

**NEWS FROM CHINA**

# **CHINA-INDIA REVIEW**



## **THE ASIAN WAY DIALOGUE, NOT CLASH**







**“Civilizations don’t have to clash with each other; what is needed are eyes to see the beauty in all civilizations”**

**– President Xi Jinping**





**H.E. Luo Zhaohui**

China's Ambassador to India

## More Power to China-India Ties

It's a unique moment for expanding the canvas of the China-India partnership and to paint it with dreams of people of the two countries. The re-election of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has kindled hopes for stronger and more harmonious relations between China and India.

In his congratulatory message to Modi-ji, President Xi underlined the "great importance" he attaches to the development of China-India relations and his desire to work with PM Modi to "take the Development Partnership between the two countries to a new height." This message sets the tone for a series of meetings the two leaders will have over the next few months, including an informal summit for which President Xi will be visiting India later this year.

For me, the current upswing in bilateral relations is hugely gratifying as I leave India after nearly three years as the Ambassador of China to this great country. As I write my last message for this magazine, I feel nostalgic and vividly recall the sounds and smells of India since I first came as a junior diplomat in 1989. Over the last three decades, I have witnessed the tremendous progress India has made, as well as the great development of China-India relations.

This year is special as it marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Over the last seven decades, China-India relations have grown rapidly, witnessing many ups and downs. When I arrived in India in 2016, bilateral relations were under strain due to some sensitive issues. Then, bilateral ties further nosedived after the

Donglang incident. In September 2017, President Xi and Prime Minister Modi met on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Xiamen and reached a consensus on "turning the old page and opening a new chapter".

In April 2018, the two leaders held their first historic informal meeting in Wuhan, which upgraded the China-India relations and brought it into the fast track of development. Bilateral trade grew to \$95.5 billion in 2018. The two countries have established 14 pairs of sister cities and provinces. Over 20,000 Indian students are studying in China.

Now both sides are working closely to implement the Wuhan consensus reached by the leaders as they prepare deliverables for the second round of informal meeting between our leaders. Going forward, the two sides should strengthen cooperation and coordination on international and regional issues. China and India have common interests in resisting trade bullying and upholding the process of globalisation.

I wish to sign off this message by expressing my deep gratitude to numerous friends, acquaintances and well-wishers in India who have made my ambassadorial tenure in India so memorable and rewarding. Friends never say goodbye! Long Live China-India friendship!

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the Chinese characters '罗照辉' (Luo Zhaohui).



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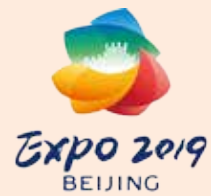
## 亚洲文明对话大会 CONFERENCE ON DIALOGUE OF ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS

2019年5月15日 中国·北京

MAY 15, 2019 BEIJING, CHINA



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# Xi calls for peaceful coexistence of civilizations



## 亚洲文明对话

CONFERENCE ON DIALOGUE OF ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS

2019年5月15日 中国·北京

MAY 15, 2019 BEIJING





Repudiating the much-touted theory of clash of civilizations, Chinese President Xi Jinping has urged various countries to treat each other as equals for the peaceful coexistence of civilizations. “Various civilizations are not destined to clash,” President Xi said at the opening of the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations, Asia’s first-ever grand gathering on inter-civilizational exchanges and

mutual learning for a community with a shared future. The conference, which was held in Beijing from May 15 to May 22, was attended by representatives from 47 Asian countries and 50 countries outside the region.

“The intensifying global challenges humanity are facing now require concerted efforts from countries across the world,” President Xi said in Beijing on May 15, highlighting the role of culture to cope with common challenges. The conference came at a time when certain countries have resorted to the “clash of civilizations” argument, bullying, unilateralism and an inward-looking mentality.

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**President Xi noted there would be no clash of civilizations as long as people were able to appreciate the beauty of all civilizations.**

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Qian Chengdan, a professor at Peking University, said the Xi-proposed event is relevant in the current political environment. “It will boost understanding among different civilizations and pave the way for a brighter future for humanity,” Mr Qian said.

President Xi noted there would be no clash of civilizations as long as people were able to appreciate the beauty of all civilizations.

“It is foolish to believe that one’s race and civilization are superior to others,” President Xi said. “It is disastrous to wilfully reshape or even replace other civilizations.”

The Chinese president raised a four-point proposal to consolidate the “cultural foundation” of jointly building a community with a shared future for Asia and humanity: treating each other with respect and as equals; appreciating the beauty of all civilizations; adhering to openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning; and keeping pace with the times.

Equality, reciprocity, diversity and multi-directionality are underscored in exchanges among civilizations.

The exchanges, Mr Xi said, should neither be compulsory or forced, nor one-directional.



Asia, with two-thirds of the global population, is a major birthplace of human civilization and home to vibrant cultures. There are 47 countries and more than 1,000 ethnic groups on the continent.

Asians expect a peaceful, stable, open and integrated continent with common prosperity, Mr Xi said.

The Chinese president's take on civilization has won broad support from the conference attendees.

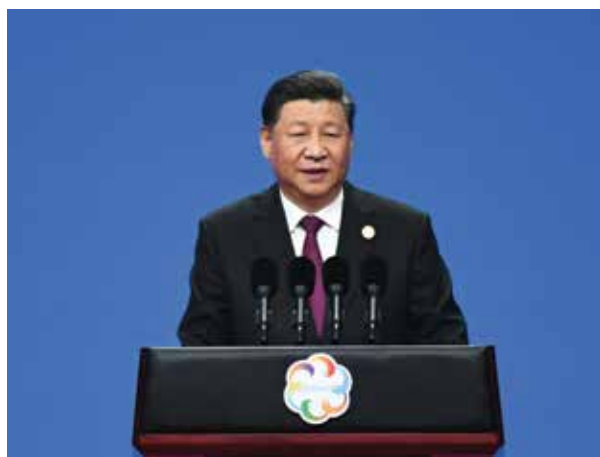
"When he talked about discarding arrogance and prejudice to treat each other as equals, there was a round of applause," said Mr Zhai Kun, a professor at Peking University. "That was really a show of approval."

In their talks on the sidelines of the conference, Greek President Prokopis Pavlopoulos told Mr Xi that he believed the "clash of civilizations" argument was a huge mistake. He agreed that different civilizations should respect each other, enhance mutual learning through dialogue and exchanges and draw upon each other's strengths.

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**The Chinese president raised a four-point proposal to consolidate the "cultural foundation" of jointly building a community with a shared future for Asia and humanity: treating each other with respect and as equals; appreciating the beauty of all civilizations; adhering to openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning; and keeping pace with the times.**

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**The week-long event included an opening ceremony, panel discussions, an Asian Culture Carnival and Asian Civilization Week involving more than 110 activities to showcase the diversity and charm of Asian civilizations.**

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"Civilizations are not meant to make war," said Massoud Daher, a professor at Lebanese University who attended the conference. "There is no clash of civilizations, but complementarity between them."

Professor Qian said the Chinese proposal will address challenges such as global deficits in governance, trust, peace and development.

The week-long event included an opening ceremony, panel discussions, an Asian Culture Carnival and Asian Civilization Week involving more than 110 activities to showcase the diversity and charm of Asian civilizations.





# Greek President lauds Xi's idea of shared future



During a visit to Beijing, the Greek President appreciated the Chinese President's outlook on world civilizations, the development of the Belt and Road Initiative, and the concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind.

**C**hinese President Xi Jinping on May 14 held talks with Greek President Prokopis Pavlopoulos, who was on a state visit to China. Mr Pavlopoulos also attended the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations in Beijing.

Mr Xi spoke of the significance of Mr Pavlopoulos's visit to promote exchanges and mutual learning of civilizations in Europe and Asia, as well as dialogue among civilizations in the world. Mr Xi underscored the inclusiveness of Chinese civilization since ancient times, noting the entry of ancient Greek civilization, ancient

Roman civilization, Mediterranean civilization, as well as Buddhism, Islam and Christianity into the country through the ancient Silk Road.

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**Xi underscored the inclusiveness of Chinese civilization since ancient times, noting the entry of ancient Greek civilization, ancient Roman civilization, Mediterranean civilization, as well as Buddhism, Islam and Christianity into the country through the ancient Silk Road.**

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There has never been any clash of civilizations or any religious war in China, the Chinese President said, adding that the nation does not have a tradition of aggression.

The Chinese people, he added, have long upheld the devotion to the country, believing that the country always comes first, before the family. They are convinced there would be no individual and family happiness without a strong unified nation.

He said the Chinese people remain determined to safeguarding the national unification and territorial integrity, as well as protecting the national interests and the State's dignity.

China will firmly follow the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics despite all sorts of hardship and obstacles, Mr Xi added.

Describing people of all countries as living in a global village destined to swim or sink together, Mr Xi stressed the need to promote exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations and win-win cooperation of various countries to build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity.

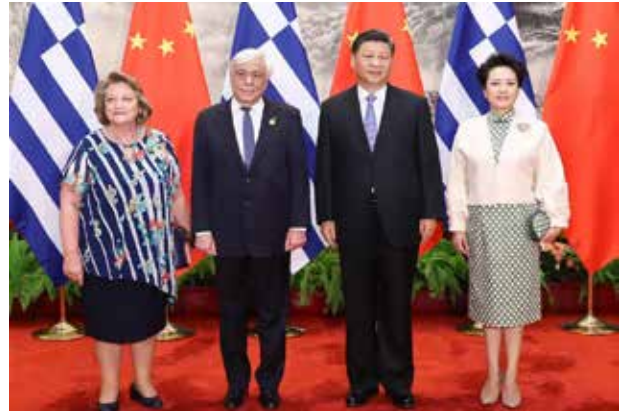
Mr Pavlopoulos said the "clash of civilizations" argument drummed up by certain people in the international arena was a huge mistake.

He said different civilizations should respect each other, enhance mutual learning through dialogue and exchanges and draw upon each

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**Greece appreciates the Xi-proposed outlook on world civilizations, the joint development of the Belt and Road Initiative, and the concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind, Pavlopoulos said.**

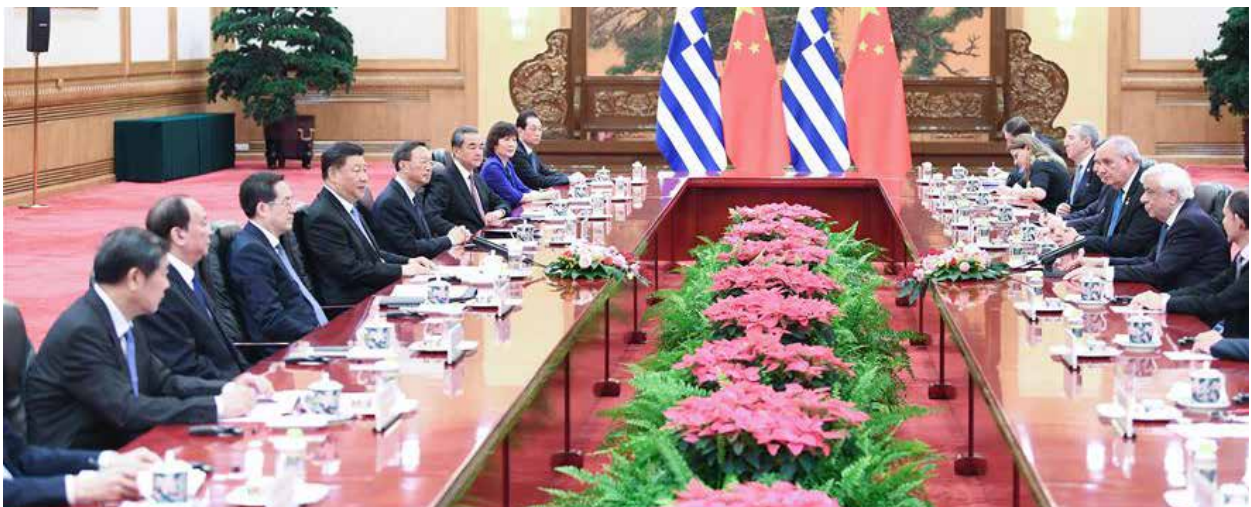
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other's strengths, which is the way to guarantee lasting peace of the world and harmonious co-existence of humanity.

Greece highly appreciates the Xi-proposed outlook on world civilizations, the joint development of the Belt and Road Initiative, and the concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind, Mr Pavlopoulos said.

Greece also highly commends China on upholding multilateralism, honouring its word and keeping its promises in the international arena, Mr Pavlopoulos added.



Chinese President Xi Jinping at delegation-level talks with Greek President Prokopis Pavlopoulos in Beijing.



# XI JINPING

## Champion of dialogue of civilizations



As one of the busiest globe-trotting world leaders, the Chinese president never misses an opportunity to promote mutual respect, understanding and learning between different cultures and civilizations.

**I**n Beijing's leafy Olympic Green stands a stately edifice; its facade, inspired by ancient Chinese architecture, symbolises a bridge, connecting different cultures of the world. It was here in second week of May that China hosted the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations.

