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CONTENTS

**Friendly Contacts**

Former US President Bush Visits China .....	Ba Cuicui 2
Li Yuanchao Meets with Australia's Victoria Governor John Brumby .....	Qing Boming 3
Sino-Burundian Friendship Association Delegation's First Visit to China .....	Tang Ruimin 21

**Forums**

Forum on China-Russia Trade and Economic Relations Held in Beijing .....	Chen Lei 5
China-Hungary Friendship Cities Conference Held in Budapest .....	Hao Xiaosong 10

**In Other Lands**

Notes on a Visit to Israel and Palestine by CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin and Her Party ...	Jia Ling 7
Chinese Goodwill Delegation Visits Jordan and Israel .....	Xu Yan 12
CPAFFC Delegation Attends Celebration of 50th Anniversary of Poland-China Friendship Association .....	Lu Yanxia 14
CPAFFC Delegation Led by Vice President Li Xiaolin Visits Japan .....	Wang Heshan 17
CPAFFC Delegation Visits Singapore, Laos and Vietnam .....	Xu Yiyi 19
CPAFFC Cultural Exchange Working Group Visits Switzerland, Germany and Greece . . .	Wang Qing 22
China Folk Shadow Play Performing Group in Austria and Germany .....	Wang Wei 24

**Friendship Activities**

Second Council Meeting of China-Arab Friendship Association Held .....	Our Staff Reporter 25
Citi Innovative English Teaching Competition Final Held .....	Jiang Yingshan 26
Spending the Spring Festival in Mianzhu—Home of Chinese New Year Pictures .....	Chuan You 28
<i>Great and Boundless Love</i> —Evening Party in Commemoration of 110th Anniversary of Birth of Premier Zhou Enlai Held .....	Gong Zengying 29

**They Will Live in Our Hearts Forever**

Dick Pastor: A Life Devoted to US-China Friendship .....	Zhang Yan 30
Cherish the Memory of International Fighter Morzec Shippe .....	Luo Yisu 31

<b>The Blue Danube</b> .....	Gu Zixin 33
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**Front cover:** *Great and Boundless Love*—Evening Party in Commemoration of the 110th Anniversary of the Birth of Premier Zhou Enlai, jointly-sponsored by the CPAFFC, Michael Eric Bosman Hotung Foundation of Hong Kong and the National Centre for the Performing Arts held in Beijing (March 4, 2008)

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# Former US President Bush Visits China

**Ba Cuicui**

At the invitation of CPAFFC, former US President George H.W. Bush and his wife visited Beijing, Hong Kong and Shanghai from March 5 to 11. Chinese President Hu Jintao, former President Jiang Zemin, CPPCC Vice Chairman Tung Chee Hwa, Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi met with him respectively. CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin accompanied Bush in Beijing and Shanghai. During his stay in Beijing, Bush attended the World Leader's East Asia Symposium organized by Harvard Alumni Association and delivered a keynote speech. While in Shanghai, he was present at the christening ceremony of the ship "Texas" launched by the MV Orient Overseas Container Line Limited (OOCL).

President Hu Jintao spoke highly of the development of China-US relations in recent years and expressed his appreciation for Bush's care and consis-

tent support for developing China-US relations as well as the friendship between the two peoples. He emphasized that sound and stable China-US relationship is not only in the common interest of the two countries but also of great significance to the peace and development of Asia-Pacific Region and the world at large. China wishes to work together with the U.S. to properly handle differences and major concerns through dialogue and negotiation on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit so as to expand exchanges and cooperation in all fields and promote the healthy and stable development of China-US constructive cooperative relationship. President Hu also briefed Bush on Chinese Government's consistent stand on the question of Taiwan and the preparations for the Beijing Olympic Games.

Bush said he always believes that US-China

**(Continued on p.36)**

**Jiang Zemin meeting with former US President Bush and his party**



# Li Yuanchao Meets with Australia's Victoria Governor John Brumby

## Qing Boming

**L**i Yuanchao, member of the Political Bureau and head of the Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee, met with John Brumby, governor of Victoria State of Australia, and his party on February 15, 2008. Li Xiaolin, vice president of the CPAFFC, Gao Shiqi, secretary general of the Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee, and Liu Jieyi, assistant foreign minister, were present at the meeting.

Li Yuanchao said, currently Sino-Australian relations are developing smoothly with frequent high-ranking exchanges of visits

and increasingly strengthened mutual political trust. During his successful visit to Australia last September, President Hu Jintao and the Australian leaders reached important consensus on the development of bilateral relations, injecting new vitality into the relationship. After Kevin Rudd was elected prime minister of Australia, Premier Wen Jiabao was one of the first foreign state leaders to send messages of congratulations to him. Li believed that with the concerted efforts of the governments and people of the two countries bilateral relations would surely make greater

development.

