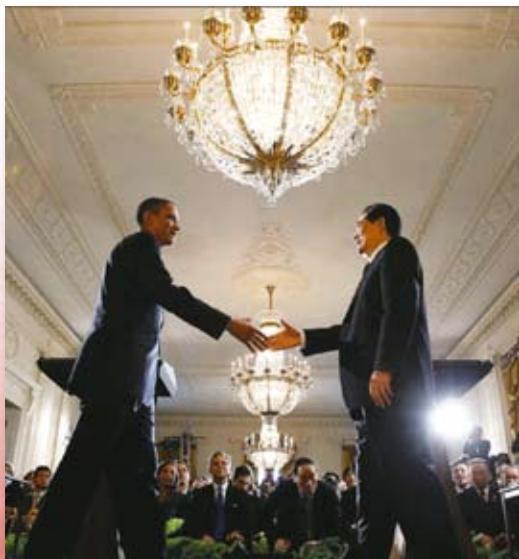


CHINA



INSIDE

11 A Knot In Time

22 Billions For Scientific Edge

25 China Weaves Social Safety Net

32 Summit Gets Passing Grade

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

A Word About China

The People's Republic of China, the most populated country in the world, has emerged in the last decade as an economic and political power among nations. Its goals include being first in technology innovation, science research and educational accomplishment.

Whether there is merit to calling the 21st Century the Sino Century will be evaluated later by scholars. This guide provides the first rough draft of history for your students to discuss, evaluate and place within the context of the past and present.

Today's global interconnectedness is not a new phenomenon. A study of China's past provides a backdrop for understanding the impact of trade on culture, language, philosophy, policies and economics — in any age.

Activities include a crossword puzzle, research of China's cultural heritage and of silk and sericulture, and an introduction to tying a traditional Chinese knot. Students analyze three leads by foreign correspondent Keith Richburg and discuss his articles on culture, government programs, economics and technology. A *Post* editorial, commentary by David Ignatius and John Pomfret's coverage of science, trade and diplomacy complete the multi-disciplinary use of the guide's content.

A reminder to *Post* INSIDE program teachers: If you plan to use articles in this guide in the e-Replica format more than three months after their publication date, remember to bookmark them. In addition to a new URL to download Washington Post INSIDE program online guides (www.nie.washpost.com), teachers will note we have added to each suggested activity the classes to which it and the article would relate most closely.

COVER IMAGES

Calligraphy: Aiko Shimura Erickson; Collage Design: Carol Porter. Photographs, above: Jim Young/Reuters; below, left to right: Matthew Niederhauser for The Washington Post, Yuan Shuiling/Imagine China, Frederic J. Brown/Agence France-Presse Via Getty Images, Wong Campion/Reuters.

ABOUT THE COVER

"China" is composed of two characters. The first means *middle* and the second means *country*. Have we not all thought we were the center of the world? Sometimes the two characters are translated in the West as "the middle kingdom."

Lessons: Media provides an opportunity to understand cultural heritage and contemporary values; the impact of economic and political forces; and the complexity of global interconnectiveness.

Level: Low to High

Subjects: Economics, Government, Social Studies, World History

Related Activity: Art, English, Geography, Journalism, Philosophy



NIE Online Guide

Editor — Carol Lange

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Contributing to this guide: Cover calligraphy was executed by Aiko Shimura Erickson in the semi-cursive style. Mrs. Erickson teaches brush painting and calligraphy for the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., and the Art League School, Alexandria, Va.

Available Online

All Washington Post NIE guides may be downloaded at www.washpost.com/nie.

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

China

The largest all-Asian country, The People's Republic of China is a fascinating mix of history, geography, economics, culture and demography. Activities and reprinted Post editorial, commentary and articles focus on modern China — its social, economic, business, political, scientific and technological dimension — against the backdrop of its past.

Use the Vocabulary

All disciplines

The word “China” in Chinese is composed of two characters. The first means *middle* and the second means *country*. It is not surprising for a country to see itself as the center of attention.

In the Know, the sidebar on page 6, provides terms that are used in the reprinted *Post* articles found in this guide. They should be distinguished from one another in a discussion of world governments and economics. Within the activity sheets and the following suggested activities additional vocabulary is included to encourage growth in diction.

Draw on China

Art, all grades

China has a rich tradition in the arts. Chinese cut paper work is delicate and reflects dexterity with scissors and creativity. The strokes of the ink drawings in stark black and shades of gray create the illusion of color, space, shapes and texture. Watercolor is another medium used in peasant paintings as well as in the work of traditionally trained artists.

Have your students experiment with one or more of these mediums. Their subject might be related to China — bamboo, pandas, mythic figures, signs of the zodiac, temples, gardens and landscape.

Tie a Knot

Art, cross-disciplinary, all grades

Students may engage in an art project that has historic ties to news, legal and business purposes as well as decorative uses. Give students “A Knot in Time,” an activity that provides historic perspective and directions to tie a Clover Leaf knot, one of the many Chinese knots.

Relate the knot activity to the artwork created by students. Tie a knot with a cord long enough to hang their drawings of a scene from China (Great Wall, Forbidden City, landscape, flowers). The knot may also be used to create a necklace, bookmark or belt.

Research Culture

Cross-disciplinary, Social Studies, World History

China has centuries of history and a rich cultural heritage. Provide students with “The Past in the Present.”

The list consists of important people, places, events and other cultural elements that are significant to the cultural heritage of China. For example, the Yellow River Valley is the cradle of Chinese civilization, the Yellow River being the Mother river. Individuals represent government, military, philosophy and the arts and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

The Silk Road

www.amnh.org/exhibitions/silkroad/

American Museum of Natural History

Although the educator's resources were designed to accompany a visit to the special exhibit, many of the activities can be done with some research or using material in the guide. Includes worksheets for grades 3-12.

www.chinainstitute.org

China Institute

“From Silk to Oil: Cross-Cultural Connections

Along the Silk Road” is composed of 23 units of study, from 2nd century BC to today. Download lesson plans, maps, Silk Roads board game. Select For Educators, Curriculum Guides and Units.

www.silkroadproject.org

The Silk Road Project

Clearinghouse for resources; Yo-Yo Ma, artistic director and founder of The Silk Road Project, encourages learning through understanding the historical, social and cultural context of the arts. “Music’s Role on the Silk Road” and other links.

http://spice.stanford.edu/catalog/along_the_silk_road/

SPICE

Developed by the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education and the Silk Road Project. For sale: “Along the Silk Road” (comprehensive curriculum, 6th grade and up) includes maps of Asia, the Silk Road routes and political divisions; The Legend of the Horse-Head Fiddle; link to interactive website

<http://faculty.washington.edu/dwaugh/srehist.html>

The Silk Road: Materials of an e-history

Extensive research and lecture notes of Professor Waugh

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

literature. Western figures such as Marco Polo might be added; the current list, however, keeps the focus on those a Chinese citizen would consider important to know.

After their research is completed, students may be asked to:

- Prepare an oral presentation that incorporates images and information,
- Write a feature article for the Style section of *The Post* or a magazine,
- Exercise their technology skills to create a class website.

Another research project could focus on Modern China. Topics in this time period would include Chiang Kai-shek, Communism, Cultural Revolution, ethnic minorities, Hong Kong, Mao Zedong, Nationalist Party, one-child policy, People's Republic of China, renewable energy (wind turbines, solar panels), Taiwan, Tiananmen Square, Tibet, and 2008 Olympics.

Complete a Crossword Puzzle

Social Studies, World History, English

Most of the terms in the "Asian Connection" crossword puzzle are related to the Silk Road trade routes. This puzzle may be assigned before a study of the Silk Road to stimulate interest in different topics. It may also be done after an introduction to the Silk Road. If the latter is true, teachers may expect a longer more detailed piece be written using the terms.

Travel the Silk Road

World History, Social Studies, Economics, Philosophy

Traders, missionaries, and others traveled between China and the ancient Middle East on routes collectively known as the Silk Road. These land and sea routes stretched

across northwest China, from Xi'an, into central Asia and then southward to what is now Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. Traders then headed westward to the Middle East and the Mediterranean. See "The Silk Road," page 18, for a map.

"The Silk Road," the sidebar on page 3, provides teachers with resources for a study of this important period. With such high interest in modern China's trade policy, this study provides historic perspective on the impact of trade on China as well as the role of other countries found in today's headlines.

Essential questions to consider would include:

- History books tell of China as an isolated kingdom. In what ways do the Silk Road routes challenge this view?
- How did the exchange in technology from China affect Persia, the Middle East and Europe?
- In what manners does trade impact all citizens?

Become a Silk and Sericulture Expert

Science, Social Studies, Art, Economics, Home Economics

One of the major products of the Silk Roads trade, silk traveled as far as the Mediterranean along these routes and was a major source of income. Although traders and businessmen are considered low on the list of respected careers, many became wealthy through the silk trade.

"From Emperors to the World's Customers" activity sheet begins with one of the myths of the origin of silk and the loom. It illustrates one of the purposes of myth — to explain the unknown — and the storytelling tradition.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Read About It

Guo, Yue

Little Leap Forward: A Boy in Beijing

Barefoot Books, 2008. Grades 3-6.

Set in Beijing in 1966, during the Communist regime of Mao Tse-Tung, the story of an 8-year-old boy. Illus.

Ji-Li Jiang

Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution

HarperCollins, 1997. Grades 5-9.

Harsh, candid, lively memories of being a teenager when Chairman Mao lead China. Teaching guides available.

Yang, Gene Luen

American Born Chinese

First Second, 2006. Grade 7 and up.

Story of Jin Wang, a middle school student. Three stand-alone stories are interrelated by the climax. Finalist for National Book Award for Young People.

Yuan, Haiwang

The Magic Lotus Lantern and Other Tales from the Han Chinese

Libraries Unlimited, 2006. Grades 7 and up
The Han Chinese compose more than 90 percent of the population of China. More than 50 folktales, myths and legends plus introduction to language, history, literature and cultural context.

Yuan, Haiwang

Princess Peacock: Tales from the Other Peoples of China

Libraries Unlimited (World Folklore Series), 2008. Grades 7 and up.

Representative folktales of China's ethnic minorities and historical background of each group (recipes, crafts, games); map, color photos and glossary

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Questions for research and vocabulary cover trade, sericulture and contemporary economy involving silk products. Students could be grouped and assigned one of the first nine questions to research and present to the class. Each group or each student should explore the last question.

Analyze the Leads

Journalism, English, Government, Geography

The opening paragraphs, the leads (or ledes), to three articles by *Post* foreign correspondent Keith B. Richburg are reprinted for this activity. "Three Leads, Three Approaches, One Reporter" provides an exercise in analytical thinking and modeling composition. Their subject matter is for mature students.

Before giving students the handout, find the three cities of the datelines — Beijing, Shanghai and Dandong — on the map. See "Map Gallery," page 17. What do students know about these areas of China? Beijing is the capital where the 2008 Olympics were held. Shanghai is very modern, having had ties to the West for centuries. Dandong, bordering on North Korea, is an industrial town.

The lead of "TV matchmaking show runs afoul of China's morality campaign" is an example of a modified news lead. The first paragraph introduces the object of the action. The news: *Who*: Government "nannies"; *What*: censored "If You Are the One"; *When*: June 2010; *Where*: Beijing; *Why*: Authorities decided the popular show had become too ribald and against basic values; *How*: Demanded boundaries on language use and innuendo.

By telling about the show that is popular with high school students and older young people, Richburg helps readers to understand the news. The fourth paragraph puts the June action into the context of a larger "public security" concern.

The lead of the second story is a descriptive lead. "Chinese traders cash in on Pyongyang's isolation" takes readers to northeast China and the border with North Korea. The first three paragraphs are full of details that bring this town to life. Then Richburg puts the place into geographic and economic context. Dandong is representative of other towns near the North Korean border. The last sentences give the figures to support why Dandong is "booming."

Wang Baobao is representative of 3 million Chinese who had plastic surgery in 2009. The lead of "Ugly side to China's plastic surgery boom" is an anecdote. Wang is "emblematic of China's new and growing obsession." The fourth paragraph is the nut graph, the essential news of the story. In the seventh paragraph readers learn that China ranks third behind the U.S. and Brazil for the number of plastic surgeries.

Teachers may ask students the following after analyzing each lead.

- The complete articles provide more information about the businesses, the economic and personal impact, and the changes facing the Chinese government. What do *Post* readers learn from the leads?

- Which article would students like to read?
- To what extent did the topic interest them?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Read About Journeys

Hessler, Peter

Country Driving: A Journey Through China from Farm to Factory

Harper, 2010. Grades 9 and up.