The event was initiated by Chinese President Xi Jinping to promote cross-civilizational exchanges and mutual learning across this culturally diverse continent and build an Asian community with a shared future.

Mr Xi has long been a staunch believer in cross-civilization communication. Whether during living in a cave in a remote village decades ago, or now as the head of the world's most populous country, the Chinese President has always maintained that exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations leads to human progress, world peace and development.

Today, this conviction matters even more. In a world beleaguered by alarming anti-globalisation sentiment, rising protectionism and unilateralism, mutating security threats, and resurging assertions of a "clash of civilizations," cross-civilizational communication is of vital significance and needs a fresh dose of vitality.

## A Teenager's Passion

Over 40 years ago, a teenager fascinated by *Faust*, a masterpiece in Western literature written by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, walked over a dozen kilometres of bumpy and dusty country road only to borrow the book from his fellow student.

It was towards the end of 1960s, an age of scarcity with little to read, when Mr Xi was sent from Beijing to work as a farmer in a poverty-stricken village in China's northwestern Shaanxi Province.

An avid reader of not only Chinese but also foreign literary works, Mr Xi read whatever books he managed to find during his seven years there, from old Chinese textbooks to plays written by William Shakespeare.

"To be or not to be," Mr Xi pondered over the question on the barren loess plateau, and eventually made up his mind to dedicate himself to serving his country and the people.

Like other young men, Mr Xi would emulate his favourite protagonist in the books.

After reading *What Is to Be Done?*, a novel written by Russia's Nikolay Chernyshevsky, in which the leading character lives an ascetic life, even going so far as to sleep on a bed of nails to strengthen his will, Mr Xi removed his cotton-padded mattress and chose to sleep directly on a brick bed to strengthen his willpower.

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**After reading *What Is to Be Done?*, a novel written by Russia's Nikolai Chernyshevsky, in which the leading character lives an ascetic life, even going so far as to sleep on a bed of nails to strengthen his will, Xi removed his cotton-padded mattress and chose to sleep directly on a brick bed so as to strengthen his own will power.**

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"Art and literary works are the best way for different nations and peoples to understand and communicate with each other," Mr Xi said in 2014 when recalling the books he had read when he was young.



A group photo of Chinese President Xi Jinping with foreign leaders who participated in the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations, in Beijing.



## A President's Endeavour

As one of the busiest globe-trotting world leaders, Mr Xi misses no opportunity to promote mutual respect, understanding and learning between different cultures and civilizations wherever he goes.

"What's past is prologue," he quoted Shakespeare -- whose works he first read 40 years ago -- at the British Parliament during his state visit to Britain in the autumn of 2015, shedding light on his country's perspective on China-UK relations.

Ahead of his state visit to Italy in March, Mr Xi, in a signed article published by leading Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera*, told the story of Chinese emissary Gan Ying sent to search for "Da Qin," the Chinese name for the Roman Empire, during the Eastern Han Dynasty (AD 25-220).

Recalling the article, Francesco Sisci, a senior consultant for the Italian Minister of European Affairs, said he "saw in between the lines an amicable and wise leader."

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**The BRI, put forward by Xi in 2013, was inspired by one of the most renowned legacies of cross-civilizational communication in history – the Silk Road, a network of ancient trade routes linking China in the East with ancient Rome in the West and beyond.**

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Quoting such pearls of wisdom has been a hallmark of Mr Xi's speeches on the global stage, which demonstrates not only his art of communication but also how open the Chinese are towards other civilizations.

Yet his commitment goes far beyond. His overseas trips have seen him attend cultural events, reach out to the local people and pay visits to landmark cultural heritage sites.

A photo from Mr Xi's 2015 trip to Britain -- which went viral -- shows the Chinese president



enjoying a pint of Greene King IPA beer in the company of his British host, then Prime Minister David Cameron, at a pub near London.

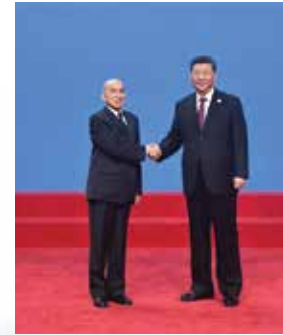
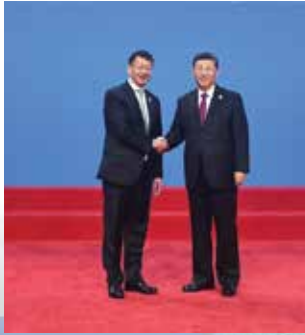
In a speech delivered in 2014 at the headquarters of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), Mr Xi spoke about his visits from Mexico's Chichen Itza, an archaeological site of the Maya civilization, to Uzbekistan's Samarkand, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in Central Asia.

"I have visited many places around the world," Mr Xi said, adding "what I like most is exploring the varied civilizations of our five continents."

## A Statesman's Vision

A highlight of Mr Xi's Italy trip was to the picturesque and culturally significant Villa Madama, where the Chinese president and Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding on bilateral cooperation within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

The BRI, put forward by Mr Xi in 2013, was inspired by one of the most renowned legacies of cross-civilizational communication in history -- the Silk Road, a network of ancient trade routes linking China in the East with ancient Rome in the West and beyond.



A priority in Mr Xi’s signature initiative is to build a road connecting different civilizations where mutual respect will replace discrimination, exchanges will replace estrangement, and mutual learning will replace clashes.

The vision was reflected in Mr Xi’s speech at the UNESCO headquarters in which he highlighted diversity, equality and inclusiveness among civilizations and the role that cross-civilizational exchanges and mutual learning have played in fuelling the progress of humanity.

The landmark address, published in May by *Qiushi*, one of the most influential periodicals in China whose name means seeking truth, is no less and even more relevant today, given the world’s present challenges.

Among the global threats of security and climate change is the thinly veiled sense of superiority held by some in the West, who are in the midst of resurrecting an outdated “clash of civilizations” theory.

What fuels conflict and leads to armed conflict is the absence of real dialogue, said Helmy al-Namnam, a former Egyptian minister of culture, ahead of the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations.

“China’s initiative to hold a major conference on the dialogue of civilizations in Asia is a very important move to pave the way for the language of dialogue over the language of conflict,” he said.





## ‘Wisdom of Chinese civilization conducive to Asian governance’

The key elements of the Chinese civilization include “striving constantly for self-improvement,” “great virtues perfecting all things” and “living in harmony and valuing differences,” which are “fantastic thoughts” good for this world with so many differences, says UNAOC’s Miguel Angel Moratinos.

The wisdom of the Chinese civilization is conducive to improving Asian governance, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) High Representative Miguel Angel Moratinos told Xinhua in a recent interview. “China is already back to the centre of the world stage and playing an increasingly important role in safeguarding and building global and regional peace and security, and helping promote economic progress. There are many reasons for the ongoing rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Yet, its great civilization is playing a critical role,” he added.

Mr Moratinos, a veteran diplomat and former Spanish foreign minister, formally replaced

Nassir Abdulaziz al-Nasser of Qatar as UNAOC high representative on January 1.

“As one of the greatest civilizations in the world, the Chinese civilization has made great contributions to the emergence, development and progress of human civilization,” the UNAOC chief added. “The Chinese civilization is at the centre of the East Asian cultural circle dominated by Confucianism, having an important influence on the evolution of Asian cultures.”

As for China itself, the wisdom accumulated in the development of its civilization over the past 5,000 years has become a strong boost, helping drive the country’s social and economic

development, he said, adding that it also helps, in many ways, Asian countries that “seek common ground in their pursuit of social and economic advancement.”

The key elements of the Chinese civilization include “striving constantly for self-improvement,” “great virtues perfecting all things” and “living in harmony and valuing differences,” which are “fantastic thoughts” good for this world with so many differences.

“All these shining ancient Chinese thoughts must be greatly valued and applied to modern bilateral and multilateral relations,” he stressed.

Mr Moratinos said he firmly believes that dialogues between different civilizations of Asia – as seen at the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations held in Beijing – will usher in an even brighter future.

Speaking of the recent attacks on mosques, churches, temples and synagogues, the UNAOC chief said that “we should not only address the immediate threats, but also take measures so that in the near future, fanatics would not be produced.”

The UNAOC chief noted that efforts to get rid of hate speech, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and other forms of hatred takes time. “It might be medium-run or even long-run, but we must take action right now” by primarily reforming education and taking all other necessary measures.

A “culture of peace” must be introduced into schools and universities, and UNAOC has been discussing with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization so that curricula teaching young people to respect all cultures, civilizations and religions could soon be introduced into classrooms worldwide, Mr Moratinos said.

Through popular and extensive education, people could live in peace as “we are human beings and can be friends, brothers and compatriots if we know how to respect each other,” said the UNAOC chief.

The UNAOC chief expressed the hope that China, as one of the main actors in international relations, could help and support UNAOC so that he himself could “really implement” his agenda.





# CIVILIZATION PERSPECTIVE: CHINA-INDIA RELATIONS

A recent seminar at the Chinese embassy saw spirited discussions on ancient as well as modern cultural connections between the two civilizational states of China and India

Amid attempts in some sections in the West to contrive an artificial clash of civilizations theory, scholars and experts from India and diplomats from the Chinese embassy in Delhi participated in a seminar to explore China-India relations from a civilizational perspective. Held at the residence of China's Ambassador to India H.E. Luo Zhaohui on May 21, the seminar saw spirited discussions on ancient as well as modern cultural connections between the two civilizational states of China and India. Setting the tone for the seminar entitled "Civilization Perspective: China-India Relations," the Chinese ambassador focused on what China and India can learn from each other's culture and history to build better relations.



“China and India have set a perfect example of civilizational cooperation and exchanges. From the perspective of civilization, there have been two thousand years of unbroken interaction,” the envoy said.





“China and India have set a perfect example of civilizational cooperation and exchanges. From the perspective of civilization, there have been 2,000 years of unbroken interaction,” the envoy said. “India was the only reason that made me join the foreign service,” the envoy, who studied Mughal miniature painting at the university, recalled fondly.

“When we talk about interactions between the civilizations of China and India, two words come to our mind: Buddhism and Silk Road. Along the ancient Silk Road, we have witnessed continuous exchanges among different religions and philosophies,” said the ambassador.

“In India, man and nature live harmoniously with each other. India is the abode of spirituality. Atman in Brahman. This concept has had huge influence in Asian countries, including China,” he said.

From the Indian side, Prof. Lokesh Chandra, chairman of Nehru Memorial Museum & Library; Mr Sudheendra Kulkarni, former chairman of ORF (Mumbai); Mr Manoj Joshi, Distinguished Fellow, ORF; Professor B.R. Deepak, chairman of the Chinese Department of Jawaharlal Nehru University; Dr Binoy Kumar Sahay, Curator of Central Asian Antiquities at National Museum; and Mr Manish Chand, CEO, TGII Media Private Limited and India Writes Network, participated in the seminar.

Mapping the way ahead, the Chinese Ambassador said: “Civilizations of China and India are independent. First, we respect each other. Second, we interact with each other.

Third, we do not have conflict; sometimes our interactions slowed down a bit but never stopped. Fourth, the interaction will continue.”

“We should carry on the tradition of civilizational interaction and turn it into a driving force for political and economic cooperation. We need to use the common wisdom gained from our civilizations to settle differences between us,” he said.

“Just like Prime Minister Modi said, China and India are two bodies in one spirit. If China and India speak in one voice, the world will listen,” he said.

## Common interests must rule

Minister Li Bijian, Counselor Zhu Xiaohong and other diplomats from the Chinese embassy also participated in the discussions. Speaking about trading ties between India and China since the days of the Song Dynasty, Prof. Chandra spoke about the need to deepen inter-civilizational interactions. “India and China are the only two living civilizations, and, therefore, the dialogue should be carried forward. We need to focus more on recent cultural interactions,” said Prof. Deepak. Pitching for closer relations between China and India, Minister Li argued that building on their cultural links, “China and India should join hands to protect their common interests,” against protectionism and unilateralism.

**Pitching for closer relations between China and India, Minister Li argued that building on their cultural links, “China and India should join hands to protect their common interests,” against protectionism and unilateralism.**



“Enhancing P2P and cultural exchanges will be transformative and have a force-multiplier effect for the India-China relations in the long term. This is an area which is also bristling with huge economic potential,” said Mr Chand. “The culture industry in China is estimated to be around \$500 billion, and India’s creative economy, although much smaller, is estimated to be around \$40 billion,” he added.

“It is self-evident that the dialogue on Asian civilizations would be incomplete without a continuous dialogue among representatives of the civilizations of India and China,” said Mr Kulkarni.

The Chinese diplomats focused on how China and India can work together for equality, mutual respect and mutual learning among civilizations in the era of globalisation and promote civilizational dialogue against so-called “clash of civilizations” and unilateral trade protectionism.



