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Macao platform for
Portuguese-speaking
countries

Macao remembers
George Chinnery

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Editor's note

Seven years after its foundation, the Forum for Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (Macao) is about to take a giant step forward with its third ministerial session, in the second half of this year, which will lay down the strategy for greater cooperation in trade and investment.

In this issue, we talk to officials from the Forum, diplomats, businessmen and researchers to understand what can be done to give new energy to the organisation.

At the same time, the Macao Association for the Promotion of Exchanges between the Asia-Pacific and Latin America (MAPEAL) aims to raise the profile of Macao as a bridge between China, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. Its president, Gary Ngai Mei-cheong, leads this effort, in promoting the rapid development of Macao.

In our continuing coverage of the Pearl River Delta (PRD), Professor Thomas Chan analyses the importance of Panyu, a satellite city of Guangzhou, that has become the nexus of the inter-provincial high speed railway system and one of the four largest terminals in China.

Still in the PRD, but closer to Macao, Zhuhai city is turning a large area of the Jinwan district near its airport into an aviation hub; it will contain aircraft manufacture, maintenance and logistics and a state company that wants to challenge Airbus and Boeing for mastery of the world's civil aircraft market.

Rector of the University of Macau, Wei Zhao, describes construction of the new campus of the University of Macau on Hengqin, an island in the adjoining city of Zhuhai.

The Macao magazine went to visit the Guangdong Maritime Silk Road Museum in Hailing, Guangdong province, 280 kilometres from Macao. Last December, this remarkable museum opened its doors – a space-age design on a beach that houses the remains of a Chinese junk that sank over 800 years ago and was lifted from the sea bed.

The presence of Macao and the pavilions of the Portuguese-Speaking Countries at the Shanghai Expo are also an important story in this issue, together with the story of George Chinnery, the British painter who lived and died in Macao and became the most famous foreign artist in its history.

The dragon boat races, a popular sport in Macao, and the government's housing programme for those in need are two other aspects of Macao life which we cover.

On the economic front, we write about the visit of Chief Executive Fernando Chui Sai On to Lisbon to strengthen relations with Portugal, and about the Macao factory of the Portuguese pharmaceutical company, Hovione.

A summary of the main news events of the last 3 months in the MSAR is presented in the Macao Newslines.

To close this edition a story on the life of Andrew Kim Taegon, a student of the Macao Jesuit seminary in the 19th century who became a Korean Catholic saint and whose statue stands in a Macao garden today.



Benevolence [Jen]

Jen, or benevolence, the first of the four virtues considered by Confucius to be innate in humans, can also be translated as 'kindness' or 'humanity'. The ideas are inseparable. It is our humanity that prompts us to do good unto others, as we would have done unto ourselves.

This ideogram combines the radical for 'human being' (also pronounced jen), showing the legs and trunk of a person, with the pair of horizontal strokes that denotes 'two'.

Benevolence: the essential kindness that one person shows to another.

From the book "The Spirit of the Chinese Character - Gifts from the Heart" by Barbara Aria with Russell Eng Gon



4

**Macao, China and
Portuguese-speaking countries
an ever-closer partnership**



33

**Panyu aims for central role
in Guangdong**



53

**Dragon Boat races -
a popular water sport in Macao**



89

**Macao remembers
George Chinnery - its most
famous foreign painter**



13

**Mao's interpreter leads Macao into
Latin America**

19

**Building a new university -
a once in a lifetime project**

27

Zhuhai builds an aviation hub

40

**Chui Sai On in Portugal to renew ties and
boost cooperation**

46

HOVIONE a test tube in three continents

60

**The government helps put a roof over
the heads of the needy**

68

Macao Newline

73

**Guangdong museum houses boat
shipwrecked 800 years ago**

98

EXPO Shanghai 2010

112

**Student of Macao seminary becomes
Korean Catholic saint**



Macao, China and Portuguese-speaking countries

An ever-closer partnership

By José Carlos Matias

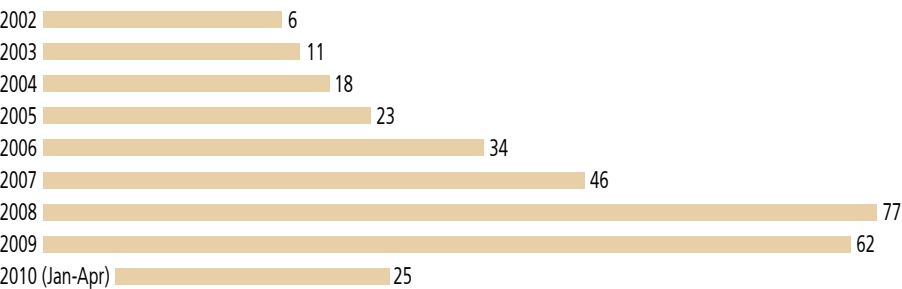


Macao

Seven years after its foundation, the Forum for Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (Macao) is about to take a giant step forward. The third ministerial session, to be held in the second half of this year, will lay down the strategy for greater cooperation in trade and investment.

It aims to extend cooperation into new areas; the next challenge is to promote more partnerships and spur investment projects.

China- Portuguese Speaking Countries Trade (Billion US dollars)



Source – Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China

Since 2003, trade between China and Portuguese-speaking countries (Brazil, Portugal, Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe, and East Timor) has increased seven-fold. Businessmen and official delegations have taken part in dozens of trade fairs, seminars, conferences and networking meetings that aim to boost Sino-Lusophone economic links. Macao has been at the heart of this process that was set up under the auspices of China's Ministry of Commerce. The Chinese authorities decided that Macao host not only the ministerial meetings of the forum but also its permanent secretariat.

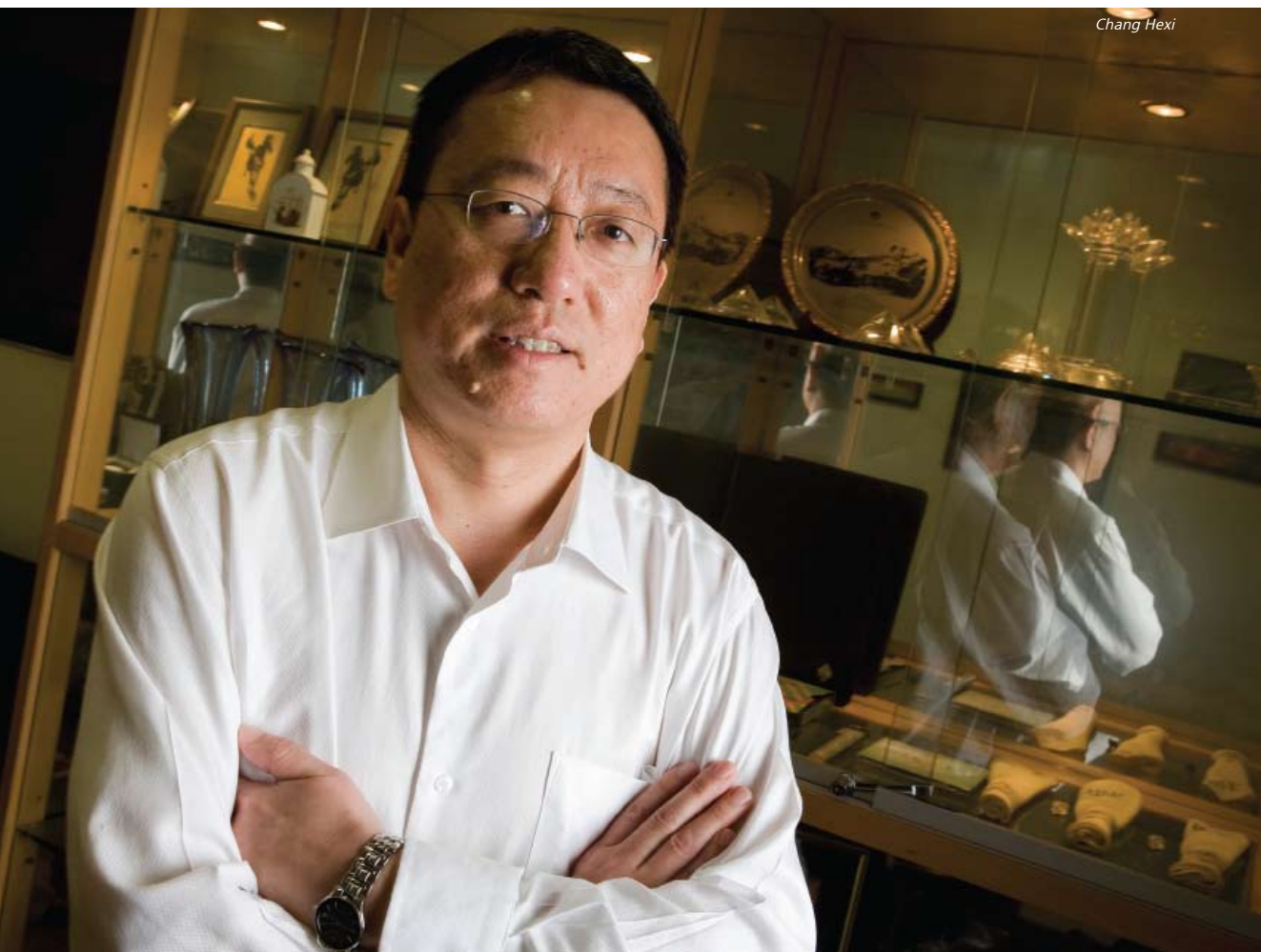
Macao: An effective platform

The secretary-general of the permanent secretariat of the forum, Chang Hexi, stressed the importance of Macao and the role played by the local authorities in bringing China and Portuguese-speaking countries closer together. "Macao has been a truly effective platform," he said.

Loro Horta, an East Timorese researcher based in Singapore, said: "Macao and the Forum have done outstanding work to deepen ties, particularly at the staffing and private levels." He added that the forum had been paving the way to build "bridges between the private sectors of China and the Lusophone countries".

Later this year, ministers from China and all the Portuguese-speaking countries – except Sao Tome and Principe, which has no diplomatic relations with Beijing - will gather for the third ministerial meeting. Negotiations are underway on the content of the plan of action which they will adopt. The plan will lay out the key areas for cooperation.

In 2003, the First Ministerial Conference agreed to strengthen Sino-Lusophone cooperation between governments and in the areas of trade, investment and business, fishing and agriculture, engineering and construction of infrastructure, and natural and human resources. In 2006, new areas for cooperation were added: the financial sector, tourism, transport, direct air and sea routes, pharmaceutical and combating infectious diseases,



Chang Hexi

science and technology, media and people-to-people links.

Manuel Amante da Rosa, assistant secretary-general of the permanent secretariat, said that the new plan of action would further promote cooperation by providing funds to “take the exchanges to new heights”.

Promoting more investment

Trade has been the cornerstone of Sino-Lusophone economic relations. There are several flagship investments, mostly carried out by Chinese state-owned enterprises in Portuguese-speaking countries. Nevertheless, said Amante da Rosa, in order to boost ties, more needs to be done to encourage mutual investments. “Portuguese-speaking countries have a very open business environment to receive foreign direct investment. Investors can find there not only fiscal incentives but also a large pool of young manpower and vast natural resources,” he said.

In the future, said Amante da Rosa, a high-ranking Cape Verdean diplomat, he would like to see more three-way partnerships between firms from China and Portuguese-speaking countries in sectors such as agriculture, mining, construction and finance.

In addition to extensive bilateral state-to-state economic relations and large-scale projects, there are many other business opportunities for medium-sized and even small companies.

The work conducted by the Macao SAR government and the permanent secretariat aims to facilitate opportunities for companies. Over the last seven years, there have been several examples of how Macao has been key to enhancing Sino-Lusophone economic relations.

A gateway to south China

Macao has a strategic role to play, especially due to its proximity to China’s most dynamic province – Guangdong. Chang noted that Macao was



Manuel Amante da Rosa

playing an increasingly crucial role as a platform for Portuguese-speaking companies to move into mainland China's domestic market at the provincial level, namely in the Pearl River Delta Region (PRD). "As the links develop, Macao's role will be even more important," he said.

Macao's economy has been progressively integrated into the south China region, a trend that will intensify in the coming years. The central government has published a plan to foster regional integration between Macao, Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Zhuhai and other cities in Guangdong. The aim of the 2008-2020 development plan unveiled by the Chinese authorities is to turn the PRD into "a centre of advanced manufacturing and modern service industries" and a "centre for international shipping, logistics, trade, conferences and exhibitions and tourism."

Making the most of CEPA

Macao already benefits from the CEPA – Mainland and Macao Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement – an arrangement, similar to a free trade agreement, between two separate customs territories of a single sovereign state.

Macao-based companies benefit from provisions in the CEPA protocols that promote trade of goods and services and facilitate trade and investment. The SIM coffee factory is an example of Macao as a business platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries. The investment – by Portuguese businessman Vasco Pereira Coutinho – benefits from CEPA's import tax exemption in China.

Opening the door to new opportunities

The role of Macao as a gateway to south China and the opportunities created by Macao's special ties with Portuguese-speaking countries has been featured in several trade and investment fairs over the last seven years. Every year since 2005, the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) has organised a business meeting in a Portuguese-speaking country aimed at improving business connections and raising awareness of Macao in the economic relations between China and Portuguese-speaking countries. In 2009, the meeting was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. For the first time, a group of businesspeople and officials from the Guangdong provincial government took part in the event, highlighting the role of Macao as a platform for businesses with China's industrial powerhouse.

A friendly environment

For both Portuguese-speaking and Chinese companies, Macao provides a "unique and friendly business environment," said Chang. "Macao has several features that will allow it to become an even more successful services platform," he added. Firstly, Macao's society and businesspeople have long-standing connections with south Chinese firms and companies from Portuguese-speaking countries. Secondly, Portuguese is, along with



SIM coffee factory

Chinese, an official language – Portuguese is widely used as a working language in the public sector and public utilities. Thirdly, the territory's legal framework is based on the Portuguese legal system, which is similar to the French and German systems. As most Portuguese-speaking countries share this background, Macao is the ideal basis for Portuguese-speaking businesspeople as a gateway to China. These companies have been setting up offices here and making use of its local expertise as a stepping stone to enter China's booming market.

Angola's economic diplomacy

Angola is a good example of Macao's importance for Portuguese-speaking countries.

In 2007, Angola became the first country – after Portugal – to establish a consulate-general in the Macao SAR. Rodrigo Pedro Domingos is the first Angolan consul. He said that the opening of Angola's diplomatic representation in Macao was a "sign of solidarity with the MSAR and the People's Republic of China." As Angola's economy is thriving,



Rodrigo Pedro Domingos

more and more business people are interested in trade and investment with it.

Domingos said: "there is a growing interest in Angola among businessmen and women based in Macao and mainland China. This can be seen by the number of visas that we issue and the number of businesspeople looking for information and advice on how to do business with Angolan companies or in Angola."

"Business owners should be more pro-active"

Some observers have said that, despite achievements in terms of trade and economic relations, local business people have been little involved in the process and the direct results of the forum have failed to meet expectations. Billy Ip Kuai Peng said that more attention needed to be paid to "how to strengthen market research and delivering and distributing information." He said that this was key to boosting promotional activities in mainland

China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Chang also believes that private companies could step up their involvement in this process: "Business owners should be more pro-active in taking part in direct investments and not just as intermediaries."

Results can only be delivered if the private sector seizes available business opportunities. The work conducted by the Macao government and the permanent secretariat aims to facilitate deals between those who own businesses.

Reaping the benefits

Over the last seven years, there have been several examples of how Macao has been a key link to enhancing Sino-Lusophone economic relations.

In terms of trade, local import and export agents have profited from this friendly environment. In 2003, several firms and business people pooled their resources to set up the International Lusophone Markets Business Association (Associação Comercial Internacional para os Mercados Lusófonos - ACIML).

Billy Ip Kuai Peng





Eduardo Ambrósio

Eduardo Ambrósio, chairman of the association, said: "Since the establishment of the forum, there has been growing interest from businesspeople in Macao, both of Chinese and Portuguese-speaking origins."

The ACIML has been strengthening links with chambers of commerce in Portuguese-speaking countries and helping mainland Chinese associations and business people deal with their Lusophone counterparts at fairs and business meetings, "Now it is important that the governments improve laws to protect importers and exporters," he said.

Geocapital leads the way

Even if the vast majority of links are established at a bilateral level, there are several cases of economic agreements and investments carried out through Macao or due to Macao connections. Geocapital is leading the way. Set up in 2005, this partnership

between Macao tycoon Stanley Ho and Portuguese investor Jorge Ferro Ribeiro has a foothold in nearly all the Portuguese-speaking nations. Geocapital has invested in natural resources and investment banking in Angola, Brazil, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, East Timor, Portugal and Cape Verde.

Geocapital makes good use of the role of Macao as a platform to enter Portuguese-speaking markets.

The financial sector plays an important role not only as a facilitator for investment but also as a driving force for bilateral trade.

In 2006, the Bank of China (Macao branch), Banco Fomento de Angola (BFA) and Portugal's Banco Português de Investimento (BPI) opened a US\$100 million (804 million patacas) credit line to support trade between China and Angola.

Opportunities in tourism and construction

There are also examples of investment in the construction sector. Macao-based Top Builders Group, one of the largest privately owned construction companies in Macao, has recently set up a branch in Angola.

Tourism may also offer opportunities in Portuguese-speaking African countries. Two other Macao businesspeople are on the waiting list to open businesses in Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau.

John Lo has plans to invest 60 million patacas in a hotel in Guinea-Bissau, following agricultural investments made there since 2001. Another Macao-based businessman, David Chow, in 2006 announced plans to invest US\$100 million in a resort in Cape Verde, on the islet of Santa Maria. ■

Photos by Carmo Correia, Luís Almoester and Allan Salas



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Mao's interpreter leads Macao into Latin America

By Mark O'Neill



Gary Ngai Mei-cheong

He was born into the house of a civil servant of the Dutch colonial government of Indonesia, later served as interpreter and translator to Mao Zedong and other top Chinese leaders and now heads an association which promotes the links between Macao and Latin America.

In his 78 years, Gary Ngai Mei-cheong has lived many lives, in Indonesia, China and, since 1979, in Macao. He speaks 10 languages, and has for the last 14 years thrown his energies into promoting ties with Latin America and the Latin-speaking world.

"Macao is very small but has an identity different to Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Shanghai and other Chinese cities," he said in an interview in the office of the Macao Association for the Promotion of Exchanges between the Asia-Pacific and Latin America (MAPEAL), of which he is president of the executive board since its founding in April 2005.

"It is a city not only of gambling but of culture, a meeting point of East and West and a bridge to Latin-speaking countries. Because of the booming trade and investment between China, Brazil and Angola, there are more Chinese studying Portuguese now than before the handover. Macao is the best place to do it," Ngai noted.



Ngai himself and his life is a perfect example of this diversity.

The polyglot was born in 1932, the son of an accountant in the Dutch colonial government, in Semarang, central Java. He was the sixth generation of his family, which came from Fujian province in southeast China, to be born in Indonesia. The family had prospered in business, so he grew up in a comfortable home, with a cook and maids and his grandparents owning a car, a luxury at that time.

It was a family of several languages and several religions. His father spoke to him in Dutch, the language of his kindergarten and primary school. His mother spoke to him in Mandarin and Javanese. At

school, he also learnt Japanese, English and Bahasa Indonesia which became the national language after independence in 1945. One grandfather was a Buddhist, one grandmother a Moslem and the family invited their neighbours to share food after the setting of the sun during the Ramadan festival. Four uncles and aunts were Roman Catholic, the religion of his kindergarten.

"I had many religions in my head. Everyone lived peacefully together. It was a preparation for Macao, where different languages and religions are respected," he said.

For secondary school, he went to a Mandarin-language institution in the capital, Jakarta. In 1949,



the People's Republic of China was established and a wave of patriotic fervour swept through Chinese communities abroad, including his school. "My family had retained its Chinese-ness and observed Chinese festivals. I studied Mandarin from an early age." The teachers at the school encouraged the students to return to the 'motherland' and help in the building of a new country. Many were inspired to go, including Ngai.

