

OPINION: U.S.' MIDDLE EAST HYPOCRISY P.26 | FEATURES: YOUTHFUL ENTREPRENEURSHIP P.36

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CONTENTS

EDITOR'S DESK

02 Nuijiang's Miracle

THIS WEEK COVER STORY

12 The Highway of Hope

A Beautiful Road connects remote regions in southwest China

16 Not One Less

One vocational school in a border county raises educational hopes

18 China's Poverty Alleviation

What is the secret of its success?

OPINION

24 Collectivism and Openness

The origins of China's civilization and empowerment

26 Human Rights, U.S. Hypocrisy

U.S. stance toward Israel-Palestine conflict evokes criticism

28 For the Health of All

Vaccine distribution: a matter of global public product delivery

FEATURES

32 Bouncing Back to Normal

From Yunnan to Qinghai, residents shake off the shock

34 Immunization Challenges

Key barriers obstructing the realization of global herd immunity

36 Youthful Vitality

The Greater Bay Area, a hot hub for young aspirations

38 Central Strategy

Local goes global in central China

40 Debunking the Myths

Author André Lacroix paints the picture of the true Tibet

42 The Man Who Fed the World

The life and work of Yuan Longping, father of hybrid rice

CULTURE

46 Night at the Museum

International Museum Day, a light in pandemic darkness

EXPAT'S EYE

48 My Reverse Culture Shock:

England to China and Back

Addressing the challenges of moving back home

Cover Photo: Tourists take in the sights at a scenic valley in Nuijiang Lisu Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, on May 20 (CHEN JIAN)

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Nujiang's Miracle

China eliminated absolute poverty in 2020, attracting the attention of the international community, and bagging the praise and positive comments as well as curiosity and doubt. Some cannot imagine that a country with a population of 1.4 billion has been able to lift all its people out of absolute poverty, completing the poverty reduction goal of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule.

If you go to any place in China that has successfully eliminated poverty and try to see how they did so, you will feel inspired. Nujiang Prefecture in Yunnan Province is one such example.

Nujiang was an extremely poor place, with 98 percent of its land area high mountains and wide valleys and 76 percent of its cultivated land vast slopes. The prefecture still had 164,000 people living below the poverty line in 2018, that is, 38.14 percent of its rural population. Most of them lived in the mountains or on the hillside.

Nujiang implemented two major poverty alleviation strategies based on studies. The first was to relocate entire villages not suitable for human habitation to places where there was better transport. The government funded the construction of the relocation

communities with supporting healthcare and education facilities as well as workshops for local economic development. All this ensured a smooth relocation and resettlement, providing relocatees with the means to better their lives.

The second strategy was to create more jobs and improve the environment for development. With this policy, Nujiang developed characteristic industries such as tourism and culture, spices, valley agriculture and biomedicine.

By December 2020, the prefecture had eradicated absolute poverty with those previously living under the poverty line freed from worries about food and clothing and guaranteed access to compulsory education, basic medical services and safe housing. Such an extremely poor place's emergence from poverty is a modern miracle, created under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC). During the fight against poverty in Nujiang, CPC members took on a special role, providing guidance and encouraging the locals to be enterprising.

China has created an approach to poverty alleviation with Chinese characteristics. This may serve as a reference for other developing countries. **BR**



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TURNING WASTE INTO HAPPINESS

Students entertain themselves by inventing games using old tires during playtime at Xianling Primary School in Yongchun County, Fujian Province, on May 25. The primary school tries to combine used tires with sports and created dozens of games since 2018. These games, which have turned waste into useful tools, have become a distinguishing feature of the school.



Blossoming Industry

A staff member checks the mini lotus plants at the Mini Lotus Planting Cooperative in Linzhang, a county in Hebei Province, on May 25. More than 200,000 pots of mini lotus plants have bloomed recently at the cooperative. In recent years, mini lotus planting has become a new way for locals to increase income.

Child Welfare

China's child welfare services will be restructured; the reform will see its completion by 2025, with the focus of the service system shifted to minor protection, the Ministry of Civil Affairs said on May 25 at a press conference.

Child welfare services in China have been dedicated to sheltering and supporting underage children whose guardianship has been assumed by the civil affairs authorities, the ministry said, noting that many of the facilities now lie idle as the number of orphans dropped 66 percent from the 2012 figure to the current 190,000.

Close to 70 percent of county-level child welfare facilities have fewer than 10 residents, Zhao Yong, an official with the ministry, said, adding that there

are 1,217 child welfare facilities across the country.