Hessler takes us along on a road trip across modern China. We travel dirt paths and car-clogged paved highways, see transformed villages, visit a bra-parts factory. He buys a house and shares his daily experiences.

Polo, Marco

Description of the World

A.C. Moule and Paul Pelliot, trans. Ishi Press, 2010. Grade 11 and up.

Marco Polo, a merchant, in the late 1200s embarks on an epic journey to Asia. Compare with Laurence Bergreen's *From Venice to Xanadu* (Knopf, 2007); he researches this travelogue.

Pomfret, John

Chinese Lessons: Five Classmates and the Story of the New China

Henry Holt & Company, 2006. Grade 9 +.

Washington Post reporter and editor was among the first American students to study in China; he follows the lives of five of his classmates from Nanjing University History Class of 1982.

Sijie, Dai

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress

Anchor, 2002. Grade 10 and up.

Mao's re-education plan sends young students into the countryside. Folk tales, storytelling and classical literature mix with labor and manure.

Thubron, Colin

Shadow of the Silk Road

Harper Perennial, 2008. Grade 11 and up.

Well regarded travel writer, Thubron revisits the Silk Road. In a book review, *The Post*'s Yardley writes: Thubron went "to follow a ghost," a road that "has officially vanished," "not a single way, but many: a web of choices. Mine stretches more than seven thousand miles, and is occasionally dangerous."

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

- To what extent did the approach taken in the lead interest them to want to read more? (One of the goals of a lead is to draw the reader into the article.)
- Were the approaches effective for the subject of the story?

Update a News Story

Cross-disciplinary

Many of the news stories reported raise questions in the reader's mind. What was the result of this action? Did people react to the policy change? Did the project meet the goals that were expressed?



"What Is Happening Now?" uses the e-Replica edition search feature to update *Post* articles.

Teachers can use the first five paragraphs of a May 2010 story about Chinese green technology initiatives and the environmental concerns raised by others to illustrate the procedure they want students to follow.

Another example to practice using the e-Replica search feature is provided with a story on the plans to raise the sales tax on small cars as of Jan. 1, 2011. Teachers could brainstorm possible topics to update this article. From the topics students have listed, assign a topic to groups of students. Help students to narrow search terms. Share results with the class.

The last assignment in this activity asks students to locate a story about China to update in current issues.

Respond to an Editorial

Journalism, English, Government

Students will read "A shift on China." This *Post* editorial was published Tuesday, January 18, 2011, the day that Chinese president Hu Jintao began his U.S. state visit.

Before reading, discuss the reasons for a state visit and its importance to the countries involved.

Discuss the purpose of an editorial. Stress that an editorial expresses the point of view of the newspaper, its owner and editorial board. The op-ed section of the newspaper is separate from the news gathering section. This editorial focuses on concern for human rights policies and its role in the U.S.'s diplomatic policy.

Teachers may wish to review some of the vocabulary used within the context of this editorial: "belligerent," "convergence," "curb," "dissent," "incommunicado," "intellectual property," "liberalization," "novelty," "stagnation," and "would-be reformer."

Questions for discussion might include:

- The editorial refers to a speech given by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. What is the significance of the speech?
- To what does "empty chairs in Oslo" refer?
- *The Post* editorial quotes from Clinton's speech. What idea does Clinton stress? Does this support the point of view of the editorial?
- What other points does the editorial writer make to argue the stand taken?
- Do you agree, disagree or partially agree with the editorial? Explain your response.

Given current news coverage of U.S.-Chinese relations, diplomatic decisions and events, write an editorial that responds to and addresses the theme of this editorial.

Comment on China

Journalism, English, Social Studies

Columnist David Ignatius uses the rhetorical structure of contrasts.

In the Know

Authoritarian
Bureaucracy
Capitalism
Chinese communism
Command economy
Confucian values
Consumerism
Democracy
Economy
Ecosystem
Entrepreneur
Export-driven economy
Global economy
Indigenous industry
Infrastructure
Investment
Market economy
Militaristic
Mixed economy
Nationalist
One-child policy
Pragmatism
Province
Provincial government
Revolution
Sinophile
Socialism
Technological advancement
Tiananmen Square
Value added tax

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Ask students to make a list of the contrasts he makes. What do they communicate to the reader about life in China? About America's relation to China? Do students find this structure effective? If this is the China Century or "Sino-Century," what does it mean? Do they agree with Ignatius' conclusion?

Take Care of Society's Needy

Social Studies, Health, Economics

Keith Richburg covers new social programs in "China weaves together a social safety net." We are taken to a village to meet an older resident — and to learn the reality of the new pension on individuals. Give students "Is the Social Safety Net Secure?"

Older students may be asked to read more about the American Social Security system provisions, including Medicare. After reading and discussion, write a comparison and contrast with the Chinese initiatives.

Get the Edge in Science?

Science, Social Studies, Economics

"A newly unhindered China invests billions for a scientific edge" is included in this guide to represent coverage of science, technology and the balance between Chinese-American cooperation and dominance. John Pomfret lived in China as a graduate student and later as a reporter and *Post* bureau chief. He speaks Chinese.

- Pomfret gives context for his reporting on China's current focus on scientific leadership. What was true centuries ago? A decade before?
- What has it taken to transform China into a scientific powerhouse?
- Give examples of the range of

science and technology advances.

- Give examples of the concerns that exist about the approaches being taken in Chinese science and technology. Include the "indigenous innovation" program in your response.
- Give examples of China's "going-out strategy" applied in the United States.
- Pomfret includes a case study to provide perspective on global ventures. What is the message of the Lenovo story?
- How has China used the media to communicate its business message?
- Advances in scientific, technological and medical areas may improve living standards. Does Pomfret relate these as the goals of China's research? Give examples to support your answer.
- What do readers learn from Pomfret's reporting on BGI and NIBS?

Go West

Technology, Economics, Social Studies, Biology, Geography

Before reading "China's push to develop its west hasn't closed income gap with east, critics say," review a modern map of China. See "Map Gallery," page 17. Note that China and the United States are close in physical size. (Varies as 3rd and 4th, depending on how territories and disputed areas are included.) Locate Beijing and Shanghai, major East Coast cities. Locate Lanzhou, the capital of Gansu Province, which is the geographic center of China. Locate China's west — defined as the dozen provinces and "autonomous regions" stretching from Inner Mongolia to Xinjiang and Tibet.

- What improvements to infrastructure and inhabitants'

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

China on the Big Screen

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress (2002)

Two young men come of age during Maoist re-education in the countryside; directed by Sijie Dai, author of the novel

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon (2000)

A wuxia novel brought to life through powerful acting, scenic landscapes, intriguing quest for a magical jade sword and love; directed by Ang Lee. Winner of 4 academy awards

Electric Shadows (2004)

In Mao-era China, while a youth takes care of a mute woman's fish, he finds her diary — a screenplay of her life built around scenes from favorite films; directed by Jiang Xiao

Forever Enthralled (2009)

The life of Chinese opera star Mei Lanfang; directed by Chen Kaige. Fascinating introduction to Peking Opera, its characteristic characters and costumes; Mei is at the crossroads of traditional and modern China.

The Good Earth (1937)

A poor farmer's fate changes when he marries O-Lan, a hardworking woman who loves the land. When famine forces them to live in the city, it is again O-Lan who changes their fortune; directed by Sidney Franklin. Winner of 2 Academy Awards

Not One Less (1999)

A 13-year-old substitute teacher handles a one-room school in post-Mao rural China; directed by Zhang Yimou

To Live (1994)

An ordinary Chinese family, covers the period of 1940s-1980s; directed by Yimou Zhang

Others:

Beijing Bicycle (2001)

Drunken Master (1978)

The Inn of the Sixth Happiness (1958)

The Karate Kid (1984, 2010)

Kung Fu Panda (2008)

Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles (2005)

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

- lives may be witnessed in western China?
- What are the consequences of the actions taken?
- According to the U.S. Dept. of State country profile, China's ethnic groups are Han Chinese 91.5%; Zhuang, Manchu, Hui, Miao, Uyghur, Tujia, Yi, Mongol, Tibetan, Buyi, Dong, Yao, Korean, and other nationalities 8.5% (2000 census). The total population (July 2010 est.) is 1,330,141,295, making China the most populated country in the world. Why is the current leadership in China investing in areas where many of its ethnic minorities live?
- Answer the question that Richburg poses: At what cost [has the Go West campaign been] to indigenous populations and the environment?
- In what ways do geography, economics, differing motives and goals influence the "Go West" policy?

Brand It

Economics, Business, Social Studies, Mathematics, Journalism

Several days before reading the article by John Pomfret, ask students to look at the labels of the clothes in their closets. In what countries are they made? In this sample, the number and type of items can be counted. For example, five sweaters: one in U.S., one in Belarus, three in China.

This survey could be expanded to reading the labels in clothing items in different sections of several department stores. In what countries are apparel for children, women and men made? Do not count items; indicate type of item, price range and country. For

example, blouses, \$24-\$50, China, U.S.

Another group of students could visit an electronics product store. Do a survey of place of manufacture. Group the kind of products and price range.

Meet in groups to tally the countries of manufacture found in their closets. Create a bar graph. Next share results of the data from department stores and the data from electronics stores. Decide on the best chart (pie chart, bar graph, fever chart) to use to communicate the information. Create the infographics. Share the information with classmates. What has the class discovered in this informal survey?

Read and discuss John Pomfret's "Beijing tries to push beyond 'Made in China' status to find name-brand innovation."

Discussion questions could include:

- The use of questions as the lead of a story is discouraged. Why are Pomfret's series of questions particularly effective?
- In what ways is mathematics used for more accurate reporting?
- Within today's global economy how important are branding, manufacturing U.S. goods in the U.S., opportunity costs and outsourcing?

Appraise Diplomacy

Government, Social Studies, Business

Give students "For China and U.S., summit gets passing grade" to read and discuss. This news article could be paired with *The Post* editorial, "A shift on China." The editorial was written on the first day of the state visit of Chinese President Hu Jintao and John

Past Post Guide



The Foreign Correspondent
A Look at the Journalists Who Provide Eyewitness Accounts, On-Sight Interviews and Reports of the Trends, Events and Ideas From Around the World

INSIDE
3 Meet Foreign Bureau 7 Meet the Foreign Correspondent 12 Inside the Foreign Correspondent 16 Against the War

The Foreign Correspondent

A Look at the Journalists Who Provide Eyewitness Accounts, On-Sight Interviews and Reports of the Trends, Events and Ideas From Around the World
June 5, 2007

In *Meet the Foreign Correspondent* Keith Richburg gives insight into the life of a *Washington Post* editor and reporter serving in a foreign bureau. Perspectives on the work, demands and pressures of living abroad and war reporting (between the lines on the front lines). Students review rhetorical techniques used to bring a story to life for readers.

INSIDE guides may be downloaded at www.nie.washpost.com.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Pomfret's was datelined Chicago at the end of the trip.

What is the significance of a state visit? With whom did Hu meet during his visit?

The story is also reported through five photographs. What do students understand about the state visit from the photographs? Pete Souza, head of White House official photographers, took photographs of the whole event, including where other photographers were not allowed.

Teachers could ask students to summarize information on the following topics. What was the situation/policy/relation before Hu's visit and what are expectations after the visit?

- Purchase of U.S. goods
- Chinese investments in the U.S.
- Protection of intellectual property
- Human rights issues
- Value of Chinese currency
- Nuclear programs in Iran and North Korea
- Hu's prestige in China

Which issues do students believe are the top three in U.S.-China relations? Ask students what they would seek if they were chair of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee.

Make a Trade

Economics, Business, History

Provide students with historic perspective on trade in China. A core concept of China's world view and "foreign policy" was the tribute system. China and its emperor were presented with tribute gifts. In return steppe nomads and foreigners accessed silk, gold and other valuable items as well as the right to trade at frontier markets.

What items did Chinese merchants provide for trade? What items did China import through this trade?

Read articles in *The Washington Post* that relate aspects of trade with China. In what ways are modern global trends balanced against traditional cultural identity and distinctiveness? For example, consider the import of automobiles and China's green industry. How do these balance against the importance of gardens and landscape in Chinese culture?

Compare and Contrast Media Coverage

Journalism, Media Studies, Social Studies, Economics

Subscribers to *The Washington Post* receive international news on the front page, The World and other pages of the A section. *China Watch*, an occasional advertising supplement to *The Washington Post*, provides news and features written by reporters for *China Daily*.