"I read 'Red Star over China' by Edgar Snow and was very moved to learn of Mao Zedong. We believed that the Communist Party was clean and not corrupt. My family opposed the idea, saying that I had a very good life in Indonesia. They told me of

the poverty in Fujian, the province of my ancestors, where people were so poor that they ate only sweet potatoes and no meat or vegetables. My father offered to pay for me to study hydrology in Holland, the most advanced in the world in this field."

But the patriotism of a young man for a country that he had never seen won the day. Ngai joined 80 other young Indonesian Chinese on a 3,000-tonne cargo ship belonging to the British firm Jardine for the perilous journey to Tianjin; the young men and women travelled in the cargo hold.

The Nationalist navy and their U.S. allies had closed the Taiwan Strait, so the ship displayed a large British flag on the deck as it passed. A U.S.

plane circled overhead and ordered the boat to sail to Taiwan. The captain radioed to a Communist Party contact in Hong Kong, who telephoned Premier Zhou Enlai in Beijing. Someone called the government in Taiwan and requested safe passage for the ship, which was granted.

The students received a hero's welcome on their arrival at the port of Tianjin, with mayor Huang Jing coming to greet them in person. Then they were transferred to Beijing, where some were assigned to study at leading institutions, such as Qinghua and Beijing universities. Ngai was considered good cadre material and sent for training at the United Front Department.

"I liked chemistry and initially wanted to study it at Qinghua but had to give up the idea." He and other students were then sent to Guangdong to take part in land reform, under which land was

redistributed from rich to poor farmers. "They were so poor, they had almost nothing to eat. I had never seen anything like this before. We learnt the true situation of life on the farms."

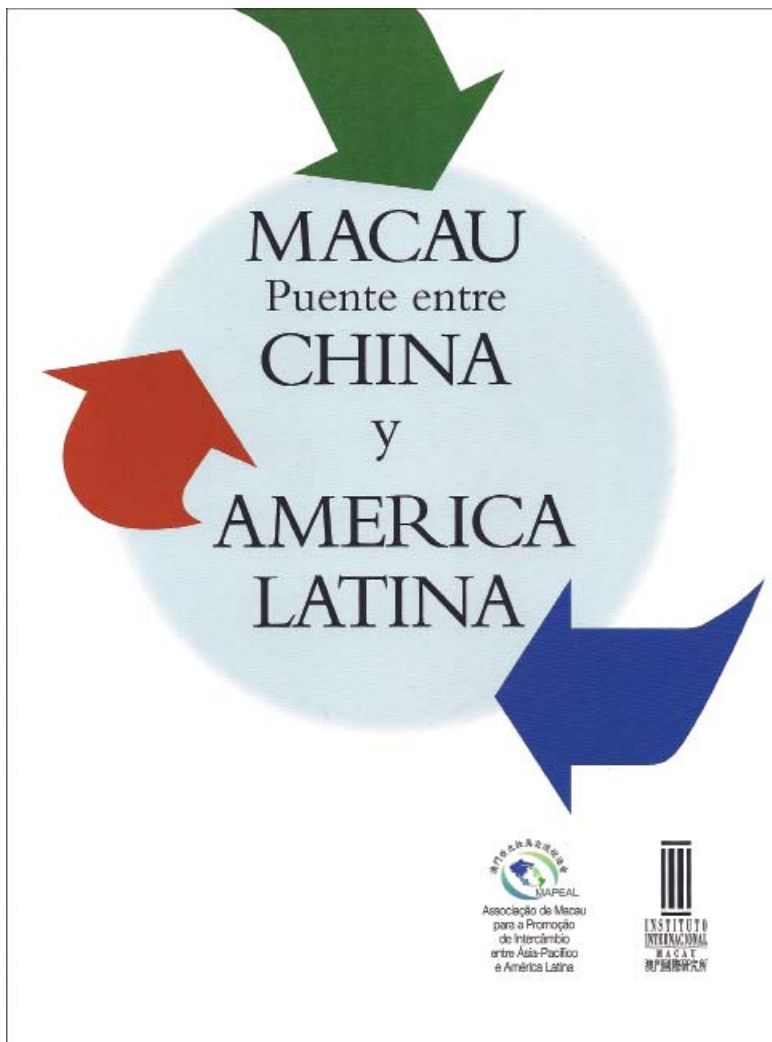
Some of the Indonesian students remained in Guangdong where they stayed for their whole life; after one year, Ngai was sent back to Beijing, where he trained as an interpreter at Renmin (People's) University. The courses included classes in Russian on Soviet history, philosophy, economy and Marxism.

He graduated in 1956 and went to work as a top-level interpreter, from Chinese into Indonesian, Dutch and English, for Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Peng Zhen and other leaders. He interpreted for President Sukarno and other Indonesian leaders. He also learnt French, German, Italian and Swedish mainly by himself.

In 1961, he married Molly, an Indonesian Chinese from Medan who had also moved to China. A student of St John's University in Shanghai, she was a specialist in English. They have two children. "Those years were very difficult. When my wife was pregnant, we had almost nothing to eat. She had hardly any milk, so I had to buy some." They lived in a modest apartment in Beijing. "I earned 86 yuan a month from 1959 until 1979."

He was spared punishment in the anti-rightist campaign of 1957; but, during the Cultural Revolution (1966-76), he and his family spent four years living in a 'cowshed' in Heilongjiang – where the winter temperature falls to as low as minus 36 degrees Celsius – and a poor village in Henan, where the peasants lived off dried sweet potatoes for nine months a year.

After the anti-Chinese riots in Indonesia in 1965/66, Ngai's mother-in-law escaped to Macao. In early 1978, Ngai's wife and children moved to Macao to take care of her. He asked to join them but his



superior refused. So his wife wrote to the minister responsible, who gave his approval, in line with the 'open door' policy of Deng Xiaoping announced at the end of 1978. At the end of 1978, Ngai was able to rejoin his family in Macao.

"I do not regret my decision to go to China. It was a decision I took myself. On the positive side, I really understood China from the very top to the very bottom and I made a contribution to the new state. On the negative side, we suffered a lot. I never considered moving back to Indonesia, where I have many relatives. Anti-Chinese sentiment remains and what could I do there?"

When he moved, he was 47; he started a new life. "It was hard at the beginning. Macao was a small place and I could not find a job." With his talent for languages, he soon learnt Portuguese and Cantonese.

He found a job as an interpreter in a Portuguese-language television station; then he started to work in Chinese-language radio and then television. As the talks between Beijing and Lisbon began on Macao's return to China, he moved to the government, as a researcher and adviser. He brought the wealth of his knowledge about the mainland, which he had experienced from the corridors of power in Beijing to the barren wastes of the frozen north.

His highest official position was deputy director of the Cultural Institute, a post he held from September 1993 until July 1997. "I was the most senior Chinese in the government. The Portuguese began to localise the civil service decades after the British in Hong Kong. They wanted to keep the top positions for themselves."

Since 1996, he has thrown his energy into developing relations between Macao and Latin-speaking countries. The first vehicle for this was the Sino-Latin Foundation of Macao, set up on November 7, 1996. It was aimed at the one billion people in the world who speak Portuguese, Spanish, French, Italian and Romanian, languages which are based on Latin and mutually intelligible.

In April 2005, Ngai set up MAPEAL, of which he is president of the executive board. This private association aims to promote the role of Macao as a bridge between China, Asia-Pacific and Latin America.

It has organised workshops and seminars, as well as the first Latin American pavilion at the 13th Macao Trade and Investment Fair. In 2009 and 2010, during MIECF, it organised a forum and exhibition on bio-fuels and renewable energy, with speakers from China, Brazil, India, Portugal, Russia, Malaysia and Taiwan.

To promote these contacts, Ngai has travelled widely in Latin America. This year he plans to visit Colombia and Mexico, as well as Taiwan and Australia.

His latest project is a Sino-Latin Film Festival, to be held in Macao every one or two years, with films from China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao and Latin-speaking countries. "Chinese judges will select the Latin films and vice versa." In March, he organised a seminar on the feasibility of hosting the festival in Macao, attended by consuls or representatives from Latin-speaking countries and Chinese officials.

One of the drivers of Portuguese language is the boom in trade and investment between China and Brazil and Angola. Last year trade between Brazil and China overtook that between Brazil and the U.S. for the first time. It reached US\$4.2 billion, compared to US\$2.97 billion in 2007, and will increase further in 2010. "This is the best environment in China for studying Portuguese, for reasons of business or culture, with television and newspapers in the language," Ngai said. ■

Photos by Luís Almoester

Beijing





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Building a new university – a once in a lifetime project

By Mark O'Neill



Campus sight

“To build a new university is an opportunity that comes once in a thousand years. It is my good fortune to have this opportunity.”

This is how Rector Wei Zhao describes construction of the new campus of the University of

Macau on Hengqin, an island in the adjoining city of Zhuhai. The Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR) is paying the Zhuhai government 1.2 billion patacas for a 40-year lease on the land, which will be governed by Macao law.



Rector Wei Zhao

Work began on the new site at the end of last December and is due to be finished by the end of 2012 – a greenfield campus 20 times larger than the existing one; it is a site of approximately one square kilometres, with space for 10,000 students and 800 teachers, compared with 6,000 and 400 now. Since its foundation in 1981, the university has been on a cramped site in an urban area on Taipa island, with no space for expansion.

The new campus is both an engineering and academic challenge that aims to transform the university and be an important part of the development of Hengqin island.

It sits on the eastern side of the island and will be connected to Macao by an underwater tunnel.

“To protect the site against the worst kind of flooding, we must raise the level of the ground by 3 to 4 metres,” said Zhao in an interview. “Since this kind of sand is not available in Hengqin, we have had to build two piers and bring the sand in from other areas of Guangdong.”

The original plan was to link the campus to Macao by a bridge. But, because of concerns about the impact of typhoons, they decided to build a tunnel instead.

“This will be more difficult. It will have four car lanes and one pedestrian lane.”

The campus will be under Macao law and open to everyone in the SAR, without the need to go through border control. It will be separated from the rest of

Zhuhai by a waterway.

The academic challenge is to build a new kind of university in which the students live on the campus, instead of simply attending class and going home in the evening, as they do at present.

“We want to educate the whole person and not only in his chosen subject,” said Zhao. This is the logic of building residential colleges, each with 500 students; in these colleges will live students of different years and different disciplines, as well as deans, wardens and student counselors. The university hopes that, by living and interacting with peers and

academics, students will learn to think independently, develop their will and moral outlook and broaden their global perspective; they will have the opportunity to develop inter-personal skills and cultivate tolerance and understanding of different cultures and ideologies.

“We will use 24 hours a day for education, through sports, social interaction and extra-mural activities. Students will learn music, arts and humanities. We want to create a college life and culture, and to encourage students to engage with society and expand their knowledge,” Zhao said.





It is this ambition that shapes the design of the campus, which the university has entrusted to one of China's most famous architects, He Jingtang; he designed the Chinese Pavilion at the Shanghai Expo and is vice-chairman of the Architectural Society of China. It will have none of the monumental buildings and large boulevards common to many campuses because these result in a large waste of space and mean that students and teachers spend a great deal of time going from one place to another.

Instead, it will be designed primarily for students and for walking and the bicycle, not the motor vehicles; the longest walking time for a student from his college to a lecture, the library or other facilities will be 15 minutes. "The new campus will be people-oriented, sustainable, modern and IT-based," said Zhao. "Its environment will be a blend of Chinese and western cultural elements, a combination of mountain and sea views and of the cultural characteristics of southern China and the architecture style of southern Europe."

The centre of the campus will be the library and central teaching area. The library will have 10 computer rooms and a reading area that will be able to accommodate 30 per cent of the student population. It will have seven-eight storeys, the largest building in the central area. South of it will be the central teaching area, with classrooms and large

lecture halls able to accommodate 200 people.

The library will overlook the river and Macao on the opposite shore; next to it will be a lake and a waterway and a bridge connecting it to three islands that house residential colleges and five faculties – Life Science and Health, Science and Technology, Arts, Social Sciences and Business Administration. The other three faculties are Law and Education, with one more to be built.

At the northern end of the campus will be a sports stadium and gymnasium, central administrative building and area to park 1,000 cars; this is next to the tunnel linking the site to Macao and will ensure that cars do not enter the rest of the campus. At the southern end will be staff residential quarters – the only buildings higher than 10 storeys – and an international school, with English as the main medium of instruction, for children of the faculty and other students who wish to apply.

The campus will have multi-level landscaping that integrates water, green space, artificial hills, courtyards, indoor plants and a sky garden. It will have tree-lined trails and corridors and use natural lighting and natural ventilation, to reduce power consumption.

"Our aim is to become a world-class university," said Zhao. "We are not there yet. To achieve this, we need financial and policy support from the



government and the community. We need an effective and unique management style and a campus culture that reflects the society we live in and its hopes and aspirations. We are very happy with the support we have received from the Macao SAR and central governments and from society.”

President Hu Jintao in person attended the ground-breaking ceremony of the new campus on 20 December last year, together with Macao Chief Executive Chui Sai On, who is chancellor of the university. At the ceremony, State Councillor Liu Yandong said that approval of construction of the new campus was an important initiative on the part of the central government to support Macao in developing education and nurturing outstanding graduates. “The much larger space will help to improve the learning and living environment of

teachers and students alike, enhancing the overall teaching quality of Macao SAR and promoting the developing of high-quality graduates,” she said.

The main source of funds for the new campus is the SAR government. In addition, the university last December set up the University of Macau Development Foundation, which has since received over 280 million patacas from donors. Four of them donated 30 million and will have one of the residential colleges named after them while the Wu Yee Sun Charitable Foundation, named after a prominent Macao businessman, donated HK\$150 million and will have the library named after him.

Zhao said the university greatly appreciated these donations and would manage them in line with international practice. The money will be used as the basic capital of the university and only the

President Hu Jintao looks at a model of the future campus



interest will be spent, to pay for some building costs and to provide scholarships and awards to scholars. "It will not be used for current expenses. The donor cannot demand as a condition that we accept a certain student or set up a particular course. He can make a more general request, asking that we improve the quality of the colleges or the computers. We can sell the naming rights to

the lake, buildings, lecture rooms and halls in the colleges. These donations show the support and trust of the community."

The new campus will be Macao-centred. Of its 10,000 students, 70 per cent will be undergraduates and 30 per cent post-graduates; of the 7,000 undergraduates, at least 80 per cent will be from Macao and the rest from mainland China

and elsewhere. That will mean an annual intake of about 1,300 Macao students, 350 more than at present. Of the post-graduates, half will be from Macao and the other half from the rest of the world.

The faculties will double from the current 400 to 700-800 staff. "We will have no quotas but will hire internationally. The teaching medium of 90 per cent of the lessons and the e-mail language of the university will be English, so that is the most important language. We will also pay attention to Chinese and Portuguese."

The campus will also have three scientific research centres, for Information and Electronics, Chinese Medicine and Pharmaceutical Science, and Energy and the Environment. They will provide an opportunity for research and development, to develop new industries and create opportunities for co-operation between Macao and Guangdong and the diversification of Macao's economy.

The campus will also have facilities to help students with their future. The university is setting up a new department to advise students on what to do after they graduate, be it in academia or outside. "We will give them information on which universities in the world are best for them and their specialty," said Zhao. "We will prepare them for their research exams. We will also provide information on job openings, with seminars and meetings, and invite institutions and big companies from Macao



Future campus



Future location

and nearby to come to meet students.”

It will be a great challenge to finish the new campus on schedule by the end of 2012 and an even greater one to turn the University of Macau into an institution famous around the world. It is these challenges that drive Rector Zhao and his

team, to seize this rare opportunity that history has presented them and leave a lasting contribution on this verdant island of south China. ■

Photos by Luís Almoater

Graphics courtesy of University of Macau



President Hu Jintao attended the ground-breaking ceremony of the new campus



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Ready for Takeoff

Zhuhai builds an aviation hub

By Staff Reporter



Aviation Industrial Park (AIP)

Zhuhai city is turning a large area around its airport into an aviation hub, which will include aircraft manufacture, maintenance and logistics and a state company that wants to challenge Airbus and Boeing for mastery of the world's civil aircraft market.

In the Jinwan area of the city, the Aviation Industrial Park (AIP) will have a total area of 99.02 square kilometres (more than three times the size of

Macao), of which 33.83 square km is hilly and 65.19 square km available for development. It is designed for the manufacture of aircrafts, their parts and components, repair and maintenance, training and instruction, services related to the aviation industry and bonded warehouse production.

"It will supplement the national strategy on the development of the aviation industry," according to the park's official website.



Zhuhai airport

The airport is located in a sparsely populated area southwest of the city and opened in 1995. From 1996, it hosted a bi-annual international air show, attracting aviation firms and manufacturers from around the world.

The AIP stems from the desire to utilise the advantages of the airport and the brand name of the air show. The airport, which is managed by a joint venture company controlled by the Hong Kong Airport Authority, operates at less than capacity; the AIP aims to utilise this spare capacity.

China's aviation is in a period of unprecedented growth, unmatched in the world. The Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) predicts growth in the market this year of 12 per cent, up from 230 million passengers and 4.46 million tonnes of cargo in 2009, and 700 million passengers in 2020 and 1.5 billion in 2030.

The supply of planes, pilots and other services is struggling to keep pace with this dramatic growth – and it is these shortages which the AIP aims to fill. Another niche it is aiming for is the market for small and executive planes, a market in which supply is far behind demand.

The park is part of the city government's plan to diversify its economy, by adding aviation and a major port to its existing role as a centre of tourism, real estate and manufacture of household appliances and high-technology products.

In the first quarter of 2010, the city's GDP grew 13.8 per cent to 24.368 billion yuan from the same 2009 period. Industry accounted for 45 per



cent of that GDP, at 10.972 billion yuan, with the main sectors being electronic information, home appliances, petrochemicals, bio-medicine and precision machinery.

Zhuhai airport opened in June 1995, with an area of four million square metres and a terminal building of 93,000 square metres; it is designed to handle 100,000 take-offs and landings per year. It has flights to more than 30 cities in China, including Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan.

In 2008, it handled 1.1 million passengers and 11,140 tonnes of cargo, increases of 7.8 per cent and 3.7 per cent respectively over 2007; 2008 was the first year in which it achieved a breakeven in its cash flow.

Since 1996, it has hosted the China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition, the largest air show in the mainland. The eighth one will be held from 16-21 November this year. At the last one, in November 2008, deals worth US\$4 billion were signed, including the sale of 25 ARJ21-700 regional jets by the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China to GE Commercial Aviation Services of the U.S. At the event, Airbus displayed its latest A380 aircraft and a team from the Indian air force displayed their acrobatic skills.

The biggest project in the park so far is a factory by Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), involving an investment of 7.6 billion yuan, to build light aircraft. They will be used in agriculture, recreation, training pilots and rescues. The plant is due to start operations in August. Because of the project, AVIC plans to move its headquarters from Beijing to Zhuhai; this is a coup for the city government, to attract one of China's most important aviation firms.

State-owned AVIC is one of China's biggest producers of military and civilian aircraft. It has assets of nearly 300 billion yuan and over 400,000 employees; its long-term aim is to compete with global giants Boeing and Airbus in the civilian airline field. It is considering purchase of a manufacturer of commercial planes in Europe or the United States, to accelerate this process. Ownership of a foreign firm would give it brand recognition in western markets, a distribution and support network, technology and experienced personnel.



China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition, Xinhua photo



Its new operations in Zhuhai are an important part of this future

The first product of the new factory will be the Haiou (Seagull), a four- to six-seater, fixed-wing passenger plane that is due to make its public debut at the Zhuhai airshow in November. It is the first light multi-purpose amphibious plane entirely designed and manufactured in China. AVIC has designed it for use over lakes, rivers, dams and shorelines, to carry VIPs, passengers and cargo, train pilots, medical rescue, surveillance of the sky and tourism. Its maximum load will be 1,680 kilograms.

AVIC will also use Zhuhai for part of the production of the 'Jiaolong-600', which it aims to be the world's largest amphibious plane. A single-hull rescue plane with a four-turbine propeller, it will be similar in size to the Airbus 320. Its maximum take-off weight will be 60 tonnes and it will be able to take off and land on both land and water. It is designed for emergency rescue, forest fire-fighting and sea surveillance. AVIC will build in Zhuhai a research and development centre for the new plane.

