



350,000 Chinese students study in Belt and Road countries

Statistics shows that more than 350,000 Chinese students have studied in the Belt and Road countries since 2012. The data also shows that as of April this year, China has signed 45 bilateral and multilateral cooperation agreements with relevant countries and has signed diploma mutual recognition agreements with 24 countries. **"India is my second home"**

Chinese girl Wang Sihan thinks that study in India is no coincidence. When she was a child, an aunt showed her an Indian black and white movie. That was her first time to hear India. When she grew up, she chose to learn Hindi language and studied Hindi for two years in China. "If I do not come to India to communicate with local people, my Hindi can never be improved," she said firmly. So she came to India to study by herself a few years ago.

At school, she experienced that men are superior to women in India. She found that even if a female student has the bilingual advantage of English and Hindi, people still choose to listen to a male student who doesn't under-



Chinese students have a class at Singapore's Nanyang Technological University. (Photo by Zhang Ke)

stand English. But even so, the culture difference is hard to hide from Wang Sihan's fondness for India.

"You may not accept when you are exposed to it at first, but you can make some adjustments for it." Today, Wang Sihan works for an Indian company. When being asked about what difficulties she had encountered, she thought for a moment and found no answer. And later

she added, "I have been staying in India for too long and I think of it as my home."

Passionate Turk
Li Hao studied for a dual degree in English and Journalism in China. After graduation, he worked for an engineering design institute in China as a business manager and later was dispatched to Ankara, the capital Turkey. Two years later, he met a bottleneck in his career and

wanted to advance his study locally. That started his journey of studying in Turkey.

The Turkish enthusiasm soon adjusted him to the local life. "Turkish people are pretty talkative. A cup of black tea or Turkish coffee can keep them talking for a couple of hours. Being in touch with my Turkish classmates for long not only improved my Turkish language on the one hand, and help me to be more

involved in the daily life of the Turks on the other hand." Li Hao is very grateful to his Turkish classmates.

An unforgettable New Year's Eve

Wang Chencheng came to Thailand last year. After failed in applying a postgraduate program in China, he thought about going abroad to study in a comparatively affordable country and came down to Thailand by chance. In just over a month, he successfully applied to a master programme in Thailand and then immediately packed up and set foot on the journey of studying abroad. The courses are taught in English and Wang Chencheng could not even speak one Thai word before he came to Thailand. Now he is using his spare time to teach himself the language.

The busy Thailand left a lingering impression on Wang Chencheng's mind. "On New Year's Eve, roads near the night market were all closed. A platform was set up in the street. A Thailand singer was singing and there were huge crowds of people," said Wang Chencheng.

(Huang Shiya/People's Daily overseas edition)

Young Asian teachers and scientists in China

Uniardo is 26 years old and was born on the island of Java in Indonesia. He never expected he would one day come to Beijing and stay for two years.

In 2015, Uniardo found an opportunity to work in China and teach Indonesian language and culture at Beijing Foreign Studies University. During his classes, Uniardo does not limit his instruction to just grammar, but instead combines aspects of Indonesian history, society and culture into his lessons so that students can develop a vivid impression of his motherland.

As China continues to increase educational partnerships with countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative, many young people like Uniardo are actively engaging in relevant exchanges and other cooperative endeavors.

Cylimy, a woman from Myanmar, has come to China through the Afro-Asian Talented Young Scientists Programme of the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology. She later joined a "biological decontamination" project at the Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics in 2015.

According to Cai Jialing, deputy director of the Department of International Cooperation at the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology, since the Afro-Asian Talented Young Scientists Programme was first launched in 2013, more than 200 young scientists from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Mongolia, Egypt and other countries have come to China on scientific exchanges. "The programme has greatly promoted exchanges between scientific and technical personnel working in Belt and Road countries. It has also cultivated a large number of high-level international scientific and technical experts."

In the future, the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology will enhance scientific and technological exchanges between China and countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative. This will happen by carrying out more science-oriented people-to-people exchanges and cooperative efforts, the joint construction of laboratories and science and technology parks and carrying out technological transfers.

(Fei Lienna/Xinhua News Agency)

Sharing stories saves us from stereotypes

I grew up in California, and had visited Shanghai when I was in elementary school. I watched Nickelodeon and read my city's local magazine — none of which ever mentioned China.

