

NATION: CHASING THE CHINESE DREAM P.26 | BUSINESS: 4G ON THE GO P.38

BEIJING REVIEW

VOL.56 NO.51 DECEMBER 19, 2013

北京周報 WWW.BJREVIEW.COM



GOODBYE MADIBA

The world bids farewell to Nelson Mandela

ISSN 1000-9140



9 771000 914130

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AUD3.00
GBP1.25
USD2.00
CHF2.00
JPY188



中国与非洲



12 issues a year at a subscription rate of 180 RMB

SUBSCRIPTION HOTLINES
(8610) 6831 0644, 6899 6223, 6899 5808

An Africa-oriented English monthly covering China and Africa published by BEIJING REVIEW, Chinafrica is the leading one in China featuring news, views and analysis for an African audience.



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Cover Photo: Nelson Mandela's memorial service is held at the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg, South Africa on December 10 (XINHUA/AFP)

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Beijing Review (ISSN 1000-9140) is published weekly for US\$64.00 per year by Cypress Books, 360 Swift Avenue, Suite 48, South San Francisco, CA 94080, Periodical Postage Paid at South San Francisco, CA 94080. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Beijing Review, Cypress Books, 360 Swift Avenue, Suite 48, South San Francisco, CA 94080



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Published every Thursday by

BEIJING REVIEW, 24 Baiwanzhuang Lu,
Beijing 100037, China.

Overseas Distributor:

China International Book Trading
Corporation (Guoji Shudian), P. O. BOX 399,
Beijing 100044, China

Tel: 86-10-68413849, 1-416-497-8096 (Canada)

Fax: 86-10-68412166

E-mail: fp@mail.cibtc.com.cn

Website: <http://www.cibtc.com>

General Distributor for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan:

Peace Book Co. Ltd.

17/FI, Paramount Bldg, 12 Ka Yip St, Chai Wan, HK

Tel: 852-28046687 **Fax:** 852-28046409

Beijing Review (ISSN 1000-9140 USPS 2812) is published weekly in the
United States for US\$64.00 per year by Cypress Books,
360 Swift Avenue, Suite 48, South San Francisco, CA 94080
News Postage Paid at South San Francisco, CA 94080
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Beijing Review*,
Cypress Books, 360 Swift Avenue, Suite 48,
South San Francisco, CA 94080



EDITOR

South Africa After Mandela

Nelson Mandela, the most revered man of South Africa and perhaps of today's world, is now at rest on the land for which he had fought. Around 100 foreign dignitaries attended a memorial ceremony held on December 10, including Chinese Vice President Li Yuanchao.

Mandela is hailed one of the greatest statesmen of the 20th century. Many have been inspired by his great efforts to fight against racial discrimination and his personal qualities of tolerance and reconciliation in building a democratic country. People also respect him for his courageous spirit and his graceful manner in stepping down as president after just one term in order to make way for others.

A new South Africa was built in 1994 just as the anti-apartheid fighter had envisioned for the country—with a Western-style democracy and the rule of law.

However, a country should not only be judged by the ideals of its leaders, but also by the strength of its economy and the quality of life afforded to its people. In spite of the many great stories being told about this one significant leader, South Africa is now suffering from the slowest economic growth of the whole Sub-Saharan region, confronting towering unemployment, and plagued by one of the highest rates of violent crimes and AIDS prevalence in the world. As long as many of the country's houses remain armed with electric fences and high walls, South Africa's struggle against apartheid and inequality will continue.

Mandela left a legacy of democracy for his fellow countrymen, but how to carry on his mission and turn it into real economic productivity remains a daunting task for his successors. ■

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CANADA.....CAD2.60 SWITZERLAND.....CHF2.60 JAPAN.....JPY188 EUROPE.....EURO1.90
TURKEY.....YTL5.00 HK.....HKD9.30 NEPAL.....RS40

北京周报 英文版 2013年 第51期 ISSN 1000-9140 广告许可证 0171号北京市期刊登记证第733号
邮发代号2-922 国内统一刊号: CN11-1576/G2 国内零售价: 人民币6.00元



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FRESCO RECREATION

An artist works on a fresco in an artificial cave in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, on December 10.

The artist, Yang Dongmiao, together with her husband, have been working for nearly two years to restore frescos of the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, northwest China's Gansu Province, one of the best-known stone cave groups in the country famous for its Buddhist wall paintings.

Gray Skies

A tourist takes a picture of Shanghai from the Bund while the city remained shrouded in smog on December 9.

Since December 5, Shanghai, and many other cities around the Yangtze River, have been enveloped in smog. Shanghai in particular saw PM2.5 density surge past 600 micrograms per cubic meter, more than eight times the nation's limit of 75.

A third of government vehicles were taken off the road. Large-scale public activities and sports events were suspended. The haze lasted until December 10.



PEIXIN

Disaster Aid

China's ministries of finance and civil affairs allocated 111 million yuan (\$18 million) on December 5 to three regions as aid for residents affected by disasters.

The fund will be used for urgent resettlement, basic living needs and the reconstruction of houses in Jilin and Hainan provinces and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

A series of earthquakes with measured magnitudes over 5.0 hit the city of Songyuan in northeast China's Jilin in late October and November, leaving 12 people injured and causing extensive damage to buildings.

Five people in Hainan and

two in Guangxi were killed after Typhoon *Haiyan* hit south China on November 10. Direct economic losses from the typhoon are estimated as being close to 4.5 billion yuan (\$750 million).