Li said, since Jiangsu Province and Victoria State twinned friendship-province/state relations in 1979, they have carried out extensive exchanges and cooperation in the economic, cultural, sports, educational and health fields. This time Governor Brumby would visit Jiangsu again, hoping to further promote friendly relations between the two localities. Li said, ten years ago I visited Victoria State and Melbourne, whose beautiful scenery left a good impression on me. I have a deep affection for my home place Jiangsu. Jiangsu and

**Li Yuanchao (L. 6), member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, meeting with John Brumby, governor of Victoria, Australia**



Victoria are both the economically most developed areas in their respective countries, and close cooperation between them will surely further promote the development of relations between the two countries.

Governor Brumby said, the many visits he has paid to China have made him feel quite familiar with the country. This time he came to China for the first time in the capacity of governor since he assumed the post last July. While in Beijing, his delegation had meaningful discussions with various Chinese departments concerned mainly on the sustainable development which was becoming a more and more important issue. Prime Minister Kevin Rudd attaches great importance to this issue. His first overseas visit was to attend the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali, Indonesia. During his delegation's visit in China, in its talks with the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Water Resources and at the forum jointly held by the Australian side and the China Association of Small and Medium Enterprises, the two sides focused their discussion on sustainable development. Australia and China have their respective advantages and cooperation between the two sides in the field of sustainable development, particularly clean energy has great potentials.

Li said, China is now at the stage of rapid development and faces a severe test, i.e. how to make this speedy development sustainable. The most striking

problem China is facing is that its own resources plus those it can import from other countries are insufficient to support it in carrying on its current mode of development. So far, an effective way of controlling pollution caused by the large scale of industrial construction has not yet been found in China, a big country with a population of 1.3 billion people.

Li said, in the past, Australia with less fertile land than China was not a very liveable continent. But through the concerted efforts of the Australian people including immigrants from all over the world, Australia is now becoming more and more suitable for living. About 3,000 to 5,000 years ago, China was a good human habitat where Chinese civilization was originated. Owing to the vicissitude of nature, especially wars and other man-caused damages, China is not as liveable as it used to be. Thousands of years ago, the loess plateau in China's northwest used to be covered by forests, but now only loess and bushes are left in many places. The famous Silk Road used to be a green belt, but now it has become deserts. Thus, we not only need to produce grain, cloth, automobiles and other daily necessities, we need all the more to protect our environment. We hope through efforts of several generations to again make China a place more suitable for living. What China needs to do now is much more difficult than what Australia does. A populous China with less land per capita has many problems peculiar to itself. The country is now working

hard to find ways to solve them and earnestly learning advanced experience from other countries. Australia started to tackle these problems earlier than China and has much good experience worth learning by China. Li hoped that relevant departments of the two countries would strengthen contacts and cooperation in realizing sustainable development. To do a good job in environmental protection and sustainable development will be a great contribution to the development of human society.

Governor Brumby said, Australia is also facing the challenges confronting China, though they are not as serious as those China is facing. The best way to solve these problems is to make scientific researches and technological innovation. He said, at present, Victoria and Jiangsu have carried out fruitful cooperation. The year 2009 marks the 30th anniversary of the twinning of friendship ties between them, and the two sides will hold a series of activities to celebrate it. □



# Forum on China-Russia Trade and Economic Relations Held in Beijing

**Chen Lei**

The Forum on China-Russia Trade and Economic Relations with the theme of “Current Situation, Potential and Prospects of China-Russia Economic and Trade Cooperation” jointly sponsored by the China-Russia Friendship Association (CRFA) and the Russia-China Friendship Association (RCFA) was held in Beijing from January 26 to 27, 2008. At the forum, the current situation, existing problems in the development of Sino-Russian economic and trade relations, ways to tackle them and other matters of interest to both sides were discussed.

On the morning of January 26, the opening ceremony of the forum was held. Chen Haosu, CPAFFC president; Li Jianping, CPAFFC vice president; Chen Yuan, president of China Development Bank (CDB); Liu Su, executive vice president of the CRFA; Sergey Razov, Russian ambassador to China; Nikolai I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the Commission on Natural Monopolies of the Russian Federation Council; Igor A. Rogachev, member of the Russian Federation Council; Mikhail Titarenko, president of the RCFA, and Sergey S. Tsyplakov, Russian trade representa-

tive in China, attended the opening ceremony and spoke on the occasion. The opening ceremony was presided over by Zhu Jiamu, vice president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Over 100 people including officials in charge of relevant departments of the Ministry of Commerce, Jilin Province and Jilin City, council members of the CRFA, scholars from the Policy Research Office of the CPC Central Committee, the Development Research Centre of the State Council and the Institute of East European, Russian and Central Asian Studies under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, as well as representatives of the Russian local governments, scholars of relevant research and educational institutions and businessmen attended the opening ceremony.

