods of co-operation in this respect will be discussed on separate occasions.

6. Both sides affirm the positive developments in the negotiations on boundary issues between the two countries, and stress the necessity of securing the results in the form of treaty and law. They welcome the signing of the agreement on the eastern section of the Sino-Soviet state boundary. In the spirit of the "Sino-Soviet Joint Communiqué" of May 1989, both sides will continue intensively negotiations on the unfixed sections for a just and reasonable solution of the boundary issues left behind by history.

Both sides point out that the "Agreement on Mutual Reduction of Military Forces in Sino-Soviet Borders and the Guiding Principles for Enhancing Trust in the Military Field" signed by the two governments has made a positive contribution to the maintenance of tranquility and stability in the border areas and has strengthened mutual trust between the two countries. The two sides will carry out negotiations continuously and actively in the future for achieving practical results.

Both sides make it clear that normal and friendly contacts will be maintained between the military forces of the two countries.

7. The Chinese side reiterates that the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate government representing the whole of China. Taiwan is an inalienable part of the territory of the PRC. The Chinese side resolutely opposes any attempts or moves to create "two Chinas," "one China, one Taiwan," "one country with two governments" or "an independent Taiwan."

The Soviet Union supports this position of the PRC.

8. The leaders of the PRC and the USSR briefed each other on the present political, social and economic situation in their respective countries. They hold that it is beneficial to frequently exchange opinions on these issues. Some differences on opinions and methods of action between the two sides are natural and do not hinder the normal development of bilateral relations.

Both sides point out that socialism, as a new social system, can hardly avoid difficulties and contradictions in its development. In view of the realities in their respective countries, the two sides hold that reforms are necessary for tapping the potential of socialism. One important prerequisite for reforms is to maintain stability of the state and society. There are no universal patterns in carrying out reforms. The people of each country have the right to independently decide the affairs of their own country in

light of its specific conditions.

9. M.S. Gorbachev gave a briefing on the efforts for preserving the Soviet Union as a revived federation of sovereign republics, and on the forthcoming signing of a new union treaty. The Chinese side expressed its understanding of the importance of a positive resolution of the problem.

10. The leaders of the PRC and the USSR exchanged views on major issues of the current international situation. They hold that the improvement of Soviet-US relations, the progress made in the field of disarmament, the relaxation of some regional conflicts or the emergence of prospects for their political settlement, are positive changes in the international situation. Meanwhile, they point out the situation in the world is far from being stable given the interwoven complex of contradictions of various kinds. Both sides express concern about the irrational international economic order, particularly the widening gap between the developed and developing nations, and the intensifying debt problem and the worsening of terms of international trade. The two sides will continue to promote the process of normalization of the international situation, arms reduction, and settlement of regional conflicts. The two sides reaffirm that neither the PRC nor the USSR will seek hegemony in the world, and they are opposed to hegemonism of whatever forms in international politics.

11. China and the Soviet Union attach great importance to deepening good-neighbourly relations, multi-faceted co-operation, and security and stability in the Asian-Pacific region, which is conducive to peace and development of all countries in the region and that of the world in general. In recent years, some positive changes have taken place in this region, meanwhile, elements of instability still exist, and hot spots and unsettled conflicts remain. The two sides believe that the political and economic issues affecting the common interests of the Asian-Pacific nations should be resolved through political dialogue and consultation on the basis of equality.

The PRC and the USSR are ready to make joint efforts for turning the Asian-Pacific region into a zone of openness, co-operation and prosperity.

12. The two sides express the hope for a comprehensive, just and reasonable solution to the Cambodian problem at an earliest possible date. They hold that the framework documents of the five permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations constitute a good foundation for achieving a comprehensive political settlement in Cambodia. Both sides support the efforts made by the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the UN Secretary-General, and call on all parties concerned in Cambodia to reach an agreement on a comprehensive solution on the basis of the above-mentioned documents in a

shortest possible period of time.

13. China and the Soviet Union hold that relaxation of the situation on the Korean Peninsula is of great importance for the security and stability in northeast Asia. Both sides welcome the positive changes that have recently taken place on the peninsula, reaffirm their support for the realization of a peaceful reunification of Korea through dialogue and consultations between the north and south. They express the hope that the north and south will continue their dialogue for further improvement of mutual relations, and call for both sides to refrain from taking any acts that might impede detente on the peninsula and a peaceful reunification of Korea.

14. The two sides keep a watch with deep concern over the developments in the Gulf and in the Middle East as a whole. They consider it necessary to overcome the consequences of the earlier conflict in the Gulf region as soon as possible. They maintain that the affairs in the Gulf should be resolved mainly by the countries and peoples in that region through negotiations.

The PRC and the USSR are anxious about the Middle East problems that remain unsolved. The international community, the United Nations in particular, should participate more actively in the establishment of peace and stability in the region, and take practical measures for the implementation of the UN resolutions on the Middle East problem so that a just and lasting solution could be achieved. As permanent members of the UN Security Council, China and the Soviet Union will continue their efforts for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, including the solution of the Palestine problem.

15. Both sides point out that if the Soviet Union and the United States could achieve results in their negotiations on the reduction of strategic offensive weapons and have their agreements realized, that would be of positive significance to the consolidation of world security and would lay a foundation for the adoption of measures eventually leading to the complete and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons. Both sides stand for concluding an accord on complete prohibition and thorough destruction of all chemical weapons as speedily as possible, for strengthening the enforcement of the treaty on prohibition of biological weapons, and for reaching agreements on keeping the outer space free from all kinds of weapons.

16. China and the Soviet Union advocate a strengthening of the role of the UN in creating a peaceful condition for the life of all peoples and in providing a guarantee for stability and security of all countries. As permanent members of the UN Security Council, the two countries are ready to improve, together with other countries, the work efficiency of this organization so as to enable it to play a more

active part in international affairs and in solving economic, social, population, ecological and other global problems.

17. The two sides stand for the establishment of a new and just international political and economic order which is conducive to the development of mankind, in the interests of world peace, and in accord with the common wishes of the peoples all over the world.

The new international order should be based on the universal principles governing state-to-state relations, namely, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful co-existence.

All countries have the right to choose their social system, ideology, economic model and path of development in light of their own characteristics. Differences in these respects should not be allowed to impede normal relations and co-operation between them. All countries, big or small, strong or weak, rich or poor, have equal rights in discussing and handling world affairs.

International disputes should be solved through peaceful negotiations. In state-to-state relations, no country should impose its will upon others, nor should it use or threaten to use force.

In order to seek joint development and common prosperity, all countries should advance economic ties, and build up just international economic relations. No political strings should be attached to the provision of assistance.

The formation of the new international order is a long and complicated process. Active participation by all members of the international community, respect for the United Nations Charter and observance of the recognized norms of international law are the requirements for the setup of the new international order.

China and the Soviet Union express readiness to make further efforts, together with all countries in the world, for the establishment of the new international order.

18. The Chinese and the Soviet leaders highly evaluate the results of the meeting. They express satisfaction with the fact that relations between China and the Soviet Union, between the Chinese and Soviet Communist Parties and the traditional friendship between the two peoples are entering upon a new chapter.

The two sides are of the same view that political contacts and dialogue between leaders of the two countries are important and useful, and they should continue in the days ahead.

Jiang Zemin is grateful for the warm reception accorded him by the Soviet side. He invited Mikhail S. Gorbachev to visit China at a convenient time.

Mikhail S. Gorbachev accepted the invitation with gratitude. ■

Tibet: Human Rights Today and Yesterday

In recent years, the Dalai Lama and his like have been talking a lot about human rights in Tibet. They describe old Tibet as a "Haven of Peace" while picturing the new socialist Tibet as a place without human rights. What are the facts? This article provides readers with a wealth of facts which prove that old Tibet was a barbarous and brutal feudal serf society where there were simply no human rights to speak of. In new Tibet, however, a million serfs became masters of their own affairs. The right of democracy and freedom they now enjoy is beyond compare in old Tibet.

In the past 40 years, the most fundamental changes in Tibet have been the continued improvement of the socialist system, transforming people of all nationalities in Tibet into masters," said Radi, one of the top leaders of the Tibet Autonomous

Region and chairman of the regional council of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Born into a poor family in north Tibet, he made his living

begging for food and as a servant 40 years ago. As a teenager he was called a "male

ghost." Without the peaceful liberation of Tibet in 1951 and the Democratic Reform in 1959, he would have always lived in the lowest stratum of Tibetan society as a serf. Based on the Tibetan life span at that time, he might not be alive today.

Ruthless Serfdom

Is the old Tibet a "Haven of Peace" as some people preach? No, absolutely not. It



Musical instruments used in Buddhist ceremonies were made from the skin of serfs' arms.

was a feudal serf society combining politics with religion, characterized by a combination of divine rights with political power, which ruthlessly ruled and oppressed the great majority of people.

