Story of Success Macao's 15 years as an SAR Chui Sai On Re-elected as Chief Executive

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Wisdom [Chih]

The character for 'wisdom' is a complex one with a simple message. Above is the word 'knowledge' formed by a combination of oath' on the left and the small, squared-off pictogram for 'mouth' or 'spoken' on the right: what we swear to in words, we know to be true. Below 'knowledge' is the character for 'sun'—like 'mouth', a squared-off abstraction of an ancient pictogram. Wisdom: the knowledge that spreads and enlightens like the suns rays, benefitting the world at large.

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



56 Archaeologists discover Neolithic site in Coloane

64 Japan won Macao Pool of FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix

68 Newsline

74 Two sons of Macao Morrison School leave deep footprint in China

80

Zhuhai becomes education hub, with 200,000 university students

96

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

104

Japan celebrates 100th birthday of Chinese Go Master

110

200,000 Chinese worked in harsh conditions in Russia during World War I



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進世後參選宣言 nifesto de Candidat 15/07/20

中華人民共和國澳門特別行政區 第四任行政長官選舉 Eleição para o Cargo do 4º Chefe do Executivo ao Ardministrativa Especial de Macau da República Popular da China

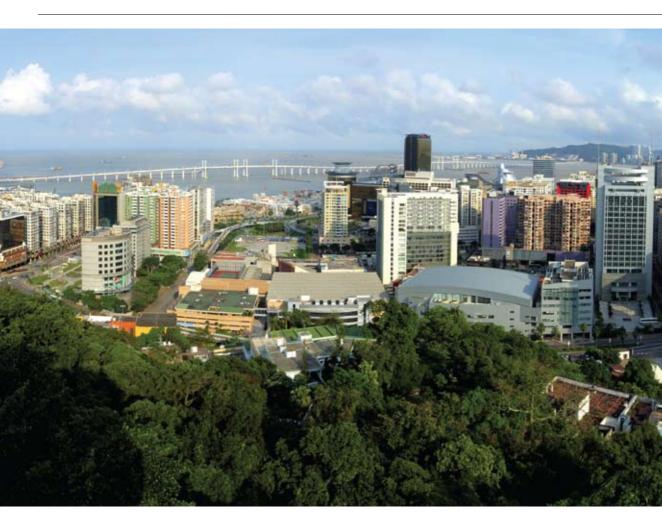
崔世安参選宣言 Manifesto de Candidatura de Cinut Sai On 15/07/2014

27

Five more years as Chief Executive

China and Brasil sign agreements worth US\$11 billion during President Xi jinping visit to Brazil

86



Macao Story of Success

Macao has seen 15 years of remarkable growth after its return to China

By Mark O'Neill and Fernando Correia



In 1999, the people of Macao were waiting, uncertain and uneasy, for their city to return to China after more than 400 years of Portuguese rule. Many had already taken a decision and emigrated with their families, to Europe, North America and Australia.

This year the city is about to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the return – and the transformation has been beyond what anyone imagined.

It has surpassed Switzerland to become the world's fourth richest territory per person, with per capita gross domestic product of US\$ 91,376 in 2013. Its economy has grown 557 percent since the handover.

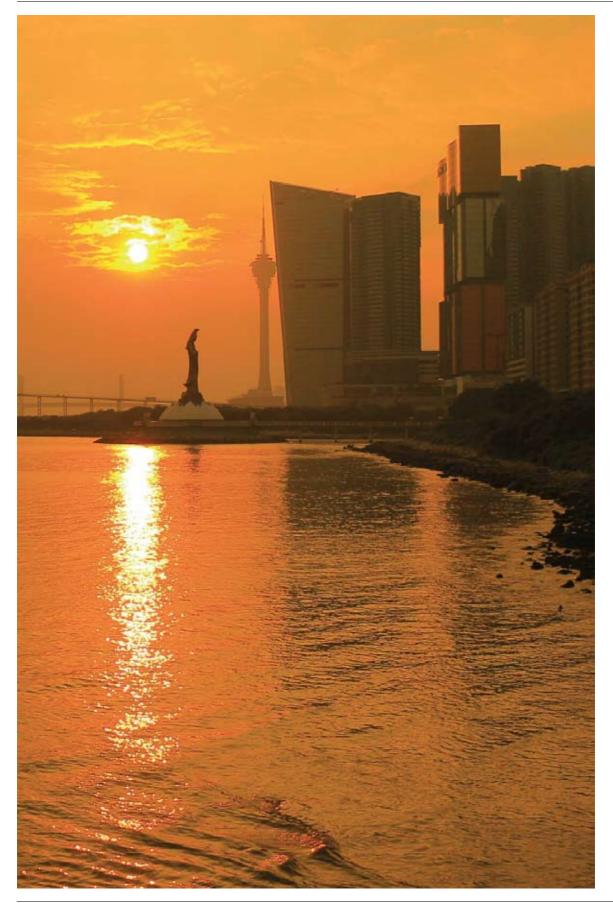
It has become one of the tourist meccas of Asia, with 29.3 million visitors last year, more than double the 9.1 million in 2000. In 2013, it posted gaming revenues of US\$ 45 billion, more than seven times those of Las Vegas, whom it surpassed in 2006.

About 17 million tourists from the mainland visited Macao last year, compared with just 800,000 in 1999.

It has become an international city. In 1999, it had three communities – Chinese, Portuguese and mixedrace Macanese. Now it is also home to communities from many countries – including the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, Nepal, South Korea, the United States, France, Britain, Germany and Romania. People from these countries have flocked to Macao to earn a living.

Unemployment is 1.7 percent, one of the lowest levels in the world, with a great increase in choice of work; since 1999, the average income has increased three-fold. Homeowners have seen the value of their property rise ten-fold. Law and order has improved, with the public violence between the Triads before the handover never repeated.

"Life for the people of Macao has greatly improved since 1999," said Leung Hong-ming, a secondary school teacher. "They have more choice of work and higher incomes and have more and better places to spend it. The quality of cultural life has also improved. Access to the mainland is quicker and more convenient."



Key decisions

The key to this unprecedented growth was two decisions. In 2002, the government of the new Special Administrative Region (SAR), with the support of Beijing, decided to end a monopoly gaming concession and award six licences.

They were Stanley Ho's incumbent Sociedade de Jogos de Macau (SJM) and sub-concessionaire MGM China - a joint venture between his daughter, Pansy Ho Chiu-king, and MGM Resorts; Galaxy Entertainment Group, of Hong Kong developer Lui Che Woo and the sub-concessionaire Sands China, from Sheldon Adelson's Las Vegas Sands; Wynn Macau from developer Steve Wynn and sub-concessionaire Melco Crown Entertaiment – co-chaired by Stanley's Ho son, Lawrence Ho, and James Packer, son of another gaming mogul, Australian Kerry Packer.

The other key decision, in 2005, was that of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to award World Heritage Status to the historic centre of the city.

Boom in gaming

Stanley Ho's SJM obtained the monopoly concession in 1962 and retained it throughout the rest of the period of Portuguese rule.

The end of the monopoly sparked a construction boom that the city had never seen. The companies who won the new concessions believed that the potential demand for gaming was substantially greater than the actual demand; they argued that one billion people lived within a three-hour flight from Macao and three billion within a five-hour flight. So they ploughed billions of dollars, a large part of it borrowed, in giant new casinos and hotels. It was a very ambitious bet- some said foolhardy.

The Venetian Macao involved an investment of US\$ 2.4 billion, with 980,000 square metres of space; to ensure the structure was stable, 13,500 steel piles were driven into the bedrock below. At peak times, 15,000 people were working on the construction site.

It opened in August 2007. It has 3,000 suites, 110,000 square metres of convention space, 150,000 square metres of retail and 51,000 square metres of casino, with 800 gaming tables and 3,400 slot machines.

It also includes the Cotai Arena, an indoor area with

a seating capacity of 15,000, which hosts sporting events such as basketball, tennis and boxing, as well as concerts and award shows that are televised internationally.

It receives about 100,000 visitors a day and has a staff of about 12,000

The 2008 financial crisis hit Las Vegas Sands, the owner, hard; its stock price fell 97 percent within a 52-week period. Chairman and chief executive Sheldon Adelson lent the company US\$ 1 billion of his own money.

But the company recovered and continued its ambitious expansion in Macao and other cities in Asia.

The Venetian is only one of several giant hotel-casino projects. Now the city has 35 casinos, compared to 12 in 1999. The ambitious bets have paid off handsomely. In 2013, gaming revenue was US\$ 45 billion, the highest of any city in the world and more than seven times that of Las Vegas.

This is a goldmine for the government also. The effective tax rate on the casinos is 38 to 39 percent, including a 35 percent tax on gross gaming revenue and a 1.6 percent contribution to the Macao Foundation, as well as a 1.4 percent contribution for SJM and 2.4 percent for everyone else to the Infrastructure/Tourism/Social Security Fund.

In 2013, the government's budget surplus reached an estimated 114.6 billion patacas, equivalent to 27.7 percent of GDP. It has posted such large surpluses since the casino boom of 2001. It is a financial position any government in the world would envy.

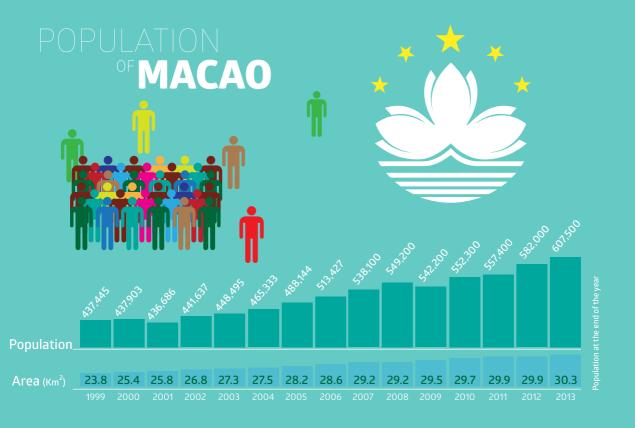
Tourists follow

Adelson and the other investors were betting that enough visitors would come to fill their hotels, casinos and restaurants, especially from the mainland, the most important market.

They were also betting that Beijing would allow a large number of people to go to the only city in China where gambling is legal, despite the outflow of capital.

In the mainland, except for two state-sponsored lotteries, betting is banned - but widespread, on mahjong, cards, roulette, football and other sports at home and abroad.

So Beijing believes that, while betting is bad, it is preferable to have one place where it can be legally conducted; it also wishes to support Macao in its principal economic activity.



NON-RESIDENT WORKERS







1999 Total - 32,183

2000 Total - 27,221



Total - 25,925







2004



2005





Total - 64,673



2007 Total - 85,207









Total - 75.813 2011





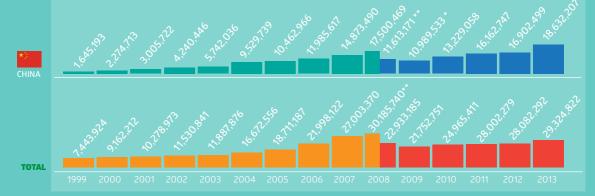




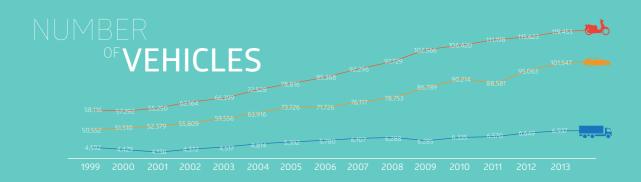
Total - 110.552



NUMBER OF TOURISTS IN MACAO



* In January 2009 there was a change in the definition of visitors, that started to be defined has someone that changes its place of residence for less than 12 months ** When the figures from 2009 were released, thefigures from 2008 were also revised





But even the most optimistic investor did not imagine the flood that would follow. In 2013, 29.3 million visitors came to Macao, an increase of 3.6 percent over 2012 and compared to 18.7 million in 2005 and 9.1 million in 2000.

Of the 29.3 million, 18.6 million came from the mainland; 6.8 million from Hong Kong; one million from Taiwan; 474,000 from South Korea; 291,000 from both Japan and Malaysia; and 190,000 from Singapore.

Of the mainlanders, 5.4 million came from Guangdong province; 444,000 from Shanghai; 260,000 from Beijing; and 238,000 from Zhejiang.

Of long-haul visitors, 180,000 came from the US; 110,000 from Australia; 74,000 from Canada; 61,000 from the UK; 43,000 from France; and 31,000 from Russia.

Jobs in the gaming industry represent 20.9 percent of the city's total employment, reaching 80,100 at the end of June 2014; their average monthly earnings were 16,000 patacas, compared to an average of 13,000 for all workers, including local and imported.

While gambling is the main reason people come, the city has diversified its range of attractions. It offers religious, gastronomic, historic and cultural tourism: some come to attend the sport events and the many artistic and music festivals and others for shopping. In the last five years, the city has hosted such famous artists as the Rolling Stones, the Beach Boys, John Legend, Celine Dion, Rihanna, Beyonce, Sting and Justin Bieber. Each year it hosts a world-renown Grand Prix in November and a leg of the World's Women Volleyball championship. With the new venues in the Cotai Strip, it has also held major boxing, wrestling and tennis events.

Shopping is also a major attraction, especially for visitors from the mainland who can buy luxury products free of the tax they pay at home. The city hosts all the major global brands. In its annual report for 2013, Louis Vuitton noted that growth had been especially strong in Macao. Its store here is one of the most profitable LV outlets in the world, with people queuing up outside to enter.

Mainlanders also like to buy cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and milk powder because of the assurance of quality.

It is in this context that the UNESCO decision in 2005 was significant. It recognised the historic centre of the city as a World Heritage Site; this gave Macao another identity in addition to that of a gambling centre.

Since then, the government and civil associations have worked hard to preserve and restore the churches, museums, private houses and other fine buildings that boast a history of up to 400 years and introduce them to visitors.

Historic and cultural visits have become an important part of the tourism agenda. The city's many museums, theatres and concert halls put on a wide range of exhibitions, and musical and cultural performances.

Stellar economic performance

The economy has grown more than five-fold since 1999, rare in the world.

According to official figures, Macao's GDP in 2013 was 413.5 billion patacas, an increase of 11.9 percent over 2012. Economic growth in 2011 was 21.3 percent and in 2012, 9.1 percent.

In 2013, the growth was driven by an 18.6 percent increase in gaming, a 4.4 percent growth in the number of visitors and 13.7 percent in visitor expenditure.

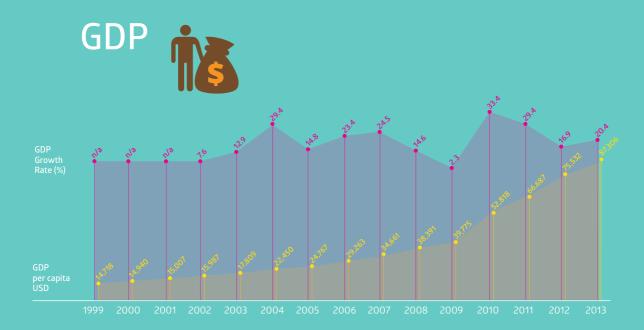
The population grew to 614,500 in the first quarter of 2014 from 434,000 in 1999. In 2013, there were 21,976 people and 7,282 buses per square kilometre, compared to 16,912 and 4,565 respectively in 2002. This makes Macao, especially the urban area, one of the most crowded places on earth.

This rapid economic growth has created thousands of new jobs for Macao people, especially in the service sector, offering opportunities and salaries that had never existed before. This growth will continue thanks to the second stage of development of the Cotai strip. Located between Taipa and Coloane islands, Cotai is a piece of reclaimed land of 5.2 square kilometres and will form the basis for a wave of future development, known as Cotai 2.0. By the end of 2017, all six of Macao's gaming concessionaires will have completed multi-billion dollar projects on the strip.

The development of these luxury resorts is expected to ease capacity constraints in the casino industry, which may see a slowdown in growth until the new properties in Cotai begin to come online in mid-2015. "Cotai 2.0 will basically bring a new wave of gaming areas which will always constitute the engine for further developments," said Luis Mesquita de Melo, a partner of MdME Lawyers.

The new resorts will cater for a different profile of player, the so-called "mass premium player", bringing about a more diversified entertainment industry able to attract families and longer-staying visitors, similar to a Las Vegas-style entertainment city, Melo said.













This remarkable growth has attracted thousands of migrants from all over the world. The 2011 census found that 92.3 percent of the population was Chinese, down 2.9 percentage points from the 2001 census. It found 14,500 Filipinos, 7,000 Vietnamese, 6,269 Indonesians, 2,252 from the Americas and 1,900 from Europe other than Portugal.

As of the end of June 2014, the number of imported workers was 155,310, accounting for 40.5 percent of Macao's total employment. Of these, nearly 100,000 came from the mainland and more than 20,000 from the Philippines, including 9,948 domestic helpers. There were also 12,780 from Vietnam and 8,612 from Hong Kong.

This has led to a new diversity of languages, cuisines and festivals. The city has nearly a dozen foreign Chambers of Commerce, including American, French, German, Irish, Portuguese, Romanian and EU. It has international schools for the children of these expatriates.

The city boasts 13 colleges and universities, four public and nine private, offering education opportunities that were unavailable before the handover and reducing the need to seek higher education overseas.

This internationalisation has enabled Macao people to meet and mix with a wide range of nationalities, practice new languages and learn new cultures and ways of thinking.

Downsides of growth

This remarkable growth has downsides as well as benefits. The most significant is the sharp rise in



housing costs. The price of a square metre has soared more than 10-fold from US\$ 6,261 per square metre in 2002 to US\$ 81,811 in 2013 – good for homeowners but putting an average apartment out of reach of a newly married couple. Over the same period, the average income increased from US\$ 4,627 a month to US\$ 12,000.

In a report published in July, the International Monetary Fund said that housing prices in Macao rose 42.6 percent in 2013 over a year earlier, after an increase of 38.4 percent, far faster than the rise in wages.

This rise in housing prices is the result of the increase in population, higher demand and a flood of money, mainly from the mainland, looking for good investment opportunities; property is the favoured choice of a majority.