Select a current story taking place in China or involving the People's Republic of China. Compare and contrast coverage in *The Washington Post*, two other U.S. newspapers, online sources in China and television. You might also select an international story (such as natural disasters, political unrest, and accidents) to compare and contrast the content in different media.

Which U.S. cities have large Chinese-American populations? Are the news media in these city likely to cover the story? Explain your answer.

Links to Chinese newspapers in English and Chinese are found at Online Newspapers.Com (www.onlinenewspapers.com/china.htm). Students who are proficient in other

languages might search for the story on the Newseum's Front Pages (www.newseum.org).

Areas to consider in a comparison and contrast include:

- What is summarized in headlines?
- Does the lead emphasize different aspects of the story?
- What details, facts and data are the same? Differ? (Check the time of posting or airing to see if unfolding details may influence coverage.)
- Are the same people interviewed? Compare quotations.
- Are the stories fairly presented (accurate, without bias, balanced)?
- Do photographs and sound influence reader and viewer response?

View a Movie

English, Film Study, World History, Social Studies, Chinese

Another way to learn of culture and attitudes is to view movies produced in other countries. The sidebar on page 7, "China on the Big Screen," provides titles that have been used by Film Study, Chinese language and World History teachers. ■

Answers Asian Connection

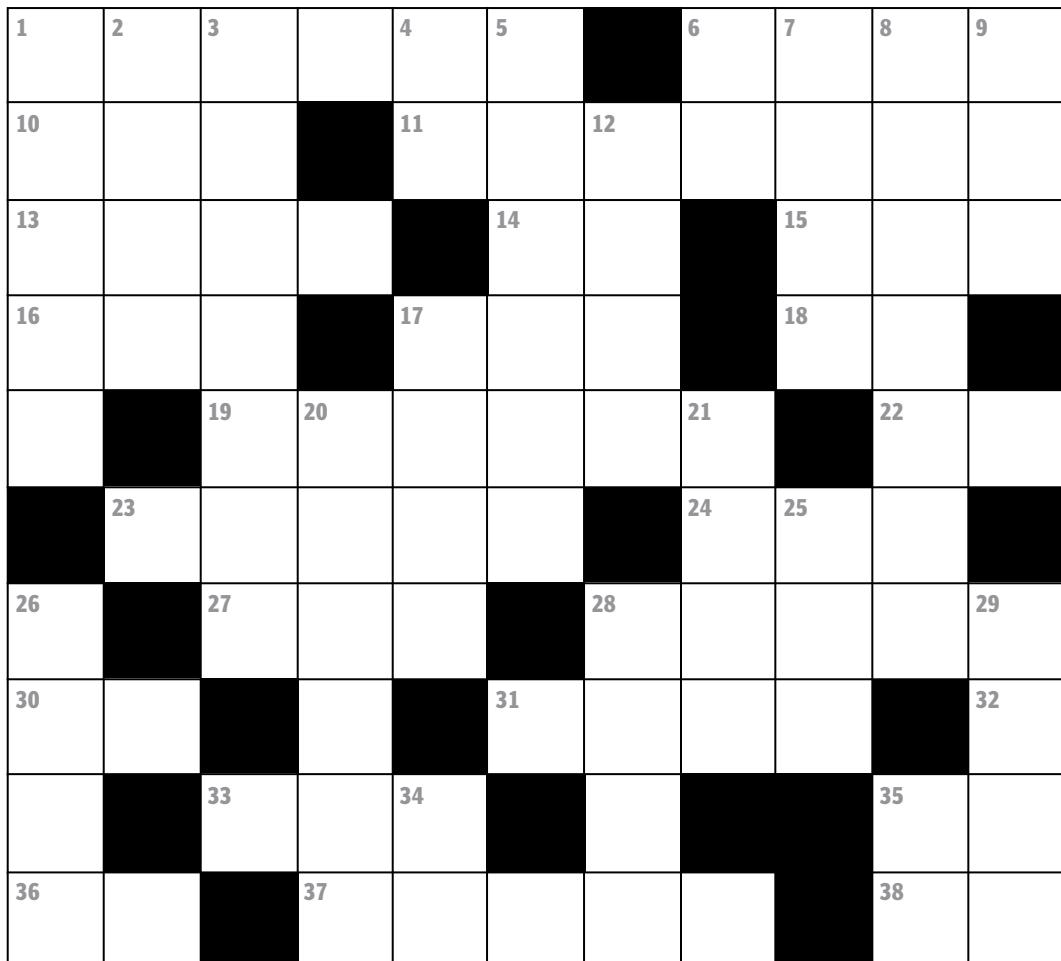
1 E	2 X	3 O	4 T	5 I	6 C	7 S	8 A	9 G	10 E
11 N	12 I	13 B	14 S	15 O	16 J	17 O	18 U	19 R	20 N
21 V	22 A	23 S	24 E	25 U	26 A	27 N	28 U	29 T	30 T
31 O	32 N	33 E	34 A	35 N	36 D	37 D	38 T	39 M	40 E
41 Y	42 R	43 O	44 U	45 T	46 E	47 S	48 B	49 E	50 E
51 I	52 V	53 O	54 R	55 Y	56 O	57 I	58 L	59 E	60 S
61 G	62 E	63 D	64 A	65 D	66 U	67 N	68 E	69 S	70 I
71 O	72 X	73 L	74 S	75 I	76 L	77 K	78 T	79 O	80 N
81 L	82 S	83 E	84 A	85 S	86 C	87 E	88 T	89 O	90 O
91 D	92 O	93 S	94 P	95 I	96 C	97 E	98 T	99 T	100 O



Asian Connection

Many of the terms in this crossword puzzle are related to the Silk Road. See if you can make the connection.

After you have completed the crossword, use six or more of the words in a short piece about the Silk Road.



ACROSS

1. Strikingly unusual; describes distant countries
6. Wise
10. The sharpened point of a quill pen
11. A temporary stay
13. Open container used to display cut flowers; one from the Ming Dynasty sold for \$10 million
14. United Airlines (abbr.)
15. Hard-shelled fruit
16. Alone
17. Conjunction
18. Trademark (abbr.)
19. Pathways or roads for travel; journeys one regularly makes
22. Exist
23. Teeth or tusks valued in trade
24. Liquid fat used in cooking; crude product
27. Economic Development Administration (abbr.)
28. Mounds of sand formed by wind
30. Beast of burden
31. Lucrative trade routes were named after this fiber obtained from cocoons.
32. First person singular pronoun
33. Silk road routes were on land and _____.
35. Antonym of off
36. Be active
37. Food flavoring
38. Preposition

DOWN

1. Person acting as a diplomat or official messenger on behalf of an authority
2. Important trade city and home to the terra cotta warriors
3. See, watch carefully
4. Exists
5. Unit of local government
6. Conjunction indicating the reason
7. Partner of uncle
8. Complain or mutter
9. After days on the Taklimakan desert, you may need to see this specialist (abbrev.).
12. Confucius said this stone had the qualities of purity, constancy, durability and beauty.
17. Distinctive impression created by a person
20. A large amount, as in _____ of noodles
21. Essence of a person
25. This colored liquid used in Chinese painting was made of refined soot.
26. Mineral used as money and decoration
28. A jade pendant _____ was worn on a cord.
29. Prefix referring to China
34. Advanced Placement (abbr.)
35. Old Testament (abbr.)

A Knot in Time

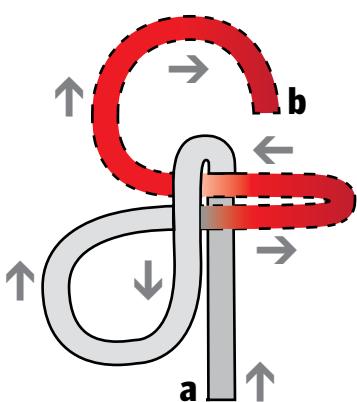
You may have seen knotted cords or ropes in museum cases. Many peoples — Egyptians, Celts, Romans and Chinese among them — have used knots to record news, business transactions, agricultural progress and tribal events; to construct bridges, houses and baskets; to cure illness and to ward off evil. As found in the Chinese *Book of Changes* and the *Annotations of the Book of Changes* during the Han Dynasty, knots indicated contract and legal agreements.

Over time, knots became more decorative as seen in pottery, sword hilts, carved furniture and jewelry. Each type of knot was named and held special meaning. By combining different knots and arranging them with objects, the cords had auspicious significance, expressed special messages and were powerful amulets.

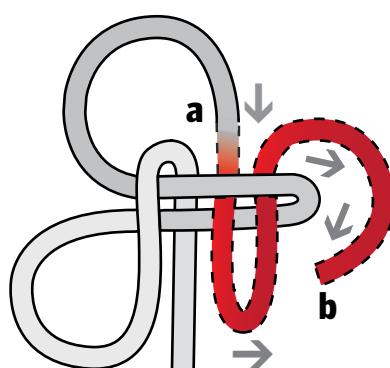
The designs that were developed in Tang and Song Dynasty (960-1229A.D.) and popularized in Ming and Qing Dynasty (1368-1911A.D.) appear today in belts and buttons, as zipper pulls and bookmarks, and incorporated in jewelry and art.

A characteristic of the Chinese knot is that every knot is made of a single cord. Its name indicates its specific form and meaning. The Chinese Clover Leaf or three-ring knot is believed to bring health and wealth into your house.

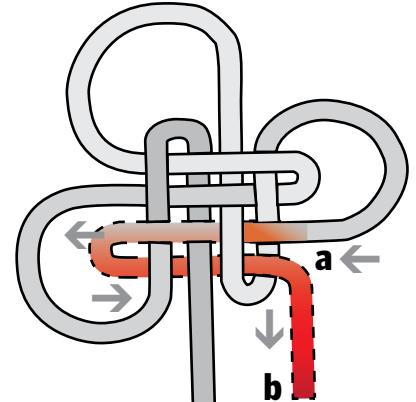
How to Tie a Clover Leaf Knot



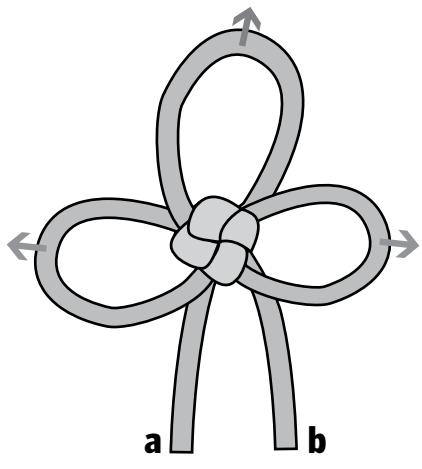
1 Begin the Knot Use the illustrations as guides. Begin at "a" and end at "b" for each step of the process. Arrows guide you as you create woven layers.



2 Use the Color Code Each new step, indicated in red, begins at the end of the previous weaving.



3 Go Over and Under Layers Be very careful to weave under and over as illustrated.



4 Pull the Cords Carefully
To create the three rings or clover leaf and center knot, pull slowly and evenly on the cord.



Materials needed

- Cord or string, 18" length, no less than $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick
- Foam core board 6" x 8" by $\frac{1}{2}$ " thickness
 - Dressmaker's or other pins

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program



What Is Happening Now? | *Search to Update*

The Washington Post keeps a foreign bureau in China. The reporters have the challenging job of providing *Post* readers with eyewitness coverage of one of the world's largest countries. Topics range from investment and trade to foreign models and panda agreements, from military strength to a Disney theme park in Shanghai, from detaining human rights activists Gao Zhisheng and Liu Xiaobo to basketball and baseball in China.

Use the *Post* e-Replica features to follow stories that interest you.

1. For the following story, what topics could you research?
2. Select one of the topics and search for current news. What key words will you use?
3. What is currently happening?

With Solar Valley project, China takes bold step on energy

BY ANDREW HIGGINS
Washington Post Staff Writer

• Originally Published May 17, 2010

DEZHOU, CHINA — Uprooting the last traces of rural life on the edge of this northern Chinese city, laborers with chain saws spent a recent morning cutting down trees to make way for a hulking factory. A big red banner trumpeted the future for what used to be farmland: “The Biggest Solar Energy

Production Base in the Whole World.”

Across China, villages are being turned into pollution-belching industrial zones, but nature’s retreat on the outskirts of Dezhou boasts a paradoxical purpose — protecting nature.

“This is an experiment. It is a big laboratory,” said Huang Ming, an oil industry engineer turned solar energy tycoon, who is driving one of China’s boldest efforts to promote, and profit from, green technology.