Bude, a herdsman of Baqen County, northern Tibet, has his two eyes gouged out by an estate-owner.



Implements of torture used by the government of old Tibet on slaves and serfs.



ple both spiritually and political-ly. The local political power organs at various levels and the many monasteries had their own courts and prisons. They could freely interrogate serfs and slaves at will and even torture them to death.

At that time, there were two classes in Tibetan society. One, the serf-owning class which accounted for 5 percent of the Tibetan population and included three kinds of manorial lords—the local government, the monasteries and the nobles. They possessed thousands of manors and grazing land, and occupied all the land, forests and grass-land as well as most of the livestock in Tibet. The other class was made up of serfs and slaves who constituted 95 percent of the population. They were deprived of their freedom and were beaten, cursed, punished, sold, given away as gifts, and even imprisoned and sentenced to death by their owners at will. The serfs had no land and had to live on the crumbs of their owners. They

Beggars roamed Lhasa streets in 1956.



Photos by CHEN ZONGLIE

Serfs had no access to medical care in old Tibet. Here, a young serf is dying.

were forced to do back-breaking manual labour for the owners and bore dozens of taxes and performed multiple forms of corvee, or unpaid obligatory labour. According to a 1958 survey of a feudal manor, the 107 household serfs there had to render 19 forms of external corvee and 23 forms of corvee within the manor.

At that time, there was a common saying in Tibet, "No land had not a corvee and no serf had not an owner." Serfs were owned as soon as they were born, as were their children. Boys belonged to their father's owner while girls belonged to their mother's owner. Serf owners could freely sell and give away their serfs at will and serf marriage had to be approved by the couple's owners. Serfs' names were canceled by their

owners after their death.

The 13-Article Code

The local laws and regulations used by old Tibet for a long time were called the "13-Article Code." This code was full of inequality, a source of inhumanity and rigidly stratified.

The "13-Article Code" says that there were three ranks of people with each rank divided into upper, middle and lower grades. The upper, middle and lower people were designated according to their blood relationship and high and low positions as well as the kind of work he or she did. In Article Seven of the code it was stated that people were different by grades and that the price of a life was also different. The price of a life of a person from the upper ranks and grades was as high as a corpse, while that of the lower grades (such as blacksmith, butcher and beggar) was as cheap as a straw rope.

Article Eight of the code stated that there were differences in the degree of punishment to be meted out to people. Lower grade

people who hurt officials would be punished by the cutting off of their legs or hands while any owner who accidentally hurt servants would be responsible for treating the wound but would not be punished. Owners who beat and injure servants would not have to compensate them.

Precarious Existence

Old Tibetan punishment was extremely barbarous and ruthless. Transgressions by serfs would be punished by gouging out the eyes, cutting off a nose, or tongue, or ears, chopping off limbs, and execution.

At an "Exhibition on Historical Materials of China's Tibet" held at the Beijing Cultural Palace of Nationalities, different instruments of torture used by old Tibet serf-owners to punish serfs, and photos of punished serfs are on display. Among these instruments, there are knives used to gouge out eyes and to cut off noses, and a wooden cage used for torturing serfs, as well as an "oil pot." Having cut off a "criminal's" hands and legs, serf-owner would put the wound into a boiling oil pot in order to cauterize the wound and stop the bleeding. In one case, three people died at the pot. One photo shows that a poor lama beaten up to disabled and a herdsman who, on one occasion during the democratic reform, tells how his eyes were gouged out.

Such facts prove that the serf-owners of old Tibet relied on barbarous means to maintain their rule. It is incomprehensible that some people praise such a system which trampled on human rights by calling it a "Haven of Peace." What on earth is their standard of human rights based?

Moreover, the feudal serfdom had seriously hindered the development of the productive forces

to such an extent that Tibet's economy and culture stagnated and the Tibetan people lived in extreme poverty. The average life span was only 35.5 years and it took more than 100 years from the 18th century to 1951, when Tibet was peacefully liberated, for Tibet's population to grow from 940,000 to 1 million. The area's population was often decimated during this time by disease. Historical records indicate that an incidence of smallpox in 1925 took more than 7,000 lives and that typhoid fever in 1934 and 1937 killed another 5,000.

In the past, only a few Tibetans could afford schooling. In the early 1950s, Tibet's illiteracy rate was more than 90 percent. In Lhasa, which had a population of only 37,000, beggars numbered somewhere between 4,000 and 5,000 and in Xigaze, which had a population of fewer than 10,000, more than 2,000 people were beggars.

Slaves Stand Up

In the eight years following the peaceful liberation of Tibet in May 1951, the Central People's Government, steadfast to the Agreement of the Central People's Government and the Local Government of Tibet on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet (known as the 17-Article Agreement), left untouched Tibet's political system and the Dalai Lama's position and power, practised policies of religious freedom and protected monasteries and raised no claim to the income of monasteries. Regarding the problems arising in the course of democratic reform, the central government sought solutions by consulting with the upper strata in the light of the Tibetan people's aspiration rather than resorting to compulsion. In fact, after peaceful liberation, the three estate-holders—the

former government of Tibet, the monasteries and the noble—were still in control of almost all the land, grazing grounds and serfs.

In March 1959, the reactionary clique of Tibet's upper strata torn the 17-Article Agreement to pieces and launched, at the beck and call of outside forces, an armed rebellion aimed at maintaining feudal serfdom, driving the Chinese People's Liberation Army out of Tibet and splitting Tibet out of the big family of the motherland. By the order of the central government, the People's Liberation Army quelled the rebellion and maintained the unity of the motherland.

Beginning in the summer of 1959, the Tibetan people initiated democratic reform in collaboration with the quelling of the rebellion. Slaves and serfs who had long been seen as "speaking beasts of burden" became, for the first time in Tibetan history, freemen, masters of this part of the world and of their pastureland and Tibetan society, enjoying all the rights invested to them by the Constitution.

Democratic Rights

When democratic elections were introduced to the whole of Tibet in 1961, many former slaves and serfs were elected deputies to the people's congresses at various levels. In the political organs at various levels, they exercised the power invested to them by the people to participate in the administration of government and construction.

Minority deputies, notably of Tibetan origin, account for more than 95 percent of the total at the county level and more than 82 percent of the total at the level of the autonomous region. Of all the chairmen of the people's congresses of Tibet's 72 counties (including cities and prefectures), an overwhelming majority are

former slaves and serfs.

Across Tibet, cadres of Tibetan extraction number 37,000, representing 66.6 percent of the total and 71.7 percent of all cadres at the level of the autonomous region. All the leading posts of the people's congresses, governments, and political consultative conferences at various levels are held by Tibetan cadres.

The political and social status of Tibetan women has changed since the democratic reform. The 13-Article Code of old Tibet makes it clear that "no women have the right to discuss state affairs," and that "no slaves or women are allowed to be in on military and political affairs." Nowadays, women cadres make up 30 percent of the total and women of Tibetan and other ethnic groups represent 69.7 percent of the total number of women cadres in the Tibet Autonomous Region.

Cering Lhamo, now retired from her post of vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the People's Congress of the Tibet Autonomous Region, said, "My parents gave birth to me but they had no right to determine my fate. I was left with no other choice but to live like a slave as they did. The peaceful liberation and democratic reform gave me a new lease of life and allowed me to become a high-ranking cadre."

Population Growth

While obtaining democratic rights, the Tibetan people have also seen a rapidly growing economy and a remarkably improved standard of living. In 1990, Tibet produced a total 555 million kg of grain, more than triple its 1952 output and bred a total of 23 million head of livestock, up 150 percent from 1952. As each person has more than 250 kg of

food grain and 42.5 kg of meat, most Tibetans have enough food and clothing and some lead a relatively comfortable life.

The Tibetan people also have the right to an education. Across Tibet, there are 2,485 schools of various kinds, with the total enrollment of more than 175,000 students. The attendance rate of school-age children has risen from less than 2 percent before liberation to 54.5 percent today. In addition, more than 7,000 Tibetan students are studying in 18 provinces and cities across the country.

The Tibetan people's health has also much improved and free medical care is available to everyone. Over the past 40 years, the central government earmarked a total of more than 700 million yuan to develop Tibet's medical undertakings. Throughout Tibet, there are more than 1,000 medical institutions with hospital beds totalling 5,140.

The average Tibetan life span has increased from 35.5 to more than 65 years. The immunization rate of Tibetan children is 85 percent of state standards. Within Tibet, the population of Tibetan origin has grown from 1 million in 1951 when Tibet was peacefully liberated to more than 2.09 million, according to the July 1990 national census. In 40 years, Tibet's population has more than doubled, an unprecedented increase in Tibetan history.