Local residents also complain about the pollution, overcrowding and traffic congestion that has resulted from the flood of tourists, especially in the downtown shopping and commercial areas which they like to visit.

To relieve the congestion, the government is building a light rail system that will link the peninsula, Taipa and Cotai, serving the border gate, the outer ferry terminal and the airport. Main construction work began in February 2012 and the first section, in Taipa, is due to be operating in 2016.

In addition, it has launched a project to reclaim 3.5 square kilometres from the sea, more than 10 percent of the existing 29 square kilometres. This will provide increased public space, housing and commercial areas.



Closer integration

Another great change since 1999 is the integration with the rest of the Pearl River delta.

In January 2011, the first railway line on the western side of the delta started operations. It links Guangzhou South railway to Zhuhai, the city which borders Macao. The Zhuhai North station is five minutes' walk from the main border crossing.

The non-stop service from Zhuhai to Guangzhou takes only 46 minutes, while the longer service stopping at all the stations takes 76 minutes. From Guangzhou South, travellers can take a high-speed train to Wuhan, Shanghai and other cities in the mainland.

This new line has greatly facilitated travel, both business and personal, between Macao and the rest of China.



An even more ambitious project is a bridge 50 kilometres long that will link Macao to Hong Kong. Construction began in December 2009 and it is due to open for traffic in 2016. Costing more than US\$ 10 billion, this will be longest bridge in the world built over sea.

It will reduce the travelling time to Hong Kong from the current 60 minutes by high-speed ferry to 25 minutes by car. It will improve the access for visitors to Macao, especially for tourists who arrive at Hong Kong airport, given its proximity to the bridge.

Another important part of this integration is Hengqin, an island that is part of Zhuhai a short distance from Macao. During Portuguese rule, it was inhabited by 4,000 fishermen and farmers and Macao people rarely went there. It has an area of 106 square kilometres, more than three times that of Macao.

In 2009, the State Council declared it a New Area; since then, it has developed at breakneck speed.

This has yielded substantial benefits for its neighbour. The University of Macau has moved to a new site of one square kilometre on Hengqin, opposite the Cotai area; it is subject to Macao law and faculty and students can go to it without passing through immigration control.

Major entertainment projects are being built, which will enhance the tourism value of Macao by providing recreation and leisure activities for which there is no space in the crowded space.

The island has set aside an area of 4.5 square kilometres as a joint Guangdong-Macao industrial zone. 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 Hengqin management committee. 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 March this year, the company announced a plan to raise HK\$ 276 million from shareholders to build a food plaza on Hengqin, with a gross floor area of about 140,000 square metres, up to 100 restaurants and 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.

Macao people and companies have already established a presence on Hengqin. In January,

Banco Luso-Internacional became the first Macao bank to open a representative office on the island. 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 largescale supermarkets, a 3-D theatre, retail brands, international food and beverage chains and a spa centre as potential users of the centre.

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 be in future 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.

Bright outlook

In its report, the IMF said that the economic growth should stay strong over the next few years at eight to ten percent, buoyed by gaming exports and investment, with inflation remaining at around five to 5.5 percent.

It suggested that the SAR government should consider allocating "some part of its ample fiscal reserves to a sovereign wealth fund with a clear mandate to achieve better risk-adjusted returns over a long horizon".

It commended the authorities' focus on promoting non-gaming services and encouraged them to "explore more opportunities, including through broader integration with the mainland, further financial development and greater public investments in infrastructure and human capital."

> Photos by Eric Tam, M. Cardoso, Ricky Hu and GCS Illustrations by Gil Araújo



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Five more years as Chief Executive

Chui Sai On pledges to listen to the people, meet all challenges Housing and other livelihood issues given top priority

By Christian Ritter in Macao

Chief Executive Chui Sai On has pledged in his election platform to listen to the people, honour his commitments as well as meet all challenges. He also promised to give top priority to housing and other livelihood issues.

Chui, who was born in Macao in 1957, made the promises in a presentation of his campaign platform at Macao Dome on 16 August. Most of the 400 members of the Chief Executive Election Committee attended the meeting, which also included a question-and-answer session. Most of the committee members were elected by about 5,000 local citizens, while a few dozens are ex-official members or were elected by their peers.

Election manifesto expresses 'fearless sense of duty'

In his election manifesto, Chui points out that as someone who was born and brought up in Macao, "I have been upholding the core value of loving the motherland and Macao."

Chui, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in Community Health from the California State University of Sacramento and obtained both master's and doctorate degrees in Public Health from the University of Oklahoma, said in his manifesto that his decision to seek re-election for a second five year term at the helm of the government was based on careful consideration and his "fearless sense of duty".

He took over from previous Chief Executive Edmund Ho Hau Wa in December 2009.

His second term begins on 20 December 2014. Macao's chief executives can only serve two consecutive terms.

Chui, a former lawmaker and principal of Kiang Peng School, also said in the manifesto that the grounds and motivations behind his candidacy are rooted in his deep confidence in the principles of 'One Country, Two Systems' and 'Macao people governing Macao' as well as the Macao Special Administrative Region's high degree of autonomy within the framework of the strict implementation of the Macao Basic Law.

Chinese dream

"These advantageous policies will set us on the path to happiness and prosperity," Chui said. He also undertook to "unconditionally protect the national interests of sovereignty, security and development, and maintain Macao's long-term development".

Chui reaffirmed: "I understand deeply that the realisation of the Chinese Dream for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation is closely linked to the realisation of the desire to have a better future for Macao."

President Xi Jinping has described the Chinese Dream as "national rejuvenation, improvement of people's livelihoods, prosperity, construction of a better society and military strengthening".



Chui, who was the Macao government's policy secretary for Social Affairs and Culture between 1999 and 2009 during the first ten years of the Macao Special Administrative Region, said that "having been a public servant for a long time, always seeking to serve the residents of Macao, I feel that heavy responsibilities rest on my shoulders."

Chui also committed himself to "work with the people to carry out reforms and continuous innovation, guiding Macao to embark on a new journey".

Chui described himself as passionate about life, stating that "our people have high expectations for a peaceful living and working environment and an optimised ecological environment ..." adding that "their longing for a good life is the responsibility on our shoulders and the goal to strive for".

Chui, who was a key member of over several dozen local associations and an Executive Committee member of the China Youth Federation and honorary vice-president of the Chinese Preventive Medicine Association until winning his first chief executive election in July 2009, also said that "human-centred governance requires us to accept suggestions from the public, to be concerned with social reality and to exert ourselves to solve the difficulties and challenges ahead".

He continued: "Priority will be given to issues

concerning people's livelihood, such as housing, transport, environmental protection, social security and human resources."

Chui stressed that "efforts shall be made to promote continuously citizens' quality of life, speed up administrative reforms and build a clean and efficient government, encourage the stable development of democracy, and improve Macao's management system".

Chui, who oversaw Macao's vitally important tourism sector during his ten-year tenure as policy secretary, also said that the endeavour of developing Macao into a world tourism and leisure centre and a regional trade and economic service platform shall be vigorously promoted to foster democracy, the rule of law, justice, and Macao's economic development in a sustainable way.

As Macao's head of government Chui chairs a large number of public entities, such as the Board of Trustees of the Science and Technology Development Fund and Committee for Economic Development. He noted that he wanted to make joint efforts with the people to achieve "lasting stability, peace and harmony in our society. We will seize every opportunity to fully utilise our unique advantages, gain more insights and share the fruits of prosperity".





Election platform: moving forward and sharing prosperity

Chui's election platform highlights his strong commitment to tackling Macao people's livelihood issues.

The platform lists four key points: I) Building a liveable city; II) Diversifying development; III) Caring for people's livelihoods; IV) Enhancing quality of governance.

Building a liveable city

Chui promises to increase the number of public housing units and to complete most infrastructures of an area called Zone A by 2019. The government aims to complete some public housing units in the zone by 2020.

Zone A is a large land reclamation project off the north-eastern coast of the Macao Peninsula where the government plans the construction of 32,000 flats, comprising 28,000 public housing units and 4,000 flats to be supplied by the private property market. About 100,000 people are expected to live in the 1.38-square-kilometre area.

Macao had a population of 624,000 at the end of the first quarter of 2014.

The government's public housing policy consists of very low rent social housing units and subsidised home-ownership scheme flats which are much cheaper than those in the private property market.

According to the election platform, the government will review planning for other land reclamation zones for the long-term development of public housing projects.

The government also will survey the city's scarce land resources to locate suitable plots of land for the construction of more public housing units.

Chui said the government will revamp the city's old quarters, based on a comprehensive urban renewal drive, and also study the introduction of new types of public housing.

The aim of building a "liveable city" will give priority to public transport and improve public bus services. The number and routes of casino shuttle buses will be regulated and controlled, and the government will issue additional special taxi licences, Chui said. The government will also study the feasibility of building a fourth link between the peninsula and Taipa. Both are currently connected by three bridges, the oldest of which is restricted to public transport.

Chui also pledged to strike a balance between urban development and the protection of historic and cultural sites. He called for the promotion of patriotism: love for Macao and the motherland.

Diversifying development

Chui called for the establishment of a special committee to oversee Macao's transformation into a world tourism and leisure centre.

According to his platform, the government will review the performance of the government's concession agreements with the city's gaming operators which are expiring in the next few years. Chui also said his government will study the implementation of a system under which gaming operators and other big enterprises would provide accommodation and transport for their non-local employees.

The election platform also includes a plan to support "Made in Macao" and "Created in Macao" products, urging gaming operators and the public sector to give priority to locally made and designed products. Chuisaid the government will provide more measures to foster the development of small- and mediumsized enterprises (SMEs), set up a maintenance fund for industrial building and prepare the establishment of a credit insurance system for export, import and transit trade.

Chui also plans to set up a long-term mechanism for the distribution of fiscal surpluses – such as to consolidate the Social Security Fund – and to establish an investment and development fund.

Regional cooperation will focus on the development of cooperative platforms such as with Hengqin, Nansha and Cuiheng in Guangdong province, and the setting-up of a 24-hour customs clearance service in the long term.

Caring for people's livelihoods

The platform's livelihood chapter focuses on a wide range of issues such as caring for the underprivileged, managing the city's aging population, safeguarding employment for local people, nurturing talents, further developing education, and optimising healthcare. Chui's proposed policies include the establishment of a protection system for the disabled and improved assistance for families facing financial difficulties, as well as speeding up the construction of homes for senior citizens, expanding home-care support services and enhancing measures on the early treatment of dementia.





On the employment front, the election platform calls for the implementation of a comprehensive minimum wage policy and the establishment of a supervisory mechanism that promotes upward mobility for local residents.

Chui also committed himself to upholding the policy of banning non-local residents from working as croupiers.

He called for the launch of incentive measures for professional talents and the establishment of a professional certification system.

He also urged the expansion of vocational, technical and continuing education within the framework of the government's efforts to diversify the local economy. Special education is to be improved as well.

On the public health front, Chui called for the setting-up of professional medical training facilities and medical research organisations through regional cooperation. He said that his government would conduct regular population health surveys.

Enhancing quality of governance

According to his election platform, Chui, who has 15 years of experience in public administration, is determined to streamline government operations and structures, and to optimise the government's system of advisory and consultative bodies.

Chui said he is committed to implementing accountability and performance assessment systems for senior officials and to reviewing public servants' salary scales and recruitment systems. He is also determined to accelerate legal reforms and to conduct public consultations on all major government-drafted bills before they are presented to the Legislative Assembly for debate and voting.

In the conclusion of his election platform, Chui said that he is "deeply aware of the great responsibility and sacred mission that his post involves".

In his conclusion, Chui also promised to improve Macao people's quality of life and to achieve "harmonious progress" in local society.

"I will never be complacent but modest and careful," Chui pledged, concluding that he will do his best to contribute to the rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation and the long-term prosperity and stability of Macao.

He presented his election platform to the public in a large number of meetings with people from all walks of life each day during his two-week election campaign, answering a great many questions by members of the audience and the press. He was reelected on 31 August.

Photos by Eric Tam and Cheong Kam Ka









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Important Gathering

APEC tourism meeting in Macao

By Mark O'Neill







Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

This month Macao is hosting two meetings of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) forum, the first time it has held an international conference of this level.

The 45th APEC Tourism Working Group is being held from September 8 to 11 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Cotai and the 8th APEC Ministerial meeting at the East Asian Games Dome International Conference Centre on September 12 and 13. More than 500 delegates from 21 countries and regions are attending the event, which has a budget of 75 million patacas.

The holding of such an international conference is a milestone in Macao's history.

A news conference was held at the National Tourism Administration (NTA) in Beijing on August 26. Li Shihong, Director-General of its Department of Marketing and International Co-operation, said the objective of the meeting was "creating a new future of co-operation and tourism development in Asia-Pacific" and that it would issue a Macao Declaration.

Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, Director of the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO), told the news conference that the organisation of the meeting showed the strong support of the Central Government toward the Macao Special Administrative Region.

"In this, the 15th year of the SAR, it is a good

opportunity to display and promote Macao's image internationally," she said. "The members of the APEC economies will see the successful implementation of 'one country, two systems' and its distinctive cultural heritage. This will boost co-operation and future development between Macao and the members."

APEC

CHINA 2014

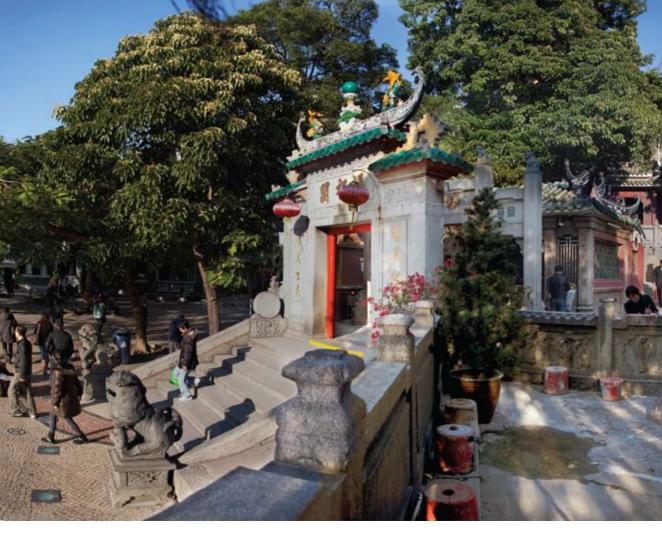
Participants include tourism ministers or their representatives from the 21 APEC member economies as well as representatives from 10 international organisations such as the APEC Secretariat, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Secretariat, the United Nations World Tourism Organisation and the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA).

They are discussing the integration of Asia Pacific tourism markets, the growth and transformation of the tourism industry, the promotion of 'intelligent tourism' with modern technology and encouraging low-carbon development and co-operation between tourism operators.

The official language is English, which is also the only language of the forum's official website.

It is the first time that Macao has hosted an APEC meeting. Unlike the mainland, Taiwan and Hong Kong, Macao is not an APEC member; it is taking part as a member of the mainland delegation.

China is serving as the APEC host country for the first time in 13 years. It is the first APEC Tourism Ministerial meeting held in China.



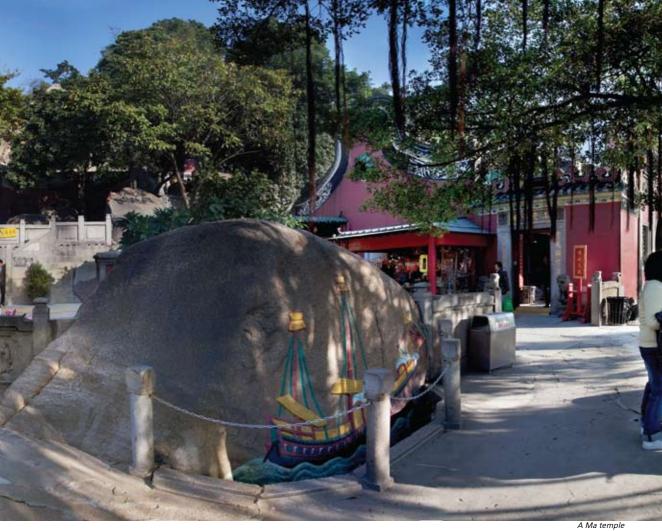
Promote unique tourism of Macao

The event is an excellent opportunity to promote the unique tourism of Macao. The MGTO is arranging tours for the participants, including visits to World Heritage sites in the centre of the city. There are also tours of Taipa and Coloane, where the visitors can experience the customs and traditions of the Islands District. On the evening of September 13, there will be a fireworks display.

The MGTO is promoting the event through cooperation with local, Greater China and overseas television stations, online networks and the print media.

The official website of the event is: **https://www. apec-tourism.gov.mo** It includes programme schedules, meeting venues, media information and travel information. The Government Information Bureau has set up a media centre at the Conrad Macao Hotel Cotai Central, with 160 workplaces and a shuttle bus to the event venues.





, ind temple



Eight months of intense preparations

tourism and leisure centre."

The decision to hold the meeting in Macao was announced by Vice Premier Wang Yang in November 2013 at the Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and the Portuguesespeaking countries in the SAR.

Early this year, Chief Executive Chui Sai On signed an executive order to form a committee to organise the event. It carried out eight months of intensive preparations, including many coordination meetings with the NTA and different departments of the Macao government.