The National Disaster Reduction Commission and the Ministry of Civil Affairs sent thousands of tents, quilts, coats and heaters to the three regions.

Water Project

A key section of China's water diversion project across arid Hebei Province has been completed, according to the construction committee.

The project is one of China's largest infrastructure projects and

will take water from relatively water-rich southern regions to dryer areas in the northern part of the country, including Beijing.

The new section, spanning nearly 600 km, attracted investments of 42 billion yuan (\$6.9 billion) and connects Beijing with Shijiazhuang, capital of Hebei, and includes a portion near the port of Tianjin.

The new section is part of the first stage of construction for the middle of three routes of the south-to-north water diversion project. The whole route is expected to be completed by the end of the year and will supply water to 19 major cities and more than 100 smaller towns in north China starting in 2014.

Massacre Record

An encyclopedia recording the history of the Nanjing Massacre in 1937 is being compiled and is expected to be published next year, academics writing it announced on December 10.

The encyclopedia, featuring more than 18,000 entries so far, will reveal historical facts relating to the crimes committed by Japanese troops in Nanjing from late 1937 to early 1938, said Zhu Chengshan, curator of the Memorial Hall for the Victims of the Nanjing Massacre by Japanese Invaders.

Experts from China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Philippines and Bangladesh have contributed to the compilation.

Japanese troops occupied Nanjing, then China's capital, on December 13, 1937, and carried out a six-week massacre. Chinese records show more than 300,000 people—most of them civilians—were brutally murdered and thousands of women were raped.

Pollution Fines

Governments in eight cities of northeast China's Liaoning Province have been fined a total of 54.2 million yuan (\$8.9 million) for contributing



ZHANG XIAOHUA



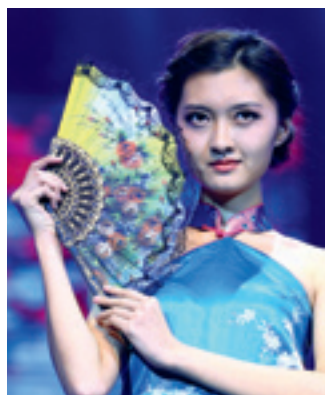
TIBETAN FLYERS

Black-necked cranes fly in Lhundup County of Lhasa, Tibet Autonomous Region, on December 5. Tibet has proved the environment for the crane, of which the number has increased in recent years



BEAUTY COMPETITION

A candidate appears on stage for the Chinese national finals of Miss Tourism Cultural World, held in Changsha, Hunan Province, on December 8



CHEN JIANLI

to air pollution, the provincial department of environment protection said on December 10.

The fines, the first the provincial agency has imposed on lower-level governments, sends a clear message that the provincial government is becoming more serious about tackling air pollution.

The tough penalties come as a response to severely polluted air becoming a major source of complaints and frustration, as well as raising health concerns among urban residents.

The dense smog attracted wide attention again last week as it blanketed 100 cities across over half the country. Many rushed to buy face masks and air purifiers to ward it off, and primary and middle schools in the eastern Chinese city of Nanjing were even forced to close for two days.

Live Court Broadcasts

On December 11, China launched a website for the live broadcasting of court trials, so as to allow the public to better supervise proceedings.

The website, sponsored by chinacourt.org, a portal website for courts administered by the Supreme People's Court, will act as a platform for local courts at all levels to air live trials online, according to a statement from the chinacourt website.

The public can view the broadcasts via the website. The site will also provide notices in advance of broadcasts and video clips of previous trials, the statement said.

The website is expected to increase the public's knowledge about the country's judicial work, help better regulate court practices, enhance judicial justice and serve the public's

rights to know, to participate in and to supervise the judiciary system, the sponsor said.

Champion City

Shanghai overtook Hong Kong for the first time to become China's most competitive city this year, mainly due to the establishment of its pilot free trade zone, according to a ranking by the China Institute of City Competitiveness on December 10.

With a score of 16,163.08, Shanghai topped the list, which measures the comprehensive competitiveness of a city based on their economy, social stability, as well as environmental and cultural conditions.

Shanghai was still closely followed by Hong Kong, however, the champion for the past 11 years. They scored 16,099.80 this year.

Beijing, Shenzhen and Guangzhou took the next three spots respectively.

Rare DNA Discovery

Chinese doctors reported the discovery of an abnormal karyotype in human chromosome 5 on December 10. This is the first recorded case ever, and it was observed in northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

Baoji's Maternal and Child Care Service Center diagnosed a girl with dwarfism, as she lacks a

chromosome, and the long arm of chromosome 5 in her DNA had a kink.

Tang Kai, director of the center's genetics and heredity diseases lab, said the abnormality was first of its kind ever seen.

Clinical manifestations of the girl's disease are growth retardation and insufficient development of gonads.

The case was reported to the State Key Lab of Medical Genetics, and entered the Database of the China Human Chromosome Abnormality Catalogue.

New Aquanauts

China has recruited six aquanaut cadets, including two women, as a reserve force for its future submersible missions, the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) announced on December 10.

The newly recruited cadets, who are between the ages of 23 and 28, were selected from candidates across the country in a public recruitment campaign that kicked off on July 2.

The cadets are China's second cohort of aquanaut cadets. They will begin a two-year training program in 2014 and graduate as aquanauts if they pass their examination in 2016, according to the SOA.

A New Baby Home

The first baby drop-off in northwest China's Shaanxi Province, located near Xi'an Children Welfare Center is recently opened in Xi'an.