In contrast to the declining orphan number, more children with serious illness or disability are in need of professional care, which the existing child welfare facilities fall short of, Zhao said.

Weather Warning

In the face of the nation's most recent severe weather disasters, China's weather authority has stressed efforts to improve warning services at the grassroots level as well as for major events.

Since the end of April, severe weather disasters have occurred frequently, and rainfall has increased from the same periods in previous years, the China Meteorological Administration (CMA) said during a video conference on May 24.

Meteorological support services for sports and other major events should receive an upgrade. Emergency plans should also be upgraded regarding meteorological support for major events, natural disasters, and accidents in the workplace, the CMA said.

The CMA also called for the promotion of basic survival skills so that more people can protect themselves against meteorological disasters.

Filial Piety

About 91.5 percent of people in a survey by *China Youth Daily* said that filial piety, one of the most important traditional moral tenets in China, is still relevant today and should be promoted in society, Xinhua News Agency reported on May 23.

Of those 1,856 surveyed, 60.9 percent voiced that new ideas should be added to the concept of filial piety as the philosophy continues to evolve with time.

The majority of respondents, born between the 1970s and the 2000s, agreed that children should offer respect, support and company to their parents and other family elders.

According to the survey, filial piety is about much more than the mere duty of respect, deference and care for the elderly.

Li Zexuan, a Beijing resident born in the 1990s, said that the publicity campaign for filial piety should focus on specific practices closely related to daily life, such as accompanying parents to exercise or teaching the elderly how to use the Internet.

Volunteer Recruitment

A global recruitment drive for volunteers for the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou was launched at a ceremony in the host city on May 22. The Hangzhou Asian Games Organizing Committee (HAGOC) estimates some 52,000 volunteers will be needed to serve the 2022 Asian Games and Asian Para Games.

The volunteers will be engaged in 13 areas, including competition operations, language service, spectator service and information technology at the opening and closing ceremonies and during sports competitions and Games-related activities. Among them, 45,000 will provide their services in Hangzhou, while the other 7,000 will be deployed in the co-host cities of Ningbo, Wenzhou, Jinhua, Huzhou and Shaoxing.

Applications for volunteers

will be open until October 31, 2021. The Hangzhou 2022 Games will take place from September 10 to 25 next year.

Cooperation Initiative

Countries along the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor and 14 Chinese provinces, autonomous regions and cities jointly released a cooperation initiative at a trade and investment fair in Chongqing Municipality on May 21.

The cooperation initiative was issued by Indonesia, Viet Nam, Laos and other countries along the trade corridor with 12 provincial-level regions in west China, the southern island province of Hainan, and Zhanjiang, a city in Guangdong Province, at the third Western China International Fair for Investment and Trade, which took place from May 20 to 23.

The parties should mobilize their strengths to facilitate trade, promote investment, improve industrial chains and optimize supply chains, the initiative said.

All parties should leverage the role of the trade corridor's operational and organizational center to strengthen bilateral, trilateral, and multilateral

cooperation, the initiative said.

It also called for the authorities to implement innovation-based development strategies, deepen cooperation in the digital economy, and improve infrastructure facilities plus modern logistics systems. These efforts should create an open corridor that is convenient, safe, and efficient and promotes green growth and low carbon operations.

The New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor is a trade and logistics passage jointly constructed by Singapore and provincial-level regions of west China.

China-Africa Exchanges

A video and photo competition was launched in Beijing on May 21 for contestants to share their experiences related to the increasingly diverse China-Africa relations.

The 2021 China-Africa Video and Photo Competition, themed Friendship in Focus, Together for Future, aims to provide a platform for Chinese and Africans to communicate through visual artworks.

Lu Cairong, Vice President of China International Publishing Group (CIPG), said



Self-Charging Robot

An automotive charging robot is on display during the China Guangzhou International Automotive Technology Expo 2021 in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province, on May 25.

at the launch ceremony that he hoped the competition would see extensive participation and unveil moving stories about China-Africa collaboration from various perspectives.

Martin Mpana, Dean of the African Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Cameroon to China, recognized the value of photos and videos as a powerful means of communication. He encouraged the launch of similar initiatives in Africa to

create an environment conducive to artistic creation.

"This is one of the ways in which we will be able to show the true face of China-Africa relations, which bears the encouraging mark of an ambitious, fruitful and win-win partnership," he said.

The competition is co-sponsored by the Secretariat of Chinese Follow-Up Committee of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and CIPG.



The Charm of Science

Students from a primary school in Cangzhou, Hebei Province, watch their self-made robot in action on May 21.