The central government implements a policy of religious freedom for Tibet. After the peaceful liberation in 1951, the People's Liberation Army and work personnel entering Tibet remained steadfast to the central government's religion policy and thus won support from the Tibetan people.

Religious Freedom

After the armed rebellion was

quelled and democratic reform initiated in 1959, the central government adopted a buy-out policy for the land, livestock, farm tools and surplus houses of monasteries that did not take part in the rebellion. As it eliminated the feudal serf system, the central government also rooted out the system of feudal privilege and oppression in religion, thus guaranteeing such basic human rights as personal and religious freedom for the overwhelming majority of the Tibetan people, poverty-stricken lamas included.

During the "cultural revolution" from 1966 to 1976, the religious policy for Tibet was misused as it was in other parts of the country. After the ten chaotic years, however, the Chinese Communist Party and government redressed these wrongs and once again put the policy of religious freedom into practice. The state and the Tibet Autonomous Region have set aside more than 30 million yuan for the renovation of monasteries.

Across Tibet, more than 1,400 monasteries and places are open to religious services. Lamas residing in monasteries number 34,000. Religious activities are brisk, incense burning and butter lamps shining day and night in every monastery as streams of believers spin prayer wheels and prostrate themselves around monasteries. Most Tibetan families have Buddhist shrines at home and religious streamers are seen everywhere. Incomplete statistics indicate that every year more than 90,000 Tibetan pilgrims come to Lhasa's Jokhang Monastery from across Tibet, Qinghai, Gansu and Sichuan. For these former slaves and serfs, once stripped of their personal freedom before the democratic reform, the pilgrimage to Lhasa is a dream come true. ■

The Autonomous Rights of Tibet

by Luo Qun

The Tibet Autonomous Region enjoys, as stipulated by Chinese law, a wide range of regional autonomous rights in the political, economic and cultural fields and in social development. The following is a summation of the eight major rights enjoyed by the Tibetan people.

—**State-bestowed local legislative power.** According to the Chinese law, the People's Congress of the Tibet Autonomous Region has the right to formulate, in line with local political, economic and cultural conditions, regulations on regional autonomy and a variety of special rules and regulations. This local legislation is an indication of basic autonomy and highlights the difference of an autonomous region from an ordinary administrative locality. As of now, Tibet has enacted 60 special sets of rules and regulations, local laws and legal resolutions. They involve such areas as the structure of political power, social and economic development, marriage, education, written language, the legal system, natural resources and environmental protection. The promulgation of these rules and regulations provides an important legal guarantee to the Tibetan people for the fulfilment of various democratic rights and in the development of the society's economic and cultural undertakings.

—**The right to implement state laws and policies and to formulate and implement special policies and measures in light of local conditions.** Special policies implemented in Tibet include the following. In agriculture and an-

imal husbandry, the policy is to distribute land among the farmers for household management and let people who raise livestock own it, a policy which will remain unchanged for a long period of time. Moreover, within a given period of time, farmers and herdsmen enjoy tax exemption and are free to sell their products. Regarding industry and commerce, the policy is to support the national handicraft industry and also to encourage the development of collective and individual industry and commerce. In education, the policy state pays for the tuition, room and board for children of farmers and herdsmen. Regarding birth control, cadres, workers and staff members are encouraged to give birth to only two children, but no limit is set for the broad masses of farmers and herdsmen in the number of children they may raise. The implementation of these special policies plays an important role in the sustained, stable and coordinated development of Tibet's economy and culture.

—**The right of the Tibetan people to use and develop their own written language.** According to the state stipulation that "various nationalities have the freedom to use and develop their own written languages," the Tibet Autonomous Regional People's Congress adopted in 1987 the Regulations on the Study, Use and Development of the Written Tibetan Language (for trial implementation). At the same time, it set forth the principle of attaching equal importance to both written Chinese and Tibetan languages, with the em-

phasis laid mainly on the latter, and established a committee in charge of the use and development of the written Tibetan language. The people's government of the Tibet Autonomous Region promulgated in October 1988 rules for the implementation of these regulations. These rules clearly stipulate that all conferences of the autonomous region-



CHEN ZONGLIE

Lhasa farmers elect deputies to the local people's congress.

al government and official documents should use Tibetan and Chinese languages; all newspapers, radio, TV and other mass media should use the two languages; all units, streets, roads and public facilities should be marked in both Tibetan and Chinese languages; the judicial organs, while examining and trying cases, must guarantee that Tibetan citizens have the right to legal proceedings in their own language; and that schools should gradually establish an educational system centred around Tibetan language education. This ensures that the Tibetan language will be respected and extensively used and that the political and cultural rights of

the Tibetan people will be supported.

—The right for minority nationality cadres, mainly those of Tibetan nationality, to play the leading role in autonomous institutions and judicial organs at various levels. The growing ranks of the minority nationality cadres constitute an important milestone in the national autonomy and in the fact that minority people are masters of their own fate. Since the peaceful liberation of Tibet, the central government has attached great importance to the training and appointment of cadres of Tibetan and other minority nationalities. A large number of ex-serfs and their children have taken up leading posts at various levels in Tibet, including chief leaders of the people's congresses, governments, courts and procuratorates at various levels.

—The right to make independent arrangements for local economic construction. The national regional autonomy is not only a system guaranteeing equality for minority nationalities but also a system which is geared to promote the development and prosperity of the minority areas in the economy and culture. Since its founding, the Tibet Autonomous



WANG DO

A professor (second right) and his students at the Tibet Institute of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The institute has trained many professionals for local economic development.

Region has made much headway in economic construction. In 1990, the total output value of agriculture and animal husbandry rose to 789 million yuan from 180 million yuan in 1952, and the per-capita income of farmers and herdsmen reached 430 yuan. Modern industry, started from scratch, now boasts some 260 small and medium-sized enterprises in such fields as electric power, textile, timber, construction, food processing and mining. There has also been an impressive development of the national handicraft industry. By the end of this century,

the total output value of industry and agriculture in Tibet will have reached 1.67 billion yuan from 1.24 billion yuan in 1990, and the per-capita income of farmers and herdsmen will have risen from 430 yuan to 800 yuan, marking a new stage in Tibet's economic development.

—The right to exercise independent management over education, culture, public health and to develop the Tibetan culture. Tibet has initially built up a multi-tiered national educational system and, thanks to the efforts made in this regard, the proportion of illiterates and semiliterates in the Tibetan population has dropped from more than 90 percent in the pre-liberation years to 44.43 percent at present. There has also been much progress in public health undertakings. Various fatal diseases threatening the lives of the Tibetan people in old Tibet have been brought under effective control. As a result, the average lifespan of the Tibetan people has risen from 35.5 years of age in the early 1950s to 65 years today. As a move to inherit and carry forward the fine tradition of the Tibetan culture, Tibet has published the Regulations on the Study, Use and Development of the Written Tibetan Language

CHEN ZONGLIE

Lama students discuss Buddhist sutras at the campus of the Tibet Buddhism College.





CHEN ZONGLIE

Gyangze Town Ethnic Garment Factory workers make hats.

(for trial implementation) and the Provisional Regulations Concerning the Management Over Cultural Relics. Remarkable progress has also been made in Tibetan studies and compiling and preserving the traditional cultural heritage. A lot of attention is paid to traditional Tibetan medicine, and a large number of historical documents, ancient books and classic literary and artistic works have been published. The numerous Tibetan Buddhist temples and monasteries along with the cultural relics and historical sites, have been renovated. The religious belief and customs and habits of the Tibetan people thus receive their deserved respect and protection.

—**The right to independently protect, exploit and use local natural resources in accordance with the state law.** Tibet has abundant resources, with forest coverage of more than 6 million hectares. Thus far, some 70 kinds of mineral ores have been discovered in the autonomous region which also boasts enormous potential for the exploitation of water resources. In economic construction, the Tibet Autonomous Region pays much attention to the protection of resources. In addition to the publication of such regulations as the Regulations Concerning Forest

Protection, the Regulations Concerning the Protection of Mineral Resources and the Regulations Concerning the Protection of Wildlife, Tibet set up the Autonomous Regional Committee for Environmental Protection. Various government departments have adopted corresponding measures to ensure the effective protection and rational utilization of Tibet's resources. Tibet has also set up the Mt. Qomolangma Nature Preserve, Wildlife Protection Area and five other nature preserves, covering a total of 5,000 square km. These ensure the effective protection of forests, vegetation and wildlife.

