# Macao澳門







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Macao's Chief Executive Chui Sai On and Portuguese President Cavaco e Silva - Photo by the Government Information Bureau

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#### **Devotion** [Hsin]

To be utterly devoted to someone implies having supreme trust in that person. The spiritual devotee must abandon all doubts in order to unquestioningly follow the sage.

What kind of person can inspire this kind of devotion?

The answer is contained in the character for hsin—the abbreviated form of the pictogram for 'human being' (known as the 'crooked person radical' because only one leg stands on the ground), beside the character for 'words' (a 'mouth' from which emanate sound waves).

Persons who stand by their word inspire devotion in

Persons who stand by their word inspire devotion in others.

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



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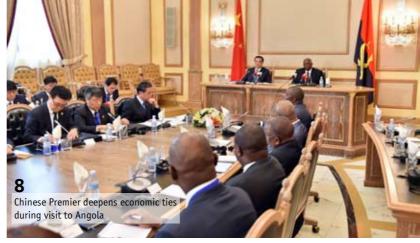
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Rare Images



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### **Equal Partners**





The promotion of his country's culture and language and deeper cooperation formed the centre piece of the visit of Portugal's president to Macao in the middle of May.

Anibal Cavaco Silva spent the final two days of a week-long visit to China in the city that had been under Portuguese rule for more than 400 years.

He was prime minister in April 1987, when the two countries signed the joint declaration that turned Macao into a SAR on 20 December 1999. His delegation included General Vasco Rocha Vieira, the last Portuguese governor.

On 17 May, Cavaco Silva presented the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit on Chui Sai On, the chief executive.

The next day he visited the ruins of St Paul's and laid a wreath at the grotto of the Luís de Camões Garden; during the 1560s, this most famous Portuguese poet was given the position of chief warrant officer in Macao and worked there on his masterpiece, Os Lusíadas.

Cavaco Silva attended the launch of a book of Chinese translation of A Hundred Sonnets of Camões by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC). He also visited the Portuguese School, the University of Macau and the Polytechnic Institute. The students of the school honoured the president by singing the national anthem, giving a recitation of poetry and a performance of traditional Chinese dancing.

Portugal's head of state also bestowed decorations on six local residents, namely IC President Guilherme Ung Vai Meng, SJM Chairman-cum-Portuguese Honorary Consul Ambrose So Shu Fai, Macau Civil Servants Association (ATFPM) President José Pereira Coutinho and Macau Pensioners and Retirees Association (APOMAC) President Jorge Fão, as well as local Portuguese lawyers Amélia António (President of Portugal House) and Rui Cunha.

#### Value of Portuguese

One theme in the Portuguese president's speeches was the importance of the Portuguese language. "Today it is an official language spoken in eight countries by 250 million people," he said. "It is an official language within several world organisations, such as the European Union and the African Union, as well as within the Ibero-American community." He told students at the Portuguese School that those who learnt both Portuguese and Chinese had an auspicious future ahead of them. He urged them to promote the Portuguese language and culture in Macao.

"The language has great potential and, in the near future, it could assume even greater importance. We know it is one of the languages reaching for greater expansion, as we see several countries integrating Portuguese in their curricula," he said.





Rui Machete, Portuguese minister of state for foreign affairs, and Macao's chief executive signing a protocol

During his visit to the University of Macau, memoranda of understanding were signed between the University of Macau and the Universities of Lisbon and Minho. The memoranda allow more of the University of Macau's students to go and study on the two other universities' campuses and more Portuguese students to come to Macao and do Asian studies.

A third agreement was signed between UM and TechnoPhage of Portugal; the two sides will collaborate in bio-pharmaceutical research and development.

On his final evening, the Portuguese president hosted a reception for the Portuguese community at the Macao Tower.

#### **Deepening cooperation**

Another purpose of the visit was to deepen cooperation between Portugal and Macao.

On 17 May, Rui Machete, Portuguese minister of state for foreign affairs, and Macao's chief executive signed a protocol under which the Portugal-Macao Joint Committee will conduct annual meetings instead of every two years.

It discusses issues such as justice, tourism, security and teaching the Portuguese language. It was set up as a tool for consultation as part of a 2001 framework cooperation agreement, which outlined meetings to be held every two years. So far, two official meetings have been held, in April 2011 and September 2013, as well as an interim meeting in September 2012.

This decision serves to confirm the success of tighter cooperation between the two parties, the chief executive said.

"The richness of this relationship is expressed by its economic side," he said. "Since 2000, trade has been growing and many Portuguese companies have recognised that, through Macao, they can further develop their businesses not only in China but in other parts of Asia."

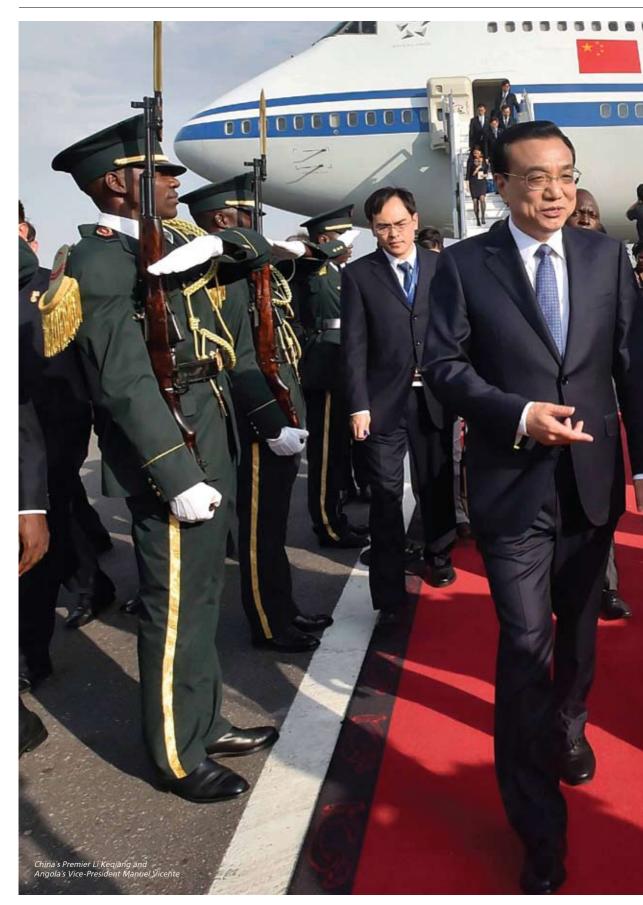
Chui said that the local Portuguese community was part of Macao's "great family" and was well integrated into local society.

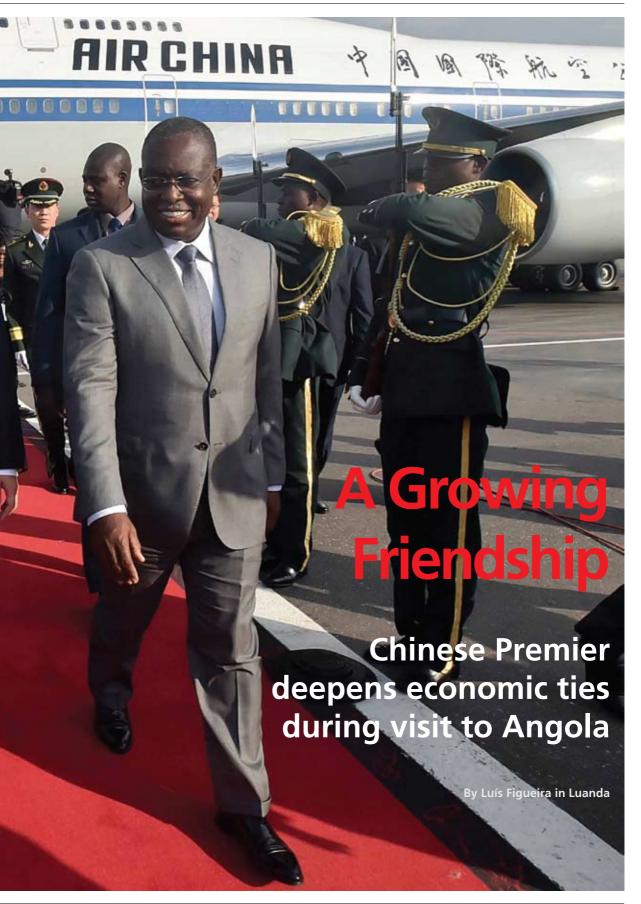
The Portuguese president said that Macao was an important platform for economic and trade relations between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

"Macao is the greatest symbol of friendship between Portugal and Asia and particularly China," he said. "Its economic and social success, the political stability over the last 15 years is proof that the option chosen as the handover model in 1987 was the right one for the region.

"Portugal is very proud of its special relationship with Macao," he said.

Photos by Xinhua news agency and Macao's Government Information Bureau







China's Premier Li Keqiang and Angola's President José Eduardo dos Santos

During a two-day visit in May, China's Premier consolidated the strong relations with Angola his country has built since the end of its civil war in 2002. It has been its most important economic partner during this period of peacetime.

Li Keqiang arrived on 8 May in Luanda, the Angolan capital, on the third leg of a four-nation African tour, which also took him to Ethiopia, Nigeria and Kenya. He arrived three days after the US Secretary of State, John Kerry, visited the country.

He held talks with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at his residence and invited him to visit China, saying that this would help to plan high-level, long-term projects.

During his visit, China and Angola signed a series of cooperation deals covering infrastructure, finance and investment, to expand their exchanges beyond those of natural resources. China will also help Angola build a commercial logistics system and agreed to provide medical equipment.

Commenting on the deals, Commerce Minister Gao Hucheng said that they would encourage Chinese firms to become more involved in building infrastructure, transferring technology and training local people. He said that, over the years, Chinese investment and financial aid had helped Angola to

build more than 130 infrastructure projects.

Since 2004, the China Export Import Bank (Exim) has provided funding for Angolan projects totalling US\$10 billion.

As a result, about 270,000 Chinese work in Angola, more than 25 percent of all the Chinese in Africa.

During Li's visit, the Exim bank signed an agreement with Angola's Finance Minister Armando Manuel to provide a further US\$170 million in loans for three projects. They are the Chiumbedala hydro-electric facility and Luena sub-station in Mixico province; the Cuima agro-industrial project in Zaire province; and the Institution for Economic and Commercial Management of the Portuguese-speaking African countries (PALOP), whose headquarters are in Lubango, Huila province.

Prime Minister Li also announced that Beijing had authorised the establishment of an Angolan consulate-general in Guangzhou and that an agreement would be signed to cancel the need for visas on diplomatic and service passports. Beijing planned to increase the number of scholarships offered to Angolan students to 100.

Li said that, in addition, China had donated 180 million yuan to Angola, to be used for development projects agreed by the two countries.

12 july, 2014 Miccoo



Li Kegiang visiting a CITIC investment in Angola

#### **New city**

The first day of his visit focused on Chinese citizens and companies.

Li toured the new city of Kilambia Kiaxi, which is being built by the China International Trust and Investment Corp (CITIC). It is one of the largest development projects in Africa, 30 kilometres from Luanda.

It covers an area of 8.8 square kilometres and will eventually offer 25,000 homes for more than 200,000 inhabitants. In total, one percent of the country's population will be able to reside there.

It is designed to include 750 eight-storey apartment blocks, over 100 commercial premises, 17 schools and 24 daycare centres. It has its own electricity substations, waste-water treatment plant and catchment station to bring water from the Kwanza river, to ensure a sufficient supply.

The cost is estimated at US\$ 3.5 billion, financed by a Chinese credit line and repaid by the Angolan government with oil.

The new city is gradually filling up. As of September 2013, its population was 40,000 and, in January 2014, 70,000.

That day Li also met Chinese business people, embassy staff and the Chinese community living in Luanda.

#### End of civil war

After independence from Portugal in November 1975, Angola went through a civil war which devastated its infrastructure. The two main warring factions agreed a ceasefire in 2002.

An enormous task of reconstruction was required. For the last 12 years, China has been the country's principal foreign partner, providing loans from state banks that are repaid with oil. The resumption of oil exports and the completion of many infrastructure projects have caused rapid economic growth.

These Chinese loans and investments have made possible a construction boom, including new airports, a football stadium for the African Cup the country hosted in 2008 and hundreds of kilometres of new roads. More than 300,000 Chinese have worked in Angola during this process.

Joao Bernando de Miranda, Angola's former Minister of External Relations, said that China had played an unprecedented role in the country's reconstruction. "Since the civil war, cooperation with China has been Angola's biggest achievement. Chinese enterprises and friends came and made great efforts when Angola needed the help most."



Li Keqiang reviewing troops

Between 2001 and 2010, Angola had the world's highest annual average GDP growth rate, at 11.1 percent. Oil and diamonds are the principal exports.

During that time, Sino-Angolan trade has exploded. In 2013, trade between them reached US\$ 35.91 billion, with Chinese exports of UK\$ 3.96 billion, down 1.96 percent over 2012, and imports of US\$ 31.94 billion, down 0.51 percent. China accounted for 40 percent of Angola's total foreign trade last year.

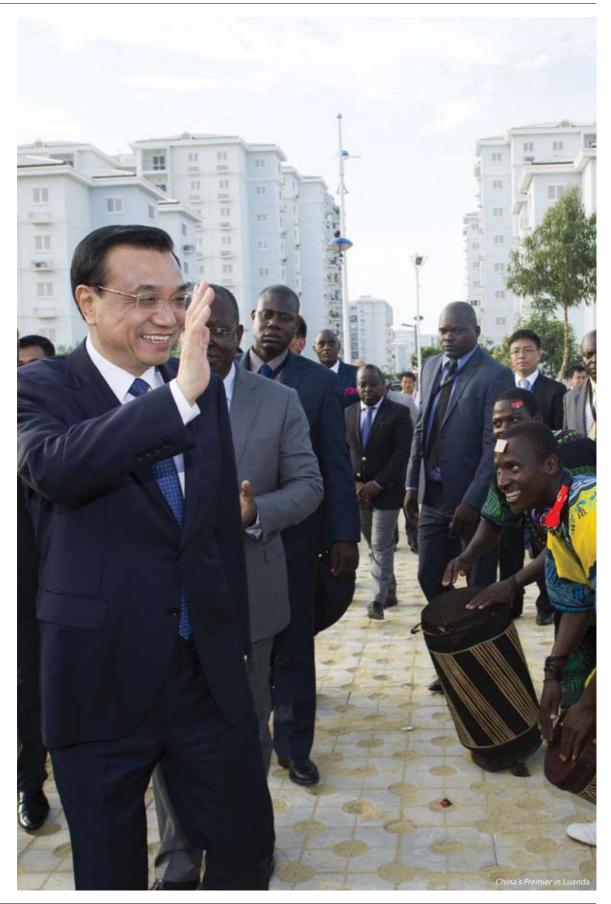
The 2013 figure is an increase of over 2,000 percent since 2002, making Angola China's second-largest trading partner among the eight Portuguese-speaking countries and its second largest trade partner in Africa.

China is Angola's biggest single buyer of oil and largest trading partner, energy importer and main source of investment.

Only Saudi Arabia sells more oil to China. In 2013, Beijing bought 45 percent of all the crude oil which Angola exported.

Photos by Xinhua News Agency











Xi Jinping and Cavaco Silva in Beijing

In May, the President of Portugal visited China to celebrate 35 years of diplomatic relations, closer economic ties and their partnership in Africa and South America.

Leading a delegation with over 100 business people, Anibal Cavaco Silva met President Xi Jinping in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 15 May. He arrived in China on 12 May and spent three days in Shanghai before arriving in Beijing. He then went on to Macao.

In Shanghai, he attended an economics seminar attended by 250 Chinese and Portuguese executives.

The two presidents signed seven cooperation agreements, on education, science, culture, sport and other areas, including agreements between companies. It was the first visit to China by a Portuguese president for almost a decade.

"The two nations have treated each other equally with mutual respect and trust and handled bilateral ties from a strategic level and with a long-term perspective," said Xi. "The two sides have solved the

historical issue of Macao and set a good example for the world."

Cavaco Silva said: "The political relationship between Portugal and China has never been as good as it is now. We need to reinforce the strategic partnership between the two countries."

Xi congratulated Portugal on gradually stepping out of the debt crisis. "We will continue to support Portugal by expanding bilateral trade and mutual investment, promoting cooperation in areas such as energy, electricity, finance, environmental protection and new energy," he said. He also called on both sides to conduct cultural exchanges and enhance coordination in international affairs."

One major theme of the talks was how to improve cooperation in Africa. "China could explore possibilities of trilateral cooperation with Africa or Latin America via a mechanism like the Forum for Economic Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (Forum Macau) to contribute to the peace, stability and sustainable development of these regions," said Xi.

Cavaco Silva said that Portugal supported China's initiative to enhance the forum of Portuguese-speaking countries and is willing to participate in trilateral cooperation.

"We would like to expand cooperation in economy and trade, low-carbon and green technology, finance, tourism, education and science and absorb more Chinese investment." he said.

#### **Closer Economic Ties**

Over the last four years, economic ties between the two countries have become closer through the purchase of Portuguese firms by Chinese companies. Such investments now total more than  $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{C}}$  3 billion. In the latest deal, Fosun International paid  $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{C}}$  1 billion for control of state-owned Caixa Seguros, Portugal's largest insurance group, defeating a shortlisted offer from Apollo Global Management, a US investment fund.

In January, the Lisbon government said that Fosun would acquire an 80 percent stake in the Portuguese company, which is owned by state-owned bank Caixa Geral de Depósitos (CGD) and has a 26 percent

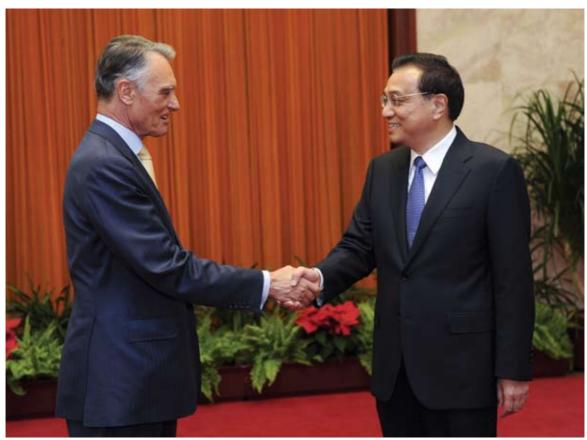
share of the country's insurance market.

Fosun is the third Chinese investor to buy Portuguese assets that have been privatised since the country requested a € 78 billion international bailout in 2011.