A group photo of participants in the seminar on “Civilizational Perspective: China-India Relations”

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# A wise global leader and champion of inter-civilizational dialogue

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Sudheendra Kulkarni



It is close to three decades since the American political scientist, Samuel Huntington, put forward the thesis of *The Clash of Civilizations*. He posited that, in the future evolution of the history of humanity, the central axis of world politics would be shaped by the conflict between western and non-western civilizations. Coming in the wake of the end of the Cold War and the disintegration of the Soviet Union, which the West was celebrating as its victory, the subtext of Huntington's argument was that the western civilization is superior to others and hence would emerge triumphant in the clash.

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**In recent years, no world leader has been advocating the imperative need for inter-civilizational dialogue for global peace and common prosperity more vigorously and consistently than Chinese President Xi Jinping. Have we ever heard Donald Trump, Angela Merkel or Shinzo Abe speak on this subject?**

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The concept of the 'Clash of Civilizations' has since been countered by many intellectuals and public figures around the world. In recent years, no world leader has been advocating the imperative need for inter-civilizational dialogue for global peace and common prosperity more vigorously and consistently than Chinese President Xi Jinping. Have we ever heard US President Donald Trump, German Chancellor Angela Merkel or Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe speak on this subject?

## A New Cold War?

As far as the US is concerned, far from calling for a dialogue among civilizations, one of the Trump administration's high-ranking officials has sought to project the current US-China trade war through the prism of a 'clash of civilizations'. In a recent speech, State Department Policy Planning Director Kiron Skinner has pointed to the "long-term threat" presented by China, and said that countering this threat is "a fight with a really different civilization." She has described the decades-long Cold War between America and the USSR as "a fight within the Western family." On the contrary, Skinner said, "It's striking that





## 'All civilizations are equal'

President Xi has made inter-civilizational and inter-cultural dialogue a continuing theme of his leadership. It is worth recalling here that in his speech at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris in March 2014, Mr Xi said, "All civilizations are equal, and such equality has made exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations possible. All human civilizations are equal in terms of value. They all have their respective strengths and shortcomings. There is no perfect civilization in the world. Nor is there a civilization that is devoid of any merit. No one civilization can be judged superior to another."

In his speech at the 19<sup>th</sup> congress of the Chinese Communist Party in October 2017, Mr Xi sought to link this discourse to the newest, and one of the most pressing problems, facing the humanity and the planet today – climate change. He said that the world needs to make a transition from "industrial civilization" to "ecological civilization", and learn to create "harmony between man and nature".

As a non-governmental Indian delegate at CDAC, it was an inspiring experience for me to listen to Mr Xi's profound opening address, in which he further amplified the theme of his speech at the UNESCO. He called the conference "a new platform for civilizations in Asia and beyond to engage in dialogue and exchanges on an equal footing to facilitate mutual learning." The importance of Asia in the global human family is self-evident: "This vast and beautiful continent covers a third of the earth's land mass and has two-thirds of the world's population."

Mr Xi's explanation of the purpose of the conference was persuasive. "The world today is

it's the first time that we will have a great power competitor that is not Caucasian." Apart from carrying the stink of civilizational superiority, her remark was downright racist.

Are we seeing Washington planning a new Cold War?

It is against this background that we can understand the enormous importance of Xi Jinping's unique championship of the concept of inter-civilizational dialogue. He is also the only global leader today who is striving to contextualise this dialogue as a means to reach a much larger and loftier goal – namely, "Building a Community of Common Future for Mankind".

I had the privilege of participating in two important conferences in Beijing in April and May, both hosted by the Chinese President. In April, I attended the Second Forum of the Belt and Road Initiative. (I had also participated in the inaugural BRI Forum in 2017.) A month later (May 15-18), I participated in the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations (CDAC). The two conferences are of immense significance for Asia and the world.



moving toward greater multi-polarity, economic globalisation and cultural diversity, and is becoming increasingly information-oriented. All these point to promising prospects for the future. Meanwhile, instability and uncertainties are mounting and the global challenges faced by humanity are becoming ever more daunting, calling for joint responses from countries around the world." Therefore, his prescription: "To meet our common challenges and create a better future for all, we look to culture and civilization to play their role, *which is as important as the role played by economy, science and technology.*" (Emphasis mine)

In an indirect reference to the protectionist, exclusivist and supremacist stance being adopted by the rulers in the US, Mr Xi cautioned, "Civilizations don't have to clash with each other; what is needed are eyes to see the beauty in all civilizations....If countries choose to close their doors and hide behind them, human civilizations would be cut off from each other and lose all vitality. We Asian people hope that all countries will reject self-exclusion, embrace integration, uphold openness and promote policy, infrastructure, trade, financial and people-to-people connectivity."

Mr Xi's wisdom - which is indeed the wisdom of all Asian civilizations - was also evident in the following words. "We need to stay open and inclusive and draw on each other's strengths. All living organisms in the human body must renew themselves through metabolism; otherwise, life would come to an end. The same is true for civilizations. Long-term self-isolation will cause a civilization to decline, while exchanges and mutual learning will sustain its development."

As an Indian, I was happy when President Xi made a special reference to India's contribution to the richness of Asian civilizations by mentioning the Rig Veda, Ganga and Indus rivers, and, above all, the priceless gift of Buddhism.

It is self-evident that the dialogue on Asian civilizations would be incomplete without a continuous dialogue among representatives of the civilizations of India and China. The history of civilisational, cultural and spiritual exchanges between India and China shows an amazingly large and deep reservoir of common values, ideas and ideals. Our two nations have a strong universal perspective: we regard the entire

humanity as one family. And the best minds from both India and China have striven to know about the other with respect and admiration, while simultaneously striving to offer the gifts of one's own culture and civilization to the other. This has been true of Kumarajiva, Faxian and Xuanzhang in ancient times to Rabindranath Tagore, Prof Tanyun Shan and Ji Xianlin in modern times.



Prof. Tan Chung receives Padma Bhushan Award at Rashtrapati Bhavan in 2010.

## India-China Dialogue

In this context, I would like to make a special mention of Prof Tan Chung, a great Chinese Indologist and the worthy son of Prof Tanyun Shan. I read his scholarly book *China - A 5,000-year Odyssey*. At the end of reading the book, I was left wondering whether he was writing about China or India, because his research highlighted so many ways in which our two civilizations interacted and influenced one another. I was so impressed by the book that I made it a point, during my recent visit to the United States, to specially go and meet him in Detroit and spend a day with him. It was an unforgettable experience.

Let us work together to further expand the scope of India-China dialogue and cooperation in all fields - from politics and economy to arts and culture, from trade, technology and tourism to education, entertainment and environment protection, and indeed in all areas that constitute civilizational exchange between two great nations. In doing so, our dialogue should be frank and candid as behoves two mutually respecting friends, so that we can overcome all differences in a friendly manner.

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*The author is founder of the 'Forum for A New South Asia - Powered by India-China-Pakistan Cooperation'. An aide to India's former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, he lives in Mumbai.*



# Dialogue, not Conflict and Chaos

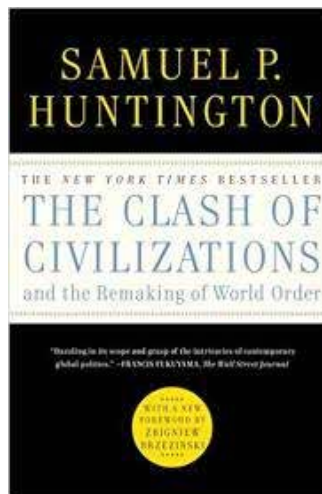
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Manish Chand

As India and China march ahead on their own independent but intersecting journeys, the two Asian powers should reject divisive constructs like the clash of civilizations and focus on forging a multi-layered cultural dialogue.

More than 25 years after American political scientist Samuel Huntington crafted his controversial theory of the “Clash of Civilizations” in an eponymous article in *Foreign Affairs*, the flawed notion is once again making headlines. This time around it’s not Huntington, but a Trump administration official who has used the concept to frame the current US-China trade war in terms of a clash of civilizations and rival ideologies. In Director of Policy Planning at State Department Kiron Skinner’s worldview, the US’ fight with China (over trade, technology and investment) is “a fight with a really different civilization and a different ideology and the US hasn’t had that before”. She fuelled the controversy further by adding that China represented “the first time that we will have a great power competitor that is not Caucasian”.

This is a deeply misguided and dangerous formulation to describe competition and rivalry between the world’s two largest economies. In a return to the Cold War mindset, these formulations make civilization, ideology and race the markers of geopolitical competition between the incumbent superpower and an aspiring power, seen as a dangerous challenger and rival. I believe that such a fraught formulation should

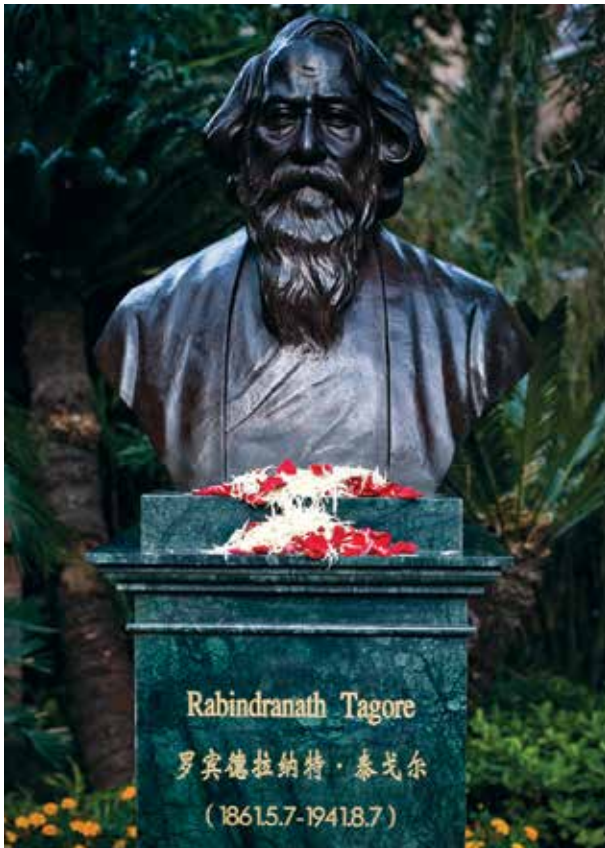


be rejected by world leaders and the strategic-intellectual community as it’s a recipe for Conflict, Chaos and Catastrophe. The formulation sees the Other as a source of conflict and antagonism, which is antithetical to the ethos of pluralism, diversity and dialogue of civilizations espoused by not just India, China and other Asian cultures, but also by American democracy and liberalism. Such a theory, if followed and accepted, can only sharpen antagonisms based on differences in culture, religion and race, and militates against the ethos of pluralism which sees the Other as a source of strength and creative renewal. It’s also against globalisation and humanity.

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**“If someone thinks their own race and civilization is superior and insists on remoulding or replacing other civilizations, it would be a stupid idea and disastrous act,” President Xi said.**

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China’s President Xi Jinping has rightly repudiated this erroneous “clash of civilizations” theory in his speech at the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations in Beijing on May 15. Rejecting notions of racial superiority, President Xi appealed for harmonious dialogue and coexistence between civilizations. “If someone thinks their own race and civilization is superior and insists on remoulding or replacing other civilizations, it would be a stupid idea and disastrous act,” President Xi said. “We should hold up equality and respect, abandon pride and prejudice, deepen our knowledge about the differences between our own and other civilizations, and promote harmonious dialogue and coexistence between civilizations.” “If countries retreat to secluded islands, human civilization will die out because of a lack of exchanges,” he said.

## Shared Values

Any notion of clash of civilizations is also deeply alien to India’s civilizational ethos of diversity, plurality and oneness of all religions and cultures which is crystallised in ideals of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* and *Sarvadharmā Sambhava*. Given our shared Buddhist heritage and kindred value-systems, there is a compelling case for India and China, the two ancient civilizations which are now re-emerging as major powers in their own right, to enhance cultural and P2P exchanges.

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In this context, it’s refreshing and energising to see that culture and P2P exchanges, which were earlier sideshows/footnotes in official India-China talks, are now moving to the forefront of this mutually empowering partnership. This trend was telescoped in the maiden meeting of the India-China High-Level P2P and Cultural Exchanges Mechanism held in December last year.







Swami Vivekananda at Parliament of Religions in Chicago on September 11, 1893.

## 10-point P2P agenda

The foreign ministers of China and India, who co-chaired the meeting, jointly announced the 10 focus areas which will receive special attention in this new framework of P2P and cultural exchanges. These include film and

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**We are meeting at a moment of great hope for the India-China relations. The focus is on enlarging areas of convergence and minimising points of friction.**

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television co-production, media, education and think tanks, sports, youth exchanges, tourism, traditional medicine, exchanges between cities and states, yoga and academics. Terming the P2P exchange mechanism as a “major initiative in the history of India-China relationships,” Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi expressed confidence that it will “help consolidate the popular basis for state-to-state relations”.