—**The right to engage in foreign trade.** The Law on National Regional Autonomy stipulates that localities practicing autonomy may, in accordance with the state stipulations, carry out foreign trade activities. With the approval of the State Council, they may open foreign trade ports." At the Second Session of the Fourth People's Congress of the Tibet Autonomous Region in July 1985, Tibetan government leaders issued a series of preferential policies on Tibet's foreign trade activities. In the last six years, together with experts from a number of foreign countries and international organizations, Tibetan experts surveyed geothermal energy resources on

the Tibetan Plateau, the development and use of water and other resources, and the potential for processing livestock by-products. Tibet has accepted aid from the United Nations' World Food Programme for the Lhasa River development project. At the same time, Tibet opened the Zham Port abutting Nepal for the development of border trade. In order to promote the development of Tibet's foreign trade activities, the central government adopted special policies which specify lower rates than are used nationally for import and export duties, and allow the autonomous region to retain all of its export earnings.

The above autonomous rights form the core of Tibet's national regional autonomy and their implementation is an important embodiment of the Tibetan people's exercise of management power over state and local affairs. They ensure that the Tibetan people enjoy full equality. ■

CHEN ZONGLIE

Farmers from Chaqi Township perform a drum dance on the threshing ground.



Ancient Civilization Brought to Light

By Our Staff Reporter Li Ming

When the tomb of the king of the Guo State of 2,000 years ago was discovered in Henan Province, an iron sword with a bronze handle unearthed at the site put the history of Chinese iron metallurgy one century earlier than had been originally believed.

In the late winter of 1989, several farmers from the Shangling Village on the outskirts of Sanmenxia City, Henan Province accidentally discovered a large number of old bronze objects while laying a foundation for a new house only several hundred metres away from the Huanghe (Yellow) River. The farmers did not know that they had discovered the location of the tombs of the royal family of the Guo State king's tombs of the Western Zhou Dynasty, a site for which the Chinese archaeologists had searched in vain over several decades. The discovery immediately caused a big sensation in Chinese archaeological circles.

Starting in February 1990, archaeologists from the Archaeological Research Institute of Henan Province and an archaeological team from Sanmenxia began to make several joint excavations of the tombs. Four tombs and a cave of chariots and horses have since been found and 4,800 pieces of cultural relics unearthed. When the cultural relics recovered by the public se-



The excavation site of Tomb M2001.

MA HEFU

curity bureau are included in the tally, the number of cultural relics unearthed totals more than 5,700 pieces. This has provided important materials for the study of the political, economic, cultural and military conditions of the late period of the Western Zhou Dynasty (8th century-771 BC) and of the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476BC).

The Guo State

The Western Zhou Dynasty has been considered the beginning of China's feudal system, a system in which the king distributed land to members of the royal family and military com-

manders who ruled areas granted them by the monarch. The Guo State, however, was a vassal state of the early Western Zhou Dynasty. In its early days, the state was separately ruled under three branches of the family by Guo Zhong, Guo Shu and Guo Ji. Guo Zhong ruled in the western part of the state, roughly the area today encompassed by Baoji City, Shaanxi Province, and historically referred to as Western Guo; Guo Shu wielded his power over an area identified today as Yingyang, historically named Eastern Guo; and Guo Ji built his capital somewhere near the city of Sanmenxia.

According to historical records, the state of Eastern Guo was conquered and annexed by the Zheng State in 767 BC. Guo Zhong followed King Ping Wang of the Zhou Dynasty to the east in 770 BC and joined Guo Ji to form a new state, historically called the Northern Guo State. It made Shangyang (today's Sanmenxia) its capital. Its territory extended across the Yellow River to today's Pinglu County in Shanxi Province in the west and reached Mianchi, Henan Province in the east, roughly the size of the city of Sanmenxia. The Guo State, adjacent to the two powerful states of Jin and Chin, was annexed by the Jin 120 years later.

The king's tomb is located 4.5 kilometres away from Shangyang (today's Shangling Village), its capital. In 1956 and 1957, Chinese archaeologists led by Xia Nai and An Zhimin made a large-scale excavation and investigation of the tomb. The tomb of a Guo prince and 233 other tombs were excavated, together with three pits of chariots and horses and one pit of horses. Some 9,179 pieces of cultural relics, including bronze ritual objects, weapons, musical instruments, chariots and horse fittings, jade ware, pottery, tools and decorative objects, were discovered. Fourteen of the 181 items of bronzeware bear inscriptions which caused a sensation in the academic world both in China and abroad. Based on this discovery, archaeologists believed that the king's tomb was somewhere nearby. However, for many years thereafter, scientists failed to discover the site until the farmers stumbled upon it.

Tomb M2001

The M2001 tomb site has yielded the most important relics. The 3,200 pieces of relics can be roughly sorted into nine categories—



The iron sword with a bronze handle.

XU XINAGJUN

ries—bronze, iron, jade, stone, pottery, bamboo, wood, leather and gunny cloth.

Among the relics unearthed, there are 1,700 bronzewares including 56 bronze ritual vessels such as ding (three-legged tripod or four-legged caldron for meat and cereals), gui (a deep circular vessel with two or four handles, used as grain containers), li (a cauldron for meat and cereals), a pan and rectangular-shaped pot, 30 of which bear inscriptions. After a careful examination, archaeologists discovered that the bronze ritual objects unearthed in the M2001 tomb were similar in form to those unearthed at Qijia Village of Shaanxi Province and identical with the ritual objects unearthed from Guo State tombs during the first excavation of the late 1950s. This is testimony to the fact that it was a tomb of the late Western Zhou Dynasty, the same period of the Guo State. The two characters Guo Ji inscribed on the bronze ritual objects further proved that the dead was a Guo State man.

The set of ritual objects in the M2001 tomb consists of nine dings, eight guis and eight lis. According to the rule of ritual objects at ancient times, a king could have nine dings, a duke, seven, a noble, five and an ordinary official, three. The nine dings in the tomb is, therefore, solid proof that it is a king's tomb, most likely the tomb of the

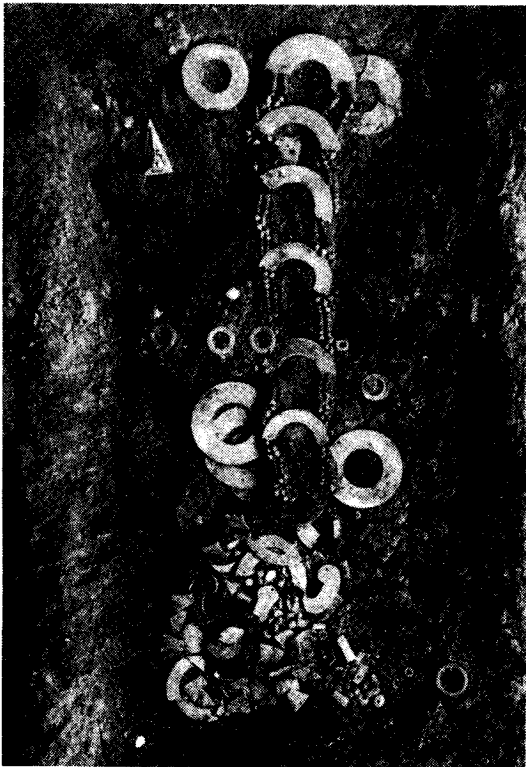
king of the Guo State. In addition, to the east of the tomb there is a large pit containing a chariot and horse 46 metres long and 5.2 metres wide, an indication of the high social rank of the dead when he was alive.

Among the cultural relics unearthed from the M2001 tomb, the most valuable and historically significant was the iron sword with a bronze handle. The sword is 26 centimetres long and wrapped with silk fabric around a sheath made of cattlehide. The handle of the sword is inlaid with jade and precious stones clearly the sword owner treasured the sword and the metal of iron. The blade and the handle were forged together but separated after the many years of burial underground. An examination by the Metallurgy History Research Institute of the Beijing University of Science and Technology shows that apart from iron, the sword also contains a small amount of lead, silicon, sulphur and copper, but no cobalt or nickel. This proves that the sword was made of artificial, not meteoric iron, indicating that iron metallurgy appeared as far back as the late Western Zhou Dynasty, timing the history of China's iron metallurgy in China one century back.

A large amount of jade ware was found on the cover of both the outer and inner coffin. Five groups of jade decorations of various designs were placed ar-

ound the head of the deceased. The dead man's face was covered with a mask made of jade pieces in the shape of nose, ears and mouth. After preliminary restoration of the jade pieces, experts confirmed that these pieces were originally sewn together with threads, and that this was the beginning of the custom of covering the dead man's face with a jade mask, a custom which became popular during the Spring and Autumn and the Warring States Period. The pendant of seven jade pieces and intermitted by agate and azure stone beads is so long that it hangs from the neck to the knee. This valuable pendant and decorations are examples of the celebrated social position of the deceased in his lifetime. Jade ware was also placed in many parts of the deceased's body as decoration. This, experts say, is similar to the use of jade suits commonly seen

The jade pendant.



in the tombs of the Eastern Zhou (770-256 BC) and Han (206-220) dynasties.