The acquisition gives Fosun control of Fidelidade, Portugal's largest insurance company, which includes Multicare, a health insurer, and Cares, a travel and transport insurer, among its assets.

Manuel Rodrigues, Portugal's secretary of state for finance, said Fosun planned to expand Caixa Seguro's operations into Africa and China and was committed to maintaining the investment beyond the minimum four years required under the privatisation agreement.

Morgan Stanley, the financial adviser to Fosun on the transaction, said it was the biggest acquisition involving Chinese and European financial institutions since 2008.



China's Premier Li Kegiang and Portuguese President Cavaco e Silva

In late 2011, Chinese utility Three Gorges took a stake worth € 3.5 billion in Energias de Portugal, the country's dominant electricity provider.

Three month later, China's State Grid bought a 25 percent holding in Redes Energeticas de Portugal, which runs the country's electricity and gas grids. Assets that remain to be privatised include the national airline TAP-Air Portugal, the cargo unit of the national railway company Comboios de Portugal, and parts of Aguas de Portugal, the water utility.

Among the ministers in the president's delegation was Pires de Lima, who explained the country's privatisation plan, including the concessions of the transport companies in Lisbon and Porto and the sale of waste company Empresa Geral de Fomento. The delegation included 24 companies whose joint turnover is the equivalent to one fifth of Portugal's gross domestic product (GDP) – such as EDP, Galp Energia, Banco Espirito Santo (BES), Correios de Portugal and Group Amorim.

BES renewed its finance agreement with the China Development Bank, securing new credit lines for the next three years, which will support exporting companies.

China is Portugal's 10th largest customer and Portuguese exports to China are expected to exceed € 1 billion in 2014.

#### Golden visas

Portugal has also attracted significant investment from Chinese individuals.

In August 2012, it launched a 'golden visa' scheme for foreigners, setting the bar at a real estate purchase worth € 500,000. The investors can also qualify by creating 30 or more jobs or transferring at least € 1 million in capital. Once obtained, the visa gives a residence permit that allows visa-free travel in the 26 countries of the Schengen area, and Portuguese citizenship after six years.

Chinese are the biggest applicants for this scheme. A report issued in March by APEMIP, the country's professional association of real estate agents, said that Chinese nationals had received 433 out of the 542 approved golden visas so far, followed by 23 for Russians and 28 for Brazilian and Angolan citizens combined.

One effect of this inflow of money is that the

value of luxury homes in Portugal in 2013 rose by 54 percent to around € 4,266 per square metre, compared to 2012, according to a recent survey by the Confidencial Imobiliario and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The government expects to attract more than € 500 million in investment through the golden visas scheme in 2014.

Chinese tourists have also helped the economy. Spending by them as of November last year tripled from the same period in 2012 to € 20.3 million, according to Banco de Portugal, the central bank. Spain, Cyprus and Greece have copied Portugal and offer similar schemes.



#### First of the Europeans

Of all the nations of Europe, Portugal was the first to establish relations with China.

In 1513, explorer Jorge Alvares arrived in Guangzhou and began trading activities in southern China. The Portuguese expanded into Macao and paid rent to the Ming Empire.

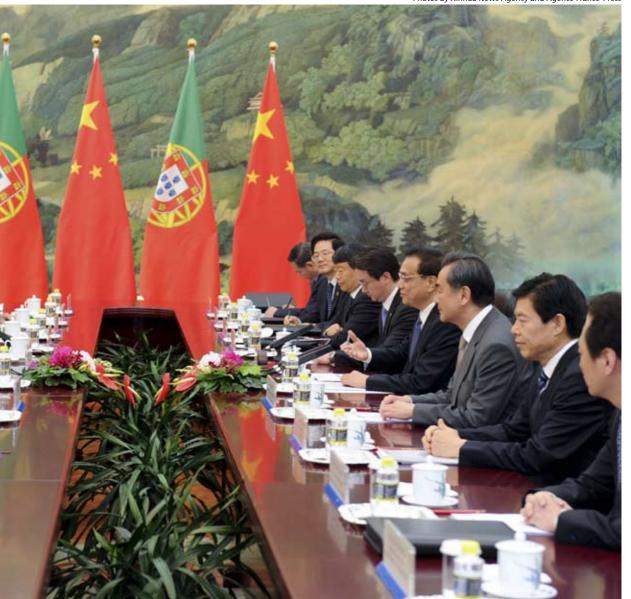
The Chinese allowed the first official visit, led by Fernao Pires de Andrade, to proceed to the imperial capital of Beijing.

Macao became a colony of the Portuguese empire in 1557. For the next 300 years, it was an important trading centre between China and the outside world and a centre of Jesuit missionary activity aimed at China and Japan.

But its role as a trading centre declined after Beijing ceded Hong Kong to Britain in 1842. The deeper and better appointed harbour of Victoria replaced Macao as the main export centre for Chinese goods.

In May 1986, China and Portugal agreed to open negotiations on the future of Macao. After four rounds of talks, they signed the joint declaration in Beijing on 13 April 1987; it called for the return of the territory to Chinese administration as a Special Administrative Region on 20 December 1999. Cavaco Silva was the Prime Minister at the time of the signing.

Photos by Xinhua News Agency and Agence France-Press



Meeting between Portuguese President and a Chinese delegation headed by Premier Li Keqiang

## **Spending Spree**

# China pours investment into Portuguese-speaking countries

Luo Xunzhi in Beijing

China has overtaken the US to become the largest trading partner and foreign investor in Brazil. The municipality of Açu, 280 kilometres north of Rio de Janeiro, has been transformed from a seaside village into a huge port with a pier two miles long, which can handle Chinese ships that carry 400,000 tonnes of iron ore in a single journey. A vice-minister from Beijing who visited Açu described it as "a new highway to China".

The port is a symbol of China's investment in Portuguese-speaking countries (PSC), which has risen dramatically in the last five years. During that period, China has become one of the world's largest foreign investors; the PSC have received a significant share.

The investment is led by major state companies, usually supported by loans from national banks; together with them have come private companies and individuals eager to seize the opportunities available.

According to the Ministry of Commerce, China's outbound direct investment in 2013 reached US\$ 90.17 billion, an increase of 16.8 percent from 2012. The cumulative stock of Chinese investment in Africa reached US\$ 22.9 billion in 2012, up from less than US\$ 500 million a decade before, according

to Beijing Axis, an international advisory and procurement firm.

#### A magnet for Chinese funds

Among the PSC, Brazil has attracted the most Chinese money and in a wide range of sectors. This is no surprise, given the size and dynamism of its economy; it is a member of the BRICs – Brazil, Russia, India, South Africa and China.

After a slow start, the investment rose dramatically in 2010, when China overtook the United States to become the largest foreign investor in Brazil.

That year six major state-owned companies entered Brazil, with a total investment of US\$ 13.09 billion. They included Sinopec, which acquired a 40 percent share of the Brazilian arm of Spanish oil-and-gas company Repsol for US\$ 7.1 billion, while Sinochem purchased 40 percent of the Brazilian operations of Statoil of Norway for US\$ 3.07 billion.

That year Chongqing Grain Group (CGC) also announced investment of US\$ 2 billion million in an industrial soy complex in Bahia province, with the output to be sold in China. It has an annual capacity to crush 1.5 million tonnes of soybeans and make

22 july, 2014 <u>Macao</u>

300,000 tonnes of refined cooking oil; this will account for nearly one third of the province's annual production value. CGC is also investing in a fertiliser factory and dry port for grain storage.

It was the largest agricultural investment abroad by a Chinese firm. The project made its first shipment of soybeans in September 2011.

China's largest grain trader, China National Cereals, Oil and Foodstuff Corp, is in talks with Singapore-listed Noble Group about forming a joint venture in sugar, wheat and soybeans that are focused on Noble's business in South America, including its four sugar mills in Brazil.

This potential investment and that of CGC aim to secure grains and other soft commodities to satisfy long-term growth in demand from the Chinese population. Two-thirds of the global soybean trade already ships to China.

Chinese firms are investing across the industrial spectrum. Lenovo has set up four factories to make computers, tablets, smart phones and televisions; in January 2013, it paid US\$ 146.5 million to acquire local electronics brand CCE. Equipment makers like Sany Heavy, Xuzhou Machinery and Zoomlion have

also announced plans for greenfield investments to make machinery and equipment.

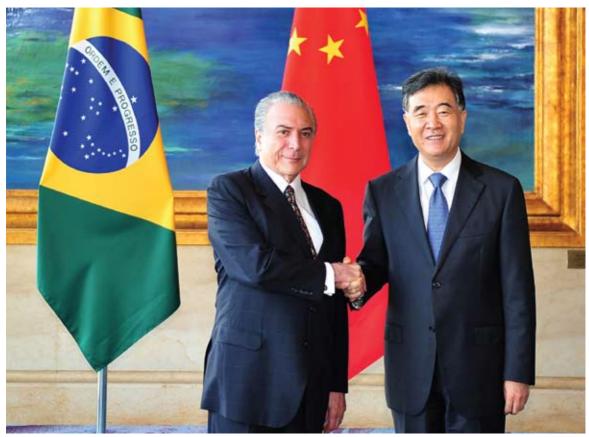
Gree, the world's biggest manufacturer of air-conditioners based in Zhuhai, has built a plant in Manaus, in the heart of the Amazon, to serve the Brazilian and other South American markets. Wuhan Iron and Steel owns a large stake in MMX, a Brazilian mining group.

Sinopec is expected to bid for offshore oilfields that will come on stream in 2014.

Bank of China, Industrial and Commercial Bank and China Construction Bank have set up operations in Sao Paulo to facilitate this incoming investment.

The auto sector is another in which Chinese firms have been very active. Since 2010, over a dozen Chinese auto companies have announced greenfield investments in Brazil. With the entry of Geely in 2013, China overtook the US and Japan as the country with the largest number of car brands in the Brazilian market.

One of the most aggressive is JAC Motor, which has opened 55 dealerships all over Brazil, selling cars built on the mainland; its hatchbacks and sedans start at US\$ 24,000.



Brazil's Vice-Presidente Michel Temer and China's Vice Premier Wang Yang



Cavaco Silva, President of Portugal

### Great interest in Portugal's energy and property sectors

In 2011, China Three Gorges (CTG) paid 2.7 billion euros for a 21.35 percent stake of Portuguese state power company EDP. At the time, it was the biggest acquisition by a Chinese company in Europe and more than a quarter of total Chinese investment in the continent that year.

It was a rare opportunity for a foreign firm to buy such a large share of a public utility and reflected the financial plight of the Portuguese government.

A few months later, China State Grid paid 387.15 million euros for a 25 percent stake in Portugal's national power grid REN.

For both companies, it was a strategic investment and the opportunity to manage a major business sector in a developed country with a liberal economy and earn the confidence of eastern governments and companies, some of whom are suspicious of the intentions of Chinese state firms.

Given the weak state of Portugal's economy, these investments may not yield a profit; but both firms see

the overall benefits, in experience and recognition, as outweighing the losses.

In July 2013, the Bank of China opened its first branch in Portugal, in the central business district of Lisbon. At the opening ceremony, ambassador Huang Songpu said that he hoped the bank could continue to help Chinese companies gain a firm foothold in Portugal.

Other Chinese banks may follow; they are also considering taking a stake in one of the large Portuguese banks, like Millennium BCP.

Chinese account for the largest number of applicants for the vistos dourados (golden visas) scheme announced by the government in October 2012. Under the scheme, foreigners purchasing property worth more than 500,000 euros qualify for a five-year visa to Portugal and consequently the European Union.

As of December 2013, 356 residence permits had been granted to investors, including 279 Chinese. Portugal is competing with Spain, Cyprus, Greece and the Netherlands to attract such wealthy immigrants.

### Angola and Mozambique attractive destinations

China is one of the biggest investors in PSC in Africa. According to the Investment Promotion Centre of Mozambique, China was the second largest foreign investor in 2013, with US\$ 299 million. It ranked second to South Africa, US\$ 364 million, and ahead of Portugal, US\$ 171 million. The cumulative total of Chinese investment in the country is more than US\$ 3 billion.

There are three major industrial projects – Henan Haode Mozambique Industrial Park, aimed at the textile and clothing sector, in Marracuene district, with US\$ 26.5 million.

China Chemical Engineering Second Construction Mozambique is working in Matutuine in the south in construction and public works, an investment of US\$ 7 million, and Gigante África – Sociedade Unipessoal, Lda., is producing and selling furniture, an investment of US\$ 4.5 million.

More than two thirds of the investment has gone into industry, followed by construction, services and agriculture. The south, especially the city and province of Maputo, has received over 70 percent of

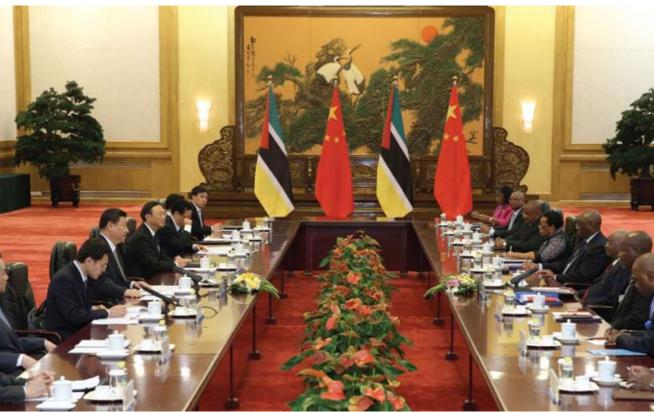
the investment.

China Hyway Group is involved in construction, mining, manufacturing, furniture and steel; it owns several factories producing furniture, steel, brick and coating in Angola and Mozambique. It has its African headquarters in those two countries. It has an annual output of US\$ 1.4 billion, with 80 percent produced in Africa and employing a maximum of 20,000 local workers.

China is Angola's most important economic partner, and is active in many fields. According to the Heritage Foundation, Chinese investment in Angola reached US\$ 1.1 billion by the end of June 2011, the largest in a PSC country outside Brazil.

Since the end of the civil war, China has played the biggest role in rebuilding infrastructure, including roads, railways, bridges, schools and hospitals. It has paid for this with loans from state banks, which Angola has repaid in the form of oil.

Its oil production this year is expected to reach 1.91 million barrels a day, up from 1.86 million in 2013. In March 2010, Sinopec announced the purchase of a 55 percent stake in Sonangol Sinopec International for US\$ 2.46 billion; this consortium with Angola's national oil company was established in 2004.



Meeting in Beijing between President Xi Jinping and Mozambique's President Armando Guebuza

Many other major Chinese firms have projects in Angola. They include

Huawei Technologies, ZTE Corporation, China International and Trust Investment Corporation (CITIC), Sinohydro Corporation, China Railway 20 Bureau Group Corporation (CR-20), Dongfeng Nissan, China Road and Bridge Corporation, Wuhan Iron and Steel, China General Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation, SinoMach, Jiangsu International and China National Offshore Oil Corp.

Tens of thousands of Chinese live in Angola working on these different projects; some stay only for the duration of the project in which they are involved, while others plan to remain for the long term.

One focus for investment is agriculture, in which more than two thirds of the population are employed. But less than 10 percent of the 35 million hectares of arable land is used; the country still has to import half of its food.

Chinese firms introduce their farming methods and technology to improve efficiency; these include pumps to water the fields and the improvement of irrigation methods.

In 2009, Sinohydro, China's largest dam-builder, finished the Matumbo irrigation project in South Kwanza province, providing water to 15,000 hectares. Chinese firms are interested in the production of cotton, coffee, banana and sugar cane. Investment in these crops will help to employ thousands of rural families and lift them out of poverty.

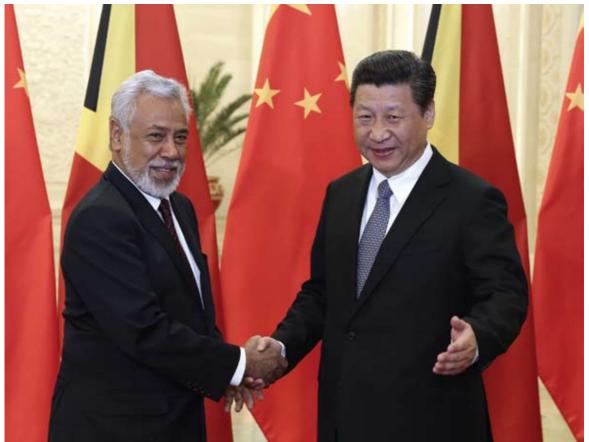
#### **Private investment in Timor-Leste**

The largest private investor in Timor-Leste is the Chinese Timorese Gape family, which has invested in construction, shopping centres and the retail sector, creating thousands of jobs.

An estimated 2,000 Chinese live in Timor; they are mainly small-scale businessmen, willing to go to the most remote villages on the mountainous island. They bring consumer goods to people in these areas. Cheap Chinese cars and motorcycles are popular.

Some Chinese companies have expressed interest in investing in Timor. The Chinese presence there is smaller than in Angola and Mozambique.