In his speech CPAFFC President Chen Haosu spoke highly of the great achievements made in the Year of Russia and the Year of China held respectively by China and Russia in the past two years and stressed that the principle of promoting official ties through people-to-people contact and promoting political relations through economic and trade contact

**CPAFFC President Chen Haosu with Russian VIPs at the forum**







**The Forum on China-Russia Trade and Economic Relations in session**

must be carried out earnestly so as to effectively remove the difficulties currently existing in China-Russia relations. Chen Yuan, president of the CDB, said, both China and Russia have maintained sustained economic growth, and bilateral cooperation in the financial field has made noticeable progress. Ambassador Razov said, the Year of China and the Year of Russia successfully held by the two countries in the past two years have greatly deepened mutual understanding between the two peoples. Bilateral cooperation in all fields has seen a leap in both quantity and quality. Remarkable achievements have been made in economic and trade cooperation. Bilateral trade volumes have sustained a steady growth, thus opening a bright prospect for further deepening Russia-China strategic partnership of coordination. The problems existing in bilateral economic and trade cooperation should be solved through making joint efforts to fully exchange views and adhere to the principle of consultations on an equal footing.

At the opening of the forum a ceremony for signing the agreement on setting up 156 Russian high-tech projects in China was held. The projects involve areas of energy conservation, medical and biological engineering, new materials, environmental protection, agriculture, etc.

At the forum the Chinese and Russian scholars had warm discussions, fully affirmed the achievements made in China-Russia economic and trade cooperation in recent years and unanimously held that

the past decade saw a normal development of the bilateral economic and trade relations, but there also existed problems which should not be neglected and need to be summed up and pondered over.

Both sides held, cooperation in energy is an important component of bilateral economic and trade cooperation. As the two countries are neighbours, cooperation in energy has obvious geographic advantages. Both countries attach great importance to cooperation in this field and have achieved results. Meanwhile, they should vigorously strengthen cooperation in science and technology and further improve and upgrade the traditional trade structure. The Chinese and Russian localities are now directly developing their cooperative relations, which have become more and more clearly important in the economic and trade relations between the two countries and have a direct bearing on their in-depth development. Bilateral cooperation in agriculture has attracted greater attention. The participants at the forum put forward suggestions on jointly reclaiming Russia's unused land to grow soy beans, etc.

The 156 Russian high-tech projects to be set up in China symbolize the 156 industrial projects aided by the Soviet Union in the early days of new China. These projects will be implemented through such ways as transfer of packages of technologies by the Sino-Russian Trading Co., Ltd. and the Russia-China Trade and Economic Cooperation Centre set up by the Chinese and Russian nongovernmental organizations. □

# Notes on a Visit to Israel and Palestine

## By CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin

### And Her Party

**Jia Ling**

It was midwinter in Beijing in January with piercingly cold north wind blowing. When people had completed a year of busy work and were preparing to greet the arrival of the Spring Festival of the Year of the Rat, a CPAFFC delegation headed by its vice president Li Xiaolin paid a goodwill visit to Israel and Palestine, countries that were both familiar and mysterious to us. The visit was made at the invitation of the Council for the Promotion of Israel-China Relations and the Palestine-China Friendship Association.

#### **The City of Peace Yarns for Peace**

Jerusalem, a name attracting much attention of the world, means "city of peace" in Hebrew. But it has been linked to war, conflict, violence, terror and bloodshed since ancient times. Peace seems to be only a beautiful dream.

Jerusalem is a hilly city. Vice President Li Xiaolin and her party stayed at a five-star hotel in downtown Jerusalem. Looking out of the windows, we saw rows upon rows of yellowish and white houses circled by roads scattered beyond in graceful disorder. The Al-Aqsa Mosque regarded as the sacred mosque by Muslims of the whole world and the Temple

Mount longed for by all Jews the world over were visible in the distance.

Arranged by our host, we visited the Old City of Jerusalem. The atmosphere there was not as tense and horrifying as we had imagined. The streets were swarmed with people, where pedlars hawking their wares and foreign tourists bargaining for better prices. It was a bustling and peaceful scene. Walking passed us were Muslims wrapped up from head to toe in their long garments, Jews wearing the long black coat and hat and sporting their special side-whiskers, and a group of Christians carrying a cross filing towards a church. They walked by with hurried steps, busy with their own business. We heard from time to time the chime of church bells and the call to prayer from minarets. We were only reminded that we were in Jerusalem when we came across heavy and cold roadblocks and police armed with loaded guns.

Going through the bustling Arab market, we arrived at the Wailing Wall where Jews came to pray. We saw many men and women praying there piously. I believed that many of them must be praying for the realization of final peace between Israel and Palestine. We also wrote down

our best wishes for the people of all countries and our aspirations for world peace on a strip of paper and put it into a crack in the wall.

#### **Strive for Peace**

A Palestine-Israel conflict, the largest in recent years, broke out in Gaza the next day of our arrival in Israel. Dozens of Palestinians including Hamas leader Mahmoud Zahar's son died in the conflict, which enraged the Palestinians who pledged to revenge. The situation was very tense.