Going forward, the implementation of this 10-point agenda needs to be fast-tracked. Enhancing P2P and cultural exchanges will

be transformative and have a force-multiplier effect for India-China relations in the long term. This is an area which is also bristling with huge economic potential. The culture industry in China is estimated to be around \$500 billion, and India’s creative economy, although much smaller, is estimated to be around \$40 billion.

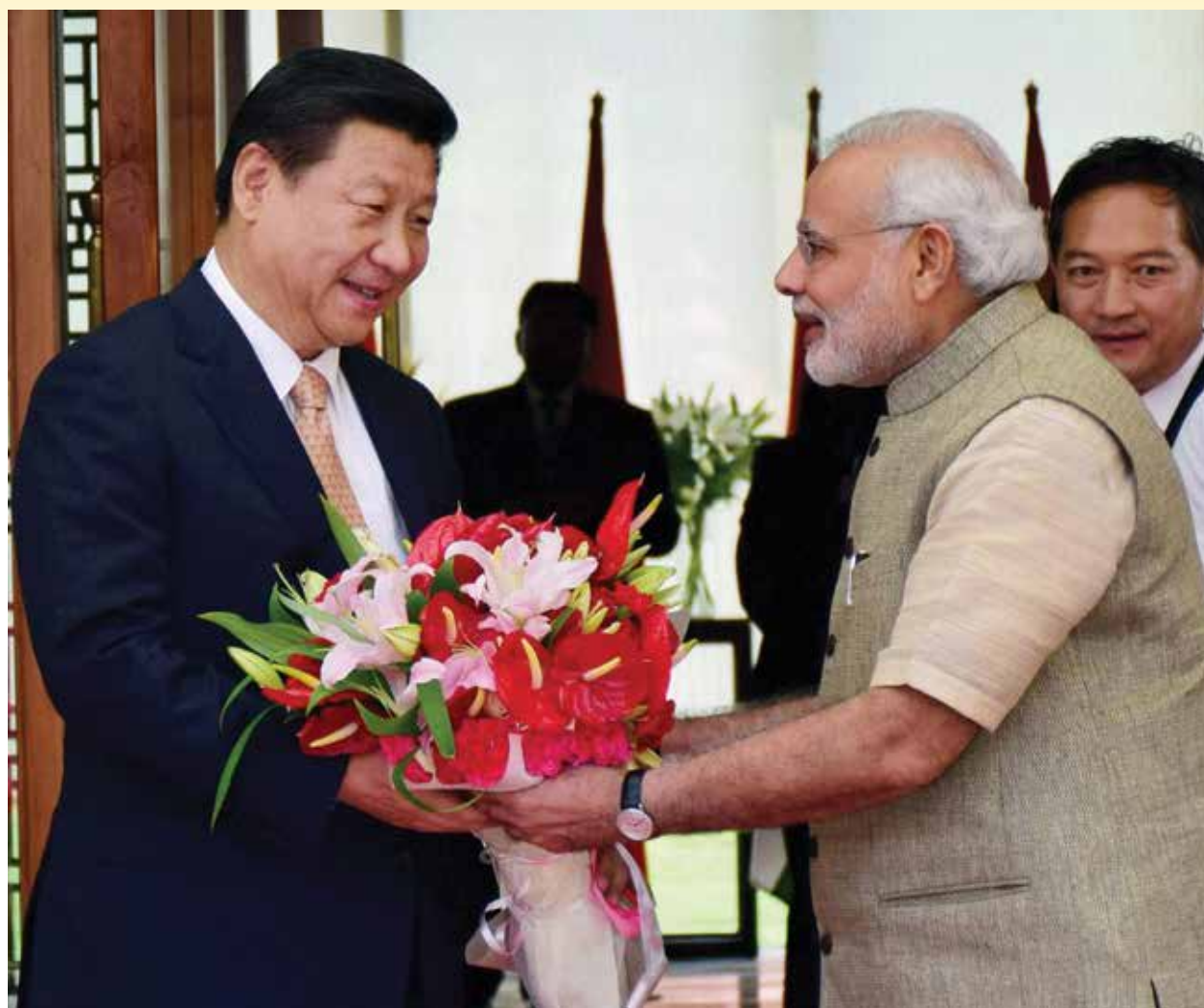
We are meeting at a moment of great hope for the India-China relations. The focus is on enlarging areas of convergence and minimising points of friction. “We are what our thoughts have made us; so, take care of what you think. Words are secondary. Thoughts live; they travel far,” said Swami Vivekananda.

Therefore, as India and China march ahead on their own independent but intersecting journeys, the two Asian powers should reject divisive constructs like the clash of civilizations and focus on building enduring friendship pivoted around shared civilizational values, mutual trust and respect for each other’s core interests and strengths.

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*(Manish Chand is Founder-CEO, India Writes Network and TGII Media Private Limited. He is Editor-in-Chief, India and World magazine.)*

# Xi congratulates Modi, hopes for stronger China-India relations



The decisive victory of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party in the 2019 elections is set to renew momentum in China-India relations, with President Xi Jinping congratulating the Indian leader on the electoral victory and hoping for stronger partnership between the two countries.

In a congratulatory letter to Mr Modi for winning a second term, Mr Xi underlined the great importance he attached to the development of China-India relations and his desire to work with PM Modi to take the Development Partnership between the two countries to a new height.





“I attach great importance to the development of China-India relations and would like to work with you to guide the development directions of the bilateral relations, enhance mutual political trust, expand pragmatic cooperation and promote the closer development partnership between the two countries to new heights,” wrote President Xi.

“China and India maintain good coordination and cooperation on major issues such as promoting multi-polarisation and economic globalisation as well as upholding multilateralism,” he wrote.

The Chinese leader “expressed strong satisfaction at the strong momentum of development in India-China relations in recent years with the joint efforts of both sides,” said a statement by India’s Ministry of External Affairs.

Mr Xi was among the first few world leaders to congratulate PM Modi on the electoral triumph of his party even before the election results were declared officially.

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Mr Xi’s optimism about developing stronger relations with India came barely three weeks before he meets PM Modi on the sidelines of the SCO summit in Bishkek on June 13-14. The two leaders are also expected to meet, along with Russia’s President Vladimir Putin, in the trilateral RIC format on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Osaka, Japan, towards June-end.

Bilateral relations are expected to move into a higher orbit during President Xi’s visit to India for the second informal summit with Mr Modi, likely in October.

Over the last few months, Prime Minister Modi and President Xi forged personal chemistry and rapport, which was seen most visibly at the first informal summit meeting between the two leaders in Wuhan in April last year.

The Wuhan consensus, firmed up between the two leaders, has ensured a positive energy and momentum in China-India relations, with many tangible results in the form of reduction in trade deficit and cooperation in third countries like Afghanistan.

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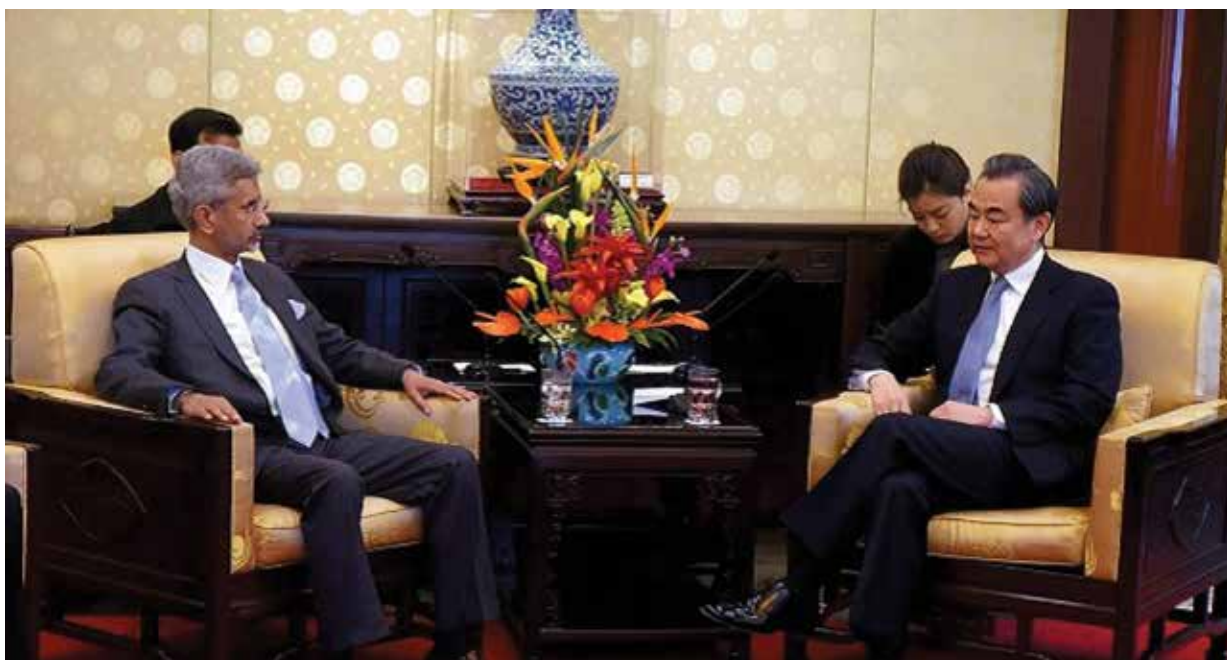
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Chinese President Xi Jinping and PM Modi take a walk in Wuhan, where they held their first informal summit meeting in April 2018.

# WANG CONGRATULATES INDIA'S NEW FOREIGN MINISTER



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has congratulated Dr S. Jaishankar on his appointment as India's External Affairs Minister and lauded his positive contributions to the development of bilateral ties.

"We congratulate Mr Jaishankar on his appointment as the foreign minister of India," a press release from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

As foreign secretary of India and ambassador to China, he has made positive contributions to the development of China-India relations, it said.

"China is ready to work with India to implement the consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries and promote new progress in China-India relations and pragmatic cooperation in various fields to bring more benefits to the people of both countries," said the statement.

Mr Jaishankar, a former foreign secretary, served as India's envoy to China from 2009-13. He was India's foreign secretary from 2015-2018.

A polyglot and scholar, Jaishankar has formidable expertise and experience in dealing with China and the US (he served as New Delhi's envoy to Beijing and Washington).

Mr. Jaishankar has a PhD in international relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University, where he specialised in nuclear diplomacy. He had previously served as India's Ambassador to the United States (2014-15), China (2009-13) and the Czech Republic (2001-04), and as High Commissioner to Singapore (2007-09).

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**"As foreign secretary of India and ambassador to China, he has made positive contributions to the development of China-India relations".**

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# China-India: Yes to Civilization Exchanges, No to Trade Bullying

H.E. Luo Zhaohui

A high-level Chinese delegation attended the WTO Ministerial Meeting of Developing Countries hosted by India recently. The outcome document reiterated the priority status of the WTO in the formulation

of global trade rules and governance. It stressed that core values and basic principles of the WTO shall be upheld and the WTO reform process must reflect concerns of developing members. It is another epitome of China and India jointly

upholding multilateral trading system and the interests of developing countries to oppose trade bullying and achieve win-win cooperation.

According to research of British economist Angus Maddison, over the past 2000 years, the GDP of China and India combined had accounted for 50% of the world's total for as long as 1600 years. Since modern times, both China and India suffered from hegemonism and "gunboat diplomacy". The new round of globalisation as well as multilateral trading system originating from the end of the 20th century provided valuable historical opportunities for China and India to integrate into the world economy. China and India have been learning from each other and conducted practical cooperation in areas such as economic governance, policy synergy and industrial cooperation. The economies of China and India continue to boom, and the comprehensive national strength of the two continues to increase. The global influence of the two countries continues to expand significantly. The national rejuvenation of China and India is within reach.

## Trade War

However, the way forward will never be smooth. Against the backdrop of surging trade protectionism, emerging economies have been constantly pressurised, bullied or even contained by a certain developed country, which seeks supremacy and is determined to act wilfully. It resorts to new "magic weapons" such as

**Against the backdrop of surging trade protectionism, emerging economies have been constantly pressurised, bullied or even contained by a certain developed country, which seeks supremacy and is determined to act wilfully. It resorts to new "magic weapons" such as withdrawing from international organisations, abrogating agreements, wielding sticks of tariffs, creating blockage and imposing sanctions.**

withdrawing from international organisations, abrogating agreements, wielding sticks of tariffs, creating blockage and imposing sanctions. Disregarding its international credibility, it seeks utmost self-interests through extreme pressure and breaching promises. It advocates "Self-interests First", clamours for the "clash of civilizations" between the West and the East, as well as between the white and the coloured, inciting nationalist sentiments.

As the second largest economy in the world, China has become a major victim to this round of pressure and bullying from the United States. China always upholds that slapping tariff does not help solve any problems, and differences should be addressed through consultations based on mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit. A trade war will only be detrimental to both sides. China does not want, and is not willing to fight a

**A trade war will only be detrimental to both sides. China does not want, and is not willing to fight a trade war but by no means it is afraid to fight one. China remains committed to addressing disputes through negotiations and never yields to any outside pressure. If someone brings the war to our doorstep, China will fight to the end.**

trade war but by no means it is afraid to fight one. China remains committed to addressing disputes through negotiations and never yields to any outside pressure. If someone brings the war to our doorstep, China will fight to the end.