"Macao will be able to show the successful implementation of 'one country, two systems' and offer the delegates a unique view into Macao's Chinese and Western cultural heritage," the Chief Executive said. "We will have the opportunity to foster the future co-operation and development of Macao and the APEC member economies and generate momentum to shape Macao as a world

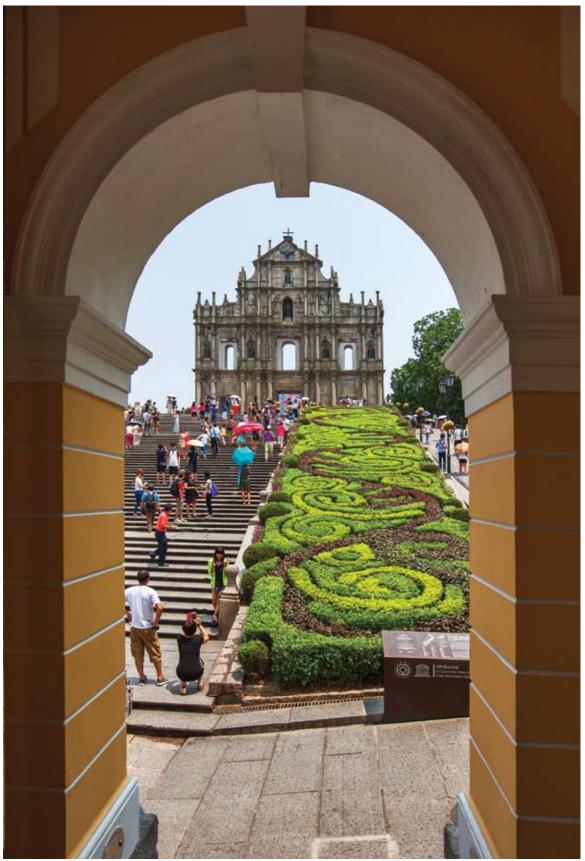
Premier forum for Asia

APEC was established in 1989; it is the premier forum for facilitating economic growth, reform and trade and growth in the Asia-Pacific region. Its members account for 40 per cent of the world's population, 55 per cent of global GDP and about 44 per cent of world trade.

The members are Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam.

It was in 2000 that the ministerial tourism meetings began. They have been held every two years by the APEC host country, with the aim of enhancing exchanges and co-operation in tourism in the Asia-Pacific region and promoting its tourism.





APEC meeting golden opportunity to promote Macao to the world

The APEC Tourism meeting in September is a golden opportunity to promote Macao's image in the world and one of the most important events to mark its 15th anniversary as a Special Administrative Region (SAR).

This is the judgement of Alexis Tam Chon Weng, chief of the office of the Chief Executive, spokesman of the government and the general secretary of the committee preparing the event. It has been working for six months, with a great sense of responsibility, to make the meeting a great success that will be remembered for a long time.

Macao has been working with the China National Tourism Administration (CNTA).

The event was announced last year by Vice-Premier Wang Yang during a ministerial meeting of the Macau Forum in the SAR. It has mobilised hundreds of civil servants from different departments, including tourism, education, media and security, for the organisation.

"Macao will gain international recognition and visibility," Tam said in an interview with Macao magazine. "It is a golden opportunity to promote Macao's image to the world. This is one of the most important events to mark the 15th anniversary of the establishment of Macao Special Administrative Region."

He said that the government wanted to take the

opportunity to make participants at the APEC meeting understand the successful implementation of the principle of 'one country and two systems' and the stability and harmony of Macao.

"The meeting will generate a momentum to present Macao as a world tourism and leisure centre. We also want the representatives of the 21 countries and regions who will be in the territory to appreciate the cultural heritage of Macao where Western and Eastern cultures met many centuries ago," he said.

The meeting is also an opportunity to forge future co-operation and closer relations in the tourism sector with the countries and regions that will attend.

"We would like to make friends with other countries and promote Macao at a bigger, international level. This meeting is a great opportunity to achieve these objectives. Hundreds of representatives of the 21 countries and regions of APEC will be in Macao," he said.

Tam said it was a great honour for Macao to host this big international event. "The choice of Macao reflects the full support of the central government of the PRC for the Macao government and its trust in the government's capacity to organise the event. It is a vote of confidence given to Macao by the central government."

Photo by Cheong Kam ka







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The Helmsman

Badminton fan goes from typist to head of Macao Sports Institute

By Filipa Queiroz



It has been a long journey for Macanese José Tavares. In the 1980s, he was a typist at the Leal Senado and now he is President of the Sports Institute (ID), which oversees the nearly 60 disciplines played in the city.

The past three decades have seen a revolution in sports, with the hosting of the 2005 East Asian Games and regular international events held here every year. Tavares has played a key role in these changes.

During an interview in the ID headquarters in Avenida Rodrigo Rodrigues, Tavares was genial but direct.

He was a typist at the Leal Senado and a member of staff of the Macao Statistics and Census Bureau. In the mid-1980s, he saw an announcement in the Official Government Bulletin about the creation of the ID and new administrative jobs there.

A badminton player and lover of sport in general, he liked the idea of doing something for local sport. "I had great expectations and was a little naïve," he said, with a hearty laugh.

The ID was set up as a public service department to guide, encourage, support and promote sport and act as moderator in relations between sports agents.

"When I started [in 1988], I understood right away that it would be easy to change things, particularly people's habits," said Tavares, who at the time was the third ID official. "I had good work colleagues and good bosses who I learned a lot from, particularly because they were very dynamic and wanted things to change." His colleagues included people with an in-depth knowledge of Macao, including some who had worked in the Education Department.

He said that the first step for the ID was to draw up laws and standards to regulate associations, so that they could receive support and act correctly with development of local sport in mind.

Macao had around 18 sports associations at the time; only some were legally established, with their statutes recognised in the official bulletin and by the sports institute.

"Little by little, we started to understand the difficulties and supported the associations to comply with the statutes as required by law, including regular meetings, general meetings and the writing of minutes," he explained. "All of that took a long time."



Self-made man

Tavares took full advantage of this opportunity. In 1993, he started studying Sport at the Macao Polytechnic Institute. He did his bachelor's degree and then a licentiate degree in a Complementary Course in Physical Education and Sport at the Escola Superior de Educação Física e Desporto (School of Physical Education and Sport), graduating in 2000.

He took his time because he studied at the same time as working at the institute. "It was difficult, but I thought that I needed some know-how



and the degree to move ahead in my career," he said.

He started as a third-level official and was later nominated as Assistant and then Head of the Sports Equipment Division, Head of the Sports Development Division and Head of the Macao Stadium Division at the ID.

As he changed jobs, so the world of sport in Macao was also changing. Sports associations were setting themselves up in an official way; the number rose to 30, then 40 and later 50, until they reached the current 57.

This increase happened together with a rise in

participation in international championships. "Before, nobody dared to go. They would stick to inter-regional competitions with Hong Kong and Guangzhou," he said.

After sports legislation was enacted at the beginning of the 1990s, people had regulations and financial support to compete abroad.

"The funding went like this: World championships: 80 percent; Asian championships: 70 percent. Regional events: 50 percent. It was a question of increasingly motivating them for competitions and for training," he said, adding that training was also a foreign word at the time.

Counting every pataca

"We had to train specialists and technical staff. What did I see in football, for example? Sixty-yearolds refereeing games. Not to mention that teams themselves were also aging and there was a lack of new blood and youth training," he said. The same was happening in other sports such as table tennis, which had players aged over 40 representing Macao on the international scene.

The institute also had to ensure that the heads of the associations of the various sports did not have leadership roles in other associations to prevent conflicts of interest.

Financial resources were another challenge. Times were lean, Macao still had few casinos and everything was calculated to the last pataca. Every subsidy had to be very well thought out and weighed up.

Tavares recalls meetings with sports associations to split the funds in the best way possible, meet everybody's needs and invest with international affiliation in mind.

"That was also a great victory of ours in the last 20 years," he said. Now practically all the associations are part of an international federation, with the exception of a few whose federations require membership of the United Nations.

Internationalisation

The ID worked hard to encourage regular training sessions, establish permanent teams to represent Macao and hire non-local coaches. Around the year 2000 they began to see an end to last-minute training sessions before events, irregular meetings and temporary teams.

"It was another revolution. At the beginning of the 90s, we signed a protocol with Guangzhou, which at the time sent coaches from the province to kick us off, and it worked," Tavares explained.

There were agreements with the People's Republic of China and Portugal and individual contracts. "We started with hockey, with a Pakistani coach. Judo got Japanese coaches and then Koreans. At the end of the 1990s, we hired an Iranian coach (Mohammadreza Rashidnia) who is still with us for karate."

And it was no longer just the institute driving change. The associations themselves had become more ambitious and hungry to make progress.

A new chapter

For José Tavares, the biggest change in local sport happened when Macao committed to organising the 2005 East Asian Games. This commitment coincided with the transfer of Macao's sovereignty in 1999.

"Things were more difficult before," Tavares said. "The government had difficult moments and money was more scarce. But, after the MSAR was established, everything started moving."

It took five years of great effort and a push from Edmund Ho, the first Chief Executive of the SAR. Work involved preparing for the games themselves as well as preparing local sports people to represent the territory at the highest level.

Getting the sports men and women ready was the responsibility of the ID; José Tavares was nominated Assistant to the Coordinator of the Games Coordination Office in 2001 and in 2002 became Administrator of the Organising Committee.

"I didn't sleep much. I'd leave the office at 9pm every day. It was a difficult time in my career, but very exciting because it was a big project here in the territory," he said.

Their strategy was to focus on potentially stronger sports such as wushu, karate and dragon boats, in which Macao had a good chance of success. "We wanted to bring some happiness to the population."

Did they accomplish the mission? "I think so. It went well, they were the best games ever and we had the best results ever. And that's when we decided to host two more events – the Lusophone Games (2006) and the Asian Indoor Games (2007)."

This gave Macao a great legacy in terms of facilities and the know-how for organising events. "From then on, Macao was not scared to host events. We have hosted several world championships and many Asian championships. People began to have the confidence to have events in Macao because they knew that we know how to do things."

More financial support

Tavares was Vice-President of the ID from 2003 and President since May this year. He called for the creation of "conditions for the future", because, "If we demand medals from our athletes we have to



give them conditions in which to achieve that." He mentioned two "big policies" announced in the Government Policy Address for the 2014 financial year - execution of a financial support plan to train sports talent and a financial support plan to retrain them after the end of their sporting careers.

The aim is to provide different levels of assistance based on the results of the athletes, who can choose to work on their sport either full- or part-time. So far 130 sports people have signed up, 16 full-time and the rest part-time.

The second project is intended to compensate the people who focused 100 percent on their sport at the end of their career by providing them with a scholarship for a course of study of their choice. "It is a way of integrating them back into society with a degree," said Tavares.

He spoke of another measure that has yet to be announced, at the time of the interview; this is to restructure prizes for top-level sports and regulation of prizes for disabled sports.

"We are in the study phase. It will complement support for high performance. We have established

conditions to tell the athletes: 'My friends, we are now able to sit down with you and bring ideas to the table to make your dreams come true,'" he said.

Think global

Last but not least is the Sport for All programme, which encourages people of all ages, all levels of education and every profession to exercise.

Every year the ID organises regular sports activities for everyone giving residents the opportunity to do physical exercise led by professionals in a safe environment, and with access to medical centres that provide sports-related medical testing.

"It is a great policy that has been put in place since the East Asian Games. At the time, it was implemented by the then Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture of the second MSAR government and now Chief Executive Fernando Chui Sai On. He had this beautiful vision and thought it was time for the population to make use of the investments made in the Games, both in terms of the facilities and the general climate," Tavares said. In just a few years Macao convinced not only the population to do sports, but also the international community. The large number of sports events in Macao is proof of this – the Women's Volleyball World Grand Prix, the Macao Golf Open, the Macao Marathon and International Dragon Boat Regattas – the recent "Triple AC Pioneer Award" from the Association of International Sport for All (TAFISA). In addition, since 2013, the Association of Portuguese-Speaking Olympic Committees has been headed up by José Tavares' predecessor, Macao's Alex Vong.

Is he a good example himself? "I don't play badminton any more because I have three problems: facilities, people to play with and time, which are all difficult to sort out. But I walk for an hour and a half every day to keep myself as healthy as possible," he said.

The problem of facilities is a bottleneck. The Mong Há Sports Pavilion has been under construction for years; work is now expected to finish in 2018. Plans for the Multi-sport Training Centre are "at a fairly advanced preliminary stage and will soon be approved", he said. Completion of the Training Centre is expected "at the end of 2017" despite being announced as one of the Government Lines of Action for 2010.

These facilities will make up for the difficulties of developing high-performance sport and youth training in Macao. The ID will be responsible for Forum Macao and the Hac Sa, Cheok Van, Estoril and Sun lat Sen municipal swimming pools.

Wushu, karate and taekwondo remain the most popular sports in Macao; there is a project to invest in training courses in partnership with the University of Beijing and seminars with sports personalities as well as events planned for the beginning of next year in partnership with the University of Lisbon, Portugal.

Tavares has worked as a civil servant since 1984 and dedicated two decades to sport. He said that, in the short term, he wanted to focus all his energy on projects that were already underway.

"I want to do something, leave something as a legacy for future leaders like the one that was left for me."

Photos by Cheong Kam Kaand GCS



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Young Kung Fu Master

by Louise do Rosario

Young Kung Fu Master - Jia Rui





Gold medal: Asian Games of 2010 in Guangzhou

From teenage athlete to gold medallist

With his casual wear and nice manners, Jia Rui looks like just any young person in Macao. But the 27-yearold is in fact a champion of martial arts, specialising in the quick and elegant manoeuvring of rods, swords and other traditional kung-fu equipment.

As the leading wushu athlete of Macao for the last decade, Jia has won gold medals at the Asian Games, East Asian Games and other international events.

This year, Jia will retire from professional competitions but will continue to work as a coach to local young athletes. "Macao has given me so much. It is my obligation to pay back to society."

Jia, born in the impoverished Henan province, has come a long way from an inexperienced teenage athlete to becoming a famous gold medallist. He was one of a small number of wushu athletes brought in from mainland China to help raise the standards of Macao's home-grown team.

Jia's parents were not athletes: his father was a civil servant and his mother a worker. This only child however showed talent in sports from a very young age. "I was not born strong and I got ill sometimes. My mum reminded me that her pay cheques often went on medicines and paying my doctor," he said.

Talent spotted

Jia came across wushu by accident when he was five years old. He was taken to a painting class, when he saw someone teaching wushu in the same building. He joined the classes for two weeks for fun and quickly quit when he found it clashed with his favourite cartoon programme on television. "I lied to my parents saying that I wanted to concentrate on my studies and not do wushu."

But the martial-art teacher saw great potential in Jia and convinced them to have the young boy stay in the class. "I was not the strongest among his students, but I was a fast learner. It usually took me one lesson to learn a new technique," he said.

Two years later, the teacher, a businessman who taught wushu as a hobby for free, recommended Jia to join the team of Kaifeng city.

It was tough training for the seven-year-old, as Jia had to get up at seven in the morning and practise with other youngsters until the late evening. "It was hard work but I enjoyed it very much. I was able to do difficult postures, like somersaults, which even older classmates could not manage. I had a great sense of satisfaction as I was able to take on challenges and overcome them."

After one year of intense training, Jia quickly rose to be one of the top three wushu athletes in the whole province of Henan.

Jia's talent caught the eyes of the more important Henan wushu team and he was asked to join them. "But first, I had to have a tough face-to-face interview with the managers. They asked detailed questions, as well as closely examining my facial features. You needed to have the right kind of face, to match the spirit of martial arts." The interview went well; by the end of the day, Jia had already started training with his new colleagues.

At this juncture, Jia and his parents had to decide whether to quit school and opt for full-time professional training. "I was doing well at school, sometimes being the top of the class. But it was increasingly difficult to do both training and school work well."

His parents finally decided to have the 13-year-old join the provincial wushu team full time because "career prospects were good", he said. Being a full-time athlete would also allow him to earn extra credits when the time came to enter university.

Tough training

In the ensuing four years, Jia immersed himself in the demanding world of professional athletic training.

All athletes ate, trained and slept in the same place. They woke up at five and started jogging and doing other exercises for hours. Jia found the training especially hard when his nasal allergy irritated him during winter.

Today, Jia recalls those days with nostalgia. "In the evenings, we played cards and had a good time. We were close friends with each other. Our teachers were caring as well. They wanted us to learn not only about wushu, but to have "cultural studies" three evenings in a week. We learnt different subjects, including calligraphy and English."

In 1999, Jia and his fellow colleagues came to Macao to perform, to celebrate the handover of the city to China. Little did Jia realise that the next chapter of his life would begin in Macao.

Coming to Macao

At 17, Jia was picked to be a Macao athlete, under an arrangement to have promising mainland athletes join the local team.

"My family was worried that I would be alone in a new world full of temptations. I personally did not have many anxieties. I just wanted to seize this valuable opportunity and use my ability to the fullest to develop my sporting career. I was full of expectations for the future. As a member of the Macao wushu team, I would have more chances to take part in major competitions than being in the national team."

The road to Macao was not entirely plain-sailing. "When I heard that I might be chosen for Macao, I was very excited. However, some coaches in Macao were worried that I was too young and that I did not have enough experience and training. Another more experienced veteran athlete, at 23 years old, was considered ahead of me." But fate was kind to Jia and he was eventually chosen.

Jia remembers that fateful day when he landed in Macao on 18 February 2004, his 17th birthday. There was no birthday cake to celebrate, but a new life awaited him across the border. "My parents accompanied me to take the train from Henan to Shenzhen. We spent one night with a relative in Shenzhen and took the ferry to Zhuhai the next day. It was an unusually cold day. I said goodbye to my parents at Gongbei Hotel and crossed the border to Macao, where my coach was waiting for me. Time flies; ten years have passed since then."

Jia's first impression was that Macao was a clean city and that people were polite and the traffic orderly. "People said Macao was a small city, but to me, it was big."

Jia was made to feel at home quickly. "My team members were very friendly, teaching me to speak Cantonese and taking me to good eating outlets. I learnt to like local snacks like curry fish balls and bean-curd dessert."

"I was not homesick in Macao. I did, however, feel a great deal of pressure, as I owed my achievements to the Henan provincial team, as well as to Macao. If I failed, I would disgrace both sides. Macao was taking a big risk in taking on a young lad like me. I was very clear about this and wanted to start training immediately."

Training hours in Macao were shorter - about two to three hours each day. "Given the shorter training





sessions, we had to make up the shortfall in quantity with quality," he said. During the daytime, Jia studied physical education at the Macao Polytechnic Institute. He studied human anatomy, nutrition, psychology and other sports-related subjects, which have helped him to perfect his sport. He received his first degree in 2009 and is now doing his second one.

