

# BEIJING REVIEW



A CHINESE WEEKLY OF  
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Third World's Grain Problem
- Guo Moruo Remembered

**Tibetan Leader Interviewed**



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

### Tibet Today

In an exclusive interview with *Beijing Review*, a well-known Tibetan leader clarifies common questions about his region. First of a series of five articles about the "roof of the world" (p. 14).

### Third World's Grain Problem

The problem of population growth and declining per-capita grain production in third world countries is discussed by Zhou Shengkui, an Assistant Research Fellow working for the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (p. 18).

### Brezhnev's Death Mourned

China mourned the death of the Soviet leader by extending condolences and sending a spe-

cial envoy to attend his funeral. China also expressed the hope for a genuine improvement in Sino-Soviet relations through the removal of obstacles (p. 8).

### Kampuchean Leader Visits China

Chinese leaders and Kampuchean Vice-President Khieu Samphan met in Beijing and held talks on the current international situation and on the developments in Indochina (p. 9).

### Youth League Congress

A recent plenary session of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League decided to convene the league's 11th national congress on December 20. CPC Central Committee Secretariat Member

Hu Qili described the league's central task in a speech to the session (p. 5).

### Guo Moruo Remembered

On the occasion of Guo Moruo's 90th birthday, China remembered the late man of letters and his life as a staunch revolutionary, brilliant poet, dramatist and historian. Guo is considered a great proletarian fighter second only to Lu Xun in the annals of modern Chinese culture (p. 23).



A Tibetan woman and her child.

## BEIJING REVIEW

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### Two Spiritual Civilizations

**China has set itself the task of building a socialist spiritual civilization, i.e., socialist culture and ethics. But some components of this task are also encouraged in capitalist countries. What, then, is the difference between the spiritual civilizations under the two different social systems?**

It is true that, in some respects, the spiritual civilizations under the two different social systems are not categorically different or mutually exclusive. But on the whole and in essence, they are worlds apart.

Roughly speaking, socialist spiritual civilization consists of two interrelated aspects: cultural and ideological.

The cultural aspect of building spiritual civilization refers to the development of education, science, literature and art, the media, public health, physical culture and other cultural undertakings.

Some of these, such as general knowledge and natural science, public health and physical culture, represent humanity's joint achievement in understanding and transforming the world; they therefore do not have a class character.

But, in developing these undertakings, the guiding thoughts on whom they should serve and other fundamental issues do have a different class character under different social systems.

Take medical service and public health for instance. The techniques and equipment used

in China and in the capitalist countries have much in common, except that China is on the whole relatively backward in this field. But China is doing a better job than some capitalist countries at providing medical service for everyone. This is the outcome of different guidelines under two different social systems.

The ideological aspect of building spiritual civilization covers a whole range of fields, including certain ideological and ethical norms needed to ensure the existence and development of any society as well as a well-ordered social life. A socialist society is certainly not alone in encouraging citizens to pay attention to decorum, observe public order and maintain environmental sanitation. However, the essential differences between the two spiritual civilizations, the socialist and the capitalist, manifest themselves in the major ideological tenets, i.e., the kind of outlook on life and the world that a given society fosters, people's political awareness and their particular system of morals.

To guarantee the socialist nature of our spiritual civilization, China stresses ideological construction characterized by communist ideals and moral values, lofty sentiments and revolutionary discipline. At the present stage, we are devoting major efforts to fostering among the people firm confidence in communist ideals, devotion to the people's interests and the communist spirit of sacrificing oneself for the sake of others.

This is a long-term, arduous task that cannot be accomplished in one or two generations. But people have noticed that we have already achieved some initial results in building a socialist spiritual civilization. People imbued with communist ideas are emerging in increasing numbers in all fields of endeavour, whose fine examples are respected, loved and emulated.

In capitalist countries many people also dedicate themselves to human progress. But as often as not they face all sorts of difficulties and find themselves in the minority, and sometimes they have to fight alone. Their progressive ideas are often suppressed and the popularization of these ideas are restricted one way or another. In these countries, the dominant ideology still consists of such credos as "money is omnipotent," "the law of the jungle" and "everyone for himself and let the devil take the hindmost."

Thus, while we can't put a class label on everything concerning the two spiritual civilizations, we should also not write off the essential differences between them.

— Political Editor An Zhiguo



# LETTERS

## 12th Party Congress

Cordial and friendly congratulations on the 12th Party Congress which is a victory not only for the Chinese people but also for all the oppressed people and the proletariat under the rule of capitalism.

This congress approved the policies drawn up at the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee. The Resolution on Certain Questions in the History of Our Party Since the Founding of the People's Republic of China adopted by the Sixth Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee constituted good preparations for the policies and ideological decisions of the 12th Party Congress.

The CPC is now able to correct the "Left" mistakes made during and before the "cultural revolution" in all fields and is advancing on the road of building socialism which proceeds from China's realities. This will build China into a prosperous and powerful modern socialist country.

**Abdourohanaue Ahmed  
Jbrahim**  
Anjouan, Comoros

## Documents of 12th Party Congress

The articles about Chinese political Party (Communist Party) impressed me and I like them very much; for example, the last three or four issues of your magazine are very comprehensive and informative because they contained the new Party Constitution and the report of the 12th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party.

Some new columns should be started next year: A sports column in which you will report on Chinese sports. A column about the activities of Chinese students.

Further I think that *Beijing Review* has failed to report the real politics of the third world.

**Sheraz Manzoor**  
Sargodha, Pakistan

## Relevant to Third World

I have enjoyed the range of articles in issues No. 42 and 43

particularly "Tailoring Education to Fit China" (No. 42) and "Improve Nutrition via Vegetable Protein Development" (No. 43). The two articles have relevance in most third world countries and many developed countries also.

**David Black**  
Mendi, Papua New Guinea

## Nutrition

I teach a course in nutrition and have found the articles in *Beijing Review* informative. It is good to note the improved caloric intake and greater variety of foods being consumed.

However, I am concerned about the apparent effort to increase the production and consumption of meat in China. We in the United States are making an effort to cut back on meat consumption because of its link with health problems. I personally eat a diet that is very low in meat, except for special occasions. I continue to make the effort to prepare meals that are more like traditional Chinese meals than Western.

Meat production is expensive, often wasteful, and almost unnecessary when whole grain and soy products are in adequate supply. Meat adds something special to dishes when in small quantities. But additional meat supplies may prove to be not as important to the people's well-being as increasing the supplies of other foods.

**Kip Eastman**  
Watsonville, Ca., USA

*The Chinese diet has a different composition than that of the United States. Though we seek to increase meat consumption, this will be limited. Please read "Improve Nutrition via Vegetable Protein Development" (issue No. 43).*  
— Ed.

## Inflated Consumption

In regard to your article "Consuming Too Much Too Fast" (issue No. 36), I am in agreement with the author. However, I would like to add my personal opinions regarding the economics, politics and policies of capitalist production and consumption.

First I would like to warn third world nations about the potential

consequences of adapting a US economic policy — capitalism. When domestic markets become satiated; foreign markets are required. Foreign resources are essential, as are military policies to protect them. In the United States, people worship money — they do not value the earth, water, air, or the sun. Because money is the centre of their lives, they cannot appreciate things such as pottery, farming, biomass, living within our means, and conservation.

Furthermore, Russia and the United States have amassed great military power. To protect themselves, third world countries have purchased expensive complicated weapons which have drained their local people dry.

The superpowers do not believe in nor are they accustomed to barter. They worship only money. Thus, many third world countries have adopted one crop or one product economies. They are heavily in debt and must strip mine, cut their forests and rape their land and people to pay their debts.

The US Government believes "communism" is bad — but they do not know what the word means. They know only that it is associated with the USSR. Any country that is labelled communistic is therefore bad. The United States supports dictatorships to prevent Soviet influences and to protect its economic markets.

**A Reader**  
Sacramento, Ca., USA

## More and More

I enjoyed the in-depth articles on rural China. Your economic information articles were useful in gaining a better insight into conditions of your country. We hear little about the people of China here, most information is political.

I'm quite interested in Chinese science. Articles about your technological and scientific endeavours and institutions would appeal to me.

I compliment you on your Art Page. After some of the more informative articles it makes a nice way to finish.

**Bruce Jolliffe**  
Vancouver, Canada

**POLITICAL****Communist Youth League's  
11th Congress**

The 11th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Youth League will be convened on December 20 this year.

In preparation for the congress, the fourth plenary session of the 10th Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League, which met recently, approved in principle the work report of the 10th Central Committee and the Constitution (revised draft) of the Chinese Communist Youth League.

Wang Zhaoguo, 41, was elected a member of the standing committee and first secretary of the Secretariat of the Youth League, replacing Han Ying. Wang, the former Party committee secretary and vice-director of the China No. 2 Motor Vehicles Plant, is a newly elected member of the CPC Central Committee at the 12th Party Congress.

Hu Qili, Secretary of the Secretariat of the CPC Central

Committee, said at the fourth plenary session that it is imperative to train successors to the revolution. The present generation of youth is key to the realization of the four modernizations and the continuation of the communist cause. The central task of the Youth League is, based on the programme of the 12th Party Congress, to guide, educate, mobilize and organize youth to take part and to be tempered in the socialist modernization drive, thereby training millions of responsible, educated and disciplined successors to the revolution.

The present generation, on the whole, is courageous in exploring new fields, full of vitality and hopeful, added Hu Qili. But, they have tasted the bitter fruits of the 10 years of turmoil. To accomplish their historical mission, they have to overcome some temporary difficulties in their material life and eliminate some erroneous ideas. They must improve their knowledge of modern science, culture and technology.

Hu Qili called on the Youth League cadres to pay great attention to the young people's

study, work, employment, love, marriage and other problems, and enhance the militancy of the Youth League organization.

Wang Zhaoguo, the new leader, urged the Youth League cadres to create a new situation and initiate more lively activities suited to the young people.

**CULTURAL****Hu Yaobang on Film Creation**

China's film industry has achieved great progress in the last few years, and its mainstream is good. This statement was made by Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, when he met with representatives attending a national conference on feature films at the end of 1981. Workers in the world of cinema and others studied and discussed Hu's speech. All the national newspapers published the full text of the speech in early November this year on the front page.

While noting the achievements of the film industry, Hu Yaobang also pointed out two main problems:

1. The unhealthy political sentiments of some films have ignored and even negated the Chinese people's achievements in building socialism. They have attributed the mistakes in the course of the revolution and the sabotage of the Lin Biao and Jiang Qing counter-revolutionary cliques to failures of the Party, the country and the socialist system as a whole. And the conclusion they have drawn is: There is no future for them.

**Youth League members and other young workers in a heavy-duty machine tools plant in Anhui Province.**



2. The low ideological level of some films was evident in the incorrect handling of relations between personal love and revolution, and between love and the cause of building socialism.

Personal love, Hu said, is an integral part of the people's life and is an important theme in literature and art. It can and should be the subject of film stories. But, he said, our literature and art should first of all educate the people, especially the youth, to love our motherland and the people. While healthy love is fundamentally compatible with the revolutionary cause, a revolutionary, when necessary, will sacrifice his personal love, even his life, in the interests of the people and socialism.

Hu pointed out that criticism and self-criticism of errors must be pursued seriously, but criticism must be based on the facts and must be constructive.

Hu emphasized the importance of studying Marxism, culture and science, and history. Noting that Marxism emerged over 100 years ago, he said that it is rich in literary and art theories. He stressed that we study Marxism today in order to master the Marxist stand, viewpoint and method to guide our literary practice. We must strive to create works that have both a high ideological and a high artistic level, and the two should be integrated. He called on writers to go among the masses to observe, experience, study and analyse the people and society. This is the prerequisite for literary creation.