At the center of his outsize ambitions is Solar Valley, a massive exercise in social, economic and ecological engineering. As part of the project, tens of thousands of farmers have been moved into concrete apartment blocks and their land is being converted into what Huang and Dezhou’s planners hope will be China’s clean-technology answer to California’s Silicon Valley.

The \$740 million plan has attracted about 100 companies and spawned factories, a research center and wide boulevards illuminated by solar-powered lights. It highlights the promise — as well as the limits — of China’s efforts to reconcile breakneck economic development with environmental concerns.

4. What topics found in the fourth paragraph of this story could you research?

On December 29, 2010, Keith Richburg and Peter Whoriskey reported that in 2010, “for the first time, there were more cars sold in China than in the United States, and the magnitude of the nation’s demand has made it a key point of reference in discussions of greenhouse gas emissions and world economics” (“China to raise tax on small cars,” A8).

5. Select one of the topics and update the story.
6. Select another story about China to update. Provide the headline, reporter’s name, date and page of publication. What was the news when it was first reported? What is currently happening?

The Past in the Present

The environment, natural resources and human imagination for more than 5,000 years have created, changed and crafted the Chinese culture. Listed below are elements that compose China's culture — representative people, products and places.

Review the different topics that are grouped by theme. Select one to research. Read to learn about its origin, influence and reason it is considered a significant element of Chinese culture. You will be our class's expert on this topic. Be able to answer these questions: What role did your topic play in China's development, arts, traditions and history? Of what significance is it to today's popular culture and tourism?

Architecture

Beijing's courtyards and hutongs
Forbidden City
Gardens
Great Wall
Temples

Arts

Chinese Celadon and Tangsancai (tri-coloured Tang)
Cloisonné
Jade
Kizil Thousand Buddha Caves
Landscape paintings
Lanterns
Paper-cut work (Jianzhi)
Terra Cotta Warriors
Peking opera: Facial makeup and costumes
Peking opera: Mei Lanfang

Explorers and Pilgrims

Xuanzang (*Journey to the West*)
Zhang Qian (Chang Ch'ien)
Zheng He

Literature

Du Fu
Li Bai (or Li Po)
Su Dongpo (also known as Su Shi)

Major Cities

Beijing
Hangzhou
Shanghai
Suzhou
Xi'an
Urumqi

Mathematics and Science

Abacus
Fireworks
Herbal medicine
Inventions by Chinese — compass, gun powder, paper-making, printing (referred to as Four Great Inventions of Ancient China)

Nature

Bamboo
Pandas
Silkworms
Yangtze River
Yellow Rivers

Philosophy and Governance

Civil service exam system
Confucius
Laozi
Mensius

Women

Empress Dowager Cixi
Fu Hao
Huang Daopo
Empress Wu Zetian (in Han dynasty)
Xie Daoyun



Three Leads, Three Approaches, One Reporter

Keith B. Richburg, *Washington Post* foreign correspondent, covers China. In three stories he covers dimensions of modern Chinese culture, economics and business. Read the leads to each story. Analyze the approaches that he takes in each one.



KEITH RICHBURG/THE WASHINGTON POST



FREDERIC J. BROWN/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS VIA GETTY IMAGES



NIR ELIAS/REUTERS

TV matchmaking show runs afoul of China's morality campaign

BEIJING — “If You Are the One” is a Chinese television phenomenon, one of many popular matchmaking shows on which young people seek mates amid ribald jokes from the host and occasional racy comments from guests.

Audiences loved all the titillation, until last month — when Chinese government censors came down hard. After a contestant indicated she was angling for a wealthy man with a flashy car, government nannies ordered all matchmaking shows to cut the sexual innuendo, uphold traditional values and ban any talk of women “gold digging.”

The censorship is the latest and most public example of the government’s new crackdown on vice and perceived immorality. It comes even as China becomes more freewheeling and open, with people increasingly pushing the boundaries in matters involving taste, sex and money — and the intersection of the three.

In April, public security police in Beijing launched a “hard strike” campaign against prostitution, shutting down 33 entertainment venues — karaoke bars, massage parlors and nightclubs — said to be fronts for sex workers. The goal of the ongoing campaign is to “eradicate all social evils” and “advocate a healthy, civilized and high-minded lifestyle,” a police spokesman said.

— July 5, 2010

Chinese traders cash in on Pyongyang’s isolation

DANDONG, CHINA — Just across the Yalu River from North Korea, this sleepy border town in China’s Rust Belt is booming.

Towering apartment blocks are going up on the city’s western edge near the new Friendship Road Bridge, which will soon be the second bridge connecting Dandong to the North Korean city of Sinuiju.

Offices for trade and export-import companies dot the main road along the riverfront. A new airport is being built. Shops sell North Korean liquor, blueberry wine, ginseng, stamps and music CDs. And North Korean restaurants offer popular Korean dishes such as stewed dog leg and spicy deep-fried dog.

Dandong — like other parts of northeastern China along the 870-mile border — aims to profit from China and North Korea’s growing cross-border trade, now close to \$3 billion a year. Even as the United States and its allies are looking to isolate the Pyongyang regime for its nuclear program and erratic behavior, including this week’s artillery attack on a South Korean island, this hardscrabble part of China is finding that being North Korea’s back door to the world can be a lucrative business.

China provides for an estimated 90 percent of North Korea’s energy needs and most of its food and weapons. And the most recent gauge of trade between the two countries, from 2008, showed an increase of more than 40 percent from the year before, according to the Council on Foreign Relations.

— November 27, 2010

Ugly side to China’s plastic surgery boom

SHANGHAI — Wang Baobao got her first taste of plastic surgery when she was 16.

A nip and a tuck led to another nip and another tuck, another after that, and another, and another. There were the follow-up surgeries, and the repairs for the procedures that were botched the first time, and the second time, and the third time.

Wang, now 28, estimates that she has had 170 to 180 operations, usually six or seven at a time, and on “nearly every part of my body.” She had her eyes widened. She had her nose and jaw made narrower, and her chin shaped smaller. Her breasts were enhanced, but “I had to keep having operations to repair them.”

She had the fat taken out of her hips, thighs, stomach and backside. She even had implants put into the heels of her feet to try to make her taller; it didn’t work.

Wang’s experience, while extreme, is in many ways emblematic of China’s new and growing obsession with plastic surgery. Many now feel the craze has gone badly awry, as more and more unlicensed, unskilled and unscrupulous practitioners jump into an increasingly lucrative, yet largely unregulated industry.

The problems were highlighted last month when a promising 24-year-old singer, Wang Bei, died in an operating room in China’s central Hubei province while having a facelift.

— December 23, 2010

From Emperors to the World's Customers



DOVER PUBLICATIONS

Mythic Origins

A long time ago, many years ago, in 3000 B.C. the Yellow Emperor ruled China. Although some say he is but a mythic leader, others believe in him because of his wife — Lady Hsi-Ling-Shih.

The Yellow Emperor had a garden with streams and hills. Rainbow bridge crossed Goldfish Stream and ended at Mandarin Duck Hall. Pathways wound between pagodas and the Secluded Pavilion.

In the garden were the three friends of winter: Bamboo because it is flexible and can withstand storms represented survival in adversity. The Plum tree with its white blossoms stood for beauty among harsh conditions. Along the western wall the Pine trees grew in poor, rocky soil and stayed green. They symbolized survival through difficult times. But most of all, Lady Hsi-Ling-Shih loved the fragile Orchid. Although a modest flower, its fragrance filled hidden places.

One day as she walked in her husband's garden, she observed silkworms. They were killing the mulberry trees. Carefully she gathered cocoons. She called for tea. As she rested, one of the cocoons she had collected fell into the tea and began to unravel into a fine thread. Gently she wrapped the thread around her fingers.

She continued to observe the silkworms. An idea wound its way through her. She persuaded the Emperor to grant her a grove of mulberry trees and to allow her to rear silkworms. She invented a reel to lift the fibers. She invented a loom to weave them into a single, strong thread. She created fabric for the Yellow Emperor. Only he and she wore robes of yellow silk.

Routes to Silk

The Greek geographer Strabo and Roman Pliny the Elder wrote of the Seres ("land of silk") and their country Serica. Some believe this includes India and China. Ptolemy in *Geographia* mapped Sinae (China) at the "eastern extremity of the known earth."

Do some research to learn more about silk from China's imperial secret to today's global marketplace. Find the answers to the following questions.

1. What is the etymology of "silk"?
2. What have archaeologists discovered at Qianshangyang in Zhejiang province and along the Yellow and Yangzi rivers to prove the ancient origins of silk? What discoveries were unearthed outside of China?
3. For whom were silk garments exclusively woven? Tell about the color of the fabric and designs embroidered on the fabric.
4. What was the influence of China's monopoly on silk and the Silk Roads on China?
5. Explain the impact of silk in China's early trade upon other areas of the world.
6. Silk is also found in liquid and powder products. What are some of them, including ones that have their origins in ancient Chinese medicine?
7. Explain the process by which silk thread and fabric are made.
8. How is silk produced in modern China?
9. How important is silk in today's Chinese economy?
10. If you were in charge of the world's use of silk, what projects would you institute?

Silken Threads

Explain the relation of these terms to silk.



IPAK-KOZASI

Camel caravan
Chinoiserie
Cocoon
Embroidery
Loom
Mulberry
Sericulture
Silk moth (*Bombyx mori*)
Silk trade
Silkworm

Is the Social Safety Net Secure?

Keith B. Richburg is a foreign correspondent in *The Washington Post's* China bureau. He travels within China to bring *Post* readers an eyewitness account, meeting Chinese officials and ordinary citizens.

After reading “China weaves together a social safety net,” answer the following questions. Respond in complete sentences and include quotations from the text.

1. In one sentence and a two-question quotation, Keith B. Richburg gives essential information of Li Jian’s life. How does knowing this about him, help to form your reaction to the amount of his pension payment and “social harmony”?
2. What were your beliefs about the Chinese “welfare state” before reading this article? Did the amount paid to Li Jian surprise you? Why or why not?
3. What is the economic problem identified by Richburg?
4. What are the causes of the problem? To what extent does Tang Jun’s explanation help you to understand why “ordinary people” save rather than consume?
5. Explain how the fever chart clarifies the current save-spend situation.
6. In the 8th paragraph, Li again serves to represent his segment of society. What is the “iron rice bowl”? What has been the influence of Chinese capitalism on farmers?
7. Do U.S. citizens have a social safety net? Explain how it works and who it helps.
8. What are the core goals of the 2003 policy of “social harmony”?
9. Why have Houliang and Pianqiao been selected for visits by the *Post* reporter and China’s premier?
10. Is this plan of Hu Jintao and Wen Jiabao likely to succeed? Is this plan ethical? In keeping with traditional values? Explain your responses.