The haven received an abandoned infant on December 4. Setting up baby hatches has been a hotly debated topic

in China as many believe the "baby haven" may reduce the sense of parental guilt and encourage such acts. But without such services, parents may resort to concealing newborns in places that leave them difficult to find, causing the deaths of many unwanted babies.



DING HAITAO

Clean Energy

Staff members from the National Grid and the Tianjin Yingli photovoltaic (PV) industrial park examine solar panels to make sure the generated electricity is connected to the grid in Tianjin.

On December 10, the PV roof project was connected to the national grid. It has the potential to reduce coal consumption by 1,600 tons a year.



REN JIHUA

Mapping the Future

China opened its annual Central Economic Work Conference on December 10 amid calls for stronger and more concrete reform efforts.

The meeting is set to review China's economic progress in 2013 and suggest plans for 2014, an important year for carrying out the reform blueprint adopted in November.

Li Yang, Vice President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, which is a major government think tank, said China cannot wait any longer to transform its pattern of growth, and economic policies should focus on quality growth and efficiency instead of bailouts and high-speed growth in the short term.

Economists said that China's economy has entered a new era of

structural slowdown, and the rate of economic growth is likely to decrease to less than 6 percent by the end of 2030.

"The structural slowdown is not a concern by itself, but it requires an adjustment of the macroeconomic policy framework," Li said.

Interest Rate Reform

China's new guideline on deposit certificates in the interbank market became effective as of December 9. The trial is part of China's loosening of controls on deposit rates following its move in July to scrap the floor limit of lending rates.

The guideline published by the People's Bank of China, the central bank, will help increase the range of debt products offered by financial institutions, so as to better prepare

for the gradual liberalization of interest rates.

The offering of deposit certificates in the interbank market is expected to improve the Shanghai Interbank Offered Rate (Shibor), measuring the cost at which Chinese banks lend to one another, which will set pricing standards for the future launch of Large Negotiable Certificates of Deposit (NCD).

NCDs usually inspire breakthroughs in interest rate reform in other countries, which generally call for deposit insurance systems to be in place beforehand.

China's launch of deposit certificates in the interbank market will lower potential risks and gain experience for the NCDs before the country establishes a deposit insurance system.

A step toward fully floating interest rates, the guideline requires financial institutions to report their annual plans for the issuance of deposit certificates to the central

bank before entering the market.

The central bank set the one-time minimum volume at 50 million yuan (\$8.18 million), which allows banks to borrow at more stable costs in the interbank market.

The issuance will be priced in reference to the Shibor, with the maturities of fixed-rate certificates ranging from one month to a year with those of floating-rate certificates ranging from one year to three years.

Exports Surge

China's exports outperformed market expectations in November due to improved data in the United States and the European Union.

Exports went up 12.7 percent year on year in November and imports gained 5.3 percent year on year, according to the General Administration of Customs on December 8.

November's export growth is above market expectations of 7 percent, indicating improved data in the United States and the European Union, said Liu Ligang, chief Greater China economist at ANZ Banking Group.

Foreign trade stood at \$370.6 billion in November, including \$202.2 billion of exports and imports worth \$168.4 billion.

Trade surplus hit \$33.8 billion in November, the second month that China has reported a trade surplus of more than \$30 billion.



BENZHENGA



POWER ON

A worker installs a capacitor at a 220-kilovolt transformer substation in Qinglong County, north China's Hebei Province. This is the second such substation in Hebei and it will be put into operation in 2014.



AUTO MANUFACTURING

A production line of Zhengzhou Nissan Auto Co. Ltd. in Zhongmou County, central China's Henan Province. Zhongmou saw an output of over 120,000 auto units from January to October 2013



Foreign trade gained 7.7 percent year on year to climb to \$3.8 trillion in the first 11 months. China targeted a foreign trade growth of 8 percent year on year in 2013.

Inflation Easing

China's consumer price index (CPI), an indicator of inflation, grew 3 percent year on year in November, down from the 3.2 percent in October, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said on December 9.

In the first 11 months of 2013, China's CPI rose 2.6 percent year on year, well below the government's full-year target of 3.5 percent.

Yu Qiumei, a senior statistician with the NBS, said prices of food, which account for roughly one third in the weighting of China's CPI calculations, edged down slightly on the whole in November.

Compared to October, November's CPI contracted 0.1

percent and food prices dropped 0.2 percent. Prices of non-food products remained no change.

NBS data also showed China's producer price index (PPI), which measures inflation on a wholesale level, contracted 1.4 percent year on year in November, following a 1.5-percent drop in October.

Cross-Straits Bonds

The fifth regular meeting of the Cross-Straits Economic Cooperation Committee (ECC) concluded in Taipei on December 10, with plans formed for closer economic cooperation between the mainland and Taiwan.

Gao Yan, the mainland's chief representative to the ECC and Vice Commerce Minister, said at a press

conference after the meeting that the ECC will continue promoting the Early Harvest Program under the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA), which was signed in 2010 to reduce tariffs and commercial barriers between the mainland and Taiwan.

The Early Harvest Program was designed to help people across the Taiwan Straits enjoy the benefits of the ECFA before full liberalization of economic ties between the mainland and Taiwan.

All commodities under the program became tariff free on January 1, 2013. According to official statistics from the mainland, a total of \$550 million worth of tariffs were cut for commodities imported from Taiwan from January to October. According to statistics from Taiwan's customs, imports from the mainland were exempted from tariffs and were worth more than \$50 million during the same period.