I made a list of "dislikes" upon my arrival to Shanghai: heat, crowds, not many youth sports teams, poor internet connection, impolite people and pollution. China's underdevelopment was my single story.

A few years passed, and I began to understand how wrong my single story was. I realized that if I had not lived in China, and if all I knew about China was from American media, perhaps I too would think that China was a place of job-stealers, polluters, and corrupters in big cities.

As Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie says, "The single story creates stereotypes, and the problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete. They make one story become the only story."

However, single stories are not always negative. Due to the influence of American media, many Chinese hear positive stories about the US. A friend told me that many Chinese have the misconception that since the US is a developed country, it must be very safe. Thus, many are surprised to learn that in major US cities, people are cautioned not to walk on the streets after dark.

In fact, having two of the world's largest economies, it would be beneficial for both China and the US to have a strong understanding of each other instead of undermining each other. This is currently happening.

The degree to which people believe in a single story is based on the amount and diversity of stories they hear. So to those who have the opportunity to experience Chinese culture first-hand: ask questions and share stories.

We may realize that we share more than we think. I hope that one-day, America's answer to "What is China like?" is beyond a single story. (Allison Zhu, Shanghai Daily)

Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture to celebrate 60th anniversary

Ma Zhe

The journalist learned from a recent press conference in Kunming that Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture is going to celebrate its 60th anniversary of the founding of the prefecture on September 12-15.

At that time, Diqing ethnic song and dance party, the 60th anniversary

celebration and large artistic performances will be held. In addition, there will be a series of activities including investment promotion seminar, tourism promotion event, specialty productions exhibition, and achievement exhibition of the prefecture's 60th anniversary, and calligraphy and photography exhibition.

On the 13th of Sep-

tember, 1957, Diqing, the only Tibetan autonomous prefecture in Yunnan province, was established. In the past 60 years, Diqing's social and economics have developed rapidly. The regional GDP has increased to 2.76 billion US Dollars in 2016 from 1.88 million yuan in 1957, ranking the 3rd among the prefectures and cities in the whole province.

China-Myanmar cross-border day tours resume

Liu Ziyu

A few days ago, six Chinese tourists went through cross-border formalities and exited China via the landport of Ruili for a day tour to Myan-

mar's Muse. They were the first batch of tourists to take the tour since Ruili resumed cross-border tours.

Such tours were suspended November 21, 2016 and then resumed

July 10, 2017. The destination of the day tours is Muse in Myanmar. Over the coming days, the number of cross-border tourists from Ruili to Muse is expected to increase.

Ecological corridor, a life passage for wild animals

Zhu Jinlei

There is an ecological corridor located between Yunnan Gaoligong Mountains National Nature Reserve and Longling Xiaoheishan Provincial Nature Reserve. Before, the two nature reserves were separate and the wild animals were not able to "visiting each other". In October 1996, the ecological corridor was put under the administration of Gaoligongshan National Nature Reserve so that it can be protected and managed according to the management model for nature reserves.

The "ecological corridor" has been established for protecting the ecosystem of primitive forests between the two nature reserves. The reserves provides a secure habitat for the state protected Gaoligong Mountains wild animals and plants such as gibbons, presbytis, phayrei, Assamese macaque, stump-tailed macaque, pig tailed macaques, small panda, black bear, aleimandra cathearti, and so on to avoid the interference from human factors." said Zhang Fuyong, the deputy director of Baoshan Nature Reserve Administration Bureau. The more



A small panda in Gaoligong Mountains Nature Reserve. (File photo)

important is that the ecological corridor has enlarged the area of wildlife activity and has increased the diversity of species and their populations. Small pandas in the high altitude area of Gaoligong Mountains Nature Reserve move along the ecological corridor to Xiaoheishan Provincial Nature Reserve while the slow loris in the low altitude area of Xiaoheishan move along the ecological corridor to Gaoligong Mountains Nature Reserve. Zhang Fuyou said, "This won't happen before. In the ecological corridor, the presbytis phayrei has been increased from 4 groups of 130 to 7 groups of 200."

A great quantity of data and cases indicate that the ecological corridor has changed the isolation and fragmentation of wildlife habitat. The habitat quality of wildlife animals in Gaoligong Mountains has improved obviously with their population returned to growth. The species successfully move in and out and means a wildlife path is formed. It has been highly regarded by Chinese and foreign experts as a model for a successful construction of the ecological corridor in China," said Jiang Ming, director of Gaoligong Mountains National Nature Reserve Baoshan Administration Bureau.