Map Gallery



LARIS KARKLIS /THE WASHINGTON POST

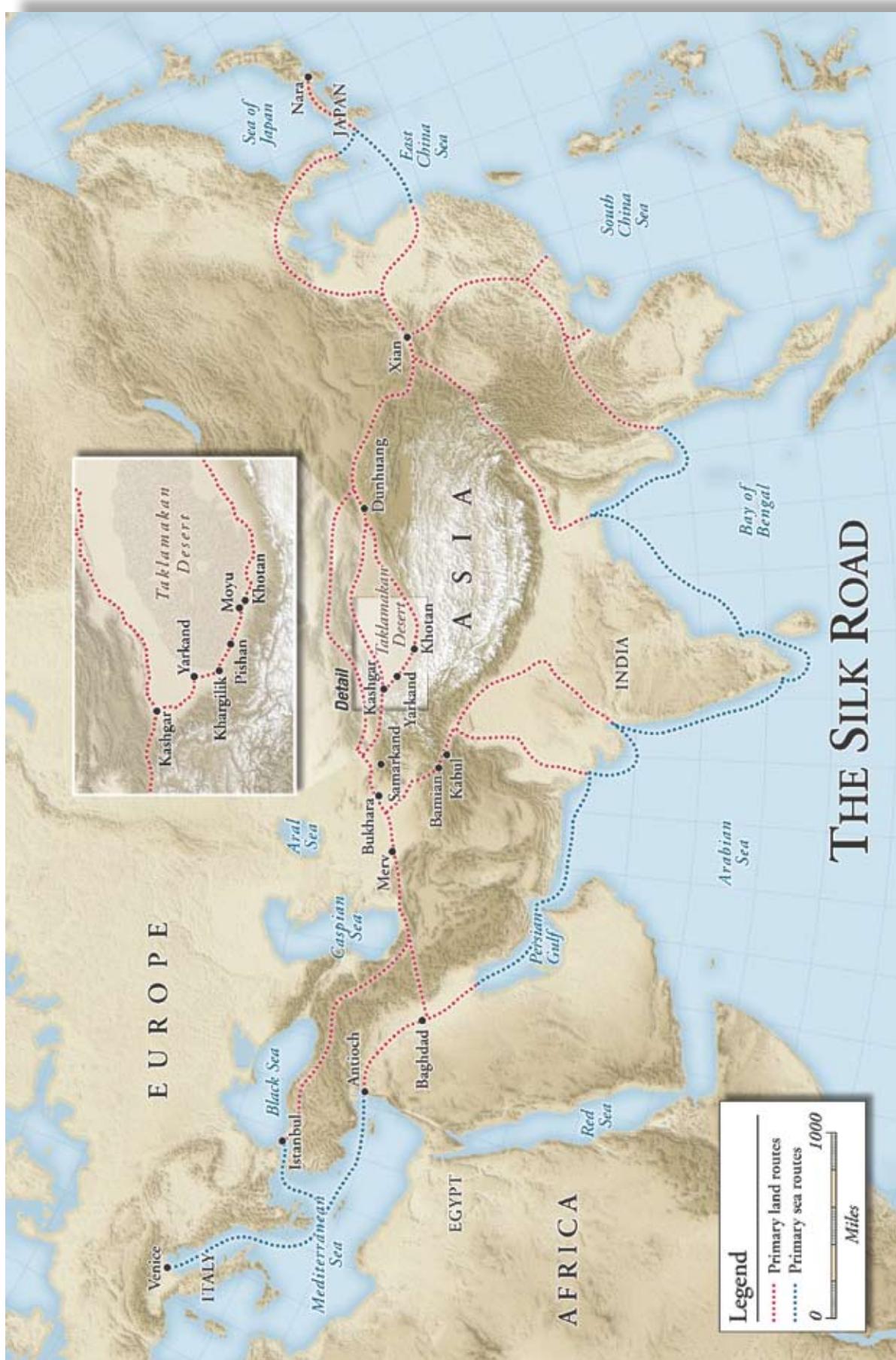


GENE THORP/THE WASHINGTON POST



GOOGLE MAPS

Map Gallery | *continued*



GENE THORP/THE WASHINGTON POST

THE SILK ROAD

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program



A shift on China

THE OBAMA administration's policy toward China shows signs of a significant adjustment on the eve of a state visit to Washington by President Hu Jintao. The potential change was embedded in a major speech on U.S.-Chinese relations delivered Friday by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. It was Ms. Clinton who disastrously declared early in the administration's tenure that human rights concerns would not be allowed to "interfere" with U.S.-Chinese relations. In her latest speech she addressed the issue at length, making the case that "the longer China represses freedoms, the longer ... empty chairs in Oslo will remain a symbol of a great nation's unrealized potential and unfulfilled promise."

Ms. Clinton also spoke of the economic agenda with Beijing and the need for China to revalue its currency and enforce intellectual property laws — matters addressed in separate speeches last week by the Treasury and Commerce secretaries. She covered the often difficult U.S.-China dialogue over North Korea, which lately appears to have achieved convergence on a strategy of supporting improved relations between North Korea and South Korea.

But the novelty in the secretary's speech was the introduction of China's repression of peaceful dissent and its unjust and cruel treatment of political prisoners as a major theme in the administration's public diplomacy toward China. Ms. Clinton specifically cited Liu Xiaobo, the Nobel Peace Prize winner prevented from attending the prize ceremony in Oslo, and Gao Zhisheng, a human rights lawyer who has been illegally held incommunicado since last April. Ms. Clinton argued

that "those who advocate peacefully for reform within the constitution . . . should not be harassed or prosecuted" and that liberalization of freedom of expression and civil society would "help address some of China's most pressing issues."

Ms. Clinton's newfound assertiveness on these issues comes at an opportune moment, for a couple of reasons. One is that while Mr. Hu, whose five-year term will end in 2012, has presided over a period of stagnation in Chinese politics, support for liberalization has appeared to be growing within the Chinese elite. Mr. Hu's deputy, premier Wen Jiabao, has spoken out repeatedly in recent months about the need for reform, saying in one interview that "the people's desire and need for democracy and freedom are irresistible." Second, China's would-be reformers face an ugly contrary current, seemingly centered in the military, that has been pushing a belligerent foreign policy, including toward the United States. A visit to China last week by Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates was marred by the staging of a test of a new stealth fighter plane on the day Mr. Gates met Mr. Hu — who apparently learned of the provocative demonstration from Mr. Gates.

Mr. Hu's visit offers the opportunity for the United States to make clear that a liberalizing China will be far more welcome as it rises as a world power than one that continues to deny its citizens freedom and the rule of law. A freer China is also more likely to curb its nationalist and militarist impulses. Ms. Clinton has made a good start; Mr. Obama must now reinforce the message. ■

— Tuesday, January 18, 2011

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

DAVID IGNATIUS

China's anxious ascent

Will Beijing choose democracy or paranoia?

SHANGHAI

"Warmly welcome to Sino-Century," says an electronic display at the entrance to a private-equity fund here. That's the name of the firm, but it's also a good description of the rising China that could dominate the next 100 years as the United States did the previous century.

So an American visitor here inevitably wonders: What will this Sino-century be like, for China and the world? Can the country's opaque and autocratic political system cope with the economic forces it has unleashed, or is a time bomb ticking under the gaudy prosperity? And perhaps most worrying: Is this ascendant China heading toward a collision

with an America that instinctively thinks of itself as the world's leading power?

After a weeklong visit here, I come away more perplexed by these questions than when I arrived. The new wealth of the coastal cities is stunning, and it justifies all the hype you've read. But China's political fragility is also evident; uncertainty about the future is clear among members of the elite who are investing abroad and obtaining foreign passports as hedges, at the same time they are harvesting fortunes in renminbi.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese police officers during an anti-Japan protest on Sunday, October 24, 2010.

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

This new China is at once cocky and scared — anxiously looking over its shoulder even as it races ahead. Chinese officials keep reminding you how poor the country is, while also boasting of its success. They're increasingly pushy with neighboring countries but insist that China doesn't want enemies.

The ambivalence is clear when Chinese talk about the United States. America is a favorite destination for students and tourists, and there's a deep affinity for our rollicking, acquisitive capitalist ways. But Victor Yuan, a Chinese pollster, says that America has topped the public's list of China's "most dangerous enemies" for nine of the past 10 years.

The contrast between a rising China and a flagging America is reinforced by the Shanghai Expo, a festival of national self-congratulation spread along the banks of the Huangpu River. The Chinese pavilion features a film that compresses into a few minutes the astounding story of China's economic growth over the past 30 years. The dazzling images are interwoven with a saying of Confucius — "Follow your heart's desire without overstepping the line" — and I suspect every Chinese viewer understands the message: Be careful; obey the party; don't blow a good thing.

Over at the modest American pavilion, the welcoming film features self-satisfied Americans botching simple phrases in Chinese. It's an unwittingly apt national self-portrait.

The blessings of China's prosperity, and its limits, come through in a series of conversations arranged by the Committee of 100, a group of Chinese Americans that organized the tour I joined. A Jamaican American expatriate raves about the system's "utilitarian" virtues but concedes it is also "soulless." A Chinese analyst fears that a crisis of legitimacy will produce external war or domestic strife. A Chinese student

bemoans China's "lack of confidence" and worries that "people now only believe in money."

Perhaps to help fill the spiritual void, the government encourages national fervor. In Nanjing, there's a powerful memorial to the Japanese plunder of the city in 1937, with graphic exhibits that must outrage Chinese visitors. China's reservoir of anti-Japanese feeling burst open with riots in several cities after a recent naval confrontation.

The prospect of a Chinese-American showdown is the trickiest problem of all. Jianyou Guo, a graduate student at Beijing's Tsinghua University who has served in the military, argues that his country must develop "more powerful naval forces" to protect its interests. And the 19th-century American apostle of sea power, Alfred Thayer Mahan, is very popular with the Chinese military. But Beijing is more focused on future spheres of warfare — in space and cyberspace.

Dingli Shen, a prominent military analyst at Fudan University here, argues that Mahan's theories are outmoded. "China needs to go to space," he says. With a laser from space, "any ship will be burned." Rather than competing with the United States to build ships or tanks, China should develop more advanced weapons "to make other command systems fail to work."

"You eat steak. We eat rice congee. How can we have the same opinions?" Jokes a Chinese stand-up comedian named Libo Zhou. Translation: Let us be Chinese.

A week previewing life in the Sino-century left me with this thought: Paradoxically, perhaps, America has a big stake in China's success. And though Chinese leaders don't like hearing it, that means pushing them to achieve the genuine stability that can come only with a more democratic, less paranoid political system. The alternative is the anarchic crack-up that nobody talks about, but everybody fears. ■

— Monday, October 25, 2010

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

A newly unhindered China invests billions for a scientific edge

Freed from traditional politics and ethics, researchers soar higher

BY JOHN POMFRET

Washington Post Staff Writer

• Originally Published June 28, 2010

SHENZHEN, CHINA — Last year, Zhao Bowen was part of a team that cracked the genetic code of the cucumber. These days, he's probing the genetic basis for human IQ.

Zhao is 17.

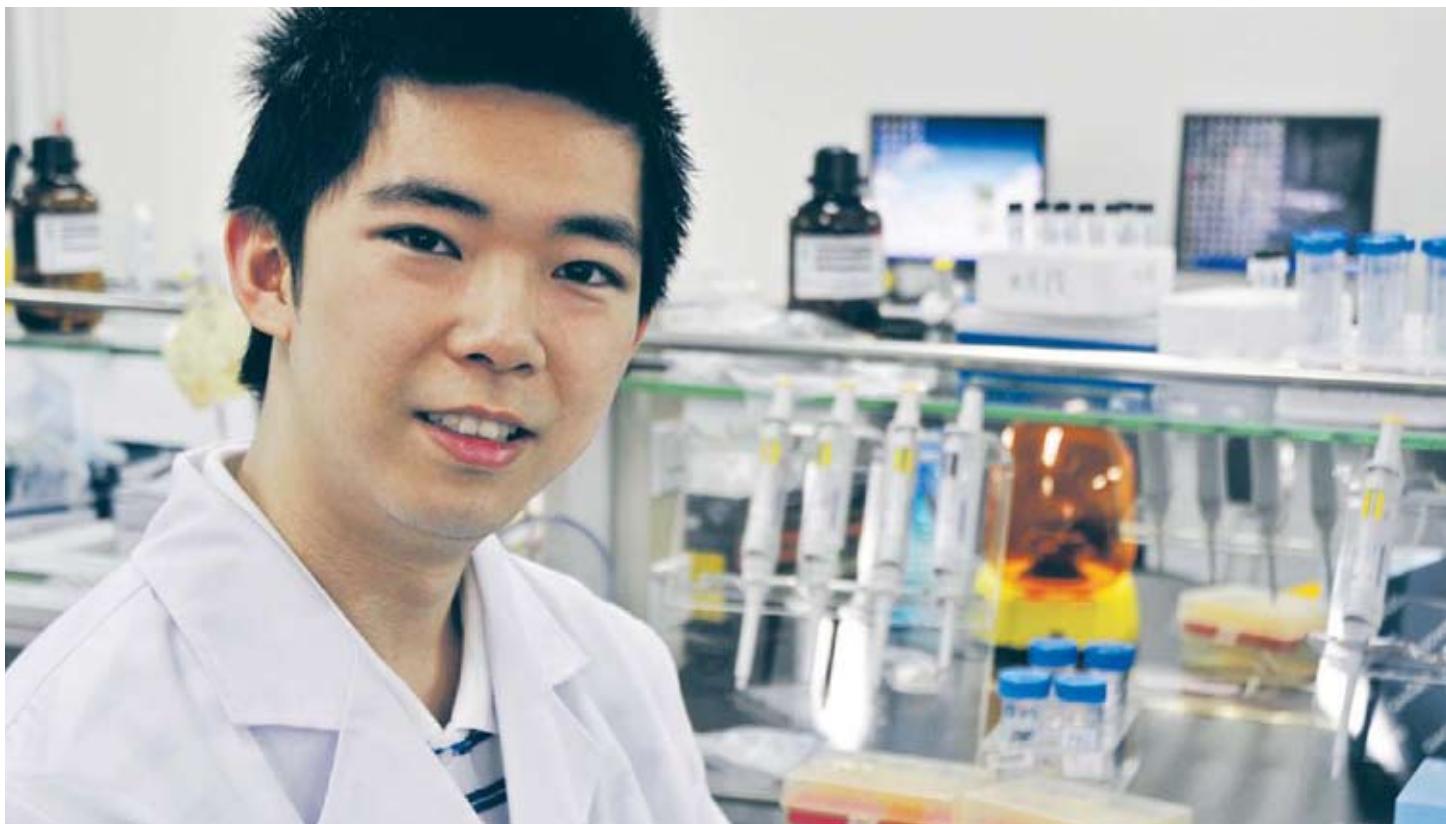
Centuries after it led the world in technological prowess — think gunpowder, irrigation and the printed word — China has barged back into the ranks of the great powers in science. With the brashness of a teenager, in some cases literally, China's scientists and inventors are driving a resurgence in potentially world-changing research.