In conclusion, Hu said the literature and art of different peoples and countries could learn from each others' artistic styles and techniques. China, he said, contains one-fourth of the

world's population. The development of a healthy flourishing Chinese culture, and the emergence of China as a nation with a high level of culture, will be an invaluable contribution to world culture.

## Guo Moruo Commemorated

A solemn gathering in Beijing on November 16 commemorated the 90th birthday of the late Guo Moruo, one of China's most celebrated men of letters. Poet, dramatist, historian, archaeologist and revolutionary activist in contemporary China, he died in 1978.

Sponsored by the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Writers' Association, the gathering heard speakers unanimously praise Guo Moruo as both an outstanding creator and an indomitable pioneer in establishing and developing the various disciplines in modern literature and social sciences.

He was also a revolutionary activist who always shared the destiny of the motherland and the people.

Zhou Yang, Chairman of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, told the audience that the contributions by Guo Moruo and Lu Xun to modern Chinese revolutionary culture were peerless and that their works not only belonged to yesterday but also to today and tomorrow. "It is an important task," he said, "for us to study and summarize with the Marxist viewpoint the extraordinarily rich legacy they left. In this way we can discover their laws of development which can serve as the foundation and guideposts for the development of socialist culture in the new period."

Other commemorative activities were held throughout China on Guo's birthday.

**Symposiums.** Beijing was the site of two symposiums to honour Guo Moruo held respectively by the capital's history and literary circles.

In the early 20s, Guo Moruo was the first in China to use modern vernacular and free verse in creative writing, and his outstanding achievements in this field heralded an entirely new style in Chinese poetry. While in Japan in the early 30s, he, before anyone else in China, attempted to explain ancient Chinese history with a Marxist approach, and he persisted in literary creative writing and historical research until he breathed his last. His opinions were always precise and penetrating.

A seven-day symposium was held in his home province of Sichuan in the southwest, where 80 papers were presented. Some were about his life, contributions, philosophy and aesthetic ideas. Others discussed his achievements in researches on history, archaeology and ancient scripts on bronzes, bones and tortoise shells.

**Former Beijing Residence.** Guo Moruo's home for 15 years beginning in 1963, next to the beautiful Shisha Lake in the centre of Beijing, has been designated by the State Council for protection as one of the nation's key historical sites. It houses a large number of valuable manuscripts and books.

**Publications.** Seven of 38 volumes of Guo Moruo's complete works have come off the press. They include two volumes on literature, two on archaeology and three on history.

The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications issued two

kinds of stamps in memory of Guo Moruo.

In Leshan, his birthplace in Sichuan Province, the full-length modern Chinese play *Scholar in Arms* was staged, a portrayal of Guo Moruo in the anti-Japanese, national salvation movement of the 40s.

## ECONOMIC

### High Grain Yields

China's total grain output this year is expected to surpass 332.1 million tons of 1979, a record year, even though some areas suffered serious natural calamities.

The output of early rice and summer grain crops reached 121.55 million tons, an increase of 8 million tons over 1981, with early rice accounting for 26 per cent. The output of the autumn crops in a few provinces, such as Liaoning, Jilin and Heilongjiang in northeast China, decreased or was the same as last year, while most provinces and regions registered a better harvest than 1981.

The area planted to the cash crops this year was 1.33 million

hectares larger than last year. The output of cotton, oil-bearing crops and tobacco all increased as compared with last year and hit post-1949 records. Cotton output was up more than 10 per cent.

All these achievements result from the implementation of the responsibility system since 1979 in the rural areas and readjustments in the distribution of farming areas.

### For More Small Commodities

A series of flexible economic policies have been adopted to expand the production and supply of small commodities in China.

Small commodities — such as elastic cords, shoe laces, buttons, brushes, chalk, cooking utensils and bicycle parts — are mostly produced by collectively or privately owned handicraft workshops.

The burgeoning small commodities market in the 1950s played a positive role in developing the economy in both urban and rural areas and making people's lives more convenient.

However, small commodities later gradually decreased because of the influence of "Left" mistakes which placed one-sided emphasis on opening more big department stores. Large numbers of handicraft workshops and vendors' stalls were subsumed under larger enterprises or abolished.

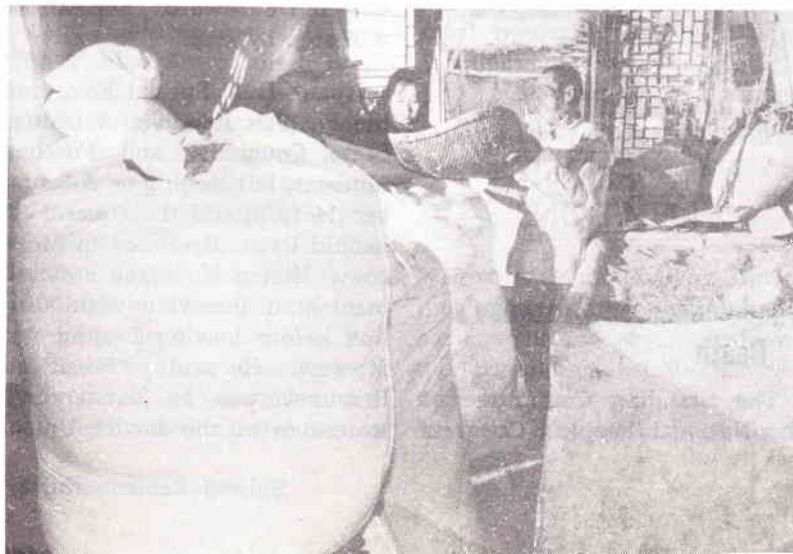
In order to remedy the shortcomings of over-concentration, industrial enterprises and commercial departments are now allowed to produce and market by themselves 160 small commodities according to the needs of the market. They are also allowed to fix the prices for these commodities and let them fluctuate according to the changes in the market supply and demand as long as they follow the state principles for fixing prices and the policies on price differences between towns and countryside, between different areas and in the course of commodity circulation.

A big variety of small commodities are needed, but many enterprises have been reluctant to produce them because of their low output value and profit. The new policies will give a fillip to the production and management of these commodities.

Many shops and markets selling small commodities have been reopened and expanded across the land. Incomplete statistics show that 88 such markets were opened in 18 big and medium-sized cities. In addition, small commodity fairs and stores have also appeared in a number of counties and towns.

These markets and stores are bustling with activity, selling a large variety of goods. The volume of business increases steadily with each passing year. The total volume of business of

**A peasant household in Pinglu County, Shanxi Province, has gathered a rich harvest from the 70 mu of land they cultivated under the contract system.**



the 88 new urban markets, for example, amounted to 230 million yuan in 1981 and 155 million yuan in the first half of this year.

Allowing prices to fluctuate does not mean putting a heavier burden on consumers. The prices for small commodities will gradually decrease with the increase in productivity in the factories and the accompanying reduction of costs. A survey of the small commodities market on Hanzhen Street in central China's Wuhan shows that prices of 64 small commodities on sale were lower in the January-August period this year than in the correspondent period last year, and that prices of 33 commodities remained the same.

China plans to widen the scope of price fluctuation for small commodities in the next two or three years.

## SOCIAL

### **Telephone Service to Be Upgraded**

Telephone service in China will be improved in the next few years as a result of measures adopted by the government this year giving preferential consideration to the postal and telecommunications undertakings.

These measures include:

— Increasing investment. Investment in postal and telecommunications services this year will total 250 million yuan, accounting for 1.2 per cent of the total investment in capital construction as against 0.8 per cent last year.

— Enlarging the portion of profits and foreign exchange earnings retained by the postal and telecommunications departments for their own develop-

ment. In the past 80 per cent of the profit and 60 per cent of foreign exchange earnings were retained by the departments; both have been increased to 90 per cent.

— Granting low-interest bank loans to aid Beijing, Shanghai and other big cities in introducing programme-controlled switchboards and other advanced technology.

— Expanding the telecommunications capacity by renting the services of international telecommunications satellites.

China's telephone service is poor due to years of inadequate state investment. On the average there are only 4.3 telephones per 1,000 persons, and only 1.3 million dial telephones in all the cities. The shortage of phones and phone lines is an acute problem in medium-sized and big cities.

By 1985, the number of telephones in urban areas will reach 2.7 million, and in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin and Guangzhou, there will be 4 telephones for every hundred citizens. International telecommunications will also be vastly improved.

Beijing plans to build or expand 18 telephone exchanges in the next three years. Three will be completed by the end of this year. By 1985, the total number of telephones in the capital will be increased from 115,000 to 200,000, averaging 7 phones per 100 persons.

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

### **Condolences on Brezhnev's Death**

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress

on November 11 sent a message to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union, extending condolences on the death of Brezhnev. The message said: "President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev unfortunately passed away. We wish to convey to you, and through you, to his family our deep condolences."

Ulanhu, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, and State Councillor and Foreign Minister Huang Hua went to the Soviet Embassy in China on the afternoon of November 12 to extend their condolences on the death of Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev. President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. A wreath was presented by the NPC Standing Committee.

In his conversation with the Soviet Ambassador to China, I.S. Shcherbakov, Ulanhu said: "I extend deep condolences on the death of President Brezhnev on behalf of the NPC Standing Committee, the Chinese Government and the Chinese people. There exists a traditional friendship between the Chinese and Soviet people; we hope that the two peoples will get along on friendly terms and that the relations between our two countries will move towards normalization step by step."

Huang Hua, Special Envoy of the People's Republic of China, State Councillor and Foreign Minister, left Beijing on November 14 to attend the funeral of Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev in Moscow. Huang Hu made a statement in an interview with Xinhua before leaving Beijing for Moscow. He said: "President Brezhnev was an outstanding statesman of the Soviet Union



and had been in the country's topmost leadership for a long time. His death is a great loss to his country and his people. On behalf of the Chinese leaders and myself. I extend deep condolences on the death of President Brezhnev and our sincere sympathy to the Soviet Government, the Soviet people and the family members of President Brezhnev.

"China and the USSR are two great countries sharing a long boundary. There is a profound traditional friendship between the people of the two countries. Peace and friendship between the two countries completely conforms to the interests not only of the two countries and the two peoples but also of peace in Asia and the world as a whole. Sino-Soviet relations were good in the early 1950s. They began deteriorating in the late 1950s, and by the late 1960s, this deterioration reached a serious stage. Not long before his death, President Brezhnev in several speeches expressed the wish to work for the improvement of Sino-Soviet relations. The Chinese Government and people appreciate these speeches, which reflected the urgent desire of the broad masses of the Soviet people for improving the relations between the two countries.

"The Chinese people have always highly treasured their traditional friendship with the people of the Soviet Union and hoped that the two countries can be friendly to each other on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. The Chinese people sincerely wish that there will be a genuine improvement in the relations between the two countries through the removal of obstacles and that these relations will return

to normal step by step. While mourning the death of President Brezhnev, we hope that General Secretary Yuri Andropov and the Soviet Party and government authorities make new efforts to promote the improvement of Sino-Soviet relations. The Chinese people sincerely wish that the national construction of the Soviet Union will develop with each passing day, the material and cultural life of the Soviet people will continue to improve and the unity of the multinational Soviet Union will be more consolidated."

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko met with Huang Hua. They exchanged views on the removal of obstacles and improvement of Sino-Soviet relations. They discussed the issues in a candid atmosphere.

### Vice-President Khieu Samphan Visits China

Khieu Samphan, Vice-President of Democratic Kampuchea, paid a visit to China from November 7 to 12. He received a warm welcome from the Chinese Government.

