# **Glossary – Topic of Conversation**

## History

China has a long history of cultural changes which influenced the Chinese culture and behavior as it is today. It reaches over 3.000 years of different eras of emperors, separations and reunions until the founding of the people republic of China in 1949. If you want to learn more about it visit this link: <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History</a> of China.

#### Culture

Since ancient times, Chinese culture has been heavily influenced by Confucianism and conservative philosophies. It includes various arts such as calligraphy, painting, music, architecture, sports and theatre. But also its very different and tasteful cuisine.

# Cultural Revolution of Mao Zedong

After the Chinese civil war the Communist Party of China was left in control of mainland China. On 1 October 1949, Mao Zedong proclaimed the People's Republic of China. He governed as chairman of the Communist Party of China from its establishment in 1949 until his death in 1976. A controversial figure, Mao is regarded as one of the most important individuals in modern world history. Supporters credit him with modernizing China and building it into a world power. critics consider him a dictator who severely damaged traditional Chinese culture, perpetrated systematic human rights abuses, and who is responsible for an estimated 40 to 70 million deaths through starvation, forced labor, and executions.

# Family

The family is seen as an important value of the Chinese culture and a highly influential part of individuals.

## Sexuality

The topic of sexuality it mostly avoided in China due to strict governmental regulations and the people's need of privacy.

### Wealth and Property

Even if the whole economy in China is driven by the aim of gaining wealth, it is not acceptable to talk and especially to show-off about possessions.

### Chinese politics

The People's Republic of China is one of the world's few remaining socialist states openly endorsing communism. The country is ruled by the Communist Party of China, whose power is enshrined in China's constitution.

# Economic development in China

After the opening of China to the world market in 2002 the Chinese market experienced an enormous growth. As of 2014, China has the world's second-largest economy in terms of nominal GDP.