Initial setback

Jia's path to becoming a gold medallist was not without bumps. In 2004, the first year of his arrival, he did not perform well. He was full of ambition and confidence but made serious mistakes in his performance at the Asian Wushu Championship in Yangon. His team got a bronze medal, but he did not get a medal himself. "I did not give up, but reflected on how to improve myself. It was a trying time for me."

A year after the disastrous setback, Jia returned with a vengeance. In 2005, he won for Macao his first gold medal at the East Asian Games in Macao. "Everyone was cheering on my behalf. I was very touched." In 2006, Jia had another unforgettable time at the Asian Games in Doha. He suffered from insomnia the night before his performance. His team did not manage to get a prize and he was the last hope it had. He ended with a silver medal. Jia said the pressure was so intense then that his fingers still slightly trembled whenever he spoke about the experience later.

In the ensuing years, Jia came first in many international competitions. Most of the matches involved him doing an 80-second choreographed performance within a floor space of 112 square metres.

Glorious times

One landmark for Jia was the Asian Games of 2010, in the Nansha Stadium of Guangzhou. On 14 November, he won Macao's first-ever gold medal in the games, making him the hero of a city longing to have such glory for a long time. He got 9.8 marks out of 10, with his trademark elegance. One press report wrote, "The cool-faced master has quick, fierce, strong movements that resemble those of a tiger."

Years of competition have severely tested Jia's emotional intelligence. He has a "Ground Zero" policy at all times. "Getting the top prize means you are good in only one particular match - not all future matches. After winning а competition, it's back to square one. The end of a match is the beginning of another. I would switch my focus immediately to the next match, study what my opponents were doing and think of ways to further improve myself. I have developed this mindset over the years and it is now almost second nature."

Jia has been voted an outstanding athlete in Macao for many years. In 2008, he was picked to represent Macao to carry the Olympic torch. In 2013, he was awarded the prestigious Silver Lotus award by the government.

Jia downplays the many awards he has received. "One should not place too much emphasis on getting gold medals. It is the process that is more important. Wushu helps us to develop a strong personality that does not give up easily." Jia knows he serves as a role model for local athletes. "I have to set a good example so that they can continue to uphold the fine tradition of wushu in Macao," he said.

Jia is imbued with a great sense of responsibility towards Macao, his adopted hometown. "When I speak in public, I am speaking not only for myself but also for my team. I am grateful to this city that has given me so much support."

Photos by Cheong Kam Ka and GCS





Receiving the Decoration of Honour - Silver Lotus from the Chief Executive Chui Sai On (2013)





Prehistoric Remains

Archaeologists discover Neolithic site in Coloane





現代煉鐵爐

Archaeologists hired by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) have discovered what they believe to be a late Neolithic (New Stone Age) or early Bronze Age site, dating back 3,000 to 3,800 years in the old quarters of Coloane.

This is a discovery of great historical importance because they are the first proof in Macao that humans lived here at that time. The archaeologists will continue their research and present a report at the end of the year to the IC.

The IC will decide then whether to declare the area a heritage site or to protect the remains in another way.

The site is located in Rua do Estaleiro (Shipyard Street), near the public Coloane Luso-Chinese School in Avenida de Cinco de Outubro, an avenue along the coast on the southwest of the island.

"The cultural value of this site is very high, as ancient people were cooking here, which I believe is the first time this has been discovered here," said Steven Ng Wai-hung, the IC's chief archaeologist and chairman of the Hong Kong Archaeological Society (HKAS).

He said that they had already found 60-70 items, including porcelain and stone pieces, most from

two eras - the late Qing and early Republican periods – and the late New Stone Age to the Bronze Age. Among the items were two cooking stoves in good condition; they prove that humans were living in Coloane at that time.

Ng said that they could date the times from the designs on the artifacts and that it is very likely there are other archaeological sites in the area.

Invitation from IC

In 2012 and 2013, the Cultural Institute invited mainland and Hong Kong archaeologists, geologists and environment experts to do research in Coloane. They decided that the area below the car park was of historic importance. So the car park was closed from 7 May until 15 September and they started digging.

The team found dozens of items, such as pots and plates, believed to belong to the Qing dynasty (1644-1911). As they dug deeper, they found dozens of pottery fragments, possibly from the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age.





The team has dug to a level of 1.7 metres, which means four to five levels of culture; they plan to dig to 2.5 metres and complete the work by early July. They will take samples of their findings to a laboratory at Zhongshan University for analysis and then write an archaeological report, for presentation to the IC. The whole project should take six months, meaning the report should be in the hands of the IC by the end of this year or early next year.

The items are comparable to those found in sites in Zhuhai, Shenzhen and Hong Kong.

Role of the Institute

The Institute has been paying close attention to the project.

On 3 June, Ung Vai Meng, president of the IC, and other officials of his department gave a presentation to citizens of Taipa and Coloane on the site and the cultural heritage of the two islands. Then they visited the site, for a briefing by Steven Ng.

IC President Ung said that archaeological work could be carried out due to the cooperation of the landowners. "Before the site is turned over to the owners, the government will make sure that all archaeological items are recovered," he said. "Our bureau has not decided whether the site is to be officially classified as a heritage site which should be kept.

"From the media, we have learnt that residents are concerned about this. These remains of history are of course important to Macao. These are historical remains, not an ancient site," he said.

He said that, in the first stage, the IC would collect the items that were registered with historical value and understand what items there were, in order to preserve them. "If conditions are ripe, the next stage will be to expand appropriately the area of digging and invite the residents of Coloane to take part. We will consider carefully how to avoid a conflict between archaeology and development.



"The government deeply cherishes and respects the cultural resources of Macao. They can be used in our education. The government must have a dialogue with residents and work out with them how to protect them," he said.

The government can do preservation in different ways – on the site, in a different site or in recorded form. It cannot build a museum everywhere.

The IC will make its decision after receiving the report from the archaeologists.

The HKAS has excavated several sites in Macao, including Chuk Wan, Hac Sa, Coloane Island and Ka Ho.

Earlier discoveries in Coloane

Coloane has seen similar research before. In 1995 and 2006, archaeological digs near Hac Sa Beach revealed evidence of human habitation thousands of years ago.

The excavations were carried out by a team from the Chinese University of Hong Kong led by Professor Tang Chung, a specialist in archaeology. They made impressive finds, unearthing a large number of objects including potsherds, stone tools and pieces of quartz and crystal ornaments; they indicated a small yet significantly advanced prehistoric civilisation living on the shores of Coloane Island, whose inhabitants were more than just subsistence fishermen.

Of particular importance was the discovery during the 2006 excavation of indications of a dwelling and storage area, making the site unique among similar sites in the Pearl River Delta region.

Conventional wisdom has always placed the ancient birthplace of Chinese civilisation around the Yellow River in central China; this has been the focus of many excavations over the years. Until recently, little was known about the ancient civilisations of southern China. The discoveries at Hac Sa lent weight to the theory that the Pearl River Delta region was just as advanced as the areas of central China in Neolithic times.

"The level of civilisation in this region could certainly have been as advanced as other cultures that existed in other parts of China such as the Xia and Longshan cultures", said Professor Wu Zhiliang, president of the Macao Foundation.

With a PhD from the University of Nanjing, and an intricate knowledge of Macao's history, Professor Wu was approached by the Hong Kong team before the 1995 excavations to provide assistance. The Hac Sa dig represented the first local endeavour undertaken by archaeologists and historians who were all locally born.

It also involved world-renowned scholar in Chinese studies, Professor Jao Tsung I, and collaboration with scholars from the University of Macau. The earliest investigations into the Hac Sa site were conducted in 1972 and 1973, and 1985. These studies, by amateurs from the Hong Kong Archaeological Society, involved only basic surface investigation work but revealed evidence of different cultures with stone tools and pottery. It was enough to inspire Professor Tang to return in 1995 for the first serious dig.

Professor Tang specialised in the study of archaeological theory and excavation techniques at the National Tohoku University in Japan, before returning to his native Hong Kong to continue his research into the rise of coastal oceanic culture in East Asia.

Initially Tang and his team conducted surface investigations on Taipa, but, due to the level of development, they found it impossible to access any likely sites.

Potential locations in Coloane Island were also limited, because many of its coastal areas had been developed for residential complexes and villages.

Finally a small site was chosen inside Hac Sa Park, just back from the beach. The 1995 excavation covered just 32 square metres and lasted 12 days. The dig site was divided into six separate layers with cultural remains unearthed in levels one, three and five. Immediately after the excavation Tang and three colleagues spent 180 days numbering the relics; they took meticulous measurements, notes, drawings and photographs, to compile a highly detailed report of the over 200 pieces found.

Returning in 2006, Professor Tang extended the area of the site to 124 square metres with similarly exciting results.

"It is well known that there are many sand dune sites in the Pearl River Delta estuary and that these sites spanned from the Neolithic period to more recent times," said Tang . "Hac Sa is a sand dune site near the sea with hills in the surroundings; such good living conditions are likely to have provided an ideal environment for habitation in ancient times."

The serene 1,200-metre coastline of Hac Sa Bay facing the South China Sea, with the hills behind, was a perfect location for prehistoric settlements, as was most of the South China coastline.

"The village at Hac Sa was located on a hillside, which provided a source of drinking water. Lagoons were also a feature of the area which made agriculture feasible," said Professor Wu Zhiliang.

The waters of the South China Sea and the Pearl River Delta provided ample sources of seafood.





Unique findings

There are around 400 known pre-historic sites throughout the Pearl River Delta, but a few discoveries at the Hac Sa site made it unique.

"Quartz and crystal are very hard materials, but the fact that they were being used to produce various kinds of accessories suggests that the inhabitants of the site possessed very advanced drilling technology, which was more advanced in comparison to contemporary sites in Taiwan, the Philippines and North Vietnam," noted Professor Tang.

In particular, a stone rotary axis, believed to be part of a rotary machine, was unearthed during the 2006 dig.

"This provides strong evidence that the people at that time already possessed the knowledge of how to make and use machinery in stone accessory manufacturing," Tang added. The location of the Hac Sa site and the production of these tools and ornaments was no coincidence.

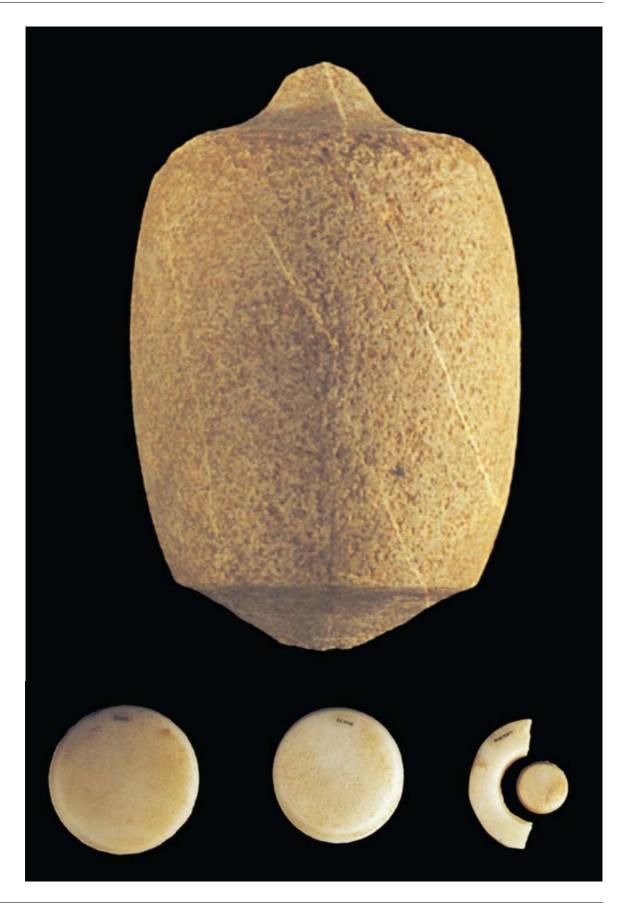
Tang explained that there was a close relationship between ornament workshop sites of the Neolithic period and the coastal environment, with the quartz sand playing a significant role as an abrasive in the manufacture of ornaments.

Another significant find in the 2006 dig was the set of remains of a prehistoric dwelling complete with storage area containing around 80 pieces of quartz and crystal accessories. Professor Wu Zhiliang explained: "Such storage is rare, not only in the Pearl River Delta region, but also throughout China, because it was organised in a cellar, which could indicate that the level of socioeconomic development in this region 4,000 years ago was quite advanced."

Indeed this discovery also suggested that the supply of ornaments was greater than the demand for them by the inhabitants of Hac Sa. Professor Tang did not rule out the possibility that the ornaments were also used as objects of trade with other inhabitants in the region. The discovery of the dwelling remains also gave Tang's team a sense of how many people may have lived in the area.

"Based on the few house remains found, we can estimate that there might have been a population of around 100 staying in around 8 to ten houses over a few generations in this settlement," he said. Some of the other artefacts found included stone grinders, polishing stones and tools for felling trees, grinding plant foods and processing bone tools. There were also a number of fragments of fired clay bowl-shaped pots; all these pointed to a highly advanced culture for its time.

Not only were the finds at Hac Sa significant, but Professor Tang and his fellow researchers were widely praised by the scientific community for their highly precise excavation techniques and methods of analysis, which were likely to set a benchmark for all future studies in the area.





Japan won Macao Pool of FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix with three victories

Japan outshined Asian rivals China 3-1 to win Pool I of the Intercontinental Round of the FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix at the Macau Forum in August.

South Korea was third and Serbia forth.

The 2014 FIVB World Grand Prix women's volleyball tournment ended in Tokyo with the victory of Brazil after beating Japan 3-0.

Russia was third followed by Turkey and China.

Photos: Courtesy of FIVB







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. 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.





2014/06/24

Pier project, in Taipa island, to be completed by year-end

Infrastructure Development Office (GDI) Director Chan Hon Kit said he expected construction of the long-delayed Pac On Ferry Terminal project in Taipa to be completed by the end of the year.

The original plan for the Pac On pier, construction of which began in 2005, was to alleviate the overcrowded facilities of the Outer Harbour Ferry Terminal, but in 2006 the government decided to make it a fully-fledged ferry terminal to cope with the increasing number of tourists arriving by sea. This resulted in major changes to the terminal's previous design which had to be expanded.

Before the government changed its mind and deemed the future terminal should take on a much more important role, the terminal was originally slated to be completed in 2007. However, due to project changes a temporary terminal was built in Pac On in 2007.

The government said in late 2012 that construction would be completed by the middle of last year, but then the government admitted that there had been a delay and gave the new completion date as the end of that year. However, the Marine and Water Affairs Bureau (DSAMA) told reporters earlier this year that the GDI would be able to hand over some parts of the terminal to the DSAMA by the middle of this year.

Macao newsline

2014/06/26

Air Macau's profit hits MOP 280 million

Air Macau has recorded a profit of MOP 281 million for 2013.

According to the board of directors' report, the Air Macau directors believe that the company has once again recorded a good surplus due to the GDP growth in mainland China. They have also attributed this success to the concrete corporate planning of Air Macau; the restructuring of plans for the fleet; the implementation of aggressive marketing plans; and the effective control of costs.

The report also announced that approximately MOP 20 million would be put into the legal reserve fund. The company has also declared MOP 7.5 million in dividends for its shareholders. The company will carry more than MOP 253 million into the 2014 financial year.

Air Macau has been recording annual profits since 2010. According to the annual report made by Air China, Air Macau's largest shareholder, the total number of passengers carried by Air Macau in 2013 exceeded 1.8 million, an increase of 13.65 percent year-on-year. The Macau aviation operator also transported a total of 13,471 tons of cargo and mail, marking an increase of 8.31 percent.





2014/07/02

Government vows to improve platform role

Secretary for Economy and Finance Francis Tam Pak Yuen said that the government would further improve the city's role as a business service platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries by setting up three strategic centres – a centre for commercial services for small-and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), a convention and exhibition centre and a centre for the marketing of foodstuffs.

Tam made the remarks in a speech attended by ministerial-level delegations from the Portuguese-speaking world.

Tam said that according to the announcement made by Vice Premier Wang Yang during last year's 4th Ministerial Conference of the Forum for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries, the central government supports the setting-up of the three centres in Macao. Macao has hosted the forum since its inaugural meeting in 2003.

During last year's visit to Macao, Wang also announced eight new measures to boost co-operation between China and Portuguese-speaking countries and support the development of Portuguese-speaking countries. The measures include 1.8 billion yuan provided by the central government in concessional loans to the forum's Asian and African members. The forum convenes every three years.

The forum's members comprise Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, East Timor, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Portugal. (macaunews/macaupost)

2014/07/02

Macao surpasses Switzerland in GDP per person – World Bank

Macao has become the world's fourth richest territory per person, leapfrogging Switzerland, according to World Bank report.

Macao Special Administrative Region reached per capita gross domestic product of US\$ 91,376 in 2013, an 18.4 percent jump from the year before. Macao is right behind Luxembourg, Norway and Qatar, and ahead of Switzerland which has an income of US\$ 80,528 per person in a fifth place. In 2012 Macao was ranked sixth by the World Bank behind Bermuda and Switzerland. The 2013 list does not include Bermuda; however as in 2012 its GDP per capita was estimated at \$84,471, so it would probably trail Macao.



2014/07/15

Chui Sai On's manifesto focuses on people's livelihood

Chief Executive Chui Sai On said in his re-election manifesto that he will give "priority to issues concerning people's livelihoods, such as housing, transport, environmental protection, social security and human resources."

The 57-year-old public health expert made the pledge during a press conference about his reelection bid.

Chui, who was born in Macao and obtained his master's degree and PhD in Public Health from the University of Oklahoma, also promised to speed up administrative reforms and "build a clean and efficient government."

Chui's current 5-year term ends at midnight on December 19. The Basic Law allows him to seek re-election for one consecutive term.

Chui, who took up his current position on December 20, 2009, also said his government would encourage the "stable" development of democracy and promote the rule of law and the city's sustainable economic development.



2014/07/16

Macao and Zhongshan to establish 'co-operation pilot zone'

The Macao government signed a framework agreement with Zhongshan city to establish the "Guangdong-Macao Co-operation Pilot Zone" in Cuiheng district, Guangdong province.