The badge made of 12 separate pieces of pure gold is a rarity among archaeological findings of the Zhou Dynasty. Also unearthed from the tomb were a number of jade carvings including a jade deer and a jade cow head. The high workmanship of the artifacts shows that handicraft was highly developed by the time of late Western Zhou Dynasty.

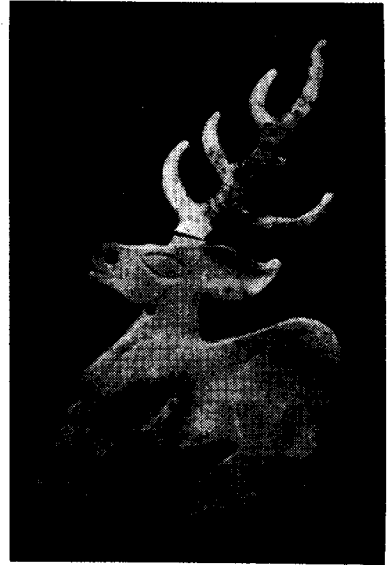
The musical instruments unearthed from the tomb are also quite rare. The inscribed bronze yong zhong (a bell with cylindrical handle on top) is the only complete set of yong zhong so far unearthed from tombs of the late Western Zhou Dynasty. A ten-piece stone bian xin (a kind of musical instrument) and a bronze zhong were also unearthed from the tomb.

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Experts are now continuing to research and study their findings, hoping to get more materials relating to the history of the Guo State.

Protection

The excavation of the tombs was a bit of a rescue job because some of the tombs had been looted and some of the stolen relics smuggled overseas for sale. After the Public Security Bureau of the Sanmenxia City organized a task force to track down on the criminals, the principal criminals were arrested and the stolen relics, except for those smuggled abroad, were recovered.



The jade deer.

MA HEFU

The incident indicted that some people were ignorant of the law and that cultural relics protection needed to be strengthened. Experts suggested replenishing laws for cultural relics protection.

The related departments of the Sanmenxia municipal government have attached great importance to the tomb area and the protection of the unearthed cultural relics, ordering a temporary halt to housing construction and putting a 580,000 square metre area of the Shangling Village under close supervision for later excavation.

At present, most of the important cultural relics are on display in the Sanmenxia Museum built with donations from Japanese friends. However, experts have different ideas about how to best protect the relics. To date, no satisfactory plan has put forward. The state is thus continuing to research the matter.

The city of Sanmenxia is located on the middle reaches of the Yellow River, the cradle of the Chinese civilization. The Guo State tomb area is listed as part of a travel programme called the "Yellow River Tour."

Biographies Mirror the History of Tibet

The Biographies of the Dalai Lamas

Authored by Ya Hanzhang

Published by Foreign Languages Press

First Edition 1991, 442 pages

Distributed by China International Book Trading Corp.

To introduce the Buddhist religion, politics, economy, history and culture of Tibet in an easy and clear language, has been a hard task for some time. A recent work entitled *The Biographies of the Dalai Lamas*, however, provides an interesting and reliable portrayal of the political history of Tibet over the past 600 years and, in particular, during the last 100 years.

The book points out that the Dalai Lamas, as the symbol of political and religious life in Tibet, have played a central role in Tibet's history and been, intentionally or not, involved in its most significant developments. The author has thus grasped the key point. Taking a popular biographical form, he vividly describes the life and political activity of the Dalai Lamas, from Gedun Truppa, the 1st Dalai Lama, to Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama.

Ya Hanzhang (1916-1990), the author of the book, was an established expert on nationality and Tibetan studies in China. In his early years as a teenager, he spent years studying the Tibetan language and Buddhist scriptures at the famed Labrang Monastery, the centre of the Gelug Sect with its tradition of strict training in classical studies. Afterwards, he continued his study in Tibetan language and history at the Drepung, the biggest Tibetan Buddhist monastery in the area, under the tutorship of the Grand Living Buddha Jamyang. In 1952, he accompanied the 10th Bainqen to return to Tibet from Qinghai Province and worked there for years. During this time, he read extensively the Chinese and Tibetan historical records collected in the Potala Palace and in the Sagya Monastery and undertook to research Tibetan history and society, laying a solid foundation for his life-time study of Chinese nationality affairs, religion and Tibet. He was the former director of the Institute of Nationalities Studies and of the Institute of Religion under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

The author completed his drafting of the book in 1952-53 when he worked in Tibet. His primary purpose was to help understand the just peacefully-liberated Tibet and to record the role played by Tibetan Buddhism and political leaders in Tibetan society. Before the Chinese version of the book was formally published in 1984, it had undergone extensive rewriting. The current English edition, with the masterful rendering of professor Wang Wenjong at the Beijing No. 2 Institute of Foreign Languages, is

now off the press. The publication will enhance the foreign readers' understanding of Tibet and of the Chinese government's Tibetan policy.

The 260,000 Chinese-character book is divided into three parts. The first part introduces the life and political activity of the 1st to 12th Dalai Lamas; the second part describes Tupten Gyatso, the 13th Dalai Lama, offering a full perspective of him from birth to death. During the period of his reign (1846-1933), Tibet witnessed a turbulent historical development and, due to the particular significance of his political activity, this section claims nearly two-thirds of the book. The third part describes Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, beginning with the search for the "soul boy" of the 13th Dalai Lama and concluding with his enthronement. The "soul boy" was first chosen from three candidates and then confirmed by the government of the Republic of China. The ceremony of sitting in the bed was held at the Potala Palace on February 22, 1940, presided over by Wu Zhongxin, chairman of the Commission for Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs, and supported financially with an allotment of 400,000 yuan from the Ministry of Finance.

In the eyes of the Tibetan Buddhist priests, the Dalai Lama is the reincarnate of the Bodhisattva. The book therefore introduces the reincarnate system of the Dalai Lama. Credit is given to the Karma-ka-gyu-pa, a sub-sect of the Ka-gyu-pa Sect. In 1284 Karma Pakshi, the leader of the sub-sect, was reincarnated in the person of Rangyung Dorje. In 1478, Gelong Droma, a relative of the First Dalai Lama Gedun Truppa, and Khenpo Gongchen Chonjo of Tashilhunpo's Samtan Dratshang (Institute for Monastic Study) decided the three year old Gedun Gyatso was the "soul boy" of Gedun Truppa. This marked the formal beginning of the system of reincarnate lamas.

The title Dalai Lama was adopted in 1578. In May of that year, Sonam Gyatso, the 3rd Dalai Lama, held a meeting with Altan Khan, the leader of the Tumed Mongols at the Yanghua Temple. The meeting was followed by an exchange of honorific titles between the two men; the one Sonam Gyatso received from Altan Khan was "All-Knowing Vajra-Holder, the Dalai Lama," the title thereafter used for all Dalai Lamas.

Upon the death of a Dalai Lama, his reincarnated "soul boy" was searched for in accordance with Nechung Chosgyong, a professional divine invoker of oracles and with the reflections of the Lhamo Latsho at Chokhorgyal, the site where visions are said to show the village where the Dalai Lama is reborn. The descriptions of this mysterious practice is of great importance to any reader interested in Tibet.

by Lian Xiangmin

1992: Beijing's Golden Tourist Year

According to a report released by the Beijing Municipal Tourism Administration, several grand-scale activities will be arranged during 1992, Beijing's Golden Tourist Year.

The aim of the Golden Tourist Year plan is to create a golden period for tourists visiting Beijing. During the year, the best preferential costs and treatment for visitors to Beijing will be offered and a host of enjoyable activities provided, the scale and momentum of activities will greatly exceed the level of Beijing's International Tourist Year (of the dragon) in 1988.

The basic package for the Golden Tourist Year is the tour route which offers first-class service and preferential tourist prices.

Besides continuing to organize tourist activities in the capital, Beijing will particularly emphasize special regional tours along such routes as Beijing to Wutai Mountains, Beijing—Inner Mongolia, Beijing—Chengde and Beijing—Taishan Mountain as well as the Qufu area. Many special tour activities will be promoted, such as:

Sino-Japanese Holiday-Study Activities for Students. Several middle schools will be chosen by China and Japan for correspondence and friendship activities between students of the two countries. Then there will be organized tours of China for Japanese primary and middle school students. In addition to scenic tours, arrangements will be made for visitors to study and live with Chinese students—they will be able to join host families for supper, entertainment and rest. In this way, Japanese students can

experience the daily life of Chinese students.

Bicycle Tours. Towels, soft drinks, bicycle repair tools and tourist guides will be offered. In main hotels and restaurants there are service stations at which foreigners can rent bicycles so that they can appreciate Beijing's landscape on two wheels.