Unburdened by social and legal

constraints common in the West, China's trailblazing scientists are also pushing the limits of ethics and principle as they create a new — and to many, worrisome — Wild West in the Far East.

A decade ago, no one considered China a scientific competitor. Its best and brightest agreed and fled China in a massive brain drain to university

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



YUAN SHUILING/IMAGINE CHINA

Chinese researcher and data analyst Zhao Bowen in the lab of BGI, which has insulated itself from the government's dictates.

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

research labs at Harvard, Stanford and MIT.

But over the past five years, Western-educated scientists and gutsy entrepreneurs have conducted a rearguard action, battling China's hidebound bureaucracy to establish research institutes and companies. Those have lured home scores of Western-trained Chinese researchers dedicated to transforming the People's Republic of China into a scientific superpower.

"They have grown so fast and so suddenly that people are still skeptical," said Rasmus Nielsen, a geneticist at the University of California at Berkeley who collaborates with Chinese counterparts. "But we should get used to it. There is competition from China now, and it's really quite drastic how things have changed."

China has invested billions in improving its scientific standing. Almost every Chinese ministry has some sort of program to win a technological edge in everything from missiles to medicine. Beijing's minister of science and technology, Wan Gang, will visit the United States in early July and is expected to showcase some of China's successes.

In May, for example, a supercomputer produced in China was ranked the world's second-fastest machine at an international conference in Germany. China is now in fourth place, tied with Germany, in terms of the number of

supercomputers. China has jumped to second place — up from 14th in 1995 — behind the United States in the number of research articles published in scientific and technical journals worldwide.

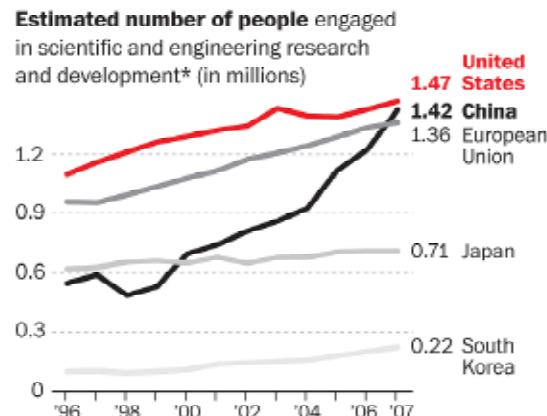
Backed by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Chinese medical researchers, partnering with a firm in the United States, beat out an Indian team last year to develop a new test for cervical cancer that costs less than \$5. The goal is to test 10 million Chinese

Meanwhile, Chinese military researchers appear to be on the cusp of a significant breakthrough: a land-based anti-ship ballistic missile that is causing concern within the U.S. Navy.

In 2007, Chinese geneticists discovered vast differences in the genetic makeup of Africans, Asians and Caucasians. They will soon report a breakthrough showing why some people — such as Tibetans — can live effortlessly at high altitudes while others can't.

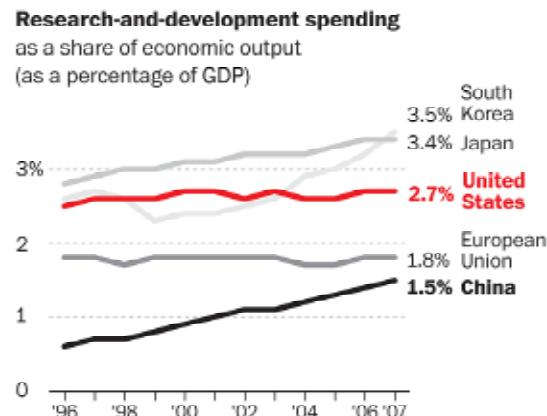
An emerging scientific competitor

China is determined to establish itself as a scientific superpower, steadily increasing its pool of scientific researchers and funding toward research projects to compete globally.



*Reported on a full-time basis. 2007 data for the United States are estimated based on annual growth rate between 1995 and 2006.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation



THE WASHINGTON POST

women within three years.

Chinese engineers have significantly improved on Western and Soviet coal-gasification technology as part of a multibillion-dollar effort to create green Chinese energy.

Action, not research

"The action is here," said S. Ming Sung, the chief Asia-Pacific representative for the Clean Air Task Force, a U.S.-based nonprofit entity, and a former Shell Oil executive. "In the U.S., there are too many paper researchers. Here, they are doing things."

There are challenges. China is still considered weak at innovation, and Chinese bureaucrats routinely mandate discoveries — fantasy-world marching orders that Western scientists view as absurd.

In 2008, the Ministry of Science and Technology gave researchers two years to come up with 30 medicines ready for clinical trials and only five days to apply for grants to fund the work. That's despite the fact that since the communist revolution in 1949, China

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

has developed only one internationally recognized drug — Artemisinin — to fight malaria.

Chinese science and technology is also awash in scams and sometimes-troubling practices. More than 200 institutions in China practice controversial stem cell therapies for people suffering from injuries, diseases or birth defects. Although the government moved last year to regulate the industry, none of the techniques has been subjected to rigorous clinical trials.

China is also the leading source of what are known as “junk” patents — ridiculous claims of “inventions” that are little more than snake-oil scams.

“This discovery is going to shake the world!” bellowed Liu Jian, chief executive of Hualong Fertilizer Technique Co. Liu says he has developed a method to reduce fertilizer use by half through the use of nanotechnology, although officials at the Agriculture Ministry mock the claim. “Will you help us raise some capital?” Liu asked in an interview.

Finally, plagiarism and doctored results seem to be as common as chopsticks. A study by Wuhan University uncovered an entire industry of bogus report and thesis writers who raked in \$145 million last year, a fivefold increase since 2007.

The emergence of China as a nascent scientific superpower raises questions about the U.S. relationship with Beijing. Ever since the United States opened the door to Chinese students in the 1970s, hundreds of thousands have flocked to America. Most have studied science or engineering and have been welcomed in research institutions across the land. But with China becoming a competitor, U.S. experts have begun to question that practice.

FBI officials allege that there is a large-scale operation in the United States to pilfer American industrial, scientific,

technological and military secrets. In the past few years, dozens of Chinese have been convicted of stealing American technology and shipping it to China.

“The science and technology relationship with China has always stood up against all kinds of political pressures,” said Richard P. Suttmeier, who has researched China’s rise for the National Science Foundation. “Now that you have competition going on, finding the basis for cooperation in the absence of trust is an issue. It goes to questions of espionage and a hunger for technology.”

That hunger is evident in the halls of BGI, home to Zhao Bowen and more than 1,500 other Chinese scientists and technicians. Located in an industrial zone in the southern Chinese megalopolis of Shenzhen, BGI has grown into one of the world’s leading genomics institutes devoted to deciphering the genetic blueprint of organisms.

Over the past few years, scientists at BGI sequenced the genes of a chicken, a silkworm, a panda, a strain of rice and 4,000-year-old human remains from Greenland.

In January, BGI made the biggest purchase of genome sequencing equipment ever, buying 128 ultra-high-tech machines from California-based Illumina. With that one acquisition, BGI could very well surpass the entire gene-sequencing output of the United States.

Shunning dictates

Inside the 11-story facility, the vibe is pure Silicon Valley start-up: shorts, flip-flops, ankle bracelets, designer eyewear and a random tattoo. Zhao came to BGI on a summer internship last year to work on cucumbers. Now a full-time employee while continuing his studies, Zhao is turning his attention to a topic Western researchers have shied away from because of ethical worries: Zhao plans to study the genes of 1,000 of his

best-performing classmates at a top high school in Beijing and compare them, he said, “with 1,000 normal kids.”

BGI’s secret — and the secret to a lot of China’s best scientific institutes — seems to be insulating itself from China’s government bureaucracy. BGI started as the Beijing Genomics Institute in the early 2000s but left Beijing in 2007 after the Ministry of Science and Technology tried to dictate what it could and could not study.

The Shenzhen city government offered it millions of dollars in grants and operating expenses to move south. Last year, BGI received a \$1.5 billion line of credit from the China Development Bank.

“We came here because it was the best place for us to pursue science,” said Yang Huanming, the institute’s founder. “We’re not interested in politics.”

By far, China’s most successful research institution is the National Institute for Biological Sciences, known as NIBS, which is responsible for half of the peer-reviewed publications in China. The institute’s 23 principal investigators, its director and deputy director are all returnees from the United States. It’s also the only major research institute in China that does not have a Communist Party secretary.

Luo Minmin, 37, a neurobiologist, returned to China six years ago after getting his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and completing a postdoctoral research stint at Duke. Luo said he has a big budget at NIBS and greater research freedom than he would have in the United States. He’s studying a gene involved in attention-deficit disorder.

“If I had stayed in America, the chances of making a discovery would have been lower,” he said. “Here, people are willing to take risks. They give you money, and essentially you can do whatever you want.” ■

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China weaves together a social safety net

Leaders hope the country's expanding web of programs will persuade citizens to consume more, save less

BY KEITH B. RICHBURG
Washington Post Staff Writer

• Originally Published July 14, 2010

HOULIANG VILLAGE, CHINA — Ninety-year-old Li Jian fought with his local militia on the Communist side in the 1940s civil war and later volunteered to fight in Korea. "I contributed so much for the country," he said. But he added,

with just a hint of bitterness, "The government never took care of me."

That is, until now.

In January, Li received his first pension payment — about \$40 for five months — and he gets \$7.38 more in monthly welfare payments because he is so poor. It's not much, he said, but it buys him cigarettes and the occasional drink.

This is China's version of the welfare state, an expanding web of programs designed to help the sick, the elderly, the poor and the unemployed.

Aside from the individual benefits, there is a larger economic imperative to the new social programs. The country's leaders want to persuade Chinese citizens to spend more and save less, a goal that analysts say could be achieved if the government provided a safety net. Increasing domestic consumption

would decrease China's reliance on the American and European export markets for its growth — a goal also being pushed by Washington and China's other Western trading partners.

The key reason Chinese save so much and consume so little, experts say, is because without dependable government payments, they need to sock away money for the future — for medical emergencies, for children's educational expenses, as a guarantee against a job loss or to help elderly parents.

"When a person has no medical insurance, unemployment insurance or endowment insurance, how can that person dare spend all their money?" said Tang Jun, a sociology researcher with the China Academy of Social Sciences. "The Chinese people are a nationality that likes saving money. ... Ordinary people will only feel relieved about consuming if they don't have to worry about not having money when they get old and not having money to go to the hospital."

In the past three decades, since China's great leap into capitalism smashed the old socialist concept of the "iron rice bowl," poor farmers such as Li scrimped by on society's margins — bypassed by China's growing prosperity and without the helping hand of the state. Lacking any social safety net, the rural poor relied on meager savings and the generosity of their children, who often worked as migrant laborers in the towns.

President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao, who came to office in 2003, have made the catchphrase of their tenure "social harmony," which most often means closing the yawning income gap between the cities and rural areas, providing wider access to health care and education, and assisting those left



AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE VIA GETTY IMAGES

A Chinese boy sits in front of his immigrant mother's stand at a market in Beijing. In recent years, China has begun expanding its web of programs designed to help the sick, the elderly, the poor and the unemployed.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

behind by China's breakneck economic growth.

As part of that effort, the government has taken in recent years its first steps toward weaving together a social safety net that includes, for the first time, pensions and medical insurance covering 830 million farmers, expanded unemployment insurance and direct cash payments — known as a “dibao” — for the poorest of the poor. Last year, the government put \$9 billion into the dibao system, nearly a 70 percent increase over the previous year.

‘The future is uncertain’

Analysts say the programs are too new, and the amounts spent too meager, to show any discernable effect in spending habits. But rural spending has ticked up slightly in China mainly because of incentives in the government’s stimulus package, including a lower value added tax in the countryside and programs to allow rural residents to buy new appliances at reduced prices. The government wants to create a domestic market for its products to reduce reliance on exports and create a sustainable pattern for future growth.