The signing ceremony took place after the annual joint meeting of co-operation between Guangdong and Macao, which was held in Macao.

In addition to the establishment of the co-operation pilot zone, the two governments also signed another five agreements on enhancing collaboration in other fields. According to a statement about the joint meeting, a five square-kilometre area will be set up in the "first phase" of the project. The two parties will also establish a joint venture investment company to launch the development and construction of the pilot zone, the statement said.

According to the statement, the zone is to be divided into five functional sub-zones, namely Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Co-operation Industrial Park, International Trade Services Platform, Guangdong-Macao Education and Training Park, International Cultural Exchange Zone, Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Tourism Co-operation Zone.

Cuiheng, the birthplace of the founder of modern China Dr Sun Yat-sen, lies some 30 kilometres north of Macao. Hengqin Island lies just a few dozen metres Macao.



2014/07/16

Baccarat generates 91 pct of 1H casino revenue

VIP and mass-market baccarat combined generated 91 percent of local casinos' gross revenue in the first half of this year, according to statistics released by the Gaming Inspection and Co-ordination Bureau (DICJ).

VIP baccarat alone produced 62 percent of the casino sector's gross revenue in the first six months.

While VIP baccarat's gross receipts amounted to 119.7 billion patacas, those generated by massmarket baccarat reached 56.5 billion patacas. The casino sector's gross revenue stood at 193.1 billion patacas (US\$ 24.137 billion) in the first six months.

Casinos generated 99.67 percent of the gaming industry's total gross revenue in the first half of this year.

The number of casinos remained unchanged at 35 – 20 owned by SJM, six by Galaxy, four by the Venetian Macau, three by Melco Crown, and one each by Wynn Resorts and MGM Grand Paradise.



Macao newsline

2014/07/20

Think tank says co-op

between government, civic groups 'important' Macau Development Strategy Research Centre (CPEDM) President Lionel Leong Vai Tac said that the government's co-operation with civic associations was important to Macao's development, adding that there was a need for administrative reform.

Leong made the remarks on the sidelines of the think tank's annual conference in which civic leaders in various fields were invited to speak at the one-day event , with topics ranging from civic education and training professionals to public transport, the local economy to regional co-operation.

Leong, a businessman and member of the Executive Council (ExCo), the government's top advisory body, said the government should assist civic associations that provide the types of social services that the government cannot. "We should think whether the government should bear all types of social services, or if the government should collaborate with civic associations... If the government takes care of everything, you can be sure that its departments will be enlarged and the number of civil servants will be increased," said Leong.



2014/07/23

Japanese visitors rise 25 pct in June

Macao's number of visitor arrivals from Japan rose 25 percent to 24,208 in June, the highest year-on-year growth of any major visitor segment in that month, according to data released by the Statistics and Census Bureau (DSEC).

The number of South Korean visitors grew 24.5 percent year-on-year to 41,786 last month.

June's total number of visitor arrivals rose just 4.6 percent year-on-year to 2.4 million. Mainlanders accounted for 65.7 percent of all arrivals. The number of visitors from the mainland grew 9.1 percent year-on-year to 1.59 million last month.

Visitors from the mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan combined accounted for 90.3 percent off the total number of visitors in June.

In the first half of the year, visitor arrivals rose eight percent to 15.28 million.





2014/07/25

Macao Orchestra perform in Taiwan for first time

The Macao Orchestra perform in Taiwan for the first time during a concert that opened in Taipei, bringing with it works by Rachmaninoff and other masters. Led by artistic director and principal conductor Lu Jia, the orchestra will perform also in Hsinchu, Kaohsiung and Taichung.

The orchestra will perform Bruckner's "Symphony No. 6 in A major," Rachmaninoff's "Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18," and Rimsky-Korsakov's "Scheherazade, Op. 35."

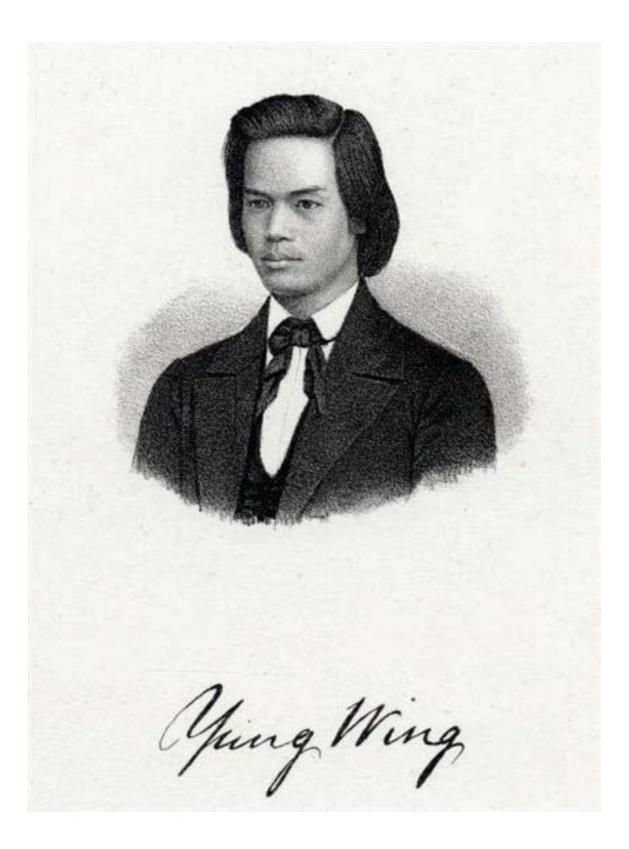
It will also play "Little Sisters of the Grassland," a Chinese pipa concerto composed by Liu Dehai, Wu Zuqiang and Wang Yanqiao. The orchestra, formerly known as the Macao Chamber Orchestra, was established in 1983 and became a professional orchestra in 1995.

2014/08/06

Government donates 100 million patacas for Yunnan quake relief

The Macao government has donated 100 million patacas (US\$ 12.5 million) to the Yunnan earthquake relief effort. The temblor struck the province's Zhaotong prefecture on 3 August 2014. A statement from the Spokesperson Office said that Chief Executive Chui Sai On informed the central government about the decision, saying the government would continue to provide all the necessary help and support to Yunnan.





Pioneer Students

Two sons of Macao Morrison School leave deep footprint in China

By Ou Nian-le

Two remarkable men – Wing Yung and Huang Kuan – both studied at the Morrison School in Macao. Their education there gave them the springboard for their future lives and careers, leading both to become pioneers and leave a deep footprint in China.

One was the first Chinese to graduate from Yale University; he later organised the first mission that took 120 Chinese students to the US. The other was the first Chinese to graduate from a university in Europe; he spent the rest of his life as a doctor caring for patients in Guangzhou.



Morrison School

The school was established by a British missionary teacher named Mary Warnstall who had gone to Malacca to teach; there she met and married a Prussian missionary Karl Gutzlaff; they moved to Macao in December 1831.

They decided to use their house as a school to provide a Western Christian education for Chinese children; she was the teacher and principal. It was the first school of this kind in China. The funding came from the Morrison Education Society (MES), set up in memory of Robert Morrison, the first Protestant missionary in China who died in Guangzhou on 1 August 1834, aged 52, and is buried in the Protestant cemetery of Macao.

Yung was born on 17 November 1838 in Nanping village on Pedro island six kilometres southwest of Macao. He was the third of four children; his father rented 0.2 hectares of land and dealt in fish and shrimps.

A neighbour and friend of his father was the principal servant of Mrs Gutzlaff. Thanks to his introduction, Yung was admitted to the school in 1835; tuition

Statue of Huang Kuan at the Confucius Institute of Scotland at Edinburg University

and board were free.

When he first set his eyes on the headmistress, the seven-year-old boy clung to his father in fear; he had never seen a 'Big-Nose' before. She was dressed in a long, flowery white dress. "I was less puzzled than stunned –having never in my life seen such a peculiar and odd fashion."

He studied hard for the next four years. Then, in 1839, fearful of a war between Britain and China, Mary Gutzlaff decided to move to the US, and the school closed.

Yung went to work for a Catholic priest in Macao, who needed someone with sufficient English to do clerical work. Then, for two months, he helped a foreign missionary doctor at his hospital in Macao, preparing materials for pills and ointments and accompanying him as he went round the wards.

In 1841, he returned to the school after it re-opened with a new principal.

It taught primary arithmetic, geography and reading, using English in the morning and Chinese in the afternoon; each day they had three-four hours of exercise and recreation in the large grounds. In 1842, the school moved from Macao to Hong Kong, after the island was ceded to the British government as a result of the Opium War. The government donated the school a site 600 feet above sea level that is still known as 'Morrison Hill'. One of his fellow students was Huang Kuan, also the son of a modest family in Tangjiawan township, now part of Zhuhai.

Move to the United States

One day in August 1846, the new headmaster, Reverend Samuel Brown, shocked his pupils; he told them that, because his own and his family's health was deteriorating, he had decided to return to the US. He invited them to volunteer, if they wished, to go with him.

After several minutes of stunned silence Yung stood up, followed by Huang Kuan and one other. They were the first Chinese to go as students to the US.

With funding provided by British and American donors in Hong Kong, the three studied at the elite Monson Academy, a private school, where they learnt ancient Greek and Latin.

On graduation, Huang went to study medicine at Edinburgh University. His patrons in Hong Kong said they were willing to support him if he went there. In 1855, he became the first Chinese to graduate from a university in Europe; two years later, he obtained a PhD in pathology and anatomy.

Yung passed the exam for Yale University; he received funding from American sponsors and also did part-time work to raise money. He was a member of the university boat club, sang in the choir and played American football, with his pigtail waving in the wind behind him.

In 1854, he graduated in English literature in a class of 98, the first Chinese graduate of this famous university.

Return to China

After returning to China, he took a job as an interpreter in the Hong Kong Supreme Court and started to study law. This caused an uproar among the British lawyers who feared that, because he alone mastered English and Cantonese, he would monopolise all the Chinese legal business. His principal told him to study Hong Kong law elsewhere – but there was no other place.

He moved to Shanghai to work as a translator in the Imperial Customs service and as a clerk in a British firm of tea and silk merchants. Then he was hired as an inland agent by the British trading firm, Dent and Company. This gave him a good salary and the opportunity to travel widely in China, to inspect the production and sale of tea and silk.



Alex Salmond, First Minister of Scotland (left), Huang Kuan statue and Sir Timothy O'Shea chancellor of the University (right)

He found himself caught between two worlds. The Americans he had met at Monson and Yale treated him much better than the majority of foreigners he met in Hong Kong and Shanghai; most had a deep prejudice against Chinese. On the other hand, many Chinese found him too Westernised.

Joins Self-Strengthening Movement

In September 1863 came a turning point in his life – he met Zeng Guofan, the Viceroy of Jiangsu and Zhejiang and the highest-ranking reformer in the Qing government. At Zeng's invitation, Yung joined the government.

His first assignment was to spend 68,000 silver taels on machinery from the Putnam Machine Co of Massachusetts for the Jiangnan Arsenal northwest of Shanghai. It became the largest weapons factory in East Asia. In 1873, he arranged an order of 50 Gatling guns for US\$ 100,000.

That same year, he completed a report on the terrible conditions of Chinese labourers in Peru, including secret photographs of them taken at night; it was so shocking that the government stopped the trade.

He proposed many reforms; but the government, conservative and inward-looking, rejected nearly all of them.

But, in the winter of 1870, they accepted his idea to send students to the US and allocated US\$ 1.5 million. He was overjoyed. This was the project for which history best remembers him.

Educational mission

Yung found it extremely difficult to find applicants; most parents considered it dangerous to send their children so far away to a 'country of barbarians'. Would they ever return?

Of the 120 who went, 84 were from Guangdong, including 39 from Xiangshan (now Zhongshan), the county adjoining Macao. Parents there were more open-minded than those in the rest of the country. Yung arranged for two students to stay with an American family, to help them adapt better to life in this strange place. They went to American schools and played basketball and football. Some were baptised as Christians, defying a Qing government ban; and nearly all cut off their pigtails, which was obligatory for Chinese men back in China. After 1876, a new official sent to the US by Beijing began to lobby against the mission; he argued that it had turned the young men into Americans and that all should be recalled, even before they had graduated.

Then the US State Department agreed to admit Japanese but not Chinese to the West Point and the Annapolis Naval Academy, the most important colleges for the American army and navy. This was the last straw.

In 1881, the government ordered all the students to return; only three had graduated from university. The Rev Noah Porter, President of Yale, wrote a letter of protest to the Chinese Foreign Minister, praising the good behaviour and hard work of the students. "As a result of their good conduct, many of the prejudices of ignorant and wicked men toward the Chinese have been removed and more favourable sentiments have taken their place."

While the young men had to return in the middle of their studies, they returned to achieve great things at home in many fields – mining, railways, telecoms, education, commerce and the military. In the decades that followed, they inspired thousands of other Chinese to follow their example.

Loss of his wife

Yung's next challenge was to take care of his American wife, Mary Kellogg, whom he had married in 1875; she was 24 and he 47 and they had two sons. She was the love of his life. Unfortunately, she died of a kidney disease in June 1886 in Hartford, Connecticut. He brought up the two sons, with the aid of his mother-in-law; both went to study at Yale. He continued to make ambitious proposals to the government, including the establishment of a national bank, the building of railways and mortgaging Formosa (Taiwan) to a Western power for US\$ 400 million to be spent on a national army and navy to fight the war against Japan in 1894-95.

He was closely involved in the 100 Days Reform in June 1898, the most far-reaching changes of the Qing dynasty; they included following the example of Japan and making China a constitutional monarchy. The conservative forces in the government were outraged; troops surrounded the Imperial Palace and arrested the emperor. With a price of 70,000 dollars on his head, Yung had to flee to Hong Kong. He lived his last years in poverty in Hartford and died on 21 April 1912; he was buried next to his wife in a city cemetery.

Model doctor

After completing his studies in Edinburgh, Huang Kuan arrived in Hong Kong in January 1858 but stayed only one year in the city. He was disappointed by the prejudice of the Western doctors – despite his outstanding academic results.

He moved to Guangzhou, where he spent the rest of his life, most of it at the Boji (Helping Everyone) missionary hospital. He and its director, an American missionary doctor named John Glasgow Kerr, were pioneers in surgery in China.

In 1860, Huang performed the first Caesarean section in China. He also specialised in removing bladder stones, a common condition in Guangzhou. During his career, he performed more than 3,000 such operations.

By 1870, the hospital was treating more than 26,000 patients a year. During his 47 years at the hospital, Dr Kerr treated almost one million patients.

The two men pioneered the teaching of medicine in China, setting up the Nanhua Medical School in 1866. Huang devoted much of his time to the difficult and complicated task of translating medical terms into Chinese. In 1879, the school accepted its first three female students – years ahead of medical schools in Europe.

In October 1878, Huang fell ill from an infected boil. He died on 12 October, at the age of 49. He had lived a simple life, dedicated to his patients and his teaching.

In his tribute, Yung said: "He graduated third in his class in Edinburgh University and was an outstanding person in the medical world. His wisdom and technical ability made many people admire him. He was an outstanding surgeon. When he died, Chinese and foreigners alike mourned him. He was very popular with foreigners."

Huang Kuan is remembered today in his hometown of Zhuhai and in Edinburgh.

In September 2007, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, chancellor of the university, unveiled a bronze statue of Huang, donated by the Zhuhai government, outside the Confucius Institute for Scotland at the campus.

Among those present was Alex Salmond, the First Minister of Scotland.

"Huang Kuan was the very first Chinese person to study in any European country," he said. "We have experienced the historical association from countries like Scotland and China, both countries with deep historical knowledge. It means a great deal."

(Photos by courtesy of Edinburg University)





Powerhouse of Learning

Zhuhai becomes education hub, with 200,000 university students

Louise do Rosário in Zhuhai



On 20 June, the officials of a university and the Zhuhai city government gathered in a tent in a lychee orchard in the pouring rain to break ground on a new campus. It will cost at least 800 million yuan and cover 60 hectares.

The new site of United International College (UIC), set up only nine years ago, is a symbol of the dramatic growth of higher education in this coastal city.

Fifteen years ago, Zhuhai had no university and no university students. Now it has eight universities and more than 200,000 students, the largest of any city in Guangdong after Guangzhou, the provincial capital.

Six are branches of major universities elsewhere in China: one is Macau University, which has set up a new campus on Hengqin island; and UIC is a new institution, a joint venture between Hong Kong Baptist University and Beijing Normal University (BNU).

Education has become a pillar of the city's economy, thanks to the spending of faculty staff, students

and their families; the properties they buy and rent; the graduates they provide to the city's companies; and the contribution of human talent they make to business and civil society.

Education is a 'green' industry, suitable for the economic model which Zhuhai has chosen: a centre of tourism, leisure, retirees and selective industrial development, with a well managed environment. In 2013 the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences chose it as the best city in the country to live in.

The Zhuhai model is unlikely to be repeated anywhere on the mainland. Now the policy of major cities with colleges is to build a 'university city' on giant greenfield sites which allow their existing institutions to expand, thereby negating the need to set up campuses in other cities.

Accidental result

The creation of Zhuhai as an education hub is a historical accident.

Liang Guangda was Mayor and Communist Party



chief and deputy party chief of the city between 1983 and 1995. He was keen to establish a university there. He set aside land in the Tangjiawan district and built an enormous teaching and administrative block, then the biggest single structure in the city; it had 77,000 square metres of space.

But obtaining approval for a university from the Ministry of Education is a long and rigorous process. Liang was unable to attract the necessary teaching staff nor obtain the permissions he required. So he was left with a large and expensive new building that lay empty.

At that moment, the Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen) University of Guangzhou was looking to set up a new campus and negotiating with Zhongshan, the city that borders Zhuhai.

Liang's successor as mayor, Huang Longyuan, stepped forward and offered the empty building and the land it stood on free of charge to Zhongshan University. The two sides signed an agreement in September 1999 and the new campus opened for classes one year later. Fourteen years on, it has more than 9,000 students and teachers, including those from the faculties of arts, science, medicine and industry. The Zhuhai site includes the university's colleges of tourism, translation and international business.