Photos by Xinhua News Agency



President Xi Jinping with Timor-Leste Premier Xanana Gusmão

26 july, 2014 <u>Macao</u>



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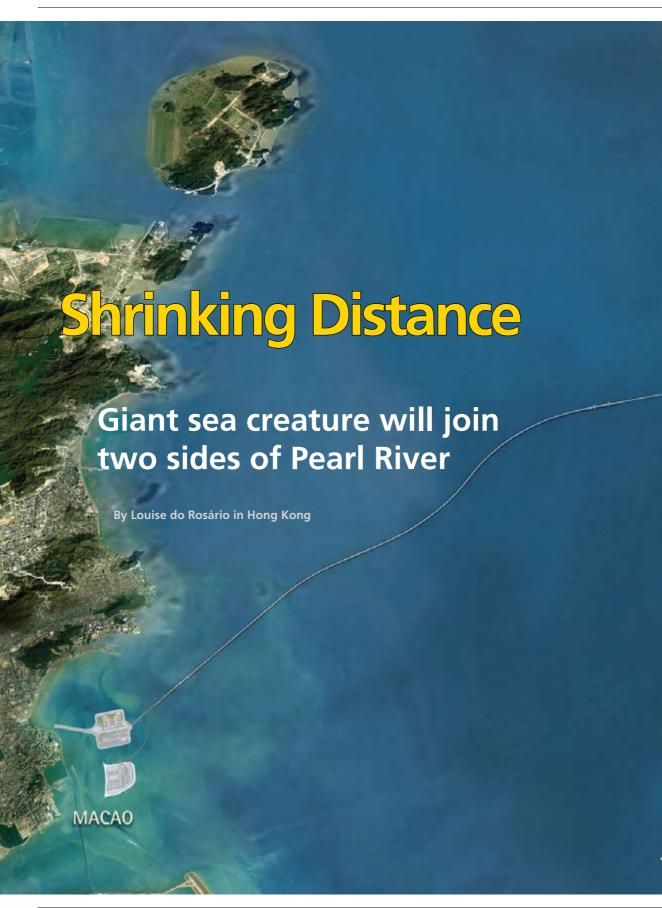
上午 Morning:

09:00 - 13:00 (星期一至五 / Monday to Friday)

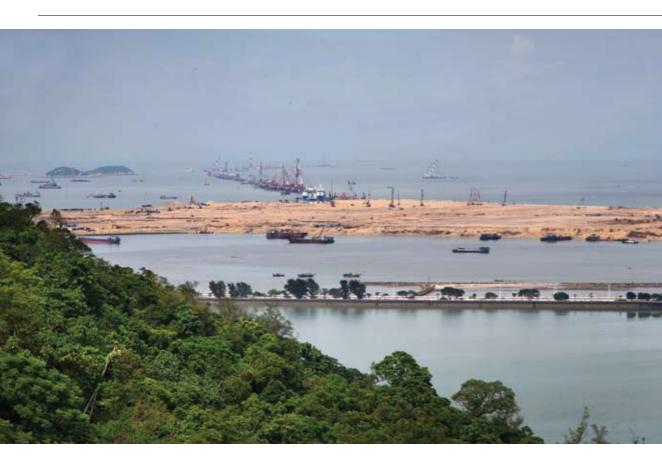
下午 Afternoon:

14:30 - 17:45 (星期一至四 / Monday to Thursday)









#### Remarkable feat of engineering

The bridge is a remarkable feat of engineering. It is being built across one of the world's busiest shipping lanes and a river with strong currents; it is in an area that suffers every year from typhoons and severe rain storms. These factors pose the most testing technical challenges for the architects and engineers. Among them is global company Ove Arup, which is involved in the bridge and tunnel design, as well as the design of the artificial islands' foundations.

Of the total length, 35.6 kilometres consist of bridge and tunnel. The main bridge is 30 kilometres long, with 23 kilometres of viaducts, 20-110 metres high. The tunnel will run for nearly seven kilometres, at a depth of 27 metres, one of the longest and deepest in the world. It will have six vehicle lanes, three in each direction, but no railway.

The tunnel is necessary because the bridge crosses the Pearl River; every day dozens of containers and cargo ships pass through it from Guangzhou and other ports in the delta to the Pacific Ocean and destinations around the world. The tunnel required 220,000 tons of cement, while the two man-made

islands required 100,000 tons.

The bridge includes three cable-stayed bridge sections, with spans ranging from 280 to 460 metres; they have one or more towers or pylons, from which cables support the bridge deck; and it has viaducts spanning 75-100 metres. The design of one bridge section evokes the two sails of a Chinese junk and another a traditional Chinese bow.

On each of the large man-made islands are being built giant car parks, basic retail services and immigration facilities, to process the vehicles and travellers entering the three destinations.

The island northeast of Hong Kong international airport has an area of 130 hectares. The government is researching construction of hotels and commercial space on the site. Due to its proximity to the airport, the buildings can be no higher than 50 metres and hotels no more than 10 storeys. There is likely to be a large commercial space underground.

The island close to Zhuhai and Macao was completed in December 2013 and is 4.8 metres high. To create it, the builders dumped 20 million square metres of sand into the sea, at a cost of 2.386 billion yuan. It is designed to withstand high waves and typhoons and has a landing strip.







Wei Dongqing, executive director of the bridge authority, said last November that not all the work had gone smoothly. "Many new technologies are being used that required applications for patents. This brought some difficulties."

The bridge is being designed to last 120 years. It is a complicated project, which has to meet the design, construction and environmental standards of the three jurisdictions. The height restrictions close to the airports of Hong Kong and Macao have also posed challenges.

The total cost of the project is 70 billion yuan, split between the governments of Guangdong province, Macao and Hong Kong; a consortium led by the Bank of China is providing a syndicated loan.

#### Strong economic impact

The economic case for this pharaonic spending is to cut the driving time between Hong Kong and the western side of the Pearl River Delta from three-four hours to 30-45 minutes.

The greatest beneficiaries will be companies and factories in Zhuhai, Zhongshan, Jiangmen and other cities on the western side. They will be able to deliver goods to the air and seaports of Hong Kong more quickly than at present. This will be especially important to manufacturers of time-critical, high-value cargo, like cameras and other consumer electronics and components that need to be shipped quickly to the buyers.

The bridge will also make these cities more attractive to outside investors, domestic and foreign. Firms in

Guangzhou, Shenzhen and other cities on the east side will be able to move to obtain lower wages and cheaper land prices. Hong Kong accounts for about 75 percent of Guangdong's overseas investment and is its largest trading partner.

The bridge will also have a major impact on the property markets of these cities, especially Zhuhai and Zhongshan, the closest to Macao and Hong Kong. Thousands of residents of both have bought apartments and townhouses in the two cities; but their use of them is limited by the time needed to go there and the need to pass through immigration.

The cities of Zhuhai and Zhongshan hope that the bridge will cause a sea change, making their properties so accessible that residents of Hong Kong and Macao consider moving there – enabling them to live in one and work in the other.

The bridge will facilitate the movement of tourists in both directions. Currently, visitors must take a ferry or hydrofoil to cross the Pearl River Delta, a journey of 60-70 minutes. In future, the majority will take tourist buses.

Gamblers will be able to fly to Hong Kong airport and take a bus or limousine from there to the casinos of Macao.

It is not clear which of the three places will benefit most. Both Macao and Hengqin are investing heavily in new hotels and other tourist facilities, with the expectation of attracting more tourists via the bridge. The shortness of the journey may persuade travellers to stay in Zhuhai, where hotels are cheaper than in the other two cities, which they can visit in the daytime.



Lantau Island is the area of Hong Kong closest to it. Ha Wing-on, chairman of the Lantau Island Development Alliance, said the bridge represented a great opportunity. "Macao is working hard and building new hotels and casinos. By 2020, there will be over 50,000 hotel rooms. Hengqin is doing the same and will have 15,000 hotel rooms by 2015. But Lantau has only 3,000 hotel rooms and the government has not come up with a detailed plan. "The Shizimen Central Business district in Hengqin will have 11 million square metres of space by 2015, equal to 100 times that of Times Square in

Causeway Bay. But Lantau has only 125,000 square metres of commercial space, 70 percent of that of Times Square. The government should not develop Lantau for housing but for hotels and commercial space," he said.

The project is competing with another bridge, between Shenzhen and Zhongshan, which will cross the Pearl River about 45 kilometres to the north. Costing 33.4 billion yuan, the 24-kilometre route is due to open in 2020 and will cut driving time from Shenzhen to Zhongshan to 30 minutes from the current two hours.



#### What is missing

The greatest drawback of the new bridge is the lack of a railway that could have carried a large volume of passengers and cargo.

The company building the bridge said that the option of including a railway had been critically examined, considering factors such as forecasted demand, engineering requirements, attraction to passengers and compatibility with the rail network in the Pearl River Delta.

But it decided against it because it would have created many design and engineering difficulties and sharply increased the cost.

Another outstanding issue is licence plates that can be used in the three jurisdictions. None of them want a large number of vehicles from the other two on their streets.

According to the Shenzhen Daily, 28,100 cars had cross-border plates as of the end of May 2013.

Of them, 25,900 were owned by the Hong Kong government and Hong Kong companies and the rest by mainland government bodies and firms. The average price of such plates on the black market reached 700,000 yuan, 600,000 more than the average price a few years ago, it said.

The traffic management bureau of Guangdong only issues such plates to those who invest US\$ 400,000 in a business in rural Guangdong and pay an annual tax of 150,000 yuan or US\$ 1 million in a business in urban Guangdong and pay an annual tax of 300,000 yuan.

This raises the question of how many vehicles will actually use the bridge. The most likely outcome is that the main users will be tourist buses and company vehicles carrying personnel and delivering goods.

As things stand, the number of private cars will be limited; if they use the bridge, they will have to park on the two man-made islands and continue their journey via local buses, taxis and other vehicles.

Photos by Eric Tam and HPDI / Cowi / Shanghai Tunnel / First Harbour Engineering / Arup JV



# **SOUND & IMAGE**









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Nuno Veloso photography 10 - 26 July

#### WHO CAN STOP US FROM CELEBRATING

João MT drawing installation 1 - 20 August





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#### MACAU OF MY OWN

Eduardo Magalhães photography 17 September - 7 October



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本項目獲澳門文化中心支持 Com o apoio do Centro Cultural With the support of Macao Cultural Centre



# **A Growing Community**

Foreign business associations help members to prosper in Macao

By Luciana Leitão in Macao



Macao's booming economy has attracted many foreign companies to set up shop locally. As their numbers increase, trade and commerce associations representing their interests also spring up, enlivening the local business scene.

These non-profit making entities represent companies from everywhere: the United States, France, Britain, Portugal, Germany, Ireland, Canada, Romania, Australia and Africa. This article features seven of the more important ones.

Among the most influential is the American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham). It has close to 100 members, 70 percent of which are companies; the rest are individuals. "We have local Americans and dignitaries from Macao society, as well as companies," said Charles Choy, chairman of AmCham. Among the members are all of Macao's six gaming operators, companies supplying services and products to the resorts and a few Chinese businessmen with strong interests in investing in the US.

AmCham Macau used to be a committee of its counterpart AmCham Hong Kong, as there were still few American businesses in Macao. With the liberalisation of the gaming sector in the early 2000s and the increasing presence of Americans in Macao, the committee was expanded to become a fully fledged chamber. "In 2007, AmCham Macau was born," he recalled.

AmCham Hong Kong and AmCham Macau have remained close since then, but they represent different interests. AmCham Hong Kong has a more diverse membership, including local banks and local individuals. "Macao has its own characteristics, with the large integrated resort groups and the many companies related to them."

AmCham Macau aims to promote trade between the US and Macao, to provide a platform for American businesses and to foster connections with local companies. It organises regular networking events, including the important celebration of US independence, on 4 July each year.

It also participates regularly in events by other chambers, such as the French Macau Business Association's breakfast meetings. More recently, AmCham Macau has started working with the social website Delta Bridges, "to familiarise members with the Pearl River Delta", in addition to organising official government visits to the delta. Interest in the region

is expected to grow, with the imminent completion of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao bridge.

### A future in the environment

Choy sees Macao-US trade set to grow, as Macao is seen as a gateway to the markets of mainland China and Hong Kong. "But the product has to be right, as this is not the most diversified market in the world," he added, saying that the environment sector has great potential. Food is another promising area, as "US food products are perceived as safe and regulated with a stronger sense of responsibility."

# FMBA: the big trade partner

France is Macao's largest trading partner after mainland China and Hong Kong.

The France Macau Business Association (FMBA) was created in 2008, with the support of gambling tycoon Pansy Ho.

It has 100 members, most of them not French and some without business interests in France. Its main mission is to promote trade between France and Macao and provide information to its members. It also gives support services to French firms interested in coming to the city, such as providing offices for the initial stages.





Franklin Willemyns

It organises networking events, of which regular breakfast seminars are the most popular, on topics such as the property market, human resources, marketing or gaming. Chairman Franklin Willemyns said that they chose breakfast as it was the only time when people were free. In cooperation with the Alliance Francaise, it also arranges wine- and champagne-tasting events.

Last year it organised a visit to a factory in Zhuhai and plans another to a Peugeot factory in Shenzhen.

### Three main sectors

Looking at the trade between the territory and France, Willemyns said: "There are mainly three sectors - luxury (watches, bags), food and beverage (85 percent of the wine market in Macao) and construction companies. And, with Macao continuously growing, other possibilities will open, including the arts and performing arts."

He said that it was rare to see companies expand into mainland China.

"They're mostly interested in Macao - actually, sometimes it's more the opposite: companies that start in mainland China and want to extend to the territory," he says.

Many foreigners are hesitant to go to mainland China

because of environmental issues and bureaucracy problems. "In Macao, there are advantages in taxation, and the legal system for Continental Europeans makes it easier. The only obstacle to setting up a company here might be the difficulty in finding human resources along with the rental costs. It may start to motivate people to establish in mainland China," he added.

### BBAM: A liaison office

The British Business Association of Macau (BBAM) was created in 2006.

Initially a conduit between the government and British businesses, it now serves as a liaison office between the consulate in Hong Kong and businesses looking for opportunities in Macao.

Its chairman is Eileen Stow, who is also managing director of Lord Stow's Egg Tarts and sister of the tart creator. The association has 48 members that are companies of different sizes, as well as 12 individual members.

Companies have between two to ten representatives each; depending on the size, there are different tiers of involvement. The higher tier includes people that have been with the association since the beginning.



Eileen Stow

The BBAM organises regular networking events for its members, providing a platform for people to share their work difficulties and information about major opportunities in the territory. They are trying to put together a series of lunches about the Pearl River Delta, to serve as a "quick briefing as opposed to piles of papers".

On a lighter note, the BBAM also organises a yearly ball that is famous among British and non-British alike. "When we started the ball, it was as a big fundraiser at the time. In reality, though, we're not a charity and it's difficult to get sponsors just for fun," said Stow. So, now, it has become a pretext for a gathering and some fun.

# A world of opportunities

In 2006, there were fewer opportunities for British businesses in Macao. "I remember a British company got a contract to provide solar panels to one of the casinos. That was a major step forward and an indicator of where business could go," she said.

Now, she sees far bigger opportunities in sectors such as luxury, retail, food and beverage as well as technology, especially green technology. "In 2006, there weren't any shopping malls, but now, on the retail side, there are huge opportunities, the same with food and beverage. Macao now welcomes

British beef, as the ban has been lifted." She also sees potential for financial services, insurance and employment opportunities for teachers.

She said that not many of her fellow countrymen were eager to move to the territory. "Companies are coming forward with license ideas and representation ideas," she explained. She sees more opportunities with the growth of Hengqin island for "any person who is involved with green technology, animal welfare, education, infrastructure, public transport and health care".

Although BBAM represents business, they don't represent the whole British community. That is covered by the British Residents Association of Macau, headed by Glenn McCartney.

# The lobbyist

The Macao chapter of the Portuguese Chinese Chamber of Commerce aims to lobby the local government on behalf of its companies and promote business between Portugal and China, through Macao.

The mother chamber was set up in Portugal in 1978, with members from the main sectors, such as Portugal Telecom and the banks. The Macao branch was established later; it now has about 30 members, some in Macao and some in Portugal, including Portuguese and Macanese/Chinese.

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Filipe Cunha Santos

Its head, Filipe Cunha Santos, said that they had created the conditions so that companies in Portugal might find and have import/export relationships with Chinese companies. "Macao still works well as a platform, considering it is easier for Portuguese companies to start a business in the territory and later on expand it to mainland China."

The chamber also helps companies with translation and consultation services and research of potential business partners in China. "We can also go with our members to meetings and help present companies to members." It helps small companies to find offices and has also organised trips to Portugal, as well as wine-tasting events and business receptions.

# Common problems

The foreign chambers of commerce suffer from a common problem – the restrictions on importing foreign labour. "Of course, the ones who suffer are the small and medium enterprises, because casinos can pay more," Cunha Santos said. There are other problems for Portuguese companies - lack of capital for marketing and building partnerships and difficulties in transportation.

"Even so, considering that Portugal is going through a severe economic crisis, I have not seen a decrease in the interest from the number of firms willing to expand to China. On the contrary, there are more companies wanting to come, asking about it." But the numbers that set up an office here are still few. "Many want to export, but from a distance," he said. "The only cases of success that I know of are companies in the field of agriculture and foodsausages, wines, olive oil, that sector is the only one that has grown a lot."

# **Helping SMEs**

The German Macau Business Association (GMBA) is the oldest foreign association here, set up in 2004. The idea was born out of the expansion of German brands throughout the world. "When we founded the association, Macao's economy was still weak and the trading volume was still not very aggressive," said chairman Tony Un.

It started with strong members like Siemens and has expanded into many sectors, such as food and beverages. Its main goal is to help small and medium enterprises (SMEs) from Germany to reach Macao, as the bigger companies do not need an extra push. "Big companies already have their branches in China and Hong Kong, but the German SMEs are good brands and good quality," he said.

The GMBA has about 65 members, including corporates from Germany, Hong Kong, Macao and mainland China. "Some have a connection with Germany, others just have some interest in German business."



Tony Un

The association lobbies within the local authorities, organises networking events and is actively involved in entertainment activities, such as the yearly Oktoberfest that takes place at MGM Macau.

Un said trade between Macao/Hong Kong and Germany had increased 25 percent a year over the past two years, and in different sectors. "All products [have been affected], like cars, clothes, shoes, kitchenware, equipment and industrial products. German products have a history of being good quality, [so there's] no need to do big advertising campaigns, nor to invest a lot in marketing." He sees further potential in equipment and technology with the expansion of Cotai.

Un believes Macao is not used by Germany as an entry to mainland China.

"Macao is a city with over 20 million visitors every year, it's easy to get benefits from different types of business."

# MECC: The big six

The Macau European Chamber of Commerce (MECC) was born this year, made up of the Portuguese, British,

Irish, German, French and Romanian chambers.

Chairman Franklin Willemyns said there are about 500 members, the majority already affiliated to one of the six chambers.

The idea came up last year, when Europeans realised that many of the existing chambers had similar interests and were organising the same types of activities. "We realised all of these associations were relatively small and sometimes we offered more or less the same thing, so that gave us the idea to do something together," he said.

There are citizens of other European countries living in Macao with no chamber; an organisation like MECC might prove useful to them. "There are many European countries without any representation, like the Spanish, the Dutch, the Belgians, and these may be interested in having an organisation that can help them with commercial contacts with Macao." They are in the early stages; after organising a gala dinner, they have found a few sponsors and are now on the verge of setting up an office.