During his stay in Beijing, Premier Zhao Ziyang held talks with Vice-President Khieu Samphan. They exchanged views on the present world situation as well as the situation in Indochina. Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, also met with the Vice-President.

Premier Zhao Ziyang noted that the Kampuchean people have withstood severe tests in the struggle against Vietnamese aggressors for nearly four years. He said that because of their

patriotic spirit and courage in fighting, the Kampuchean people have succeeded in defeating repeated attacks by the Vietnamese invaders. The Kampuchean people's resistance to Vietnamese aggression has defended the independence and sovereignty of Kampuchea and made an important contribution to containing the aggression and expansion of hegemonism and safeguarding regional peace, security and stability.

Zhao Ziyang expressed the firm belief that, under the leadership of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and with the support of the peace-loving and justice-upholding countries and peoples, the Kampuchean people will surely defeat the Vietnamese aggressors' military attacks and political tricks and win still greater victories.

At a meeting with Khieu Samphan, Hu Yaobang said that the situation of resistance against the Vietnamese aggressors in Kampuchea is getting better and better. He noted that final victory of the people's armed forces requires arduous struggle, and that it is not possible to win a speedy victory. "So long as you are united, adopt a correct policy and abide by strict discipline, and have correct military strategies and tactics, you will defeat any enemy in the world, no matter how powerful he is," said Hu Yaobang.

Vice-President Khieu Samphan visited the Huangtugang People's Commune on the southwestern outskirts of Beijing and an army school in Shijiazhuang, capital of Hebei Province.

## Gulf States' Third Summit Backs Fez Resolution

THE main focuses of the Third Summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), November 9-11, were the war between Iran and Iraq and the Palestinian and Lebanon problems.

A communique issued at the end of the summit in Manama, Bahrain said, "Iran's trespasses over its borders with Iraq endangered the safety of the Arab nation and also threatened its security and sovereignty." The GCC backed Iraq's efforts for a peaceful end to the two-year-old war with Iran.

On the Palestinian question, the communique emphasized the GCC's support for the Arab Fez Summit resolution and for all efforts towards a just and comprehensive settlement of the question by the seven-man committee appointed at Fez.

The GCC communique said that peace in the area is unattainable without the recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, including the right to establish an independent state.

Since its establishment on May 25, 1981, the GCC has held frequent consultations and coordinated efforts on the major questions which concern its members — Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. It also has worked out a common political, diplomatic, economic and defence strategy for the Gulf region. At the summit, the leaders endorsed the recommendations by their defence ministers aimed at

upgrading their ability to defend the area.

The situation in the Middle East region is turbulent and complicated. Due to Israel's invasion of Lebanon and the continued war between Iran and Iraq, the security and defence of the Gulf countries have become urgent matters for the

GCC. However, this summit postponed approval of the draft proposal on strengthening defence and security of this area.

In its 18 months since its establishment, the GCC has played an important role in strengthening economic cooperation and political security among the Gulf states and has made significant contributions to Arab unity and Middle East stability as a whole.

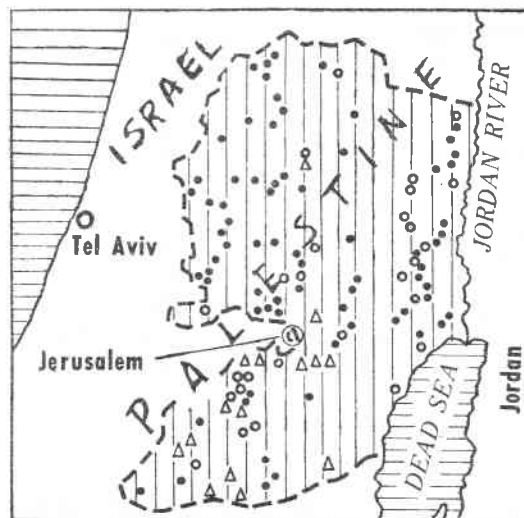
— Ren Zhong

### West Bank of the Jordan River

## A Captive Market

DISREGARDING opposition from the Palestinian people and the condemnation of world opinion, the Israeli authorities have speeded up annexation of the West Bank of the Jordan River. In a radio broadcast, on November 7, the Israeli deputy minister of agri-

culture in charge of settlements said that the Israeli government had decided to build or expand 20 settlements on the West Bank in the next year, with a five-year target of 160 settlements (up from the current 103) that will house 100,000 Jewish immigrants.



- West Bank of the Jordan R.
- △ settlements under construction
- settlements built 1977-82
- settlements built before 1977

### Dependent Land

Since Israel invaded the West Bank in 1967, it has taken control of 55 to 60 per cent of the area through building Jewish settlements and military camps, and through the purchase and confiscation of Palestinian lands. It has also adopted a series of measures to build up this area as a base for industrial development, which

provides a market for its commercial commodities and a source of labour power. Imports and exports from the West Bank are entirely administered by Israeli customs and are under the jurisdiction of Israeli tariff regulations. Israeli goods flood the West Bank market, as there are no barriers to their entry, while commodities leaving the West Bank encounter many difficulties.

At the beginning of the 1970s, commodities going to the West Bank accounted for 17 per cent of Israel's exports. Now they are 25 per cent, excluding diamonds.

Israeli regulations require small industrial enterprises on the West Bank to purchase raw materials from Israel as long as Israel is able to provide them. Therefore, the West Bank is totally dependent on Israel for its industrial raw materials.

### Change in Labour Force

In the past 15 years, the composition of the 135,000 labourers on the West Bank has undergone a great change. In 1969, almost half (46 per cent) of the labour forces was engaged in agriculture. Because the cultivated area has been reduced and the number of people working in construction and other industries has grown, today only 26 per cent are farm workers. Unskilled workers are kept at the bottom of the Israeli labour market. Some 65,000 Palestinians work in Israel and 15,000 Palestinians work in the Israeli settlements and other facilities.

The Israeli authorities are attempting to move the industrial enterprises from the Israeli coast into the West Bank. They call the West Bank "the first development district," and provide loans, land, professional facilities and reduced taxes for businesses that move there. The

Palestinians on the West Bank do not enjoy similar favorable treatment. The Israeli authorities never offer funds to the Palestinian businesses or provide job opportunities for educated Palestinians.

The West Bank has become economically dependent on Israel. This is a major component of Israel's aggressive policy for permanent occupation of the West Bank.

— *Le Shan*

## IMF's Unreasonable Loan

**T**HE Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved a 1.07 billion dollar loan to South Africa, the largest international loan in South Africa's history.

**Strong Opposition.** The IMF's approval of the loan was strongly opposed by African countries and world public opinion. A joint statement by the Special Committee Against Apartheid and two other UN committees demanded that the IMF reject South Africa's application. The UN General Assembly also approved a resolution by a vote of 121 to 3 in late October calling on the IMF to deny the loan on the grounds that such a loan would bolster South Africa's racist and aggressive policies.

With US support, however, the IMF finally approved the loan. Since the United States is one of the largest contributors of funds to the IMF, it has more than 20 per cent of the voting power in the Executive Board.

**So-Called "Economic Grounds."** Before the IMF granted the loan to South Africa, the Reagan administration had said that it was impermissible to postpone approval of the loan, that Washington's vote for the loan would be based solely on economic grounds. However, the loan given on the so-called "economic grounds" actually is military assistance to South Africa.

South Africa's apartheid policy and its military adven-

tures in southern Africa have caused serious economic difficulties at home. Its massive military outlays, coupled with reduced gold and diamond exports last year due to the worldwide recession, have given it a huge budget deficit and an estimated 1982 trade deficit of between US\$3.5 to 5.2 billion.

South Africa's military budget increased \$450 million for the years 1975-77. The IMF gave \$540 million in loans to South Africa during the same period. This greatly helped South Africa to increase its military budget. These large loans have enabled the South African regime to suppress the black people at home and to continue its illegal occupation of Namibia while pursuing military adventures against neighbouring states.

The growing increases in South Africa's military budget have created huge budget deficits. In turn, the budget deficits have caused inflation and trade deficits. And it is the trade deficits that made it possible for South Africa to meet the IMF's "technical requirements" for the loan.

This loan demonstrates yet again the United States' support for the racist South African regime and the faulty structure of the IMF.

— *Chen Gong*

## The Philippines Moves Towards Energy Self-Reliance

**U**NDER the government's diversified energy programme, the Philippines first began producing oil in 1979, complementing increased output of coal and alternate energy sources.

In his book *Toward Energy Self-Reliance*, published last year, Energy Minister Gerónimo Z. Velasco relates the story of his country's energy development. One indication of the success of the energy programme is the fact that oil imports, which had been rising at an annual average rate of 10 per cent have been stabilized at the 1979 level.

The Philippines, which had relied on the Middle East for 95 per cent of its oil, was hit hard by the "energy crisis" and soaring oil prices that followed the 1973 Middle East War.

To cope with the "energy crisis," it implemented a comprehensive energy programme

that has made remarkable progress in energy exploration and exploitation in recent years. These measures adopted include locating oil reserves, coal mining, building hydroelectric and geothermal power plants, solar energy projects and planting energy-producing crops.

### Tapping Resources

With government support, coal production rose to 360,000 tons in 1981 from 39,000 tons in 1973. When output reaches the planned 4 million tons in 1987, coal will provide 16 per cent of the country's energy needs and many factories and plants will use coal rather than oil as their energy source.

Favourably situated in the Pacific volcanic zone, the Philippines has large untapped reserves of terrestrial heat which may ultimately replace oil as the country's major source of energy. Present Philippine geo-

thermal power plants have a total generating capacity of 550,000 kw, ranking second in the world. A 620,000 kw nuclear power station scheduled to be commissioned in late 1984 will make it possible for the Philippines to reduce its oil imports by 5.61 million barrels per year.

Rich in hydroelectric resources, Philippine hydropower generating capacity has risen from 2.8 million kw in 1978 to 4.2 million kw in 1981. A further 12.4 per cent increase is projected by 1987, at which point hydropower will provide 20 per cent of the country's electricity.

The Philippines already produces plenty of ethyl alcohol and coconut oil which can be converted into gasohol and so help lower oil imports.

The Philippines enjoys some 2,000 hours of sunshine each year, strong winds and large amounts of tropical vegetation, all of which are vast energy potentials waiting to be tapped.

### Economizing on Energy

An energy-saving campaign, begun in 1975 to reduce fuel and power consumption and raise productivity, is another important part of the Philippine energy programme. Oil consumption last year fell below that of 1980, with some major industries saving as much as 15 per cent in their fuel and power consumption.

Strenuous efforts are being made to provide 41 per cent of the country's energy needs by 1987, the target year of the programme.



The Makban geothermal power plant.

— Zhang Yunwen

## Somalia's Fanole Water Conservancy Project

**J**OYOUS shouts of "Somalia and China are brothers!" greeted the brilliant electric lights and rushing waters of the Juba River flowing to parched fields on Oct. 23. It was the inauguration of the hydropower station of the Fanole Water Conservancy Project in Somalia.

It was a dream come true for the Somali Government and people who have long wanted to harness the Juba, one of the country's two biggest rivers, so that its waters would help develop industry and agriculture in the arid but fertile Juba valley, which is rich in natural resources.

### Difficult Birth

The project at Fanole, 150 kilometres north of Port Kis-mayu, actually started decades ago. In 1963 the Soviet Union sent experts to survey and draw up designs for the project. In July 1972, Somalia and the Soviet Union signed an agreement under which the latter promised to help build the project. However, when the Soviet experts were withdrawn in November 1977, only one-fifth of the project had been completed. The disappointed people of the region said the project was going to be a "difficult pregnancy."