At his meeting with Vice President Li Xiaolin and her party, Israeli President Shimon Peres who is also honorary president of the Council for the Promotion of Israel-China Relations looked solemn and expressed his worries about the loss to both Israel and Palestine caused by the conflict and the negative effect it would bring to the Middle East peace process. This Nobel peace laureate, referred to as the architect of the Middle East peace process, was 85 year old. He still took as his ceaseless pursuit the promotion of Middle East peace process to achieve peace between Israel and its neighbour. He said, though Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat who share the Nobel Peace Prize with him had passed away, he would continue his efforts and



**Israeli President Shimon Peres having a cordial conversation with CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin**

strive for the realization of peace.

President Peres is an old friend of the Chinese people. He has made unremitting efforts to promote the friendly and cooperative relations between Israel and China during his tenure of office as prime minister and foreign minister of Israel. In April 1998, he led a delegation of the Council of the Promotion of Israel-China

Relations to visit China at the invitation of the CPAFFC and was received by Chinese President Jiang Zemin. He said to Vice President Li Xiaolin, as the most important people-to-people friendship organization in China, the CPAFFC has made untiring efforts over the years to enhance understanding and friendship between the people of Israel and

China and cooperation in various fields between the two sides, which has achieved great success. He expressed the hope that the CPAFFC would make greater contributions to the realization of world peace and the strengthening of friendship among the people of the world. Li Xiaolin said, youth are the future of the world. The CPAFFC would host, at an appro-

**Palestinian National Authority President Mahmoud Abbas meeting with CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin and her party**





priate time in China, a world youth friendship and peace forum with the aim of increasing understanding and friendship among the youth of all countries and expressing to the world the aspirations of the youth for regional and world peace. Students from various countries including Israel and Arab countries would be invited. Through such interaction among youth, we hope to remove misunderstanding and further exchanges among them. President Peres expressed his appreciation and said that he would pay a visit to the CPAFFC when he came to Beijing to attend the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games.

### **No Appointment Needed**

The tight itinerary gave us only half a day in Palestine. Our friends in the Palestine-China Friendship Association arranged for us many meetings including those with Nimer Hamad, political adviser to the Palestinian National Authority President, Abdallah Al-Frangi, general commis-

sioner of Foreign Relation Commission of Fatah, Dr. Said Abu Ali, governor of Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate, and Janette Nicholas Michael, mayor of Ramallah. We did not expect to meet Palestinian National Authority President Mahmoud Abbas as a large-scale bloodshed had taken place just a short time before and he must have a lot of pressing affairs to attend to. No sooner than we arrived in Ramallah, the seat of the Palestinian National Authority, we were informed that President Abbas would meet with the delegation.

Upon arriving at the office of the Palestinian Authority President, we learned that President Abbas' office was located in the building where the late President Arafat had lived and worked and where he had been held under virtual house arrest by Israel. Walking into the simple reception room, we saw portraits of President Arafat and President Abbas on the wall in front of us. "Where are our Chinese friends?" a

sonorous voice reached us before we got seated. With it, a hale and hearty old man with grey hair entered the room. He was Mahmoud Abbas, president of the Palestinian National Authority whom we often saw on television.

President Abbas extended welcome and thanks to Li Xiaolin for leading the delegation to visit Palestine under such circumstances, saying that this was the concrete embodiment of the Chinese people's support for the Palestinian people. He spoke highly of and expressed gratitude to the Chinese Government and people for their consistent support and selfless assistance to the Palestinian people's struggle for the restoration of their legitimate rights, and thanked the CPAFFC for organizing activities marking the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People designated by the United Nations on November 29 every year for decades on end. President Abbas also happily spoke about his good feelings towards China and what

**The delegation laying a wreath at the tomb of President Arafat**



# China-Hungary Friendship City Conference Held in Budapest

**Hao Xiaosong**



**CPAFFC President Chen Haosu speaking at the China-Hungary Friendship City Conference**

Jointly sponsored by the CPAFFC and the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development of Hungary, the China-Hungary Friendship City Conference was held in Budapest from February 18 to 21.

One hundred and six delegates from 16 provinces and cities of China and 150 delegates from 15 Hungarian counties and cities took part in the conference. Officials of the Hungarian Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, the Ministry of Economics and Transportation, the Min-

istry of Education and Culture, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development were also present at the conference.