"Shopping Spree" Tour. Some famous, good-quality Chinese products as well as famous foreign luxury products will be available at the Tourist Shopping Centre in Beijing at preferential prices. A sales exhibition of antiques and folk articles will be jointly sponsored by some museums and archaeology departments to meet the needs of cultural relic collectors.

International Convention Tours. Taking advantage of Beijing's international convention, the city will organize various tourist activities and will set up a conference consulting service centre to expedite contacts between domestic and international conference organizations.

During the Golden Tourist Year, the traditional tourist activities, such as the Temple Fair, Ice-Lantern Festival in Longqingxia, Kite Festival, Peach-Blossom Festival, Watermelon Festival and the Double Ninth Festival, will begin with the Sino-Japanese Folk Activity in September 1992. An exchange of performances between Japanese and Chinese folk activities, co-sponsored by China and Nagasaki County, Aomori and Kita-Kyushu cities of Japan, will be held. The Beijing International Beer Festival, which will last a week, will highlight the famous brand breweries of China and Japan along with famous beer from

around the world. As such activities as beer tasting, beer-drinking competition and art performances take place, tourists from home and abroad will enjoy this enchanting festival. A special "Passport to Tour Beijing" is another Golden Tourist Year item. On the first page of the elegantly printed "Passport to Tour Beijing," there is a welcoming speech signed by the mayor of Beijing, as well as a list of scenic spots, tour routes and general tour information. Scenic areas seals will be made and taken as a memento. These "passports" will be available at the airports, railway stations, hotels, restaurants and some big stores.

Catering to the varied requirements of overseas tourists, the large Karaoke hall at Liangmahe Mansion as well as other cultural centres will be open in 1992 as will such new tourist items as sightseeing of Beijing's pagodas and the Miyun hunting range. In Beijing's major tourist hotels, a Food Week highlights various Asian cuisine and national festivals will be organized. Services for foreign visitors will be offered in Japanese, Korean, English and Chinese languages to make them feel more at home. Beijing is also planning to build an evening gourmet food street which will highlight the activities in various hotels and restaurants of the city. Tourists will be able to come here to taste Beijing's local dishes and buy many national handicraft articles.

During the Golden Tourist Year, Beijing will provide first-class services and promote the quality guided tours. The city will also make many improvements in the main tourist districts.

by Li Rongxia

Comments on Energy Policy

JINGJI RIBAO
(Economic Daily)

In order to effectively regulate the exploitation of Chinese energy in the next ten years, Zhou Fengqi, a research fellow and the president of the Research Institute of Energy under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, proposed the following:

First, optimize the energy structure. Coal accounts for more than 70 percent of Chinese energy consumption. If no effective measures can be taken in energy consumption, China is highly likely to depend more on coal but this will cause such problems as pollution. Measures which may be taken to optimize the energy structure include: developing hydropower and nuclear power, increasing the output of oil and natural gas, and expanding production of energy substitutes.

China is the richest country in the world in terms of hydropower resources. The output of electricity generated by hydroelectric power stations could be doubled if more investment can be made in this fields and the price of electricity increased. The second important measure is to exploit and develop oil and natural gas, especially natural gas. At present, only 2.8 percent of the total oil and gas reserves have been verified. Nuclear power would not account for a great proportion of energy consumed in the next ten years, but efforts should be made to make preparations for its popularized use in the next century.

Second, save energy. Energy development and energy conservation should become the basic energy policy of China. Since the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90), energy conservation has been somewhat overlooked, which leads to the widening of difference in the unit cost of energy products between China and the world's

advanced level. Efforts should therefore be made to save energy and increase the use of electric power.

Third, reform prices. Low energy prices are unfavourable for increasing energy production and developing new energies. China needs to fix the prices for coal and power in accordance with the international market prices.

(January 25, 1991)

Feeling the 'Pulse' of Guangzhou Citizens

JINGJI RIBAO
(Economic Daily)

An investigation into the social psychology and morale of 500 households was made by the Guangzhou Social Morale and Popular Will Research Center. The survey included several dozen questions about daily life, to which respondents indicated either "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory." The results were as follows—68.8 percent were satisfied with Guangzhou's market supplies, 68.6 percent with Guangzhou's position in China, and 52.6 percent with overall economic development in Guangzhou. The figures had increased respectively by 6.8 percent, 6 percent and 3.9 percent over a survey taken six months before.

The section on "human relations" also indicated satisfaction, the items including relationships with family members, friends, relatives, colleagues, and neighbours. The degree of satisfaction increased by various amounts compared to the survey results of six months ago, with the exception of marital relations which decreased a little.

The majority of "unsatisfactory" and "less unsatisfactory" responses pertained to items regarding the management of the floating population, public security, disparity in income, urban traffic, and the quality of consumer goods. These problems worried

people, and the proportion of satisfaction was quite low, such as 4.1 percent for the management of the floating population, 4.2 percent for public security, 7.3 percent for disparity in income, 9 percent for urban traffic and 10.2 percent for the quality of consumer goods.

(March 5, 1991)

Shanghai's Founding Date Established

KEXUE HUABAO
(Science Pictorial)

The exact date of Shanghai city's founding has finally been established through research by Zhou Zhenhe, associate professor with Fudan University in Shanghai. He set it on August 19, 1291 when the government of Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368) approved the establishment of a county in Shanghai. Zhao's finding received confirmation by many other scholars and experts including Prof. Tan Qixiang.

In a joint article in *Science Pictorial*, issue No. 1 of this year, Tan and Zhou explained four turning points for the development of Shanghai.

The first turning point took place in 751 when the government of Tang Dynasty set up Huating County in Shanghai's Songjiang area.

In 1277, Huating County was promoted to be a prefecture and was named the Prefecture of Songjiang the next year. On August 19, 1291, a county was set up in Shanghai. That was the second turning point.

The third turning point was in 1927 when Shanghai became a special city. Under the city was the Shanghai County.

In 1958, Shanghai incorporated ten counties originally under the jurisdiction of Jiangsu Province. This marked the fourth turning point.

(No.1, 1991)

Measures to Halt Tax Evasion

China's new legislation to halt tax evasion will be embodied in the Income Tax Law for Enterprises With Foreign Investment and Foreign Enterprises which will go into effect as of July 1. The new tax law stipulates that tax authorities have the right to mete out punishment to those which do not collect or pay fees according to the actual volume of business in an attempt to reduce their tax payment.

In recent years, tax evasion by foreign businessmen in south China's open coastal cities has become increasingly serious. Statistics show that, in 1989, about 34 percent of the foreign-funded enterprises declared losses. In 1990, the situation remained unchanged even though relevant tax authorities took some measures to deal with the problem and some cities formulated local laws and regulations against tax evasion.

Investigations by the State Administration of Taxation indicate that foreign businessmen in China evaded taxes mainly by shifting their profits, a tactic usually conducted between related companies or affiliated enterprises.

Jin Xin, director of the State Administration of Taxation, said at a news conference held in late April that China's work against tax evasion was serious yet cautious. "We encourage foreign businessmen in China to engage in operations through proper channels, and their legitimate rights and interests are guaranteed," said Jin Xin. "At the same time, we must prevent and curb activities which violate China's laws and take necessary measures to close tax loopholes."

Jin stressed that China's measures against tax evasion did not mean a change in its effort to

improve investment environment. It is aimed to maintain the principle of fair taxation and guarantee the legal rights of legitimate businesses.

It is common international practice to prevent profit shifting and tax evasion between related companies. In the agreement signed between China and more than 30 countries on avoiding double tax collection, the regulation to prevent profit shifting and tax evasion between affiliated enterprises was also stipulated.

by Han Guojian

Shanghai Company Seeks Expansion

As one of four colour picture tube producers in China, the Shanghai Novel Colour Kinescope Co. Ltd., one of China's four colour picture tube bases, is drawing up plans for its second-stage project after the first-stage project went into operation. The plan is to be submitted to the State Council for approval.

Zhou Jiachun, general manager of the company, noted that with a total investment of 400

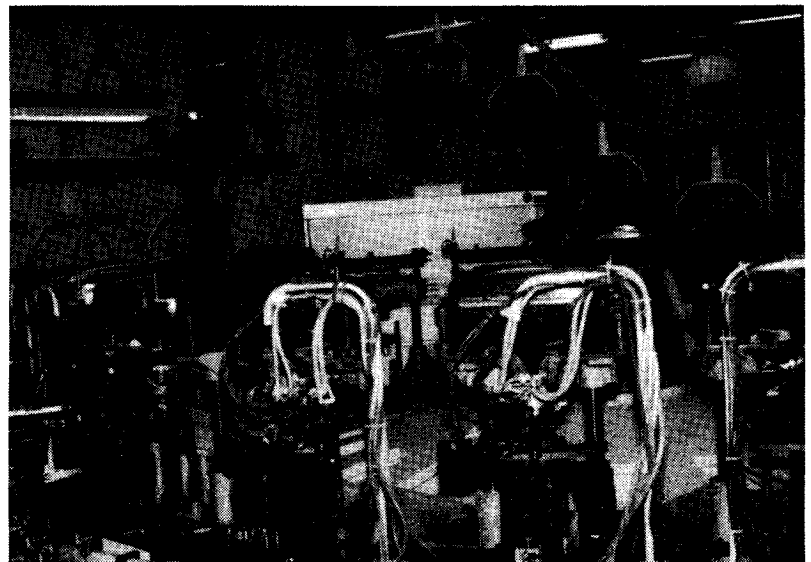
million yuan the second-stage project will establish a production line with an annual capacity of 600,000-700,000-picture tube for 25-inch square-cornered colour TV sets. This will help improve the mix of the company's products.