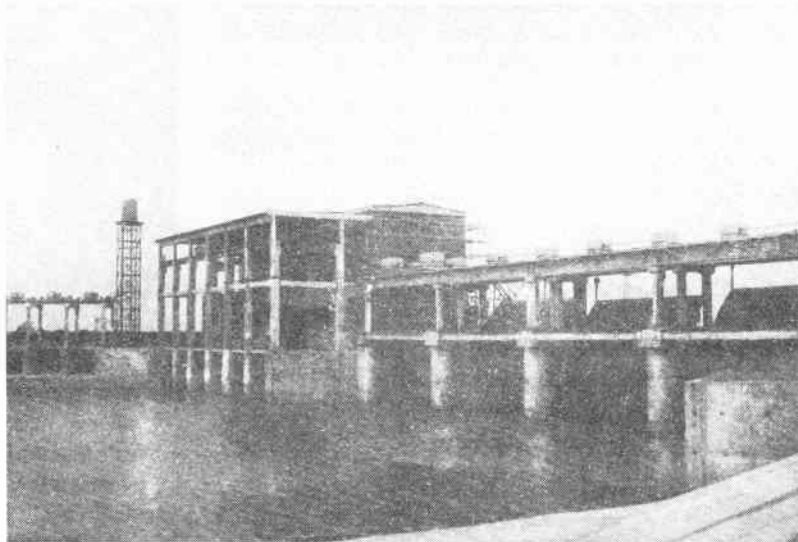
In 1978, China and Somalia agreed to complete the project and began joint preparations in August. Work began the following year.

The engineers and workers of the two countries teamed up well together. Besides enduring the intense tropical heat which sent the mercury as high as 50

degrees centigrade, every year they had to contend with two rainy seasons, which often caused floods that menaced the project. In May last year, the Juba overflowed its banks in the biggest flood in 50 years. Night and day, the builders of both countries fought shoulder to shoulder to save the project. Sometimes they fearlessly jumped into the flood waters to repair

nese technicians and workers often worked overtime and on their days off to complete the project and bring the river's waters to the surrounding farmlands as quickly as possible.

Through the joint efforts of the engineers and workers of both countries, the main portion of the project has been completed. Fanole now has a dam 122 metres long and 19.5 metres high to hold back the waters from the upper reaches of the river and a diversion canal measuring 1,800 metres long and 95 metres wide. The highway across the dam allows



The irrigation and power dam on the Fanole Water Conservancy Project.

the surrounding dykes and bridges, to keep the pumps working to drain off the water, or to move equipment and material out of harm's way, as well as to help relocate villagers.

### Fruitful Friendship

In the course of the project's construction, many Somali workers have become highly skilled operators of earth-moving machines, cranes and other construction machinery, and of trucks and vehicles. The Chi-

two 20-ton trucks to drive abreast. The 4,600 kw power station can supply electricity for the project itself and to the neighbouring farms and towns.

The builders of the two countries are working hard to complete the entire project next year, which will then irrigate 7,500 hectares of farmland and provide water for nearby settlers to reclaim 10,000 hectares of land. Eventually, the Juba dam is intended to irrigate 48,000 hectares of paddy fields.

— Ren Yan

# Tibet: An Inside View (I)

—Interview with the autonomous regional government chairman

by Our Correspondent Jing Wei

*Tibet, the roof of the world, has always caught the imagination of people in the outside world. In recent years, as more tourists visit this part of China, more articles are appearing in the press, often giving conflicting reports about this area of more than 1.2 million square kilometres.*

*What is the real situation in Tibet? To find the answer our correspondent and a photographer paid a two-month visit to Tibet. They interviewed people from various professions and trades in Lhasa, Xigaze (Shigatse) and Gyangze. The following is the first of a series of articles that will appear in "Beijing Review." — Ed.*

**T**HE people of all nationalities in China highly respect Ngapoi Ngawang Jigme, a Tibetan cadre. He was a *galun* (one of the highest officials) of the former Tibetan *gasha* (local gov-



Ngapoi Ngawang Jigme.

ernment) and is now Chairman of the People's Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. In 1951, as chief representative of the former Tibetan local government, he signed with the representative of the Central People's Government the Agreement on the Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet and made important contributions to the unity of China and the liberation of Tibet.

Soon after arriving at Lhasa, the capital of Tibet, our correspondent interviewed Ngapoi Ngawang Jigme, now in his seventies, and asked him some questions of concern to our readers.

**Question:** Some foreigners have said that Tibet, once a "secluded paradise," is now a "miserable place." What is your view?

**Answer:** This is wrong. It shows that some people abroad know very little about Tibet.



Tibet never was a "secluded paradise" and cannot be cut off from the world. Historically, Tibet had close relations with China's other regions and frequent contacts with neighbouring India, Nepal and Bhutan. In 1888 and again in 1904, foreign imperialists twice invaded Tibet. Imperialism would not let Tibet become a "secluded paradise."

In the years before the liberation of Tibet, the Tibetan local government pursued a closed-door policy and strictly restricted foreigners from entering Tibet. During this period, foreign imperialists extended their aggression deep into Tibet. They sowed dissension among the Han and Tibetan peoples and manipulated a few upper-class reactionaries to try to divide our country. Activities for so-called "Tibetan independence" were rampant in those years. The old Tibet clearly was not a "secluded paradise."

The statement that Tibet is now a "miserable place" is not only wrong but it represents a view that is totally contrary to that of the Tibetan people.

In the old Tibet, the working people were long ruled by an oppressive, theocratic, feudal serf system. Feudal officials, aristocrats and monastic autocrats — 5 per cent of the total population — owned almost all the land and most of the livestock. The serfs and herdsmen owned no land or livestock and had to toil year round to eke out a bare subsistence. They had no individual freedom at all. The ruthless exploitation and suppression by the local government, the aristocracy and the monasteries severely hampered productivity. Tibetan society was stagnant for a long time.

The old Tibet was a hell for the labouring people. It was a paradise only for the serf-owners, the tiny minority.

Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Tibetan people have instituted democratic reforms, thrown off the shackles of feudal serfdom and taken the socialist road.

What changes has Tibet undergone since its liberation? Besides the profound social change of the one million serfs becoming masters of Tibet, let me give some economic and cultural examples.

The total grain output of Tibet has increased 3.25 times, from 155,000 tons in 1952 to 505,000 tons.

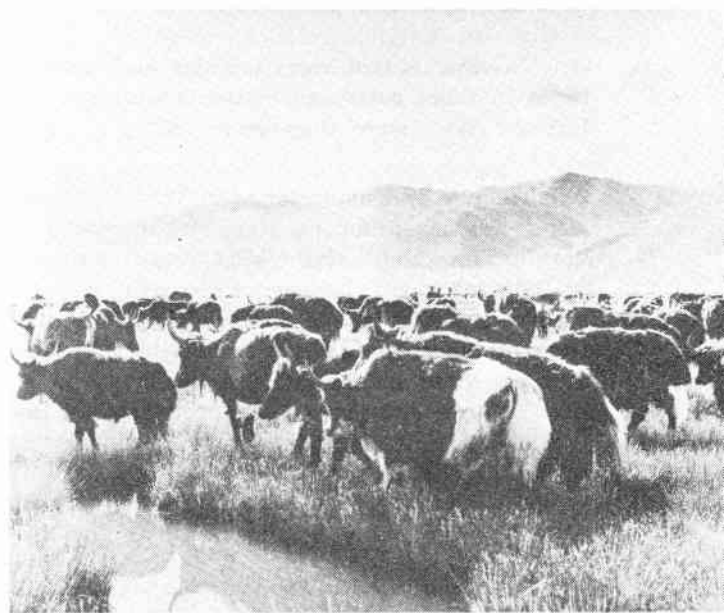
There are now 23.46 million head of livestock, 2.4 times the 9.7 million in 1952.

Where before there was no industry at all, now there are more than a dozen types of enterprises producing electricity, machinery, woollen textiles and building materials.

Tibet, with no highway at all in the past, now has a highway network of some 21,000 kilometres centring on Lhasa. There are also air services from Lhasa to Chengdu and Xian.

At present, Tibet has more than 6,000 primary schools, 74 middle schools and technical schools, and three institutes of higher learning. There were no schools in the past.

We admit that during the 10-year period of turmoil (1966-76) the Tibetan people, like the people of other nationalities in China, suffered greatly. During this period, socialist development was badly hampered. After the convocation of the Third Plenary Session of the



A herd of yaks, cattle of the Tibetan plateau.

11th Party Central Committee in 1978, and especially after implementation of the Party Central Committee's directive on Tibet issued in 1980, we set things to rights, relaxed our economic policy and established various forms of the job responsibility system in rural and pastoral areas. This year, I went to the rural and pastoral areas in Tibet and saw production developing and people's living standards improving. There was an air of the beginnings of



Family, relatives and friends feast during a festival.

prosperity everywhere. Although Tibet is still relatively poor and backward, the Tibetan people are freer and happier than ever before.

**Q: To what extent were temples and monasteries in Tibet destroyed in the "cultural revolution"? Why were they destroyed?**

**A:** Temples and monasteries in Tibet were seriously damaged during the "cultural revolution." The extent of the destruction was unprecedented in our history. Even some ancient monasteries such as the Samyae Monastery and Gahdan Monastery, which have a long history and are listed by the State Council as important cultural sites under the protection of the state, did not escape destruction. All monasteries in Tibet, except the Daipung Monastery and Potala Palace, were damaged to varying degrees. Quite a few were reduced to ruins.

The destruction of monasteries was strictly a result of the 10-year period of turmoil. Since the liberation of Tibet, the Chinese Communist Party has pursued a policy of religious freedom for the masses and of protecting monasteries. But the Party's policy on religion was sabotaged during the "cultural revolution" together with other policies. In Tibet, monasteries were regarded as embodying the "four olds" (old thinking, old culture, old customs and old habits) so they sustained greater destruction. At that time, some evil people were using anarchism and ultra-Left thinking among the masses to attain their own ends.

The damage to monasteries was serious. Many losses are irretrievable. But we are making efforts to correct this and are striving to restore the monasteries.

In order to better implement the Party's policy on religion, the Party committee and government of the Tibet Autonomous Region have drawn up a plan according to the Party Central Committee's directive for rebuilding more than 50 historically important temples and the main monasteries of each religious sect in Tibet. Zuglakang (Jokhan) and Trashilhunpo Monasteries have acquired a new look following several years of restoration.

Other monasteries are in the process of being repaired. Some religious centres are being rebuilt by the masses themselves with support from the government. Today, religious freedom and religious activities are protected.

**Q: What advances has Tibet made in exercising national regional autonomy over the past years?**

**A:** Since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee held in late 1978, errors in the guiding ideology of work concerning minority nationalities have been corrected and the Party's policies towards minority nationalities have been implemented. In its instructions concerning work in Tibet circulated in 1980, the Party Central Committee stresses the full exercise of minority nationalities' autonomous rights in their regions under the unified leadership of the Central Government.

The key to national regional autonomy is to have sufficient minority nationality cadres. The Party committee of the Tibet Autonomous Region has been working hard to train and promote Tibetan cadres. Today the proportion of full-time cadres of Tibetan nationality in the region has increased from 31.9 per cent in 1965 to 54.4 per cent. When the second group of cadres of Han nationality is transferred back to other parts of China, the ratio will grow to over 60 per cent. Already, most prefectural commissioners, county heads, bureau directors and heads of mass organizations are Tibetans.



Attention has also been paid to the Tibetan language. The Party and government have called on all cadres, both Tibetan and Han, to learn Tibetan. Education in the Tibetan language has been strengthened in school. To gradually make Tibetan the principal language used in the region's schools, more Tibetan personnel are being trained and more teaching materials are being compiled and translated into Tibetan. This does not mean that the Han language is neglected. Only by learning and using both languages, can we benefit the development of Tibet and strengthen unity and interflow among the different nationalities. During my recent visit to Sagya County, I saw that the people there were truly applying themselves to learning the Tibetan language. All county documents and notices are now in Tibetan.