Another project under negotiation for Zhuhai is an academy to train pilots and alleviate a serious shortage in China. The country has only one civilian training facility, in Guanghan, Sichuan that turns out 800 graduates a year; an equal number are trained at flight schools in Australia, the U.S. and Canada that are licensed by the Civil Aviation Administration of China.

The Pegasus Flight Academy will involve an

investment of US\$80 million and start with 120 students a year, rising to over 400 over five years. It will have 28 aircraft and 14 simulators and eventually employ 140 full-time academic and support staff. Its director of training strategy will be Captain John Bent, former manager of the Cathay Pacific/Dragonair Flight School in Hong Kong.

Another part of the AIP jigsaw is aircraft maintenance. The city boasts MTU Maintenance,



a 50-50 joint venture between China Southern Airlines and MTU Aero Engines, Germany's leading engine manufacturer and the world's number one independent provider of commercial auto engine maintenance services. It has three locations in Germany and a global workforce of 7,500.

This is how the Jinwan government describes its objective for the AIP: "an industrial base for civil aviation in Guangdong, a world-famous aviation exhibition base, a world-class corporate aircraft manufacturing base, an integrated aviation maintenance base for the Asia-Pacific region and an important domestic civil aviation numerical control processing base. It will be competitive and be able to innovate on its own and will finally become a modern aviation city."

It says that, during the 2010-2015 period, it aims to attract high-tech and competitive aviation firms, expand and improve the aviation maintenance business and build up production of parts and components. "We aim to become one of the main corporate aircraft research and manufacturing bases in the world," it said.



AIP construction

Du Zhuo, head of the Jinwan district government, said that the district aimed to develop both aircraft manufacturing and the aviation service industry and attract firms in both sectors to the city. "We also want to support ancillary services for the civil aviation sector and promote the consumer market for civil aircraft, attracting domestic and foreign aviation exhibitions, education, training, transport and entertainment. We want to use the advantageous conditions of the growing traffic at Zhuhai airport to attract domestic and foreign firms in the aviation service sector. Our priority is aviation services and logistics."

One market segment which the AIP is looking at is business jets, flown by executives and rich people who want the speed and flexibility of their own private aircraft.

This sector is in its infancy in China, despite the fact that tens of thousands of individuals and companies can now afford such planes. Industry estimates put the number of such planes in China at less than 1,000, compared to more than 200,000 in the United States.

The main reason for the slow development of this sector is military controls on the use of airspace and the long time needed to process applications. Executives, on the other hand, want the flexibility to fly where they wish at short notice.

But many people believe that, in response to demand from the business community, the authorities will relax controls. If and when they do, the Zhuhai AIP is ideally placed to take advantage. ■

Photos by Eric Tam



macauhub is a free Macau-based news service in Chinese, Portuguese and English providing economic, trade and investment information about southern China's Pearl River delta and the world's eight Portuguese-speaking nations to help governments, private entities, businesspeople, researchers and others better understand the development and business potential in the respective countries and regions.

macauhub comprises a team of professionals in Asia, South America, Europe and Africa who produce information in the three languages about southern China, including the nation's economic powerhouse of Guangdong, the special administrative regions of Macau and Hong Kong, as well as the Portuguese-speaking countries of Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe, and East Timor.

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macauhub logged some one million website visitors in 2009.

Panyu aims for central role in Guangdong

By Thomas M. H. Chan*



Panyu in Guangdong

Every great city is supported by satellite districts. For the great metropolis of Guangzhou, its most important satellite is Panyu, south of the city centre.

The evolution of this former remote area into a bustling urban area is testament to Guangzhou's ambitious infrastructure investment.

Since 2000, Guangzhou has been planned along a north-south axis. Away from the congested old

city centre, new urban infrastructural facilities have been focused on areas south of the Pearl River, first into the Henan area, the former southern suburb, and further into Panyu, which was converted from an independent city into an urban district of Guangzhou in 2000.

Some major infrastructure projects have been located in Panyu - for example, the new university town and a proposed new Guangzhou city centre.



Strategically more importantly, the nexus of inter-provincial high speed railways and one of the four largest terminals of the national railway system, the new South Station of Guangzhou, is also in Panyu. Most passenger lines - city subways and intercity express railways number over 10 - of the regional railway network of the Pearl River Delta region will go through the Southern Station and Panyu.

Looking at planning maps of Guangzhou and the Pearl River Delta region, you find Panyu at the centre of the regional system, not just geographically but also in terms of the massive flows of people that will be re-directed by the coming mass transit system.

But will Panyu become the new centre of the expanded Guangzhou and the emerging PRD metropolis?



Real estate boom and rising prices

It is true that Panyu has become the focus of urbanisation in the PRD region, with Guangzhou residents moving on a massive scale to escape congested city life and escalating housing costs in the eight districts of the old city centre. At least the northern part of Panyu, just across the river from Henan area in the old Guangzhou, has become much more accessible through construction of new bridges and highways and the coming railway networks.

A look at construction and sales statistics in Panyu in recent years shows clearly the popularity of the place for residents of the region. Both Yuexiu and Tianhe districts, which have performed better than Panyu in private housing development, are the old and new central business districts of Guangzhou. They are also the most developed districts in the city, with GDP in 2009 about double of that of Panyu. It is already very impressive for Panyu to narrow the gap with these two well-established CBDs over the last few years.

In the four years from 2006 to 2009, Panyu sold 8.4 million square metres of housing, which can accommodate about 100,000 households, for 62 billion yuan. In 2009, another five million-plus square metres of private housing were under

construction. For a district that has less than one million registered local residents, not including recent new arrivals, these are impressive figures and suggest most of the buyers are non-locals and come from the old city centre of Guangzhou.

Rising housing prices in Panyu also confirm the popularity of the district; in 2009, the average purchase price in Panyu was 8,980 yuan per square metre, very close to the average of the 10 urban districts of the city, excluding the two suburban counties, of 10,415 yuan for the year. In comparing the housing prices of Panyu and the old city centre, one should bear in mind the disincentive of the 17-kilometre distance between Shiqiao, the capital town of Panyu, and the city's CBDs.

Public services lag behind

However, urbanisation in terms of increases in resident population and housing prices does not tell us anything about the quality of city life in Panyu. Public facilities, like hospitals, schools, public amenities, government offices and other urban functions provided by government and non-government organisations, are normally concentrated in old city districts, as it takes decades to build up both the scale and the quality of services.

Retail establishments and business offices, which

bring service employments and purchasing power, also tend to cluster in the CBDs to take advantage of the concentration of public services and clustering economies.

As a new city district, Panyu needs heavy investment to increase its level of public services, which have lagged behind those of the old city districts as well as to cater for the residents moving from Guangzhou, who are used to and thus have a higher demand for better public services.

Enclaves, not part of city network

There are several problems for the evolution of Panyu if it is to become the urban centre of the emerging PRD metropolis.

First, there is still a great difference between the northern part of Panyu, north of the Shawan waterway, and the old city districts, in terms of public services, both quantitatively and qualitatively. The Panyu government and society have focused too much on real estate. Although the tertiary sector of the local economy has expanded rapidly and replaced industry as the main driver of the economy - the contribution of the tertiary sector to local GDP passed 50% for the first time in 2008 - investment and output in the real estate sector have dominated the tertiary sector.



The consequence: the more housing units are built, sold and occupied, the greater the demand for urban services provided by the government and the greater the gap in the demand and supply in public services, as the government lacks the capital and time to improve them. As a result, people who have recently relocated from Guangzhou still find their employment, schooling and most public services and retail needs in their original residential places in the old city centre.

The new residential communities in Panyu

have become enclaves, with little linkages and economic contribution to the local society. They are commuter communities which put a heavy stress on transport links between Panyu and the older city of Guangzhou. The enclave nature of these new communities of several hundred thousands of people in a district of less than a million population prevents an organic growth of local services, public and private, and convert a local economy that was originally self-sufficient into one that increasingly depends on the service economy of Guangzhou.

Table 1: Economic performance of Panyu, 2007-2009

GDP				
	Value (billion yuan)	y-o-y growth	Share of city total	Guangzhou city y-o-y growth
2007	62.89 (5)*	13.0%	8.8%	14.9%
2008	72.76 (5)	13.1%	8.9%	12.3%
2009	86.38 (4)	12.3%	9.5%	11.5%
Retail sales				
2007	33.23 (4)	23.0%	12.8%	18.9%
2008	41.55 (3)	25.1%	13.2%	21.0%
2009	49.23 (3)	18.5%	13.5%	16.2%

**ranking among 10 districts and 2 counties of Guangzhou.*

Source: Statistics Bureau of the Guangzhou Municipal Government.

Table 2: Value and space of commercial housing sold in Panyu, 2007-2009

Contracted value				
	Value (billion yuan)	y-o-y growth	Share of city total	Guangzhou city y-o-y growth
2007	177.37(3)*	36.3%	15.1%	36.09%
2008	129.59 (3)	-26.9%	13.9%	-20.2%
2009	183.03 (3)	41.2%	14.2%	37.5%
Total space in 10,000 square meters				
2007	244.48 (2)	0.1%	18.1%	2.6%
2008	150.90 (3)	-38.9%	14.7%	-24.2%
2009	203.83 (3)	35.1%	14.8%	34.2%

**ranking among 10 districts and 2 counties of Guangzhou.*

Source: Statistics Bureau of the Guangzhou Municipal Government.



Fears of housing bubble

Second, the boom of private housing in Panyu has a less solid foundation than that of the older city districts. When the speculative bubble bursts, the better and greater public services of the older city districts will show their great competitive advantage against those of Panyu, when demand shrinks. Already in 2008, sales of housing in Panyu dropped by a larger margin than the city average; but the adjustment was minor and incomplete.

With the coming conversion of the Asian Games villages in Panyu into private housing for sale after the game, the balance of supply and demand will tilt. The Asian Games villages have 8,000 residential units of 1.06 million square metres and will be put onto the market after the Games at the end of this year. The project has another 3.2 million square metres for construction of private housing.

Altogether this will be equivalent to more than two boom years of sales. The impact on the local housing market will be detrimental, although there will be a brighter side - lower housing prices for the buyers.

Do not overstretch

Third, the Guangzhou and Panyu governments aim to develop the district into 'a modernised new city district of Guangzhou, a base of producers' services and advanced equipment manufacturing industries of the PRD region, an ecologically-friendly urban residential area of leisure and tourism in Guangdong and an important centre of science, education and information for southern China.' This will be a strategically long-term goal of the district.

In the shorter term, however, it may not be easy to reconcile competition for space, human resources and investment funding among all these sectors, industry and related services, real estate and education and science. As an organic and sustainable city or city district, Panyu needs to integrate them together and not allow each to evolve into enclaves. There may also be unresolved problems in putting together urban consumer services and manufacturing industry and its related producers' services. What will be the development priority in Panyu? Urban services or manufacturing industries?

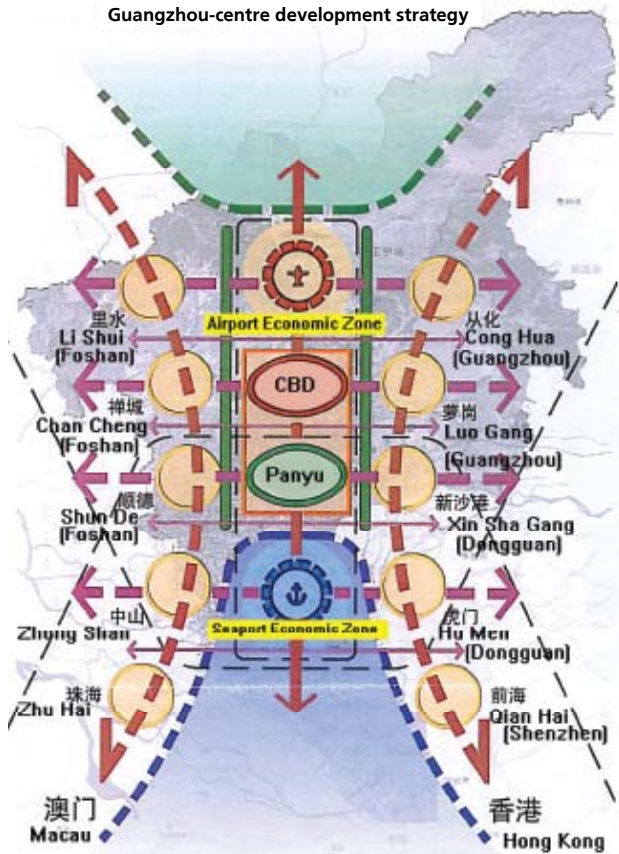
Panyu's trump card – Guangzhou South Station

Notwithstanding these problems, Panyu has one advantage against which other districts and cities in the PRD region cannot compete: the location of one of the busiest railway terminals in China and the world, which operates on many levels. It serves national, regional and local transport needs - and probably international as well, if the high-speed railways are integrated with airports in the region.

The Guangzhou South Station will have several hundreds of thousands of passengers going through it every day, creating not just opportunities for retail sales and services, but huge economies of agglomeration, scale, scope and network that are conducive to innovation and high productivity.

If the Panyu government understands the great economic potential of the station and plans and develops accordingly, the 'station economy' so created will be able to make the district or at least the areas adjacent to the station a new modern city centre of Guangzhou. A good comparison or role model is the world-famous Shinjuku 'station economy' of Tokyo. ■

Guangzhou-centre development strategy



*China Business Centre, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Guangzhou South Station, Xinhua photo





Guangzhou South Station, Xinhua photo



Chui Sai On in Portugal

Renewing ties, boosting cooperation

By Staff Reporter



Chui Sai On with Luis Amado

Six months ahead of the Year of Portugal in China (2011) and half a year after taking office, the Chief Executive of the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR) visited Lisbon with a delegation of over 100 businesspeople, on a trip with a heavy economic focus and a clear indication that there are plans to inject new vibrancy into relations between

Portugal and the Special Administrative Region.

Following in the footsteps of his predecessor Edmund Ho Hau Wah, Fernando Chui Sai On also chose Portugal as the destination of his first official foreign visit after taking up Macao's top job. Apart from the symbolism of the 2000 and 2010 visits, in which we were reminded of what unites Macao

and Portugal and given confirmation that the Sino-Portuguese Joint Declaration on the Question of Macao is respected, the mission of the Chief Executive has so far shown some positive results, specifically a clear wish, voiced several times by both Portuguese and Macao politicians, to boost the Cooperation Framework Agreement between the two sides, which was signed nine years ago, but the essential instrument of which, the Joint Commission, has never been activated.

The Portuguese Foreign Minister, Luís Amado, said following a meeting with the MSAR Chief Executive on the first day of the visit to Lisbon, that both sides had decided that, "by the end of the year, under the terms of the Cooperation Framework Agreement, we will hold the first meeting of the Commission."

The sign that this visit was substantially more productive than the previous one, was the agreement, in principle, that the Joint Commission would be the engine driving the whole process, with meetings occurring annually.

In his turn, Fernando Chui Sai On noted that Portuguese businesspeople "are welcome in Macao" and emphasised the idea that his Government would create "good conditions for these investors to reach Macao," adding that the MSAR was merely carrying out its role as a platform for cooperation between China and the Portuguese-speaking world.

Bilateral trade of little significance

In terms of the economic and trade relationship between Portugal and the MSAR, the scenario has remained practically unchanged in the last decade. The balance of trade is in Portugal's favour by a significant margin, but with volumes of little significance within the European Union as a whole. Lisbon is not even amongst Macao's top eight partners in the European Union, and whilst the products Macao consumes that are Made in Portugal do not account for 1 percent of the total it imports from the EU, the scenario for exports is even less significant.

Macao essentially supplies the Portuguese market with optical instruments, clothing and related accessories, works of art, collectibles and antiques, organic chemicals, as well as machinery and apparatus, and electrical materials.

For its part, Portugal mainly exports alcoholic beverages and spirits, pharmaceutical products, milk and dairy products, ceramics, plastics and items made of stone or similar materials. From January to April of this year, Macao exported 2.5 million patacas' worth of goods to Portugal and bought over 13 million patacas of goods from Portuguese companies.

The Macao delegation with Luis Amado in Lisbon





Biggest Chinese business delegation to Lisbon

On the sidelines of the seven-day visit by the Macao Chief Executive, the 16th Meeting for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries was held.

The People's Republic of China, which sent the biggest delegation of all the eight countries present (made up of over 100 businesspeople), showed its intention of increasing economic and commercial partnerships with the nations that use Portuguese as a common language.

This meeting took place at a time of great vitality for trade between the PRC and the group of seven Portuguese-speaking countries, particularly Brazil and Angola, as between January and April of this year trade totalled 20.706 billion euros, which was a rise of 91 percent on the same period of 2009.

Portugal and China also saw an increase in trade of 80.6 percent in the first five months of 2010, to 166 million euros.

Buoyed by this positive result, both China and Portugal want this trend to continue.

The PRC Government decided to raise the status of bilateral relations between Beijing and Lisbon some four years ago and announced that Portugal would join the group of countries with which the Asian giant has a "strategic partnership."

The Portuguese authorities, taking advantage of the first official visit by the MSAR Chief Executive, are now willing to increase their presence in mainland China and Macao as it "is very important for Portuguese investment" in China, as noted by the chairman of Portugal's Agency for Foreign Investment and Trade (AICEP), Basílio Horta.

Finally, in order to reaffirm the importance of Macao in relations between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries, paid a visit to Portugal to coincide with the visit by Fernando Chui Sai On, as part of a tour that also included Cape Verde and Mozambique.



Chui Sai On with Portuguese President Aníbal Cavaco Silva

Seven busy days

Before leaving for his seven-day visit to Portugal, the Chief Executive said he hoped that it would result in a boost to the ties of friendship and other areas, considering the history and friendship that unite Macao and Portugal.

The first items on Chui's busy agenda were a meeting with Portugal's Foreign Affairs Minister, and the announcement that the Cooperation Framework Agreement would enter a new phase was a perfect kick-off to his visit.

Meetings with the Portuguese Economy Minister, on the possibility of bilateral cooperation in developing renewable energy, a visit to the Portuguese parliament and audiences with the Portuguese President, Aníbal Cavaco Silva and the Prime Minister, José Sócrates, completed the schedule of high level meetings of the Macao Chief Executive with the Portuguese authorities.

Summarising his visit, Chui said that steps had been taken and consensuses reached on various important issues, noting he was "satisfied with the results achieved" on his visit.

The Chief Executive also gave assurances that





Chui Sai On with Prime Minister José Sócrates



Macao week in Lisbon

following this official visit to Portugal, bilateral cooperation in the areas of trade, education, tourism and culture would increase.

During his meeting with the Portuguese president, the two leaders discussed the issue of relaunching direct flights between Macao and Portugal, with both sides acknowledging the advantages of that air link. However, the implementation of that link requires more in-depth analysis.

The schedule also included a “Macao Week in Lisbon”, a visit to Casa de Macau, in the Portuguese capital and the signing of agreements by Macanese associations and Portuguese gastronomic societies.

The official delegation led by the Chief Executive included the President of the Legislative Assembly (Macao’s legislature), Lau Cheok Va, and the secretaries for Economy and Finance and for Social Affairs and Culture, Francis Tam Pak Yuen and Cheong U, as well as dozens of Macao businesspeople. ■

Photos by GCS



HOVIONE

A test tube in three continents

By José Miguel Encarnação

When people walk past the walls of a former fireworks plant on Taipa Island, few know that it is home to one of the world's most respected pharmaceutical companies – Hovione. The firm has grown from a basement in Lisbon to a global company, with operations in Europe, Asia and the United States.

It was in 1984 that Ivan Villax, chairman of Hovione, started construction of the factory in Macao.

Jorge Pastilha, the managing director of the firm in Macao, said that, after the Chinese market opened up to the world in 1979, Mr Villax decided

to visit China. "He went to a fair in Guangzhou and was impressed with the industrial development of south China. At the same time, regulations in Portugal were negatively affecting national companies, which were forced to pay high taxes on manufactured products. So Mr Villax started to look for other locations for a new factory. He considered Singapore and Australia, but finally chose Macao, for several reasons: the territory was at the time under Portuguese administration, Portuguese was spoken there and the law was very similar to that of Portugal."

In 1984, Hovione had a factory in Portugal, an office in Switzerland it had opened in 1983 and a representative office in Hong Kong opened in 1979.

What does Hovione do?

Hovione manufactures Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs).