HSR boosts Puzhehei tourism

Yang Xi

July is a peak season in the Puzhehei scenic area, 13 kilometers northwest of Qiubei county, Wenshan Zhuang and Miao Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan province. You can see many of the tourists taking photos at the lotus land even in the early morning.

Puzhehei is a scenic spot with many places for camping among areas surrounded by big lakes which are very popular with visitors. Its beauty lies not only in its natural landscape such as karst lakes, peaks and canyon views, but also in ancient rock paintings and unique ethnic customs.

As the shooting place of the hit Chinese TV drama Ten Miles of Peach



Picturesque scenery in Puzhehei. (Photo by Xu Yan)

Blossoms, Puzhehei saw big increase in tourist inflow in the past several months this year. Plus, it is benefiting from the operation of the high-speed rail, which facilitates visitor coming to the scenic spot.

Statistics shows that

the Puzhehei scenic area welcomed over 1.7 million tourists in the first half of 2017, an increase of 23.3 percent year-on-year. The earnings from tourism was about 4.34 million US dollars, a year-on-year rise of 108%.

Relief sculpture museum integrates tradition with new technology

Yang Qingwang

Walking into Chen's Relief Sculpture Museum located in Yuxi City, hundreds of relief sculpture works reflecting rural life, town fair trade, rural scenery and folk customs all tell different stories.

Chen Baogui, a 62 year-old farmer entrepreneur, has dedicated to solid wood relief creation for over 30 years to record the local customs and history. He has extensively collected folk culture relics and built the museum with a collection of 150 thousand pieces.

"Collection is my hobby. These traditional cultural relics need to be protected and carried on. Each piece of relics has its own story. I collect the cultural relics and make them out of new materials by joining the cultural connotation so that it becomes a cultural product. Its value will be improved as well," said Chen Baogui.

Following Chen Baogui, the journalist came to Yuxi Hongta Aluminum Plant. The unique aluminum alloy classical home furnishings, doors and windows with decorations are full of classical taste, the same as wood furnishings.

"To replace traditional wood by aluminum alloy for doors and windows that are not only increase their durability but also become environmental friendly." Chen Baogui said that aluminum alloy classical art decorations continue the connotation of China's unique wooden products, traditional designs and the artistic meaning of carved decorative style.

To restore its original arts and highlight the craftsmanship, in the making process, in addition to the surface treatment of wood-grained aluminum alloy material, the classical art craftsman has also been widely used. The traditional processing skills such as tenon joint, save, plug, engraving, overlap joint, chamfered joint and so on that gradually fade out of sight are perfectly reproduced.

Chen Baogui said, "I want to do the protection, inheritance, development and creation of traditional cultural arts. I will lay a good foundation for later generations to know the value of the traditional culture by extending to cultural products from cultural relics so that these traditions can be carried on."



Railcar maker CRRC Qingdao Sifang said recently that it had produced a prototype mounted monorail train with a maximum operational speed of 70 km per hour, the fastest of its kind in China. Driven by a permanent magnet motor, the experimental train runs along an overhead monorail. Liu Yuwen, deputy head of the company's technology center, said that the train can be composed of three or five train cars, with a passenger transport capacity of 300 and 510 people, respectively. The mounted monorail system is suitable for passenger transport in scenery areas, mountainous regions and urban areas where road traffic is heavy. (Photo by Zhang Xu dong/Xinhua)

China-Laos Railway makes a major breakthrough

On the 18th of July, the first tunnel of Yuxi-Mohan railway—No.3 Songxiang tunnel built by China Railway Eighteen Group was successfully holed through. This marks a major breakthrough in the construction of the China and Laos international railway domestic section.

The total length of the tunnel is 220 meters. The geology is complex and

changeable that made the construction difficult. The construction started on 5th of April this year. After more than 100 days of hard slogging, it finally went through.

The China-Laos Railway starts from Kunming, via Yuxi, Pu'er and Xishuangbanna, across the border at Mohan-Moding between the two countries and finally reaches Lao capital Vientiane.

The total length is about 1000 kilometers. At present, the whole line construction has been started. When the construction is completed, it only takes three hours from Kunming to Jinghong of Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture. It is expected to set off in the evening and arrive the next morning from Kunming to Vientiane. (Zhang Weiming/CNR)