Their goals are to promote trade, friendship and exchange and offer a platform to help and do interesting things for the members. Willemyns

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believes that, with the government's plans to diversify the economy of Macao, Europe as a whole has a lot to offer. He expects trade to continue to grow with Europe in all sectors, considering it is "the largest market in the world", covering a whole variety of products. They intend to work closely with the Hong Kong European Chamber of Commerce, which is different to the MECC. "It's different, because Hong Kong's is a chamber of chambers, and we accept members." Looking to the future, Willemyns said that the MECC will organise the

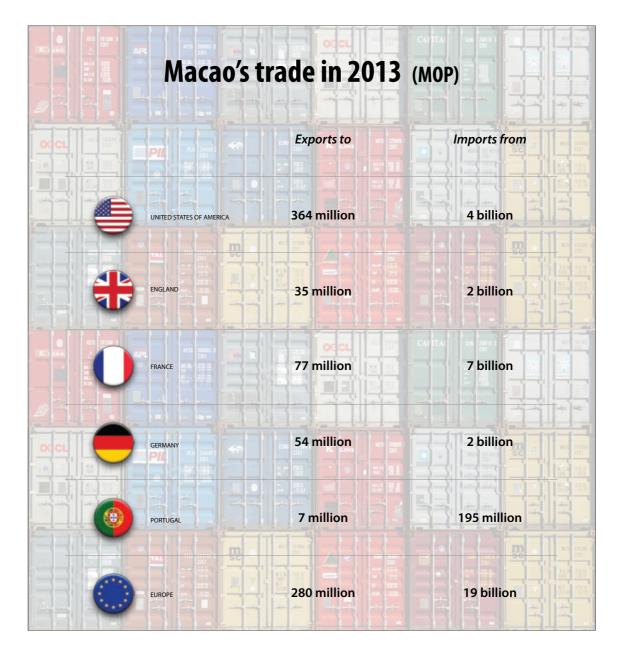
European pavilion at the next Macau International Trade Fair.

Filipe Cunha Santos, one of the founding members of MECC, says that all six chambers of commerce had common interests and concerns, such as the difficulties of importing labour and high rents.

"Each chamber has its set of members that reflects a specialty area. The French have an interest in retail; the German in cars, equipment and motors,"

he said. "I don't see Italy's cars competing with Germany's cars – they are two different markets."

Photos by Cheong Kam Ka





# Life of a Steadfast Patriot

# Leader of Macao of 60 years dies, given full national honours

By Mark O'Neill in Macao

At the end of May, Ma Man-kei, one of the most important figures in Macao of the last 60 years, passed away in Beijing at the age of 95.

He moved to the city in 1941 to escape the Japanese. He went into business as a trader of goods and became an early supporter of the new Communist government.

In the 1950s, together with Henry Fok Ying-tung, he defied the trade embargo imposed by the US on China to punish it for entering the Korean War on the Northern side. He purchased goods from third countries and shipped them to China despite the embargo.

He earned the trust and confidence of a new government that was rebuilding the country after 20 years of war. Before China and Portugal established diplomatic relations in 1979, he played an important role as a middleman between the two sides

He and Fok also played a key role in the early years of the reform era by investing and encouraging others to invest in the Pearl River Delta.

He was also an important figure in drafting the constitution for Macao after its handover in 1999, as vice-chairman of the committee that drafted the Basic Law for the SAR.

These contributions earned him the undying thanks of the government in Beijing. His loyalty was recognised by generations of the national leadership, including Deng Xiaoping.

After he went into hospital in Beijing in 2007, then President Hu Jintao came to visit him during the Lunar New Year holiday. On 1 February last year (2013), President Xi Jinping also came to pay his respects.

For 20 years, Ma was a vice-chairman of the Chinese People Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the top advisory body to the central government, and the Macao person with the highest status in the national leadership.

His is one of the three leading families of Macao, together with those of the two post-1999 Chief Executives, Edmund Ho Hau Wah and Chui Sai On.

The main business of his companies was trading grain and export of Chinese products; Ma had an extensive network in the mainland, Hong Kong and Macao, in the business and political fields. In his later years, after his health declined, he entrusted the family businesses to his children.



Chui Sai On (I.) and Edmund Ho Hau Wah (r.) during the memorial service

# Memorial service

After his death, Ma's body was flown to Macao for burial on 29 May, the coffin draped in the national flag. On the morning of 1 June, a large public memorial service was held for him at the Forum in Zape.

The attendance and the wreaths reflected the high status in which Ma was held in Beijing and Macao. There were wreaths from President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Keqiang, Zhang Dejiang, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, the State Council and the national committee of the CPP and the Guangdong provincial government.

The wreaths were so numerous that they stretched around the hall, in front of the Museum of Arts and along the road.

Edmund Ho Hau Wah presided over the ceremony. Du Qinglin, vice-chairman of the CPPCC, read the eulogy, in which he praised Ma's patriotism, dedication, charity work and community service. "He

was modest, simple and honest. He dedicated his life to the development and progress of his country and the prosperity and stability of Macao. His death is a great loss to Macao and to the country."

The service closed after 90 minutes and the coffin closed and was covered with the national flag. His remains were buried later that day at a cemetery in Taipa.

# Rare praise and sympathy

His passing provoked an outpouring of praise and sympathy.

The Liaison Office of the central government in Macao, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council and the People's Liberation Army issued separate statements, offering their profound condolences to Ma's family.

They described him as a well-known patriot and a close friend of the Communist Party of China.

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They praised him for his active involvement in the anti-Nationalist war, his contribution to economic development after 1949 and his support for reform and open-door policy.

Such fulsome tributes are rare for someone who lives outside the mainland and is not a senior member of the party.

Ma was for decades a pillar of the community in Macao. He was the permanent chairman of the Macao Chamber of Commerce, a long-time lawmaker and the chairman of many charitable and sporting associations, in addition to the businesses he ran.

Chief Executive Chui Sai On praised Ma as a great Chinese leader in Macao, as politician, entrepreneur and philanthropist. "Ma had helped Macao when the city faced difficulties ... he is a role model worth learning from."

Edmund Ho Hau Wah, the first Chief Executive of Macao after 1999, praised Ma for "loving the country, loving Macao and loving his hometown". He is survived by seven daughters and two sons.

# Early life

Born in Nanhai, Guangdong on 21 October 1919, he grew up in Guangzhou. He was educated at primary and middle school in Nansha. He started working in the family food trading business and took it over after his father passed away.

In 1938, to escape the Japanese occupation of Guangzhou, he moved to Hong Kong where he set up a company named Tai Sheng Yong Yu Chang and was its manager.

In 1941, he escaped from the Japanese again and moved to Macao, the only city in East Asia that they did not occupy. With friends, he set up four trading and finance companies and acted as their general manager. For the next four years, he supplied materials to the mainland for the war against Japan. In 1944, he held senior posts on the board of the Kiang Wu Hospital.

In 1946, with Ho Ping and Ho Yin, he established San Chong Hong. In the following year, he formed the Da Hua trading company and was its general manager and chairman.



Henry Ying Tung Fok (I.) with Ma Man-kei (r.) in March 1997



Ma Man-kei, in March 1998, during the 9th CPPCC National Committee meeting in Beijing

In 1947, Ma began to build a relationship with the Communist Party, one of the first business leaders in Macao to do so. He was an early supporter of the party. One photograph dated 1 October 1950 shows him and other city leaders at a celebration in Macao of the first year of the new state.

# Breaking trade embargo

In October 1950, Chinese troops entered the Korean War on the Northern side. On 3 December, the US Commerce Department announced a revocation of the general licence for exports to China, Hong Kong and Macao. Any person or company who wanted to export had to apply for a licence – and none was given.

But America's allies did not follow the embargo so strictly. Britain insisted that trading with China was vital for Hong Kong's survival. After 1950, goods like rubber and pharmaceutical goods were shipped to China via Hong Kong, despite the strong opposition of the US Congress.

The new government that took power in 1949 was desperately in need of many kinds of imports. The economy was in a perilous situation after two decades of war. To obtain these imports, it needed the help of businessmen in Hong Kong and Macao with the contacts to buy them and the courage to risk punishment by the US if they were found out.

Henry Fok Ying-tung was the most famous embargo-buster. He imported steel, rubber and other items into China but denied reports that he was trafficking weapons. Ma imported grain, daily necessities and other items.

For this, both men earned the undying gratitude of the leaders of the new government and a trust they would enjoy until the end of their lives.

Ma also played an important role in Macao history after Portuguese soldiers from Africa killed 11 people and injured 200 on 3 December 3 1966.

It followed two weeks of protest after police arrested people trying to build a private school in Taipa without a licence. Angry, protesters attacked statues in public places and burned archives, some irreplaceable, at the Leal Senado.

The killings were a critical moment for the city. The government in Portugal was willing to hand it over to China; enraged, the public wanted a full accounting of the deaths.

At that time, Beijing and Lisbon had no diplomatic

relations. So Ma, together with Ho Yin and Chui Tak-kei, stepped forward as mediators between the two sides. They negotiated an agreement under which Portugal signed a statement of apology on 29 January 1967.

It was rare for a colonial power to make such an admission; it was a recognition by Lisbon of Chinese control of Macao and that it only controlled the administration at the behest of the mainland government.

Ma and his two colleagues played a key role in controlling a volatile situation, between the public influenced by the Cultural Revolution over the border and a government weary of its commitment to a distant colony. Without their intervention, public order could have been lost and the city could have descended into chaos.

# Active in business and society

The main business of Ma's companies was trading, especially the export of Chinese products. He was very active in business associations, especially the Macao Chamber of Commerce. He was first elected vice-chairman in 1950 and held the post until April 1984, when he was elected chairman after the death of Ho Yin the previous year. He remained an active leader until the decline of his health; he held the post of 'permanent chairman'.

He also served on the boards of companies on the mainland, including Guangzhou International Trust and Investment Company, Guangdong Overseas Chinese Investment Company and China International Trust and Investment Company.

He was also active in many sectors of life in Macao, especially education, health and sport, serving as chairman of the associations of basketball, ping pong, swimming and Chinese chess. He was also chairman of the boards of several primary and secondary schools.

### Reform era

His next great contribution to the motherland came after the start of reform and open-door era in 1978. China wanted foreign capital and technology to revitalise its economy but outside investors were nervous to put their money in a Communist state with a planned economy.

Macao july, 2014 49

Like Henry Fok, Ma invested his own money in projects in the Pearl River Delta. The two used their extensive contacts in Macao, Hong Kong and the overseas diaspora to bring in this investment.

The early years were critical. When others saw the success of the original investors, they were willing to follow. The initial trickle became a flood. China is now one of the biggest recipients of foreign investments in the world.

In recognition of his work, Ma was chosen as a representative of the CPPCC in August 1980. In March 1993, he was elected as a vice-chairman of the institution, the first Macao person to hold so high a post and become a national leader. He retained this position for the next 20 years.

In the 1970s and 1980s, he met Deng Xiaoping several times. In 1998, Deng personally wrote a title for a selection of poetry published by Ma.

He played an important role in preparing for Macao's handover before 1999. He was vice-chairman of the committee for the drafting of the Basic Law for the SAR and on the selection committee to choose the

first Chief Executive.

In 2001, he received the Grand Lotus Medal from the SAR government, the first person to have this honour.

# **Declining health**

In December 2006, a problem with his heart required him to go for treatment in the Kiang Wu hospital in Macao. Given his national stature, the central government sent a team to escort him to the PLA 301 hospital in Beijing, which treats the most senior members of the party and the government.

On 20 February 2007, then President Hu Jintao went to visit him in the Beijing hospital. He remained there until his passing away on 26 May this year.

He is survived by seven daughters and two sons. His wife of 57 years died in Kiang Wu hospital in January 2000, at the age of 81.

His son, Ma Iao Lai, is current president of the Macao Chamber of Commerce and his grandson, Ma Chi Seng, is a local lawmaker.

Photos by Xinhua News Agency and Macao's Government Information Bureau



Ma Man-kei receiving the Grand Lotus Medal in 2001

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# ANGOLA-CHINA Partners in Africa



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# Macao newsline

# 2014/05/22

### Cash handouts to start on July

The government announced that it will start paying the 652,808 beneficiaries of its annual "wealth sharing" scheme in July, costing the government about 5.65 billion patacas ( US\$ 706.25 million)— 3.6 percent of its budget for this year.

The scheme provides all permanent residents with a cash handout of 9,000 patacas this year, up from 8,000 patacas last year; non-permanent residents will receive 5,400 patacas, up from 4,800 patacas last year. The scheme was started in 2008 when the amount was 5,000 patacas and 3,000 patacas for the two population groups respectively.

According to the government, students who receive a government subsidy, retired public servants and residents who receive subsidies from the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) will receive their cash by bank transfer on July 2, followed by those who receive an IAS special subsidy for residents aged 65 or above. Everybody else will start receiving their money from July 7, the older residents first, in a ten-week period. Most beneficiaries will receive their "wealth-sharing" cheque in the post.

Macao's population stood at 614,500 at the end of the first quarter, including about 145,000 imported workers who are not entitled to the cash handout. However, permanent and non-permanent residents not living in Macao are entitled to the handout. Tens of thousands of Macao residents live in Hong Kong, the mainland and Taiwan as well as overseas in countries such as Australia, Portugal, the US, Canada and Brazil.



# 2014/05/28

# General Ye's house opened in Macao

After two years of restoration commissioned by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), General Ye's house has officially been opened in Macao to the public marking the 68th anniversary of his death.

Located at No. 76 Rua Almirante Costa Cabral (close to the Lou Lim leoc Garden), the yellow-painted house is the former residence of famous Chinese revolutionary General Ye Ting.

In order to commend the General's contribution to the Chinese revolution and to promote patriotic education, the Macao government has carried out a renovation of the residence.

The original appearance of the house has been restored, and it contains a photo exhibition showcasing Ye's life.

General Ye Ting was one of the founders of the People's Liberation Army, a commander of the New Fourth Army and a distinguished military strategist. From 1931 to 1937, General Ye Ting lived in Macao with his family, until the breakout of the Second Sino-Japanese War.





# 2014/06/03

# GDP grows 12.4 pct in 1st quarter

Macao's gross domestic product (GDP) rose 12.4 percent year-on-year in real terms in the first quarter, the Statistics and Census Bureau (DSEC) has announced.

GDP amounted to 115.4 billion patacas in the first quarter. It stood at 119.2 billion patacas in the previous quarter, which recorded a year-on-year growth of 14.3 percent.

A DSEC statement attributed the first quarter's strong – but decelerated – economic growth to the city's increase in exports of services and investment, of which exports of gaming services and other tourism services rose 13 percent and 6.6 percent respectively. Private investment leapt 39.8 percent and merchandise exports grew 13.4 percent. GDP's nominal growth amounted to 22 percent in the first quarter.

Last year's GDP growth stood at 11.9 percent.
Macao's GDP reached a record 413.5 billion patacas
last year when GDP per capita amounted to
US\$87,306, according to previous DSEC figures – one
of the world's highest.



# 2014/06/04

# Neolithic/Bronze Age site found in Cologne

The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has discovered what is believed to be a late Neolithic (New Stone Age) or early Bronze Age site, dating back to 3,000 to 3,800 years, in the old quarters of Coloane. According to the IC, it is the first time that any proof of cooking by ancient peoples has been discovered in Macao.

According to bureau's archaeologist Ng Waihung,, as the team began to dig they found dozens of items, such as plates and pots, believed to belong to the late Qing Dynasty (1644-1912). The deeper they went they began to find dozens of pottery fragments, possibly from the late Neolithic or the early Bronze Age, 3,000 to 3,800 years ago.

Ng said he believes that it is very likely that there are other archaeological sites in the area. According to Ng, this is the first time there has been an archaeological discovery in Macao showing that the ancient peoples used cooking utensils.



# Macao newsline

# 2014/05/08

# Tourist Office proposes 4 new walking tours in Macao

The Macao Government Tourist Office (MGTO) announced the proposed routes of four new walking tours in Macao, with one each in Taipa and Coloane, one in St Anthony's Parish and one in the northern district.

Addressing a press conference, MGTO Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes said her office would conduct surveys with shop owners and residents in the neighbourhoods where the routes pass through, while local citizens could submit their ideas online on the MGTO website.

"We'll try to officially announce the final version of the four routes on September 27, World Tourism Day, since the first four routes were announced on that day last year," said Senna Fernandes.

The route in Coloane would mostly cover the area around Rua dos Navegantes and Avenida de Cinco de Outubro where tourists can visit landmarks such as Tin Hau Temple, Kun lam Temple and Tam Kung Temple. The route in Taipa covers Rua da Cunha and the Taipa-Houses Museum.

The route in the northern district would include the Ox Warehouse, Lin Zexu Memorial Museum and Lin Fung Temple while the one in St. Anthony's Parish, the longest of the four proposed routes, would take in landmarks such as the Santo Antonio Church, Luis de Camões Garden and the Fire Service Museum.



# 2014/05/12

# Macao's population reached 614,500

Macao's population reached 614,500 at the end of the first quarter, an increase of 7,000 over the previous quarter, the Statistics and Census Bureau (DSEC) has announced

Females accounted for 51.2 percent of the total.

The number of non-resident workers stood at 145,692 at the end of the first quarter, an increase of 7,854 quarter-to-quarter. Imported workers accounted for 23.7 percent of the population at the end of March.

A total of 1,637 live births were recorded in the first quarter, an increase of 6.8 percent over the previous quarter. The gender ratio stood at 104.4, corresponding to 104.4 male per 100 female babies.





# 2014/05/26

# Visitors rise 9 percent to 10.3 million in the first four months of the year

Macao recorded 10.3 million visitors arrivals in the first four months of the year, a year-onyear growth of nine percent, the Statistics and Census Bureau (DSEC) has announced. According to the DSEC, in April Macao recorded 2.63 million visitor arrivals, a year-on-year growth of 10 percent, Mainlanders accounted for two thirds of all visitor arrivals in April. Visitors from Guangdong province made up 39.3 percent of all mainland visitors. Hong Kong and Taiwan residents accounted for 22.2 and three percent of all visitor arrivals respectively.



# 2014/06/13

# Seventy injured as jetfoil crashes off Macao's Outer Harbor

A jetfoil traveling from Hong Kong to Macao on Friday crashed into a breakwater, injuring 70 people, one of whom required surgery.

The vessel was carrying 220 passengers and 13 crew members when it hit the seawall before listing to its right off Macao's Outer Harbour.

The Marine and Water Bureau revealed that preliminary investigations show that the captain of the jetfoil failed to make a turn, leading the ferry to crash into the breakwater.

According to a statement issued by the Macao government, a Hong Kong resident underwent surgery.

The Macao government said it will be launching an investigation into the accident.



# Macao newsline

# 2014/06/03

# Macao's gaming revenues hit USS 4 billion in May

Macao's gaming revenue increased 9.3 percent in May, reaching MOP 32.4 billion (US\$ 4 billion), according to data released by the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau.

Results lagged behind analysts' expectations, which were set at between 13 and 15 percent, with gaming revenue growth the slowest it has been in four months.