"We make the medication, the part that actually cures the diseases," said Pastilha. "After that, it is up to the pharmaceutical industry to produce syrups, creams, pills, capsules and inhaleable products, to be administered to patients."

In Macao, Hovione produces three antibiotics - doxycycline, roxithromycin and ivermectin - as well as other products ordered by specific customers.

Doxycycline is recommended to combat the effects of biological warfare; nearly all armies keep a reserve of it. In the last year and a half, sales of doxycycline have also increased due to the A/ H1N1 flu virus.

"As doxycycline is a broad-based antibiotic, when in doubt, doctors tend to prescribe it," the director said.

Roxithromycin and ivermectin are two veterinary antibiotics. Hovione is one supplier of ivermectin for the United Nations (UN) programme to fight river blindness in Africa. Although it is a veterinary antibiotic, in this case it is also administered to humans.

Hovione also produces APIs for independent research laboratories or those belonging to pharmaceutical multinationals.



Jorge Pastilha

Presence in Macao

All the production of Hovione's factories in Macao and Portugal is exported, which explains why few people know of its business.

"We do not sell one pataca in Macao, just as we don't sell a single euro in Portugal," Pastilha said.

"Our marketing is directed at companies. Thus, Hovione is very well known in the pharmaceutical sector, but little known within the communities in which it is produced. In Macao, for the last few years we have invited personalities to Magusto (traditional Portuguese festival), we have supported the Lusophone Festival and organised open days for schools, people and private and public entities that want to visit us. We also sponsor private projects which we find interesting."

More recently, Hovione launched a programme to hire people with links to Macao who are studying or working abroad and want to return to the territory or work in mainland China.

"Around two years ago, Hovione launched the Welcome Back to Portugal programme. Due to its success, we decided to do something similar in Macao. We have a rule of hiring: for technical and management positions, Macao residents who have

studied in Australia, England, the United States or a European country [are preferred]. Most of our customers are in those countries and it is very important for our staff to know them." The official language of the company is English. "If people have lived for four or eight years abroad, it is likely that they will speak better English than if they had studied or worked in Taiwan or a university in China. There is also the advantage that many have a Portuguese passport, which allows them to travel easily through Asia," he added.

After 26 years in Macao, Hovione wants to remain in the territory.

It is an important element for the diversification of the Macao economy, as it is the only company that trains pharmaceutical industry technicians.

"When people who have studied chemical engineering abroad return home, they have two options - enter the casinos or work at Hovione. In the last few years, we have trained staff who have ended up going to the Government and now work in public laboratories," he said.

"At the moment, we are focused on the China market. The growth of Hovione Macao depends upon supporting our business in mainland China."





The future lies in China

By acquiring 75 percent of China's Hisyn in 2008, Hovione took its first step into the mainland Chinese market, in Zhejiang province, which borders Shanghai.

"The future of the pharmaceutical industry lies in China. We cannot grow in China with staff from Lisbon, New Jersey or Ireland. With Hisyn, we have been successful because we rely on people from Macao who speak Cantonese, Mandarin, and English and have studied in English-speaking countries. Otherwise, it would be very difficult to manage 250 workers who have another culture and speak no English," Pastilha said.

According to him, the partnership with Hisyn makes it possible to "learn how everything works in China, from market rules to the local authorities and environmental and safety issues."

"We are now at a stage of learning and consolidating the investment. In Zhejiang, in two and a half years, we have tripled the size of the factory and increased sales, almost ten-fold. In the future, we will take new steps in China," he said.

Hysin was founded in 1998 and was formerly called Xinhua Pharmaceutical. It manufactures Contrast Media APIs, specifically iohexol and iopamidol. The factory site has a total area of 100,000 square metres, of which 25 per cent is dedicated to workshops; the total investment is about RMB 110 million.

PLPs and BRIC: The challenge

In an increasingly globalised world, Hovione has sought to position itself within the new world economy, in search of new markets and business opportunities.

Amongst Portuguese-speaking countries (PLPs), Brazil is the company's main focus. "Of these countries, Brazil is the only one with a pharmaceutical industry. In Africa, for example, Angola and Mozambique have no drugs factories. Companies sell to these countries, but their production units are in Portugal, Germany or China. That is why we are focusing on China," Pastilha said.

"BRIC [Brazil, Russia, India and China] are markets with higher growth rates and almost all

manufacturers of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients have moved from Europe and the United States to China and India. The only problem in these countries is finding the best balance between cost and quality. For higher positions, Hovione has been contracting many staff from the automotive industry, because they know how to produce large amounts of high-quality goods at a low cost. Forty years ago, the automotive industry also went through this challenge and managed to succeed.

The pharmaceutical industry has to adopt the same model of management,” he said.

Pastilha also said that the centres of decision-making were changing: “many Chinese and Indian companies are buying factories in the United States and Europe. If the suppliers of those factories cannot establish a direct relationship with the decision-making centres, they will stop selling. It is what is already happening in the automotive industry, information technology, mining and other sectors. Our export strategy should be global.”

From Lisbon to the world

Hovione was founded in 1959 by chemical engineer Ivan Villax – a Hungarian refugee in Portugal – and his wife, Diane de Lancastre du Boulay. At the time, the pharmaceutical industry was like the Internet in the 1980s: companies were family-owned and set up in the homes of their owners.

It was in the basement of his home in Lisbon that Ivan Villax started manufacturing Hovione’s first products. The success of sales and a successful partnership in Italy made it possible to open the first factory in 1969, in Loures in Portugal, with Japan as its main market.

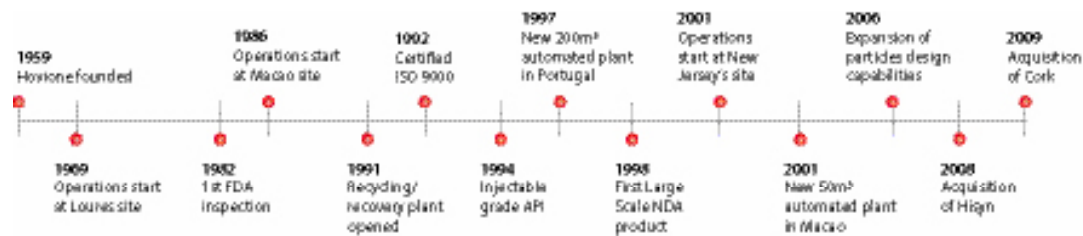
In 1986, Hovione launched production at its factory in Macao; in 2002, it set up a centre for technology transfer in New Jersey in the U.S.; in 2008, it set up a joint venture with China’s Hisyn and, in 2009 it bought a factory in Cork, Ireland from Pfizer.

Hovione also has two representative offices in Lucerne, Switzerland and Hong Kong. ■

Photos by Carmo Correia

HOVIONE	
Hovione Group:	Around 1,000 workers
Hovione Macao:	125 staff
Worldwide revenue:	US\$125 million (2009); US\$145 million (projection for 2010)
Sales:	United States and Canada (45%); European Union (25%); Japan (20%)
Procurement:	China (almost 60%); European Union (30%); India and others (10%)

Hovione Milestones





Hovione factory in Macao

2010 澳門銀河娛樂 世界女排大獎賽

Galaxy Entertainment Grande Prémio Mundial da FIVB em Macau
Macau Galaxy Entertainment FIVB World Grand Prix



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Brasil
Brazil



中國
China
China



多明尼加共和國
República Dominicana
Dominican Republic



荷蘭
Holanda
Netherlands



13/08

17:30 VS

開場禮 Opening Ceremony

21:00 VS

14/08

14:00 VS

16:30 VS

15/08

13:00 VS

15:30 VS

閉幕禮 Closing Ceremony

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From festival races to modern sport

Dragon Boat races – a popular water sport in Macao

By Louise do Rosario



Macao male Dragon Boat racing team

From fishermen racing against each other in small wooden boats to athletes winning medals at international races, the popular water sport of dragon boat racing has indeed come a long way in Macao.

The city is now a famous and important player in

world dragon boat competitions, winning trophies in all major events.

All this is due to the dedication of athletes who love the sport, as well as the government's constant support for an activity which has helped to foster community spirit and pride.

中國澳門龍舟總會

Associação de Barcos de Dragão de Macau, China
Macau, China Dragon Boat Association



Kitty Wong

At the annual dragon boat competition in the Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre, the public has a close-up look at how good their crew teams have become. It is held in the fifth month of the traditional Chinese calendar.

For months, thousands of athletes practise hard for this momentous event. As they muster all their strength to get their boats to the finish line in a sprint that lasts one to two minutes, crowds cheer and roar amid the hot and humid air of summer in southern China.

Kitty Wong, president of the Macao China Dragon Boat Association, said the event is more than just a celebration of a popular Chinese festival. "This is a traditional game with over 2,000 years of history. It is comparable to the Olympics, a people's sport, with historic, nationalistic, artistic and economic significance."

Passion for boats

The teams come from all walks of life, from casinos to fire stations and banks to universities.

They practise for hours after work in the evenings and during weekends, giving up their private lives for their passion. "I do not have much family life now, but it is all worth it, especially with a few big international games coming up this year," said Racy Leong, 40, head of the Macao's female team for international competitions. She and her team have just returned from the 9th Asian Dragon Boat Championships in Changzhou in Jiangsu province, where they won four silver and two bronze medals.

The short-haired, stocky athlete is a career civil servant and married with two children. "My husband used to do the sport as well, but now he has to take care of the kids when I have my training" she said, as she prepared a protein drink for herself before the intense training began in a clear Saturday afternoon at the water sports centre.

Iva Sam, 32, another member of the team, added: "My parents complain that they never see me at home. It is physically very demanding, but very gratifying. Our team members support each other and strive for the same goal."

Fireman Chang Wa leng, 30, has been dragon-



Chang Wa leng

boating for ten years and is now training every evening for the big event. "I like the team spirit. An individual alone, however good he is, cannot win the game by himself."

It is the passion of athletes like Leong, Sam and Chang who have propelled Macao into the world's top league.

Landmark events

This year, two events will further mark the city's coming of age in this sport. Macao is hosting the prestigious 7th Club Crew World Championship of Dragon Boats between 28 July and 1 August. Over 4,000 athletes and their supporters worldwide



Racy Leong (R.)



Zhou Liwei



Zhou Liwei and Ho Long Fai

will be in town, testing Macao's ability to run the races smoothly.

Another challenge is the 16th Asian Games, from 12 November in Guangzhou, when dragon-boat competitions will be included in the regional games for the first time.

Macao has been training its teams for years for this big game. "We will have a tough game ahead. We will be competing with the top athletes in the world," said Zhou Liwei, a well-respected coach who has led Macao through many victories.

Dragon boat races have their origins in Chinese folklore. In the 4th century BC, a famous poet and minister threw himself into the sea, as a protest against the corruption of the times. Fishermen had held boat races each year in memory of him – a tradition that has survived till today in the annual dragon boat festival.

Ho Long Fai remembers the fun he had, rowing small dragon boats as a child during the festival. "Fishermen used to have races between villages

fifty years ago, in the waters of the small islands near Macao."

In the 1930s and 1940s, the Portuguese government organised a few big races to liven up the public mood during wartime. In the 1950s, there were no races in times of economic hardships.

In the late 1970s, local interest in the game revived, with the sponsorship of Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau (STDM). In 1985, STDM and the tourism promotion authorities organised the first international dragon boat competition in Macao, inviting teams from Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

Fostering community spirit

After Macao's return to Chinese rule in 1999, the game was further upgraded: light-hearted festival races were replaced by well-organised, large-scale competitions with foreign participants.

Macao was no doubt inspired by Hong Kong's impressive efforts to promote the game, not as an old-fashioned festival activity, but as a modern water sport. Hong Kong organised the world's first international dragon boat race in 1976. It also sent teak dragon boats as gifts to many western countries, sparking off worldwide interest of the game as a paddle sport with mass participation.

In June 2000, Macao made a major step forward promoting not only a tourist attraction but also a community sport: the Macao Sport Development Board and the Macao Government Tourist Office jointly organised for the first time the annual dragon boat race.

In 2001, the dragon boat association was set up, helping local crew teams and races to conform to international standards. Since then, the association has held the annual events with the board, with the help of the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau as well as the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau.

Since then, races have been held each year, drawing ever bigger crowds and raising Macao's profile in the international dragon-boat league.

Annual competitions

Each year, Macao holds its two-day game on the weekend preceding the Dragon Boat Festival, mainly for local athletes. This year, 2,880 paddlers of 132 teams competed between the 12th and 13th of June. To make the sport less elitist and more accessible to the public, there were the 250-metre races of the 12-paddler small dragon boats. The standard boat has 22 paddlers competing over a distance of 500 to 2,000 metres.

Anyone over 15 years old and in good physical condition can join the sport. He or she must be able to swim at least 100 kilometres. There are special races for civil servants and university students.

This year, the sports association Pu Ao Zhi You won the open 500-metre race for the third consecutive year. The Fire Department came second, followed by Galaxy Stars, one of the seven dragon-boat teams of the casino company Galaxy Entertainment.

In the category of "university students" where mainland students were also invited, the Jilin

Northeast Dianli University from China won for the fifth consecutive year.

On the day of the actual festival, the fifth day of the fifth month of the lunar calendar, an international race is held in Nam Van. This year, it fell on the 16th June. Athletes came from Hong Kong, China, Singapore, the Philippines and the United States.

The men's race was won by the team from Jiujiang of Foshan city in Guangdong province. In the women's championship the Zhaoqing Hotel Rio took the title.

Macao has also hosted other international dragon-boat races. A memorable one was the three-day Asian Pacific Cities Invitational Dragon Boat Races at Sai Van Lake between the 12th and 13th of June 2003. "There was the SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) disease but we held the event anyway.

"It was the season of the moon festival, with light breeze and cooler weather. After the races, we had fireworks and good food. Everyone was happy," recalled Kitty Wong.

Macao continues to make great strides in the international arena. "In recent years, we have been breaking our own records on all fronts, in the number of races, participants and awards we received," said Wong.

Winning international medals

In October 2004, Macao got five silver and one bronze medals at the 16th Asian Dragon Boat Championships in Mianyang, Sichuan province. In Wong's words, it marks the "opening of a new chapter in the history of our dragon boat teams."

In September 2006, Macao won three gold and eight silver medals at the 7th Asian Dragon Boat Championship held locally. At the 8th championship in Sydney a year later, Macao won two silver and one bronze medals.

Macao's success has much to do with the government's strong support. It provides free dragon boats and training equipment to the athletes and even a cash subsidy of up to 5,000 patacas to each team participating in the annual local races.

"Macao has the world's best facilities and environment for dragon boat athletes. The water is



Macao's men's and women's Dragon Boat teams

clean and the government is dedicated to promoting the sport," said Zhou, the coach who came to Macao in 2004 to train the city team. He added that the small size of the city is another plus: athletes do not have to travel far to reach the training ground at Nam Van.

Nam Van itself is a world-class facility, with its purpose-built, six 500-metres lanes and seats for thousands spectators. With an average water depth

of 3.5 metres, it is an enclosed lake not exposed to the ever-changing tidal waves. This summer, thousands of foreign athletes will be paddling in this scenic lake, surrounded by towering casino blocks and other skyscrapers at the waterfront. Little could they imagine that, as recently as a few decades ago, the game almost died because of lack of interest and support. ■

Photos by Eric Tam

JOINING THE TOP LEAGUE

2010	9th Asian Dragon Boat Championships	4 silver medals	Small Boat, Mixed 200 m Small Boat, Women's 200 m Small Boat, Mixed 500 m Standard Boat 200 m
2009	International Dragon Boat Federation World Championships	Ranked 4th Ranked 5th Ranked 5th Ranked 5th	Men's Open 200 m Women's 200 m Women's 1000m Women's 2000 m
2008	8th Asian Dragon Boat Championships	2 silvers 1 bronze	Men's 2000 m Women's 2000 m Men's Small Boat 500 m
2007	8th International Dragon Boat Federation	1 silver	Women's 2000 m
2006	7th Asian Dragon Boat Championships	3 golds	Small Boat Men's 200 m Standard Boat Men's 2000 m Standard Boat Men's 500 m



Getting on the property ladder

The government helps put a roof over the heads of the needy

By Louise do Rosario



Housing supply has always been tight in Macao, the world's most densely populated city. At end-2009, 542,200 inhabitants lived in an area of 29.5 sq. km, concentrated in the crowded Macao peninsula. Property prices are therefore very high, making renting and owning a home difficult for many people.

To help low-income groups, the government has built over the last few decades public and partly-subsidised housing, both for rental and for sale. Today nearly 90,000 or one-sixth of the population, live in 29,799 such units.

More people are looking to the government for help, as they struggle with higher rents and more expensive mortgages. Property prices have at least doubled in recent years, thanks to the influx of capital from mainland and foreign investors into local real estate. There are few apartments in Macao today that cost less than one million patacas each.

According to official statistics, the average price of residential units in the first quarter of this year stood at 26,845 patacas per sq. metre, a quantum leap from the 2004 figure of 8,259 patacas per sq. metre.



Chui Sai On in his maiden policy speech in 2010

19,000 units by 2012

The government is aware that it needs to do more to help hard-pressed citizens to secure affordable housing. In his maiden policy speech in March 2010, Chief Executive Fernando Chui Sai On promised that the government would provide 19,000 public housing units by 2012.

In late April, the government set up a high-powered Public Housing Affairs Committee to formulate long-term policies on public housing.

Members include heads of government departments and leading social figures, meeting at least twice a year. The body will look at, among other things, how to deal with the long queue of applications for public housing.

Lau Si Io, Secretary for Transport and Public Works, said in April this year that the government is working on a ten-year development plan of both public and private housing.

As a first step, the government will encourage private developers to build smaller flats, not just big-sized luxury homes in which they have concentrated in recent years.

“Through street alignment, community planning and land management, we will guide private developers to build smaller sized units,” Lau said.

Tam Kuong Man, who was promoted to President of the Housing Bureau in January 2010, said his main priority was to achieve the target of building 19,000 public units by 2012.

Social housing

There are two types of public housing in Macao, said Tam. One is called social housing, rented by the government to low-income families. By end-2009, 5,594 units have been rented out to 5,650 households of 15,133 individuals, said Tam.

The second category is so-called home-ownership scheme housing, which is jointly developed by the government and private developers to build subsidised small apartments for sale to low-income families.

Under this scheme, the Housing Bureau invites contractors to build homes on an allocated lot.

On completion, some units will be reserved for the government to repay the costs of concessions



Tam Kwong Man, President of the Housing Bureau

and subsidies of land grants. The rest are sold to qualified applicants for such kind of housing and they can get a subsidy of up to 10% of the housing cost after a means test.

By the end of 2009, 24,205 home-ownership scheme housing units had been sold, benefitting nearly 73,000 people, Tam said. There were 12,376 families on the waiting list at last year's end.

In earlier years, the government only built social housing to rent to poor families. It launched the home-ownership scheme housing programme much later, in the 1980s.

Early days of social housing

The government built its first social housing estate in 1929 in Tamagnini Barbosa, following the destruction of an old housing estate by a fire in 1928. It had 23 blocks with 711 apartments to accommodate the victims of the fire.

Between 1960 and 1968, the government built five to seven-storey housing blocks with about 300 apartments. They were located in the northwest part of the peninsula, Taipa and Seac Pai Van in

Coloane. Non-government entities, such as charities, religious groups and social welfare organisations, helped in the construction. These earlier blocks have since been demolished and their tenants relocated to newer and better homes.

Between 1970 and 1984, 804 social housing blocks were built, again in the northwest part of the city.

Then came the big bang of social housing, with 1,492 units built between 1985-1992. Three estates were built, including the biggest block of the time, the 650-apartment Mong-Ha Estate.

Later the pace of construction eased, due to a sluggish property market and a slower growth of population. Only one social housing block was completed, between 2005-2007, in the northeastern tip of the peninsula.

Applicants for social housing have to be over 18 years old and to have lived in Macao for at least five years. For a single individual, his monthly income cannot exceed 3,800 patacas. For a family of ten, the income limit is 11,100 patacas.

The rent charged is low, with half of the tenants paying 200 patacas a month, said Tam. At end-December 2009, there were 5,728 applications.

To help families who are on the waiting list and who meet the income limit requirement, the government grants a monthly subsidy of 750 patacas for a household of one to two persons, and more for bigger families. In 2008, 2,048 such applications were approved and 6.1 million patacas were paid out.