The US also abuses "national security standards" and suppresses Chinese company Huawei on 5G, which neither side could gain. At the same time, we should be aware that no eggs can remain unbroken when the nest is upset. The US does not only target China, but also the EU, Japan, Canada and Mexico to realise its interests.

India is also the victim of the bullying, which includes imposing tariffs on steel and aluminium products, threatening to end the Generalized System of Preference, and crippling



**India is also the victim of the bullying, which includes imposing tariffs on steel and aluminium products, threatening to end the Generalized System of Preference, and crippling the WTO disputes settlement system to create the “Graduation Theory” of developing countries.**

the WTO disputes settlement system to create the “Graduation Theory” of developing countries. If countries do not make concerted efforts to safeguard the existing rules of global economic governance, no one can escape from its harm.

## Dialogue among Civilizations

Recently, the US officials clamoured for the so-called “clash of civilizations”. It is nothing new but an upgraded version of Huntington’s theory in the 1990s. It probably intends to glorify its history of genocide against the American Indians in the early years of US or to find theoretical basis for waging a trade war, which should be guarded against. The exchanges between Chinese and Indian civilizations set a model for inter-civilizational exchanges in Asia and beyond. It is based on mutual understanding and trust. There never exists the so-called clash or conflict of civilizations. Though differences among civilizations are only natural, differences do not mean conflicts. It could be addressed through exchanges, mutual learning, dialogue and cooperation among different civilizations. The Chinese side respects differences, uniqueness and diversity of different civilizations and does not believe that conflicts exist among civilizations. Nor has China the intention or gene to transform or replace other civilizations. We strongly oppose the conspiracy of politicising differences among civilizations, or making it an excuse for stirring up conflicts between countries. This is the broad consensus reached during the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations (CDAC) hosted by China recently.

As ancient eastern civilizations, both China and India share the philosophy of harmonious relations, inclusiveness, mutual benefits and win-win outcomes.

In the future, China and India should comprehensively deepen mutual political trust, economic and trade cooperation as well as people-to-people exchanges. We should push forward connectivity to promote cooperation, enhance mutual understanding through cooperation,



foster friendship through mutual understanding, and establish mutual trust through friendship, thus forming a positive cycle. In the international arena, we should jointly address challenges in global governance such as anti-globalisation, unilateralism and trade protectionism. China and India should also join hands to build an Asian Century, a new type of international relations and a community with shared future for mankind to embrace various booming civilizations.



*(H.E. Luo Zhaohui is China’s Ambassador to India)*

# Connecting with Sikkim

## Boosting

**W**ith a view to boosting cross-border trade and tourism, China's Ambassador to India Luo Zhaohui visited Sikkim (May 8-11). In Sikkim's capital Gangtok, the envoy met Sikkim's Governor Ganga Prasad, Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling and Chief Secretary A.K. Shrivastava. The ambassador discussed a host of issues, including enhancing trade along the Nathula corridor between the two countries.

The Chinese diplomat proposed that increasing the hours of trade and the number of business days could facilitate the traders on the two sides. He also underlined the need to develop Nathula as a dry port to increase the volume of trade.

Accompanied by Commercial Counsellor at the Chinese Embassy Li Baijun, the Chinese ambassador visited the Changgu border trade market of India and the Renqinggang border trade market in Yadong County. In his remarks, the envoy said that Sikkim is adjacent to Tibet Autonomous Region of China and the friendly exchanges between the two sides have a long history. "It will help deepen mutual understanding between the two countries and achieve common development by enhancing exchanges and cooperation in border areas," he said.

Nathula Pass is the main passage of the southern line of the ancient Silk Road as well as the most convenient land route connecting China and India.

The two sides resumed the border trade in 2006, which effectively promoted economic cooperation in the border areas. Since 2015,

**"Friendly exchanges between Sikkim and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China will help deepen mutual understanding between the two countries and achieve common development by enhancing exchanges and cooperation in border areas," said the Chinese Ambassador.**



China's Ambassador Luo Zhaohui with Sikkim's Governor Ganga Prasad.





# trade via Nathula Pass



China's Ambassador Luo Zhaohui with Sikkim's Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling in Gangtok.



Changgu border trade market of Sikkim.

Indian pilgrims could also come to Tibet for pilgrimage through the Nathula Pass. China is willing to use this channel with the Indian side to expand economic and trade cooperation and strengthen personnel exchanges to better benefit the local people.

India and China are both ancient civilizations and big countries with global influence, Sikkim's Governor Prasad, Chief Minister Chamling and Chief Secretary Shrivastava conveyed to the Chinese ambassador. "The potential for cooperation between the two sides is enormous. The India side is willing to expand trade cooperation and cultural exchanges with China through Nathu La Pass," they said.



China's Ambassador Luo Zhaohui at the Renqinggang border trade market in Yadong County, Tibet Autonomous Region of China.





Declaring the opening of the world's largest international horticultural exhibition in Beijing on April 28, Chinese President Xi Jinping expressed his hope that the green development concept embodied by the expo park would be spread to "every corner of the world."

The International Horticultural Exhibition 2019 Beijing (April 29-October 7) is the largest

international fair held in China after the International Horticultural Exhibition in the southwestern city of Kunming in 1999, the 2010 Shanghai World Expo and the first China International Import Expo in 2018.

The 2019 Beijing expo indicates that China has changed from a participant in global green development to a contributor and leader, said Wu





## Xi leads green development at world's largest horticultural expo

Shunze, an expert with the Ministry of Ecology and Environment.

“The development model of ‘killing the hens for eggs’ and ‘draining the lake for fish’ is at a dead end,” Mr Xi said in his speech at the opening ceremony of the expo. “The future will be illuminated by eco-friendly development that is in accordance with the rules of nature.”

The State Council approved Beijing’s bid to host the 2019 expo in 2012, the same year when the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China first raised the vision of building a “Beautiful China.”

Since that congress, ecological civilization has been placed in the country’s “five-sphere” integrated plan and “four-pronged”

comprehensive strategy, with pollution control carried out with unprecedented scale, institutions introduced with unparalleled intensity, environment laws enforced with unprecedented severity and the environment improved at unprecedented speed.

“China’s ecological civilization development is on fast track. People will live in a better environment with blue sky, green mountains and clear water,” Mr Xi said. “We should protect the ecological environment like protecting our eyes and value it in the same way we value our lives.”

“Only with concerted efforts can we effectively deal with global environmental issues such as

climate change, marine pollution and biological protection and achieve the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals,” he said.

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**A study published in February using data from NASA satellites showed that of all the newly-added green leaf areas between 2000 and 2017, about 25 percent was in China, the largest contribution.**

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He put forward a five-point initiative: pursuing harmony between human and nature, prosperity based on green development, a







passion for nature-caring lifestyles, a scientific spirit in ecological governance and joint efforts to tackle environmental challenges.

The Beijing expo brings together more countries than any past expo in the horticultural industry, said Bernard Oosterom, president of the International Association of Horticultural Producers, at the opening ceremony.

“China has led the way in promoting green development. It is clear that the Chinese government supports ecologically sensitive development in order to create a ‘Beautiful China,’” he added.

A study published in February using data from NASA satellites showed that of all the newly-added green leaf areas between 2000 and 2017, about 25% was in China, the largest contribution.

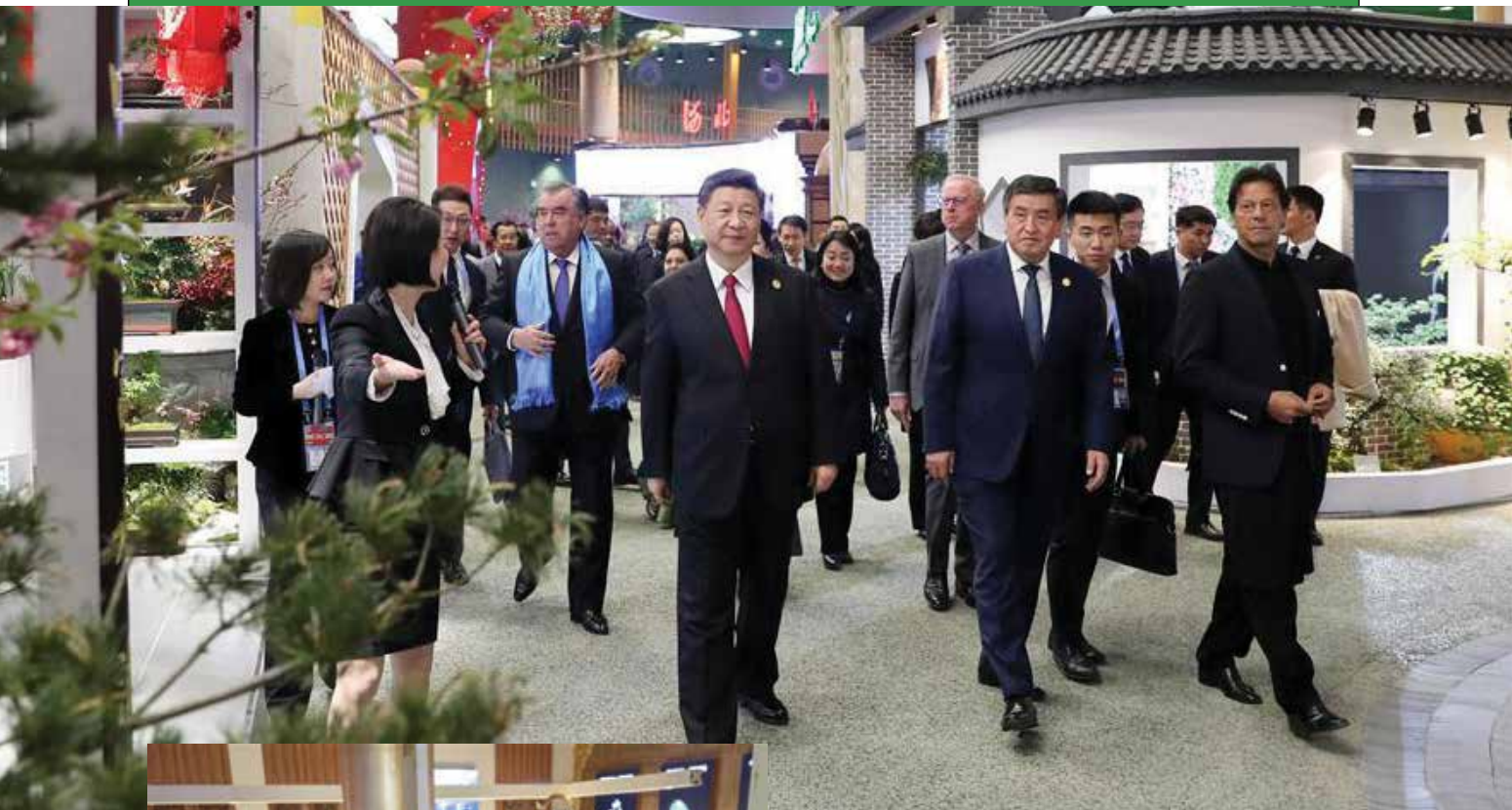
China also contributed the biggest share to the global reduction of the use of ozone-depleting substances, accounting for more than half of the total reduction by developing countries.

The Beijing horticultural expo with the theme “Live Green, Live Better” is one of the major international events hosted by China in 2019, which marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China. A total of 110 countries and international organisations are attending the 162-day event.





# Xi, foreign leaders tour horticultural exhibition



Chinese President Xi Jinping and his wife Peng Liyuan were joined by foreign leaders and their spouses for a horticultural exhibition tour in Beijing's northern district of Yanqing. The foreign guests, who were in the district for the International Horticultural Exhibition 2019 Beijing, were received by Mr Xi and Ms Peng at the China pavilion of the expo park and took them to different parts of the exhibition, featuring a variety of plants and unique gardening styles of various regions.

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**The China pavilion not only boasts wonderful gardening but also demonstrates the country's willingness to pursue a green life and share the benefits of development with the rest of the world, said President Xi.**

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The foreign entourage also visited the gardens of Cambodia, the Czech Republic, Djibouti, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Japan, Singapore and Tajikistan in the international horticulture zone, and attended a tree-planting ceremony.





# DANCING FOR GREEN LIVING







The Beijing Expo opened to the public on April 29 at the foot of the Great Wall in Beijing's Yanqing District. The expo is expected to be attended by 110 countries and international organisations as well as 120 non-official exhibitors.

The exhibition will run until October 7 and is expected to welcome some 16 million visitors to see a huge collection of plants, flowers and eye-catching pavilions. The theme this year is "Live Green, Live Better," with the philosophy of "make horticulture part of nature, let nature touch the soul," and the event will also display many ideas for green development.