Thanks to the concern of the Party and government, Tibetan culture and art have been revived and developed as has production of special products, such as Tibetan medicine, needed by the Tibetan people. Furthermore, Tibetan customs and habits are being respected.

It has been especially gratifying that the autonomous region has accomplished much on legislation these past years. We have adopted detailed regulations on holding elections in Tibet. We have made changes in the marriage law and in the laws governing criminal procedures as well as many local laws and regulations. All these are in accord with the special characteristics of the autonomous region while ensuring unity under the central authorities. For instance, it is stipulated that Tibetan is the principal language used in investigation, prosecution and trial; that the proportion of Tibetan and other minority nationality deputies to the people's congresses at all levels must not be lower than 80 per cent, and that the rights to vote and to be elected of Tibetans who have gone abroad are guaranteed when they return.

As the policy of national regional autonomy has been conscientiously implemented over the past years, the unity of all nationalities living in Tibet has been greatly strengthened.

This is an important guarantee for the future development of Tibet.

**Q: Now the last question. Would you like to say something about the future prospects for Tibet?**

**A:** Certainly. Since 1980 we have achieved remarkable progress. This may be considered the next major turning point in Tibet's history after its peaceful liberation and the democratic reforms that followed the quelling of the rebellion. The gross output value of agriculture and animal husbandry in 1981 was 487 million yuan, a 20 per cent increase over 1979's 407 million yuan. The average per-capita income of peasants and herdsmen rose from 127 yuan in 1979 to 200 yuan in 1981. We owe these initial successes to the implementation of such policies as reducing the burdens of the people and encouraging economic development in Tibet.

We shall continue to implement such effective policies as establishing various forms of the production responsibility system; giving peasants and herdsmen more leeway in private plots, private livestock, private trees, and in sideline occupations; developing a diversified economy according to local conditions, and encouraging rural markets and small-scale foreign trade in the border areas.

To improve economic development, the regional Party committee and government have worked out a plan based on the actual conditions in Tibet so that the region may undergo a small change in three years, a medium-sized change in five years and a major change in 10 years. In other words, we shall strive to bring about a big growth in production by the end



Trashilhunpo Monastery in Xigaze.



New hospital in Xigaze practising traditional Tibetan medicine.

of 1990 so as to bring the beginnings of prosperity to most of Tibet, with annual income for a peasant or herdsman reaching 400-500 yuan.

While speeding up the region's economic construction, we shall further implement the Party's national policies and try to perfect Tibet's national regional autonomy. We shall firmly carry out the Party's policy on freedom of religious beliefs and strengthen our efforts to build a socialist spiritual civilization with communist ideology as its core. I am confident that with the concern of the Party and government, and with the help of fraternal provinces and regions, the people of different nationalities in Tibet are sure to build a united, prosperous and culturally developed socialist new Tibet on the "roof of the world." □

## The Developing Countries' Grain Problem

by Zhou Shengkui

**A**LTHOUGH the total output of grain in the developing countries has increased in recent years, per-capita production has decreased. More countries today find that their grain production is not keeping pace with population growth. Developing countries are now less able to be self-sufficient in grain. Hunger and malnutrition are still seriously troubling the developing countries.

In most of these countries, the grain shortage may be traced both to the yoke of domestic feudal or semi-feudal relations of production and to the international exploitation and plunder by imperialism. The old way of stressing industry and neglecting agriculture in economic development, coupled with rapid population growth, has severely aggravated the grain problem. A number of developing countries have readjusted their economic strategies, giving top priority to the goal of becoming self-sufficient in grain or less dependent on imported grain.

Those who think that the developing nations cannot solve their grain problem are too

pessimistic, and those who believe that the problem can be fundamentally solved very quickly are over optimistic. Although most developing countries will boost their grain production by different degrees, a realistic assessment should realize that while the long-term resolution of this problem is possible, the problem will remain serious for the next dozen or so years.

Since World War II, the food grain shortages have become increasingly evident in the developing countries and finding a solution to the problem of feeding their peoples has already become an urgent task today.

According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), grain production of the developing nations increased from 377 million tons in 1955 to 775 million tons in 1980, an annual increase of 2.9 per cent. However, a closer look at the figures shows that the growth rate slowed during the 1970s. The annual growth rate of 3.1 per cent during the 1955-70 period declined to 2.7 per cent during the 1970-80 period. Although per-capita grain production rose from 211 kilogrammes per year in 1955 to 238 kilogrammes in 1980, the annual growth rate was only 0.48 per cent. Furthermore, the annual

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The author is an Assistant Research Fellow of the Institute of World Economics and Politics of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

per-capita growth rate for the 1970-80 period was only 0.08 per cent, with that for the 1975-80 period dropping to -2.3 per cent.

Grain production among the developing nations is extremely uneven. At the end of World War II, there were only a few countries in the world whose grain production growth rates were substantially higher or lower than their population growth rates. Since the late 1960s, however, the number of countries whose population growth rates exceeded their grain growth rates has increased greatly. The statistics of 128 developing nations show that 56 had grain production rates that failed to keep pace with their population growth rates in the 1960s. By the late 1970s, 69 developing countries had found themselves in this predicament.

A number of developing nations that were net exporters of grain before World War II have since become net grain importers. The statistics show that during the 1961-65 period, the developing nations were able to provide 96 per cent of their grain needs but this figure dropped to 93 per cent during the years 1976-80. In the late 1970s, the oil-exporting countries were able to produce 78 per cent of their grain needs, while cash crop countries were able to grow 83 per cent of their grain. Some countries were unable even to produce 50 per cent of the grain they needed. In 1979, 17 nations in the world were seriously short of grain. Today, this figure has risen to 29, of which 23 are African countries. Consequently, grain imports by the developing countries have skyrocketed. In the early 1960s, grain imports by the developing nations averaged 20 million tons yearly, rising sharply to 90 million tons annually in 1981-82. The corresponding expenditures for grain imports have today become an extremely heavy burden on the economies of many developing countries.

Grain is the primary source of food in the developing nations. The per-capita grain production of these nations is so low that even large-scale grain imports do not fill the gap between the supply and demand for grain. In addition, uneven distribution causes some developing nations to suffer from severe hunger and malnutrition. The FAO and the World Food Council estimate that in those nations whose economies are regulated by market forces, 500 million people presently suffer from hunger and malnutrition. The World Bank estimate is 800 million. These estimates consti-

tute 23 and 36 per cent respectively of the 2.2 billion people of these countries. The FAO estimates that of those suffering from hunger and malnutrition, nearly 70 per cent are concentrated in the regions of Africa and South Asia.

### ***Causes of Grain Shortage***

The underlying causes of the post-World War II grain problem in the developing nations are extremely complicated. The primary causes have been:

**The Heavy Yoke of Feudal or Semi-Feudal Relations of Production.** Prior to their independence, aside from a few big plantations, the rural land system of these countries was mainly one of feudal landlord ownership. Even after independence, many developing nations still have not really challenged this backward land system. Because land reform was not thoroughly carried out in many developing countries, the peasants' land problem has not yet been fully addressed. Most countries are still largely under the control of local organs of power run by a highly decentralized management that is marked by a severely exploitative tenancy system and rampant usury. In some countries, landlords and big farm owners account for only 5 to 10 per cent of the total rural population, but own 40 to 60 per cent of the total cultivated land, while the vast majority of farmers own only tiny pieces of land or no land at all.

**Exploitation by Imperialism.** Prior to World War II, most of the developing countries were colonies or semi-colonies. In these countries, the long-term control, exploitation and plunder by imperialism and colonialism created lopsided, one-product economies that devastated grain production and left the farmers in abysmal poverty. In the post war period, as the developing nations have achieved political independence, the imperialist and colonialist system have been eliminated. Nevertheless, the long-lasting effects of this system continue. The old international economic order remains basically unchanged. First of all, the production system is based on the irrational international division of labour. The developed countries are still the chief producers of grain. They constitute only one-fourth of the world's population, but produce more than half of the world's food grain. The developing nations, on the other hand, still produce mainly cash crops to meet the needs of the developed countries. Secondly, the trade system is based on an ex-

change of unequal values. Under this system, the developing countries lose 18-20 billion US dollars each year. Thirdly, there is a disparity in grain consumption.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the United States passed on the burden of its own "surplus" grain crisis by dumping large amounts of surplus grain on the developing countries through "Public Law No. 480." Consequently, large numbers of grain farmers in these countries went bankrupt. Thus, some countries which had been self-sufficient in grain or had small grain surpluses gradually fell into the category of being net importers of grain, while the net importing countries have had to import more and more grain. During the world grain crisis of 1972, the United States not only seized the opportunity to turn what originally had been grants and aid into money-making business deals, it also forced grain prices way up, aggravating the economic burden of scarcity and famine in the developing countries.

**Defects in the Strategy of Economic Development.** Most of the developing countries are backward agricultural states. After a nation's independence, the development of grain and agricultural production should be given high priority. The problem of feeding one's people must be resolved. However, not a few countries have lacked an adequate knowledge of their own domestic conditions and lacked experience in economic development. Eager to catch up with the industrialized countries, they have often copied the developmental models of the West and the Soviet Union. It is indeed true that the industry of the developing countries has steadily expanded since World War II. Some nations that have become "semi-industrialized" have achieved the beginnings of a material foundation upon which to develop economic independence and consolidate political independence. However, industrialization is often attained at a tremendous cost to agriculture. As industrialization progresses, industry vies with agriculture for land, for funds and technology. Natural resources are wasted. Farmland is reduced, and agricultural investment is inadequate. At the same time, the rush to industrialization leads to excessive urbanization. In the 1970s, the annual urban population growth rate



A paddy field in Zaire.

of the developing nations rose as high as 4.2 per cent. The rapid development of "industrialization" and "urbanization" have increasingly aggravated the contradiction between the supply and demand of domestic marketable grain.

In addition, rapid population growth also has severely intensified the grain shortage of the developing nations. As a result of population growth and the increased need for grain, capital accumulation for investment and expanding production have to be reduced just to meet the basic needs of the increased population. In turn, this inevitably affects the development of grain production, making it highly unlikely that per-capita grain production can be increased or even maintained. From 1970 to 1977, the population growth of Africa was 2.7 per cent, while the annual growth of grain production was only 1.3 per cent.

### ***New Grain Strategies and Measures***

The increasing gravity of the grain situation has made the developing countries realize that grain production and providing adequate food supplies must be given immediate priority. In recent years, a number of countries have drawn up new strategies and new measures to gradually achieve self-sufficiency in grain.

**Resolve to Achieve Self-Sufficiency.** In recent years, experience has made many developing nations realize that no developmental strategy can be realized unless the agricultural problems, particularly the grain problem, are resolved. Therefore, in accordance with their own domestic conditions and with the de-

velopment of the international political and economic situation, they must readjust step by step their economic development strategies of the past and regard self-sufficiency in grain, or reducing the degree of reliance on imported grain, as an important component of their overall economic development strategies. Latin American countries regard the 1980s as the agricultural era in Latin America, and African countries stress that agriculture is the life of Africa, placing major emphasis on achieving grain self-sufficiency. Some countries that have very large populations but have failed to attain self-sufficiency have also put forward the goal of gradually attaining grain self-sufficiency or surplus.

**Strengthening Collective Self-Reliance.** Some countries which would find it difficult to attain self-sufficiency in grain on their own are in the process of strengthening collective co-operation in an attempt to hasten the realization of regional self-sufficiency in grain.