Chen Haosu, president of the CPAFFC, Zhang Chunxiang, Chinese ambassador to Hungary, Dr. Istvan Ujhelyi, state secretary of the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, and Dr. Huszty Andras, representative of the Prime Minister's Office, attended the conference and made speeches. Dr. Virag Rudolf, state secretary with special responsibility of the Ministry of Local Government and Re-

he had seen and heard in China. When talking about his friendship with several generations of Chinese leaders, his face beamed with excitement and happiness. He seemed, for the moment, forgetting the bombing, death and

bloodshed happened shortly before. Time flew quickly. The scheduled half-an-hour meeting proceeded for almost an hour. As we stood up to take our leave, President Abbas, holding Li Xiaolin by her hand, said:

“China is the most sincere friend of Palestine. Please tell our Chinese friends that the door of my office is always open to them and that no appointment is needed when they want to see me.” □



**The conference in session**

gional Development, presided over the conference.

In his speech, President Chen Haosu highly appraised the development of Sino-Hungarian relations, and pointed out continuously strengthening practical cooperation between local governments would effectively enrich the content of friendly cooperative relationship between the two countries. The CPAFFC greatly appreciates the Hungarian counterparts' initiative in holding the conference, and fully supports it, hoping local governments of the two countries will further expand fields of cooperation.

Ambassador Zhang Chunxiang said, in recent years the bilateral relations between China and Hungary have witnessed a healthy and sustained development, during which leaders of the two countries exchanged visits and exchanges in various fields have become more frequent and made satisfactory achievements. He hoped the conference would help promote mutual understanding and broaden cooperation.

State Secretary Dr. Istvan Ujhelyi praised the rapid development of China's economy and its achievements, and expressed the willingness of Hungary to become China's cooperative partner and conduct all-round cooperation with China in the fields of economy, trade, culture, etc.

The three-day conference consisted of plenary sessions and workshops. At the plenary sessions, representatives of China and Hungary made interesting speeches. Representatives from Beijing, Shanghai,

Sichuan Province and Harbin spoke respectively on the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, the Shanghai World Expo 2010, China Western development and the rejuvenation of old industrial base in North-East China. Representatives from 7 regions of Hungary briefed the participants on the basic facts of their regions. Officials of the ministries talked about their cooperation with Chinese counterparts. The participants of both countries held discussions in 5 workshops on economy and investment, regional development, housing and urban construction, tourism and sports.

On the morning of February 19, president Chen Haosu and State Secretary Dr. Istvan Ujhelyi presided over a press conference, and Chinese Ambassador Zhang Chunxiang and Political Counsellor Liang Caide were present. During the conference, President Chen Haosu met with leaders of the Hungarian-Chinese Friendship Association and Hungarian People's Friendship Association, bringing closer cooperation between the Chinese and Hungarian friendship organizations. □



# Chinese Goodwill Delegation Visits Jordan and Israel

**Xu Yan**

A Chinese Goodwill Delegation led by Jing Dunquan, vice president of the CPAFFC visited Jordan and attended the International Conference of Sister Cities and Municipal Organizations in Israel from March 5 to 17 at the invitation of the Jordan-China Friendship Society (JCFS) and the Union of Local Authorities in Israel (ULAI). The 57-member delegation included representatives from 20 provinces, cities, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government.

## **In Jordan**

The delegation met with Shihadeh Abu Hudeib, minister of municipal affairs, during its visit in Jordan. The two sides exchanged views on local government cooperation between China and Jordan. Minister Shihadeh Abu Hudeib said that exchanges between local governments of the two countries would help them to learn experience in development from each other and that by signing memorandum of understanding or through other forms, they could carry out cooperation in various fields such as exchanging visits between artists to enhance contact in the cultural field.

Chinese Ambassador to Jordan Gong Xiaosheng gave a reception welcoming the delegation, to which Minister Shihadeh

Abu Hudeib, JCFS President Fayiz Soheimat as well as public figures in economic, business and judicial circles were invited.

In Jerash, Vice Mayor Ibrahim Khalil met with the delegation and hosted a banquet in its honour. The vice mayor thanked the Chinese Government for its support for the just cause of the Arab countries and hoped that after the visit the members of the delegation would bring back the friendship of the Jordanian people, become ambassadors of friendly exchange upon returning home and do more for the cause of Jordan-China friendship.

## **International Conference of Sister Cities and Municipal Organizations**

This year sees the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel and the 70th anniversary of the ULAI. The ULAI, by holding this international conference, aimed to emphasize the role of cities and strengthen its cooperation with local governments and friendship organizations of various countries. 850 representatives from 45 countries attended the conference.

Present at the conference were Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and Minister of Interior Meir Sheetrit. In his speech, Prime Minister Olmert said, he has

served as mayor of Jerusalem for 10 years and knows deeply how important and hard the job is. Local governments are the basis of a country and reflect the desires of the people most directly. The exchanges among local governments of all countries would help promote mutual understanding and mixing of different cultures. He thanked the ULAI for providing a good opportunity for local government representatives from various countries to have exchanges.