In the pipeline

Now, the government is striving to build more at a much quicker pace.

The recently completed blocks include:

1. Habitacao Social do Fai Chi Kei - Edificio Fai Fu. 29 floors. 484 units for the elderly. Completed in December 2009.
2. Habitacao Social do Fai Chi Kei - Edificio Fai I. 30 floors. 400 units. Completed in December 2009.
3. Habitacao Social da Ilha Verde - Edificio Cheng Choi. 36 floors. 672 units. Completed in May 2010.
4. Habitacao Social da Ilha Verde - Edificio Cheng Chong. 36 floors. 252 units for the elderly. Completed in December 2009.

The ones under construction include:

1. Habitacao Social da Ilha Verde - Edificio Cheng Nga. 25 floors. 357 units. Under construction.
2. Habitacao Social de Mong Ha, 1st phase. 34 floors. 3 basement floors. 588 units. Close to completion.

In addition, the government has plans to add around 5,000 units through the development of plots in Bairro da Ilha Verde and the renovation of old social housing estates. The government will also reserve land for the construction of public housing in its 350-hectare reclamation project recently approved by the central government.

The most-anticipated public housing programme will be the planned 6,800-unit Seac Pai Van project in Coloane. The government has said there will be a mix of social and home-ownership scheme housing units.





Ground formation has just started in this former industrial area.

Home-ownership scheme

Home-ownership scheme housing made its debut in the 1980s. The first regulation on home-ownership scheme housing, issued in 1980, said that such units have to be between 40 to 100 sq ft and to have two to five rooms. Those applying to buy such units have to be over 18 years old and to have lived in Macao for over five years. They and their family members must not own any property or land.

Arco Iris on Estrada dos Cavaleiros is the first home-ownership scheme housing estate, completed in 1986. Since then, 42 blocks have been built, mainly in the 1990s, providing a total of 24,318 units.

They are located mainly in the northwestern side of the Macao peninsula near the border, concentrating on the streets of Istmo Ferreira do Amaral and Avenida de Artur Tamagnini Barbosa (Hipodromo).

The most recent block, completed in February 2006, was the third phase of Sun Star Plaza, a 26-storey building with 364 units.

The average sizes of the single, double, three room home-ownership scheme housing units were 26.5 sq. metre, 35.5 sq metre and 47 sq. metre respectively. Their prices, when they were offered years ago, ranged from 170,000 patacas to 300,000

patacas each.

These prices, a fraction of what the current market charges for private apartments, are unlikely to be offered for the new projects.

Tam said prices of new home-ownership scheme housing units will be based on land cost, construction cost, price of property in the vicinity and consultations with other government departments.

The up-and-coming home-ownership scheme housing estates are as follows:

1. A 26-storey 880-unit tower on Rua da Tranquilidade do Hipodromo, near the border. The construction, scheduled for completion this year, costs over 400 million patacas. The developer has said it cost on average 400,000 patacas to build one unit, or about 6000 to 8000 per sq. metre. The units range from 40 sq. metre to 120 sq. metre, with one to four rooms.
2. Six blocks of 46-48 storeys in Estrada Coronel Nicolau de Mesquita in Taipa. Basic piling work has been completed and the estimated 1.45 billion pataca-project is due to be completed by end-2011. Over 70% of the 2,703 units will be two-room apartments.
3. Another block in Bairro da Ilha Verde will provide 500 units. Construction work has just started. ■

Photos by Eric Tam

Taipa island





Fai Chi Kei social housing

macao newsl ine

Macao's casino receipts hit record US\$ 5.12 billion in 1st Q

Macao, China, 19 Apr - The gross revenues of the local casino sector hit a record 40.9 billion patacas (US\$ 5.21 billion) in the first quarter of this year, an increase of 57.4 percent on the same period of last year, the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) has announced. This first quarter's casino gross receipts almost reached those for the whole year of 2005, which amounted to 46 billion patacas.

TAP Air Portugal leaves Macao with sale of stake in Air Macau to Air China
Macao, China, 29 April - Seap, a consortium of TAP Air Portugal and Banco Nacional Ultramarino, has sold its stake of 0.1 percent it held in Air Macau to Air China. The deal was concluded this week, after Seap (Serviços, Administrações e Participações), which is 75 percent owned by TAP Air Portugal, in December saw its stake in Air Macau fall from 20 percent to 0.1 percent, as it decided not to go along with the financial restructuring of the airline, along with other shareholders.

May Day protest leaves 41 injured in Macao

Macao, China, 1 May - More than 40 people were injured during a May day protest according to a police statement. Police Commissioner Lei Siu Peng said there were 800 protesters participating in the rally. Lei also said that the protesters were blocked from entering Avenida Almeida Ribeiro because of its strategic importance as a thoroughfare through the city.

Macao wants to develop "multi-destination" itineraries with Hong Kong

Macao, China, 5 May - Macao and Hong Kong can achieve a win-win situation for the tourism industry if the two places complement with each other in developing "multi-destination" itineraries, Macao's social and cultural chief said. Cheong U, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture made the remark when meeting an official delegation from Hong Kong.

19 APR



29 APR



01 MAY



05 MAY



26 APR



30 APR



03 MAY



05 MAY

Macao government to organise missions to Taiwan in second half of the year

Macao, China, 26 April - Macao's Chief Executive has said that the government plans to organise, in the second half of the year, visits by delegations from Macao to Taiwan, and carry out promotional activities related to Macao Week in Taipei City. Chui, who was speaking after a meeting with a vice chairman of Kuomintang (KMT) Tseng Ying-Chuan, added that the government was speeding its study to establish formal mechanisms to boost relations with Taiwan.

Macao heritage not in danger, says president of UIA

Macao, China, 30 Apr - Macao is doing well on heritage conservation, even better than other places, and its UNESCO listing is not in danger, Louise Cox, president of the International Union of Architects (UIA), said in Macao. Louise Cox said she was very happy about what she had seen after a six-year absence.

Chinese President praises Macao pavilion in Shanghai World Expo
Shanghai, China, 3 May - Chinese President Hu Jintao praised the Hong Kong and Macao pavilions in the Shanghai World Expo for the "innovative designs and their own unique characteristics". The Hong Kong and Macao delegations were led respectively by Chief Executives Donald Tsang Yam Kuen and Fernando Chui Sai On.

Macao government confident about completion of 19,000 public housing flats by 2012

Macao, China, 5 May - Secretary for Transport and Public Works Lau Si lo said that he had "full confidence" in the government's ability to keep its promise of completing 19,000 public housing flats by 2012. Lau made the remark in a meeting at the Legislative Assembly answering lawmakers' questions.

Chief Executive of Macao visits cities in the Pearl River Delta

Macao, China, 18 May - Chief Executive of Macao Fernando Chui Sai On visited Foshan city, the last leg of his tour to cities in the Pearl River Delta, according to a official announcement. Chui also visited the cities of Jiangmen and Zhaoqing to strengthen relations and exchange views with the Pearl River Delta officials.

18 MAY



19 MAY

Macao's participation in Shanghai Expo is "opportunity" for international promotion

Macao, China, 25 May - Macao's participation in the Shanghai World Exposition is an "opportunity" for the international promotion of the territory, the Macao Chief Executive, Chui Sai On said on his way to Shanghai.

25 MAY



25 MAY

New CEPA supplement helps Macao gain greater market access to Chinese mainland

Macao, China, 28 May - China's Ministry of Commerce and the Macao government signed the seventh supplement to the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) giving companies and investors in Macao the possibility to explore the mainland market with lower costs and higher efficiency.

28 MAY



29 MAY

17th century relics found behind Ruins of St. Paul's Church

Macao, China, 31 May - Archaeologists from Beijing's Institute of Archaeology at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences discovered part of an ancient wall and several artifacts from the Qing Dynasty (1644 - 1912) behind the Ruins of St. Paul's Church.

31 MAY



31 MAY

Drunken Dragon dance may become intangible heritage

Macao, China, 19 May - The Drunken Dragon dance, the Cantonese Naamyam (a unique narrative singing tradition) and the Macao Taoist ritual music have been selected to enter the recommended list of the National Intangible Cultural Heritage Directory, according to the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Macao (ICM). The list was announced by the Chinese Ministry of Culture.

Macao promotes tourism in India

Macao, China, 25 May - The Macao Government Tourist Office (MGTO) said that it has held promotional activities in India, with the aim of exploring the tourism market in the South Asian country. Last year, Macao received over 100,000 visitors from India, registering a growth of 30 percent over 2008.

Two pandas chosen to be sent to Macao as gift from Beijing

Macao, China, 29 May - A pair of giant pandas has been selected as gift for the Macao Special Administrative Region, the State Forestry Administration announced in Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province, the endangered species' hometown. The pair comes from the Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding and Research Base and has been chosen from 38 candidates.

Macao GDP grows 30.1 pc in 1st quarter

Macao, China, 31 May - Macao's gross domestic product rose 30.1 percent in real terms in the first quarter of this year on the same period of last year, the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) announced. The figure was the highest among China's four WTO economies (Chinese mainland, Macao, Hong Kong and Taiwan).

Macao and Guangdong deepen cooperation with new pacts on tourism, medicine

Macao, China, 31 May - The governments of Macao and Guangdong Province signed three pacts concerning cooperation in tourism and medicine. Guangdong Governor Huang Huahua led an official delegation to attend the Guangdong-Macao Joint Co-operation Conference, where he met with the Macao Chief Executive, Chui Sai On.

Macao to revise Press and Broadcasting laws

Macao, China, 2 Jun - The government of Macao said it will revise the press and broadcasting laws in two to three years. These two laws have been in place for 20 years.

Macao economy to expand 8.6 pc this year, The Economist says

Macao, China, 9 Jun - The Macao economy is expected to see expansion of 8.6 percent this year and 9.2 percent in 2011, according to the June edition of the report on Macao by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), of The Economist group. However, this average growth of 8.9 percent per year will only be achieved if new casino projects are re-launched and gamblers from mainland China continue to visit the territory.

Thailand sets up Chamber of Commerce in Macao

Macao, China, 9 Jun - Thailand set up a chamber of commerce today in Macao to promote economic relations with China and Portuguese-speaking countries. The ceremony was attended by the Commerce Minister of Thailand.

31 MAY



01 JUN

02 JUN



08 JUN

09 JUN



09 JUN

09 JUN



10 JUN

Franco Dragone show to open in September in Macao

Macao, China, 1 Jun - Melco Crown Entertainment (MPEL) will open its US\$250 million new water-themed show - The House of Dancing Water - by the Franco Dragone Entertainment Group on 16 September in the City of Dreams, the company announced. The show is the largest water-based act in the world.

Top gaming regulator forecasts 30 pc rise in casino revenues in 2010

Macao, China, 8 Jun - Macao's gaming revenue is likely to rise 30 percent in 2010, roughly doubling previous forecast, according to the director of Macao's Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau, Manuel Joaquim das Neves.

Airport passenger traffic down 7.4 pc in May

Macao, China, 9 Jun - Macau International Airport (MIA) passenger traffic fell 7.4 percent in May compared with the previous month, according to figures released by CAM-Macau International Airport Company. According to CAM, the airport handled in May 330,407 passengers, down from 352,976 passengers in April.

Macao, Guangdong and Hong Kong carry out joint tourism promotion in Taiwan and Europe

Macao, China, 10 Jun - Macao, Guangdong and Hong Kong plan to carry out joint promotions in Taiwan, the United Kingdom and France to publicise the tourism potential of the Pearl River Delta region. The announcement was made at the "Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Tourism Cooperation Meeting."

Government in discussion with electricity provider CEM to cut electricity rates

Macao, China, 13 Jun - Macao consumers could enjoy a reduction in their electricity bills later this year, after the government indicated that the minimum rate of return on capital investment for local monopoly electricity provider CEM will be cut by the government in a bid to pass on savings to consumers, said Arnaldo Ernesto dos Santos, the director of Office for the Development of the Energy Sector.

13 JUN



13 JUN

Air Macau extends network to more Japanese cities through Code Share Agreement with ANA

Macao, China, 15 Jun - Air Macau signed with All Nippon Airways (ANA) a Code Share Agreement to extend its network to all parts of Japan through the network of ANA. According to the agreement, Air Macau and ANA, Japan's largest carrier, will expand their respective network into Hokkaido, Fukuoka in Japan and Pearl River Delta Region in southern China.

15 JUN



15 JUN

Macao to reclaim 3.5 sq km of land in 5 years

Macao, China, 21 Jun - The Macao government will reclaim 3.5 sq km of land in the next five years to provide new areas for the territory's growth, said Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Lau Si Iu. The reclamation will be done in the Macao peninsula and Taipa island.

21 JUN



22 JUN

Chief Executive of Macao visits Portugal

Macao, China, 23 Jun - The Chief Executive of Macao, Fernando Chui Sai On ended a 6-day official visit to Portugal. Chui met with President of the Portuguese Republic, Cavaco Silva and Prime Minister Jose Socrates. It was the first visit of Chui abroad since he became Macao's Chief Executive on 20th December last year.

23 JUN



23 JUN

Wu Zhiliang to head Macao Foundation

Macao, China, 13 Jun - Macao Foundation (FM) board member Wu Zhiliang was appointed by the government as the new FM president. The announcement was made after Macao Foundation's Vitor Ng Wing Lok asked the Chief Executive Fernando Chui Sai On not to renew his tenure as head of the foundation.

Businesspeople from China and Macao travel to Portugal for business meeting

Macao, China, 15 Jun - Around 150 businesspeople from China and Macao visited Portugal to take part in the 6th Meeting for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries, to be held in Lisbon.

Hengqin island development to be promoted in Macao's largest trade fair

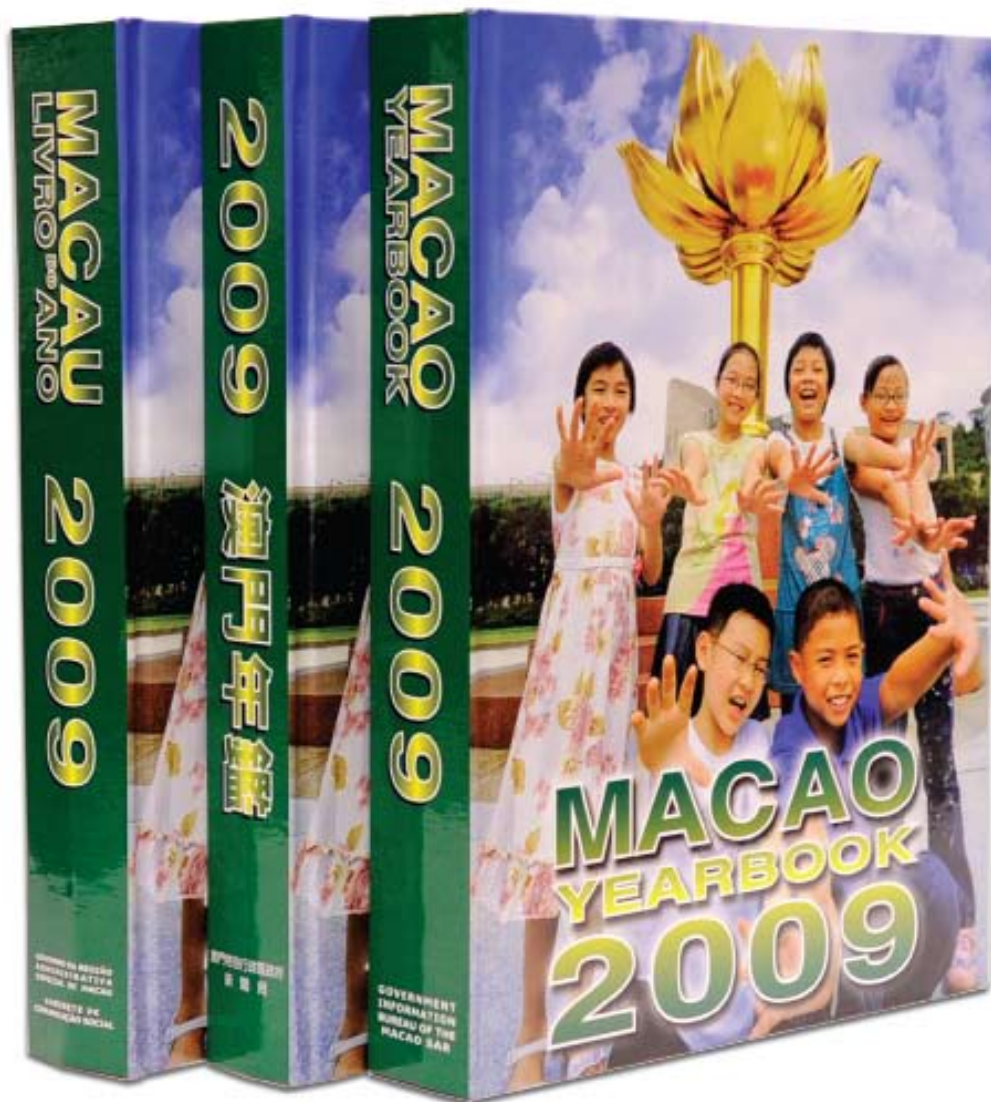
Macao, China, 22 Jun - The 15th Macao International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF) will be held in October aiming to promote trade and investment of brands, economic co-operation and business information exchange in the region, the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) said. Developments in Hengqin island, Zhuhai, are being highlighted as a key example of collaboration in the Pearl River Delta Region.

Macao receives 10.3 million visitors in the first five months of 2010

Macao, China, 23 Jun - Macao's total visitor arrivals during the first five months of 2010 rose by 15.8 percent year-on-year to 10.33 million, according to figures released by the city's Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

MACAO YEARBOOK 2009

Macao Yearbook 2009 is the regional almanac published by the Government Information Bureau of the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR)



The richly illustrated book aims to provide its readers with a comprehensive and objective record of the progress of Macao's political, economic, social and cultural developments in 2008. The well-edited Yearbook is meant to provide detailed and accurate information, in-depth analysis and concise data to all those who wish to know more about and better understand Macao.

Macao Yearbook 2009, separately published in Chinese, Portuguese and English, can be purchased at major bookshop in Macao at 120 patacas or 120 Hong Kong dollars per copy.

In Hong Kong, the three separate language editions of Macao Yearbook 2009 are on sale at the Commercial Press (HK) Ltd bookshops the Cosmos Books Ltd.

During the promotional period lasting until 31 March 2010, a 20-percent discount will be offered to any purchase of Macao Yearbook 2009.

A Maritime Treasure Chest

Guangdong museum houses boat shipwrecked 800 years ago

By José Simões Morais



Guangdong Maritime Silk Road Museum

Last December one of the most remarkable museums in China opened its doors – a space-age design on a beach that houses the remains of a Chinese junk that sank over 800 years ago and was lifted from the sea bed. It was discovered in 1987 but salvaged from the bottom of the ocean

only 20 years later. The museum also shows the pieces found on the ship – including gold rings and bracelets and porcelain, in astonishingly good repair. The Guangdong Maritime Silk Road Museum is in Hailing, Guangdong province, around 280 kilometres from Macao. The vessel, Nanhai I (South



Sea Number One), is the oldest and best-preserved ship ever found off the Chinese coast. It was built during the Southern Song dynasty (1127-1279) and sank a few miles off the coast in the South China Sea, on its way from China to India or the Middle East, the maritime Silk Road. It was loaded with tens of thousands of pieces of porcelain and has three masts, is 30.4 metres long and has a capacity of 80 tons.

The recovery of the ship is a remarkable story that goes back nearly 30 years. In the early 1980s, an employee of the United Kingdom Ocean Survey Company read a piece of news in a periodical in the collection of the Netherlands Maritime Museum -- in the 18th century, a boat of the East India Company carrying six boxes of silver and hundreds of tons of pewter was shipwrecked in the South China Sea.

The company applied to China's State Administration of Cultural Heritage (SACH) for authorisation to salvage the boat and, with the involvement of the Guangzhou Rescue and Salvage Bureau (GRSB), the application was approved.

The contract stipulated that the GRSB would supervise the salvage and that the British side would bear the costs of the operation and equipment. The boats and divers would be leased from China and, if Chinese historical and cultural relics were found, they would belong to China; if gold or silver were found, they would be sold to China at market prices and, if pewter were found, it would be sold and the proceeds split between the two sides.