The campus has a total built-up area of 300,000 square metres and a library with 250,000 books covering an area of 36,000 square metres. In the dormitories, there are four students per room, each with an average space of ten square metres, one of the most spacious in China.

Huang and his colleagues saw a market opportunity. Zhuhai could offer greenfield sites to universities far larger than existing campuses in crowded cities where there was no room to expand. For them, it was an opportunity to increase student numbers and revenue and custom-design a new campus in the way they wished.

The government offered farmland in the city suburbs that was sparsely populated; the costs of relocating the farmers were low. It gave favourable terms to the universities to attract them. The location of Zhuhai was appealing – close to Macao and Hong Kong, with easy access by expressway to Guangzhou and its airport, it has one of the most attractive environments in the country, with many kilometres of coastline, extensive greenery and a warm climate.

The plan also was in line with the policy of the central government for a rapid increase in tertiary education.

Most of the diplomas offered are the same as those given at the mother campuses – even if many students consider those given in Zhuhai to be not as prestigious.

Huang's strategy proved a remarkable success. In September 2001, Jinan University – also from Guangzhou – opened its Zhuhai campus; it was followed the next month by Harbin Institute of Technology.

In 2002, Beijing Institute of Technology and Beijing Normal University (BNU) followed suit; in 2003 came Jilin University Software College.

Liberal Arts College for the world

The most unusual of the new campuses is United International College (UIC), a joint venture between BNU and Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), which opened its doors in September 2005.

It was the first such venture between a mainland and a Hong Kong university and only the second, after Nottingham University, between a mainland educational institution and one outside the mainland.

This made the approval process long and difficult, as the Ministry of Education had no precedent to work with.

The key figure was Xu Jialu, currently chairman of the UIC council. Born in June 1937, he entered BNU as a student in 1954 and, on graduation, joined the faculty of Chinese. He continued to work at the university, rising to the position of deputy principal from 1987 to 1994.

In March 1988, he became a member of the standing committee of the National People's Congress, a position he held until March 2008.

This background gave him a close relationship with senior officials of the Ministry of Education and gave them the confidence to approve the project.

He was seeking to set up a new kind of university

in China, at the same time as HKBU was looking to expand onto the mainland.

"UIC is of strategic importance to HKBU, marking its expansion beyond Hong Kong and bringing onto the mainland the university's philosophy of wholeperson education, which gives equal weight to arts and sciences and instills value beyond the acquisition of knowledge," wrote Professor Ng Ching-fai, vicechancellor of HKBU, in the summer of 2005. "BNU accords a high priority to nurturing students' inner self, dovetailing perfectly with the whole-person education ethos championed by HKBU.

"This mould-breaking development ... enables HKBU to work with a top-rated mainland university to create a higher education institution of distinctive character. It will broaden the outlook of students from the mainland, Hong Kong and elsewhere through the interaction of different cultures," he wrote.

The Ministry of Education approved the request of HKBU to manage the new institution without a Communist Party committee that is the norm at universities on the mainland. The medium of instruction is English; it is HKBU which awards the degrees.

Xu said they selected Zhuhai as the best location. "It was convenient not only from the transport point of view but from the viewpoint of personnel and the special thinking of Zhuhai," he said. "The thinking in the interior is not so open."

The location meant that UIC could attract faculty and administrators from Macao and Hong Kong; they could live full-time on campus or live at home and come to the university for work.

BNU set aside 133,000 square metres of its land for UIC to build its own campus; in the early stages, the students used the facilities of BNU.

HKBU provided a loan of HK\$ 150 million for the construction, to be paid back over the 30-year period of collaboration.

Rapid growth

UIC accepted its first students in September 2005. The first years were not easy. BNU provided no investment but made available its library, canteen, sports facilities, apartments and swimming pool. UIC thought that it had only to build a teaching area. The BNU library had few English books; so UIC had to build its own library and then apartments, canteen and other facilities. Its income came from tuition fees and bank loans.

By 2014, the number of students had grown from an initial 200 to 4,000. On 21 June, it held its annual graduation ceremony for 1,000 students from 17 different disciplines. Of them, 50 percent intend to pursue their further studies overseas.

The new campus, in Tangjiawan's Huitong village 1.5 kilometres from the current site, is an ambitious project. It will have space for 6,000 undergraduates and 2,000 post-graduate students, on a site of 200,000 square metres. It will have teaching and administration blocks, a college of music and visual arts, performance hall and sports stadium, with the first phase due to be completed in the first part of 2016.

The biggest headache is funding. As a private institution, it receives no funds from the government, on the mainland or Hong Kong; its only income is

tuition fees, currently 60,000 yuan a year.

It has established a foundation to receive donations from individuals, companies and parents of students. It also plans to solicit low-interest loans from entrepreneurs who want to contribute to education.

The first donation it received for the new campus was 100,000 yuan from five students including Jia Fan, who graduated this year from the accounting department. During their four years at UIC, the five set up two restaurants near the campus; they also collected one million yuan from the university to build a primary school in Guizhou province.

The donation was an expression of gratitude. "Coming to UIC was a success for me," Jia said. "It gave me space and a platform to develop. It far exceeded my expectations. I hope that the college can get better and better and give more space to its students to achieve their dreams."

(Photos by Eric Tam)



Fruitful Trip

China, Brazil sign agreements worth US\$ 11 billion during President Xi's visit

By José Ricardo in Brasília



During the visit by China's President Xi Jinping to Brazil in July, the two countries signed agreements worth US\$ 11 billion, a sign of their thriving economic relationship.

Xi went to Brazil on 15 and 16 July, to meet national leaders and attend a BRIC summit held there. It was the first stop of a four-nation tour that also took him to Venezuela, Cuba and Argentina.

"My trip to Brazil was intended to boost strategies to create a more prosperous future for the two nations," he said. He added that his meeting with his Brazilian counterpart had been "in-depth and fruitful" for "continued and stable growth of twoway trade", which was one of the main subjects discussed by the two countries.

"Cooperation is at the centre of our relationship and we plan to increase exchanges further as a way of extending our mutual knowledge," he said.

Trade between Brazil and China rose sharply from US\$ 3.2 billion in 2002 to US\$ 83.3 billion in 2013. China is now Brazil's largest trading partner, with iron ore, soy and oil being the biggest Brazilian exports.

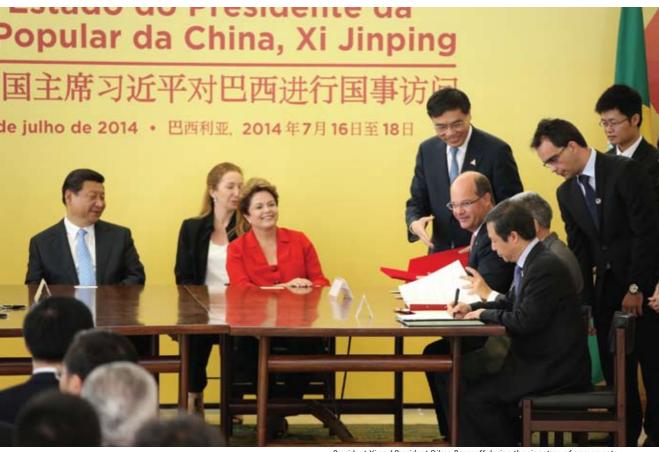
Many agreements

On 17 July in Brasilia, the governments of Brazil and China signed 32 cooperation agreements on infrastructure, mining, trade, science and technology, defence, energy, education, civil aviation and finance.

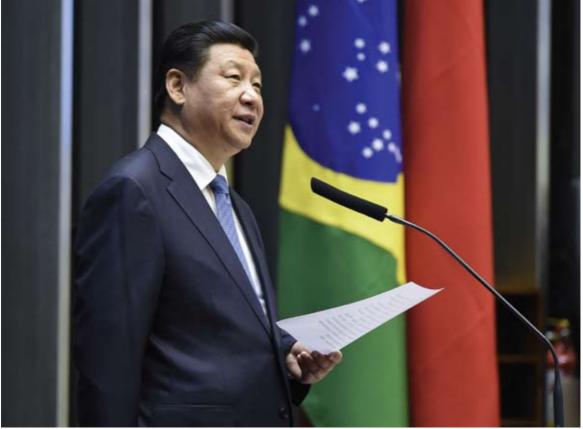
One agreement was for the sale of 40 Embraer aircraft - E-190 and 190-E2 models - to Tianjin Airlines and the Industrial Bank of China and 20 aircraft - E-190 - to the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC Leasing) in a deal worth US\$ 3.2 billion.

China's Eximbank provided a three-year credit line of US\$ 5 billion for Brazilian mining company Vale to buy ships and equipment from Chinese companies, and the Bank of China opened up a credit line of US\$ 2.5 billion for Vale to buy Chinese equipment and services.

The Construction Bank of China completed the acquisition of 72 percent of Brazilian bank Banco Industrial e Comercial S.A. for 1.62 billion reals, agreed in October 2013.



President Xi and President Dilma Rousseff during the signature of agreements



State Grid Corporation of China signed an agreement with Brazilian power company Eletrobras to build high voltage transmission lines for the Belo Monte hydroelectric facility. China Three Gorges Corporation signed an agreement with Brazilian state companies to take part in a dam-building project on the Tapajós River, which crosses the Amazon basin.

The agreements also included the simplification of applications for business visas for foreigners, valid for three years, 90-day stays and 90-day extensions. Cooperation on railway projects is under consideration.

In the defence sector, the two countries signed a partnership agreement to use remote control technology for the Amazonia Protection System. Other areas of cooperation included infrastructure, partnerships between universities from both countries and increasing the number of internships offered to students from the Science without Borders exchange programme.

Chinese company Build Your Dreams (BYD), the world's largest manufacturer of electric buses and iron phosphate batteries, announced plans to build a factory in Campinas, Brazil, by 2015 to manufacture buses not only for the Brazil market but also all of South America.

President Xi speaking at the Brazilian Congress

Presidents meet

The agreements were signed after a meeting between Xi Jinping and Brazil's president, Dilma Rousseff, after the Chinese head of state had been received with military honours and a parade of the Brazilian cavalry, to the sound of the national anthems of both countries.

After the signings, Dilma Rousseffsaid: "The balance of business between Brazil and China could not be more positive and the future could not be more promising. Our relations, which make up a truly strategic relationship, are developing at an unprecedented rate with many areas of cooperation."

"We also reiterate the importance of the financial relations that naturally result from growing economic interaction between the countries and we note that, in an adverse international context, with a persistent financial crisis, Brazil and China have shown themselves capable of maintaining and extending their economic growth policies," she said.

On the sidelines of the signing, Brazil's Agriculture Ministry announced that China had suspended its embargo on beef from Brazil, a measure put in place in December 2012 following a case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in Brazil's Paraná state. In 2015, the Brazilian government expects to sell US\$ 1 billion of beef, especially to Hong Kong, the biggest importer of meat from Brazil.

BRICS want change

The Brazilian president also said that Brazil and China both called for changes to international financial institutions and policies. It was a clear reference to the 6th BRICS summit (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), which announced the creation of a bank, the New Development Bank. It will be based in Shanghai and have a starting capital of US\$ 50 billion and is intended to fund infrastructure projects in emerging economies.

"Our countries have an important role to play in the necessary and urgent process of reforming international financial institutions and policies," said Rousseff.

She added that she had also discussed with Xi bilateral issues and international matters, including conflicts in the Middle East, particularly in the Gaza Strip, and cyber security.

Presidents highlight strategic partnership

At a lunch at the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Brasilia, after the agreements were signed, President Rousseff noted the 40 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries and the advances made in the strategic partnership between Beijing and Brasilia.

In his speech, President Xi said: "Despite the geographical distance, we are closely linked by a

deep traditional friendship. We have a deep mutual political trust. I am convinced that, with our joint efforts, the tree of friendship will bear many flowers and much fruit."

Xi also took part in the 6th BRICS summit, which involved meetings in Fortaleza and Brasilia with the presidents of South Africa, Brazil, China, India and Russia and presidents of 11 South American countries.

Brazil-China partnership fine example of South-South cooperation

During his visit to the Brazilian Congress, Xi said the partnership between Brazil and China was a great example of South-South cooperation.

"Today the relationship between our two countries is no longer just a two-way relationship as we are at a higher level," he said.

He said that relations had grown significantly in the last 40 years and called for Brazil and China to increase their role in the international community.

"Relations between China and Brazil (...) have moved beyond merely being two-way and increasingly have a global projection. In the last five years, China has been Brazil's largest trading partner and Brazil is the biggest trading partner and most important destination for Chinese investment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

"We should make use of the 40th anniversary of our diplomatic relations as a new starting point to (...) advance our Global Strategic Partnership to a higher and more comprehensive level," he said.

(Photos by Xinhua News Agency)



President Xi Jinping and President Dilma Rousseff during the BRICS meeting

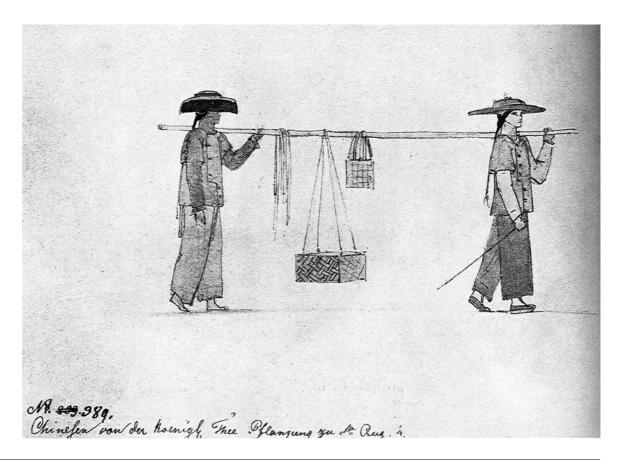
Old Friends

China-Brazil relationship began in Macao 200 years ago

2014 marks 40 years since diplomatic relations were established between Brazil and the People's Republic of China, but exchanges between the two began two centuries ago – in Macao.

"It all began on 6 March 1809, when the Ombudsman of Macao wrote to the Prince Regent D. João, offering qualified workers to help build the capital in Rio de Janeiro," according to Brazilian researcher Carlos Moura.

In the letter from Ombudsman Miguel de Arriaga Brum da Silveira, written 205 years ago and filed at the Overseas Historical Archive in Portugal, the crown representative said he could send Chinese workers to help build Brazil's new capital. He noted: "It is known how active and industrious the Chinese are."



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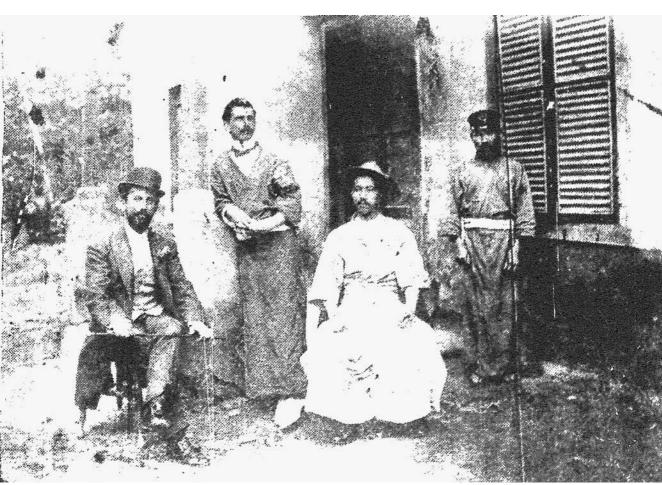
Soon after, in a letter dated 22 March 1809, Brum da Silveira told the Secretary of the Navy and Overseas Dominions, João de Almeida, that agricultural workers had been sent. He attached a copy of his correspondence with the Prince Regent, proposing the annual dispatch of Chinese from "several arts" for construction of the new capital.

In 1810, the Naval Secretary requested that the Macao ombudsman send "tea plants and Chinese pottery experts". They were sent immediately from Macao on the ship Ulisses.

Despite the long distance and many months of the voyage between the two, there was extensive

correspondence between Brum da Silveira and the Court in Rio between 1809 and 1815; it dealt with the dispatch of specialised workers for agriculture, carpenters and stonemasons for work sites and the pottery industry, to be recruited in large Chinese cities.

In the first few years, over 300 Chinese workers travelled from Macao to Brazil. A shipment of tea saplings and seeds from China, sent via Macao, was planted on the Corcovado mountainside as far as Lagoa, where the neighbourhoods of Botafogo, Jardim Botânico and Vista Chinesa (Chinese View) are located.



Chinese farmers in Brazil

Bamboo, orange, avocado, mango and other saplings were also sent from Macao to Brazil.

Years later, as a result of the good relationship between the two countries, the first trade and shipping treaty was signed by China and Brazil.

The first Brazilian consulate-general was set up in Shanghai in 1883 and, at the time of the Brazilian Republic, in November 1908, the Minister of Foreign Relations, Baron of Rio Branco, nominated an official representative to attend the funeral of Emperor Guangxu.

The following year, in acknowledgment of this gesture, the new Emperor of China sent his representative in Paris, diplomat Liou She-shun, to Brazil.

During his visit, in October 1909, the Chinese diplomat met not only the President of the Republic, Nilo Peçanha, but also the president of the State of Sao Paulo, Albuquerque Lins. He also went to the city of Santos, with mayor Vasconcelos Tavares, and visited the port together with the businessmen and directors of Cia. Docas (Docks Company). He expected an increase in exchanges between the two countries. In an an interview with the newspaper O Estado de São Paulo published on 23 October that month, Liou said there was a "large amount of mutual interests that could be regulated between Brazil and China, both through a trade treaty and by establishing a migratory flow of Chinese to Brazil."

The role played by Baron of Rio Branco, the Brazilian Foreign Affairs Minister at that time, led the Chinese emperor to award him the Order of the Double Dragon.

In 1914, three years after the proclamation of the Republic of China, the same diplomat Liou Shesun arrived in Rio de Janeiro to set up and head his country's first embassy in Brazil.