Tighter Regulation

China has enhanced supervision over virtual currencies to further fend off financial risks and forestall speculation in virtual currency businesses.

Bitcoin mining and trading-related activities will see a crackdown, according to a statement from a meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Committee under the State Council in May.

The statement came days after three Chinese industrial associations vowed to apply tougher restrictions on virtual currency trading. It also indicates an escalation of regulation, as the targets for supervision have expanded from bitcoin trading to mining.

Financial institution members, payment institutions and other agencies shall not use virtual currency to price products or services, read an announcement from industrial associations of Internet finance, banking, and payment and clearing.

Also, Internet platform enterprises shall not provide services for virtual currency-related business activities.

It is also unallowable to underwrite insurance businesses related to virtual currencies or bring virtual currencies into insurance liability coverage, according to the announcement.

Virtual currency, a type of specific virtual goods represented by bitcoin, has no monetary properties. For example, it has no legal tender status, said Dong Ximiao, chief researcher with Merchants Union Consumer Finance Co. Ltd.

Participating in illegal bitcoin trading and speculation activities may lead to huge property losses for investors and affect China's financial stability and social order, Dong said, adding that such activities must be rectified.

Huawei OS

Hi-tech giant Huawei said on May 25 that it will launch its new

operating system HarmonyOS for smartphones on June 2.

Known as *Hongmeng* in Chinese, it was first launched on Internet of Things devices, including wearables and tablets, in August 2019.

The Shenzhen-headquartered company expects the number of devices running on HarmonyOS to reach 300 million by the end of the year.

Yang Haisong, Vice President of Huawei's Artificial Intelligence and All-Scenario Intelligence Business Unit, said the company would cooperate with app and hardware developers to use its latest operating system and provide new services for customers.

Analysts see HarmonyOS as an alternative to Google's Android and Apple's iOS.

Foreign Investment

The total foreign direct investment into Shanghai rose 20.3 percent year on year to \$7.77 billion in the first four months of

2021, the municipal government said on May 24.

During the period, 20 regional headquarters of foreign-funded multinational companies were established, raising the total number to 791 in the city. Seven foreign-funded research and development centers were also set up, raising Shanghai's total to 488. The new ones are mainly in advanced industries such as biomedicine, smart manufacturing and high-end services.

Shanghai will continue to promote all-round opening up and improve its business environment to support foreign enterprises for greater and better development, Vice Mayor Zong Ming said.

Road Test

E-commerce giant JD.com, online service company Meituan, and autonomous driving vehicle producer Neolix were given permits on May 25 to run their unmanned delivery vehicles on designated open roads in Beijing,

NUMBERS

(\$1=6.4 yuan)

Crude Oil Production
Daily Output (1,000 tons)



Growth Rate of Crude Oil Production
(% y.o.y.)



marking the first time the capital will allow such vehicles.

The vehicles will drive around the Beijing high-level autonomous driving demonstration area, a 60-square km area at the Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area, also known as E-Town, in Daxing District.

Kong Lei, Deputy Director of E-Town, said the unmanned delivery vehicle operators will run express deliveries, catering, and retail business in the demonstration area.

In April, Beijing innovated its policy on intelligent connected vehicles in the demonstration area, allowing new auto products, technologies, and modes to be tested and operated there.

Financial Services

Rural inclusive financial reform experiments will be expanded, while pilot zones for financial services supporting rural vitalization will be built, according to a document jointly released by the People's

Bank of China, the central bank, and five other government departments, Xinhua News Agency reported on May 25.

New types of rural business entities such as family farms and farmers' cooperatives have gradually become a vital force in ensuring farmers' income growth, the supply of agricultural products and the transformation and upgrading of the agricultural sector. The document specifies promoting development of credit loans, innovation of exclusive financial products and services and expanding and diversifying financial channels.

5G Phones

The three major telecom operators had 310 million cellphone terminals connected to their 5G networks by the end of April, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) said on May 25.

The number accounted for about 19 percent of all mobile

phone users of China Telecom, China Mobile and China Unicom.

Home to the world's largest 5G network, China has seen more innovative applications of the new communication technology in a thriving, lucrative sector.

There are more than 9,000 new cases of 5G applications in China, such as the introduction of smart construction sites with higher management efficiency and lower safety risks, according to the MIIT.

It has predicted that in 2025, 5G will directly generate 2.93 trillion yuan (\$457 billion) in economic added value. Also, 5G handsets will account for 80 percent of total mobile phone shipments in China in the second half of the year.

Private Wealth

Private wealth in China has seen steady expansion as the country's economy continues to power ahead, according to a report jointly released by China

Merchants Bank and the global management consulting firm Bain & Company.