In 1976 the Ministers of Agriculture of the African countries met in Freetown, Sierra Leone, and adopted a declaration to propose a regional grain programme for the realization of self-sufficiency in Africa within 10 years. Thirteen Middle East and African countries have reached an agreement on the joint cultivation of wastelands in the Sudan, hoping that by planting the desert with grain, the Sudan will become the "grain base of the Arab world."

Through a series of international conferences the developing countries have studied and mapped out an overall development strategy for the developing countries, emphasizing that the major emphasis of this strategy should be to increase grain production, to enhance co-operation among the developing countries and to strengthen collective self-reliance.

**Measures for Increasing Production.** Given the need to increase farm production, not a few nations having large populations, many small farmers, less land and less capital, have come to realize that to build a modernized agriculture and increase grain production, they can depend neither on intensive capital nor on intensive labour, but must basically rely on intensive technology and scientific knowledge. They have begun to stress scientific farming, paying attention to economically effective measures for increasing grain production that suit national and local conditions. In irrigation and water conservancy, developing countries attach more im-

portance to the comprehensive harnessing and utilization of rivers, to "synthesization" and "systematization" of irrigation works, as well as to "diversification," focusing on small-scale projects. Through these measures, the amount of irrigated land under cultivation has been expanded. In the technical transformation of agriculture, developing countries are placing greater emphasis on the use of chemical fertilizers and on popularizing improved high-yield strains. The use of tractors also has increased.

Many developing countries also have improved their pricing policies for grain. Not a few countries or regions have changed their policies of forcing down grain prices. They now have price-support and market guarantee policies to protect grain farmers.

**Implementing Family Planning and Developing Manpower Resources.** During the 1970s, especially following the World Population Conference of 1974, family planning has been implemented in more than 60 developing countries. The early results of this effort to control population growth are already evident. The statistics show that population growth rate of the developing countries has dropped from 2.4 per cent during 1970-75 to 2.2 per cent in recent years. In developing manpower resources, a number of countries, particularly India, the Philippines, Thailand, Nigeria, Brazil and Mexico, now attach more importance to disseminating education in farming techniques. They are making efforts to raise the level of agricultural education in the universities and to promote scientific research. They also are developing secondary agricultural technical schools, and starting agricultural short-term classes and technology dissemination centres.

**Seeking Foreign Aid.** The solution of the grain problem must be based on the efforts of the developing countries themselves. Nevertheless, as long as the principle of self-reliance is adhered to, to actively seek aid from the developed nations is not only an important means to realize the strategy of self-sufficiency in grain, but is also an important aspect of the struggle to establish a new international order for grain. Since the World Food Conference of 1974, the developing countries have time and again urged the developed countries to provide essential aid, in terms of grain, funds and technology, in order to help them overcome temporary difficulties and to implement the strategy of grain self-sufficiency.

To regulate grain supplies and stabilize in-

ternational grain prices, the developing countries have demanded that the developed countries co-operate fully in establishing an international food reserve.

### **Prospects**

Some suggest that it will be difficult for the developing countries to resolve the grain problem, that their future prospects are bleak. The report on world grain issued by the United States in 1980 held that within 20 years a world food crisis may well emerge, more serious than the present-day energy crisis. Estimates on future world agricultural prospects released by the FAO predict that by the end of this century, the developing countries will have a grain shortage of 180 million tons, double the present shortage. On the other hand, some have suggested that the grain problem of the developing nations is expected to improve greatly or even basically resolved within just a few years.

The grain problem of the developing countries is extremely complicated. A great deal of investigation and research are needed before we shall be able to make any comparatively reliable estimates. Generally speaking, unless the backward rural relations of production existing in the majority of the developing countries can be changed greatly, and unless there is a fundamental breakthrough in the struggle to throw out the old and bring in a new international order for grain, it will be impossible to solve the grain problem of the developing countries within a short period of time. However, if practical measures are adopted and the struggle to overcome difficulties is continued, the food situation can be improved gradually.

In recent years, most of the developing countries have adopted a strategy of grain self-sufficiency. Depending upon their different ways of dealing with the grain problem, the practical results may vary. It should be pointed out that a common tendency in most of the developing nations has been the change in economic strategy from ignoring grain production to taking relatively full account of it, and from relying on imports to striving for self-sufficiency. The realities of the present and less than encouraging prospects for the future should continue to convince the developing nations of the need to strengthen policies leading in this direction. Such policies are essential to the eventual solution of the grain problem.

The process of implementing the strategy of grain self-sufficiency in the developing countries also depends on finding solutions to other problems, such as funding, technology, etc. The economies of most of the developing nations are backward and they have inadequate financial resources. At the same time, they are confronted with the challenge of grave international economic projections. Having entered into a long-term period of "stagflation," the developed countries will attempt to shift the burden of their own economic crisis elsewhere, will strengthen trade protectionism, will adopt policies of financial cutbacks, and will reduce expenditures for foreign aid. They will adopt the tactic of granting delayed payments to nations promised multilateral development aid. The non-oil-producing developing nations will continue to bear the "dual pressures" of rising prices for oil fluctuation, and soaring prices for finished goods. These factors will have an increasing impact on the economies of the developing countries. As international income and expenses continue to deteriorate, the developing nations will fall deeper in debt and will find it more difficult to borrow money. This grave tendency will undoubtedly have a highly adverse effect on the economic development and on the availability of funds for grain production of the developing nations. But it should be also noted that even as the developing nations strive towards self-reliance, their economic co-operation with the developed countries will be strengthened, as will the struggle for the establishment of a new international economic order, and the opposition to trade protectionism, all of which will also contribute to strengthening the economic co-operation among the developing nations, and particularly regional economic co-operation and co-operation between the oil-producing and non-oil-producing countries. These factors will create favourable conditions for the economic development of the developing countries and for the expansion of funds for grain production.

At present, many developing nations are still largely unmechanized and at the mercy of the weather. It is not easy to improve the economic structure and change the backward technology in a short period of time. At the same time, effective population control is a long-term process. However, the developing nations today are paying increasing attention to the grain problem. In recent years, some have

*(Continued on p. 26.)*

# Guo Moruo — A Great Proletarian Cultural Fighter

by Yan Huandong

**G**UO MORUO (1892-1978) — a brilliant poet, dramatist and historian, as well as outstanding social activist — is equally famous as Lu Xun in the annals of modern Chinese culture.

“Lu Xun is the leader of the New Culture Movement, and Guo Moruo is a major fighter of the movement. If we see Lu Xun as the vanguard blazing the trail, then Guo Moruo must be seen leading the rest of us along that trail,” said Zhou Enlai 40 years ago at a celebration of Guo Moruo’s 50th birthday attended by progressive personages of the cultural circle.

Born in Leshan County, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, Guo Moruo spent his childhood in a picturesque environment that naturally inspired poetry.

Guo Moruo’s father was a knowledgeable, open-minded landlord who knew some medicine but spent most of his life in business. His mother was witty and broad-minded. Unlike the other landlord families which were shackled by feudal ethics, his parents paid great attention to the education and development of their children.

Guo Moruo entered a private school at four and a half, and for nine consecutive years, received a thorough traditional education, studying classics during the day and reciting poetry at night. Although he was enrolled later in public schools that taught modern subjects, he still preferred to spend most of his time pursuing classical culture. Thus he laid a solid foundation for his later creative works and historical studies. Nonetheless, he absorbed ideas from Western bourgeois democratic culture, even in the private school. In the public primary and middle schools and in college, he gained a systematic grounding in modern science and the new concepts of social sciences. His breadth of knowledge helped free him from the constrictions of feudalism, expand his perceptions and enhance his understanding of the dark society he lived in and his ability to criticize it.

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The author is a lecturer on modern Chinese literature at the Chinese People’s University, who is currently annotating the *Complete Works of Guo Moruo*.



Guo Moruo

The young Guo Moruo developed a strong spirit of resistance fostered in actual struggle. Between the spring of 1906, when he left home to study in the county seat and the summer of 1913, when he finished senior middle school in the provincial capital Chengdu, China experienced social upheaval centring on the 1911 Revolution, which overthrew the feudal monarchy. Although Guo Moruo was from a peaceful family, he could not avoid encountering the conflicts that rampaged through society. He was expelled from school three times for activities opposing the school’s violence and maltreatment of students and for his participation in the progressive constitutional movement. These injustices angered him, but also deepened his understanding of the negative forces in society and the seamy side of life.

As his spirit of resistance matured, it nurtured the growth of fervent patriotic ideas. The brutal aggression of the imperialists and the ever-deepening national crisis stimulated his love for his nation and his desires to contribute to its strength. Guo Moruo welcomed and placed his hope on the 1911 Revolution. He believed that the overthrow of the Qing court would mean that China, like an “awakened lion,” would never be bullied by the imperialists again. He was much distressed when the revolution failed. The deteriorating political situation of the country plagued with internal and external problems fired his early poetry. “Vicious tigers around

are casting their greedy eyes on the lion who is still not conscious of its danger," he wrote. Later, when he wrote an autobiography of that period he cried with anxiety: "China, where should you go?"

At 21, Guo Moruo decided that he would join other Chinese students in Japan who hoped that modern education would save China.

When he arrived in Japan in 1913, he threw himself into the study of medicine. Meanwhile, events ensured that he never could ignore his country's plight. In May 1915, the Japanese militarists put forward the "21 demands" which threatened China and encroached upon its sovereignty, Guo Moruo was so angered that he and several other Chinese students in Japan decided to return to China and enlist in the defence of the motherland. However, under the rule of the reactionary warlord government, their patriotic actions were not supported; there was no place for these students to go in China. They could not but return to Japan to continue their studies.

In the years that followed, Guo Moruo was distraught, besieged with all sorts of troubles. He was worried about the future of the motherland, but could find no way out and see no brightness. He longed to perform immediate service to the motherland, yet he found it impossible for him to do so. During those days, he studied even harder and cudgelled his brains in search of the truth. In addition to his medical books, he read Goethe, Heine, Byron, Shelley and Tagore. He was influenced by pantheism embodied in the works of Spinoza and others. Through long years of distress, deep thinking and search, and, finally, influenced by the Soviet socialist revolution, Guo Moruo began to formulate his revolutionary democratic ideas.

**As a participant in a parade against Japanese aggressors and for national salvation (5th from the right, front row).**



When the anti-feudal, anti-imperialist May 4th Movement took place in 1919, he was very excited. He saw it as the dawn of a newborn China. He maintained close contact with newspapers and periodicals in China, contributing articles exposing the aggression of the Japanese imperialists. By that time, he had begun to write vernacular free verses, plunging himself into the newly emerging New Culture Movement.

In the same period, he came across Walt Whitman's poems. The American poet's style free from all old conventions was identical with the stormy charging spirit exhibited in the anti-feudal, anti-imperialist patriotic movement. Whitman's style greatly enlightened Guo and encouraged him to go on. When his first group of free verses was published, he wrote that Whitman's poems helped him find an "eruption outlet" for his pent-up "personal fury and national hatred." This led to the "eruption period" in Guo Moruo's creative works.

Guo Moruo's tortuous and complex experiences gave him a profound comprehension of the crises and plagues of the Chinese nation and the aspiration and demands of the people. This was the inner source for his moving and inspiring poetry.

The 54 vernacular free verses in *The Goddess*, published first in August 1921, imprecate the evils of society and traditional ideas, showing a thorough anti-feudal, anti-imperialist revolutionary spirit. A typical example is the long lyrical *Phoenix' Rebirth* among the poems in the collection. It tells of the mythical bird that lives five centuries and then consumes itself in fire, rising renewed from the ashes. The poem expresses Guo Moruo's confidence in the inevitable rebirth and liberty of his disaster-ridden motherland.