At the end of the 19th and start of the 20th centuries, trade between the two countries was difficult and rare. A limited amount of porcelain and Chinese silk reached the Brazilian market through Arab and European traders.

Ambassador Liou She-shun

Then, in October 1971, in an audacious move, Sao Paulo businessman Horácio Coimbra, chairman of coffee company Companhia Cacique de Café Solúvel, visited the Guangzhou Fair. There, in the company of the Consul to Hong Kong, Geraldo Holanda Cavalcante, he met business people and officials. After Guangzhou, he visited Beijing where he was received by members of the Chinese government.

In the report of his trip to the Brazilian authorities, Coimbra asked: "Why, then, with patience and perseverance, can't we list China in the category of large buyer and supplier to Brazil?"

Three years later, after exchanging official missions, in 1974, diplomatic relations were established between the Federal Republic of Brazil and the People's Republic of China, led by Mao Zedong.



LEGATION INFÉRIALS

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1 Jun

Courtesy of the International Institute of Macau -IIM



Ambassador Liou She-shun with Baron of Rio Branco (1909)



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

By Emanuel Pereira, in Maputo



e cec

Mozambique is set to have one of the most promising liquid natural gas (LNG) export markets over the next decade, thanks to recent discoveries of vast reserves of natural gas. Although exploration has yet to begin, the race for concessions in the Rovuma basin already involves multi-million dollar deals.

Known for years for its extreme poverty, Mozambique is now highlighted internationally for its natural resources, rich in hydrocarbon reserves, and minerals such as coal.

The Rovuma sedimentary basin in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, which until recently was an unknown region of the world, has turned this country on the Eastern coast of sub-Saharan Africa into the location of one of the world's largest natural gas reserves, alongside countries such as Russia, Iran, Qatar, the United States, Australia and Norway.

With quantities of natural gas constantly revised upwards it has become difficult to determine exactly how much gas there is in this Indian Ocean basin, although the latest figures from the Mozambican government point to 180 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

The Maputo government split the basin up into six concession areas, which they granted to multinational companies Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi S.p.A (ENI), Petronas and Statoil. So far only concession Area-1 and Area-4 have announced "massive" natural gas discoveries.

ternationally for There is no information available on the results of test drilling by Malaysia's Petronas, which holds the concession on Areas 3 and 6, but the company has so far invested around US\$ 50 million in drilling a single test well whose findings are promising.

In what can be seen as an indication of a delay to its activities in the Rovuma basin, in the last 12 months, Petronas has asked the Mozambican government for an extension of its prospecting license. If the results it gets from testing are in the meantime "satisfactory" Petronas can make use of a 30-year period for commercial exploration, in line with other companies that signed contracts with the Mozambican authorities in the oil and gas sector.

granted the concession in 2006, has 20 wells drilled

to date. Estimates point to reserves of between 45

and 70 trillion cubic feet of recoverable natural gas.

In Area-4, led by Italy's ENI via its subsidiary ENI East

Africa, projections point to around 90 trillion cubic

feet of natural gas. By the end of September 2013

the company had drilled ten test wells.

Norway's Statoil's results were less positive, and in 2013 it gave up on its surveying of Areas 2 and 5 in favour of "projects with greater potential", in countries such as Angola, Tanzania, Brazil and Mexico. The Norwegian oil company's exit from the project is almost certain, but that does not mean, however, that the project itself will come to an end as Ireland's Tullow Oil plc, which acquired Statoil's 25 percent stake, has already shown interest in carrying on with prospecting activities, this time focused exclusively on oil.



Area-1, managed by US group Anadarko, which was

Prospects worth billions

In the two-time Oscar-winning film by Paul Thomas Anderson There Will Be Blood (2007), Daniel Plainview, the ambitious and vengeful protagonist, a role that won Daniel Day-Lewis an Oscar, stands up against the monopoly of US company Standard Oil by refusing an offer of US\$ 1 million for some promising oil wells, which he bought in California for a small sum.

Although the film fictionalises the rampant nature of the oil business since the beginning of the 20th century, some of its messages are relevant to the current reality of oil and gas projects around the world, including those in the Rovuma basin.

Since acquiring their concession, Anadarko and ENI have sold some of their capital to other multinationals, in deals involving several billion dollars.

The Mozambican state has had a 15 percent stake in Area-1 via Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH) from the beginning of the project, though its current shareholder structure now includes Indian groups ONGC Videsh (20 percent) and BRPL Ventures (10 percent), Japan's Mitsui&Co (20 percent), and Thailand's PTT (8.5 percent).

Anadarko, which started out with an 85 percent stake in the project, now has 26.5 percent, which makes it the operator of Area-1. As well as this offshore project, the US oil company also has an onshore concession, also in Cabo Delgado province, which so far has no known natural gas prospecting activities.

Taking as a basis the price paid by Mitsui&Co in 2008 for 20 percent of Anadarko's stake in Area-1, of just over US\$ 140 million, and the fact that in 2013 ONGC Videsh paid out about US\$ 2.64 billion for 10 percent, it is easy to see the rising value of the Rovuma concessions.

The lucrative sales of stakes go even further, with some companies acquiring stakes at a low cost, stating their interest in carrying out the natural gas exploration projects, only to later sell their stakes for huge sums, without their involvement having actually contributed to the projects at all.

In 2008, for example, Videocon Industries paid US\$ 75 million to Anadarko for 10 percent of its capital. Five years later it sold that same stake for US\$ 2.4 billion to ONGC Videsh.

Although it has had fewer changes to its shareholder

structure, the project managed by ENI has also been lucrative, particularly for the Italian oil company which, in 2013, was paid US\$ 4.21 billion in the sale of 20 percent of its stake in the project to the China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC).

"CNPC's move into Area-4 is a strategic development for the project, because of the Chinese company's position in global up and downstream sectors," ENI said in a statement about the transaction. They went on to note that a joint venture may be set up by the two companies to explore a "promising" shale gas block in the Sichuan basin, in China.

The Area-4 consortium is currently made up of ENI (50 percent), CNPC (20 percent), Korea Gas (10 percent), Portugal's Galp Energia (10 percent), and Mozambican state company ENH (10 percent), but this structure may see changes as ENI has shown interest in selling off another 15 percent of its stake, which is expected to happen over the next few months.

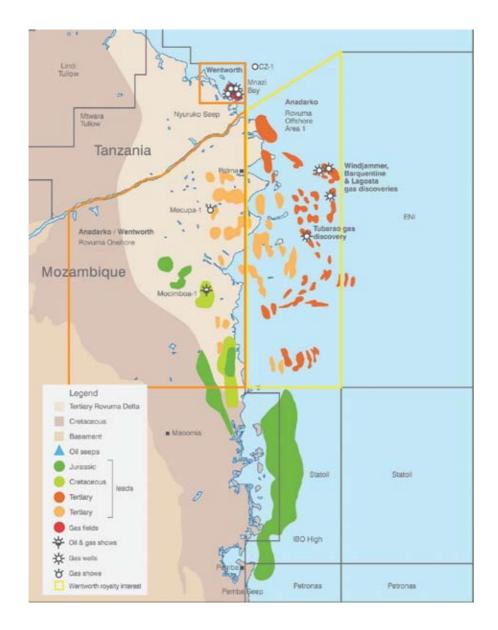
"Unexpected" and valuable capital gains income

The Mozambican state has not charged tax on all the capital transactions over the last few years in the Rovuma basin or in other "mega-projects" for exploration of natural resources in the country. In 2013, however, it controversially charged capital gains tax of around US\$ 800 million on some of those deals.

In the deal to sell 20 percent of ENI's shares to China's CNPC, the Mozambican government negotiated with the Italian company to charge a capital gains levy of US\$ 400 million. In the Videocon Industries deal the State managed to net revenues of US\$ 224 million.

"If the rate charged to ENI had been 32 percent, we would have netted over US\$ 1 billion. This way we ended up with US\$ 400 million," Fátima Mimbire, from the administrative probity of the Centre for Public Integrity (CIP), told Macao magazine, noting that the problem of taxing capital gains was related to "political rather than technical issues".

The Mozambican government was severely criticised for not establishing a single set of criteria for charging capital gains tax, as the rate of taxation varied from deal to deal. This year it announced plans to set a rate of 32 percent on all future transactions, thus directly pegging it to Corporate Tax (IRPC).



Discussion amongst the country's economists now focuses on how the government should spend the money. The Government has so far used it for current expenses related to the State budget such as salary payments or repaying Value Added Tax (IVA) to companies. Some people are of the opinion, however, that the country should establish a sovereign or investment fund.

For those people that are calling for this measure, the State should start preparing to invest in future natural gas exploration projects in Areas 1 and 4, where it has a stake via ENH. Construction of units for liquefaction of natural gas alone is expected to require total investments of US\$ 60 billion until full exploration, according to government forecasts.

"In Botswana, for example, the State agreed not to take part in investments for extraction and only receives part of the profits. In Mozambique, however, the government agreed that ENH would also help pay for investments, which is a concern as we know that our capacity to take on loans is not very big and we can see that capita gains are not being channelled into investment funds," said Mimbire.

As an alternative, Mozambique, may ask the companies to provide ENH's share of investment, though this option would result in a delay in receiving any profit for the state from gas exploration projects.

Legislative review may allow for renegotiation of Rovuma LNG contracts

The new Oil and Mining Law is about to go up for approval in the country's parliament. This new law will replace the current law, from 2001, which was the basis for negotiation of the oil and gas exploration projects in the Rovuma basin.

Although in a different context and on a much smaller scale, Mozambique already has some experience in the natural gas sector through the project in Pande and Temane, regions of the coastal province of Inhambane, led by South African petrochemical company Sasol.

The project, which in 2004 started exporting natural gas extracted in the region along a pipeline to South Africa, has been criticised by Mozambican civil society, which accuses it of generating residual revenue for the Mozambican state unlike the initial project that pointed to possible revenues of around US\$ 2 billion over the project's 25-year lifetime.

"The value of sale of gas from Mozambique in South Africa is now over US\$ 800 million per year, whilst the state's total revenue in the first eight years of the project was less than US\$ 50 million," according to a report from the CIP on the Mozambican state's revenues from the Sasol project.

Initial projections of possible state revenues from the Rovuma projects, which pointed to profit of around US\$ 5 billion per year, are now under question and some projections now point to no more than US\$ 1.2 billion by 2026.

In line with the requirements of the International Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (IEITI), the Mozambican government recently published the Rovuma concession contracts. Now that the content of the contracts is known, the government is under pressure to renegotiate them.

"As they have been published, we believe it is time to start renegotiating the contracts because we can now see that they are not very good," said CIP's Fátima Mimbire.

Palma, the future LNG export powerhouse?

With its modest gross domestic product (GDP) of around US\$ 14 billion, Mozambique is anxiously awaiting the launch of LNG exploration projects in the Rovuma basin and, of course, their revenues. Driven by a lively economic optimism and bolstered by large investment projects linked to natural resources, such as those of Brazilian group Vale and Anglo-Australian group Rio Tinto in the coal region of Moatize, in Tete province, Mozambique's young economy has seen "consistent" annual growth of around 7 percent.

This level of growth puts Mozambique amongst the fastest-growing economies on both a regional and global level, and it is expected to remain there until the beginning of the next decade, according to projections from the World Bank and the International Monetary fund (IMF).

The Mozambican government and multinational companies Anadarko and ENI have pointed to 2018 for the first shipments of LNG to be exported from Mozambique, although some more cautious analysts do not expect exports to begin before 2020.

"We are working at full tilt for production to begin within the legal deadlines. At the moment all the activities are on schedule," Mozambique's former deputy Mining Resources Minister, Abdul Razak told Macao magazine recently at the end of a meeting about the Natural Resources sector held in Mozambique.

So far, the only known project for construction of an LNG factory serving the Rovuma basin was presented by Anadarko, which was granted a land concession of around 18,000 hectares for that purpose. Since the beginning, the Palma district has been the chosen location for the project, which, if it goes ahead, promises to make that quiet part of Cabo Delgado province unrecognisable.

In its initial plans Anadarko projected construction, in modules, of 10 natural gas liquefaction units by 2026. By then the plant would reach full production by processing around 50 million metric tons of natural gas per year.

However, due to the amount of investment that this scheme requires, the plan has raised questions about its viability, and, in the guidelines of the 2013 Gas Master Plan, the Mozambican government itself was more contained and mentioned just six processing units built by 2026.

The CIP, which estimates that each processing unit will take four to five years to build, considers it will be "an extraordinary feat" to build four units by 2026. It is also unclear how much investment is needed to launch the projects. Anadarko expects investments of around US\$ 15.7 billion, the IMF has said at least US\$ 17.5 billion and the 2013 Gas Master Plan gives a figure of US\$ 18.3 billion.

For the time being there are no investors secured for the project. Although it is likely that the Area-1 concession holders will be involved, the same cannot be said of those from Area-4, which had been considered possible investors.

At the end of 2012, Anadarko announced it had entered into negotiations with ENI, with a view to developing the Palma project together. The result of these negotiations were not publicly announced, but ENI's recent launch of a public tender for acquisition of a floating, production, storage and offloading unit (FPSO) for processing LNG, puts the Italian company's interest in taking part in the project into question.

Its is interesting that the announcement followed information provided by the director of Anadarko, Al Walker, saying that the US company had already found "Asian buyers" for two thirds of the annual processing capacity of the future Palma project. According to Walker, remaining production is also expected to be shipped to Asia. "I can say that we have removed the risk from this project," Walker said in March, adding that an announcement would be made about the investment to be made in the natural gas liquefaction unit at the end of the year.

Whether they are together on the Palma project or not, Anadarko and ENI are facing huge competition from several countries, such as Australia and the United States, which have seen major advances in their natural gas exploration projects.

"In Australia, North America and East Africa everyone wants to sell their LNG to Asia. There will be more gas than necessary, so the ones that reach the market first and at the lowest price will win," Ebbie Haan, the managing director of Sasol Petroleum International, said recently.

Although issues of time taken to carry out the natural gas projects in the Rovuma basin seem not to fall in Mozambique's favour, the country's geographical position is a benefit for Asian markets.

Its location will certainly have an impact on transport costs and, as a result, on the final sales price of LNG. It remains to be seen, however, if this will be enough for Mozambique to find a place as a "giant" in the world energy market.



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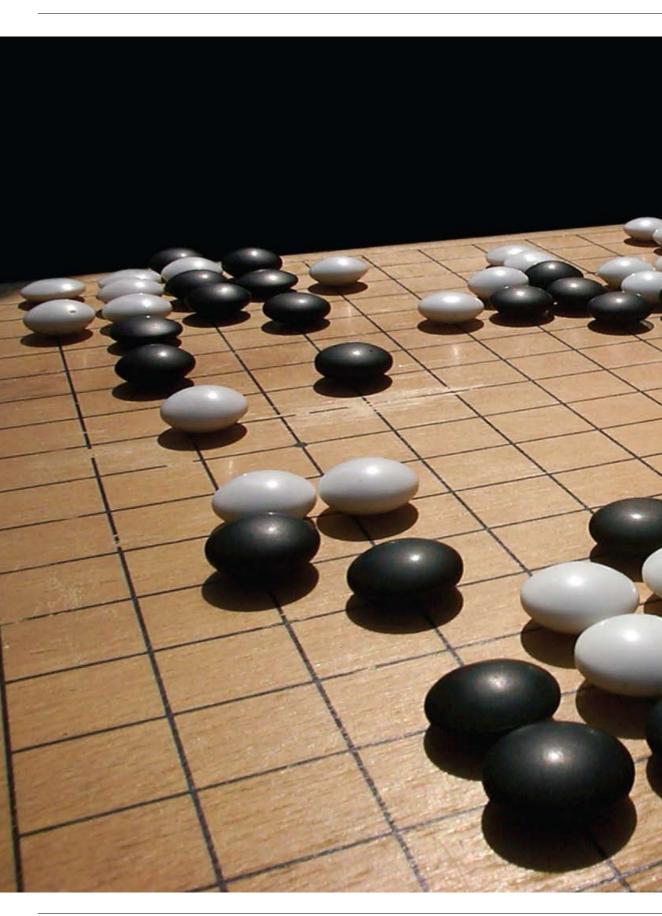
9 pm & 9:40 pm Sea front of Macau Tower



MACAU GOVERNMENT TOURIST OFFICE



International Fireworks Display Contest



Long Way to Go

By Luo Xunzhi in Tokyo

apan celebrates 100th birthday of Chinese Go Master



On 23 July, 450 people gathered in the main hall of Japan's best-selling newspaper to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the country's greatest Go player – Wu Qing-yuan, who was born in Fujian province and moved to Japan at the age of 14.

The tickets were sold out far in advance of the event at the Yomiuri Shimbun because of the legendary status of Wu among the four million players of Go in Japan. "The God of Go" was the headline in the weekly magazine of the Japan Go Association in December 2012, which reported that a survey of the top 130 professional players had chosen Wu as the best ever player. He was the subject of a biographical film, The Go Master, made in 2006 by director Tian Zhuangzhuang; it premiered at the 44th New York Film Festival. Taiwan actor Chang Chen played the title role

His fans study the many books he has written on strategy and tactics and copy the moves of his greatest games recorded in textbooks used in Go classes.

Go is a board game that originated in China about 2,300 BC and spread to Korea and Japan in the fifth and seventh centuries AD. It is played on a grid of 19 by 19 lines, with two players who alternately play



black and white pieces, called stones.

Once placed on the board, a stone may not be moved. But it can be removed if 'captured' by surrounding it by occupying all adjacent points. Players continue until neither wishes to make another move; the territory is counted along with captured stones to determine the winner. One player may also resign.

There are over 40 million players worldwide, most of them in East Asia. The three strongest countries are China, Japan and South Korea. The International Go Federation has 74 member countries, with tournaments in Europe as well as Asia. In his early days, Wu's games could last for weeks. In 1933, he played against the leading Japanese player, Honinbo Shusai, in what was known in the Go world as the "game of the century"; it began on 16 October and lasted nearly three months.

Wu started the game with a series of moves never seen before; the contest aroused enormous enthusiasm and newspapers covering it sold out.