Over the first quarter of this year, gambling revenue rose 20 percent to MOP 102.2 billion (US\$ 12.775 billion). Macao has 35 casinos.



# 2014/06/13

# Giant panda Sum Sum dies of kidney failure

Giant panda girl Sum Sum, literally meaning 'heart heart', died of kidney failure, just before her sixth birthday in July and leaving her companion Hoi Hoi alone in the spacious enclosure in Seac Pai Van Park.

The combined names of Hoi Hoi and Sum Sum literally mean "happiness".

The state-of-the-art giant panda pavilion is situated in Seac Pai Van Park and costs the government 90 million patacas to build,. The pavilion will be closed until further notice.

Sum Sum was born on July 26, 2008, the first giant panda born after the devastating Sichuan earthquake in May 2008.

Hoi Hoi also a twin, was born in August 2008. The Macao government said that Hoi Hoi, who lives separately from Sum Sum, is healthy but they would keep a close eye on his condition.

The central government announced in 2009 that it would give Macao a pair of giant pandas to mark the 10th anniversary of Macao's return to Chinese administration. The pair arrived in Macao from Chengdu in December 2010 and met the public for the first time in January 2011.

"Hoi Hoi" and "Sum Sum" are the panda pair's name in Cantonese, although the government uses the Putonghua pronunciation "Kai Kai" and "Xin Xin" when referring to them in English.



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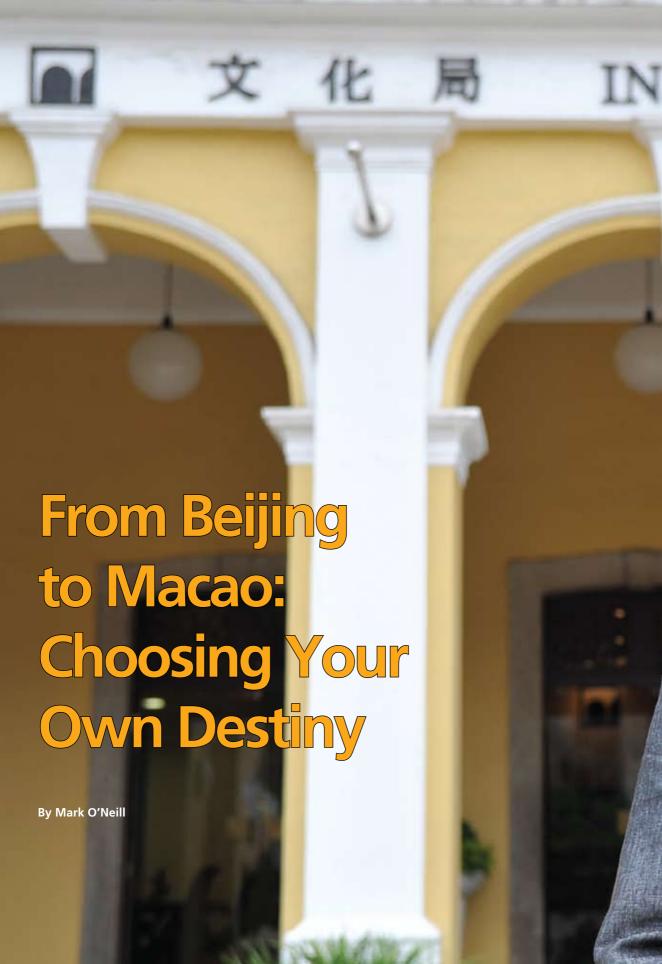












# STITUTO CULTURAL Yao Jing Ming

In 1975, Yao Jing Ming was planting rice, weeding the soil and driving a tractor in a state farm in a suburb of Beijing. The winter months were long and cold and conditions of life primitive.

Today, as vice-president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, he looks out over Tap Seac Square from the first-floor office of an elegant colonial building. He is a poet and translator, with works published in Portuguese and Chinese, and has a substantial budget to spend on publishing and promoting the arts.

It has been a long and unexpected journey, driven by his own talent and determination as well as the vagaries of a system that takes the destiny of individuals out of their own hands. The journey has taken him from Beijing to Lisbon and, in 1992, to Macao where he has settled.

He has written poetry in Chinese and Portuguese and translated some of the most important Portuguese poets.

In 2006, the President of Portugal awarded him the Ordem Militar de Santiago de Espada for his contributions to the country's literature. In December 2013, he was awarded the Cross-Strait Poet Laureate Prize.

# Learning revolution in Spanish

Yao was born in 1958 in Beijing, the son of a modest family; his father worked in a transport firm. He was in primary school when the Cultural Revolution began in 1966.

His school was shut down; like many others, his teachers were paraded around the compound with banners around their necks as the pupils shouted at them. He and his fellow students spent the time reciting the works of Chairman Mao and learning how to be a good revolutionary.

In 1969, some schools reopened. Yao was chosen to go to a school under the Beijing Foreign Language University (BFLU) and study Spanish. This school had previously been limited to children of senior cadres. Yao was helped by the class background of his father: at that time, it was best to be the child of a farmer, worker or soldier.

"Two of us were chosen to study Spanish. Others were chosen to study Russian, French and English. It was part of the plan of Prime Minister Zhou Enlai to train people with foreign language skills. Neither I nor my mother knew where Spain was. She said:

"Why not study English?" In those days, everything was assigned. I was very happy; it was a good opportunity."

He spent seven years at the school. Learning Spanish was no easy task; the teacher had to write the material himself and most was related to the revolutionary culture of the time, with stories of evil landlords and heroic farmers and workers. They had no access to Spanish radio or television.

"I did not know who (Miguel de) Cervantes was. We did have one native teacher, a member of the Spanish Communist Party who had fought as a guerilla in the civil war and taken refuge in China." After graduation, Yao was sent, like millions of other young urban people, to "learn from the farmers" and work in the countryside. He was fortunate – he was not sent to Heilongjiang or a frontier region but a suburb of Beijing. He lived in a building with other students.

"Life was very harsh. I planted rice and drove a tractor. There was no chemical fertiliser so we shovelled the human variety. I learnt a great deal about life in the countryside. I was able to see my parents once a month. Now the area is full of expensive residential housing, near the fourth and fifth ring road."

# **Turning point**

In 1976, China re-instated the university entrance exam; anyone could apply, whatever their class background. It was a turning point for Yao and thousands of other young people. Since it was the first such exam for ten years, competition was fierce; many applicants were in their 20s, having been denied the opportunity to apply before.

Yao applied to study Portuguese and Spanish at the BFLU. Although he only scored 23 (out of 100) in his mathematics test, he secured a place, one of only two in the 40 in his group in the village to enter university.

"My parents and I were very happy. The rest of my team had to go back to the farm. Going to university was one of the very few ways to change your life and your destiny. It meant that I no longer had to do farm work."

Conditions for study were not good. There was a limited supply of books; many were banned as "Western poison". The students had no access

66 July, 2014 Medalo



to Portuguese radio or television. When a rare Portuguese or Brazilian came to class, the teacher recorded their words and used them later as a text. "It was a very precious opportunity. We lived in the school and studied every night in the library. I went home once a week. I did not especially like Portuguese. My destiny was chosen by others."

He graduated at the end of 1981 and was assigned to research Portuguese literature at the Research Institute of Foreign Languages. He worked there for five years; during this time, he completed translation of "I Love with Words" by Eugenio de Andrade.

Conditions improved but there was little interaction with foreigners.

### Move to Lisbon

In 1987, he was transferred to the Chinese embassy in Lisbon, as a translator. "It was a very big change for me. It opened my view of the world and made me realise the meaning of life. You need to choose it yourself and not let it be chosen for you. Only when you do what you like can you be free and happy."

His workload was not too heavy. He became a close friend of Maria Ondina Braga, who has written two novels set in Macao; through her, he met other authors, who encouraged him in his composition and translation work. He has published books of poems in Portuguese and Chinese, as well as done many translations; he used the pen-name Yao Feng.

"Poetry is very important. It gives meaning to my life," he said.

After three years, he decided that diplomatic life was not for him. He signed a two-year contract with a company in Macao, where he moved in 1992. After completing his contract, he moved to the University of Macau, where he became a teacher of Portuguese.

### New life

"It was not so hard to adapt, even if people here speak Cantonese, not Mandarin. It is a Chinese city," he said.

It was a stable and busy life. In addition to teaching, he worked as a translator. He also found time to earn an M.A. in Portuguese literature at the University of Macau and a PhD at Fudan University in Shanghai; his thesis was the image of China in Portuguese literature.

Then, out of the blue, he was invited to become vice-president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, a post he took up on 1 September 2012.

It is a prestigious and important position; it means a heavy administrative load and little time for writing and translating poetry.

# Many projects

His responsibilities include handling scholarships for research, publishing, and the promotion of reading among the public.

On behalf of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), he organised with the Portuguese newspaper Ponto Final the third Macao Literature Festival from 20 - 30 March this year. It featured a wide variety of famous writers and artists from mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the Portuguese-speaking countries; it was held in Chinese, Portuguese and English.

Among its existing publications is a Review of Culture, a scholarly quarterly in Portuguese and English, with articles on history, literature and culture.

"We are re-starting the role of IC as a publisher. Macao is a historical platform of which we should make full use," he said. "We can translate Chinese classics into Portuguese, so that the people in Portuguese-speaking countries can read them. Macao can do this."

He also wants to set up a translation centre, in cooperation with Portuguese publishers.

"Chinese and Portuguese have lived together for 500 years but know little of each other. In Macao, they pass each other many times a week but do not know each other's names. While Portuguese have written a lot about China during 500 years, we have little knowledge of them. We do not have a good and profound book on the culture and identity of Portuguese people. I would like to write about this subject and it could be my next project."

The IC is publishing a collection of translations of Portuguese and Chinese literature that will include Macao, Portuguese and Chinese writers, for example the lyric poems of Camoes or Mo Yan, who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 2012.

The IC will also publish, in cooperation with the prestigious Beijing People's Publishing House, Chinese translations of important books in English, Portuguese or other languages about mainland China and Macao, such as Mandarim by Portuguese writer Eca de Queiroz or City of Broken Promises by Austin Coates. "We want to publish about four-five such books every year."

Yao is organising a revision of Academic Research Scholarship regulations in order to attract more high-level scholars to apply for this scholarship dedicated to studies of Macao's history and culture.

Also on the schedule is a series of Master Talks, through which the IC invites eminent scholars, writers and artists to speak. One of them is Jose Gil from Portugal, philosopher and author of the influential book O Medo de existir (The Fear to Exit), who will come to Macao in September.

Yao said that the IC is working to set up the Literature House of Macao that will be a good space to encourage reading among its people and a place of exchange between local and outside writers.

All these projects make for a heavy schedule – but he still finds the time for his first love, poetry and poetry translation. Poetry gives significance to the monotonous side of life.

Photos by Cheong Kam Ka

68 July, 2014 McGaO

\*

the sea, a big blue tiger
roar recklessly
He wants to get out of his big cage
a cage is still a cage
even if it's big

in a city far away
a man who has never seen sea
leaves the tap on
thinking that this
can connect him with the sea

\*

大海,藍色的老虎 肆意咆哮 他想衝出巨大的籠子 籠子,不因為巨大 而不是籠子

而在那個遙遠的城市 一個從沒見過大海的人 徹夜擰開水龍頭 想以此 接通與大海的聯繫

> 絕句 姚風 IN BRIEF YAO FENG



**Productivity Centre trains Macao people for the future** 

By Ou Nian-le



In April, Macao fashion designer Ng Seung-yim went to Taiwan to take part in the 2014 Taipei Exhibition of Glamour, where she showed her latest outfits to an international audience.

Supporting local people like Ng in furthering their careers is the aim of the Macao Productivity and Technology Transfer Centre (MPTTC), a body established in 1996 by the government and the private sector with the mission of enhancing the competitiveness of local enterprises and improving the professional skills of the city's people.

Each year it organises 900-1,000 courses in four fields – information technology, management, business languages and apparel technology; they have more than 20,000 enrolments. In addition,

it holds public examinations in professional fields, which are attended by over 4,000 applicants a year. It has lived through a dramatic 18 years – the return of Macao to China and an astonishing growth in its economy. Macao's GDP last year reached 413.5 billion patacas, seven times the 59.4 billion in 1996. The centre aims to help the city's workforce improve their professional and technical skills to keep up with this growth and change.

Ng is one of many who has benefited from the centre's help. Another is Lei Meng Seng who attended its one-year course in fashion, design and manufacturing and went on to set up his own ZICS label, which he has shown at international shows.

# Early days

"The centre is a non-profit association backed by the government and the private sector," said Helena Lei, a senior manager, in an interview.

"It was set up in 1996 to meet the needs of the community. Originally, its training services were provided by a unit of the former Economics Department which was integrated here. We have 71 associates, with a 51 percent share held by the government and 49 percent held by various companies, industry associations, higher education institutions and entrepreneurs."

Its mission is to improve the competitiveness and long-term growth and profitability of local firms, encourage and support the formation of new businesses, guicken the pace of industrial diversification and help to upgrade the quality of the

workforce. It aims to help local firms to apply new concepts effectively, and to implement information and resources to upgrade the value of their products and services.

Its long-term aim is to promote the higher productivity and stronger competitiveness of the Macao economy.

It receives its annual operating costs from the government, as well as self-generated income, mainly fees paid by the students. Costs range from 300-600 patacas for a oneday workshop to around 3-6,000 patacas for a 30-40-plus hour course leading to professional certification. These fees are to recover the costs of providing the training.

"We work closely with the business sector and industry associations. We have functional committees with entrepreneurs, representatives of local firms and government departments that provide feedback," Lei said.

The aim is to ensure that the centre provides training and support services that companies need and is in line with the direction of the economy. It is also a hub for public examinations, where applicants can sit for professional qualifications.

One key part of its work is its services to support local small and medium enterprises (SMEs). It provides a series of training courses to equip companies with the managerial and technological know-how that they need.

"Most firms in Macao are small and medium-sized with limited resources and access to information, so we provide them with information support, advisory services and technology facilitation," said Lei. "We have a particular emphasis on supporting business start-ups and SMEs with management training and IT applications. These include a series of software for accounting, point of sale (POS) and calculation of wages. These firms have limited resources, so we use open-source software, localise it with a Chinese interface, package it with a user manual and charge a nominal price of 30 patacas for the software or



Helena Le

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50 patacas for the software plus training."

For those working in hotels, restaurants and other service industries, there are courses ranging from grooming, etiquette, customer service, managerial techniques to business languages.

The centre provides courses in business Putonghua, Cantonese, French, German, Portuguese and Japanese. Last year the city received 29.3 million tourists from all over the world. Its hotels, restaurants and casinos want to provide as many languages as possible to their clients.

Most of the classes are conducted in Cantonese and some in English. The instructors come from Macao, Hong Kong, the mainland and a small number from overseas. "Our training is not higher education but professional and vocational," she said. "We have to keep the content up to date and upgrade the instructors. They need to be both academically or professionally qualified and active practitioners in their field."

"Our courses are open to the local workforce, who are either Macao residents or imported labourers," said Lei. "We are very happy to help them grow." Non-Macao people account for 25 percent of the city's workforce.

Macao has one of the lowest unemployment rates

in the world, only 1.7 percent in January. One outcome of this is that, at any one time, there are many vacancies; it is often hard for companies to retain staff.

Lei said that the centre tried to help owners grow their businesses and make their staff see the potential in them. "We equip the staff to grow the business."

# Keeping the higher added-value

Traditionally, garment manufacturing was the most important industrial sector in Macao.

"This used to be a big industry in Macao," said Lei. "Then the majority of production moved to the mainland, Vietnam, Cambodia and other lower-cost countries. We want to preserve the higher-added value aspects in Macao, such as design, marketing, branding and retail. We have a long history of helping this industry."

The centre offers a one-year diploma course for fashion design and manufacturing, the only one of its kind in Macao. It also offers an incubation programme for graduates; they join a design team and have to actually produce a design collection which will be showcased in different catwalk shows.

Lei Meng Seng is one of the successful students of this course. He was one of the representatives of Macao at Hong Kong Fashion Week – Spring/ Summer Collection Fashion Show in July 2013. It brought together 17,000 buyers from 74 countries and 1,250 exhibitors from 21 countries and regions. After finishing the course, he decided to create his own label, ZICS, and works in a small studio in an industrial building in the north of the city, where a number of fashion designers have space provided by the government.

Presently, he cannot afford to create full-time or open his own store; he has another full-time job and works on fashion in his spare time.

Ng Seung-yim is advancing on a different path. She was a supervisor in a garment factory and worked as an instructor of garment-making at the centre for a number of years. She has opened a store in Macao selling her designs.

She went to the Taipei show as part of the delegation arranged by the centre. It regularly organises such participation for Macao designers at regional shows and holds a fashion festival in the city; all of these are part of its support for the sector.

# Making food safer

Along with the dramatic growth of the tourism industry in the last decade, the restaurant and catering sector has developed exponentially. It is another focus of the centre.

In October 2013, the government passed a Food Safety Law, which involved the setting up of a Food Safety Centre, to improve controls; it includes food safety surveillance, risk assessment and the development of standards.

"Since the very beginning, another key area of service has been to support local firms to get certified to international management standards. Our work in this particular sector began several years ago," said Lei. "One of the main reasons visitors come here is to try the local food and flavours. Food is a signature industry of Macao. Small restaurants have to give confidence to clients. They are expert cooks but are concerned about food safety and service.

"For the small firms, we provide tool books based on international guidelines. They have simplified checklists. Especially when small firms start to grow and become chain stores, the need for a more





systematic approach to management becomes an issue," she said. Firms want to learn more about ISO (International Organization for Standardization) or other international management standards and certification.

In March, she told the audience at a seminar that, ever since the introduction of ISO 22000 on food safety management in 2005, more and more small and medium-size enterprises, such as suppliers of bread, cakes, meat, coffee and distilled water, were working towards obtaining the certification.

Since 2005, the centre has set up a series of courses and hosted international examinations related to food safety management; it introduced guidebooks in 2008.

"With the opening of international hotels and resorts in the past few years, food and catering suppliers have become quickly aware that their clients demand high standards of food quality and safety. The ISO standard covers everything from materials purchasing to food preparation, risk assessment and control. It also requires compliance with local laws and regulations. For example, according to the Food Safety Law, businesses must make sure that food products are from safe sources and keep the purchase and sales records.

"If companies know about it, they will know what to expect and what to do when doing business with their clients," she said. "To help alleviate the cost of obtaining the certification, the centre has an incentive scheme that provides subsidies of up to 40,000 patacas for first-time certification to companies that want to attain it."