Many of the speakers at the conference touched upon the question of carrying out exchange programmes among youth. Ms. Ruhama Avraham Balia, minister of liaison between the government and the Knesset at the Prime Minister's Office, pointed out, youth are the future decision makers. We should educate them and instill in them greater sense of responsibility for society. Many participants talked about their own cities' experience in carrying out youth exchanges. All spoke highly of "home stay" in such exchange. A local student representative and a foreign student representative from the Hebrew University of Israel were specially invited to speak at the closing ceremony of the conference. The students placed great hope on the mayors and believed that mayors of all countries would provide





**Shihadeh Abu Hudeib, minister of municipal affairs of Jordan, meeting with the delegation**

better conditions for youth exchanges.

Chinese representatives made four keynote speeches at the different workshops. CPAFFC Vice President Jing Dunquan made a comprehensive briefing on CPAFFC's work of establishing friendship-city relations with foreign countries and expressed welcome to participants from all countries to come to Beijing to attend the First Conference of International Friendship Cities in Chi-

na which would be held this year. Yiyang City in Hunan Province is the hometown of Mr. He Fengshan (Feng Shan Ho). In 2001, the Government of Israel conferred posthumously the title of Righteous Among the Nations on He Fengshan in recognition of his outstanding contributions to protecting the Jews. Wu Xiaoqin, vice mayor of Yiyang, delivered a

speech entitled "City Diplomacy—Vanguard of Peace", using the story of He Fengshan as an example. Han Bin, director of the Foreign Affairs Office of Haikou Municipal Government, briefed the participants on the achievements of the city's economic development and expressed his city's willingness to carry out friendly exchanges with cities of other

**Adi Elda, chairman of the Union of Local Authorities in Israel, meeting with CPAFFC Vice President Jing Dunquan and his party**



# CPAFFC Delegation Attends Celebration Of 50th Anniversary of Poland-China Friendship Association

**Lu Yanxia**

At the invitation of the Poland-China Friendship Association (PCFA), President Chen Haosu, heading the CPAFFC Delegation, paid a visit to Poland from February 21 to 27 and attended the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the PCFA. During the visit, President Chen Haosu met with Adam Szejnfeld, secretary of state of the Ministry of Economy, Ryszard Schnepf, deputy min-

ister of foreign affairs, and Alicja Olechowska, vice chairperson of the Poland-China Friendship Group in Parliament, and had talks with governors of the provinces of Kujawsko-Pomorskie and Gdansk-Pomorskie, and mayor of Torun City. He also met with presidents of the Poland-East Cooperation Association, the Polish Esperanto Association, the Polish Men of Letters Association, and the chairman of

countries. Jimingnanjia, vice mayor of Lhasa, gave a brief account of Lhasa to help the participants better understand the development in China's Tibet region.

The extensive contact Chinese participants had with the Israeli side during the conference achieved good results. Representatives from Yangzhou held talks with the Centre for International Cooperation under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mayor Yael German of Herzliya and reached consensus on Yangzhou sending people to Israel to attend training course and a visit to China by a Herzliya delegation of scientists, technicians and business people headed by the mayor. The two cities also decided to sign an agreement on the establishment of friendship-city relations this year. Representatives from Xiamen and the director of the Foreign Affairs Office of Netanya agreed to sign a letter of intent on the twinning of friendship ties between the two cities within the year. Representatives from Yiyang met with the head of the archive department of

Yad Vashem (the New Memorial Holocaust Museum). The two sides agreed to share documents and material about Mr. He Fengshan to enrich the exhibits of their respective museums. Representatives from Tibet Autonomous Region exchanged opinions with officials of Beit Shemesh City on its mayor's visit to China this year and the signing of the agreement on the twinning of friendship cities. Representatives from Heilongjiang Province gave a presentation on the close relations between Harbin and Israel to the Israeli media.

At the grand dinner party given by the conference, the ULAI presented the Award for Outstanding Achievements in Developing International Relations with Local Authorities in Israel to five people, two of whom were from the CPAFFC. In his speech on the occasion, Avi Rabinovitch, deputy director general of the ULAI, said, the ULAI had wanted to establish links with China before Israel and China had diplomatic relations. It came into con-

tact with the CPAFFC by chance. At the invitation of the CPAFFC, it sent a ULAI delegation to visit China, which started the sweet "love story" between the two organizations. The Israeli side is very grateful to the Chinese side for sending a big delegation to the conference.

At the closing ceremony, a declaration was adopted. It states that in society today, local government is one of the most basic tenets of democracy and platform for the future national leaders and that all municipalities and regions should set up quality measures for attractive and successful city, build a network of cooperation for dialogue, understanding and trust through city diplomacy and peace initiatives and settle disputes by peaceful means. The declaration also calls for cooperation in youth exchange and support for the reconciliation between Israel and Palestine. The declaration is a concentrated manifestation of the main themes of the conference, which are "cities, youth and Israel-Palestine relations". □

Adam Marszalek Publishing House. PCFA President Zdzislaw Goralczyk accompanied the delegation all through their visit in Poland.