Many of the programs are in the pilot stage. Here in Hebei province, some farmers said they began paying into the medical insurance fund only this year. Although government assistance is popular, there is some wariness about whether it will last and whether the benefits will be distributed fairly. Besides, the culture of relying on self and family is deeply ingrained.

“I’m still healthy,” said Li, sturdy despite his years. “I still need to farm and sell food to make a living. ... My family treats me well — what else do I need?”

Li’s daughter-in-law, Zhang Yuxia, 52, agreed. “Right now, we try to do more work and save more money,” she said. “In the future, I think we have to rely on our kids. In China, you cannot predict

The changes have happened on the surface,” says Su Hongxi, 69, who lives in the rural village of Pianqiao in Hebei province. “There’s been no real change in life.”



KEITH B. RICHBERG/THE WASHINGTON POST

the government very well. The future is uncertain. It’s more reliable if we depend on ourselves.”

Their village, Houliang, is in Luanping county, rated one of China’s poorest. It is just 93 miles, but a world away, from the skyscrapers and shopping malls of Beijing. Many of the young men from this area go to work on the construction sites in China’s big cities. Houliang and villages like it are filled with women, the elderly and small children.

Wen, the premier, visited this county in 2000 and 2005 and again in January, returning each time to the same village, Pianqiao. During the National People’s Congress in March, Wen suggested that journalists visit the area, saying, “You’ll learn that the development of Beijing and Shanghai cannot represent the whole China.”

Su Hongxi, 69, met Wen on each of his visits to Pianqiao, the first coming when Su was the village’s Communist Party chief. Su said he appreciates the reforms, including the new pension money he began collecting this year. But, he said, “right now, the money is not enough. I hope the government can increase the pension a little bit. ... The changes have happened on the surface. There’s been no real change in life.”

‘A long way to go’

Economists and other experts said establishing a social safety net will become essential for China down the line because of a rapidly aging population, the existence of fewer children to support their parents due to the “one child” family planning policy and the migration of younger Chinese to the cities.

“The family protection function is going to be weakened,” said Tang, the researcher at the China Academy of Social Sciences. “For the old in the countryside, they can no longer depend on the family support.”

Still, experts said it will be a long time before China’s social system approaches the level that is needed. “For years, the government was absent in taking care of the weak groups,” said Han Keping, an assistant professor at Renmin University. “The increasing investment in the rural social security system demonstrates that the government realized the farmers should not be ignored.”

But he added, “There is still a long way to go.” ■

Researcher Zhang Jie in Beijing contributed to this report.

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China's push to develop its west hasn't closed income gap with east, critics say

BY KEITH B. RICHLBERG

Washington Post Staff Writer• *Originally Published June 29, 2010*

BEIJING — Ten years ago, China's leadership launched its "Go West" campaign, an ambitious plan to develop and modernize the country's poor western hinterlands. The aim was simple: to close the region's yawning income gap with the more prosperous east and assuage restive minority populations, particularly in Xinjiang and Tibet.

China's economic boom had largely left the west behind. Spreading the wealth was as important politically as economically—it was a way of increasing domestic stability and cementing the government's control.

Chinese officials rattle off all the statistical measures of the program's success: Highways were constructed. Houses were built. Nomads were resettled in "model" villages. Millions of people have electricity and clean drinking water. A rail line links Beijing in the east to Lhasa on the Tibetan plateau. And annual economic growth in the west is about 12 percent, higher than the national average.

But beneath the barrage of official statistics lies another reality. China's west — defined as the dozen provinces and "autonomous regions" stretching from Inner Mongolia to Xinjiang and Tibet — remains the poorest, least-developed and least-educated part of the country.

The massive investment, critics say, has mainly benefited state-



BLOOMBERG VIA GETTY IMAGES

Workers help construct a highway bridge across the Yellow River near Zhongwei in western China's dirt-poor Ningxia autonomous region.

owned companies that build the roads and railways and mine the minerals. There is little indigenous industry and scant foreign investment. Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced from their homes, and nomads have

been resettled into villages where they have no livelihood. Locals complain that China is primarily interested in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

extracting minerals to keep the factories back east running.

The decade of development spending still has not bought the loyalty of China's ethnic minorities. Muslim Uighurs in Xinjiang rioted last year, and Tibetans rose up in March 2008. Beijing has responded by severely tightening control in both places.

"The government has talked for years about this and that benefit they have brought to Tibetans," said Tsering Woeser, an outspoken Tibetan poet and blogger in Beijing. "But they never explained why, if the people are so happy, such a big riot happened."

Woeser added: "In recent years, there have been improvements in housing, electricity and water supplies. But these improvements cannot compare with the price Tibetans pay."

The sentiment is not confined to Tibet. Most agree that China's decade-long building spree has led to tangible improvements. "The economic development of the western region has made huge strides," Premier Wen Jiabao said late last year, announcing China's plans to continue the Go West campaign "unswervingly" for another decade.

Who actually benefits?

But the question is: At what cost to indigenous populations and the environment? "Nobody disputes that there are now many miles of roads and many airports and people coming in on planes," said Robert Barnett, a Tibet expert at Columbia University. "It's misleading to just ask if there's been economic progress. Who benefits from it? What is the cost locally, culturally and politically?"

Nicholas Bequelin, a China expert with the Asian division of Human Rights Watch, said: "It's not a people-centered modernization program. It's a top-down program that has mostly benefited state enterprises and the party-controlled institutions."

Xinjiang is China's largest region, making up one-sixth of its landmass, and Tibet is the second-largest, twice the size of Texas and accounting for one-eighth the area of the country.

The west, as China defines it, includes coal mining areas such as Shanxi;



REUTERS

A man works June 17 on one of the many construction projects underway in China; this one is the Lanzhou-Urumqi railway line.

tiny, dirt-poor Ningxia; and relatively better-off provinces such as Sichuan. The west borders 14 countries, makes up 70 percent of China's landmass and is home to 27 percent of the population.

Timothy Oakes, a geography professor at the University of Colorado at Boulder, has worked regularly in Guizhou, in southwestern China, for more than 20 years. "The basic infrastructure improvements have actually been quite stunning," he said, adding that new highways have "changed the whole way of life in a whole lot of places."

But Oakes also said the development has been uneven and has failed to help Guizhou catch up with more prosperous areas: "The numbers mask the fact that you probably have the same degree of inequality in those regions as before, and probably worse. I still see large amounts of the countryside that are not being affected."

Small-scale business

Chinese officials mention handicrafts and pharmaceuticals as two growing local industries. But economists said those are extremely small-scale. "They can't be the local economy's backbone," said Yi Peng, a finance and economics commentator in Beijing.

The reasons include economics and geography. In China's export-driven economy, factories need to be close to the ports, and that means on the east coast or in the southeast. "Inland areas are bound to fall behind," Yi said.

The bulk of the economic activity in the western provinces is in mining. But local areas get little economic benefit. The biggest impacts, many critics say, are that people are relocated and that fragile ecosystems are threatened.

Tibet was recently discovered to be a treasure trove of mineral deposits — iron ore, copper, lead and zinc that could reduce China's reliance on minerals from abroad. But activists, academics and others are worried that Tibet's delicate ecology will come under assault from an influx of Chinese mining concerns.

"Is it really necessary to develop the west?" Yi asked. "In my opinion, the living environment and the people's feeling are the most important." ■

Staff researcher Liu Liu contributed to this report.

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Beijing tries to push beyond ‘Made in China’ status to find name-brand innovation

BY JOHN POMFRET

Washington Post Staff Writer

• Originally Published May 25, 2010

Quick: Think of a Chinese brand name. Japan has Sony. Mexico has Corona.

Germany has BMW. South Korea? Samsung.

And China has ...?

If you’re stumped, you’re not alone. And for China, that is an enormous problem.

Last year, China overtook Germany to become the world’s largest exporter, and this year it could surpass Japan as

the world’s No. 2 economy. But as China gains international heft, its lack of global brands threatens its dream of becoming a superpower.

No big marquee brands means China is stuck doing the global grunt work in factory cities while designers and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30



MATTHEW NIEDERHAUSER FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Hundreds of desktop computers are assembled each day at the Lenovo Beijing factory. Most are destined for corporate use.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

engineers overseas reap the profits. Much of Apple's iPhone, for example, is made in China. But if a high-end version costs \$750, China is lucky to hold on to \$25. For a pair of Nikes, it's four pennies on the dollar.

"We've lost a bucketload of money to foreigners because they have brands and we don't," complained Fan Chunyong, the secretary general of the China Industrial Overseas Development and Planning Association. "Our clothes are Italian, French, German, so the profits are all leaving China. ... We need to create brands, and fast."

The problem is exacerbated by China's lack of successful innovation and its reliance on stitching and welding together products that are imagined, invented and designed by others. A failure to innovate means China is trapped paying enormous amounts in patent royalties and licensing fees to foreigners who are.

China's government has responded in typically lavish fashion, launching a multibillion-dollar effort to create brands, encourage innovation and protect its market from foreign domination.

Through tax breaks and subsidies, China has embraced what it calls "a going-out strategy," backing firms seeking to buy foreign businesses, snap up natural resources or expand their footprint overseas.

Domestically, it has launched the "indigenous innovation" program to encourage its companies to manufacture high-tech goods by forcing foreign firms to hand over their trade secrets and patents if they want to sell their products there.

Since 2007, thousands of Chinese businessmen have attended government-sponsored seminars on "going out," learning everything from how to do battle with domineering Americans and Britons during conference calls to why a Chinese boss should think twice about

publicly humiliating his wayward foreign workers — as he'd do to his staff at home.

China has also moved to re-brand China itself. Late last year, when memories of China's poisoned pet food and deadly milk were still fresh, the Ministry of Commerce contracted with the global advertising giant DDB for a \$300,000 ad showing a series of high-tech products, from top-of-the-line running shoes to an iPod.

As a guitar wails, a voice intones: "When it says 'Made in China,' what it really means is made in China, made with the world."

Remaining insular

In recent months, the Western media have hyperventilated with stories about China's going-out strategy and about Chinese firms buying up the globe — Oil! Gas! Cars! — and even investing in the United States. In 2000, China had \$28 billion in overseas investments; this year, it could break \$200 billion.

But a little perspective: Even if China's total foreign direct investment hits \$200 billion, it still pales in comparison to smaller economies, such as Singapore's, Russia's and Brazil's. And China has plunked down only about \$17 billion in rich countries, equivalent to the overseas assets of a single medium-ranked Fortune 500 company.

The 34 Chinese companies on the Fortune 500 list basically operate in China only. The world's three biggest banks are Chinese, but none is among the world's top 50, ranked by the extent of their geographical spread.

"Moving forward another 10 years," said Kenneth J. DeWoskin, chairman of Deloitte's China Research and Insight Center, "it's hard to see how viable Chinese companies will be if they just stay in China."

China's attempts to fight what it sees as the stranglehold of foreign patents and intellectual property

rights have also had hiccups.

China is estimated to have paid foreign firms more than \$100 billion in royalties to use mobile telephone technology developed in the West, according to executives of Western communications companies.

So in the late 1990s, it decided to develop its own. But after more than \$30 billion in development costs, its unique technology still has fewer than 20 million users in a market of more than 500 million.

Handset makers have told China's government that they won't produce phones equipped with the new technology unless they are given subsidies. And China has resorted to giving away the technology to Romania and South Korea to encourage broader use.

"China is still stuck," said Joerg Wuttke, former president of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China and a 25-year veteran of doing business in China. "There is a huge disconnect between the money spent in universities and the lack of products."

China also faces enormous challenges to creating globalized firms. Studies of Chinese executives show that they spend far more time with government officials — who in China are the key to their profits — than with customers, who are the key to international success.

"Chinese executives like me need to spend a generation outside China to learn how business is done around the world," said Hua Dongyi, who chairs a massive Chinese mining company in Australia but has also built roads in Algeria and infrastructure in Sudan.

That's definitely true for Hua. In April, he was forced to apologize to his Australian workers after he told Chinese media that the workers were money-grubbing and lacked the "loyalty and sense of responsibility existing in many Chinese enterprises."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

Lenovo's lessons

The Chinese computer maker Lenovo, which bought IBM's ThinkPad in 2004, wasn't the first Chinese company to acquire a big foreign brand, but it's still considered the pioneer.

That's probably because China's other forays into buying foreign brands have ended in disaster. An attempt by the Chinese electronics firm TCL to become the world's biggest TV manufacturer in 2003 fizzled when its French subsidiary lost \$250 million.