The team began work off the coast of Nanpeng Island on 10 June, 1987, using acoustic radar to survey vast areas of the South China Sea bed; they found nothing until 5 August. Divers went to a depth of 24 metres to an area with poor visibility; by lamplight, they found a piece of wood two metres long that looked like the remains of a mast. With the contract coming to an end and in order to reduce costs, the British firm chose to drag the seabed and, using a one-ton crane, brought 247 items up to the surface, including bronze coins, a 1.7 metre long gold-plated belt weighing 575 grams and a great deal of porcelain, which, because of the method used, was mostly in pieces.

The findings were sent to China's SACH; its archaeologists concluded that the pieces were from the Song dynasty and, as they had nothing to do with the boat the British were looking for, the government ordered a halt to the prospecting work. This happened on 12 August and the entire team returned to Guangzhou.

Obstacles in recovering the shipwreck

In November 1989, aware that they were dealing with the remains of an 800 year-old ship, China decided to make a new attempt to survey the area, in partnership with Japan's National Sub-aquatic Archaeology Institute; but lack of funds and constant bad weather brought work to a standstill.

At this point, the government decided to prepare a team of specialist divers and invest in studying sub-aquatic archaeology. In 2001, after years of study and preparation, it revitalised the Chinese sub-aquatic archaeology programme. In April that year, armed with a map which they had bought from an Englishman who had taken part in the original survey and which detailed the precise location of the finds, the team returned to the area.

With sponsorship from the Hong Kong Association of Underwater Archaeology Research and Exploration and the SACH, the team managed to find, after a month of prospecting, one piece of porcelain, which, after it was analysed, was



The container with the vessel in the museum pool - Xinhua photo

confirmed to be from the first dragging operation. This enabled them to pinpoint the location of the shipwreck between the islands of Shangchuan and Xiachuan, 20 nautical miles from the port of Dongping.

In May 2002, divers began to collect pieces that were buried more than a metre under the seabed. After digging a one-square-metre hole, they removed 6,000 pieces of porcelain, 4,000 of them intact, pieces of lacquer, metal and bronze pieces and coins minted between the Western Han and the Song dynasties.

The team was therefore able to work out the measurements of the lost vessel, a medium-size merchant ship: 30.4 metres long, 9.8 metres wide and four metres high from the keel to the main deck, not counting the three masts. The initial plan

of the diving team was to recover only the goods. As further investigation was carried out and the findings indicated the ship's structure was complete and the wood in good condition, it was decided the whole vessel would be recovered.

To launch such a big operation, the government had to bring together many departments, including the Guangdong Department of Culture, the Guangdong Provincial Institute of Culture Relics & Archaeology, the National Museum of China, the Guangzhou Salvage Bureau of the Ministry of Communications, the South China University of Technology and the CCCC Fourth Harbour Engineering Co. Ltd.

In October 2003, the government took the decision to bring the entire boat onto land.

In November that year, the Guangdong provincial



government also decided to build the Guangdong Maritime Museum in Yangjiang city, thus bringing to an end the issue, under discussion since 1999, of where the museum would be located -- in Zhuhai, Jiangmen or Yangjiang.

In June, 2006, after receiving approval from the SACH, the Guangdong Department of Culture took charge of the operation to recover Nanhai I. On 8 December, 2006, it signed a contract with the Guangdong Provincial Institute of Culture Relics & Archaeology and the Guangzhou Salvage Bureau and the operation began.

Salvaging Nanhai I

In February, 2007, the salvage team made its final checks of the measurements, location and

positioning of the vessel. In April, two boats arrived at the scene to clean the surrounding area and check if it contained buried rocks that could make the salvage process more difficult. During this process, they made new finds – gold rings, pork bones and two snake skulls, as well as a stone that had been part of the anchor, measuring 3.1 metres across, 0.35 metres wide and 0.15 metres tall. The wooden part of the anchor, the biggest and heaviest Song dynasty anchor found so far, was almost completely destroyed, with only a small piece remaining where it joined the stone; shells, earth and even some porcelain pieces had become embedded in the stone.

In May 2007, a large floating rig with a powerful crane, built in Shanghai over three years at a cost of 600 million Yuan (US\$88 million), was ready for



Wooden part of the anchor

the major operation to salvage the boat. A 530-ton barge costing 70 million Yuan (US\$10 million) was launched; it would house the container with the shipwrecked boat and take it to land.

Then began the most challenging phase of the Nanhai I project. The crane placed in the water a steel container with no floor and no ceiling; its walls were 35.7 metres long, 14.4 metres wide and 12 metres high. The crane slowly lowered the container to a depth of 24 metres, to the precise position of the vessel on the seabed to surround the whole boat and loaded heavy cargo on top to bury it. The surrounding area of silt and sand was removed by suction, in order to bury the container 12 metres under the seabed.

The team placed sensors in the four corners of the container that were linked to a computer to verify whether all of the boat was inside the container and to measure the pressure it was under when buried. Over the course of two months, struts were placed to link the container's four walls to ensure its stability. After being sealed from underneath, the container was cut in half, hoisted and hermetically sealed.

The seabed operations ended on 26 November, 2007; Nanhai I was ready to be taken to land.

On the 22 December, the weather conditions presented an opportunity to move ahead with the operation, thus allowing the 16,000-ton barge, Zhong Ren 1601, to carry the container ashore.

On the next day, Nanhai I began its slow voyage



to Hailing Island, arriving at Zhapo beach 4 days later. A dock and a concrete path were built on the beach front, to serve as a pier. From this location, the container was transported to the museum by the use of enormous air balloons, along with wooden logs for protection, where it was transported to a huge pool.

On August 18, 2009, the team removed over 200 items that were well preserved from the upper part of the container, which had remained open, and at the same time discovering that at the bottom of the hull, there was a still large amount of porcelain.

According to the director of the Museum, Ma Hongzao, the operation to extract the boat from its location on the seabed cost a total of 150 million Yuan (US\$22 million).

"The characteristics of the water in the pool in which the container was placed along with the remains of the ship are the same as those of the water surrounding the boat at the bottom of the



sea for eight centuries," Ma said. He also said that, inside the ship, there were still about 70,000 pieces of porcelain in perfect condition, many still with the ropes that tied them, and that, in the upper part, there was a huge number of pans and nails.

"The boat certainly had excess cargo and that was why it sank. Because of the gold items it was carrying and the skulls of two snakes, the owner of the shipment was likely to be Indian or Arab," he concluded.

As for the boat, it was a medium-sized merchant junk with three sails. Most specialists consider it to be of the Fuchuan type, from Fujian, although some historians say that it could be of the Guangchuan type from Guangdong; both types of ship have a V-shaped hull. The museum has re-created a model of the vessel, with oars, similar to Guangdong ships of the time, in one of its exhibition rooms.

Guangzhou - shipping centre of southern China in the Song dynasty

From the Han dynasty (3rd century B.C.) or even earlier, Guangzhou was one of the most important ports in south China and the starting point of the maritime Silk Road. At the end of the 8th century, during the Tang dynasty, thousands of merchant ships arrived every year at the port of Guangzhou and the city had over 100,000 foreign residents, many of them Arabs, Hindus and Persians.

During the Tang and Song dynasties large amounts of porcelain were exported through the hub of Guangzhou.

In the 12th century, during the Southern Song dynasty, Chinese merchant junks set off from





Guangzhou at the end of the month of November and, with favourable winds, reached Sumatra. They remained there until spring, when the winds allowed them to sail once again and reach the Persian Gulf. They navigated over 5,000 nautical miles for two months in the middle of the ocean with the help of a sea compass, which was invented in the 11th century. They returned to China between May and June.

According to the book *Song Shi* (History of the Song dynasty), China exported goods such as silk, porcelain, tea, lead and pewter. Chinese currency was therefore accepted in all the ports through which they travelled.

New horizons for Chinese underwater archaeology

The discovery of Nanhai I and the research undertook to salvage the vessel have led to new possibilities in the field of Chinese underwater

archaeology and the promise of new insights in maritime history.

The salvage of the ship led to the creation of teams of divers who specialise in recovering sunken treasures, as well as significant technological advances in navigation and rescuing ships at risk of sinking. Previously, China had little knowledge of underwater archaeology and the salvage of boats and their cargo found on the seabed; following this operation, it is now amongst the best prepared countries to carry out these operations.

From seabed to museum

On the 24 of December, 2009, the 220 million Yuan (US\$32 million) museum built to exhibit the vessel opened its doors to the public. It is located in the holiday village of Zhapo in Hailing Island, 50 kilometres away from the city of Yangjiang.

With a capacity of 6,000 visitors per day, it currently receives an average of 1,500 visitors.



Designed by the Guangzhou Han Hua Architectural Design Company Ltd, the museum is built on Zhapo beach, on a three kilometre stretch of silver sand and blue sea. The building is shaped like an upturned boat and has no flat walls.

Viewed from the inside, the building reminds a visitor of the interior of a boat.

From the outside, the building is architecturally

daring and modernist and looks like something out of science fiction film; some call it one of the most modern buildings in Guangdong province.

With an area of 19,000 square metres, the museum is split over two floors and eight sections. It boasts a giant television screen in the entrance hall, which continuously shows a film about the operation to salvage the boat.



The museum in the Zhapo beach



All the exhibits are subtitled and signs are written in Chinese and English.

In the large ground floor room, objects found in Yangjiang city are on display. Other pieces, such as coloured glass from the Tang dynasty as well as minerals from the regions, are also on display.

The exhibits include copies of ancient maps such as the Oikumene (inhabited world) drawn up by Herodotus in 450 B.C. and by Homer, a map of foreign countries drawn in the Song dynasty and references to the history of navigation by the Phoenicians. There are also references to the sea gods of ancient countries such as Poseidon of Greece, the Taoist goddess Mazu (A-Má) of the eastern coast of southern China and the god of the

Southern Sea.

The building's central pavilion, the Crystal Palace, which accommodates the container housing the vessel, measures a staggering 60 metres long, 40 metres wide with a depth of 12 metres.

The water that fills the museum pool is extracted from the sea, several chemical processes are then applied to the water in order to ensure no bacteria will develop and thus damage the vessel. The museum therefore strives to reproduce all the characteristics of the water in the location where the boat spent over 800 years.

Viewing areas were created on either side of the pool allowing visitors to see the container and the water that surrounds it.





God of the Southern Sea

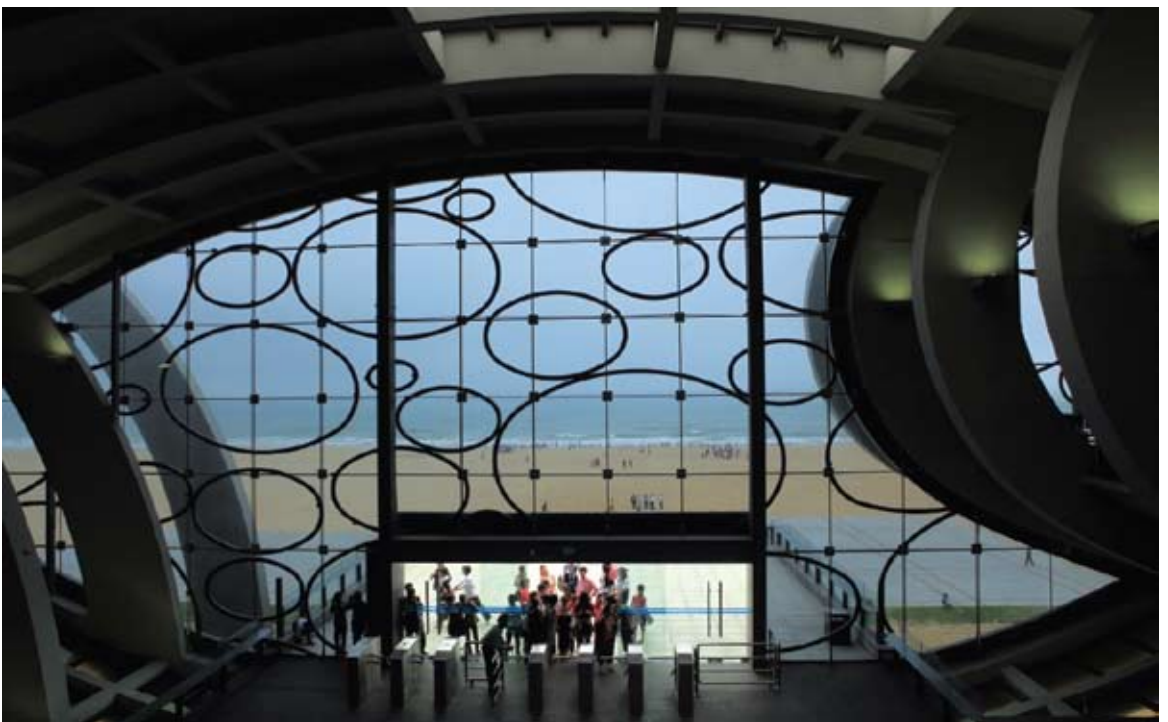




The museum pool with the container

An Arab-style entrance takes visitors to a room with maps and paintings on themes such as “The Age of Discoveries”, “Maritime Trade”, with images of foreigners who visited China, such as St. Francis Xavier, Matteo Ricci, Christopher Columbus, Ibn Batutta and Bodhidharma, the Indian monk who introduced Buddhism to China.

Chinese travellers are also represented here, such as Buddhist monk Yijing (635-713), that visited the West on pilgrimage, travelling on a Persian ship that departed from Guangzhou. Further ahead, a map shows the routes of the voyages of Chinese navigator and admiral Zheng He between 1405 and 1433, when he visited 30 countries on his way to the coast of East Africa.





The top floor houses the most important room in the museum, which contains the most important artefacts found in the boat. There are samples of porcelain, along with other finds, such as gold rings and bracelets. A gold-plated belt which was recovered from the wreck is now on display at the Guangdong Provincial Institute of Culture Relics & Archaeology whilst 4,000 items removed from the wreck in 2004 went to the National Museum of China in Beijing.

The porcelain that was found raised several issues. The shapes of many of the plates were not those used in China at the time, leading to the conclusion that they had been made to order for customers in the Persian Gulf.

The boat contained pieces of porcelain from four different furnaces -- Hutian in Jingdezhen in Jiangxi province, Longquan in Zhejiang province, Cizao in the south of the city of Quanzhou and Dehua in Fujian and a furnace in Mingqing County in Fujian.



Admiral Zheng He



Work carries on

Work on the boat has continued daily, with specialists removing the sand and silt with hopes of exposing one of the world's greatest maritime archaeological attractions. It may take several years to complete the job and salvage the thousands of pieces inside the boat.

This remarkable operation to recover this boat of the Song dynasty has taught us many things – the importance of ancient China as a trading nation and producer of manufactured goods and the extent of its merchant navy, centuries before European countries set out on the oceans. ■

Photos by José Simões Morais





24TH MACAO INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

XXIV FESTIVAL
INTERNACIONAL
DE MÚSICA
DE MACAU

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Admission fee: MOP5, free on Sundays and Macao public holidays.
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藝博館



MAM

George Chinnery - a Life on Canvas

Macao remembers its most famous foreign painter

By Mark O'Neill



The Macao Museum exhibition on George Chinnery

On September 29, 1825, a British painter named George Chinnery arrived in Macao on a ship that had set sail from Calcutta. He lived here for the remaining 27 years of his life, becoming the most famous foreign artist in its history.

While he died poor, his paintings have become art treasures, gracing the walls of museums, institutions and wealthy private homes around the world, because they evoke in a distinctive and

beautiful way the world of south China in which he lived.

In May, the Macao Museum opened the largest exhibition of his works ever held in the Special Administrative Region – 150 oil paintings, water colours and sketches from the three periods of his life, Britain and Ireland, India and China. The exhibition also shows works by artists whom he inspired and who painted in the Chinnery style.



Entrance of the exhibition in the Macao Museum

"His paintings are not only works of art but important historical items for the research of Macao culture and social change," said Ung Vai Meng, director of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, at the opening ceremony. "He was an outstanding representative of 19th century British painting in the Far East."

Organising the exhibition was no simple matter. While museums in Macao had some pieces, the majority were lent by private collectors and institutions in Hong Kong, including the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, HSBC Holdings and Jardine Matheson Ltd. Their representatives attended the opening, together with officials from departments of the central government in Macao.

Chinnery himself had an extraordinary life. He lived for 78 years, a third of them in England and Ireland and the rest in India and China. After he sailed for Calcutta in June 1807, he never went back to his native country. For most of the 50 years abroad, he was in debt, making it impossible for him to return home.

In Macao, he lived in a small society of western and Parsi expatriates; they expected to go home after completing their terms of duty. He had limited social contact with the Portuguese and Chinese

societies in which he lived; he was an expatriate who had no home to go back to.

What sustained him during this long exile was his passion for painting. In Macao, he used to rise early in the morning and take his sketch book with him; he was always on the look out for new themes and new images.

He wrote in his diary that he had "a fixed principle of adding seven new ideas every morning to his stock ... it is proof of the advantage of even the slightest sketch." One day he noted that he had filled his sketchbook before nine in the morning – "the effect of going to bed at eight".

He never retired and continued to work until the very end. The door of his studio was always open, to young painters eager to work with him and visitors who wanted to see this remarkable man. "I can never be wholly destitute," he wrote. "My beautiful art will always secure me a livelihood and a name."

Born into distinguished painter family

Chinnery was born in London in January 1774 into a family of painters; his father and grandfather were both artists. In 1791, he exhibited a miniature at the Royal Academy Schools of London and entered



Portrait of Mowqua. Courtesy of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited



Portrait of Praya Grande, Macao. Courtesy of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

the institution the following year. He earned a reputation as a respected portrait painter.

In June 1807, he sailed to Calcutta, then capital of British India, to paint a portrait of Sir Henry Russell, a senior figure in the Indian civil service. He became a well-known figure in Calcutta society, earning commissions from portraits of leading business people. He also painted officers in the British Indian Army, local judges, temples and mosques, and scenery.

His wife came to join him from Britain. But relations between the two deteriorated and he fell into debt; he had to escape to the Danish settlement of Serampore in west Bengal, where his creditors could not reach him. He borrowed money and failed to repay it, embittering further relations with his friends. The best strategy was flight; in 1825, he boarded a ship for Macao and arrived on September 29.

New life in Macao

He spent the remaining 27 years of his life in Macao, except for the late summer and autumn during six years in Guangzhou and the winter of

1845 in Hong Kong. Guangzhou was the only city in China open to foreign trade; the major merchant companies, from Britain, Holland, the United States and other countries, kept offices and warehouses there.

As in India, Chinnery's principal income in south China came from commissions to paint leading merchants, both foreign and Chinese. His first 10 years in south China were the most productive of his life. He painted the leading Hong merchants of Guangzhou, including Howqua and Mowqua, and the heads of the large British firms, including Jardine, Matheson and Dent.

Howqua was the English nickname of Wu Bingjian, who became wealthy from the export of Chinese silk and porcelain, which made him one of the richest people in China in the 19th century, with assets estimated at US\$26 million. Chinnery's portrait of him in 1830, with a thin, gaunt face and rich, colourful clothes, has immortalised him.

The trader was the most important Chinese merchant in an area of Guangzhou called the Thirteen Factories (or Thirteen Hongs), the only place in China where foreigners were allowed to live



A Tanka boatwoman. Courtesy of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited



and maintain warehouses. When Chinnery was in Guangzhou, he stayed in the foreign homes in this area, which he often painted.

He also sketched and painted the markets and streets of Macao, leaving a rich legacy of its people, architecture and scenery. He was a genial, extrovert character, which aided him in this recording of everything he saw around him.

He taught foreign and Chinese students, who carried on the Chinnery school of painting after his death.

Chan Kai-chun, a scholar of Macao art and history, said that Chinnery had little social contact with Chinese. "At that time, foreigners and Chinese lived in separate areas. Chinnery usually lived in the homes of foreign merchants and depended on them for commissions. He looked down on Portuguese and rarely painted them. He painted *tanca* girls – fisherwomen who lived in their own communities and did not come into the city."