By October, the program had benefited 216 non-financial Taiwan enterprises and 40 Taiwan financial institutions. Nine Taiwan accounting firms had obtained a one-year license for conducting auditing business on the mainland. Also, 14 Taiwan-made movies had been screened in mainland cinemas, according to mainland official statistics.

Numbers

80

Number of trade disputes targeting China from January to November 2013, up 12 percent from the same period last year

912.5 bln yuan

China's fiscal revenue in November, up 15.9 percent year on year

26 mln tons

U.S. soybean exports to China from September 2013 to August 2014

3D Printing

A visitor takes a picture of a lampshade made by a 3D printer in the exhibition hall of the China 3D Printing Research Institute on December 10.

The institute was inaugurated the same day in Nanjing, capital of Jiangsu Province, with aims to push forward research, commercialization and cultivate talent for the emerging 3D printing market.



693 mln tons

China's estimated crude steel consumption in 2013

THIS WEEK WORLD



SWEDEN

Nobel Prize winner Martin Karplus (left) receives his medal for chemistry from the King of Sweden at the Stockholm Concert Hall on December 10

AP/WIDEWORLD



AP/WIDEWORLD



THE UNITED STATES

This mosaic of images from the Mast Camera on NASA's *Curiosity* Mars rover released on December 9 shows a series of sedimentary deposits in the Glenelg area of Gale Crater



LEBANON

Syrian children warm themselves around a stove at a refugee camp in southern Lebanon on December 11

AP/WIDEWORLD





JAPAN

A demonstrator raises a placard to protest against a controversial new state secrets bill at a park in Tokyo on December 6



CENTRAL AFRICA

Seleka militia soldiers watch as Red Cross workers retrieve bodies from the site of clashes in Bangui, capital of the country, on December 6



BRAZIL

The King and Queen of Rio's Carnival 2014 perform before boarding a special Samba train to celebrate festivities in Rio de Janeiro on December 7

“Internet security is no longer a technological issue today. It is a requirement for innovation, a guarantee for development, a leader for technologies and the market, and a symbol of core competitiveness.”

Lu Wei, Minister of China's State Internet Information Office, at the second China-South Korea Internet roundtable conference in Seoul on December 10



“The function of the abacus can be replaced by advanced tools, but the invisible benefit it brings to practitioners will last.”

Yang Qingxia, retired accountant and proficient abacus user, commenting on the listing of the *zhusuan*, also known as the Chinese abacus, as intangible cultural heritage by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



“I love changes and innovation. The Internet industry has the busiest jobs. I didn't found Baidu for the money.”

Li Yanhong, also known as Robin Li, co-founder of China's largest search engine Baidu, at a forum in Beijing on December 7



“In contrast the achievements measured by scores and rankings, it can be seen that Shanghai's students are weaker in active learning and problem solving.”

Wang Tianrong, a college teacher in China, commenting on Shanghai students' ranking first on recent global student tests in math, reading and science skills by the Program for International Student Assessment



TABLE TENNIS PRODIGY



Chinese table tennis player Fan Zhendong, 16, has impressed the sport's circle after securing fifth place in the latest world rankings issued by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

As the winner both at the 2013 ITTF World Tour in Poland and Germany, and more recently coming runner up in Sweden, Fan made the most significant climb up the Men's World Ranking list that came out on December 4.

Ranked at only No.11 in November, Fan has confirmed himself as one of the brightest talents the sport has ever seen, and he has helped China occupy all the top five places on the list.



OPERA LEGEND PASSES



Cantonese Opera singer Hong Xiannu, who was widely celebrated as a master of the art form, died in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, on December 8 at the age of 89.

Hailed as a national treasure, Hong performed in almost 100 operas and more than 90 films.

Hong, who studied Cantonese Opera from the age of 13, was devoted to her art form even in her final days. Her last appearance on stage was on November 30 singing the classic *Praise of Lychee*.

She was still acting as a vocal coach to students until the day before she died.



Welcome to 4G Era

Life Weekly
December 2

China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology is about to officially issue fourth-generation (4G) mobile network licenses, ushering the whole country into the 4G era.

"Fast" is the most outstanding feature of 4G. With a download speed of 100mb/s, 4G's transmission speed is about 10 times faster than 3G. It only takes about two minutes to download a 1G video.

In Hangzhou, an experimental city for 4G in east China's Zhejiang Province, 4G network service is free on one of its bus lines. More than 10,000 passengers surf

the Internet on the bus every day.

The 4G network will greatly promote the mobilization of information, enable users to get online anytime and anywhere, and realize a seamless virtual work and life. To embrace the 4G network, cellphone producers have accelerated the release of new cellphones. By the end of 2013, there will be about 22 new designs of cellphones on the market in China. At the beginning of 2014, there will also be cheap 4G cellphones.

In 2014, China mobile's 4G network will cover 326 cities across the country, which translates to a huge amount of infrastructure construction and big orders of communication devices. What's more, with the rapid popularization of 4G, relevant service products and application products will also undergo a golden time.

Protecting Measures

Beijing Morning Post
December 9

The ancient tombs of northwest China's Qinghai Province are the biggest group of Tubo tombs on Chinese territory. China's State Administration of Cultural Heritage has listed the site as a major archeological discovery and named it "the oriental pyramid" on the south Silk Road of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

In the 1980s, in search of a big payday, grave robbers began non-stop rampant digging and robbing in this area, causing immeasurable loss to the country. The question is, since the tombs are such significant historic relics, why is grave robbing still so widespread? Are there any protection measures in place?

This "oriental pyramid" covers an area of 21,000 square kms, with only two groundkeepers. Obviously, the efforts to safeguard these precious relics are far from adequate. The 200 tombs in Reshui Township were all damaged with no exception.

