



PEOPLE



Aisikaier, wearing his blindfold is walking backwards along the 100-meter-long and 150-meter-high tightrope between the Twin Towers. Photo by Hu Chao

Tightrope walker Aisikaier created world record in Kunming

By Gao Wei

At the tightrope walking show recently staged over the Wanda Plaza of Kunming, the six Guinness World Records holder Aisikaier wore his blindfold and walked backwards along a

150-meter-high tightrope across the Wanda Kunming Twin Towers, setting up a new world record.

At about 6 o'clock in the afternoon, it began to cool down. Aisikaier appeared above the audience. He wore his blindfolded and walked

backwards from the south tower to the north tower. Although it was just a test walk, the audience could not help cheering in amazement.

Then Aisikaier began the real challenge. With the audience holding their breath, he again wore his blindfold

and walked backwards across the Twin Towers in 15 minutes. Then he went on to do some stunts, including a speed tightrope walk with a mineral water bottle atop his head, which won him thunderous applause. His success marked the birth of the first

tightrope walking world record in Kunming.

The Wanda Kunming Twin Towers, the tallest twin towers in China, is a 300-metre and 5A-rated office complex. Aisikaier walked backwards along a 100-meter-long and 150-meter-high tightrope.

John, an American teacher with a Chinese son

By Shu Wen

I have many foreign friends, and among them John is unique.

That summer, I followed the Youth Volunteers Association of my university to a village in Lancang Lahu Autonomous County of Pu'er City to work as a temporary teacher. I had dreamed of doing something meaningful for the kids. However, I had

not expected to meet such a respectable foreigner and learn such a touching story.

He is John, a forty-year-old American who speaks fluent Chinese. When I first met him, he was bathing in a swarthy boy with his eyes full of love. The little boy, Ah Liang, was five years old. He had been an orphan till John adopted him.

John used to be a back-

packer and had travelled more than half of China before he finally settled down in the magical land of Yunnan three years ago. For John, this is a fascinating land of natural beauty, simple customs and spiritual freedom. In the past three years, John has been learning Chinese while working as a volunteer teacher at a local primary school.

At first, everyone doubted

if this foreign teacher speaking Chinese with an awkward accent would stay long in such difficult conditions. However, John is determined and has won people's trust, respect and love.

When John adopted Ah Liang last year, the villagers began to accept him as "one of them". Whenever there are weddings, funerals or other special occasions, John and his adopted son would

be invited. At times, he would invite villagers home and treat them to some Chinese dishes cooked by himself. They would chat and sing around the fireplace, following a lifestyle typical of Yunnan.

Once I asked him if he would stay in Yunnan permanently. He said, "Yes, of course I will. I can't leave my students, my son and my family."

NEWS

Half of the 3rd China-South Asia Expo exhibitors coming from abroad, including Nepal

By Zhang Ruogu

In the 3rd China-South Asia Expo, up to 50 percent of the about 6,000 standard booths will be taken by foreign exhibitors, including some of the world's top 500 enterprises. In addition, the two Nepali agencies responsible for organising exhibitors have confirmed with the Executive Committee of the 3rd China-South Asia Expo that Nepal will par-

ticipate as scheduled.

The 3rd China-South Asia Expo will cover a total exhibition area of 123,000 square meters, including 12 pavilions and a 7,000-square-meter outdoor large machinery exhibition zone. So far, 24 Fortune 500 companies such as BMW, Standard Chartered Bank, Legend Holdings and China Resources have decided to make their presences, and more enterprises both at

home and abroad are registering. A record number of Japanese exhibitors will come to the 3rd China-South Asia Expo. A total of 446 companies have booked exhibition booths with the South Asia Pavilion. Also, the 3rd China-South Asia Expo will set up a special pavilion for the Great Mekong Sub-region countries, whose decoration and exhibitors will highlight the regional characteristics.

Featured industries in Yunnan inviting investments

By Zhang Zizhuo

According to the Yunnan Provincial Investment Promotion Commission, Yunnan is inviting more investments in its featured industries, such as new materials, petrochemicals, advanced equipment manufacturing, biological pharmaceuticals, automotive, electronic information,

tourism, local agriculture, retirement living and health.

Yunnan encourages private and foreign capital to cooperate with state-owned enterprises in forms of incremental investment, purchase of shares, equity replacement, etc. to achieve equity diversification and combination of various organizational forms. Yunnan

also encourages foreign capital to invest in its modern agriculture, high and new technology, advanced manufacturing, energy conservation and environmental protection, new energies, modern service industry and other fields in forms of mergers and acquisitions, equity investment, venture investment, BOT, TOT, PPP and so on.