#### Macao born and bred

Lei was born into a modest family in Macao, where she received her primary and secondary education, and went to the United States to pursue higher education.

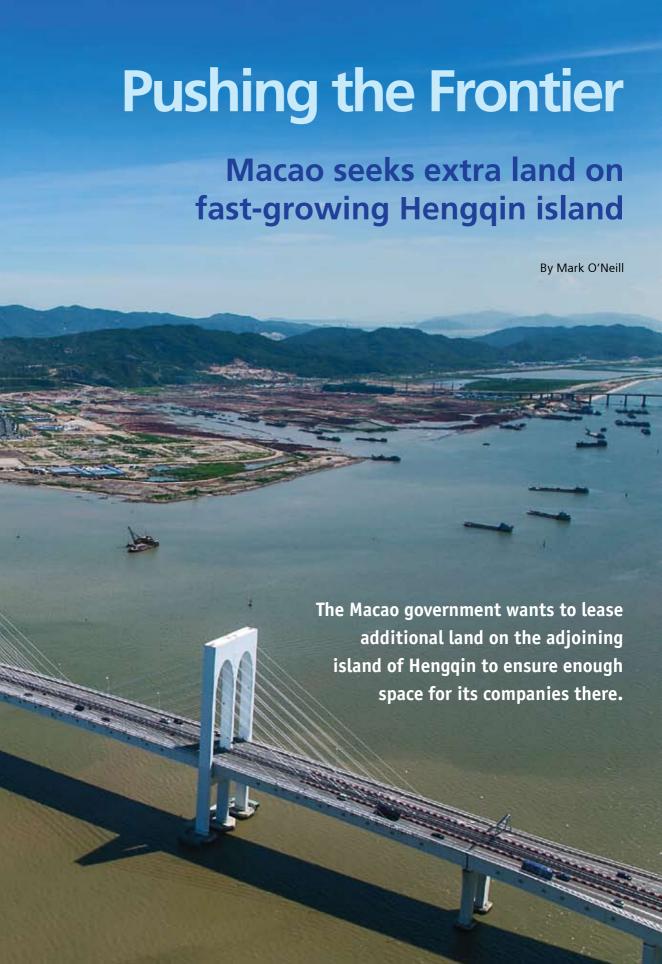
She graduated in 1992 with a Masters degree in Business Administration from the University of Hawaii and moved back to Macao, where she got her second MSc degree in Information Technology at the Inter-University Institute of Macau, now the University of St Joseph. She joined the centre in its founding year.

Herearly managerial career was in the field of statistics, tariffs and forecasting in the telecommunications sector. She then moved into quality management and training development.

She was among the first batch of ISO 9001 Quality Management assessors trained in Macao. In the late 1990s, she went to Lisbon to learn auditing at the Portuguese Association of Certification (APCER). She is a senior member of the American Society for Quality, and has been a member of the Public Sector Service Assessment Committee of the Macao S.A.R. Government since 2007.

Photos by Cheong Kam Ka







Declared a special zone just five years ago, the island has grown at an astonishing speed; the price of its land has soared from next to nothing to double that of the urban area of Zhuhai. The SAR government wants to make sure that Macao has its fair share of the cake.

In April 2009, the State Council declared Hengqin a special zone. Part of Zhuhai city, it covers an area of 106.5 square kilometres and is next to Macao, with distance between them only 180 metres at the closest point.

Its land area is three times that of Macao; but in 2009 it had a population of only several thousand people, mostly farmers and fishermen, with poor roads and communications with the rest of the city. The transformation since then has been remarkable, even by the standards of the world's fastest growing economy.

Two major projects have been completed from scratch and have opened for business – the new campus of the University of Macau and the Ocean Kingdom of the Chimelong Group, the world's largest marine theme park covering 132 hectares and with an investment of 20 billion yuan.

More such projects are under construction. According to the Hengqin New District Management Committee (HNDMC), fixed investment in the island last year was 20.43 billion; and the figure will be higher in 2014.

More than 4,000 companies have registered in the zone, including 101 from Macao and Hong Kong, most of them in the service sector.

According to Niu Jing, director of HNAMC, the main business sectors on the island will be tourism, leisure, culture and creative arts and finance.

# The place of Macao

The development of Hengqin has always been intimately connected with Macao. In its announcement of the new zone, the State Council said that its role included supporting Macao in its goal of becoming a world tourism and leisure centre and helping to diversify its economy.

With the boom in the gambling industry of Macao over the last ten years, the city is running out of land and property prices have soared, up to four times more than those on Hengqin. It badly needs more

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Central Rusiness area

land for its people and its businesses.

The island set aside an area of 4.5 square kilometres as a joint Guangdong-Macao industrial zone, in addition to the 1.0899 square kilometres for the campus of the University of Macau.

In November 2013, 89 Macao companies applied to set up business in the new zone. The SAR government selected 33 and submitted their names to the HNDMC. They involve a total investment of 140 billion yuan.

Firms in the culture, creative, leisure and tourist industries account for 60 percent of the total. They include restaurant operator Future Bright Holdings (HK 703), which is listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange. In 2013, it had unaudited turnover of HK\$ 746.5 million, an increase of 15.5 percent over 2012.

In March this year, the company announced a plan to raise HK\$ 276 million from shareholders to build a food plaza in Hengqin, with a gross floor area of about 140,000 square metres, up to 100 restaurants as well as souvenir food shops and an exhibition hall.

Owned by legislator Chan Chak Mo, it plans to

cooperate with small and medium-size companies which find their development in Macao held back by the soaring cost of rent.

Another of the 33 is SJM Holdings (HK 880) which has proposed a transport and service hub, including bus services, shopping centre, restaurants and commercial offices. The ball is now in the court of the HNAMC to approve the applications of the 33. Macao people and companies have already established a presence on Henggin.

In January, Banco Luso-Internacional became the first Macao bank to open a representative office on Hengqin. This followed a decision by the authorities there to lower the minimum capital needed to open a branch there to US\$ 4 billion.

In March, construction began on the Lai Chun Friendship Square, a commercial centre with a Portuguese theme, involving an investment of 1.6 billion yuan and 30,000 square metres and due for completion in 2016. The project will include a Portuguese-style six-storey building which will include a 3D cinema, a hypermarket, a spa and a car park which will provide about 1,300 parking places.



The builder is Lai leng Investment Co, controlled by Macao entrepreneur and casino owner David Chow Kam Fai. It has held talks with large-scale supermarkets, a 3-D theatre, retail brands, international food and beverage chains and a spacentre as potential users of the centre. In March, it signed an agreement with Industrial and Commercial Bank of China for a loan of HK\$ 680 million for the project.

On 1 May, a shopping street nearly 500 metres long and with 74 stalls opened for business, just 15 minutes from Chimelong's Ocean Kingdom, which is attracting thousands of visitors a day. Many of the stalls sell Macao food, snacks and souvenirs.

Some Macao people have moved to Hengqin; last year 95 of them applied to pay income tax on the island. They are paying the same rate as they do at home, one of the preferential policies offered by the central government.

The border crossing between the two sides will in the future be open 24 hours a day and cars with Macao number plates will be allowed to enter Hengqin – but not the rest of Zhuhai, unless they have a mainland licence.



Ocean Kingdom

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#### More land

But the joint zone is not large enough to meet the needs of Macao companies for more land. Some complain that the conditions of entry into the zone are too stringent and hard for small and medium-size firms to meet. Companies that want to buy land in the zone must invest a minimum of 100 million yuan.

So, on 13 May, Chief Executive Fernando Chui Sai On said that the government would apply to Beijing to lease more land on Hengqin for local firms to develop their businesses there. "This would be beneficial for the diversification of Macao's economy," he said.

"Ihope both Guangdong and the central government will agree (to the idea) ... meanwhile, we will further discuss with the Guangdong government the possible development of Cuiheng (in Zhongshan) and Jiangmen," he added.

According to the Southern Metropolitan Daily of Guangzhou, the SAR government has applied to lease 10 square kilometres. It would pay an annual lease in the same way as for the land for the University of Macau; for that, it is paying 1.2 billion patacas for a 50-year lease.



University of Macau

The campus of the university is governed by Macao law; but the 10 square kilometres would be under mainland law.

If the application is approved, it would give the Macao government – and not the HNDMC - the power to decide which companies could set up in the zone.

The application is a sign that the costs of investing in Hengqin have risen so rapidly that they are beyond the reach of many small and medium-size Macao companies; they are facing competition from powerful mainland and Hong Kong firms that want a presence on the island.

Chief Executive Chui also said that the government had applied to Beijing for jurisdiction over Macao's coastal waters. This would be another way to increase its land reserve.

# **Big projects**

The new Hengqin is rapidly taking shape. The plan calls for three resort and tourism districts in the south, a central business district in the northeast, two high-tech and science areas and a culture and creativity district. There is also a general service area and residential area.

Two of the largest projects are already operating – the University of Macau and Ocean Kingdom.

Hong Kong-based developer, Lai Fung Group, has announced plans to build a video-game complex with an arena of 15,000 seats. It has purchased a plot on the island; the arena is part of a large park with the gaming theme to be built on a one-square-kilometre site. The first phase of development, which includes the arena, is expected to cost US\$ 480 million and is slated for completion in 2017.

Galaxy Entertainment (HK 027) plans to invest 10 billion yuan in a luxury Maldives-style holiday resort on 2.7 square kilometres in the southwest of the island. It will have a shoreline of 2.5 square kilometres and aims to start work by the end of this year.

Last year MGM Holdings (HK 2282) spent 910 million yuan to acquire land on Hengqin, on which it plans to develop 1.4 million square feet of hotel and commercial space.

Such a flood of investment has pushed up property prices to more than 26,000 yuan per square metre, more than twice that in the urban area of Zhuhai. The main buyers of properties are managers of mainland firms, Macao citizens and Macao people who are working on the island.

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Border between Macao and Hengqin (Zhuhai)

# King of development

The company at the centre of this hive of activity is the Zhuhai Hengqin Investment Company, a 100-percent state-owned firm set up in 2009 that is responsible for building the infrastructure, attracting investment, management of the property and risk management. It is under the HNDMC.

In March, its director, Niu Jing, said that the company had net assets of 20.3 billion yuan and had applied to the Hong Kong stock exchange for a listing. It also plans to issue a 'dim sum' bond of

1.5 billion yuan before the end of this year. These are bonds denominated in renminbi but issued outside the mainland. They are named after a popular cuisine in Hong Kong.

Niu said his firm was encouraging all kinds of financial companies to come to the island, including investment funds, venture capital and leasing firms.

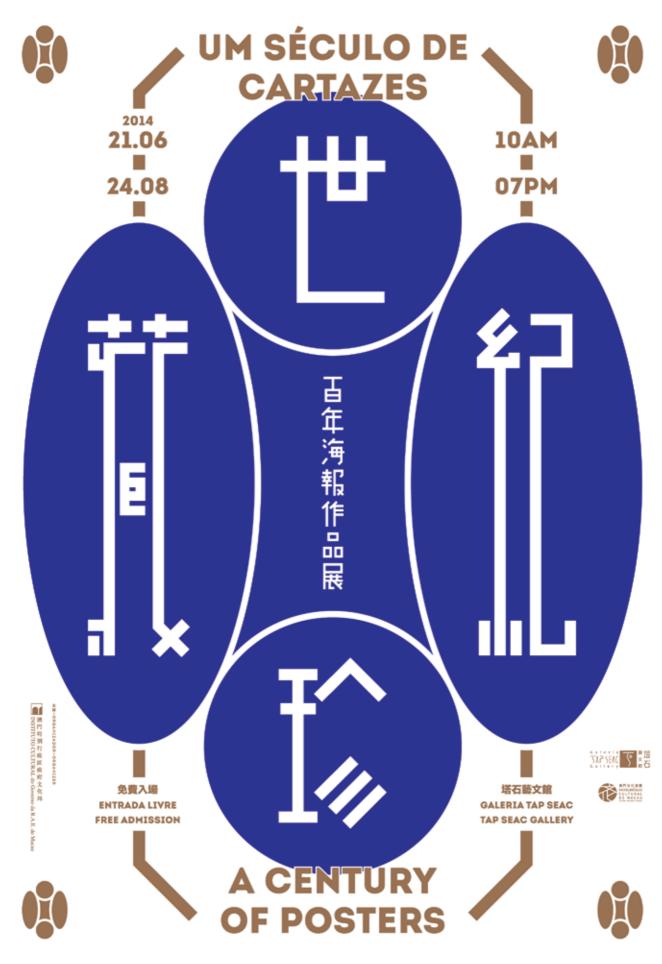
Five years from now, Hengqin will bear little resemblance to the island of today. What is most important is that Macao has an important place in this future.

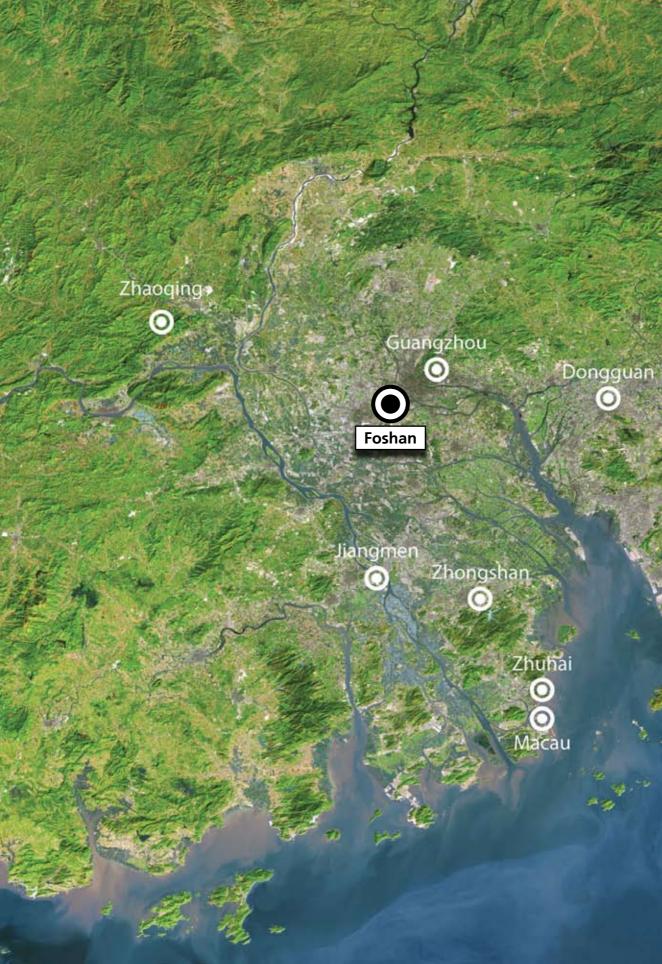
Photos by Eric Tam



# **Hengqin**Development Plan







Huizhou Shenzhen Reinvention and Hong Kong Rejuvenation Foshan seeks new model for success By Louise do Rosário



In 1968, He Xiangjian spent 5,000 yuan on a workshop to make bottle tops in a township of Foshan, Guangdong province. From this humble beginning grew the Midea Group, one of the most successful private companies in China.

In the first nine months of last year, it posted operating revenue of 93.747 billion yuan, an increase of 14.7 percent over a year earlier. It employs 135,000 people in China and abroad, making a wide range of electrical appliances.

From October last year, its subsidiary in Brazil, Midea Carrier, launched a new brand campaign with the theme 'Viva mais cada momento' (Live more for every moment), using print, radio and cable television, including Veja, the country's most popular magazine. It will sell goods under its own brand, not those of other brands, as it has done for most of its history.

Midea is one of the success stories of Foshan, a city of 7.26 million people in central Guangdong. In 2013, the city achieved a per capita GDP of 96,000 yuan, higher than that of Beijing and Shanghai, and ranking 17th in China. That is more than in some member states of the European Union.

Its 2013 GDP (as opposed to its per capita GDP) was 701 billion yuan, an increase of 9.9 percent over 2012. Private companies accounted for over 65 percent of that GDP and 75 percent of industrial output.

It is the third largest manufacturing base in the Pearl River Delta, after Shenzhen and Guangzhou. It is home to the world's largest furniture and lighting wholesale markets. It has a cluster of industrial townships that specialise in a single industry – such as textiles, electrical appliances, furniture, ceramics and the equipment needed to make them. In addition to Midea, it has other firms that are national brands – Country Garden and Haitian. It is also home to two major automobile ventures, First Auto-Works (who are in partnership with Volkswagen) and Bei Qi Foton.

#### Secrets of success

At the start of the reform era, Foshan was neither a special economic zone nor a provincial capital. It had no significant mineral resources.

The secrets of its success were attracting outside

88 July, 2014 Macao



investment from overseas Chinese, as well as from Macao, Hong Kong and Taiwan. It was able to offer cheap land and labour, a large and vibrant private sector, and decentralisation of power to the township level, making the government quicker and more responsive to local needs. It has more than 1,000 business associations and NGOs, one of the highest number of an individual city in China.

Between 1979 and 1992, the city imported 700 advanced production lines and 210,000 pieces of advanced equipment, to improve the standard of its manufacturing. By 2012, it had attracted a total of US\$ 18.8 billion in foreign investment.

It was always ahead of other cities. In the early 1990s, Shunde, one district of the city, pioneered the sale of government-backed enterprises to their managers, workers and outside investors. By 2011, the city had 340,000 private firms, one for every 20 residents. In 2012, they grew by an annual 13.1 percent, compared to 5.7 percent for the city's state sector.

It has real diversity in its manufacturing. In 2010, its industrial output was US\$ 241 billion, fifth among China's cities. In 22 out of 30 main manufacturing

sectors, it accounted for over one percent of national output, even though it accounts for only 0.5 percent of the nation's population.

It is less dependent on exports than many cities in the Pearl River Delta. In 2012, exports accounted for 18 percent of GDP, compared to 37 percent in Shenzhen, 32 percent in Dongguan and 25 percent in Wenzhou. Its firms have done better in selling to the domestic market.

In the 1980s, the city permitted a market in communal land, which villagers leased to industrial companies; this was illegal, since national law reserved such land for agricultural use. Large firms did not dare to use it but small firms were prepared to take the risk.

This policy was a major reason for the growth of industrial clusters. It also meant that rural people have benefited from the city's transformation into a manufacturing centre and created a fairer distribution of wealth among the population. By 2010, the average Foshan resident owned property worth almost US\$ 50,000. The average disposable income of its urban residents last year reached 38,040 yuan, an increase of 10 percent over 2012.