The poet's writing style reflects both the inherited traditions of Chinese classical poetry and the free verse form absorbed from abroad. His verses are strongly romantic and are permeated with majestic grandeur, with forceful rhythms and resonant syllables. Guo Moruo's first collection embodied the spirit of the country in the early 20s and reflected the wishes and demands of the Chinese nation for resurrection and liberation. It was the first milestone in the history of Chinese vernacular free verse.

In the wake of *The Goddess*, Guo Moruo published several collections of free verses, several plays on historical themes and large volumes of novels and literary essays. These



works laid the basis for his prominent place in the history of modern Chinese literature.

To Guo Moruo, creative writing was inseparable from the goal of transforming society and from his devotion to the motherland. Thus he became a social activist from the first day of his writing career. He sponsored the famous Creation Society, which rallied under its banner a number of promising young writers and poets of his day. The periodicals he created drew positive responses, particularly from young people. In 1924, he translated *Social Organizations and Social Revolution*, a Marxist book by the Japanese economist Hajime Kawakami; this systematic exposure to Marxism marked a turning point in his beliefs and life style. The book, he once recalled, enabled him to "recognize the inherent contradictions in capitalism and the historic changes that will take place in it" and to "foster the deep belief that social life will move towards the communist system as inevitably as all waters will flow into the sea." It also became clear to him that relying on the literary and art movement alone could not reform China; but that wide-scale social struggle was required. This meant that revolutionary writers and artists should integrate themselves with the workers and peasants. He immediately extricated himself from the "pure literary and art" practice and plunged himself into the torrential social revolution.

In spring 1926, recommended by Lin Boqu, a veteran Communist, Guo Moruo became the dean of the school of arts at Zongshan (Sun Yat-sen) University in Guangzhou, then the centre of revolutionary activity. There, he met Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and other outstanding proletarian revolutionaries. Shortly afterwards, encouraged by Zhou Enlai, he enlisted in the army and took part in the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal Northern Expedition. Through sharing the joys and hardships with the soldiers and officers during the triumphant advance of the Northern Expedition, Guo got a deeper understanding of the strength of the workers and peasants. He gradually felt himself to be a component part of the revolution. His passion for the revolution ignited his burning fury at the Kuomintang when it betrayed the revolution. In his *Chiang Kai-shek — the Man Today*, *After Breaking With Chiang Kai-shek* and other articles written before and after the reactionary coup d'état of April 12, 1927, he scathingly laid bare the true colours of the man behind the scene. These articles publicized the revolution and educated the masses. They were



With Zhou Enlai and others meeting scientists in Beijing in 1956, when serving as President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

valuable documents in the annals of the Chinese revolution.

In 1927, Zhou Enlai and other Communists launched the August 1 Nanchang Uprising to save the revolution from doom. Guo Moruo rushed to join them at the risk of his life. He became a member of the revolutionary committee. After the army was defeated on its way south, he fled to Xianggang, but at the end of 1927, he returned to Shanghai, braving the white terror imposed by the reactionaries after the failure of the revolution. While recovering from a serious illness, he wrote *Recuperation*, a suite of 20 poems, whose every line echoes the confidence and optimism of a fearless proletarian fighter. By this time, Guo Moruo, through tempering himself in the fire of the revolution, had emerged as a staunch Communist.

In February 1928, he went into exile in Japan to escape the cruel persecution by the Kuomintang reactionaries. Under extremely harsh conditions in the decade that ensued, he remained active in China's struggle in the literary and art arena. In the meantime he began his research into ancient Chinese society and philology with a Marxist approach. His works during this period included *A Study of China's Ancient Society*, *A Study of Inscriptions on Bones and Tortoise Shells*, *Research Into Inscriptions on Bronze Ware of the Shang and Zhou Dynasties*, and a rich crop of memoirs such as *My Childhood*, *Before and After the 1911*

*Revolution, The Decade With the Creation Society and Reminiscences on the Northern Expedition.* In the words of Zhou Enlai, "No other man has written so prolifically as he in a decade," and "in his 10 years overseas, he made fresh contributions to the revolution and mustered new strength."

Shortly after the Japanese imperialists launched the full-scale war of aggression against China in July 1937, Guo Moruo left his wife and young child behind and returned to the motherland to join his countrymen in combating the invaders. He became one of the major leaders of the Writers' and Artists' Anti-Japanese Society and the head of the third office of the political department of a central military commission in charge of anti-Japanese cultural and propaganda work. His literary talent blossomed anew in those days and he produced several collections of verses and prose as well as six full-length opera scripts with historical themes. Four of the operas, including *Qu Yuan*, were set in the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.) when the weaker states rallied themselves against the powerful and aggressive state of Qin. Clearly allegorical, the operas employed vivid metaphors and biting sarcasm to criticize the Kuomintang, whose passive resistance against Japan contrasted so glaringly with its active manoeuvring against the Communists. The operas, which also eulogized the Chinese people's militancy against alien invaders, are regarded as masterpieces of modern Chinese literature.

After victory was won in the War of Resistance Against Japan in 1945, Guo Moruo stood firmly against civil war and for democracy. In this way, he contributed to the People's War of Liberation.

After the People's Republic was founded in 1949, Guo Moruo assumed many important government posts. He was also a prominent figure in scientific and cultural fields and in China's foreign relations. His many responsibilities included: member of the Central People's Govern-

ment, Vice-Premier of the State Administration Council, President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chairman of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, President of the Chinese People's Committee for World Peace, Honorary President of the Sino-Japanese Friendship Association, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Such a heavy workload never kept him from creative writing. His collections of poetry published in this period sang the praise of New China and the people's revolution and construction. He also wrote several historical opera scripts, a film script and many essays on literature and art, history, archaeology and politics. He was persecuted and vilified by Jiang Qing and her ilk during the "cultural revolution," but he never gave in. After the fall of the gang of four, despite his advanced age — he was well over 80 — he picked up his pen again with renewed youthful, revolutionary fervour.

Guo Moruo's was a splendid revolutionary life. He left us an extraordinarily rich literary legacy. His fine qualities also deserve to be emulated: his ardent revolutionary enthusiasm, his boundless loyalty to and love for the motherland and its people, his utter devotion to the communist cause, his indomitable fighting spirit and his unquenchable thirst for academic excellence which carried him through long years of assiduous work and study.

In March 1957, he wrote a letter to Beijing University students, saying,

"Both at present and throughout your life, you must first of all 'climb to the best of your ability,' no matter how high the mountain top is. The high mountain itself is growing. Let's climb on and on. Don't ask how high the mountain is."

This valuable legacy for future generations is, indeed, a fitting epitaph for the life of Guo Moruo. □

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(Continued from p. 22.)

taken effective measures and have already begun to attain a high degree of self-sufficiency in grain, or at least are basically secure from serious grain shortages. It is estimated that more countries will become agriculturally self-sup-

porting in the coming years. There are, of course, wide discrepancies among the grain prospects of the different developing nations. Although the long-term grain projections for the developing nations are encouraging, the short-term problems remain very serious and demand careful and continuing analysis and co-operation. □

## EDUCATION

### Adult Education

More Chinese are literate than ever before and the demand for adult education is becoming pronounced. Government efforts have reduced China's illiteracy rate among people from 12 to 45 from over 80 per cent in the early post-liberation years to 25 per cent today, reported Yao Zhongda, Chinese delegate to the UNESCO field education seminar on adult education and literacy in the Asian and Pacific region.

According to UNESCO, 62 per cent of the world's illiteracy is



A workers' university run by the Xiangfan Printing and Dyeing Factory in Hubei Province.

in the Asian and Pacific region, 55 per cent of the children (from 6 to 14) in this area grow into illiterate adults. Participants at the seminar which opened October 4 in Foshan, Guangdong Province, heard about China's efforts to overcome illiteracy and promote adult education. After the conference the delegates from nine countries (including China) divided into two groups for field observations in Shandong

or Henan. The foreign delegates sought to learn from China's achievements so as to apply them in their own countries.

In the past 32 years, 137.7 million illiterate adults in China have been taught to read and write. The literacy standard is set at 1,500 characters for peasants, enough to read simple papers and periodicals, write notes and keep accounts, and 2,000 characters for workers.

China is a country with an ancient civilization, but the vast majority of the population was deprived of an education in pre-liberation days resulting from long years of feudal and bureaucratic rule and imperialist aggression. In many villages, there was not a single literate person.

The situation changed after 1949. At present, around 75 per cent of the adult peasants are literate, among them 25 per cent are at or above middle school level. In addition to primary and middle schools run by the government, many people's communes and production brigades have set up full- or part-time schools or short-term courses. Radio and correspondence courses for peasants are also available in some areas

and many counties have technical schools for peasants.

Higher education for adults is also developing in the cities and mining areas. The forms include correspondence schools and evening schools run by the institutes of higher learning; workers' universities and spare-time universities established by factories, mines and enterprises; radio and TV universities under various education bureaus and other schools administered by government organizations, people's organizations and individuals. To encourage independent study, the State Council in 1981 authorized Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai to organize higher education examinations to certify those who have attained university level through independent study.

China has a vast adult education network in its cities, mining areas and villages providing cultural and scientific knowledge at all levels. Government statistics reveal that in the past 32 years, 38.64 million adults have attained the level of primary school graduates through spare-time education; 3.59 million, of middle school level and over one million, of university level.

A peasants' reading room in Pushang People's Commune, Fujian Province.



During the 10 years of the "cultural revolution," the hard-won progress in decreasing illiteracy suffered a setback. There are still a considerable number of people who are illiterate and semi-literate.

He Dongchang, Minister of Education, told the delegates at the seminar that efforts will be made to raise the people's educational level in order to develop China's economy. It is expected that by 1990 primary school education will be universal and, where conditions permit, junior middle school education will also be universal.

## MEDICINE

### *Artificial Joints to Replace Arthritic Joints*

A young man who could not walk, bend or take care of himself because of rheumatoid arthritis, can now walk five kilometres and lead a normal life following an operation to replace hipbone joints with artificial titanium alloy joints.

The doctor who conducted the operation was Lu Shibe, head of the orthopedic department of the General Hospital of the Chinese People's Liberation Army in Beijing. At a recent meeting on artificial joints, the doctor said that the young man, Yu Shiqi (29), was from Chengdu, Sichuan Province, who first suffered from pain in his hip joints in 1974 and his joints became rigid in 1977. He had been bed ridden for five years.

In 1979 and 1980, Dr. Lu performed two operations replacing Yu Shiqi's left and right hip joints with artificial titanium alloy joints. Cutting through the rigidified hipbone joints, the artificial joints were attached to the bone marrow cavity with bone cement. After four months

of treatment and physical exercises, the function of his hip joints was restored, the patient can now walk and care for himself. In a letter to the doctor, Yu said: "Since my return from your hospital, I can ride a bicycle to work in the daytime and to meet my friends in the evening. I find it convenient getting about. . . . It is your efforts that have enabled me to do all this."

Doctor Lu, 52, graduated from the China Medical College (formerly the China Union Medical College) in 1956. He has conducted replacement operations of artificial joints for nine years. Working with his colleagues, he has performed this kind of operation on more than 200 sufferers.

In October 1980, a Malaysian woman, 22 years old, had her hip joints replaced by artificial joints in the Shanghai Guanghua Hospital. Before the operation, She could not sit or squat but only stand and inch along, because of rheumatoid spondylitis. After four months of treatment and physical exercises, she could ride a bicycle and do some work.