By the end of 2020, the investable assets of Chinese citizens had hit 241 trillion yuan (\$37.69 trillion), with the compound annual growth rate between 2018 and 2020 reaching 13 percent, read the report.

In 2020, the number of high net-worth individuals with investable assets of over 10 million yuan (\$1.56 million) in the country reached 2.62 million.

Benefiting from the country's economic transformation and the development of the real economy, the structure of its high net-worth population is becoming increasingly diversified, according to the report.

The report forecasts that the investable assets of Chinese citizens will reach 268 trillion yuan (\$41.91 trillion), while the high net-worth population will approach 3 million by the end of the year.

Industrial Natural Gas Production
Average Daily Output (mln cubic meters)



Growth Rate of Industrial Natural Gas Production
(% y.o.y.)



THIS WEEK **WORLD**



EUROPEAN UNION

Leaders of member countries convene at the EU headquarters in Brussels on May 24. The two-day meeting, where participants pledged to increase global vaccine production capacities, ended on May 25



SYRIA

A voter casts his ballot at a polling station in Damascus during the presidential election on May 26



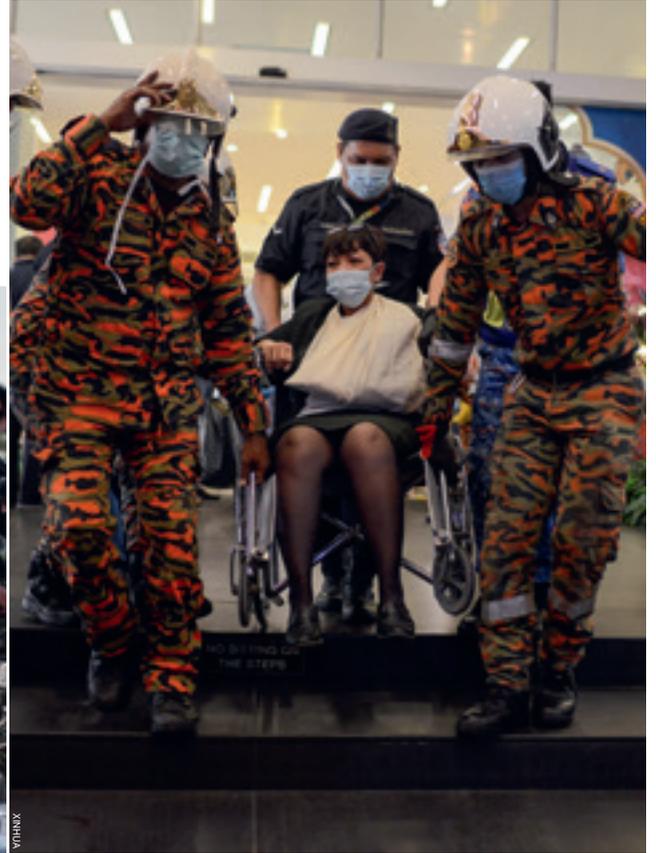
BENIN

President Patrice Talon (right) and Vice President Mariam Chabi Talata attend the swearing-in ceremony held at the Stade Charles de Gaulle in Porto-Novo, political capital of Benin, on May 23



GEORGIA

Military personnel participate in a parade marking Georgia's Independence Day at the Freedom Square in Tbilisi on May 26



MALAYSIA

Rescue workers transfer a passenger injured in a metro train collision in Kuala Lumpur on May 24. Over 200 people were injured as two metro light rail trains collided in a tunnel



UNITED STATES

Investigators examine the scene of a mass shooting in San Jose, California, on May 26. Nine people, including the suspect, died and at least one person was injured



THIS WEEK PEOPLE & POINTS

↓ BYTEDANCE CEO TO STEP DOWN

Zhang Yiming, the founder of ByteDance, a privately-held startup offering global creation and interaction platforms, will step down as CEO later this year as the company gears up for unprecedented changes, both at home and abroad.

In a recent internal letter to employees, 38-year-old Zhang, who previously founded several successful apps like TikTok, said he is making the transition to spend more time on “long-term strategy, corporate culture, and social responsibility.”

“Although the business has been developing well, we hope that the company will continue to make greater innovations and breakthroughs, and become more creative and meaningful,” he said.

According to the company, Liang Rubo, currently head of human resources of ByteDance, will take over as CEO and Zhang will move into a key strategy role by the end of this year.



Garbage Sorting *Economic Daily* May 25

A year after the implementation of compulsory garbage sorting in Beijing, the household waste of China’s capital city has been reduced significantly. However, residents and communities living in this metropolis are still trying to acclimatize to the new recycling system.