One can't help but ask whether relevant departments, before announcing a certain site as a key protection unit, have finished support work such as protection, daily management and overall planning? If not, the revelation of "major historic relics" is an invitation to grave robbers.

Calling for a Safety Net

Yangcheng Evening News
December 9

After his story came to light, a man surnamed Wang who had lived in a well in Beijing for two decades due to poverty, has attracted a lot of attention. Many organizations have offered jobs to him.

His three children will also be supported by some generous people until they finish getting a college education.

Wang is lucky. Thanks to news reports, his difficulties were solved within days, and the well he used to live in has been covered over by cement for the sake of public safety.

According to statistics from the National Health and Family Planning Commission, China's migrant population is estimated to be around 236 million. Following the "well man" event, a new round of social assistance may help some

people, but for the masses of migrant population, particularly the elderly, life underground in wells or in other corners of cities will continue.

However, social assistance is not the fundamental solution to this issue. What the current Chinese society needs is assistance to the disadvantaged group at a legal and systemic level.

China's Ministry of Civil Affairs has announced plans to establish a full social security system covering people living in poverty and facing difficulties, including people like Wang. It's hoped that this blueprint will become reality as soon as possible.

Jogging Fashion

China Newsweek
December 2

It seems that jogging has become an overnight fashion in China. In cities, people are sharing their running routes, equipment and results on various online platforms such as social networks. And marathon races, which used to be regarded as dull and boring, is now a more popular activity for urban residents.

Behind the transformation of jogging from a dull sport into a fashion icon are profound social and cultural reasons. Today, people live in an environment with poor air quality, harsh career competition, a fast pace and increasingly distant inter-

personal relations. They are wrapped up in anxiety, restlessness and confusion. Running serves as an excellent way out of all these.

Many people choose to jog initially for the sake of physical health. With time, jogging becomes a mental need for them. It creates precious moments when people can talk to themselves in peace amid this noisy world. While jogging, people can either sort out the thoughts in their mind or empty the mind by thinking about nothing and simply enjoy the quietness.

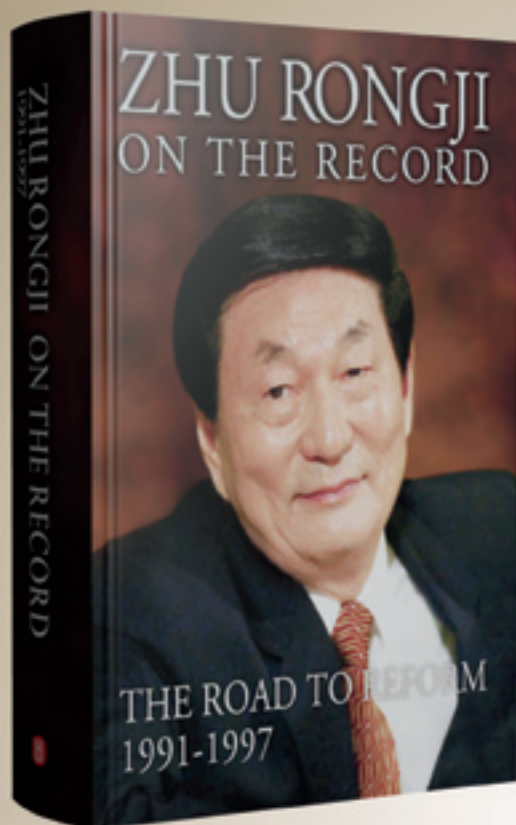




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He has been as direct in his editorial selections as he was in his leadership style in office and has not shied away from difficult or sensitive issues.

—— Henry A. Kissinger

It is a unique historical document of China's unprecedented economic evolution over the past few decades. And it gives a fascinating insight into the political work of Zhu Rongji—an exceptionally gifted statesman and a dear friend.

—— Helmut Schmidt

Zhu Rongji on the Record

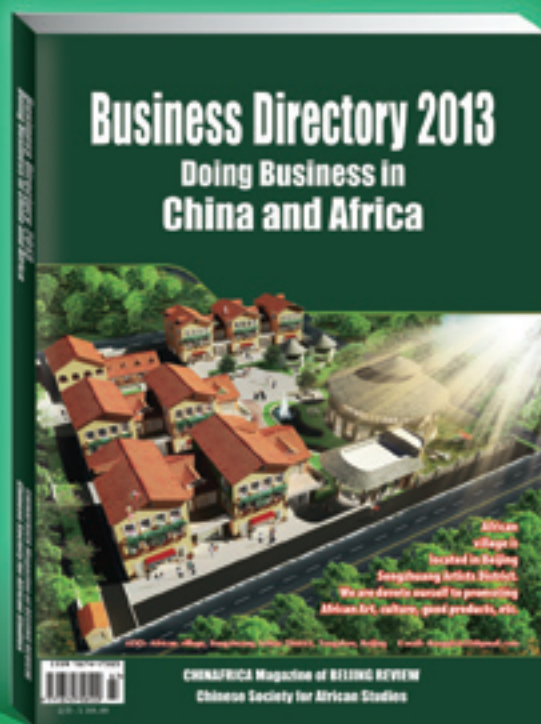
Zhu Rongji on the Record is a compilation of Zhu's writings. It covers China's reform, opening up and modernization drive. It includes important speeches, articles, letters, and directives. Zhu Rongji is a key Chinese reformer and statesman, and served as Vice Premier of the State Council from April 1991 to March 1998. He later served as Premier, from March 1998 to March 2003. Most of the materials in the book are being published for the first time. The Chinese edition of the book was published in Chinese mainland in 2011, and was very well received. The two-volume English edition includes 112 speeches, articles, letters, and directives selected by Zhu himself from the 348 articles in the four-volume Chinese edition. The English edition of the book is published by the Foreign Languages Press of the CIPG and the Brookings Institution Press in the U.S. Both Henry A. Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state and Helmut Schmidt, former chancellor of West Germany wrote prefaces.