# HOW CHINA IS ABLE TO FEED ITS

# 1.3 BILLION PEOPLE



Have you ever wondered how China is able to feed its 1.3 billion people? The answer lies in the country's ecological farming methods, which maximise the land and natural resources to achieve sustainable development across the country.

In the vast plain alongside the Yangtze River, a place with relatively dense population, farmers adopt the mulberry-silkworm-fish-silk-trees cycle, a sophisticated and sustainable agricultural ecosystem dating back to ancient China.

The mulberry leaves raise silkworms and the feces of latter ones fertilise the ponds, which







considerable profits to local farmers with its tasty meat and costly price.

This sustainable development mode feeds over 100 million people and also greatly enriches Chinese people's daily meals.

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**China's world-famous hairy crabs are also raised along the Yangtze River, which brings considerable profits to local farmers with its tasty meat and costly price.**

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provides a good environment for the fish in the ponds. The sludge helps the mulberry trees grow.

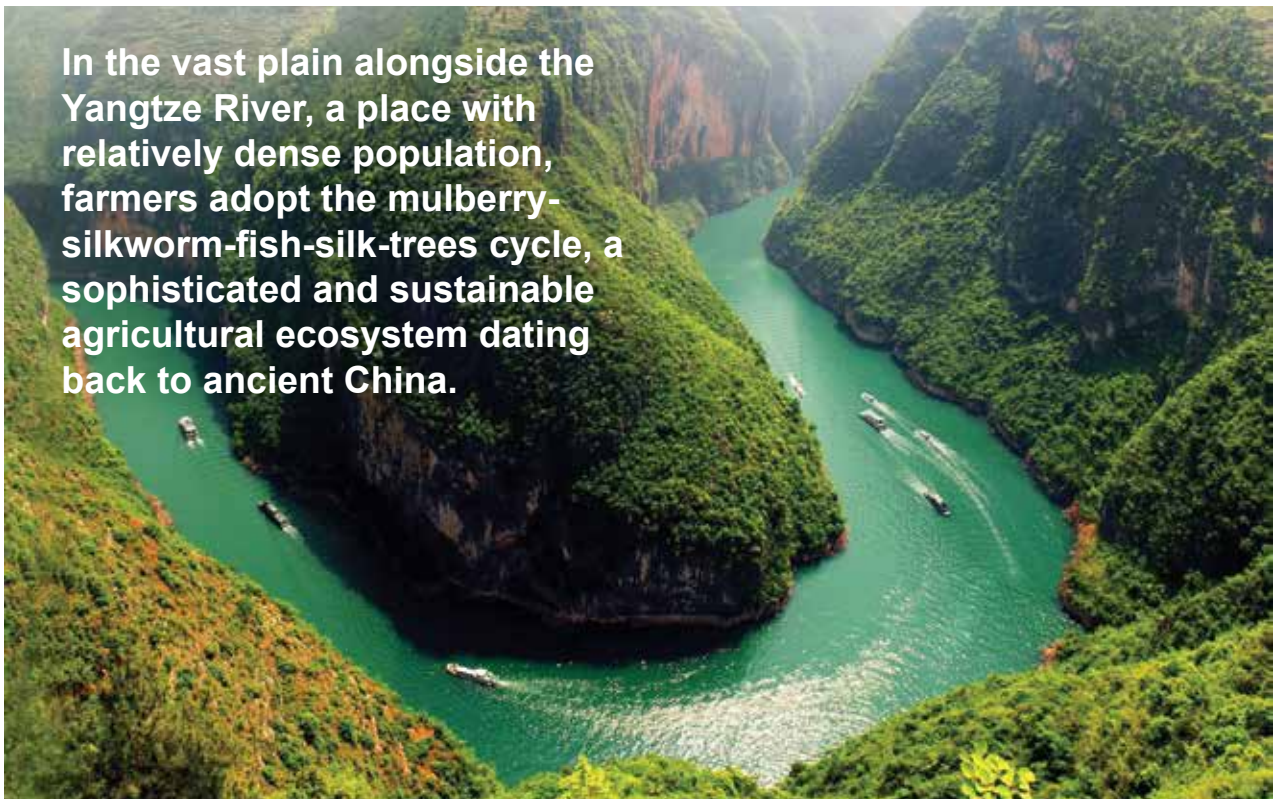
While Chinese people also apply modern technology to this traditional farming mode, aerators are launched by many fishermen to pump oxygen into the ponds, and the electricity needed to power the devices is generated by nearby solar panels.

A similar method is to plant rapeseeds on the nutrient-rich silt dug up from the riverbed. The booming rape flowers attract bees in search of nectar, which has helped China become a country that contributes 30 percent of the world's honey production.

China's world-famous hairy crabs are also raised along the Yangtze River, which brings



**In the vast plain alongside the Yangtze River, a place with relatively dense population, farmers adopt the mulberry-silkworm-fish-silk-trees cycle, a sophisticated and sustainable agricultural ecosystem dating back to ancient China.**





# Chinese Ambassador says adieu to India, upbeat about bilateral ties



“Friends never say goodbye. We only say see you later. I am sure we will meet again sometime and somewhere”.

China's envoy to India Ambassador Luo Zhaohui concluded his farewell speech with these beautiful words on May 27 in New Delhi

**At his farewell reception in New Delhi, Chinese Ambassador Luo Zhaohui spoke about the upward trajectory of the China-India ties, and also mapped the way ahead for this crucial partnership**



**A**t a glittering function at the Taj Palace Hotel in New Delhi, the Chinese envoy spoke about his longstanding relationship with India that started 30 years ago when he landed in the country to start his first tenure.

“Thirty years later, I will depart India as I finish my second tenure. In the period of 30 years, I have witnessed the tremendous progress India has made, as well as the great development of China-India relations,” he said at the farewell reception, which was attended by around 1,100 guests.

The function was co-hosted by the Chinese Embassy in India, together with India-China Friendship Association, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of South Asia, India Association of Foreign Affairs Correspondents, All India Overseas Chinese Association, India China Economic and Cultural Council and Travel Agents Association of India.

## Upward Trajectory

Saying that the last two years and eight months were an unforgettable experience in his life, Ambassador Luo also spoke on the trajectory of the China-India relationship in the last 30 years. While China-India two-way trade increased from \$200 million to \$95.5 billion, the two-way people to people exchanges have increased from several hundred a year to more than 1 million. “More than 20,000 Indian students are studying in China. There are more than 1,000 Chinese companies doing business in India, creating two lakhs jobs for the locals,” he said. “There are three fashionable things among the urban youth in China, namely watching Bollywood movies, tasting Darjeeling tea and practicing Yoga”.

## Second Informal summit

On the important aspect of political relations between the two Asian countries, the Ambassador acknowledged that there has been some “ups and downs,” but both parties handled the Donglang incident “properly and resolved the Masood Azhar listing issue”. He also highlighted the first



China's Ambassador Luo Zhaohui with India's then External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.

round of informal summit between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Wuhan, saying that “we are implementing the consensus reached by the two leaders and working together to prepare for the second round of informal summit. I am very optimistic about the future of our relations”.

As a two-tenure diplomat in India and scholar of Indian history, Mr Luo felt that the China-India relations are one of the most important bilateral relations for both sides. “The Chinese side attaches great importance to its relations with India, and is willing to work with the forthcoming new government to make the relations better,” he said.

## The Road Ahead

The Ambassador also had a few thoughts on how the China-India relations can be improved in the future:

- “First, break the circle of ups and downs of the bilateral ties and stabilise the relations.



A farewell reception organised by the Pakistan High Commission in honour of China's Ambassador Luo Zhaohui and his spouse Dr Jiang Yili in New Delhi.



With veteran Communist leader Sitaram Yechury.



With India's then Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu.



- Second, handle the bilateral relations beyond management and actively reshape it.
- Third, focus on cooperation and narrow down the differences. Signing a bilateral friendship and cooperation treaty and free-trade arrangement, reaching the early harvests of boundary talks, and synergising the Belt and Road Initiative with the development strategies of India, are the highest priorities for future cooperation.



With National Security Adviser Ajit Doval



With V. Bhaskaran, General Secretary of India-China Friendship Association



A group photo of Chinese embassy diplomats with Ambassador Luo and his wife Dr Jiang Yili.

- Fourth, strengthen the cooperation and coordination in international and regional issues. China and India have common interests in upholding the process of globalisation, and against the trade bullying. “We should move forward the China-India plus cooperation mode,” he said.

The Ambassador took the opportunity to thank the Indian government, Parliament, industrial and commercial sectors, media, think-tanks and his colleagues from the diplomatic corps. “China-India relations will not achieve so

much without your support and efforts,” he said. “I feel lucky that my new assignment will allow me to continue to serve for our relations”.

He also expressed appreciation for his colleagues at the Embassy for their professionalism, team spirit, and hard work. “My thanks also go to my wife Dr. Jiang Yili. She has done a great job as a diplomat and scholar on Indian culture,” Mr Luo said.

The farewell reception was attended by representatives of the Indian government, Parliament, political parties, military, think tanks, media, enterprises, Indian missions and international organisations, diplomats from the Chinese embassy and Chinese consulates, representatives of Chinese-funded institutions and overseas Chinese students. Minister Li Bijian of the Embassy chaired the reception.



With India’s Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale.



With Prof. Lokesh Chandra, Chairman, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library.



With Shahi Imam of Jama Masjid Syed Ahmed Bukhari.





China's Ambassador Luo Zhaohui with Frank Hans Dannenberg Castellanos, Dean of Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Dominican Republic to India



During the reception, Bhubaneswar Kalita, President of Unity International Foundation(UIF), and R. N. Anil, Gneral Secretary of UIF, conferred Life-Time Achievement in Diplomacy Award on H.E. Ambassador Luo Zhaohui. V. Bhaskaran, General Secretary of India-China Friendship Association, Himadrish Suwan, Chairman of Confederation of Young Leaders, and Hans Dannenberg Castellanos, Dean of Diplomatic Corps, also conferred commemorative friendship medals on him.



Bhubaneswar Kalita, president of Unity International Foundation(UIF), and R.N.Anil, General Secretary of UIF, conferred Life-Time Achievement in Diplomacy Award on H.E. Ambassador Luo Zhaohui.



China's Ambassador Luo Zhaohui and his wife Dr Jiang Yili and Kaushal Goyal, CEO of GBD Books, launched the three books commissioned by the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi: *Fond Memories on the Campus*, *Essays in Memory of Prof. Xu Fancheng*, and *Be Friends with Yamuna River-History of the Premises of the Chinese Embassy in India*.



# BUILDING

It was a great opportunity to showcase Chinese language skills, as well as sharing experiences with other Chinese language learners. On May 24, the contest of the 18th “Chinese Bridge,” Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign University Students (Indian), was held at Le Meridien Hotel in New Delhi. Indian students enthralled the audience with their speech-making skills in Chinese. Sponsored by the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China, the competition saw the participation of 9 contestants from 5 universities across India. After an intense competition, Uma Shankar from JNU got the first prize, and will go to China to represent India for the final competition.





# BRIDGES





# Dali and Puducherry

## A tale of two cities



- Dr Das Bikash Kali

**A photography exhibition by artists of Dali in Puducherry showcases not just the beautiful region of China's Yunnan province but also celebrates the ancient ties between the two cities.**

**A** beautiful melange of photographs – 'Transitional Lifestyles in Dali' – was exhibited in Pondicherry (Puducherry), India, on March 28, 2019. The exhibition was organised by the Pondicherry India China Friendship Association (PICFA) and the Dali Art Factory (DAF), and supported by the

Department of Art and Culture, Government of Pondicherry. The photographs, which were from the art factory, showcased the ethnic life of the Dali community of China's Yunnan province.

The event's location was provided by Sri Aurobindo Ashram. The objective of the exhibition was to enrich and enhance the people-to-people relations between China and India through cultural and art exchanges. The event was inaugurated by Mr K. Lakshminarayanan, MLA, Parliamentary Secretary to the Chief Minister, Puducherry, and it was curated by Mr Zhao Yu, Mr Qiao Qi and team. The curators of the photography exhibition came from the Dali Prefecture.

Around 15 Chinese artists and photographers participated in this event. The DAF was established in 2014 and promotes exploration of Yunnan's rich aesthetic heritage and its core values are identification, development and advancement of indigenous creativity along with forging relationships with the global artistic community.





## The Yunnan-Puducherry Connection

Pondicherry in South India is located on the shores of Bay of Bengal and has a deep historical connection with Yunnan, thanks to its trade relations in the French colonial periods. China's clay potteries and coins used during those days have been found during excavations at Arikamedu, Pondicherry.

Pondicherry was also the home of the famous Chinese scholar Xu Fancheng. Prof Xu lived in Pondicherry for 27 years and translated ancient Indian spiritual and cultural books into Chinese, including the Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, The Life Divine, Confucius, Meghdhootam and Nietzsche Philosophy.

In March last year, Ambassador Luo Zhaohui came to Pondicherry and delivered a keynote speech during an event 'Symposium of Xu Fancheng' and on December 2018, the book "Essays on Xu Fancheng" was released by China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi and his Indian counterpart, Sushma Swaraj, in New Delhi.