Funded jointly by the Shanghai Vacuum Electronic Device Co. Ltd. and the Hong Kong Novel Technology Development Ltd., the Shanghai Novel CPT Co. Ltd. is an enterprise designated by the state to specialize in the production of colour picture tubes. Its first-stage project involves a total investment of 515 million yuan and has 180 million yuan in registered capital with 75 percent of the shares contributed by Shanghai and the remainder by Hong Kong.

By importing complete sets of Japan's Toshiba equipment and technology for producing colour picture tubes, the company opened for business on December 28, 1987. It began a trial production in 1990 and produced 630,000 picture tubes for 18-inch colour TV sets the same year. After it goes into formal operation sometime this year, it is expected to produce about 1 mil-

The Novel colour picture tube production line.

LI MING



lion colour picture tubes annually.

by Li Ming

Foreign-Funded Banks in China

According to the Administration for Foreign-Funded Banks which is affiliated to the People's Bank of China, the Coggio Bank and the Sanwa Bank of Japan were approved to open branches in Shanghai last April and another two foreign financial institutions—the Nanyang Commercial Bank and the MBF Card & Services Co.—have also set up agencies in China this year.

The emergence of foreign-funded financial institutions in China followed the policy of reform and opening to the outside world. In December 1979, the Export-Import Bank of Japan opened its first agency in Beijing. Following this, a large number of foreign-funded financial institutions poured in. As of now, 129 foreign-funded financial institutions from 26 countries and regions have established 219 agencies in China's 14 cities. Since the State Council first permitted foreign-funded banks to set up agencies in China's special economic zones in April 1985, 31 business agencies for foreign-funded financial institutions, representing eight countries and regions, have been approved to operate in the SEZs.

To support the development of the Shanghai's Pudong area, the People's Bank of China announced the Management Methods for the Foreign-Funded Financial Institutions and Joint Venture Financial Institutions in Shanghai on September 8, thus allowing foreign-funded banks to set up business agencies in Shanghai and serve the Pudong area. The policy encouraged foreign business agencies to extend from SEZs to open coastal cities.

In November and December 1990, the People's Bank of China approved the establishment of the Shanghai International Financial Co. Ltd. and the Shanghai Integrated Financial Co. Ltd., two foreign-funded finance companies. Following this, applications to open branches from six foreign banks including the First National City Bank of the United States were approved.

Experts say that foreign-funded banks in China help to promote China's modernization drive. They have actively participated in liaison and consultancy activities and act as go-betweens for Chinese and foreign businesses, thus promoting the establishment of a large number of joint ventures. In addition, having better understanding of China's construction projects, they have provided investment and international information for Chinese organizations, introduced new investment methods and trained a number of Chinese staff engaged in international financial activities.

by Li Ping

Du Pont Co. Opens Shanghai Branch

The Shanghai-Du Pont Agricultural Chemicals Co. Ltd., the second investment project by the Du Pont Co. of the United States in China, began construction in the Pudong New Development Zone in Shanghai on May 14 this year. Edgar S. Woolard, chairman of the board of the Du Pont Co., presided over the laying of the foundation stone ceremony.

The project, including formulating and packaging factories, synthetic chemical factory and research facilities, is expected to go into operation in 1992. During the early period of production, the company will produce Londax, a weed killer used in

paddyfields. Additional farm chemicals will also be produced.

The establishment of the new company, Mr. Woolard said, clearly indicates that the Du Pont Co. will go all out to develop a China market and help China advance towards the target of economic development.

Du Pont Company's first special company for the production of X-ray roentgenograms, established in China's Shenzhen Special Economic Zone, is going well. In the past decades, the Du Pont Co. has sold more than 70 kinds of products to China, including farm products, packaging materials, fibre and chemical products. It has also helped 12 scientific research units in China to make researches on chemical polymers, nervous materia medica and crystals.

In order to tap China's market, the Du Pont Co. has opened agencies separately in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen. The chairman of the board of the Du Pont China Holding Company Ltd., specially in charge of Chinese business affairs, stated clearly that his company looks forward to more opportunities for co-operation and development with China in the future.

by Yao Jianguo

Opportunities for Foreign Businessmen

In April, Maanshan City in Anhui Province announced 121 projects designed to attract foreign investment. According to a Maanshan municipal government official, in less than one month, his city signed two contracts for projects using foreign funds and one trade contract, valued at US\$1.12 million. For instance, the Maanshan Iron and Steel Co. signed a contract with a Hong Kong firm on the esta-

blishment of a joint venture which will produce 1.2 billion miniature screws annually. The project has a total investment of US\$720,000.

The official said that his city concluded seven letters of intent and eight agreements with investors including those from the United States, Singapore, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and Yemen. Negotiated investment amounted to more than US\$30 million.

Maanshan City, located on the bank of the Yangtze River, is an industrial city in Anhui Province. As one of the country's nine largest iron and steel integrated enterprises the city's Maanshan Iron and Steel Co. can produce 2 million tons of iron and steel each a year. Annual output value is 1.3 billion yuan while profits and taxes reach 550 million yuan. With its industrial expansion, a special industrial system, well-equipped with machine-building, power, textile, chemical and electronic resources, has been formed in the city. These 121 projects were selected from many industrial enterprises, the majority of which are enjoying good economic returns.

The official added that during the Eighth Five-Year Plan period, Maanshan will invest more than 5 billion yuan to update its existing enterprises. This will provide foreign businessmen with more opportunities for investment and co-operation.

by Yao Jianguo

Magnetized Cup Popular Among Foreigners

The Tianci brand magnetized cup, manufactured by the Tianjin Magnetic Material General Factory, won a gold medal at the Beijing International Fair, China's largest fair which was held from April 8-15. The product

was so popular among foreign businessmen at the fair that within a few days contracts worth US\$100,000 were signed with businessmen from the United States, Japan and Hong Kong.

The magnetized cup is a fine health care product developed after many years of research on the theory of traditional Chinese medicine and the use of modern magnetic technology. The company manufactures magnet on a production line imported from Japan and uses Yixing's purple sand porcelain or Zibo's white porcelain as the liner of the cup; the cup is technically up to the state's standards. After a long-term clinical observation by hospitals affiliated to the Tianjin Medical College and gauged by the opinions and reaction of many clients, the cup has proved to have curative effects on hypertension, diabetes, gall bladders and obesity. It is more effective when used in conjunction with other medicine and is particularly good as a laxative and diuresis.

According to Ling Yongning, the factory's director, the current monthly output is 200,000 such cups and the demand is growing. Each year, 100,000 cups are exported to the United States, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, South Korea and Hong Kong.

by Li Ming

News in Brief

● The Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) recently purchased three Boeing 737-300 passenger airplanes worth US\$110 million from the Boeing Corp. of the United States. In addition, the CAAC plans to buy 13 Boeing 757-200 passenger airplanes in order to satisfy the demand of increased transport volume.

● The legislation of the Peo-

ple's Republic of China concerning overseas interests (Chinese-English) compiled by the Law Bureau of the State Council will be published in July and put on sale both at home and abroad. The publication is the first of its kind in the area of formal texts.

The 3-million-word collection provides 226 effective rules and regulations concerning overseas interests formulated and issued by the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee and the State Council since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949 until the end of 1990. This book has 29 categories, including general, diplomatic affairs, administration of justice, civil administration, foreign economic and technological co-operation, special economic zones and coastal open economic zones, foreign trade, finance and taxation, banking, customs, the inspection of import and export commodities, the administration of trade ports, environmental protection, tourism, overseas arbitration and others. In addition, the book also includes rules and regulations concerning affairs of overseas Chinese, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan and gives a clear description of the 56 rules and regulations concerning overseas interests annulled by the State Council.

● The fifth Assembly and fourth International Seminar of ASOSAI was held in Beijing May 8-14.