A move by a private Chinese company to take over a once-dominant U.S. lawn mower company, Murray Outdoor Power Equipment, ended in bankruptcy because, among other mistakes, the Chinese firm didn't realize that Americans tend to buy mowers mostly in the spring.

Lenovo purchased IBM's laptop division for \$1.25 billion — a gutsy move considering that IBM's renowned ThinkPad brand lost \$1 billion from 2000-2004, twice Lenovo's total profit during that time.

Although Lenovo's move was portrayed by many in the West as a sign of China's rise, Lenovo acted out of desperation, said Yang Yuanqing, who has been a senior executive at Lenovo since it was founded in the 1980s with government funds.

Lenovo was losing market share in China. Its technology was middling. It had no access to foreign markets. With

one swoop, Lenovo internationalized, purchased a famous brand and got a warehouse of technology as well.

But from the start, things were tough.

Lenovo's American competitors fanned anti-Chinese flames in Congress, insinuating that Lenovo could insert spyware into the computers it was selling to the U.S. government. The firm also faced enormous challenges bridging cultural divides among U.S. workers at its Raleigh, N.C., headquarters, the Japanese who made ThinkPads and the Chinese who made Lenovos.

William Amelio, the firm's second chief executive who had been lured from a top job at Dell, remembers his first trip to Beijing as the new Lenovo boss in late 2005.

"I was greeted with rose petals and the red carpet treatment and company songs. In Raleigh, everyone's arms were crossed. It was like, 'Who died and left you the boss?'" he said. "You had the respect for power in the East and the disdain for authority in the West."

Meanwhile, Lenovo's competitors were moving. In 2007, Acer, the computer powerhouse from Taiwan, snapped up the European computer maker Gateway, effectively cutting Lenovo off from European customers. Lenovo slipped to fourth place worldwide behind HP, Dell and Acer.

Then the global financial crisis hit, and Lenovo, which sold a large percentage of computers to businesses, was hit hard.

Lenovo responded by following the lead of an increasing number of Chinese firms: returning to its roots. Yuan Yuanqing was reappointed its chief executive and refocused Lenovo on the company's one bright spot: the China market. Sales skyrocketed, despite lackluster performance overseas.

Lenovo, according to Bob O'Donnell, a longtime expert on personal computers at IDC, "became a Chinese company again."

Still, analysts said Lenovo's rocky foreign adventure saved the company. Lenovo might not have much of a brand overseas, but its association with a foreign firm has helped it in China. Lenovo's computers routinely command twice the price in China that they do in the United States. Lenovo offers its top-of-the-line ThinkPad W700 to the Chinese government at \$12,500; in the United States, it runs for \$2,500.

Chinese officials pushing the going-out strategy have looked at Lenovo as a model for Chinese firms seeking to become known multinational brands. But for China's companies, going out might be the secret to staying alive at home.

This year, the Chinese car company Geely bought Volvo from Ford. Pundits figured it was to expand China's economic heft — and its brands — overseas. But as Geely's founder, Li Shufu, put it, "Volvo will find a new home market in China." ■

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For China and U.S., summit gets passing grade

BY JOHN POMFRET
Washington Post Staff Writer

• Originally published, January 21, 2011

CHICAGO — Chinese President Hu Jintao's just-concluded summit with President Obama was a win both for the Communist Party and for Hu himself, demonstrating once again the Chinese government's reliance on ceremony to bolster its standing among its people.

China's state-run newspapers ran enormous photographs of Hu with Obama, a not-so-subtle message that China is now the United States' equal on the world stage.

For the Obama administration, the meeting went smoothly and yielded some progress on difficult issues — but it also served as a reminder that the U.S.-China relationship will continue to be among Washington's most nettlesome.

"The most important thing they did was, for the time being, put a floor under

said Michael Green, a former National Security Council senior official. "No one expected a transformational summit, but if you graded it pass-fail, I say they passed."

The Chinese side, as it often does during summits, brought its checkbook, inking deals for aircraft and other heavy machinery, agricultural products and software that could be worth \$45 billion for U.S. firms. China also indicated that it would give U.S. companies better treatment and do more to protect their intellectual property. And on the hot-button issues of human rights and North Korea, the Chinese side showed a small amount of flexibility, which U.S. officials interpreted as a good sign.

In addition, the Obama administration succeeded in righting what many in the administration saw to be an error during the last U.S.-China summit, in Beijing in November 2009 — the United States' acknowledgment of China's "core interests" in Tibet and Taiwan. That term figured prominently in a joint statement issued in 2009. It was not repeated in the communique released Wednesday.

More broadly, Obama and other members of his Cabinet seem to have succeeded in conveying a message to China that they had no intention of backing down in the face of China's aggressive foreign policy over the past 18 months. "The administration wanted to make China understand that it needed to rein in its irrational exuberance," said Daniel Kliman, a visiting fellow at the Center for a New American Security, "that it would stand firm when necessary."



Chinese President Hu Jintao and President Barack Obama stand on the South Lawn of the White House as the Old Fife and Drum Corps march past, part of the State visit Arrival Ceremony at the White House.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33

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Chinese President Hu Jintao, left, and President Barack Obama, right, greet the crowd during the Arrival Ceremony for President Hu at the White House on January 19, 2011.

TRACY A. WOODWARD/THE WASHINGTON POST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

In the balance between symbolism and substance, symbolism prevailed.

There was little progress on the Obama administration's goal of pushing China to allow the value of its currency to rise — which would potentially make U.S. exports more attractive. Many of the economic deals and commitments will take months or years to carry through. And on the issues of uniting to stop nuclear programs in Iran and North Korea, the two sides continue to differ on tactics and, indeed, strategy, although the two Koreas agreed this week to hold high-level military talks, a step both China and the United States support.

Hu, who left Washington on Thursday and traveled to Chicago for events to highlight the study of Mandarin and China's investments in the United States, spent the summit sticking closely to his script and Chinese bromides about "partnership based on mutual respect and benefit." At a speech Thursday sponsored by the National Committee on United States-China Relations, Hu reiterated the perennial vow of Chinese leaders that "China will never seek hegemony or seek an expansionist policy."

The one moment when he seemed to veer from his talking points occurred Wednesday during a news conference with Obama when he acknowledged that "a lot still needs to be done in China, in terms of human rights." Those comments were excised from his remarks in reports by the Chinese state-run press. And on Thursday, Hu seemed to water down that acknowledgment, telling the National Committee on United States-China Relations that "we still have a long way to go before we achieve all of our development goals."

Still, the Chinese pronounced themselves satisfied with the visit.

"The two presidents had extensive and friendly exchanges," Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai told reporters Wednesday after the state dinner. The visit, he said, "proved to be a great success." For Hu, the state visit, coming late in his second term as China's top Communist Party official, was critical to his legacy and whatever ambitions he might have to continue to influence the course of Chinese politics.

The last time Hu visited the White House, he was accused of torture by a follower of China's banned Falun Gong religious sect. The White House announcer then told the audience that they were about to hear the national anthem of "the Republic of China" — the name for China's nemesis, Taiwan. And President George W. Bush didn't offer him a state dinner, just a lunch. While the Chinese side insisted on calling the meeting a "state visit," the Bush administration demurred, referring to it as a less important, "official" one.

Four years later, Hu finally obtained the treatment from the United States that he and his government have been seeking — a full-fledged state visit, complete with 21-gun salute and a banquet at the White House, although Hu did not conform to Western tradition by wearing a tuxedo. And this time there were no significant gaffes.

Since 2001, Hu has served as Chinese president and chairman of the Communist Party often in the shadow of his predecessor, Jiang Zemin, who 13 years ago was the last Chinese president to wrangle a state visit out of the United States. Now as Hu looks to leave the presidency in 2012, he can return to China having matched Jiang's feat. And for China, the visit — and the praise heaped on it by Obama — was an affirmation of its arrival as a power on the world stage.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program



JIM YOUNG/REUTERS

President Obama, meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao at the White House, addressed trade and currency issues.



President Barack Obama and President Hu Jintao of China hold an expanded bilateral meeting in the Cabinet Room of the White House, Jan. 19, 2011.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

"The United States recognized that China is a great power," Kliman said. "Hu could take that home as his legacy."

Hu's meetings on Capitol Hill on Thursday did not go as swimmingly as his engagement with Obama. Some lawmakers were looking for immediate results from China, while others took the long view.

Sen. John F. Kerry (D-Mass.), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, emphasized the positive after his Hu huddle, suggesting that a major breakthrough had occurred in Hu's recognition that his nation had a subpar human rights record and that key progress was achieved in making China engage other nations.

Kerry singled out Hu's assurances that China wants to defuse the nuclear crisis on the Korean Peninsula, as well as other "conflict areas." This is a different posture than the traditional Chinese view that outside nations should not meddle in China's internal affairs, nor would it meddle in others'.

"I think there's a change and a shift in their recognition of the role they need to play," Kerry told reporters. "The role of major power is not something they've been accustomed to playing."

On the House side, however, Democrats and Republicans both felt that not much progress had been made, noting that Hu engaged in a Senate-style filibuster, speaking for 20 minutes in response to a question from House Speaker John A. Boehner (R-Ohio) about trade and intellectual property.

Kerry summed up the feelings of many, though, saying that despite his optimism: "Words as we all know don't define a policy. It's going to have to be translated" into action. ■

Staff writers Scott Wilson and Paul Kane in Washington contributed to this report.

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

Academic Content Standards

This lesson addresses academic content standards of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Maryland

Social Studies: Analyze and describe elements of a multicultural setting (Indicator 1)

- A. Use fiction and non-fiction to compare the elements of several cultures and how they meet their human needs for clothing, food, shelter, recreation, education, stories, art, music and language
- B. Explain how and why media such as the Internet, television, radio, and newspaper provide an opportunity to understand various perspectives about cultures (Standard 2, Peoples of the Nation and World, Grade 3)

Social Studies, Geography: Use geographic tools to locate places and describe the human and physical characteristics in early world history

- a. Use maps to compare geographic locations of civilizations from world history to Northern China (Standard 3, Grade 6)

Social Studies, Political Science:

Analyze the characteristics and structure of various systems of government around the world (Indicator 1)

The Maryland Voluntary State Curriculum Content Standards can be found online at <http://mdk12.org/assessments/vsc/index.html>

Virginia

World History and Geography to 1500

A.D. (C.E.), Era II: Classical Civilizations and Rise of Religious Traditions, 1000 B.C. to 500 A.D.: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the civilizations of Persia, India and China in terms of chronology, geography, social structures, government, economy, religion and contributions to later civilizations by

- e) Describing China, with emphasis on the development of an empire and the construction of the Great Wall (WHI.4)

World History and Geography to 1500 A.D. (C.E.), Era IV:

Regional Interactions, 1000 to 1500 A.D.: The student will demonstrate knowledge of civilizations and empires of the Eastern Hemisphere and their interactions through regional trade patterns by

- a) locating major trade routes; (WHI.10)

World History and Geography: 1500 A.D.

(C.E.) to the Present: The student will improve skills in historical research and geographical analysis by

- f) analyzing the impact of economic forces, including taxation, government spending, trade, resources, and monetary systems, on events since 1500 A.D. (WHII.1)

Standards of Learning currently in effect for Virginia Public Schools can be found online at www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/index.shtml

Washington, D.C.

Social Studies, World History and Geography:

Ancient World: Students analyze the geographic, political, religious, social, and economic structures in Northern China (Era II: Early River Civilizations to 1000 B.C./B.C.E., 7.5)

Social Studies, World History and Geography:

Summarize the development of Chinese cultural, economic, and social institutions and China's influence on other developing civilizations.

3. Understand the life of Confucius; the fundamental teachings of Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism; and how Confucius sought to solve the political and cultural problems prevalent in the time.
4. Explain the adoption of Buddhism and its diffusion northward to China during the Han Dynasty.
5. Describe the foreign trade through the Silk Roads and the sea. (Era III: Ancient and Classical Civilizations to 700 C.E.)

World History:

- Students analyze major developments in Asia since World War II.
2. Analyze the Chinese Civil War, the rise of Mao Zedong and the triumph of the Communist Revolution in China.
 7. Describe the political, social and economic problems of new nationhood in Southeast Asia; and the legacy of the Cold War on Korea, Vietnam and Taiwan; and the unresolved political problems with the Korean Peninsula and between Taiwan and China.
 9. Outline the postwar economic rise of many Asian countries ... China's post-Mao economic modernization under Deng Xiaoping ... (Era VIII: The Cold War to the Present, Grade 10, 10.12)

Learning Standards for DCPS are found online at <http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/In+the+Classroom/What+Students+Are+Learning>