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Chinese Society for African Studies

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COVER STORY

PASSING ON MANDELA'S TORCH

The man's legacy leaves a lasting contribution to the world By Ding Ying



REMEMBRANCE: Flowers are placed at the base of the monument in front of the South African Presidential Palace to mourn the late South African President Nelson Mandela on December 11

Perseverance, tolerance and selflessness made Nelson Mandela's life a legendary one.

On December 5, the 95-year-old icon of democracy, equality and freedom completed his life journey. After he inspired the world with peace, tolerance and love, the world returns to him an enormous outpouring of respect and praise. His spirit motivated generations of people like the light of a torch. He will be remembered for his contribution to all mankind. Passing on Mandela's torch of freedom, equality and tolerance to solve conflicts and hatred in the world will be the

best way to memorize this great leader.

Mandela's biggest contribution is the realization of racial equality and national reconciliation in South Africa after centuries of racial discrimination and segregation. Mandela, who was born in a tribal chief family in southeast South Africa, led a decades-long struggle against apartheid. He was jailed for 27 years and released in 1990 before going on to become South Africa's first post-apartheid president in 1994. He called for tolerance instead of revenge, and avoided a race war during the transition between the old and new systems.

The world also treasures Mandela for his

personal characteristics like selflessness and perseverance. He never gave up his political beliefs during the decades behind bars. He didn't lust for power, and resolutely stepped down from the presidency after a five-year term, but never stagnated in the struggle to better the lives of all people in Africa. In the process, he won their hearts.

Since South African President Jacob Zuma announced the death of Mandela on the night of December 5, Mandela's residence in Houghton, Johannesburg, were crowded with people coming to mourn him and celebrate his life.

Selected Quotes From Mandela

"It is said that no one truly knows a nation until one has been inside its jails. A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones."

"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."

"If I had my time over I would do the same again. So would any man who dares call himself a man."

"Difficulties break some men but make others. No axe is sharp enough to cut the soul of a sinner who keeps on trying, one armed with the hope that he will rise even in the end."

"What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."

Security guard Milton Baron was part of the singing and dancing group. He said that they celebrated what Madiba (Mandela's Xhosa clan name) had done for the people. "He is an icon and the father of the nation," said Baron.

Jeanette Hlangwane cried after laying flowers before Madiba's portrait. She saw Mandela as father. "I was sad because I didn't spend time with my father when he was with us," she said.

Michael Baillie said that he had mixed feelings—sad for losing such an incredible man who had done so much for the people, but glad that the man could now rest in peace. Baillie said that it was incredible to see that Mandela's passing united the nation again.

Mandela was not only revered as "the father of the nation" by the South African people but also won the respect and admiration of people from around the world. More than 90 world leaders came to the memorial service to honor Mandela on December 10, and his funeral was

the biggest in modern history.

Mandela was an old friend of the Chinese people and a household name in China. He visited China twice, and also was one of the founders of China-South Africa relations. In the 1990s, a popular Chinese rock band wrote a song for Mandela for his contribution to the human beings, inspiring generations of young Chinese. Chinese people expressed deepest condolences upon Mandela's death.

After the passing of Mandela, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang immediately sent messages of condolences to South African President Jacob Zuma. They spoke highly of his historic role in the anti-apartheid struggle and the building of a new South Africa, commending his great contribution to the establishment and growth of China-South Africa ties.

Vice President Li Yuanchao went to the South African Embassy in China to express

condolences and attended a memorial event held on December 10 in South Africa as the Special Representative of President Xi. The Chinese Embassy in South Africa flew its flag at half-mast.

Speaking at the memorial service held in FNB stadium in Johannesburg on December 10, Li Yuanchao paid high tribute to Mandela, saying that the Chinese will always cherish Mandela's contribution to China-South Africa relations. "Mr. Mandela is the pride of the African people," said Li Yuanchao. "We are deeply saddened by the loss of such a great friend. At the same time, we are heartened to see that the cause Mr. Mandela had started will be carried forward."

China and South Africa are both emerging economies, with their economic cooperation rapidly growing alongside closer political ties. In 2012, bilateral trade reached nearly \$60 billion, about 40 times of what it was in 1998. China has been South Africa's biggest trading partner since 2008, while South Africa is China's top trading partner in Africa.

"China stands ready to work with South Africa to deepen the China-South Africa comprehensive strategic partnership, bring benefits to the two countries and peoples, and make positive contributions to the noble cause of world peace and development," Li Yuanchao said.

Mandela has finished his journey. But there is still much to be done in South Africa and the world. Today, South Africa has many problems such as slowing economic growth, a wide gap between the rich and poor, violence, high crime rates and corruption. Mandela left a precious spiritual legacy of positive energy. By passing on Mandela's legacy of equality, friendship, tolerance and reconciliation, people will build a more harmonious world that Mandela himself would have wanted to see. ■

(With Li Jianguo and Lu Anqi reporting from Johannesburg, South Africa)



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COVER STORY

NELSON MANDELA IN MY EYES

Former diplomat recalls his impressions of the late leader By Lu Miaogen



The author was the former Chinese Consul General in Cape Town

I spent six years working in South Africa in the 1990s, during which time I was privileged to witness the personal charisma of the great South African leader Nelson Mandela, who became that country's first black president in 1994.