Early life

Wu was born on 12 June 1914 in Fuzhou, the capital of Fujian province, the third son of the family. His mother had nine children, of whom six became adults. His grandfather was a wealthy salt merchant.

In the autumn of 1914, the family moved to Beijing. At the age of seven, Wu began to learn Go from his father who had taken lessons from a master as a student in Japan. In 1925, his father died of tuberculosis, at the age of 33.

After the death, the family fell into financial difficulty; Wu's earnings from Go matches were an important source of income.

By the age of 12, Wu was recognised as a prodigy; he was taken to play with Duan Qirui, the main Beijing warlord and a lover of Go. He was also matched against leading players from China and Japan. Those from Japan were so impressed that they asked him to come to Japan to improve his skills.

"The invitation to come to Japan came from two of the top people in the country," he recalled in an interview later in his life. "I am still very proud that these important figures in Japan came to ask a Chinese boy, would you believe, whether he wanted to come to Japan one day. Many people think that I came to Japan off my own bat.

I came here as a guest and several highly placed people in the Go world came especially to Tokyo to meet me."

On 18 October 1928, he moved to Japan with his mother and siblings and became a student of a Japanese master. He quickly established his credentials, defeating top local players.

In 1930, still only 17, he played in the national championships and recorded seven victories and one defeat. That autumn, he was promoted to 'fourth dan'; the top rank is ninth.

"What distinguishes him is his intense focus on winning," said one of his many admirers. "His motivation is stronger than that of other players. Whether the stone is light or heavy, he can carry it. He is also famous for his creativity."

In 1934, he and Kitani Minoru, a leading player, published a book on strategy; it became a bestseller, selling 100,000 copies. In 1936, he became a Japanese citizen, adopting the Japanese pronounciation of his name, Go Seigen.

In 1942, he married a Japanese lady named Kazuko and was promoted to the level of eighth dan. In May 1945, his house in Tokyo was burnt down in an American air raid and he took refuge in different parts of the country.

In 1950, he was promoted to ninth dan, the highest rank of the game in Japan. In 1952, he made the first of two triumphal visits to Taiwan, where he was received with every honour.

During the 1950s, he was at the top of the game in Japan, with outstanding performances against the best players. In 1961, he defeated an eighth-dan in the final of a tournament. From 1930 to 1961, he was the dominant force in the Go world, defeating the top Japanese players.

In his daily life, he was normally very careful. But, one day in August 1961, he was in a rush and did not use a pedestrian crossing. He was hit by a motorcycle that came out of the shadows at high speech while overtaking a bus. He was thrown into the air; then the same motorcycle ran into him once again, hitting him and dragging him along. The film of 2006 suggested that this may not have been an accident.

Go suffered from dizziness and nausea. He was hospitalised for two months and again for a longer period a year later. He suffered nerve damage; his stamina and concentration deteriorated as a result. This made it difficult for him to continue playing at the highest level. He gradually played less and less and went into virtual retirement in 1964; he officially retired in 1983.

After that, he remained active in the Go community by teaching, writing and promoting the game around the world. In 1971, he and his wife visited many cities in the United States.

In 1987, he was awarded the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun, 3rd class, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, for his lifetime contribution to the game. He published his autobiography in 1997. In December 2012, his wife Kazuko died, at the age of 90. They had three children, none of whom became a professional Go player.

Game of the century

The most famous game in which Wu took part was the "game of the century" which began on 16 October 1933. His opponent was Honinbo Shusei, who represented the Honinbo, then the most important of the four major Go schools, and was considered the top player in Japan at that time.

The media gave the event detailed coverage; the public followed it blow by blow.

While the actual playing time with the two in front of the board was 14 days, the match lasted almost three months. This was because Shusai had the privilege to decide when and if the game should be adjourned; he did this frequently.

On the eighth day, for example, Shusai played first, Wu replied in two minutes and Shusai pondered for three and a half hours, only to adjourn. This enabled him to study the position with his students and work out the best move to follow. So Wu was playing not only his esteemed opponent but all the leading members of his Honinbo school. In the end, Shusai won by two points.

According to one version, the move that won the match for Shusei was thought of not by him but by one of his students. When a story saying this appeared later in a newspaper, it caused an uproar among the supporters of the Honinbo school.

History

The headquarters of the Japanese Go Association is an eight-storey building in the Chiyoda district in central Tokyo.

In the basement is a museum which tells its remarkable history.

The game is said to have started in 2,350 BC, with the character for Go found on bones and tortoise shells of the period between 1,500 and 1,000 BC.

It came from China to Japan in the sixth century AD, at the same time as Buddhism. It became a professional sport in Japan in around 1600, with the government sponsoring four leading schools.

The head of the biggest school was a Buddhist monk named Nikkai who won a tournament in 1588 organised by the government. It resulted in



Go in Japan

him receiving a fixed income from the shogun. After going to Tokyo in 1603 when the capital moved there, he received an official post and took on the responsibility of spreading Go all over the country.

As in China, the game was associated with the ruling class and nobility. The museum has elegant paintings of officials playing Go in well-appointed rooms; there is also a poster of the Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper of "the game of the century".

Go was introduced into Europe in 1881, with the first book in English, Game of Go, published in New York in 1906. On 17 July 1924, the Japan Go Association was founded.

One of the photographs on the wall is of Chen Yi, a Communist military leader who served as the first post-1949 Mayor of Shanghai and second Foreign Minister. He was a keen player who carried a Go board with him during military campaigns and founded the Chinese Go Association.

In 1960, he invited five Japanese professional players to visit; they won 32 of the 35 games they played.

But the institutes Chen established in Beijing and Shanghai produced excellent players who were by the 1980s able to defeat their Japanese opponents. On 13 June, the Beijing Youth Daily published a long story to mark Wu's 100th birthday. It said some of his pupils in China flew to Japan in June, to join members of his family, to visit the Master at the nursing home near Tokyo where he lives; they gave gifts and celebrated the anniversary. Those who gathered on 23 July to mark Wu's birthday were not only celebrating his achievements but also a unique game that brings together the two countries in his life.

Wu once said: "After I am 100, I will continue to play Go. After I am 200, I will play Go in the universe." The Beijing newspaper commented: "Wu was a man whose simple life transcended national borders and the customs of ordinary people to become a Go master from the universe."



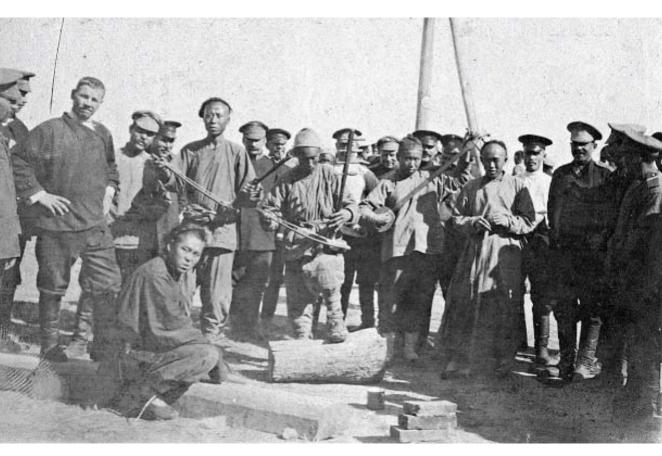
Go in a Chinese painting



Broken Promise in a Foreign Land

By Mark O´Neill

200,000 Chinese worked in harsh conditions in Russia during World War I



"We worked 12 hours a day, cutting timber into strips and laying them on the track. We ate black bread and drank marsh water that had turned black. The Tsar's government cared nothing for the lives of Chinese. Those who were sick were forced to move logs and stones. Many people were driven to death in this way."

These dramatic words were written by Ji Shoushan, one of the more than 200,000 Chinese workers who went to Russia during World War I. It was the largest number sent to any Allied country.

This year the world remembers the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War. But few know the story of those who chose to go to Russia in search of a better life and wages to bring back to their families at home.

Despite promises to their government that they would not be involved in the war, thousands dug trenches and carried ammunition for troops on the Eastern front; many were captured and detained in German and Austrian prison camps.

Others worked in farms, forests, factories and mines, built roads and railways and loaded cargoes. They lived on the edge, often cheated by the Chinese contractors who had hired them and did not provide the food, fuel and clothing they had promised.

In 1917, there were two revolutions – the overthrow of the Tsar and the Bolshevik seizure of power - followed by a civil war. The economy collapsed; many of the workers lost their jobs and livelihood. They could not go home because the fighting blocked the roads and railways to China.

More than 40,000 joined the Red Army. Many died fighting for the revolution and are buried in unmarked graves all over the country. Some became bodyguards of Lenin and others joined the new Soviet secret police.

Others were stranded in a foreign land, thousands of kilometres from home and with no-one to help them. They peddled goods on the street, begged or turned to crime. They lived on the edge of survival. It took them years to return home.

One Chinese scholar describes it as the most tragic episode in 400 years of Chinese emigration.

The men had crossed the border with a light heart and dreamt of earning enough to build a house or business for their family back home. None could have imagined the Calvary that awaited them.



Recruitment

Russia recruited the workers for the same reasons as the other combatant nations. All imagined that the war would be over in a matter of weeks or months; none forecast the long duration nor the horrific level of casualties.

At the Battle of Tannenberg in what is now Olsztyn in Poland, between 23 and 30 August 1914, the German Eighth Army routed the Russian Second Army. They killed or wounded more than 50,000 Russian soldiers, took 100,000 prisoners and captured 500 guns. Among the dead were some of the best trained Russian officers.

The war in the east was fought over a distance of more than 1,600 kilometres, stretching from St Petersburg in the north to the Black Sea in the south, from the Baltic Sea in the west to Minsk in the east. One result was that an enormous number of Russian soldiers were taken prisoner by the German and Austro-Hungarian forces. Historian Nik Cornish put the figure for the whole war at five million, more than three times the total of 1.3 million British, French and German soldiers taken prisoner.

Total losses for the spring and summer of 1915 amounted to 1.4 million killed or wounded.

What this meant is that, by the second year of the war, Russia was suffering a severe shortage of manpower. Unlike Britain and France, it did not have overseas colonies from which it could recruit. Its western borders were closed by the war. There was only one country that had the number of men it needed and could deliver them quickly – China. And Russia had 50 years of experience in how useful these workers were.

Recruiting began in earnest in 1916. The Chinese government proposed a model contract under

which the workers would receive the same pay and conditions as their Russian colleagues, not be involved in war-related work and be repatriated at the end of the contract.

There was no shortage of applicants; thousands were eager to earn a better wage and try their luck in a foreign country.

Dozens of companies were set up to hire the men and place them with Russian employers; it was a lucrative business. They paid scarce attention to the guidelines laid down by Beijing.

Many went with contracts that had not been approved and did not contain the clauses specified by the Foreign Ministry; they found themselves in Russia with no legal protection and no recourse in case of abuse. Many had no individual contract at all but went with a Chinese middleman or contractor who signed the agreement on their behalf; so their fate was in the hands of these men and their Russian employers.

After the outbreak of the war, conditions of life in Russia deteriorated: there were shortages of food, clothing and other necessities and rising inflation. At the bottom of the social ladder, the workers earned a survival wage and were the worst prepared for shortages and inflation.





Before 1914, the vast majority of Chinese in Russia had worked in the far east. After the outbreak of war, labour shortages became so acute that they were sent all over the country, from Murmansk in the Arctic Circle to the trenches on the eastern front, from the Donetz basin in the Ukraine to the forests and fields of Siberia.

The Murmansk railway

Around 10,000 Chinese were put to work to build a railway 1,044 kilometres long to link the capital St Petersburg with a new port being built in the Arctic port of Murmansk; because it was close to the Gulf Stream, it was ice-free even in winter.

Since Russia's enemies controlled its western land and sea borders, Murmansk was to become the important port to receive goods from its allies, both in the Great War and World War II.

Construction began in March 1915 and was completed in only 20 months; it opened on 3 November 1916. The government hired 30,000 peasants from Russia and used more than 50,000 German and Austrian prisoners-of-war and 10,000 Chinese.

The workers had to lay the line across frozen marshes, uninhabited rocky terrain, lakes and thick taiga. The countryside was uninhabited and could supply nothing except timber.

The men worked in shifts 24 hours a day through the cold and dark of winter, when the temperatures fall to below 40 degrees Celsius. Of the line, 266 kilometres were built over marshes, with 1,100 bridges and artificial dikes.

Many died due to cold, lack of nutrition and disease thanks to the extreme conditions; one estimate is 25,000 or 19 for each kilometre that was completed. Among the dead were 400 Chinese who died of cold, because they did not receive the winter clothes due under the terms of their contract.

One of the Chinese workers was Ji Shou-shan, whose words above were published in the form of his memoirs in 1960. Describing the conditions further, he said: "The diet had no fresh vegetables. We lived in log huts that were open to the wind on four sides. There were no doctors or medicines at the place of work."

Chinese also worked in mines, in the Donetz Basin in the eastern Ukraine, many living underground close to their work. Thousands were employed in forests, cutting and moving timber and working in wood-processing factories.

Some lucky few were fortunate enough to be based in Moscow or St Petersburg, where there was good access to the Chinese embassy and consulate, but this was not the experience of the majority.

Between 1915 and 1917, there were many protests. In May 1916, 2,600 Chinese in a timber factory in the Urals went on strike to demand better conditions. The police were called and opened fire, killing one and injuring eight. The workers took up axes and stones and drove the police out. So the army was summoned; they arrested 260 and threw them into jail.

At the end of 1916, those at a train station 90 kilometres from St Petersburg went on strike. To end the strike, police killed ten and put 40 in prison.

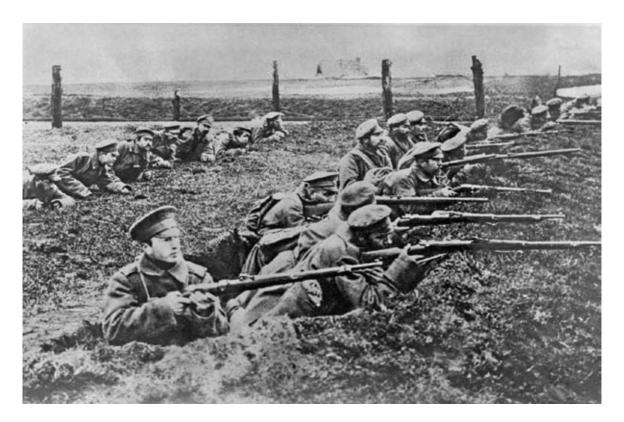
Revolution and civil war

The year 1917 was a year of two revolutions – the overthrow of Tsar Nicholas II and the Bolshevik revolution in October.

Many Chinese workers welcomed the world's first Communist takeover.

Liu Fu, who was working on the railway, recalled: "We began to understand a truth that we did not know – that poor people can take power in their country, instead of having to search all over for a reasonable life and happiness."





The workers belonged to the lowest class of society – urban and rural workers with no secure jobs or incomes and no civil rights. Russians looked down on them; they were an easy target for harassment and robbery by the police and local militia. The Bolshevik ideology – rule on behalf of the proletariat and equality of workers around the world – was very appealing.

The supporters of the Tsar and armies loyal to him attacked the new government, starting a terrible civil war. Even though this conflict did not involve China, about 40,000 of the workers joined the Red Army and fought on many fronts, including Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, the Caucasus, the Volga and Siberia, with bravery and distinction.

They wore the same uniform as other soldiers in the Red Army. They fought under Russian officers, who found them determined and efficient. Most had a limited understanding of Russian, which was both good and bad. It meant that they had no attachment to Russian personalities or places and were insulated from outside influences; their officers could use them to commit executions. They were also useful as 'shock troops' because the enemy did not expect an attack by people with yellow skin. Some Chinese joined the Cheka, the forerunner of the KGB.

Going home

While a proportion of the workers joined the Red Army, the majority were left on their own, struggling to survive in the middle of a civil war which devastated the economy.

In St Petersburg, in the spring of 1919, an average worker's daily intake was below 1,600 calories, half the level before the war. Hundreds of thousands of Russians died from hunger, typhus, typhoid, dysentery and cholera.

The daily situation of the Chinese, like the Russians, worsened after the October revolution: the new government strictly controlled the movement of daily necessities, which worsened shortages of them. Transport of goods was disrupted by the civil war.

Among the Chinese, those with a full-time job were fortunate. The rest made a living as best they could, from odd jobs, begging and crime. As the war intensified, it became more difficult to go home; different armies controlled the roads and railways.

By May 1919, 30,000-40,000 Chinese had made it home. Most took the trans-Siberian railway. Others went on British naval vessels that left Murmansk and ports in southern Russia; others left on French ships.



The return to China was a dramatic odyssey, involving months of waiting, hiding, broken journeys, begging and fear. They left behind friends and colleagues who would never return.

When they finally crossed the border, they expected a warm welcome – but did not receive it. Instead, the government regarded them with suspicion.

Many had fought in the Red Army or joined other Bolshevik organisations. The government feared they would be used by the Soviet government to spread Communism.

Beijing demanded that local authorities check them and keep them under surveillance. Zhang Zuolin, the most powerful warlord of Manchuria, ordered that the returnees be questioned and go back to their native place. Some were detained; a few were even refused entry into China.

About 40,000 settled in Harbin, capital of Heilongjiang province and the most Russian city in China. After the revolution, more than 100,000 Russians from the White armies and other refugees fled to the city, making it the largest Russian city outside the Soviet Union. The population census of 1913 showed a population of 69,000, of whom 34,000 were Russian and 24,000 Chinese.

The city had a Russian school system and published

Russian newspapers and journals. It was an industrial, commercial and banking centre, where the returnees could find work. Financially, they had to start from zero. The rubles in their pockets were not recognised and could not be exchanged; they were worthless.

In the millennial history of the Chinese diaspora, the story of those who went to Russia during the Great War ranks among the most extraordinary.







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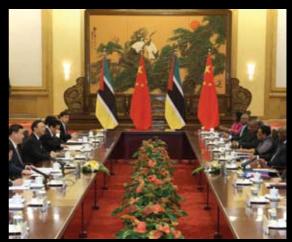
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