"Xu Fancheng had a strong influence of traditional Chinese thoughts and he devoted himself to enhancing the spiritual, cultural and literary exchanges between China and India. Professor Xu built a bridge between China and India by translating numerous Indian books to Chinese. He is considered as the greatest cultural bridge between China and India in this 21st century," said Ambassador Luo Zhaohui.

## Dali, A Big Tourist Draw

Dali is a beautiful city located in the southwest of China, two hours from Kunming, the capital city of the Yunnan Province. The Dali Old Town is a well-known tourist destination of the world. Dali is the home of the ethnic Bai people and the province is known for its natural beauty, historical and cultural heritage, and vibrant nightlife.

The Dali area was formerly known as Xiemie. The old town was the medieval capital of both the Bai kingdom Nanzhao (8th and 9th centuries) and the Kingdom of Dali (937-1253). The city was razed and its records burnt during the conquest of the Mongolian Yuan Dynasty and the present old



town was built in the late 14th century under the Hongwu Emperor of the Ming Dynasty.

The area became significantly Muslim (Hui) under the Yuan and Ming dynasties and was the centre of the Panthay Rebellion against the Qing dynasty between 1856 and 1863. The city was severely damaged during a massive earthquake in 1925. The central part of Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture is the home of the Bai people and comprises Dali City and Xiangyun County, Binchuan County, Midu County, Yunlong County, Eryuan County, Jianchuan County, Heqing County and Yongping County. Much of the local economy revolves around tourism.

Historically, Dali had trade relations with China and India, and is well-known for the wood workers of Xizhou and high-quality marble that is used for construction and decoration. It was so famous that the modern Chinese word for marble is called "Dali stone".

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**The DAF was established in 2014 and promotes exploration of Yunnan's rich aesthetic heritage and its core values are identification, development and advancement of indigenous creativity along with forging relationships with the global artistic community.**

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Most Bai people are Buddhists and also have a native religion of Benzhuism. Those who follow Benzhuism worship the ngelzex, the Bai word for “patrons” or “lords”, rendered as benzhu in Chinese, which are local gods and deified ancestors of the Bai people.

There are also minorities practicing Taoism and Christianity. There are a few villages in Dali where residents are Muslims, but speak Bai as their first language. These people are officially classified as Hui nationality and call themselves Bai Hui (“Bai-speaking Muslims”).

San Dao Cha (Three Course Tea) is the most popular Bai tea ceremony in Dali and is a common sight at festivals and marriages. It is both a cultural ceremony and method of honouring a guest. The ceremony is described as ‘Yiku, ertian, sanhuiwei’ (First is bitter, Second is sweet, and Third brings reflection). The grand festival of the Bai people is the Third Month Fair, held annually at the foot of Mount Cangshan in Dali.

## Reviving Old Ties

Dali and Pondicherry are in talks to develop tourism and cultural relations between the two cities since both are famous tourist destinations and bilateral cooperation can bring new

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**“Xu Fancheng had a strong influence of traditional Chinese thoughts and he devoted himself to enhancing the spiritual, cultural and literary exchanges between China and India,” said the Chinese ambassador.**

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opportunities to both. On February 27, 2018, Chief Minister of Puducherry Mr V. Narayanasamy met the Party Secretary and Head of the Dali prefecture Mr Chen Jian at New Delhi and both expressed their keen interest in developing friendship city relations between the two cities through tourism and cultural cooperation.

In 2019, Pondicherry University and Dali University signed an MOU for educational exchanges. The Dali University has 400 Indian students and has nurtured more than 2,000 Indian undergraduate students to date.

India and China share cultural and historical connections. Keeping the old ties between the two nations in mind, we look forward to more interactions in the areas of education and culture between the two great nations.

*(Dr Das Bikash Kali is Secretary General, Pondicherry India China Friendship Association)*







# Tiny needle, big role: Rebirth of acupuncture in India

**Pankaj Yadav and Zhao Xu**

**A**s a famous Hindi saying goes, “A sword can’t replace a needle.” In the context of China-India relations, the acupuncture needle plays an important role in health care and cultural exchanges.

Centuries ago, acupuncture was prevalent in both countries, but later it was further developed and practiced in China.

Dr. Inderjit Singh Dhingra, 65, a renowned Indian acupuncturist who has been practicing and popularising the form of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) for a long time in the city of Ludhiana in India’s northwest state of Punjab, said the revitalisation of the acupuncture therapy in India goes back to World War II.

During the Chinese People’s War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, India dispatched a team of five volunteer doctors to central China to provide medical assistance.

When the war ended, Dr. Dwarkanath Kotnis, one of the five doctors, decided to stay in the country, while the other four returned home, bringing TCM back with them.

Nowadays, with a growing number of Indians being treated and cured by what they call the “Chinese treatment,” the ancient therapy is gaining renewed vigor in the South Asian country.

Dr. Dhingra said acupuncture can cure as many as 338 diseases, including body pains, gynecological problems, paralytic dysfunctions and arthritis pains. Each day, there are 60 or 70 patients coming to see the doctor.

Shipika Gabba, 24, a former table-tennis pro who gave up her career due to a slipped disc years ago, said she had tried almost all conventional treatments, or allopathy, but failed to get any relief before she tried acupuncture.

“Then, one fine day I came across this acupuncture clinic. Initially I was scared at the sight of so many needles being put into a human body for treatment. But, then I gathered courage and had a go at it. And soon I started feeling the relief and my back pain is gone. Today, I can say that there is no equivalent to acupuncture,” she said.



Harpreet Kaur, 55, was inspired to become an acupuncturist herself after her husband received the treatment and has been practicing in Canada for three years.

“My husband was suffering from joint pains. We consulted many doctors who practiced allopathy, but there was no improvement. Then we came in touch with Dr. Dhingra and my husband underwent acupuncture sessions and got tremendous results,” she said.

**Dr. Dhingra said acupuncture can cure as many as 338 diseases, including body pains, gynecological problems, paralytic dysfunctions and arthritis pains. Each day, there are 60 or 70 patients coming to see the doctor.**

Acupuncture has also been practiced for decades in Kolkata, the capital city of West Bengal, by Dr. Debasis Bakshi at the Indian Research Institute for Integrated Medicine (IRIIM).

The institute has worked for some 30 years for the official recognition of acupuncture and alternative medicine systems like naturopathy.

### Praise from Patients

Using both Indian and Chinese needles for acupuncture, the drug-free therapy has won praise from patients, Dr. Bakshi said.

Gopal Biswas, 24, a labourer from West Bengal, had an accident while working at a construction

site years ago. After undergoing major cerebral surgery, he is receiving acupuncture sessions at Dr. Bakshi’s medical facility.

“After 12 sessions, he is able to move his right limbs and has also started uttering words. We notice a great improvement in his condition and wish he will be able to walk, sit, and do his normal chores on his own after undergoing more acupuncture sessions,” the doctor said.



After having witnessed the success of acupuncture for years, the Indian government in February recognised acupuncture as an independent healthcare therapy. Dr. Dhingra expressed gratitude for the government’s recognition, expecting more TCM research centers and hospitals to be established across the country.

Indeed, along with the revival of acupuncture in India, the tiny needle is playing a growing role in stitching together the cultures of the two most populous countries in the world.

*(Courtesy: Xinhua)*



# Xi envisions cooperation on big data development



## President Xi Jinping's message calls for tackling legal, security and governance challenges

President Xi Jinping has called for strengthening cooperation among countries to explore opportunities of digital, Internet-based intelligent development, and to properly address legal, security and governance challenges arising from big data industry development.

He made the remarks in a congratulatory letter to the China International Big Data Industry Expo 2019, which kicked off in Guiyang, Guizhou province, in late May.

The new generation of information technology, represented by the Internet, big data and artificial intelligence, is booming at present and has significant and profound influence on economic development, social progress and people's lives, Mr Xi said in the letter.

China attaches great importance to the development of the big data industry and is willing to share opportunities of the digital economy's development with other countries and jointly explore new growth drivers and development paths by exploring new technologies, new business forms and new models, President Xi added.

### Online data surge

With increasingly wider applications of digital technologies in China, the country is expected to generate and store 27.8% of global online data by 2025, up from 23.4% last year, according to a report by market researcher International Data Corp and data storage firm Seagate.

In comparison, the US share will stand at 17.5% by 2025, a drop from its 21% share in 2018, the report added.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that from medicine to transportation to farming, big data presents the world with a remarkable tool to advance global progress, but with that opportunity also comes risk.

“We must work together to ensure that big data, and the technologies that it enables, are harnessed for the benefit of mankind while minimising the risks to development, peace and security and human rights,” Mr Guterres said in a congratulatory letter to the expo.

Miao Wei, Minister of Industry and Information Technology, said China has already made significant progress in bolstering the big data industry with a string of platforms established in sectors such as manufacturing, commerce, finance, transportation and medical care.

“We will make a fresh push to integrate cutting-edge information technologies into the real economy, including establishing a national industrial data centre, to better power the country’s sprawling manufacturing sector,” Mr Miao said at the opening ceremony of the big data expo.



According to the ministry, China’s digital economy grew to over 31 trillion yuan (\$4.5 trillion), or 34.8% of its GDP, in 2018.

Yang Xiaowei, deputy head of the Cyberspace Administration of China, also called for more efforts to develop the homegrown big data sector and highlighted that stepping up research



and development is key to mastering core technologies.

Paul Romer, co-recipient of the 2018 Nobel Prize in economics and professor of economics at New York University, said he is impressed by China’s proposal in cyber sovereignty, which he understands as: each nation must be able to write and enforce its own laws that regulate cyberspace, and ensure that cyberspace works to the benefit of everyone in the nation.

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**China attaches great importance to the development of the big data industry and is willing to share opportunities of the digital economy’s development with other countries and jointly explore new growth drivers and development paths by exploring new technologies, new business forms and new models, President Xi added.**

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“China’s articulation and implementation of cyber sovereignty means it is a chance for the world to see a different kind of organization for cyberspace, and a chance to see that with the right structure, we can get tonnes of benefits,” Professor Romer added.

Lu Yong, vice-president of Huawei Technologies Co, said China’s digital economy has thrived on the basis that China has built the world’s largest 4G network.

“5G is not just a faster 4G. It will fundamentally reshape how enterprises run businesses and overhaul a wide range of industries by using data to create more value,” he said.





# Xi inspires youth with patriotism talk

May Fourth Movement inspires confidence in national rejuvenation, says Chinese President Xi Jinping

President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech at a ceremony to mark the centenary of the May Fourth Movement at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on April 30, 2019.

## Highlights

⇒ The May Fourth Movement, with its mighty force, inspired the ambition and confidence

The May Fourth Movement, with its mighty force, inspired the ambition and confidence of the Chinese people and nation to realise national rejuvenation.

of the Chinese people and nation to realise national rejuvenation.

- ⇒ The movement was a great patriotic and revolutionary campaign pioneered by advanced young intellectuals. People from all walks of life participated in it to resolutely fight imperialism and feudalism.
- ⇒ It was a great social revolutionary movement launched by the Chinese people to save the nation from subjugation, to safeguard national dignity and pool national strength together.
- ⇒ It was also a great enlightenment and new cultural movement of disseminating new thought, new culture and new knowledge.

## National Rejuvenation

- ⇒ Young people shall work hard in learning the Marxist stance, viewpoints and methods, mastering scientific and cultural knowledge and professional skills, and improving their humanistic quality.
- ⇒ Wellbeing of Chinese must be achieved by their own efforts
- ⇒ The development of the Chinese society, the national rejuvenation and people's wellbeing must be achieved by the Chinese through their own heroic efforts.
- ⇒ A bright China is not a gift that can be given by anybody.
- ⇒ As long as the Chinese people and the nation have the courage to fight and sacrifice themselves for changing their destiny, the country will surely become prosperous and strong and national rejuvenation will be realised.

## Young Chinese of New Era

- ⇒ In the new era, the theme and direction of Chinese youth movement and the mission of Chinese young people are to uphold the leadership of the CPC, and work along with the people to realise the two centenary goals and the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation.

**The development of Chinese society, the national rejuvenation and people's wellbeing must be achieved by the Chinese through their own heroic efforts.**

- ⇒ Young Chinese of the new era shall establish belief in Marxism, faith in socialism with Chinese characteristics, as well as confidence in the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation.
- ⇒ Chinese youth of the new era shall love their country ardently. The essence of patriotism is having unified love for the country, the Communist Party of China, and socialism.
- ⇒ Young Chinese of the new era should follow the instructions and guidance of the Party, and remain dedicated to the country and the people.
- ⇒ As long as young people are brave enough to shoulder responsibilities and fight hardships and risks, Socialism with Chinese Characteristics will be full of vitality, potential and hope.
- ⇒ There will definitely be daunting challenges, difficulties and obstacles in the new journey toward the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. The spirit of arduous struggle is especially needed during the process.