### **50th Anniversary of PCFA**

On February 22, the PCFA held a commemorative meeting of the 50th anniversary of its establishment in Warsaw. Former leaders of the PCFA, and leading members and activists of the PCFA's 10 provincial and municipal branches, totaling about 100 people were present. At the meeting, President Zdzislaw Goralczyk recalled the twists and turns of the 50-year experience of the PCFA, and reiterated the aims of the organization to unswervingly promote friendship with China. He stressed that whatever difficulties the PCFA may face, its national and local organizations will persistently stand for friendship with the Chinese people and making use of all social resources to promote the cause of Poland-China friendship.

With emotion President Chen Haosu recalled the great efforts made by leaders of the old, middle-aged and young generations and activists of the PCFA in the past half a century for China-Poland friendship, and highly appraised their firm confidence in China-Poland friendship under difficult conditions and their tirelessly working for improving and expanding their organization, and holding various activities. He also enthusiastically looked to the bright future of the development of the cause of China-Poland friendship.

At the meeting, Chinese Ambassador to Poland Sun Rongmin said now it has come to a time for the two countries to have all-round cooperation between the governments, parliaments and parties, and in the fields of economy, culture and media.

The PCFA was founded in 1958. It has undergone two major ups and downs in the early 1960s and the early 1990s during which its work came to a standstill. In 2000, former Polish Ambassador to China Zdzislaw Goralczyk was elected president of the PCFA, and since then, the organization gradually resumed its work. By the end of 2007, the PCFA has established and reopened its subsidiary organizations



**CPAFFC President Chen Haosu calling on Adam Szejnfeld, secretary of state of the Polish Ministry of Economy**

in eleven provinces and cities, with hundreds of individual members and various group members including writers, artists, publishers, as well as railway, ocean transportation and tourism organizations. The quickly recovered PCFA is actively helping friendly personages of all circles and social organizations carry out exchange activities in areas of economy, trade, science and technology, culture, education, sports and tourism.

### **Polish Government and Parliament Paying Attention to China-Poland Cooperation**

In his meeting with the delegation, Adam Szejnfeld, secretary of state of the Ministry of Economy, said the Polish government attaches great importance to the friendly relations with China, and Vice Premier Zeng Peiyan's visit to Poland last January has forcefully pushed forward the development of bilateral relations. The Polish Ministry of Economy is in charge of the establishment of friendship-cities and cooperation between the two countries. In 2008 and the years to come, China will hold the Olympic Games and the Shanghai World Expo, and Poland will host the European Football Championship in 2012. Poland and China should make good use of these opportunities to set up a strategic goal for their cooperation and caring out exchanges and cooperation in the economic, cultural, art, and other fields.

Deputy Foreign Minister Ryszard Schnepf said,



**Poland-China Friendship Association President Zdzislaw Goralczyk with CPAFFC President Chen Haosu in Warsaw**

the Polish government fully recognized the importance of friendship associations of Poland and China. Now more and more people are devoted to promoting all-round cooperation between the two countries.

In her meeting with the delegation, Alicja Olechowska, vice chairperson of the Poland-China Friendship Group in Parliament, said that the Group is the biggest one in the Parliament. China is a hot topic in Poland's Parliament; China's economic success, the Beijing Olympics, the Shanghai World Expo and so forth are often spoken about. More and more Polish young people are getting interested in China and choose to learn Chinese. The Polish Government and the Parliament appreciate the role of the PCFA in carrying out work for people-to-people friendship with China, and both have expressed they will continue to support the PCFA in its effort to expand areas for friendly cooperation with China.

During their discussions, President Chen Haosu briefed about China's achievements in economic and social development, and proposed that the friendship organizations of the two countries can jointly hold commemorative activities to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Poland in 2009, expressing the wish of the CPAFFC to develop the cause of friendly cooperation with the Polish people and local governments.

#### **Cooperation between Chinese and Polish Local Governments**

During the visit, the delegation had talks with the governors of Kujawsko-Pomorskie Province and Gdansk-Pomorskie Province and the mayor of Torun City. The Polish local leaders made detailed briefings for the delegation on the development of their international cooperation and current economic, trade and investment situations. They expressed desire to continue to expand areas for cooperation and exchanges between the friendship cities and between the local governments of the two countries. The mayor of Torun said they held a celebration of Chinese New Year this year at the municipal square, which attracted a great number of people to come and enjoy the traditional Chinese performances such as dragon dance and lion dance. The Nicholas Copernicus University of Torun hopes to have academic exchanges with Chinese educational institutions. Head of the Economic Development Department of Kujawsko-Pomorskie showed the delegation photos and film documentaries, and expressed wish to have economic cooperation with Chinese provinces and cities. Gdansk-Pomorskie also expressed the same wish. Both Polish local governments and the PCFA proposed to cooperate with the CPAFFC to jointly hold China-Poland friendship cities conference. □