In those years, whenever Mandela appeared at the reception parties of foreign missions, he would be greeted with cheers. He was a man who cherished friendships through both his words and deeds. I heard him say many times that the new South Africa would strengthen cooperation and exchanges with all friendly nations and that it would never forget those who have supported and helped South African people in the fight against apartheid.

Soon after the founding of the new South Africa in 1994, the country's leadership announced it would establish official relationships with Cuba and other countries, in spite of enormous pressure from some Western countries.

At a meeting, I met Mandela and told him I came from

Beijing. He then held my hand firmly and said with a smile that he had visited Beijing before and he had good memories of his trip. He also praised the rapid development of China. I was deeply impressed by his humility and grace.

The extensive popularity of Mandela is closely connected with his care for the hardships of black people. In December 1994, as deputy director of Chinese Research Center (CRC) in South Africa, I was invited to attend the 49th national congress of the African National Congress (ANC). When Mandela approached the podium, the conference hall burst with cheers as all participants cried out his name.

Mandela gave a speech in which he promised the people that the new South African Government would rebuild and develop the country, addressing problems such as housing, education and employment. Mandela called for all South Africans to unite to achieve a new set of goals for the country.

When the opening ceremony concluded, Mandela was encircled by the crowd. All the congress representatives scrambled to shake hands with their leader. The scene lasted for more than half an hour.

I still remember clearly a meeting with Mandela at his office on August 9, 1993. His voice sounded strong and powerful. He said China had been supporting the South African people in their anti-apartheid endeavor since the 1950s, having provided the ANC all the aid that it could. Mandela also candidly talked with me and my colleagues about his prior trip to China's Taiwan. He said that he refused to set up an ANC office in Taipei as requested by the

Taiwan authorities but would like to have such an office built in Beijing.

Mandela said to us that as international organizations such as the UN and the Organization of African Unity did not have official relations with Taiwan, that the ANC would also keep the same policy on the issue. I showed my appreciation for his remarks. At the end of the meeting, I asked him to take a group photo with us. He readily agreed. The meeting revealed Mandela's characteristic open-mindedness and courage. Our interaction convinced me that he valued highly the traditional friendship between China and the ANC, showing that these official relations were an irreversible trend.

On November 26, 1996, at a lunch with Gu Xin'er, one of my colleagues and former director of CRC in South Africa, Mandela confirmed that he had made a decision to break off official ties with Taipei no later than the end of 1997, and establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China (PRC).

On January 1, 1998, the PRC and South Africa announced the establishment of an official relationship. Mandela had no doubt played a crucial role in the event. In May 1999, Mandela, as South African President, made a state visit to China.

Mandela remained indifferent to fame and wealth in spite of the love and adoration he received as a political figure. After serving as the first president of the new South Africa with the blessing of the people, he chose to withdraw from politics after his five-year term rather than run for office a second time.

(The article was originally published on globaltimes.com)



Nelson Mandela is a household name in China. *Beijing Review* interviewed six Chinese people about their opinions of the iconic figure, with excerpts as follows:

Huang Jia, 24, employee of a foreign trade company

Mandela is a warrior of anti-racial segregation. He is also a doctor who cured a broken country, a misshaped regime and an injured people. His lengthy prison life was returned with a Rainbow Nation. He realized racial reconciliation and political transformation in the country. And he became a legend by resigning from the presidency when he reached the political zenith. Here, I pay my respects to this nation's leader and its people.



time goes by. Chinese citizens and enterprises in South Africa should pay more attention to these problems.

Yang Zhiyuan, 23, postgraduate student at Peking University

I admire Mandela's ability to survive the hardships he had to suffer. But more impressively I believe one can learn from his example of forgiveness. I was amazed by his lack of resentment after he was released from prison and subsequent ascent to presidency. Mandela is called a freedom fighter because his cause was just and he was trying to make things better for the majority of South Africans, and he succeeded. I believe people will remember his contributions to human rights in South Africa.



Mei Xinyu, 45, researcher on economic studies

Mandela's fame reached its zenith with his death. He was a warrior of freedom and led the country to realize national reconciliation.

But as a president, he would not be proud of his administrative achievement. The country's economy and social security actually are worse than they were before Mandela came into power. The country now is notorious for its hovering criminal rates. South Africa used to be a big agricultural exporter, but since 2007, it has become a net importer of agricultural products. Over 5 million hectares of farmland are deserted. Moreover, the country is plagued by corruption and becomes less attractive to foreign investment. The consequence of South Africa's misgovernment will be more evident as



Xi Fengyao, 43, editor of a law journal

Mandela's biggest contribution is realizing national reconciliation in South Africa. He convinced black South Africans to choose tolerance and reconciliation rather than revenge, which saved the country from the disaster of racial slaughter caused by racial conflict and political transformation, like what happened in Rwanda in 1994.

Mandela seized a good era of worldwide focus on human rights and racial equality. Few imprisoned political figures have had the good

fortune of getting out of prison and entering the presidential compound.

I think he could do better on dealing with the balance between protecting human rights and striking crimes. Mandela propelled the abolishment of the death penalty in South Africa, and adopted a relaxed criminal law, which may have helped cause the hidden danger of today's high crime rate in the country.