In the first four months of 2021, average daily volume of household garbage in Beijing was 20,600 tons, a decrease of 25.6 percent from 2019, with a daily reduction of more than 7,100 tons. The participation of Beijing’s residents in waste sorting reaches 90 percent.

However, the biggest challenge in implementing waste classification is getting residents to develop the habit and fully participate. More specific measures should strengthen people’s awareness and spur them on to take the initiative.

Meanwhile, there is still great potential to reduce waste from being produced, like decreasing food waste, the use of take-out lunch boxes and general packaging.

In the future, both government and community units will look to further improve services to better respond to citizen complaints regarding waste removal and transportation, daily maintenance of garbage stations, and the random stacking of large and construction waste.



Shanghai’s New Journey *Outlook Weekly* May 24

From developing the Pudong financial district to launching a pilot free trade zone, Shanghai has been a symbol of China’s openness and economic development. Now, the city is among the most vibrant urban centers in all of Asia.

Major achievements should be made regarding Shanghai’s positioning as a

“In the more than 70 years since the founding of the People’s Republic of China, China has never initiated a war, and is the only country in the world that has written peaceful development into its constitution.”

Wang Yi, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister, stressing at the Munich Security Conference on May 25

“The developmental path of socialism with Chinese characteristics offers a new way of thinking and developmental direction, as well as a point of view for global governance.”

Socorro Gomes, President of the World Peace Council, adding that Chinese people are the creators of history, during an interview with CGTN on May 25

world leading economic, financial, trade, shipping and technology center by 2025, according to Shanghai's proposal for the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) and its development goals for 2035 released last December.

During the period, Shanghai has pledged to further open up its doors to let the world share the benefits of its high-quality growth. The city will improve its overall core competitiveness and advance a new round of opening up.

The plan envisages Shanghai to gain the required competitive edge to be a hub for international trade. It also endeavors to make the city a major import and export distribution center connecting the Yangtze River Delta region and serving the entire country.

High-end resources from around the world are likely to gather in Shanghai at a faster pace in the next five years, further elevating the city's global influence. The city should also have more development drivers.

In addition, a modern infrastructure system in line with Shanghai's role as a megacity should be in place by 2025. Both tangible and intangible networks should collaborate so that Shanghai can become a core hub connecting the rest of the world.

Marriage Registration

Guancha.gmw.cn

May 20

China will pilot an inter-provincial arrangement to save its growing migrant population from having to return to their hometowns for marriage registration.

The pilot will be first introduced in Liaoning, Shandong, Guangdong, Chongqing and Sichuan, among other provincial-level regions, from June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2023, the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA) announced on May 19.

Under current regulations, marriages must be registered within the household

registration area of either the bride or groom.

The change being trialed will enable people living outside their place of household registration to register their marriage in the areas where they have resided for a continuous period of at least six months, the ministry said.

An average of 10 million new marriages is registered annually in China, while nearly 4 million divorces are handled across the country, MCA statistics show.

The pilot regulation has become feasible thanks to the digitalization of the marriage registration system. A national marriage information database is now in place and can be shared between civil affairs departments across the country.

TOP LIVER SURGEON DIES AT 99

Wu Mengchao, founder of hepatobiliary surgery in China and former vice president of Shanghai-based Second Military Medical University, passed away at the age of 99 in Shanghai on May 22.

In 1991, Wu was elected an academicien of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In 2005, he became the first physician to receive the State Preeminent Science and Technology Award, China's highest academic accolade, for raising the success rate of hepatic surgery for liver cancer patients in China from 16 percent to over 98 percent. Wu completed over 16,000 surgical operations throughout his 75-year-long career.

As the first Chinese doctor to establish a theoretical basis for liver surgery, he was responsible for more than 30 major medical achievements through independent innovation.



“The past 70 years prove that China-Pakistan friendship and cooperation are not only in the fundamental interests of the two countries and peoples, but also conducive to maintaining regional and world peace, stability and development.”

Nong Rong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, in an article published on *China Daily* on May 25

“Any so-called ‘verdict’ or ‘ruling’ of the ‘tribunal’ is nothing more than a wasted piece of paper... It’s a pseudo-court set up to attack Xinjiang and interfere in China’s internal affairs.”

Xu Guixiang, spokesperson for China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, denouncing the so-called “Uygur tribunal” as a trampling of international law at a press conference in Beijing on May 25



CHEN JIA

An aerial view of Zhiziluo Village, Nujiang Lisu Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, on May 21