- ⇒ The Chinese youth should always maintain their fine tradition of forging ahead.
- ⇒ Chinese youth of the new era should be grateful to the Party, the country, the society and the people. Young people shall nurture and practice core socialist values, and guard against wrong ideas such as money worship, hedonism, extreme individualism and historical nihilism.

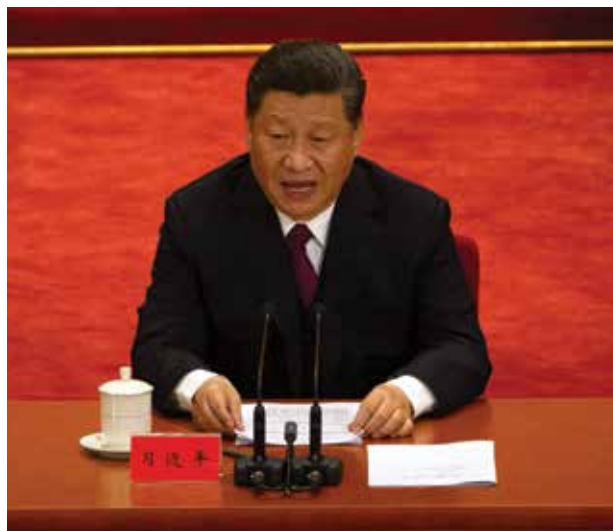
**Chinese youth of the new era shall love their country ardently. The essence of patriotism is having unified love for the country, the Communist Party of China, and socialism.**

### Nurturing New Generation

- ⇒ Nurturing the young generation is the Party's political responsibility.
- ⇒ Communist Party of China should shoulder the political responsibility of nurturing a new generation of capable young people who have a good and all-round moral, intellectual, physical, and aesthetical grounding in addition to a hardworking spirit, and who are well-prepared to join the socialist cause.
- ⇒ We should listen to young people's views on social issues and phenomena, as well as their opinions and advices on the work of the Party and the government.
- ⇒ Even if they express harsh or partial criticism, we should correct our mistakes when we have made any and guard against them when we have not.
- ⇒ The Party should address young people's concerns in employment, starting business, integrating into the society, love, marriage and making friends, caring for the elderly and raising children, so as to create favourable conditions for their development.
- ⇒ We should educate and guide young people to view the world properly, to understand the national conditions comprehensively, and to grasp the trend of the era.

### Working for Chinese Dream

- ⇒ The Communist Youth League of China (CYLC) shall unite and lead Chinese youth of the new era to strive for the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation.



- ⇒ The CYLC should serve their duties of guiding and uniting the youth, mobilising them, connecting them and providing services.

**Young people shall strive for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and push forward the joint building of the Belt and Road and the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.**

### Concerns for Humanity

- ⇒ The Chinese youth should work for the building of a community with a shared future for humanity.
- ⇒ Young people should not only care about their family and country, but also have concerns for humanity.
- ⇒ Young people shall strive for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and push forward the joint building of the Belt and Road and the building of a community with a shared future for humanity.

# 'Gifted' Readers

## And the Lucky Draw Winners are...

It's time for us to toast our readers. Ever since the makeover of *News from China*, the new avatar of the magazine has received an enthusiastic response and positive reviews. We are grateful to our dedicated readers for their feedback and suggestions for improving the magazine. As a token of our appreciation, we are pleased to announce special gifts for readers of the magazine, based on the lucky draw result held at the Embassy. Congratulations to our gifted readers!

So, keep reading *News from China*, and don't forget to share your feedback & mailing details!

### First Prize



**(Redmi Note 7)**

- S.M. Najimuddin
- Timir Basu
- Naved Raiyan

### Second Prize



**(MI Band 3)**

- Jose Kalathil
- P. G. R. Sindhia
- M. I. Khan
- Inderjit Singh
- Resham Bhambhani
- M. K. Dhar
- Rajesh Kumar
- Biju Vijayakumar
- Maj.Gen. Ramesh C. Chopra
- R. D. Samarth
- Tseibu Rutso
- Anirban Ghosh
- K. Aboobacker
- George Herman Fernandes
- V. B. Sreenivasan
- Janardan Pati
- Anilkumar N.C.
- Rabi Sankar Bosu
- Tholloor Sasidharan
- K. Muthiyalu





- Pavithran. E. P.
- Sukhjit Singh Walia
- Binode Ranjan Kalita
- Jugal Kishore Tripathy
- Sishupal Samrath
- Gita Mathew
- Arun Kumar
- Manoranjan Mohanty
- Rajan Skharia
- Pranay K. Piparsania
- Jose P Varghese
- Janak Singh
- Binode Ranjan Kalita
- Santosh B Gupta
- Gajendra Badgujar
- Anita Midha
- R. Mullai
- M. V. S. Sarma
- C. R. Biswas
- R. S. Varma
- Narendra
- Vincent Thechepalackal
- Arundass T. P.
- Showkat Qadri
- Aswini Kumar Dash
- Khurshid Ahmed Bismil
- S. Sudhakaran Sreenilayam
- Comrade Raj Singh
- R. C. Suneja
- Raj Kumar Oberoi
- Saraff Madan Mohan
- G Nabi Lone
- Nageswara Rao Gullapalli
- C. V. Ranganathan
- Lokesh Chandra
- Joe Madiath
- Dr. Kamal Tanwani
- Rajkumar S
- R. K. S. Dhawan



**Third Prize**



**(Notebook)**





# Trade war pushes US to verge of turmoil

**Rabi Sankar Bosu**

**T**he Sino-U.S. relationship has been called the “most important bilateral relationship” in the world. But unfortunately, it has changed fundamentally ever since Donald Trump assumed the presidency in January 2017.

Critics say Trump’s hyperactivity in foreign relations, more specifically relations with China, is a frog-in-the-well kind of perspective. Two years down the line, trade relations with China have deteriorated, and his actions as a US president need questioning.

During his presidential campaign in 2016, the billionaire real estate mogul Trump regularly lambasted China on a host of issues from China’s

trading practices to Chinese manufacturing. He said China had “raped the US economy.” As a president different from all who had gone before, Trump professed to put “America First” on all matters.

President Trump has made no secret of his desire for a “better” trading relationship with China. As a dealmaker, he has been using a “trade war” as a threat to gain more leverage over China in other areas. And in doing so, he blatantly undermines the global rule of law under the UN Charter, turning the World Trade Organisation (WTO) into a toothless tiger with the highest numbers of complaints against the US.





Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump, with their respective delegations, at the dinner talks in Buenos Aires on December 1, 2018.

In the immediate aftermath of the failure of the 11th round Sino-US trade talks on May 10 in Washington, an all-out economic war is on the horizon with continued provocative tariff threats from Trump.

## Costs of Trade War

But the latest tariff hike on virtually all Chinese imports has backfired. A resolute China gave its answer on May 13, officially announcing that it

would increase its own tariffs on \$60 billion worth of American products. Surely, the increased tariffs will hurt the US consumers and companies as these taxes are not paid by foreign nations and they result in higher costs that are simply passed on to American consumers.

According to a report by the economic consulting firm Trade Partnership Worldwide, Trump's trade war with China could cost the average American family of four up to \$2,300 a

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year, and make the US lose more than 2.2 million jobs if all tariffs continue and cause a sales decline.

Surely, this will not help the US economy to make “America great again,” but instead will push the country on the brink of turmoil. As such, the US business groups urged the US president to refrain from imposing these additional tariffs and instead focus on negotiating and concluding the trade deal with China.

## Opportunity for India

On the other hand, the ongoing China-US trade war undoubtedly presents opportunities for countries including India to expand trade relations with China and share common interests in defending the multilateral trading system. The success of the informal summit in Wuhan between President Xi and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April 2018 has created a new platform for economic and trade engagement between the two countries.

**According to a report by the economic consulting firm Trade Partnership Worldwide, Trump’s trade war with China could cost the average American family of four up to \$2,300 a year, and make the US lose more than 2.2 million jobs if all tariffs continue and cause a sales decline.**

**China is the biggest importer of soybeans in the world. The US-imposed trade war has opened a new door for India to avail export opportunities of soybean to China. Moreover, China has lowered tariffs on some of Indian goods exported to China, increased imports of sugar and other agricultural products from India, facilitated the export of Indian medicines to China, and further improved the trade structure.**

China is the biggest importer of soybeans in the world. The US-imposed trade war has opened a new door for India to avail export opportunities of soybean to China.

Moreover, China has lowered tariffs on some of Indian goods exported to China, increased imports of sugar and other agricultural products from India, facilitated the export of Indian medicines to China, and further improved the trade structure.

If China increases its market access for Indian food, the latter’s traditional basmati rice, mango and black tea will surely win the hearts of food-loving Chinese people. Notably, China is currently India’s largest trading partner, with total trade output reaching up to \$89.71 billion in 2017-18.

In the light of the trade war with the US, a more intimate and strategic trade relationship between China and India is much needed to stand together against Trump’s harsh protectionist measures towards both countries, which have drawn worldwide objections.

It is an opportune time for the two neighbours to speak out in one voice against the US’ capricious trade practices in the name of “national security” and “fair trade” to preserve multilateralism.

*(This article was first printed by CGTN. The views expressed in this column do not reflect those of News from China)*







# LEARN EVERYDAY CHINESE

xīngshí  
相识 (1)  
MAKING AN  
ACQUAINTANCE

## 04 您贵姓

MAY I KNOW YOUR NAME

### 一 句子 Sentences

- 013 我叫玛丽。 I am Mary.  
Wǒ jiào Mǎlì.
- 014 认识你，我很高兴。 I am pleased to meet you.  
Rènshi nǐ, wǒ hěn gāoxìng.
- 015 您贵姓? ① May I know your name?  
Nín guìxìng?
- 016 你叫什么名字? ② What's your name?  
Nǐ jiào shénme míngzì?
- 017 她姓什么? ③ What's her family name?  
Tā xìng shénme?
- 018 她不是老师，她是学生。  
Tā bú shì lǎoshī, tā shì xuésheng.  
She is not a teacher. She is a student.

### 注释 Notes

#### ① 您贵姓? (May I know) Your name?

“贵姓”是尊敬、客气地询问姓氏的方法。只用于第二人称。回答时要说“我姓……”，不能说“我贵姓……”。

“贵姓” is a respectful and polite way of asking the name of a person. It is only used for asking the second person. The answer is not “我贵姓……”，but “我姓……”。

#### ② 你叫什么名字? What's your name?

也可以说：“你叫什么？”用于长辈对晚辈，或者年轻人之间互相询问姓名。对长辈表示尊敬、客气时，不能用这种问法。

One may also use “你叫什么？” It is used by elders when they want to know the names of young people or between young people. One shouldn't use it, therefore, when he wants to know an elder's name or when he needs to show respect and politeness to his hearer.

#### ③ 她姓什么? What's her family name?

询问第三者姓氏时用。不能用“她贵姓”。

It is used for asking the third person's name. One shouldn't say “她贵姓”。

### 会话 Conversations

- 1  
玛丽：我叫玛丽，你姓什么？  
Mǎlì: Wǒ jiào Mǎlì, nǐ xìng shénme?  
王兰：我姓王，我叫王兰。  
Wáng Lán: Wǒ xìng Wáng, wǒ jiào Wáng Lán.  
玛丽：认识你，我很高兴。  
Mǎlì: Rènshi nǐ, wǒ hěn gāoxìng.  
王兰：认识你，我也很高兴。  
Wáng Lán: Rènshi nǐ, wǒ yě hěn gāoxìng.



- 2  
大卫：老师，您贵姓？  
Dàwèi: Lǎoshī, nín guìxìng?

张老师：我姓张。你叫什么名字？  
Zhāng lǎoshī: Wǒ xìng Zhāng. Nǐ jiào shénme míngzì?

大卫：我叫大卫。她姓什么？  
Dàwèi: Wǒ jiào Dàwèi. Tā xìng shénme?

张老师：她姓王。  
Zhāng lǎoshī: Tā xìng Wáng.

大卫：她是老师吗？  
Dàwèi: Tā shì lǎoshī ma?

张老师：她不是老师，她是学生。  
Zhāng lǎoshī: Tā bú shì lǎoshī, tā shì xuésheng.



### 生词 New Words

1	叫	jiào	动	to call, to be known as...
2	认识	rènshi	动	to know
3	高兴	gāoxìng	形	glad
4	贵姓	guìxìng	名	(polite) your name
5	什么	shénme	代	what
6	名字	míngzì	名	name
7	姓	xìng	动/名	one's family name is...; surname
8	是	shì	动	to be
9	学生	xuésheng	名	student
10	那	nà	代	that
11	个	gè	量	used before nouns without a special classifier of their own
12	这	zhè	代	this
13	人	rén	名	person
14	大夫	dàifu	名	doctor
15	留学生	liúxuéshēng	名	foreign student
16	朋友	péngyou	名	friend



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**Expo 2019**  
**BEIJING**



Tourists visit Beijing International Horticultural Exhibition in Yanqing District of Beijing.