"Chinnery was the foreign painter who lived for the longest time in Hong Kong, Macao and Guangzhou. Others came and visited or lived here for a short time. This means that he left a unique record for that period, when the access of

foreigners to China was very restricted. He could be the best foreign painter of that period; there may be other good painters in the churches. He had a big influence on Chinese painters in the 19th century. He continued to paint in his old style, the British way. It was very successful and sold well. One characteristic of this style is the strong contrast between black and white. He did very lifelike sketches of life on the streets of Macao including people with broad bamboo hats: their clothes are very realistic."

"When he came to Macao, foreigners (non-Portuguese) were not allowed to buy homes. They had to rent them. Chinnery often lived in the homes of merchants. He depended on them for commissions and had to make their portraits attractive," Chan noted.

In 1830, Chinnery resumed submissions of his work to the Royal Academy Schools of London. In 1846, the academy exhibited his famous "Self-Portrait with easel".

He died at his home in the Rua de Ignacio Baptista in Macao on May 30, 1852 and was buried in the city's Protestant cemetery, which he shares with soldiers, businessmen and pastors, including Robert Morrison, the first Protestant missionary to China.

An obituary in the Hong Kong Register said: "as a companion, he was remarkable for the mass of anecdotes and the *jeu d'esprit* which he introduced into his conversation and few were the individuals who visited China and omitted to visit his studio."

In late July 1852, a grand auction of the contents of his studio was held in Macao, attended by the cream of Hong Kong society. A regatta and a ball were held at the same time.

In 1974, the 200th anniversary of his birth, the governor of Macao, Jose Manuel Nobre de Carvalho erected a stone plaque on his grave: "he found in this city a haven of refuge from the besetting tribulations and worldly cares of earlier years," it reads in Chinese, Portuguese and English. "Here he also found a congenial community among whom he continued to proclaim by word and brush until the end of his days the first Christian message "goodwill toward all men". The colonial government named a street after him, close to where he used to live.



Self-Portrait. Courtesy of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Exhibition reflects varied life

The exhibition at the Macao Museum is divided into four sections, reflecting the different periods of his life – Britain, India, south China and the students he taught.

“Living such a long time in Macao enabled him to have a deep feeling for all kinds of people and the beautiful scenery,” said Ung . “This feeling and ability came from a deep love for things in Macao and close experience of life here. In his studio, he received students and painters from different countries. His works reflected life in Macao, Guangzhou, Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta and created a distinct Chinnery school of painting. This exhibition presents a rare opportunity to research Chinnery and his paintings and understand the culture and customs of Macao in the 19th century.”

Joseph Ting, then chief curator of the Hong Kong Museum of History, wrote in “Impression of the East: the Art of George Chinnery”, a book published in 2005, that Chinnery was undoubtedly the most outstanding and influential European artist who came to the East in the 19th century.

“His artistry outclassed his contemporaries. He spent half a century in India and China and produced a rich repertoire of artworks, many of which are now celebrated as masterpieces. His works serve for both artistic appreciation and historical visual record of his time.

“He was widely acquainted with people from all walks of life and was familiar with the landscape. His observation and sentiment toward the land and the natives were unparalleled to those of his fellow western artists. With the emergence of China trade painting as a new art genre and a commercial commodity at the time, Chinnery was there to set the trend and define the new vogue.

“He was a prolific and versatile artist. His works range from portraits in oil, landscape in watercolours and pencil drawings on a great variety of subjects. For those British and American merchants, his paintings and drawings were ideal souvenirs of their visits to the East to bring back to their home countries,” Ting wrote.

Throughout Chinnery's life, his art remained very European. He lived in a country with one of the world's most sophisticated art traditions but seemed to be little influenced by it. ■

Photos by Eric Tam and Luís Almoester



George Chinnery Tomb in the Macao Protestant Cemetery



Macau- Spirit of Cultures, Essence of Harmony



Returned to Motherland- Macau a Better City!

- 06/11~13 07/15~18 08/12~14 Macau Event Day
- 09/22 Special Event Day
- 10/19~17 Macau Week

Jade Rabbit the Imperial Lantern

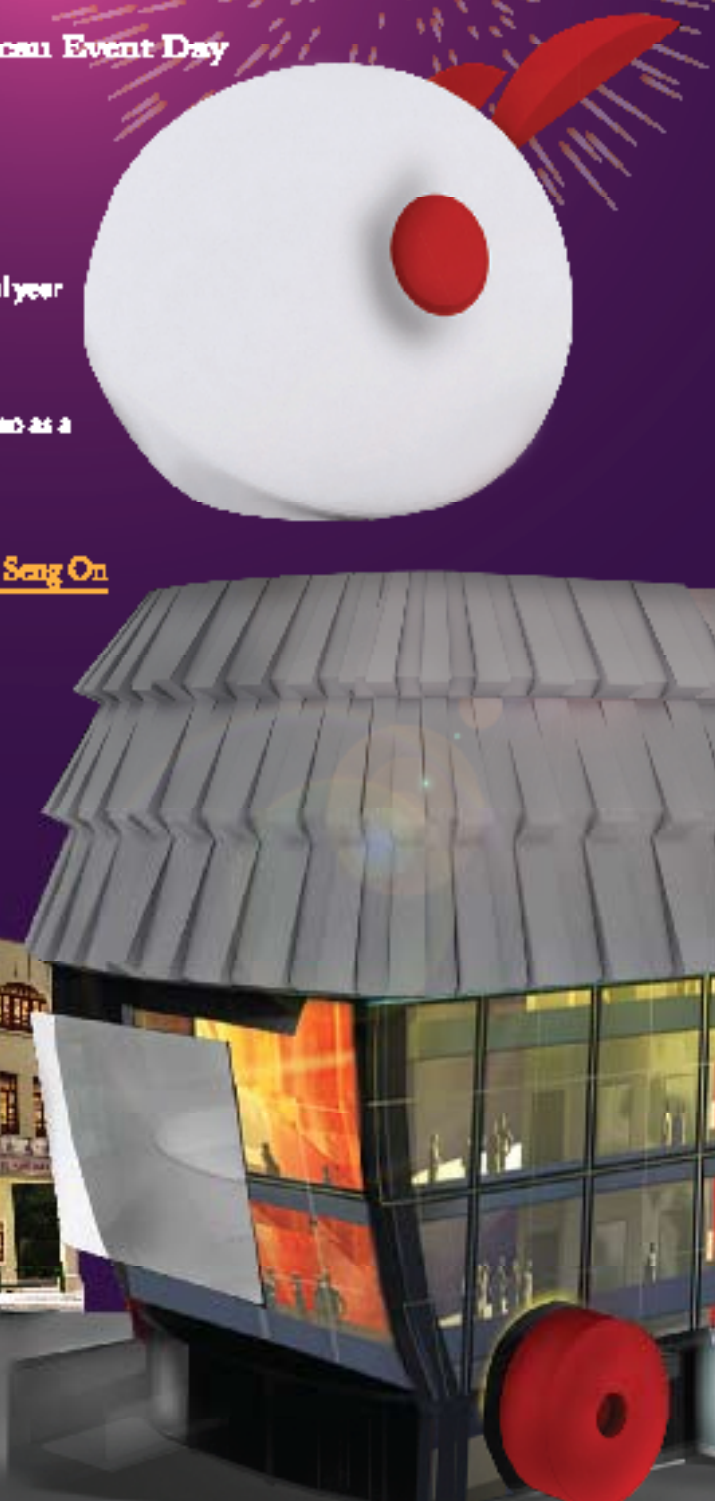
- 19.99 meters in height — figuring the meaningful year of Macau's return to the motherland.
- A welcoming lantern for the China Pavilion "The Oriental Crown".
- Adjacent to the "Oriental Crown", signifying Macao as a Special Administrative Region of China.
- The success of "One Country, Two Systems".

Macau Case of Urban Best Practices Area - Tak Seng On

- The MSAR Government was awarded an Honorable Mention Prize in the 2004 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for the conservation of Tak Seng On.



Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region
Office for Preparation of China's Participation in the Shanghai World Expo
Tel: (853) 2888 8888 Fax: (853) 2888 8888
Website: <http://www.2010shanghaiexpo.gov.mo>





Expo Shanghai 2010

China World

By Nuno Mendonça



Shanghai by night

An Expo showcases the best achievements of a nation to the world. But, in the biggest world fair ever, it is more a case of what the whole world has to show to China. Macao magazine takes you on a journey through the pavilions of the Portuguese-speaking countries and regions of the globe and how they show the excellent relationship between mainland China and Macao, in an event dedicated to urban sustainability.



Shanghai Expo is a beautiful city within a city - striking architecture, wide avenues, three subway stations, countless free shuttles, more than 10,000 young and helpful staff, restaurants from around the world and the beautiful Huangpu river connecting the two banks of this urban experiment. Its 528 hectares are the size of many nature reserves around the world; with its 192 countries and 50 international organisations, the Expo boasts a cosmopolitan flavour matched only by London and New York. Still, during its six months of life, between May and October, it is a mainly Chinese event, because the vast majority of the 70 million

visitors are Chinese, from all corners of the country.

Entire families including babies, some dressed in their best clothes, arrive to see the achievements of a country tipped to become the world's number one in the next decades. Foreigners are few in this Chinese Babylon where Mandarin reigns, but you can also hear dialects like Shanghainese and Cantonese - and English too. "Better City, Better Life" is the motto of a city that promotes what is still an utopia - sustainable urban growth with the use of alternative and renewable energies, environment-friendly transportation, more and more green areas and a human approach to the planet that includes



Macao(L.) and China(R.) pavilions

more nature and less waste.

In this journey to an ideal world, Macao Magazine starts with the...

China pavilion

It's impossible to miss the 1.5 billion yuan "The Crown of the East". And why should you? It is a pleasure to look at this 63 metre-tall inverted pyramid -- or ancient crown -- painted in royal red which used as its architectural concept the simplest and oldest techniques. The striking roof is made of traditional dougong, or interlocking brackets,

an architectural style dating back more than 2,000 years, with wooden brackets fixed layer upon layer between the top of a column and a crossbeam. The 56 dougongs symbolise the 56 ethnic groups of China. This style of interlocking wooden brackets is dominant in traditional Chinese architecture and its popularity spread outside the Middle Kingdom, to Japan and Korea.

The project of He Jingtang, director of the Architectural Academy of the South China University of Technology, was selected from 344 entries; it is likely to become a world-fair icon like the Eiffel Tower in Paris – but without the initial bad publicity

the latter received when it was built for the 1889 World Fair.

You have plenty of time to see in detail the exterior features, namely the four pillars that support six floors that expand horizontally, while waiting in the long queues to access the top of the building, where the exhibition starts. There are 50,000 tickets distributed every day, but they quickly vanish after the gates open at 9:00 am. So be quick on arrival and patient while waiting. You will not be disappointed. The general theme is “Chinese Wisdom in Urban Development”; the show starts with an eight-minute film of director Lu Chuan, showing the fast-paced urbanisation of the country, which has over the last decade occurred on a Biblical scale, with millions of rural workers leaving the countryside to live in the cities in the hope of a better life.

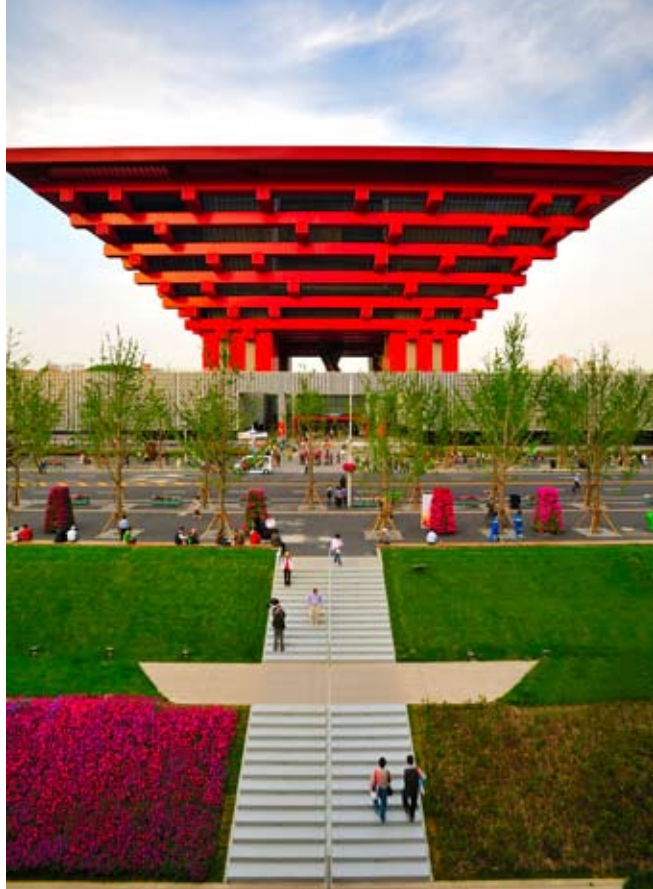
Walking inside the 16,000 sq. metre exhibition space, you see a series of replicas of Chinese living-rooms throughout the 20th century and then a moving digital version of the famous Chinese painting, “Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival”, which shows street scenes of Bianliang, capital of the Northern Song Dynasty from 960 to 1127. It will fascinate you: it was painted by Zhang Zeduan a thousand years ago and is as vibrant today as when it was created.

The ancient figures coming to life are a striking reminder of how the cities of China have been bursting with life for centuries.

Next, in a room called “The Land of Plenty”, comes a homage to rice, the staple food of a country which was once purely agrarian. Rice was and still is more than basic food; it’s the basis of an ancient civilisation and a vital element of Chinese culture. And it also carries the seeds of the future. “Green and vigorous, it takes roots deeply in the earth, embodies the values of life and epitomises the yearning for natural urban harmony,” reads the description of rice in the exhibition.

Returning to the architectural theme, the visitor is then invited to hop into a cable car for the short journey through a series of artistic rooms showcasing the innovative elements of ancient Chinese cities, combined with modern landscapes.

The structures are iconic, but you wonder why



they are not better integrated in the modern era in place of the dull, mass-produced architecture that sprouts all over the country. After the ride, it is time to see the final area of the exhibit – the low carbon future. Symbolism is absent here and the message is clear and straightforward. Do you want to know how many carbon-emissions are produced by a private car, a public bus and rail transit per 10 kilometres? 2.25 kg, 0.13 kg and 2.25 kg respectively - so the emissions of the car and rail transit are the same. The visitor is left to draw his own conclusions, in a country where car sales grow last year an astonishing 45% year-on-year, to 15.5 million, making China the largest market in the world.

There are of course more sustainable answers to this, with a prototype of a plug-in pure electric vehicle and a hybrid car, which includes features like the latest energy-saving technology. Apart from the initial film, the whole show is frankly didactic, almost like a high school lesson. Considering that it is the most visited pavilion of the whole Expo and knowing how the Chinese population needs a wake-up call in terms of environment protection, the approach, if not original, may be more effective in terms of spreading the green message.



Macao pavilion

Named "Jade Rabbit, the Imperial Lantern," Macao's presence at the Expo succeeds where many others have failed: it offers a memorable experience within an appealing building. It is a vibrant and cheerful sight for visitors, contrasting with the

sturdy, rectangular block offered by neighbouring Hong Kong. Carlos Marreiros' design works well in a pavilion that celebrates surprises and innovation. It plays with the ancient symbolism of the lantern and the original shape of a rabbit which has a movable 10-metre balloon head and changes colours at night.



Macao pavilion



Tak Seng On

Here, too, the symbolism is not lost: the pavilion glows because it is situated at the doorway of the China Pavilion. Its height, 19.99 metres, is a reminder of the date of 19 December 1999, when Macao was re-united with China. That was the theme selected by Macao's Expo organising committee: "Returning to the Motherland, Macao a better city!".

But the best of the pavilion takes place inside, in a double-ringed theatre where visitors can learn the story and achievements of Macao through a 20-minute movie told in Chinese, Portuguese and English by a father Casimiro Pinto, his son Xiao Hao and a girl from the neighbourhood. The plot is based on the quest to find a lantern in an evening of the Mid-Autumn festival, an excuse to go sightseeing in a territory with 450 years of history. From the Chinese temple of A-Mah through the Ruins of St. Paul's Church up to modern day skyscrapers and casinos, the visitor who knows nothing of Macao leaves with a good idea of what the special administrative region is and will be in

the near future - more interconnected with its Pearl River delta neighbours of Hong Kong, Zhuhai and Guangzhou. It is a nice stroll through the film in a carpet that replicates the Portuguese pavement that can still be seen in many Macao streets, like Almeida Ribeiro Avenue or the Senado Square.

The pavilion wants to show the present Macao, the Macao born in 1999; this is the reason not to spend more time on exploring the essence and uniqueness of Macao, which is the centuries-old marriage of Chinese and Portuguese cultures.

The 4,000 tourists a day that the pavilion welcomes look happy with the attractive tourism-oriented production that makes you want to visit the city.

Macao has a second pavilion in the Expo, the Tak Seng On, which replicates Macao's famous pawnshop near Senado Square, promoting the cultural heritage and the new industries of the territory. *(Macao main pavilion is located next to China's Pavilion, within Zone A of the Expo)*

Portugal pavilion

In 1998, Portugal organised an Expo dedicated to the Oceans, a dilapidated area of Lisbon's port which has now become a high-end district; it took the sustainable urban growth's message of Shanghai to heart. Starting with the eye-catching exterior look, Macao-based architect Carlos Macedo Couto conceived an angular building of 2,000 sq. metres entirely covered with cork panels, a biodegradable and eco-friendly material, 100 percent recycled and Portuguese; its use is rising exponentially in China. "Portugal, a Square for the World, a World of Energies" is the main theme for the country which was the first in the world to settle in China - in Macao - in the 16th century and wants to project its modern self in the 21st century, by being deeply involved in the use of renewable energies like wind and solar power. The journey in the Portuguese pavilion is therefore a blend of history and modernity.

Lisbon's Praça do Comércio (Trade Square), one of the symbolic entrances of the capital through the Tagus river, inspired the first area of the pavilion; at first glimpse, you feel momentarily in the famous square, below the arches.

Here one can discover relics of 400 years of Sino-Portuguese relations, like a replica of the first Portuguese-Chinese dictionary compiled by Italian Jesuits Michele Rugieri and Matteo Ricci between 1583 and 1588, under the authority of the Portuguese Catholic authorities in the East. There is also copy of a moving letter from the 18th century sent by King John the Fifth of Portugal to the Chinese Emperor Yongzheng,

in which he addresses the emperor as "my dear and beloved friend." More recently, there is a copy of the Sino-Portuguese Joint Declaration on the Question of Macao signed in 1987 by Anibal Cavaco Silva, then the Portuguese Prime Minister and now the president, and the late Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang.

Visitors are then invited into a wide room where they watch a beautifully done, seven-minute film "Portugal, a square to the World," by Lisbon-based Slovenian director Anze Persin. Using the basic elements – water, fire, wood, earth – the director shows a country that is moving towards full dependence on renewable energies; by 2020,



40% of the country's electricity will be produced by water. It also shows a modern nation combining history with the future, through design, music, sport - football star Cristiano Ronaldo is just the most famous face of a team of young talents - and other creative industries. But it is the profound humanity of the film that touches the visitor, ending with a drum band of young people filling both Lisbon's Rossio and Shanghai's Portuguese pavilion with happiness.

Moving forward, one enters a room that proves that green energy is more than words in Portugal. The visitor can take a look at several practical examples of wind and solar energy, in a country with 250 sunny days per year, computer-generated simulations on how to save energy at home and the Mobi-E, the electric car jointly produced in Portugal by Renault and Nissan, part of a larger project with the same name which includes a network of recharging centres throughout the country. It could be successful in other countries and China has already showed interest. This is all food for thought before arriving in the restaurant and shop. Egg tarts are proving to be a great success at the nice café featuring traditional and popular Portuguese dishes. The shop showcases the best of Portugal with good wines, olive oils and fine china. So far, the queues have shown no signs of decreasing. The organisers expect a total of 2.8 million visitors by October.

(Portugal pavilion is located in zone C of the Expo)

Brazil pavilion

There is samba, football and carnival in the pavilion of one of the promising countries of the 21st century, but the message is broader in a country with one of the best interactive displays of the Expo.

