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China's Forbidden City opens to the general public at night for the first time in 94 years

94 年来，中国紫禁城首次在夜间对大众开放

Beijing's Forbidden City—traditionally **off-limits** at night for anyone except emperors, ghosts and visiting **dignitaries**—was lit up with lanterns and **gasps** after dark Tuesday as China celebrated the end of the Lunar New Year holiday.

按照传统，北京紫禁城在晚上谢绝任何人入内，除了皇帝、鬼魂或者来访的贵客。然而在周二，中国庆祝农历春节的最后一天，入夜后的北京紫禁城灯烛辉煌，游人惊叹声不断。

off-limits /ˌɒf 'lɪmɪts/: adj. 禁止入内的

词根词缀：off-（离开，隔开）

派生词：off-duty（adj. 不当班的）

dignitary /'dɪɡnɪteri/: n. 显要人物，要员

英文释义：a person who has an important position in a society

词性拓展：dignity (n. 尊重)

light up sth.：照亮，点亮；使...流露出喜悦（兴奋）

(light 过去式：lit)

英文释义：to make someone's face or eyes show pleasure or excitement

例句：Suddenly a smile lit up her face.

gasp/gæsp/: n. (尤指由于惊奇或震惊而) 喘息，倒抽气

词性拓展：gasp (v.)

搭配短语：gasp at sth. (v.)

例句：People gasped at the wonderful view. (v.)

The palace **complex**, home to Chinese emperors for five centuries, usually closes by 5 p.m. though VIPs have been taken in after dark on occasion. It was opened at night for the first time since its **reincarnation** as the Palace Museum 94 years ago. And it opened with a dazzling spectacle for the Lantern Festival, **marked** on the 15th day of the new year.

中国的皇帝曾在这片宫殿建筑群居住，时间长达五个世纪。现在，尽管偶会有贵宾在晚上受邀入场，但故宫通常在下午五点就关门了。自从 94 年前化身为故宫博物院，这是它第一次在夜间开放。为庆祝元宵节，故宫伴随着一场光彩夺目的盛会向公众开启了大门，此举是为了庆祝元宵节，这个节日在每个中国新年的第 15 天到来。

complex/'kɑ:mpleks/: n. 建筑群；adj. 复杂的

词性拓展：complex (adj. 复杂的)

英文释义：a related group of buildings

搭配短语：a shopping complex

on occasion：偶尔，必要时

近义词：at times

reincarnation/ri:ɪnkɑ:r'neɪʃn/: n. 再生，化身

词性拓展：incarnate (adj. 化为人形的)

搭配短语：devils incarnate

词根词缀：re- (再)

词性拓展：reincarnate (v. 投胎，转世化身)

reincarnate 英文释义：appears in a different form

a dazzling spectacle：一场光彩夺目的盛会

dazzling/'dæzliŋ/: adj. 耀眼的；精彩的，光彩夺目的

搭配短语：a dazzling light

搭配短语：a dazzling performance

spectacle/'spektəkl/: n. 壮观场面

英文释义：a public event or show that is exciting to watch

mark/mɑ:rk/: v. 庆祝，铭记

搭配短语：a ceremony to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the war

近义词：celebrate; remember

The palace walls were **illuminated** with red lanterns—designed to recreate the feeling of the royal court of old—and a light show lit up the complex while the China National Traditional **Orchestra** and the Peking Opera performed. An image of a treasured **scroll** called “A Thousand Li of Rivers and Mountains” was **beamed** onto the palace roof.

故宫宫墙被红灯笼装点得熠熠生辉，这一设计旨在重现旧时皇宫之感。伴随着中央民族乐团和京剧的演出，一场灯光秀点亮了故宫建筑群。一幅名为《千里江山图》的珍贵画卷图像被投影到了宫殿屋顶上。

illuminate/ɪ'lu:mɪneɪt/: v. 照亮，使灿烂

词根词缀：lumin (光)

派生词：luminous (adj.); luminary (n.); lumos

of old: 从前，过去

搭配短语：in days of old

the China National Traditional Orchestra: 中央民族乐团

orchestra/'ɔ:kɪstrə/: 管弦乐队

scroll/skroʊl/: n. 卷轴；画卷

treasured: adj. 宝贵的，珍贵的

词性拓展：treasure (n. 珍宝；珍贵之物；珍视的人)

词性拓展：treasure (v. 珍爱)

例句：He treasures his books above everything else. 他爱惜他的书胜过其他任何东西。(v.)

beam/bi:m/: v. 发光，投影

词性拓展：beam (n.)

搭配短语：the beam of the light

There was a **virtual stampede** to get tickets, which were free, for the rare night-time opening. They were **snapped up** within minutes of becoming available online Sunday, but the website still **collapsed** under the strain as hopefuls continued to **flock to** it.

为了进入鲜少在夜间开放的故宫，人们蜂拥而上，在网上抢起了免费的门票。上周日，在开售的几分钟内，门票就被抢光了。但是，因为想要抢票的人还在持续地涌入，购票网站仍然不堪重负地崩溃了。

virtual/'vɜːrtʃuəl/: adj. 模拟的，虚拟的

例句：The app allows you to take a virtual tour of the Palace Museum.

stampede/stæm'piːd/: n. (人群的) 奔逃；热潮、风尚

例句：Falling interest rates have led to a stampede to buy property.

snap up: 抢购 (心仪之物)；抢着做 (某事) 或邀请 (某人)

例句：All the best bargains were snapped up within hours.

例句：She has been snapped up by Hollywood to star in two major movies.

collapse/kə'læps/: v. (建筑物) 倒塌；(系统, 组织, 网站) 崩溃, 垮掉

strain/streɪn/: n. 压力, 重负

词义辨析：strain, tension (tension侧重因对立而产生的压力)

strain: a force or influence that stretches, pulls, or puts pressure on something

tension: the condition of being held in a state between two or more forces, which are acting in opposition to each other

hopeful/'hoʊpfl/: n. 抱有希望的人, 有望成功的人

词性拓展：hopeful (adj.)

flock/flɒk/: v. 聚集, 蜂拥

搭配短语：flock to

例句：People flocked to the beach during the holiday.

“Creativity makes the 600-year-old palace younger and **draws** traditional culture closer **to** the public,” said the People’s Daily. The Palace Museum is now on a **campaign** to attract even more visitors.

《人民日报》称：“创意让 600 岁的故宫变得更加年轻，还拉近了传统文化与公众的距离。”
现在，故宫博物院正在进行一系列宣传活动，以吸引更多的游客。

draw ... to ...: 把...拉向..., 拉近...和...的距离

campaign/kæm'peɪn/: n. (尤指宣传) 活动

搭配短语：an advertising campaign

搭配短语：conduct a campaign

原文：

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