Over the past nine years, the government has allowed private firms to bid for over 500 projects, including power generation, water plants and rubbish-incineration facilities. From 1983-1991, it built a 357-km railway line to Maoming in the south of Guangdong province; this was the first time that private capital had been used in the construction of such a line, together with money from the central and local governments.

The city has been a magnet for people, skilled and unskilled, from around China. Migrants account for half of the population of 7.26 million.

# Teething troubles

This remarkable success has come at a cost. It has involved heavy spending by the city government in infrastructure, education, welfare and other services. By 2012, the city's debt reached US\$ 14.5 billion; paying principal and interest on this debt accounted for 47 percent of the city's revenue that year. If interest rates rise, the debt burden will become even heavier.

Four of its inland rivers are heavily polluted. As a result, many of the city's ceramics firms, an industry with a history spanning centuries, relocated elsewhere. Now less than 60 of the 600 firms remain.

"We understand that our poor environment does not attract talented people," said Mayor Liu Yuelun. "We want to provide greener lands for them."

Foshan has created a platform of intense market competition. Some firms, like Midea, have prospered. Others have not. Jianlibao, a soft drinks producer, was set up in Foshan in 1984 and became a household name in China, its products competing with Pepsi and Coca-Cola. But bad management and fierce competition led to debts that exceeded one billion yuan in 2005.

In February 2007, its former president and CEO, Zhang Hai, was sentenced to 15 years in jail for embezzling public funds. The firm is still operating but on a much smaller scale.

As with other cities in the PRD, wages are going up and land is running out. All this has made the government chart a new course.

#### Model for the future

Foshan is re-inventing itself again; it is moving from low-end production to high-end manufacturing, services, R & D and creative industries. In 2013, the service sector accounted for 40 percent of the city's GDP, up from 36.1 percent a year earlier.

"The city has secured high-quality investment

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projects that help to transform and upgrade the local industrial structure," said Zhou Zhitong, directorgeneral of the city's Bureau of Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation. "Drawing more experts and professionals will help to strengthen the network of information collection and communication."

This future is symbolised by two zones. One, in the east of the city, which is connected to Guangzhou by underground, is the Guangdong High-Tech Service Zone for Financial Institutions, established in July 2007. It provides the back-up services like those that New Jersey and Dublin give to New York and London respectively. It covers an area of 18 square kilometres in the Nanhai district, with property and salary costs lower than in Guangzhou city.

It has attracted numerous finance companies to set up there, such as American International Assurance; the People's Insurance Company of China – a southern information centre; and the Sun Kung Kai Financial Group of Hong Kong. Also occupying offices there are Fujitsu Technology Corp; the business processing outsourcing centre for the Capgemini Group of France, as well as a similar centre for IBM, and a financial base belonging to Guangdong Development Bank.

The second zone is the Sino-German Industrial Services Zone founded on 6 July 2012. It promotes the development of modern service industries, focusing on Research & Development, design, testing, certification, new IT new materials and energy, biotechnology and vocational training.

It has a total planning area of 88 square kilometres, divided into a core area of 5.76 sq km, plus a development area. In August 2012, it was listed in the joint statement signed by the Ministry of Commerce and the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology of Germany, indicating support from the highest level of the two governments.

The zone hosts the Asia-Pacific headquarters of Osram, the south China headquarters of Allianz and the Steinbeis Foundation and the southern base of TUV Rheinland. It is preparing to build a Sino-German polytechnic.

The zone covers both sides of the Dongping river: one side has a port, loading and unloading containers full of manufactured goods. The other has parkland covered with cherry trees, mudflats to attract birds, a lake and a man-made beach. The two shores symbolise the past and future of the city.



Xiao Geng, vice president of research at the Fung Global Institute of Hong Kong, said that the zone was a software base to serve small and medium-sized foreign and domestic firms. "The government does not have the money for a large transport infrastructure in the zone and so should follow the Hong Kong model of using private capital to build one."

He said each firm in Foshan felt a sense of crisis.

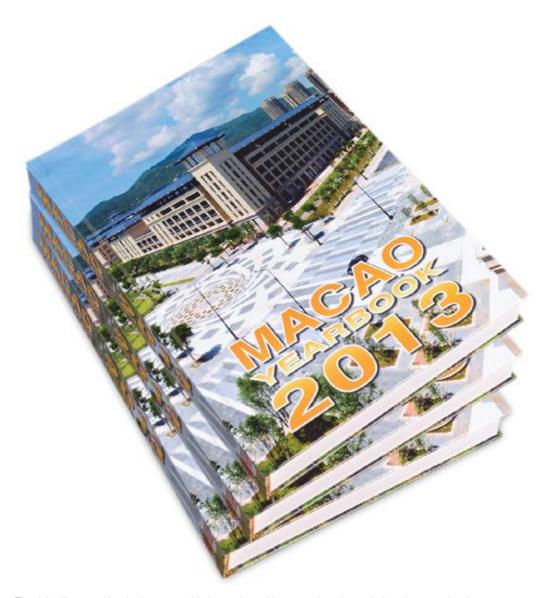
"They must constantly upgrade the quality of their products. The city officials feel a sense of crisis too; they are thinking about how to make the market more active," he said.

The zone embodies the vision of the city government for the future – not a cluster of factory chimneys but a green and spacious parkland which earns its revenue from highly qualified people working in R & D facilities and service companies.



# **MACAO YEARBOOK 2013**

Macao Yearbook 2013 is the regional almanac published by the Government Information Bureau of the Macao Administrative Region (MSAR)

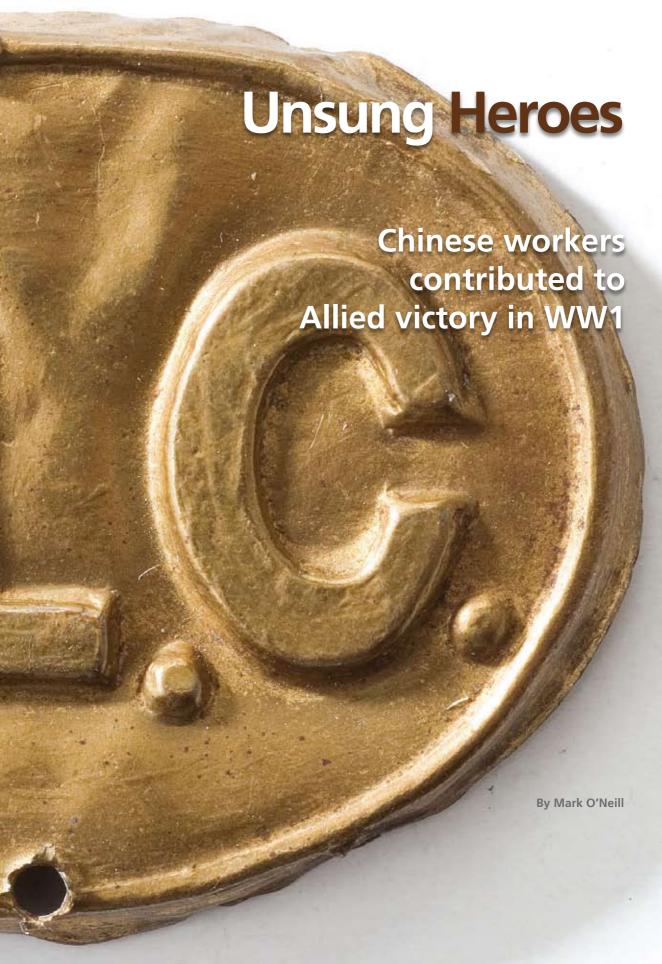


The richly illustrated book aims to provide its readers with a comrehensive and objective record of the progress of Macao's political, economic, social and cultural developments in 2012. The well-edited Yearbook is meant to provide detailed and accurate information, in-depth analysis and concise data to all those who wish to know more about and better understand Macao.

Macao Yearbook 2013, separately published in Chinese, Portuguese and English, can be purchased at major bookshops in Macao at 120 patacas or 120 Hong Kong dollars per copy.

In Hong Kong, the three separate language editions of Macao Yearbook 2013 are on sale at the Commercial Press (HK) Ltd bookshops.







France 1917

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War One. Countries, especially in Europe, are marking this tragic event with commemorations, books and documentaries.

Few people know that, while China was not a combatant in the war, it made an important contribution to the victory of the alliance led by Britain, France and Russia. More than 135,000 workers crossed the world from their homeland

to areas close to the Western Front in France and Belgium where they served the French, British and American armies.

In addition, more than 200,000 went to Russia, where many worked close to the Eastern Front and helped to build a strategic railway to the Arctic port of Murmansk that delivered supplies vital to the war effort.

Few people, in China or abroad, know the remarkable



history of these men and their contribution to the Allied victory.

Their employers considered them the best of the many foreign workers brought to help the war effort; these included Indians, South Africans, Vietnamese and native people brought from French colonies in Africa.

In November 1919, the British Controller of Labour wrote a report to the Quartermaster General about

the foreign workers used by its army: "Chinese labour, properly handled, was undoubtedly most efficient; the extensive systems of defence organised in the rear at the time of the enemy offensive in 1918 could not have been completed in the time were it not for the excellent work of the CLC (Chinese Labour Corps)." In a report in August 1918, the Controller said: "It is astonishing what the coolie is capable of ... one party (of six men) excavated at the rate of 230 cubic feet of chalk and flint and about one foot of surface soil per man per eight hours."

Praise also came from Marshal Ferdinand Foch, the French general who was commander-in-chief of Allied forces in 1917 and 1918: "They were first-class workers who could be made into excellent soldiers, capable for exemplary bearing under modern artillery fire."

### Going to Europe

After the war broke out in Europe in the summer of 1914, the Chinese government had to decide whether to take part and, if so, how. The Republic of China was just three years old and few of its leaders had any knowledge or understanding of Europe or the reasons for the war. They feared that the conflict would spread to China, with the warring nations fighting each other from the concessions they had in the country.

So they declared the country's absolute neutrality on land and sea. But one of the leaders, Liang Shiyi, from Guangdong, an advisor to the president, was looking further ahead. He believed that Britain, France and Russia would win; he wanted to do something to ally China with them, so that, at the end of the war, it would benefit – getting back the concessions it had given to foreign countries or an easing or cancellation of the Boxer indemnity, which was supposed to total 450 million taels of silver over the course of 39 years from 1901. The sum is equivalent to US\$ 6.7 billion today.

It was Liang who came up with the idea of sending men to join the Allied side, as soldiers or workers. His initial efforts did not succeed. The British and French leaders believed the war would be over within a few months and that they would have no need of Chinese. They held the Chinese army in low esteem. Also Britain was an ally of Japan, which wanted to keep China out of the war.



Lisjssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium

But, by 1916, their enormous losses persuaded the Allies to change their minds. First, France and then Britain reached agreement with Beijing to sign up tens of thousands of Chinese workers. The first batch left for France; they worked in factories as well as supporting the troops at the front. Those hired by the British army were used entirely to help the troops – loading and unloading cargo, digging trenches, laying railway lines, building ports and aerodromes, repairing tanks and artillery, removing animal carcasses and ammunition from the battlefield and collecting the dead and making graves for them.

The great majority were farmers and urban workers from Shandong and other provinces in north China. They had never been abroad and never crossed an ocean. They travelled in giant passenger ships over the Pacific Ocean, crossed Canada by train and then by ship over the Atlantic. They did not go out of patriotism but to earn a modest wage.

#### Life in France

The ones close to the front lived in camps under military guard. After they had completed work, they had to return to the camps. Those who worked in French factories had more freedom. They could mix with French people and go to bars and restaurants. Romances developed; there was an enormous shortage of able-bodied French men. There were many misunderstandings, some of which ended tragically; most were caused by the inability of one side to understand the language of the other.

There was a chronic shortage of interpreters. When an American sergeant said to the men: "Let's qo", they thought he was calling them dogs as 'gou' means 'dog' in Mandarin; so they refused to move. About 3,000 died from bombs, shelling, unexploded ammunition they were clearing and diseases like tuberculosis and Spanish flu. At least 700 died in German submarine attacks even before they arrived in Europe. After the armistice in November 1918, most were unable to go home. Their services were badly needed to clear the battlefields of human and animal carcasses, explosives and the debris of the war. They had to fill in the trenches and make the land ready again for cultivation. The last ones left at the end of 1922, except for 3,000 who chose to stay in France and formed the start of the Chinese community in Europe.

## Life in the forest and on the steppe

Life was harsh for those who went to France and Belgium – but they were more fortunate than their brothers who worked in Russia. They went under contract to the French and British governments, who were responsible for their work, living arrangements, medical care and repatriation.

This was not the case with those who went to Russia. Some had contracts with Russian employers and Chinese middlemen; but many had no contract and no legal protection of any kind.

From 1915, Russia was hit by food shortages, inflation and the collapse of civil society. The Chinese were at the bottom of the social ladder. They were not supposed to work close to the front line; but many did and were captured by the German and Austrian forces and imprisoned in camps.

About 10,000 Chinese were among the 100,000 workers who built a railway line 1,044 kilometres long from Petrozavodsk to Murmask on the Arctic Circle. Since Germany, Austria and Turkey controlled the other land and sea borders of Russia, this railway was vital to bring Allied supplies.

The men worked in shifts 24 hours a day, through the cold and dark of winter, when the temperature fell to minus 40 degrees Celsius. The land was uninhabited and could supply nothing except timber. About 25,000 workers died during the construction, including 400 Chinese.

"The work was extremely heavy, cutting timber into strips and laying them below the track," recalled Ji Shoushan in his memoirs published in 1960. "Initially, we ate steamed buns and later black bread and drank marsh water that had turned black. There were no fresh vegetables in the diet. We lived in log huts open to the wind on four sides. There were no doctors or medicines at the place of work."



France-1916



Film about the C.L.C. produced in 1918 by Burton Holmes Travel-Pictures

# Joining the Red Army

In 1917, there were two revolutions – the overthrow of Tsar Nicholas II and then the Bolshevik Revolution, followed by the civil war. The Chinese were on their own. No-one looked after them.

About 40,000 Chinese joined the Red Army, either for reasons of ideology or because it gave them three meals a day, warm clothing and a respect and status they had never enjoyed before. They served with courage and distinction.

One of them, Li Fuqing, was chosen as one of 200 soldiers to serve as bodyguards of Vladimir Lenin himself in the winter of 1918. He was in a group of four that stood guard below his office and accompanied him when he went outside. Lenin sometimes spoke to them. Only 20 and illiterate, Li did not understand Russian well.

In October 1919, he was sent to the Ukraine as a squadron commander in a cavalry regiment to fight a White Russian army. He did not see Lenin again. In January 1924, when Lenin died, Li was studying at a military academy in Moscow; he was sent to the funeral as a representative of the students.

Others joined the Cheka, the secret police and forerunner of the KGB.



Oudezeele (Nord), France, June 1918

# **Betrayal at Versailles**

The story did not have a happy ending for China, which had sent the men to help the Allied side. In August 1917, it declared war on Germany, Austro-Hungary and Turkey. So, when the war ended, it was on the winning side and sent a delegation to Versailles for negotiations on the peace treaty.

China's demands were modest for a conference that redrew the map of the world in a way never done before in history.

It demanded that Germany's concessions in Shandong, an eastern province of China, be returned to Chinese control. It also demanded an end to the colonial institutions in the country – extraterritoriality and foreign concessions where foreign countries could station troops. These demands were in accord with the 14 points proclaimed by US President Woodrow Wilson in January 1918, which set out his aims for the post-war world.

Britain, France and the United States, however, ignored China's demands. It received no reduction in the Boxer indemnity nor an end to extra-territoriality and the concessions which the foreign countries had set up in China. It did not even get the concession in Shandong occupied by Germany at the start of the war; the winning powers awarded these to Japan

whose army had occupied it. Real politik replaced the high-sounding ideals in whose name the war had been fought.

Despite these unfavourable terms, the government in Beijing ordered its delegates to sign. But angry Chinese workers and students in Paris prevented them from reaching the palace. China was the only one of the 27 victorious countries not to sign.

The best summary of the treaty came from Kang Youwei, a leading reformist in the late Qing and early Republican periods. In 1917, he had urged the government not to enter the war, saying that it would gain nothing:

"There is no such thing as an army of righteousness which will come to the assistance of weak nations."

Note: Mark O'Neill has written two Penguin Specials on the workers, available on Kindle or in the main English-language bookshops in Hong Kong. The titles are Chinese Labour Corps, published in March, and From the Tsar's Railway to the Red Army: the Experience of Chinese Labourers in Russia during the First World War and Bolshevik Revolution, to be published in August.

100 јију, 2014 Масао



Members of the C.L.C with british troops, 1917



WW1 tranches







Participants in the International Cultural Capoeira Encounter in Macao

In mid-June, nearly 100 students and teachers from 14 countries came together to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the arrival in China of capoeira, a Brazilian martial art that combines dance, acrobatics and music.

The venue was the International Cultural Capoeira Encounter at the Sands Cotai Central. It was held on June 13-15 and organised by the Capoeira Sports and Cultural Association of Macao; it included workshops, folk dances, dance and percussion workshops led by professional instructors and masters from around the world.

Among the countries represented were Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Russia, U.S., England and the 'mother country' Brazil.

Capoeira was created by Brazilian slaves, probably in the 16th century. It is known for its quick and complex moves, using power, speed and leverage for a wide variety of kicks, spins and highly mobile techniques.

The slaves used it as a form of self-defence; but, since this was forbidden as they were merely the property of their owners, they disguised it as a form of dance. It is always accompanied by the berimbau, a single-string percussion instrument.

Today it has become a symbol of Brazilian culture, its ethnic amalgam and resistance to oppression. It is a source of pride for Brazilians and is considered

part of the country's intangible cultural heritage. From the 1970s, capoeira masters began to emigrate and teach it to other countries. It has attracted thousands of foreign students and tourists to Brazil who come to study under teachers and improve their techniques.

#### Arrival in China

The man who led the event in Macao was Eddie Murphy, whose real name is Edilson Antonio Almeida. It was he who brought capoeira to China. Eddie was born in Sao Paulo. Until he was eight years old, he had symptoms of epilepsy and his metabolism was slow, making him a very small boy for his age. When he was nine years old, he started training in capoeira and his health problems stopped. His metabolism went back to normal and, after training for one year, his body structure changed.

He started with a design business but soon discovered that he would prefer to dedicate his life to capoeira; he started as a teacher and later represented the art outside the country. The first challenge was Spain, then China.