Brazil manages to tell its story in the world of 2010 with a series of top-notch films and interactive images where visitors can play football and learn about the remarkable ethnic diversity of a country of 160 million people. Brazil scores in Shanghai where many countries fail: the general message "better city, better life" only works if it is linked with people, with their lives, their needs and their aspirations. It sounds like common sense, but few people celebrate life like Brazilians.

The two-minute film in the Urban Scenes room shows exactly that: the life of a country from dawn to dusk, in tourist spots where the games of the 2014 World Cup will take place. There's football, beach, but also food, nightlife, music and dancing.

The real jewel of the pavilion comes afterwards, in the Pulsing Cities room, where visitors have a 360-degrees experience. Above their heads, a huge panoramic screen, made of four panels five metres high and 12 metres wide, shows the daily lives of a performing artist in Rio, a farmer, an aviation engineer and oil rig worker. The four briefly meet at a dining table, sharing a typical Brazilian meal, in





perhaps the best visual moment of the film.

Below your feet, aerial views of the Brazilian cities keep rolling, giving the visitor a feeling of flying over Brazil. The movie finishes in a football stadium, at the exact moment where fans celebrate a goal from their team.

Brazil will always be in the forefront of whatever happens in the world in terms of sustainable urban growth and environment in general. For one thing, the majority of the Amazon rain forest, responsible for a huge part of the oxygen we all breathe, is on Brazilian soil. And it is also one of the few countries in the world, which dared to launch large-scale urban experiments like Brasilia, a capital made from scratch in the fifties by progressive urban planners and architects like Lucio Costa and Oscar Niemeyer. Brasilia, largely forgotten in the pavilion, is the best testimony of a democracy with severe problems but open to radical solutions. And Brazil is leading the world in the ethanol revolution. This substance made of sugar cane can be used by 87% of Brazil's car fleet. And 90 percent of the electricity used in the country comes from renewable sources, mainly water.

The Brazilian presence in Shanghai has yet another significance. Within the BRIC – the acronym for Brazil, Russia, India and China, the four rising powers of this century -- the Latin American country tops the others in its economic relationship with China. China is craving for commodities like soya and meat that Brazil produces abundantly and is Brazil's main trading partner today, with bilateral trade worth US\$42.39 billion in 2009.

Events like the world cup in 2014 and the Olympics in Rio two years later will only help to cement that profile.

The pavilion has been visited by 15,000 persons a day, and the Brazilian organisers expect the total number will reach four million by October.

(Brazil Pavilion is located in Zone C of the Expo)

Angola pavilion

Only four African countries have their own pavilion at the Expo. One of them is Angola, which is rich in oil, natural gas and diamonds. It is proof of the rising prominence of this country in Africa and the special relationship that it is building with China.

There are 40,000 Chinese citizens living in Angola, which has become China's largest trading partner in Africa, with bilateral trade rising to \$17 billion in 2009. And Beijing has offered Luanda US\$ 14.5 billion in oil-backed loans, to build roads, hospitals and schools – much needed infrastructure in a huge country that saw a bloody civil war end in 2002.

No wonder that the Welwitschia Mirabilis, a resilient desert plant that is found only in Angola, was the one selected to be replicated in the exterior of the pavilion. It is the perfect metaphor for a country working both on reconstruction and economic prosperity.

When entering the pavilion, the visitors can see the ancient heritage in Angola, through rupestrian art and paintings that long preceded the arrival of the Portuguese. But the contemporary leitmotif is still "National Reconstruction". For this, Angola is much better placed than other countries affected by civil war, as it is immensely rich in natural resources.



China has here its main African oil exporter.

The centerpiece of the pavilion is therefore SONANGOL, the pavilion's main sponsor, the company responsible for managing the oil and gas reserves of Angola. A replica of an oil rig's devices and photos illustrating oil pumping in the sea fill a good part of the pavilion.

But the most interesting feature is a 4-D film with special glasses, water spray and bumpy chair effects in a 24-seat theatre. The aim is to give the viewer an experience as similar as possible to traveling through the bumpy roads of a breathtaking countryside with waterfalls, mountains, deserts, forests and pristine beaches.

Besides commodities, the potential for tourism is huge.

Last but not least, the café/restaurant area is becoming a must-go place in the Expo, with three daily shows of Angolan singers and dancers electrifying the atmosphere with the rhythms of the merengue and the kizomba music. Not to be missed!

(Angola Pavilion is located in Zone C of the Expo)

Mozambique pavilion

Situated in the eastern coast of Africa, this is a country also marked by 15 years of civil war after its independence in 1975. As in Angola, reconstruction is still a key word, even though it has been blessed by peace for 20 years now.

The theme of the Mozambican area, integrated in the African pavilion, is "Better District, Better Life" and is represented by four areas where the visitor can see replicas of a school, a traditional cottage, a modern residential building and a hospital. The aim here is to show how the country is combining traditional engineering and architectural techniques with modern ones.

Health care and education are vital areas for government investment, in rebuilding a country with a vast potential in agriculture, electricity – the Cahora Bassa's hydroelectric dam is one of the biggest in the world and is shown in a movie at the pavilion - and tourism with the paradise-like archipelagos of Quirimbas and Bazaruto regularly featured in high-end travel magazines as the top-



luxury eco-tourism destination on earth. This is perhaps a missed opportunity in the 225 sq. metres offered to the African nation; it could have done more to promote its beaches and rich wild animal and sea life.

(Mozambique pavilion is located in the Africa Joint Pavilion, in Zone C of the EXPO)

Cape Verde pavilion

How can an archipelago nation of 10 islands in the middle of the Atlantic, some of them inhospitable, present itself in a tempting way?

Exactly as Cape Verde did, with the clever slogan “Cape Verde Cities, Global and Small.” With a service/tourism oriented economy, what the volcano-shaped pavilion shows is the role of the nation since it was discovered and colonised by the Portuguese in the 15th century: a global meeting point of people travelling to Africa, Asia and the Americas. Cape Verde is one of the first cases of ethnic globalisation with its rich mixture of Africans, Europeans and Asians who settled on the island and contributed to a rich Creole culture in a tiny micro-cosmos.

All this is represented in a white and blue space, through a multimedia support where one can see the first city built by Europeans in sub-Saharan Africa – Ribeira Grande in Santiago island, today known as Old City: the capital, Praia: Mindelo, an important port where coal was traded in the 18th and 19th centuries and Sal Island, with an airport vital for stopovers in intercontinental flights.

Cape Verde is a case of turning a geo-strategic position from isolation into a welcoming place for exchanges – social, economic and cultural.

(Cape Verde is in Africa Joint Pavilion, in Zone C of the Expo)





East Timor pavilion

Back in Asia, where we started, the final look is at East Timor, one of the youngest countries of the world. It is also an archipelago nation, still mostly wild and unspoilt.

The theme of East Timor is not surprisingly “Be with Us, Be with Nature,” as the urban part of the country is still very small.

The visitor enters a single, wide room with a Lospalos style roof and giant, wooden-carved statues, examples of the Moris art, and is invited to sit down in an amphitheatre to watch what the young nation has to offer.

The movie is an attempt to provide a balanced vision of a country that won its independence in May 2002, after more than two decades of Indonesian occupation and the killings of East-Timorese.

Independence did not bring peace and prosperity; a failed assassination attempt in 2008 against President and Nobel Peace laureate José Ramos Horta was a reminder that old wounds are not yet healed.

The government prefers to accentuate the potential of recovery. It starts with Ramos Horta, who is seen opening the first cycling tour of the country and shows that East Timor is recovering after the recent political violence, as it celebrates a sporting event, a symbol of normality to any nation.

There is of course a strong invitation for China to come and invest in a country which needs support in all the areas. The rich East-Timorese sea also appeals to Chinese money: oil with rigs, all owned by foreign companies, mainly Australian for geographic reasons, and also natural gas.

But the potential of the East Timor Sea can also be seen in its remarkable marine life. Recreational fishing is already provided by Australian companies, but there is also whale and dolphin spotting. Tourism is clearly one industry that the government wants to encourage. Curiously for a strongly Catholic country, there are also Chinese temples to welcome Chinese pilgrims in a country which has had a Chinese community for many centuries. For now, China is building a power station; the government also wants to attract Chinese construction companies.

(East-Timor pavilion is located in Asia Joint Pavilion I, Zone A of the EXPO)

Editor’s Note: Guinea-Bissau’s pavilion was not completed during the Macao Magazine’s visit to the Expo in May. It was conceived under the theme, “Urbanisation, Environment and Sustainable Development,” showing the evolution of urban residents in the past and present and anticipating the future. It is located in the Africa Joint Pavilion, Zone C of the Expo. São Tomé and Príncipe is not represented because it does not have diplomatic relations with the People’s Republic of China.

Photos by Allan Salas and Eric Tam



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Keeping Faith

Student of Macao seminary becomes Korean Catholic saint

By Staff Reporter



Birth place of Andrew Kim Taegon

In the corner of the Luis de Camoes Garden in central Macao is a bronze statue of a young man with the traditional hat of the Korean scholar, holding a large book in one hand and reaching forward with the other. On the plinth below reads a brief description of his life, in Korean, Chinese, English and Portuguese.

"Andrew Kim Taegon was born in Choongcheong province (southwest Korea) in August 1821 and arrived in Macao to study theology in June 1837. Ordained a Catholic priest in August 1845, he returned to his native country in October that year. Arrested in June 1846, he was martyred in Seoul that September. In May, 1984, he was made a saint."



Father Peter Lee In Ho in Luis de Camoes Garden

This brief chronology hides a dramatic and passionate story, of one of the most remarkable graduates of the St Joseph's Seminary in Macao which has been training priests since 1728. Kim was the first Korean-born Roman Catholic priest and was named by the Vatican in 1949 as the principal patron of its clergy in Korea.

On May 6, 1984, Pope John Paul II canonised Andrew Kim, along with 102 other Korean martyrs, during a visit to Korea, in the first canonisation outside the Vatican. "The Korean church is unique because it was founded entirely by lay people," he said. "This fledgling church, so young and yet so strong in faith, withstood wave after wave of fierce



Andrew Kim Taegon statue in St. Anthony Church

persecution. Thus, in less than a century, it could boast of 10,000 martyrs. The death of these martyrs became the leaven of the church and led to today's splendid flowering of the church in Korea. Even today, their undying spirit sustains the Christians in the church of silence in the north

of this tragically divided land." There are 5.1 million Catholics in South Korea, over 10 per cent of the population; among nations, it has the fourth largest number of saints in the church. It is one of the strongest Catholic churches in Asia.

Macao played a key role

in this story. It was the place where Kim learnt his vocation and understood the wider world outside the closed country created by the Joseon dynasty (1392-1910). It was the centre of the Catholic mission to East Asia. The statue in the Luis de Camoes garden has become a place of pilgrimage, attracting more than 100 Korean Catholics a month; believers from other nations, in Europe, Asia and the Americas, come to see the statue. Remarkably, two of the priests in the church of St Anthony's, opposite the entrance to the garden, are Korean.

One is Peter Lee In Ho, a priest of the Clerical Congregation of the Blessed Korean Martyrs. "We greatly respect Saint Andrew Kim. He was our first priest. This year we will celebrate him at the church on 20 September and hold events for nine days before that."

Christianity first arrived in Korea in the late 16th century, when invading Japanese soldiers baptised Koreans. In 1593, a Jesuit priest visited a Japanese commander in Korea; a Korean diplomat later returned home from Beijing with theological books written by Matteo Ricci, a Jesuit priest who lived in Macao before settling in China. So Catholicism took root in Korea among lay people, but without missionaries. These books by Ricci, written in Chinese characters many Koreans could read, were the main texts through which the religion spread.

The first Catholic prayer-house was established in 1784. During the 19th century, the Joseon Dynasty outlawed the religion,

mainly because it refused to worship ancestors, which the state prescribed as a cornerstone of its culture. It saw it as a foreign threat to its rule and the orthodoxy of Confucianism.

The young Kim was born on 21 August 1821 to parents who were converts. His great-grandfather and great-uncle had been martyred in 1814 and 1816. When he was seven, the family was forced to move and live underground. They were very poor and his mother was reduced to begging. This only made the young man stronger and more devout. In 1836, priests from the Paris Foreign Missions Society arrived secretly in Korea and discovered this underground church. They chose Kim and two other young men – all 15 – to go to Macao for training as priests. The environment in Korea was too hostile and Macao the nearest place with such a facility. In March 1837, a French missionary escorted the three across the Yalu river into China; they began the marathon journey to Macao, which took three months. With Kim were two young men named Choi, Francis and Thomas.

At the St Joseph's Seminary, the three began an intensive programme of study, including theology, the Bible, French, Latin, Cantonese and other subjects. Francis Choi fell ill and died; Kim was distraught at the loss of his close friend. "He was very sad and lovely," said Lee. "The three were very young. Every evening, he went to the grave of Francis Choi and wept. He also thought of his family in Korea. A letter from Macao took a year to reach them." Macao was then dominated by the Church of Saint Paul; it was built at the top of a flight of steps, which has now become one of the city's main tourist attractions. Outside the times of Mass, only priests were allowed to enter the church. "One night Kim went to kneel on the steps and climbed them, praying as he went that God would help him to become a priest," Lee said. In 1839, his father Ignatius was martyred for practising Christianity.

In 1837, civil unrest in Macao forced the Koreans and their missionary teachers to move to Manila, where they continued their studies. They returned in 1839. As he neared the end of his studies in Macao, Kim was looking for an opportunity to return home. In February 1842, when two French warships were

on their way to China, he saw it as an opportunity; he worked on board as an interpreter, but the vessel did not go to Korea. He made several unsuccessful attempts, until he entered on 1st January 1845 and made his way to Seoul. In a letter to a French priest, he wrote: "I know that I cannot live long in this world. We are traveling among the people.

Posing as a foreigner or a Chinese, we can give witness to Jesus." He recruited more young people for the priesthood, made maps of Korea to enable missionaries to enter and bought a safe house. It was a life of daily danger; he could be arrested at any time. The date of his ordination was fixed for 17 August 1845 at a church outside Shanghai. He made the journey for the ceremony, which was a day of great emotion. After eight years of intense work, sacrifice and the threat of daily arrest by the government, Kim had achieved his ambition to become a priest; he was ordained by French bishop Jean Joseph Ferreol. The very next day he left Shanghai to return home. The journey took 40 days because a terrible storm forced him to stop for several days in Cheju island.

Kim's mastery of French, Latin and other languages meant that he could have practised as a priest outside his native country – away from the risks that awaited him there. This thought never crossed his mind, said Father Lee. "His purpose in coming to Macao was to return to Korea as a priest. He knew that he would be captured and was unlikely to live for long." And indeed such was the case. He worked in a parish near Seoul and worked with foreign missionaries to spread the gospel.

He took a letter for the missionaries to a boat on the Yellow Sea that was going to China. On 5 June 1846, he was arrested on his way home and tortured in prison for more than three months. He was accused of proselytising and taken to Seoul for sentence. His humility in court moved the judge, but the prosecutor demanded the death penalty. He was sentenced to death by beheading. These were his last words: "This is the last hour of my life. Listen to me attentively. If I have held communication with foreigners, it has been for my religion and for my God. It is for Him that I die. My immortal life is on the point of beginning. Become Christians if you wish to be happy after

death, because God has eternal punishments in store for those who have refused to know him." On 15 September 1846, he was beheaded on the Han river, near Seoul. His ears were pierced with arrows and his face covered with lime. A group of Christians later moved his body to a mountain 50 kilometres from the capital.

Seven years later, Ferreol, the first bishop of Korea, died. Before his death, he asked to be buried next to Andrew Kim. "You will never know how sad I was to lose this young native priest. I have loved him as a father loved his son. It is a consolation for me to think of his eternal happiness," he wrote. Kim's death came in one of three waves of official persecution, in 1839, 1846 and 1866, in which at least 8,000 people were martyred. The vast majority were lay people, including men and women, single and married, young and old.

On 25 July 1925, Kim was beatified, together with his father Ignatius. On 6 May 1984, Pope John Paul II canonised him, together with 102 other martyrs. The feast day for them is 20 September each year. He is considered a symbol of the sacrifice and dedication that brought Christianity to Korea. This was part of his last letter to his parish, as he waited with 20 others for martyrdom: "Today persecution rages, so that many of our friends of the same faith, including myself, have been thrown into prison, just as you also remain in the midst of persecution. Since we have formed one body, how can we not be saddened in our innermost hearts?"

How can we not experience the pain of separation in our human faculties? However, as Scripture says, God cares for the least hair of our heads and indeed he cares with his omniscience. Therefore, how can persecution be considered as anything other than the command of God or his prize or precisely his punishment?

"We are 20 here and, thanks be to God, all are still well. If anyone is killed, I beg you not to forget his family. I have many more things to say but how can I express them with pen and paper? I must end this letter. Since we are not close to the struggle, I pray you to walk in faith, so that, when you have finally entered Heaven, we may greet one another. I leave you my kiss of love."

St. Joseph Seminary

Were Saint Andrew to return to Macao today, he would surely be astonished by what he saw. The seminary of St. Joseph, where he studied, continues to train priests more than 150 years later.

The church he helped to found has grown to more than five million and has become strong enough to send priests to Macao, where they conduct services in Cantonese in churches built by the Portuguese. It is the Korean church which sends missionaries around the world.

"Our situation is better than that of Father Kim," said Father Lee. "I go home for a month each year to see my family. There is no time limit on my stay in Macao. I could be here for my entire life." ■

Photos by Luís Almoester





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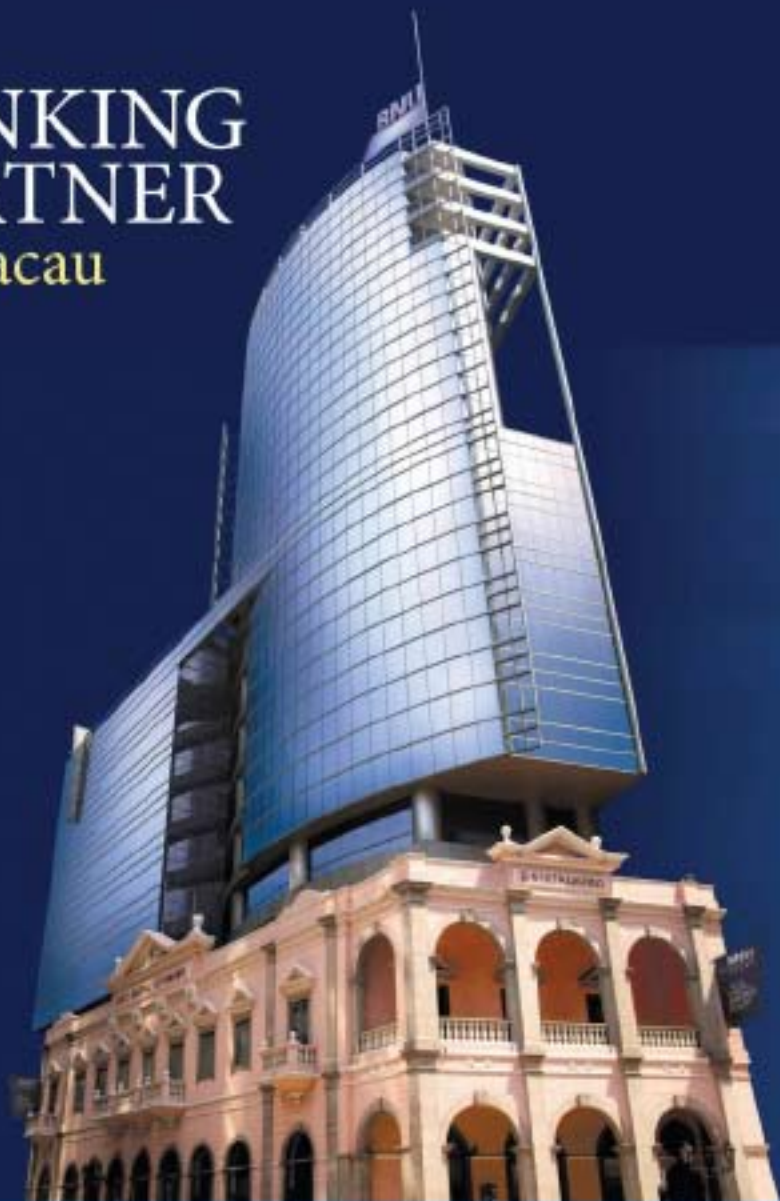
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