Yang Xiaojie, 47, private entrepreneur

Mandela made great contributions to South Africa's end of apartheid and national reconciliation. He devoted his whole life to this pursuit, and suffered greatly while struggling to achieve his goal. His spirit should be reflected upon. I feel sorry for the loss of the country.



Wang Mengying, 25, bank clerk

Mandela dedicated himself to building a world without racial discrimination. His perseverance and unselfishness moved and encouraged many people, including me. The best years of his life were spent locked behind bars in prison. But he finally turned the dream of "all men are created equal" into reality. To South Africans, he was a beacon in the dark time of racial segregation and guided freedom fighters ahead. To people in other countries, his story perfectly interprets the proverb "faith can move mountains." ■

COVER STORY

TOLERANCE AND RECONCILIATION FOREVER

Nelson Mandela's ideals brought a common treasure to mankind

By He Wenping



The author is a senior research fellow at the Charhar Institute as well as researcher with the Institute of West-Asian and African Studies under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

South African President Jacob Zuma reflected on Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela's passing on December 5, saying, "Our nation has lost its greatest son. Our people have lost a father." The whole world expressed grief over the death of the 95-year-old former leader. Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Keqiang and the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent their condolences to the South African people; U.S. President Barack Obama and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon delivered special statements; and the United States and Britain flew their flags at half-mast. Media throughout the world have been devoting time and space to reporting Mandela's legendary life and his outstanding contributions.

The world has shown such an outpouring of respect not just because Mandela was the founder of a democratic South Africa, but also due to the man's spirit and attitude of tolerance. His outlook stood beyond the limits of ordinary politicians, reflecting the common spiritual foundation of human be-

ings. Mandela has fulfilled his 95-year-long journey. But his story and spirit will last forever. People will remember Madiba (Mandela's Xhosa clan name) as a historically great man and a leader of Africa and the world.

Realizing equality

Mandela was born into a tribal chief family in Transkei on July 18, 1918. Seeing and sensing black South Africans' painful and miserable lives under a racist white regime, Mandela refused to accept the assignment of chief heir, swearing to devote himself as a soldier for national liberation instead of being chief of a tribe under racial repression.

In 1944, 26-year-old Mandela joined the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC, today's ruling party of South Africa), and became chairman of the ANC Youth League in 1950. At the end of 1952, he successfully organized and led the Defiance Campaign, which opposed racist legislation. Though winning the respect and support of black South Africans, he was arrested by the white regime.

Mandela spent 27 years in prison from August 1962 to February 1990. His suffering inspired the international community to put pressure on the regime of white South Africans; his indomitable fighting spirit encouraged black South Africans to continue the campaign for racial equality until the ultimate victory. Despite ruthless persecution against him and his family, Mandela did not emerge from prison with a spirit of hate and revenge, but rather put hate aside. He cherished the ideal of realizing a democratic society, while criticizing any form of racial discrimination, whether it came from whites or blacks.

He promised that the ANC would never take vengeance against the racial discrimination of the past after it became the ruling party. Mandela made a statement at court on April 20, 1964, when he was sentenced to life imprisonment: "During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to





HAPPY BIRTHDAY: South African President Jacob Zuma (right) and former president Nelson Mandela celebrate the latter's 91st birthday on July 18, 2009 in Houghton, Johannesburg

live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.”

During his decades-long anti-apartheid movement Mandela iterated that the campaign for national liberation is not a fight against any organization or race, but a war against a system of oppression. Thus, he adjusted the ANC's strategic guideline and tactics, triumphing in the country's non-violent transformation through peaceful negotiation and reconciliation. For this, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 together with South African President Frederick Willem de Klerk.

Everlasting spirit

Mandela was elected as the first black South African president in April 1994 in the first ever presidential election in South African history. He refused to take a second term when his first term ended in June 1999, setting a good example for his successors and other African leaders while cementing the democratic constitutional basis of the new South Africa. Mandela's conception of tolerance and reconciliation and his insistence on building a democratic country based on

racial equality formed the Rainbow Nation.

The concept of reconciliation, which calls for forgiveness and tolerance, is the essence of Mandela's spirit. Mandela said upon his release in February 1990 that if he couldn't leave pain and hatred behind, he would still be in prison. His tolerance taught the world a lesson in forgiveness. South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, another Nobel Peace Prize winner, called Mandela a global symbol of reconciliation.

Mandela established the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in November 1995. The commission targeted the realization of reconciliation, not revenge, through identifying the truth of apartheid. The Mandela spirits not only appropriate for solving deep-rooted racial conflicts, but also settlement of any conflict and dispute in the world.

Mandela was not obsessed with power, as evidenced by the fact that he did not seek a second presidential term, but he never stopped contributing to world peace. He mediated the civil war in Burundi to push forward peace in Africa. He also established foundations, so as to build schools in rural areas and to fight AIDS, which seriously plagues and hinders the economic and so-

cial development of the continent.

Mandela's spirit and influence have spread to the whole world, and he has become a symbol that will last forever. The 64th UN Assembly passed a resolution in 2009, appointing July 18—Mandela's birthday—as Nelson Mandela International Day to recognize his contribution to world peace and freedom. UN Secretary General Ban said when addressing Nelson Mandela International Day on July 18, 2009, “Through long years in prison, he maintained a steadfast belief in justice and human equality. Upon his release, he reconciled with those who persecuted him most, and he led the way toward a democratic, multi-racial South Africa. To this day, he works tirelessly for peace and human dignity throughout the world. His engagement in the fight against AIDS broke new ground against stigma. He is an exemplary global citizen.” ■



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