TRAVEL

The Jinping Butterfly Valley



Photo by Li Shunfen

By Li Shunfen

The Jinping Butterfly Valley was unknown to the outside world until 2009, when the Chinese National Geography magazine published a

piece of news about that two experts had discovered hundreds of species of butterflies in a valley in Jinping county, Honghe Hani and Yi Autonomous Prefecture.

In order to protect the beautiful scenery, Honghe

Prefecture has specially set up the China Honghe Butterfly Valley and Hani Terraced Field Administration Centre, the world's first administrative body devoted to the protection of butterflies. Then on October 11, 2012, the local regulations on the protection of butterflies were also introduced. According to Yang Zhenwen, director of the Administration Centre, the butterfly outbreaks happen every three to five years and last from early May to late June. This year, Jinping witnessed one of the largest butterfly outbreaks, which assembled an estimated 300 million butterflies."

SPECIAL REPORT

Economic circles: Yunnan enterprises advised to invest in Bangladesh

Editor's Note: On May 11, Yunnan Daily Press Group launched the "Ancient Southern Silk Road, New Pivot of China's Opening-up" joint interview programme. In weeks, 6 all-media teams from the Group have been heading for over 10 South and Southeast Asian countries on reporting missions. On the launching day, the first team arrived in Bangladesh and spent 5 days on reporting missions. In the recent editions of Beautiful Yunnan, we will devote a special column to telling readers about Bangladesh in the eyes of Chinese reporters. And this is the second story.

By Wang Jing

On May 13, the "Southern Silk Road, New Pivot of China's opening-up" joint interviewing group to Bangladesh came to the Chinese Embassy in Bangladesh. When Wang Zijian, Economic and Commercial Counsellor, was interviewed, he frankly said, "Bangladesh is now in the development stage, and it is high time for Yunnan enterprises to make investments

in the country."

Relevant data shows that, thanks to its economic policies, Bangladesh has been maintaining a GDP growth rate of around six percent for 10 consecutive years. With a population of 160 million, Bangladesh offers a great market potential and has attracted the investments of many Chinese enterprises. In 2014, according to the statistics of the Chinese Ministry of Commerce, the Chinese

direct investment in Bangladesh amounted to more than \$ 50 million, which has gone into garments, textiles, ceramics, decorations, drinking water, healthcare, home appliances, light industry and other industries, but has mainly gone into garments, textiles and related machinery and equipment.

For example, Huawei is one of the Chinese enterprises to invest in Bangladesh. In 2006, Huawei

set up Huawei Technologies (Bangladesh) Ltd., which has grown into a 700-plus-employee company in the past decade. Besides providing high quality services to local customers, Huawei Technologies (Bangladesh) Ltd. has also made its due contributions to the local economy. So far, it has created a total of more than 10,000 jobs indirectly.

"There are more than a hundred Chinese companies

in Bangladesh, but none of them is from Yunnan," said Wang Zijian not without regret. He told us that given the positive attitude of Bangladesh, it is high time for Yunnan enterprises to make investments in Bangladesh, and Yunnan enterprises can seek cooperation projects in terms of the interconnectivity brought about by the BCIM Economic Corridor. For instance, Bangladesh is short of power while Yunnan is abundant in

power, so both sides can cooperate in this respect. Also, new energy projects are popular in Bangladesh. In addition, Bangladesh is rich in tourism resources, such as the world's longest beach, the world's largest mangrove forest and Sylhet tea garden, so Yunnan and Bangladesh can increase tourism exchanges and cooperation.

In Bangladesh, exports to developed American and European countries can

enjoy the zero-tariff policy; there is no quota restriction; the taxes are very low; and the labour costs are just one tenth that in China. Therefore, many Chinese companies are investing in and doing business with Bangladesh. In 2012, some Yunnan enterprises came to seek cooperation with Bangladesh in the fields of the Internet and energies, and the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of the Chinese Embassy in

Bangladesh recommended some projects, but in the end these projects were not implemented due to various reasons.

According to Li Jun, CFO of Huawei Technologies (Bangladesh) Ltd., the local government welcomes foreign investors to join them in developing Bangladesh for the benefit of local people. Besides doing business, the companies should also bear some social responsibility.