Addressing a meeting on artificial joints, Li Chunlin, head of the orthopedic department of the Tianjin Hospital, said the study of artificial joints began in the early 1960s in China. At that time stainless steel was used as material for artificial joints. The work was interrupted during the "cultural revolution." The hip joint replacement operations, Dr. Li said, makes it possible to save limbs of bone tumour sufferers when amputation would otherwise be necessary. It can also retain the original length of the limbs and allow normal function.

At present, more than 150 hospitals in the country can do

such operations. More than 1,500 patients have had this kind of operation for treatment of bone tumour, bone tuberculosis and rheumatoid arthritis.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

### *New Studies on Ancient Lop Nur Corpse*

The existence of environmental pollution 3,000 years ago was proved by the finding of a large amount of silicon particles and carbon dust in a corpse unearthed in Lop Nur, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, in 1980.

The corpse, the earliest and best preserved so far discovered in China, is of an ancient minority nationality woman in Xinjiang who died between 40 to 45 years of age.

Shanghai scientists observed samples from tissues at the tip of the lungs and the lower right lung through microscopes and found large quantity of black dust in the lung cavity, concentrated around the blood vessels. Metal elements are also in higher densities than in contemporary corpses.

The carbon dust contained in the corpse is 0.07 mg, equivalent to the amount inhaled by a contemporary second-stage "black lung" patient. Specialists indicate that the dust came from the environment polluted by burning fuels such as wood, leaves and animal remains.

Silicon dust (mainly silicate) was also found in the corpse's lungs. Mounting to 0.055-0.066 mg, the quantity is higher than that in a present-day "black lung" sufferer.

This study has revealed new data on ancient living conditions and the atmospheric environment.

## Books

### *Cultural Wealth Shared by Humanity*

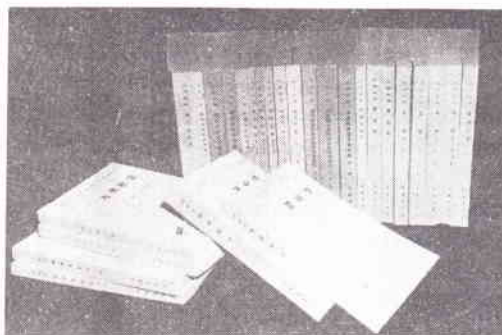
Chinese Translations of World-Famous Academic Works, Part I.

《汉译世界学术名著丛书》

*Edited and published  
by the Commercial  
Press,*

*Distributed by Xin-  
hua Bookstores,*

*Price: RMB 87.59  
yuan for Part I (a  
total of 69 volumes,  
varied prices for  
different volumes).*



In February, on the 85th anniversary of its founding, the Commercial Press — China's oldest contemporary publishing house — published the *Chinese Translations of World-Famous Academic Works*.

As the name suggests, the masterpieces included in this series are classical and contemporary academic works which are the common wealth of humanity, irrespective of the times, nations or languages they belong to.

Each nation attributes its identity in the family of nations to its own cultural traditions, and rests the preservation and development of this tradition on the cultural exchanges between different nations and mutual enrichment. The Chinese nation, self-confident and secure with the accomplishment of its long history, has never rejected foreign cultures. Centuries of cultural exchanges with other countries have provided many useful additions to Chinese culture. Traditional arts have absorbed the good, used the

past experience to serve the present and adjusted foreign things for use in China. China's brilliant cultural history was charted along this path.

However, at some points in the long course of Chinese

history, a closed-door policy caused a rejection of alien ideologies and cultures. Historical experience has told us that once a nation indulges in smug complacency, it loses the nutrients from the infusion of foreign cultures, and its own culture dwindles and becomes ossified. In Chinese history, xenophobia always accompanied internal upheaval, but the introduction of this policy never reduced the suffering but instead intensified it. Thus, the closed-door policies were always short-lived, temporary episodes. The 10 years of turmoil between 1966 and 1976 was another twist in history. Today, the mist has been dispersed and the Commercial Press has been freed from the labels of "worshipping everything foreign and retrogressing." This made it possible for the press to bring to the world the *Chinese Translations of World-Famous Academic Works*, a series which contains 50 pieces selected from among the more than 300 world renowned academic works it has

published in the last three decades. Chinese scholars regard publication of this series as a significant event in China's cultural life.

The press' endeavour to publish world-famous works dates back to the 1930s. The *Chinese Translations of World-Famous Works* it published then comprised more than 1,000 masterpieces. Unfortunately, the work was interrupted by the war of aggression launched by the Japanese militarists in 1937. More than half of the works included in that series were Western literary masterpieces. The newly compiled series is a collection of prominent academic works; no literary works are included. But the two series have identical high standards of works selected as well as of translations.

Even eliminating literary works, choosing among the huge number of noted academic works in the sea of ancient and contemporary masterpieces was difficult. Part I incorporates only 50 works (many are multi-volume pieces). Its introduction notes: "This series will be published in several parts. Later volumes will compile additional academic works, and some day in the future, China will have all of the world's academic masterpieces printed in its own language."

The 50 works so far published reveal the great efforts the editors of the Commercial Press made in selecting and compiling the series. A tremendous project, it is still a far cry from a complete collection of academic contributions. But Part I presents a contour of the whole series which incorporates a range of works from ancient to contemporary, by writers of many countries and of all dis-

ciplines, from philosophy to natural and social sciences. Philosophical works included in the first part are *Metaphysica* by Aristotle (384-322 B.C.), *Science of Logic* by Georg W.F. Hegel (1770-1831) and another 17 works; the economics works include *An Inquiry Into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith (1723-90), *Principles of Political Economy and Taxation* by David Ricardo (1772-1823). Half of the pieces in Part I fall into these two categories. In addition, it includes works of political science such as *The Second Treatise of Government* by Locke (1632-1704) and Napoleon's *Code Civil Francais*, and history books like *Annals* by Cornelius Tacitus (c. 55-120). They are translated

by renowned and esteemed professionals such as Guo Dali, Wang Yanan, He Lin, Zhu Guangqian, Zhou Jianren and Yang Dongchun.

This series is not impeccable. The works incorporated in Part I are too orientated to the West, with too few works from Eastern countries. As a result it gives an unbalanced, incomplete impression of what exists. Moreover, the prefaces and postscripts, as well as footnotes and indexes are not always well edited; some works have neither prefaces nor footnotes. The publishers will need to solve these problems for future parts of the series.

A questionnaire issued recently by the Commercial Press contains synopses of another 50

works to be incorporated into Part II. These indicate that in the overall planning for continuing this series and, confronting a forest of world masterpieces, priority has been given to important works that led up to the origins of Marxism. Like Part I, Part II is mainly devoted to works on German classical philosophy, British political economy and different schools of socialist theory in France. The Commercial Press' approach is unique and interesting and will deserve further attention as each volume is released.

—Gao Song, executive member of the council of the All-China Society of Foreign Philosophical History.

Off the Press

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# ART PAGE

Wang Senran's

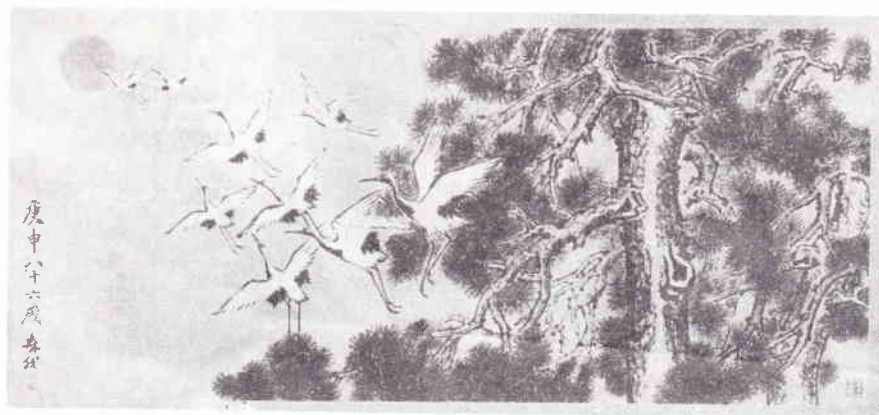
Traditional Chinese Paintings



Cicadas Amid the Red Leaves.



Frogs in a Lotus Pond.



Cranes and Pines Facing the Sun.

Born in 1895 in Hebei Province's Dingxian County, Wang Senran is now a professor at the Central Academy of Fine Arts. He is not only an artist of traditional Chinese painting, but a scholar of fine arts theory and an expert in authenticating ancient calligraphy and paintings. He was a close friend of the late Qi Baishi and Huang Binhong, masters of traditional paintings. His latest representative works are *Cranes and Pines Facing the Sun* and *The Eagles*, both huge paintings in the Great Hall of the People.



English Language Service

# Radio Peking

The exact dates for these programmes will be announced on the air.

	GMT	Local Standard Time	Metre Bands	kHz
NORTH AMERICA (EAST COAST)	00:00-01:00	19:00-20:00 (E.S.T.)	25, 19	11650, 15120, 15520
	01:00-02:00	20:00-21:00 (E.S.T.)	25, 19	11650, 15120, 15520
	02:00-03:00	21:00-22:00 (E.S.T.)	25, 19	11650, 15120
	12:00-13:00	07:00-08:00 (E.S.T.)	30	9820
NORTH AMERICA (WEST COAST)	03:00-04:00	19:00-20:00 (P.S.T.)	25, 19	11650, 15120, 15520
	04:00-05:00	20:00-21:00 (P.S.T.)	25, 19	11650, 15120
THE SOUTH PACIFIC	08:30-09:30	18:30-19:30 (Aust. E.S.T.)	30, 25, 19	9860, 11600, 15195, 15435
	09:30-10:30	20:30-21:30 (N.Z.S.T.)	30, 25, 19	9860, 11600, 15195, 15435
		19:30-20:30 (Aust. E.S.T.)		
SOUTHEAST ASIA	12:00-13:00	19:00-20:00 (Western Indonesia, Bangkok)	223, 25, 19, 16	1341, 11600, 15280, 17700
		19:30-20:30 (Singapore)		
		20:00-21:00 (Ho Chi Minh City, Manila)		
		18:30-19:30 (Rangoon)		
	13:00-14:00	20:00-21:00 (Western Indonesia, Bangkok)	223, 25, 19, 16	1341, 11600, 15280, 17700
		20:30-21:30 (Singapore)		
		21:00-22:00 (Ho Chi Minh City, Manila)		
		19:30-20:30 (Rangoon)		
SOUTH ASIA	14:00-15:00	19:30-20:30 (Delhi, Colombo)	25, 16	11600, 17700
		19:00-20:00 (Rawalpindi)		
		20:00-21:00 (Dhaka)		
		19:40-20:40 (Kathmandu)		
15:00-16:00	20:30-21:30 (Delhi, Colombo)	25, 16	11600, 17700	
	20:00-21:00 (Rawalpindi)			
	21:00-22:00 (Dhaka)			
	20:40-21:40 (Kathmandu)			
EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA	16:00-17:00	18:00-19:00 (Cape Town, Salisbury)	25, 19	11600, 15165
	17:00-18:00	19:00-20:00 (Dar-es-Salaam)	25, 19	11600, 15165
		20:00-21:00 (Cape Town, Salisbury)		
WEST AND NORTH AFRICA	19:30-20:30	18:45-19:45 (Monrovia)	40, 26	7480, 11515
		19:30-20:30 (Accra, Freetown)		
		20:30-21:30 (Lagos)		
	20:30-21:30	21:30-22:30 (Cairo)	40, 26	7480, 11515
		19:45-20:45 (Monrovia)		
		20:30-21:30 (Accra, Freetown)		
		21:30-22:30 (Lagos)		
EUROPE	19:00-20:00	20:00	43, 30	6860, 9860
	21:00-22:00	22:00-23:00 (London, Stockholm, Paris)	43, 30	6860, 9860