This is the first time that China sponsored the international auditing meeting since it joined the organization in 1984. Audit representatives from 22 members countries including Indonesia, Malaysia, India, Japan, the Philippines and Saudi Arabia along with observers from the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and some international organizations attended the meeting. ■

Beijing Applies for Hosting Olympics

Chen Xitong, mayor of Beijing, declared at a news briefing on April 11 that Beijing had formally set up a committee to apply for the right to host the Olympics in the year 2000. Chen himself is the chairman of the committee. As chairman of the 1990 Beijing Asian Games Organizing Committee, he submitted the *Application for Sponsoring the 27th Olympics in 2000* to the Chinese Olympic Committee on February 26.

Beijing's success in holding the 11th Asian Games last autumn won praise from both home and abroad. Chen is confident of the competition for the sponsorship of the 2000 Olympics. Chinese Premier Li Peng also said to reporters at the press conference following the recent Fourth Session of the Seventh National People's Conference that Beijing and the Chinese government will try their best to hold the Olympic Games "if the application is granted."

It is reported that Berlin, London, Sidney and Brasilia have set up application organizations, while other cities such as Paris are considering participating the competition to host the games. He Zhenliang, chairman of the Chinese Olympic Committee, vice-president of the International Olympic Committee and standing vice-chairman of the application committee, said on April 11 that all candidates start at the same line and enjoy equal opportunity in the competition.

There are two years left from now to September 1993 when the International Olympic Committee formally votes for the sponsorship of the 2000 Olympics. According to Wu Shaozhu, minister of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission and executive chairman of the application committee, lots of work

has to be done during this time even though Beijing has a strong base from which to sponsor the Olympics after having hosted last year's Asian Games. First, in addition to the already established leadership body of the application committee, organizations responsible for project planning, public communication, overall design and publicity need to be set up. Second, plans for organizing the Olympic Games in such areas as the arrangement of events and sports stadiums and gymnasiums, transportation, communication, telecasting and facilities for athletes' daily life need to be worked out in accordance with requirements of the Olympic Charter and of related international sports organizations. While renovating the existing stadiums and gymnasiums, a number of sports fields need to be built, including a main sports ground with a capacity of about 100,000 seats, an indoor cycling track, a horsemanship ground, a gymnasium for water sports, a large-scale comprehensive gymnasium and an Olympic Athletes' Village. Regarding municipal construction, efforts are needed to expand or build a new airport and railway stations.

He said in his recent interview with reporters of the *China Sports News* that to host the Olympic Games a nation must meet the following conditions: a stable society; a prosperous economy; good management capacity and a relatively high level of competitiveness of its own athletes. China meets all these requirements, he said, because by 2000, China will have greater economic strength. Besides, China enjoys a more favourable condition than other countries — it has the support and concerted effort of all the people in the country.

When coming to specific favourable factors in applying for the sponsorship of the Olympics, He analyzed that since World War II, there have been 13 Olympic sports meets (including the 1992 Barcelolla and the 1996 Atlanta Olympics), six held in Europe, four in America, two in Asia and one in Australia. In choosing the site for the 2000 Olympic Games, he pointed out, the International Olympic Committee will consider the Olympic spirit and ideal, i.e., sports competition can help young people develop both physically and mentally and promote mutual understanding and friendship between different peoples of the world so as to build a more peaceful and beautiful world. The International Olympic Committee encourages developing countries to bear such an obligation, but so far, only two Olympic Games have been held in developing countries. If China is permitted to hold the 2000 Olympics, the Olympic ideal will be spread throughout the country, a country with the largest population in the world.

Many foreign reporters asked whether the June 4th event in 1989 would thwart Beijing's application. He answered that the majority of people in the world are just, especially in sports circles. He recalled that on June 7, 1989, he received a telegram from Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, which expressed his concern and support of the Chinese government. To support his argument, He cited that 67 out of 92 members of the International Olympic Committee headed by Samaranch and 19 out of 25 chairmen of the world's sports organizations attended the Asiad opening ceremony, and the fact that all members of the Olympic Council of Asia sent delegations to take part in the Bei-

jing Asian Games.

He expressed that he will try his best to convince all International Olympic Committee members that the Chinese people are not only eager to make their contribution to the world's Olympic undertaking, but are also capable of hosting this significant sports meet in accordance with the requirements of the Olympic Charter.

by Lou Linwei

Wushu Festival to be Held in Zhengzhou

The 1991 Zhengzhou International Shaolin Wushu Festival will be held in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan Province, central China, from September 10-15 this year.

Shaolin Temple, located in Zhengzhou City, is the ancestral temple of the Zen Sect of Chinese Buddhism. Shaolin Wushu (martial art), which originated here, is one of the major schools of Chinese Wushu. It is known for its remarkable effects on health, self-defence and temperament-moulding.

Shaolin Wushu and the Shaolin Temple have maintained world-wide fame. Each year, 1.5 million visitors from both China and abroad come to Zhengzhou to learn Shaolin Wushu or to do sightseeing.

Wushu units in Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, the United States, Canada and Hong Kong will be invited to the festival, which will include competitions in obligatory Wushu techniques, weapon play, free style and other competitions. During the festival, sightseeing tours, art shows and economic and scientific exchanges will also be organized to show the rich traditional culture, beautiful landscape and colourful local customs of central China.

Minority Dance Enchants Beijing Audience

The Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture Art Ensemble from Yunnan Province, southeast China, inhabited by many of the Chinese minorities, recently presented a jubilant song and dance party in Beijing, adding a particular glamour to the capital's art stage.

The more than ten numbers performed were selections refined from the local Dali people's everyday and festive activities. From the songs and dances, the audience not only got an idea of the rich culture of the minorities, but also their happy life.

Fishers' Song on Erhai Lake was a Bai nationality dance. Per-

formed by three people, the dance depicted a scene of the life of a fisherman's family living by the Erhai Lake in the days of reform and opening to the outside world. The fisherman sets sail with his wife and their daughter. They spread out the fish net and tap the boat with planks to drive the fish into the net. They come back with a good catch. The husband's dance displayed the boldness of the Bai man while the wife was soft and lissome. The role of the daughter was special. Sometimes she was a naive little girl and at other times she acted like the fish jumping and skipping in the net.

A scene from *Sweet Mountain Spring*, a Yi nationality dance.





A scene from a cheerful Bai nationality dance.

Photos by XU XIANGJUN

Incorporating many movements of the Bai dance, this dance was very rhythmic, creating an atmosphere of happiness.

Untie the Knot was a graceful and humorous Miao nationality dance. A group of girls danced their beautiful and complex formation into a "knot," which hid the sweetheart of a lad. The lad could not stay with his love unless he untied the "knot." Though he tried his best, the lad failed to break the formation. Instead, he himself was entangled by the magic knot. Suddenly, he hit upon a way out of the predicament. He played the *lusheng*, a reed-pipe wind instrument loved by the Miaos. His melodious music fascinated the girls. They began to dance with the music so that the "knot" became undone. The smart young man was thus re-united with his sweetheart. The dance movements flowed, and the bending of music and dance gave a pleasing effect.

Sweet Mountain Spring, a Yi

nationality dance, presented a scene of the Yi women washing beside a mountain spring. During the dance, the wash basins were used not only to scoop water and hold clothes, but also as stones in the spring. The women either frolicked or did their washing on the "stones." It seemed as if the cool spring trickled with music under their feet and hands.

Antiphonal singing is an important method of the Bai young people in finding their love. The performance of antiphonal singing in *Two Perpetual Blossoms* greatly appealed to the audience: A bold and resonant male voice started the singing on the stage. The answer, sweet and melodious, came, to the audience's surprise, from the theatre's rear. In this novel style, the "couple" sang to each other with witicism and humour accompanied by music in the Bai tradition, until they leaned close to each other on stage while the audience

burst into thunderous applause.

In addition, Bai dances such as *Spring Celebration*, *The Bai Boys and Girls* and *Immeasurable Joy*, together with folk songs by well-known Bai singer Yang Hongying, were also enjoyed by the audience.

The Dali area is fertile soil for minority national art. For a long time, especially over the past ten years, literary and art experts in the area have collected and sorted out a large number of national folk songs and dances. Achievements have also been made in original professional works. Since 1979, literary and art experts of the Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture have choreographed and written more than 90 dances, two dance dramas, along with many national songs. Many works have won prizes in China and some have been performed in Japan and European and American countries.

by Feng Jing



Goddess of Wushan Mountain.

Chinese Paintings by Xue Linxing

Xue Linxing, born in Shandong Province in 1951, is now a professional painter in Beijing. His paintings' special subjects are the beautiful women of old days.

Yang Guifei (719-756), Imperial Concubine of Emperor Xuanzong in China's Tang Dynasty.

ART PAGE



Main Character Yingying and Maid-servant in the Classic Chinese Love Story, *The Western Chamber*.





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