When he arrived in Hong Kong in 2004, he found that no-one had heard of the martial art, except for some expats.

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Mestre Ousado (1st left), Mestre Barrão (3rd left) and Eddie Murphy (2nd right)

"I remember arriving in Victoria Park. I starting doing some exercises and jumps. Many Chinese approached me and asked: 'What is he doing? Is he dancing? Is he fighting?'" he recalls.

After Hong Kong, he worked in Guangzhou, Dongguan and Shenzhen; he did shows in Brazilian restaurants.

In 2009, he came to Macao, almost by chance. "During my whole stay, I never heard about Macao, not even in Hong Kong," he said. He was invited to teach at a yoga gym here; but it closed its doors without any notice some time later. Eddie was left without a job but he was able to continue with help from his new friends and students, especially the Portuguese community.

"I had never met any Portuguese in my life. I had to come to Macao to get to know the Portuguese people. Most of my close friends now are Portuguese. Capoeira is something that no one expects in China and I am sure that this [introducing capoeira in Macao] was only possible thanks to the Portuguese community who has supported me from the first minute."

Eddie now leads several different classes each week. About 100 people, 70 of them children, attend a session on the third floor of Ocean Plaza, in the Ocean Garden complex. He and his associates have founded the first Samba School in Macao and have dance and Brazilian fitness classes.

"Every Friday we have free percussion lessons, because Macao can be very stressful. These classes are designed to help people to relax after a long week of work and before the weekend," he said. "My goal is to contribute to Macao's development and give back the acceptance and support that I have received from the city."

Over the past five years, his Axé Macau group has collaborated with the Cultural Institute in many events, including the Fringe Festival, Macau International Arts Festival and "Parade through Macao, Latin City." They also have a regular presence in the annual Lusofonia Festival.

They also have social projects in Ka Ho village and at the Problem Gambling Treatment Centres. "Because capoeira is solidarity, when you help someone, you help yourself." Among Eddie's regular students is Vasco Lopes, who was 40 years old when he started taking Capoeira classes five years ago. "Age never stopped me from doing anything in capoeira. I started because of my kids, just like any other sport.

"But soon I learnt that capoeira is not just a sport. It's culture, it's a set of knowledge that is passed from one generation to another. It makes us know about history and the rope exchange (a form of graduation) is not about being the strongest or the toughest physically but about knowing the berimbau notes and techniques," he explained. "Capoeira opened a whole new world to me at 45 years old."

Vasco also added that capoeira filled an important gap in Macao's education system. "I know that local schools lack this kind of activity and capoeira has everything. Apart from physical exercise, it passes on the idea of respect for one another, respect for your family, values that nowadays are not that easy to find. It's an alternative in Macao, absolutely."

#### Multinational event in Macao

The Macao event was led by Eddie Murphy. He was especially happy that day. Why? "Because it's the most important event of my life in capoeira", he said. "This is my 38th year doing capoeira and it is the most important event of my life because it's 10 years since I've introduced capoeira to China; and it is the first time that I am side by side with my master to show him what we've done here."

His teacher was Mestre Barrao, or Marcos da Silva, who was born in Recife in northeast Brazil. After participating in many training sessions and championships, he had the opportunity to teach in schools, community centers and universities throughout Brazil; he founded Grupo Axé Capoeira in 1982.

Mestre Barrao Barrão emigrated to Canada in 1992 and began teaching. He started The Annual International Capoeira Encounter and opened Canada's first Academy of Capoeira. The Axé



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Capoeira now counts schools in 37 countries, including the United States, Mexico and Colombia to Ukraine, Serbia, Azerbaijan, France, Angola, Turkey and Japan.

"We are ambassadors and take this art all over the world, to show that Brazil is not only the violence you see in television but the beautiful things the country has," he said.

The group's development has been supported by world-wide releases of music albums and VHS and DVD performances. It now has over 12,000 members around the world. It has become famous as a traveling group which promotes the history, music, art, and culture of Brazil in inter-active and educational demonstrations.

The Macao event included a traditional "batizado" (baptism), the ceremony where the capoeira students are recognised with a "corda" (belt) that symbolises self-development and diligence.

"For me, it is amazing to be here," said Mestre Barrao.
"This is not only because of the event that is wonderful but also because of master Eddie Murphy. It brings glory not only to our group but also to capoeira in Asia

and worldwide. It's not easy to organise something like this; you have to be truly passionate and fight to make people believe in capoeira."

Among the group were 15 practitioners who flew in from Russia. Gazela was one of them: "I am very happy to be here, I'm here for the capoeira and to meet the rest of the family," said the young blonde student. "We have cold weather there and we are a bit closed and capoeira give us the feeling of freedom, it helps us to express in different ways."

Eddie Murphy has given up the idea of returning to Brazil and has his mind focused on Macao: "the mission is not yet accomplished."

He plans to take capoeira to more local schools, in addition to the D. José da Costa Nunes kindergarten where they give classes. "We already have the government's support for this project. In Singapore, schools have capoeira classes, classes that can be a way of integrating the Portuguese language and in the case of Macao to preserve it."

After the event, the Macao Axé Capoeira family flew to Kazakhstan to celebrate the 10th anniversary of capoeira in that Central Asia country.

# **Dramatic history**

If football is king in Brazil, then capoeira is queen. It was created by African slaves during the colonial period. It was a way for them to resist their oppressors; they secretly practiced their art and transmitted their culture, lifting their spirits at the same time.

It is marked by deft, tricky movements; it has a strong acrobatic component in some versions and always played with music.

It does not focus on injuring the opponent but on emphasising the skill and performing a rocking back and forth movement with the knees bent named "ginga"; this makes the performers look as if they are dancing.

Played with the berimbau and percussion instruments, the rhythm can be fast or slow and the songs sang are about a wide variety of subjects. The Axé Capoeira Group is launching their eighth album, including songs about famous "capoeiristas" and one about

Nelson Mandela.

After slavery was abolished in Brazil in 1888, the slaves moved to the cities and the practice continued; but it became associated with anti-government or criminal activities. Criminals and gang chiefs used practitioners as bodyguards and hitmen. Social conditions in Rio de Janeiro were chaotic. So capeiro was outlawed in 1892.

Practitioners invented ways to escape the authorities in case they were caught and gave themselves nicknames to avoid being persecuted, a tradition that continues to this day. This nickname is given at the "baptism" ceremony.

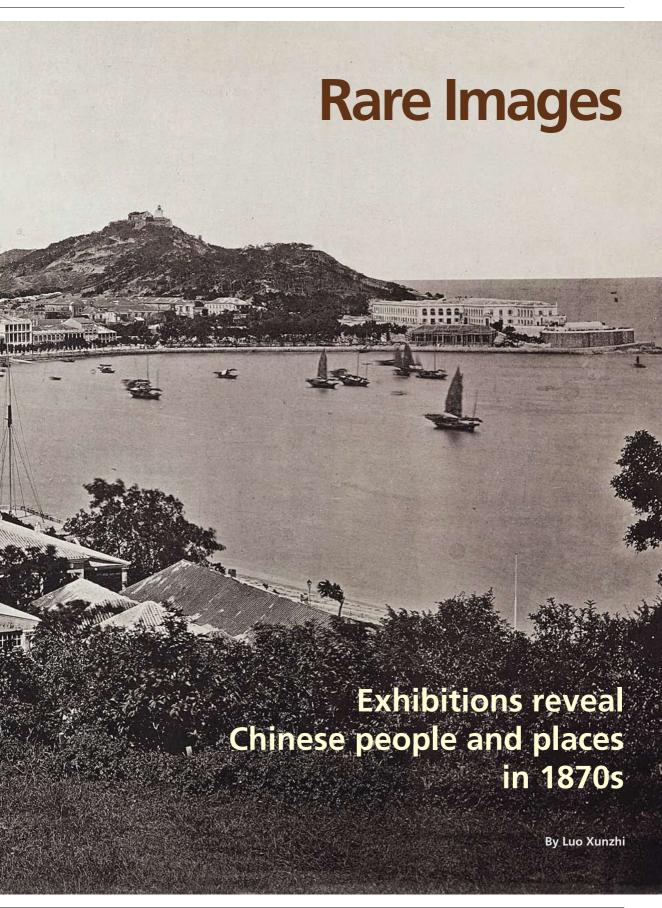
It was only in 1937 that a man called Mestre Bimba was invited to demonstrate his capoeira skills in front of Brazilian president Getúlio Vargas. Afterwards, he gave him permission to open the first capoeira school in Brazil; from that time, it has been officially recognized as a national sport and spread around the world.



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Ung Vai Meng (centre), President of Cultural Affairs Bureau, at the exhibition's opening ceremony

In the southeast city of Fuzhou, there is a cunning detective -- 'king of the thieves' because he knows all their haunts. Next to him is a group of beggars who sit in the tomb where they live.

Welcome to the world of John Thomson, a Scottish photographer who made two long expeditions into China from 1870 to 1872 and has left us with a rare and precious record of what he saw.

The Macao Museum is exhibiting a collection of 222 photography images entitled Illustrations of China and Its People that opened on May 30 and runs until August 31. A keen writer as well as photographer, Thomson also left us a detailed record of the people

and places he saw.

It is one of the best collections of early images of the world's largest country. Thomson was one of a small number of Europeans who had the expertise and equipment of this new art form and made the long and costly journey into China.

From his base in Hong Kong, Thomson made his first journey in 1870. He went to Macao, Guangzhou, Shantou, Xiamen, Fuzhou, Nanjing and Taiwan. There he traveled with a missionary Dr James Laidlaw Maxwell, enabling him to see many places unknown to foreign visitors.

On his second journey, in 1871, he visited Shanghai,

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Jiaozhou Bay, Tianjin, Beijing and the Great Wall. On returning to Shanghai, he continued up the Yangtze river to Nanjing, Jiujiang, Hankou, Yichang and through the Three Gorges.

What distinguishes the collection is the range and variety of images, from beggars to princes and mandarins, from monasteries to palaces and simple villages to grand landscapes.

They include portraits from the top of society to the bottom – Jui Lin, Viceroy of Guangdong and Guangxi; Manchu and Tartar soldiers; Mongols; Koreans; and a wealthy Manchu lady sitting on a toilet and a Beijing man getting a pedicure; the abbot and monks of Gushan; the bound foot of a lady in Xiamen; a boat girl; Aboriginal people in the mountains of Taiwan; a Muslim butcher in Beijing and an opium smoker and begging priest in Hong Kong.

There are also images of a tea house and the reeling of silk in Guangzhou; the coiffure of Shantou ladies; the arsenals of Fuzhou and Nanjing; pagodas in Guangdong; and the weighing of tea for export.

He was interested in scenery and urban landscape as well as people.

The precision and high quality of the images hide the enormous difficulty Thomson faced to obtain them. At that time, taking photographs was not using one finger on the back of a mobile telephone but involved the use of a heavy wooden camera, many large, fragile glass plates and chemicals that were potentially explosive. The subjects had to sit still for up to 20 seconds to complete the image.

The second challenge was the fact that photography was something completely new to Chinese people at that time. Would they accept being photographed? Would they regard it as a 'theft of the spirit'?

To address these problems, Thomson took with him a large party of assistants and interpreters, to win the confidence of the people he was shooting and to help him carry the equipment

### Attention to detail

Chen leng Hin, director of the Macao Museum, said: "the observation of John Thomson was very detailed. He paid close attention to every person he photographed and noted their identity. He worked with a large group of people, including translators and helpers, who explained what he was doing to the people he was shooting.

"It was a time when China was poor. But Thomson did not have the prejudice of many foreigners. When he went to Taiwan, he went to the mountainous areas to shoot the minorities. It was difficult and dangerous, because there were conflicts between the different groups. He was helped by foreign missionaries there. He had the missionary spirit and wanted to go to the grass roots," he said.

On May 31, Michael Gray, curator of photography at the National Trust, Fox Talbot Museum, Lacock in England, gave a lecture on Thomson's work in the lecture theatre of the museum.



Manchu bride and maid in Beijing (1867/1872)

"Thomson concentrated on ordinary people and did it with sensitivity. He used a camera that allowed for full movement of landscapes. He was able to enter private homes in Beijing as he had good relations with a mandarin. Some people classified people into racial groups, but not he. He was cross-cultural, with a profound sense of space and time.

"In the mountains of Taiwan, it was sometimes humid and cold, which made it hard to keep the image after he had taken it. He needed a lot of equipment, it was a monumental effort," he said. "He was different to other photographers in that he wanted to get his material into books and not sell them as individual prints. In France and Britain, there was huge demand for books on these topics from rich and educated people. He himself was a writer; this marks him out. He wrote a lot of text," he added.

At that time, as now, photographers could make a good living by shooting portraits of the rich and famous. Thomson also wanted to record the lives and images of ordinary people, in China as he went on to do in Britain.

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A Hong Kong artist ( 1867/1872)

## Early life

Thomson was born on June 14, 1837 in Edinburgh, the eighth of nine children of a tobacco spinner and retailer. He was apprenticed in the manufacture of optical and scientific instruments in Edinburgh and learnt the principles of photography.

After studying natural philosophy, mathematics

and chemistry, he became a member of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts in 1861.

The next year, he went to join his elder brother William, a watchmaker and photographer, in Singapore. There he set up a photographic studio, taking portraits of European merchants, and began 10 years of expeditions in the Far East, including Malaya, Sumatra, India, Ceylon and Indochina.



A boat girl - Canton - (1867/1872)

In 1865, he sold his Singapore studio and moved to Bangkok, where he undertook a series of photographs of the Thai king and senior members of his court and government.

In January 1866, he visited Angkor Wat in Cambodia and produced some of the earliest images of what is today a UNESCO heritage site. He contracted jungle fever; his life was saved by his translator, a British consular official from Bangkok.

He also took photographs of the King of Cambodia and returned home for a year, during which he published his first book, "The Antiquities of Cambodia".

In 1867, he moved to Hong Kong and set up the J Thomson Studio next to Lane Crawford on Queens Road Central. He was able to make a comfortable living by taking images of wealthy and high-ranking people.

In 1869, he sold his studio to raise money and prepare for his trips to China.

From 1870 to 1872, using Hong Kong as a base, he made two long trips to mainland China.

### Return to UK

In 1872, he returned to UK and never came back to Asia. The album "Illustrations of China and Its People" that is displayed in the exhibition was published in London in 1873/74, using the collotype printing technique. It was the most advanced and innovative printing process of the time.

He lectured and published the results of his extensive travels in the Far East. The photographs were shown in large, lavishly produced books and news magazines. He also wrote extensively on photography.

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Then he shot ordinary people on the streets of London and used this for a book "Street Life in London", which was an instant sensation when it was published in 1878. This was a pioneering work in documentary photography and was one of the best early examples of photo-journalism.

Gray said that Thomson wanted people to know how poor people lived in England. "Working people there had the same life as the poor in China."

The Illustrated London News, the most famous photo magazine of the time, used many of his images.

In 1881, he was appointed royal photographer by Queen Victoria and his later work concentrated on studio portraits of the rich and famous, giving him a comfortable living. He was also a consultant to the Royal Geographic Society (RGS).

After retiring from his commercial studio in 1910, he

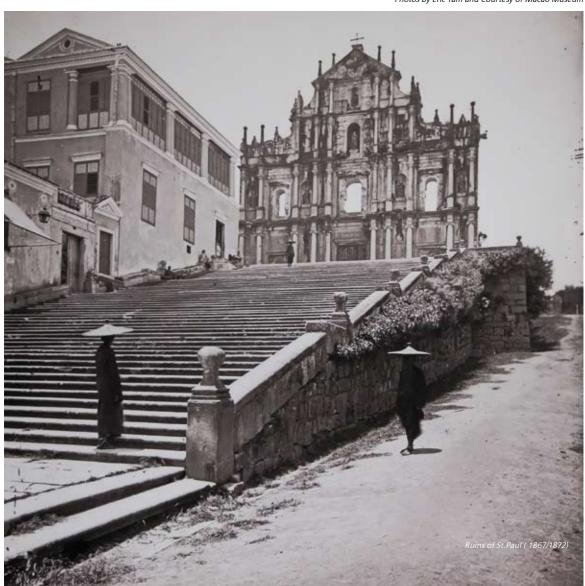
spent most of his time back in his native Edinburgh. He continued to write papers for the RGS on the uses of photography. He died of a heart attack in 1921, at the age of 84.

His work on China and Southeast Asia educated the people of Victorian Britain about the people and cultures of Asia.

To provide the visitors with a deeper understanding of Thomson's methods, the museum presents a second section with wet plate processing by Macao photographer Wong Ho Sang, prepared specially for the exhibition.

These artworks on Macao show figures, landscapes, buildings and still lives. In addition to the wetplate photography works, the equipment used for shooting is also displayed, including three wooden, large format wet-plate cameras – from the 1890s, the 1960s and 2013.

Photos by Eric Tam and Courtesy of Macao Museum



## Macao nextissue



Japan celebrates 100th birthday of Chinese Go Master



From teenage athlete to gold medallist



Site dating back to 3,000 to 3,800 years, found in Coloane island



Will Mozambique be a winner in the global energy supply market?



Zhuhai becomes education hub, with 200,000 university students



Two sons of Macao Morrison School leave deep footprint in China

# Coleccione Selos Collect Macao's Stamps















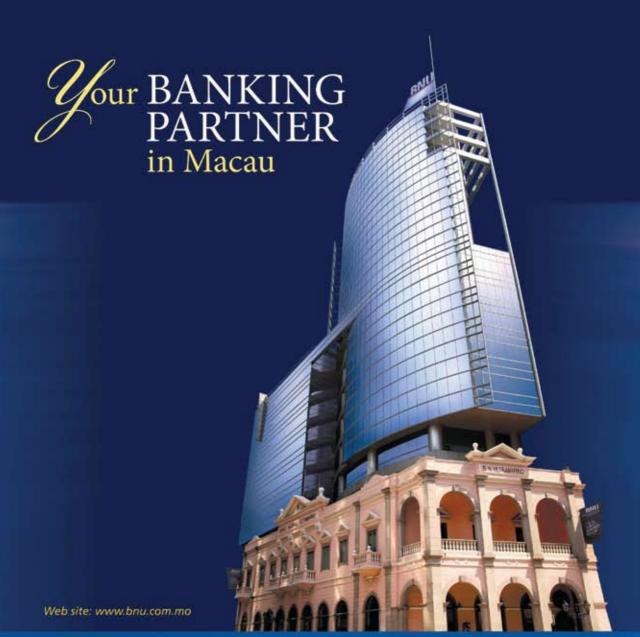




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