# CPAFFC Delegation Led by Vice President Li Xiaolin Visits Japan

**Wang Heshan**

At the invitation of famous Japanese singer Shinji Tanimura and president Eiichi Kuriwada of the SG Holdings Co., Ltd., a CPAFFC delegation headed by its vice president Li Xiaolin visited Japan from February 18 to 24. To further Sino-Japanese cultural and economic exchanges, leaders of the University of Modern Administration, Beijing Zhonglianguoxing Institute of Calligraphy and Painting and the Beijing Leyong Trading Co., Ltd. were also on delegation for the visit. They had wide contact with Japanese friends of political, business and cultural circles. The delegation called on Shinzo Abe, former Japanese prime minister,

Katsuhito Asano, former vice foreign minister and now director general of the Personnel Bureau of the Liberal Democratic Party, Shinichiro Shiranishi, director general of the Japan-China Society, Mr. Shinji Tanimura, Mr. Eiichi Kuriwada, and Nobuhiro Kume, chief executive officer of Daisan Kikaku, Inc.

On the morning of February 19, former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with the delegation at his office. Vice President Li Xiaolin thanked him for arranging the meeting on his tight schedule and highly praised him for the contributions of his "ice-breaking" visit to China to improving relations between

Japan and China. She briefed him in detail on the exchange activities held by the CPAFFC and the China Friendship Foundation for Peace and Development in recent years. Shinzo Abe said, the Sino-Japanese Benefit Concerts held in Shanghai and Nanjing last September were a great success and Vice Foreign Minister Katsuhito Asano was present at the opening ceremony. He received the DVD of the concerts sent by Shinji Tanimura and felt really moved after watching it. Shinzo Abe said the Olympic Games to be held in Beijing would have Japan's full support, since the Beijing Olympics was not only China's event, but also Asia's,

**Former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe meeting with CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin**





**CPAFFC Vice President Li Xiaolin calling on former Japanese Vice Foreign Minister Katsuhito Asano**

and a grand sports gathering of all Asian people as well.

During her meeting with Katsuhito Asano, Li Xiaolin thanked him for his full support for the Sino-Japanese cultural and sports exchanges during his term of office as vice foreign minister. In 2007, all activities of the China-Japan Cultural and Sports Exchange Year were vivid and colourful. She said, whether in office or retired and whether in the past, at present or in the future, Katsuhito Asano is always regarded as a good old friend of the Chinese people.

On the evening of February 19, invited by Shinji Tanimura, Li Xiaolin had a talk with the musician and his wife while enjoying dinner together. Shinji Tanimura informed her about the preparations for the large scale concert of Chinese and Japanese youth and

children planned to be held at the Great Wall this year.

From February 20 to 23, Li Xiaolin visited the SG Holdings Co., Ltd, and was warmly received by President Eiichi Kuriwada and Senior Managing Director Toshiaki Tsujio. She said, for as long as two decades, the SG Holdings tirelessly carried out friendship-with-China activities and trained a number of senior technicians of automobile maintenance and repair for Chinese provincial, municipal and state departments every year, giving great help to China's endeavour for building up its contingent of qualified technical personnel and thus, promoting its economic development. In the field of culture, it had sincere cooperation with the CPAFFC and its subordinate organization, the China Service Centre for Friendship and Coop-

eration with Foreign Countries (CSCFCFC), and helped the National Museum of China, the Shanghai Museum and the Nanjing Museum hold exhibitions in Japan, contributing greatly to the cause of people-to-people friendship between China and Japan. Li Xiaolin hoped the SG Holdings would continue to make efforts to conduct further activities in the fields of culture, sports and personnel exchange. With emotions, Eiichi Kuriwada recalled the 23-year history of friendship and cooperation with the CPAFFC and the CSCFCFC and expressed his wish to maintain long-term and stable relationship of friendship and cooperation with the CPAFFC. He also gave a briefing on the SG Holdings Group which was set up on the basis of the Sagawa Express in March 2007. Eiichi Kuriwada said that the group would actively carry on cultural and sports exchange activities as well as personnel exchanges with the CPAFFC and the CSCFCFC in larger scales. □



# CPAFFC Delegation Visits Singapore, Laos and Vietnam

**Xu Yiyi**

**A**t the invitation of the Singapore-China Friendship Association (SCFA), the Lao-Chinese Friendship Association (LCFA) and the Vietnam-China Friendship Association, a CPAFFC Delegation led by its vice president Feng Zuoku paid goodwill visits to the three countries from January 12 to 25.

Nguyen Thi Doan, vice president of Vietnam, Vu Xuan Hong, chairman of the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations, Sisavath Keobounphan, central chairman for the Lao Front of National Construction, Bosaykham Vongdara, president of the LCFA and Lao minister of energy and mines, and Lee Chiong Giam, deputy secretary of Singaporean Ministry of Foreign Affairs, met with the delegation.

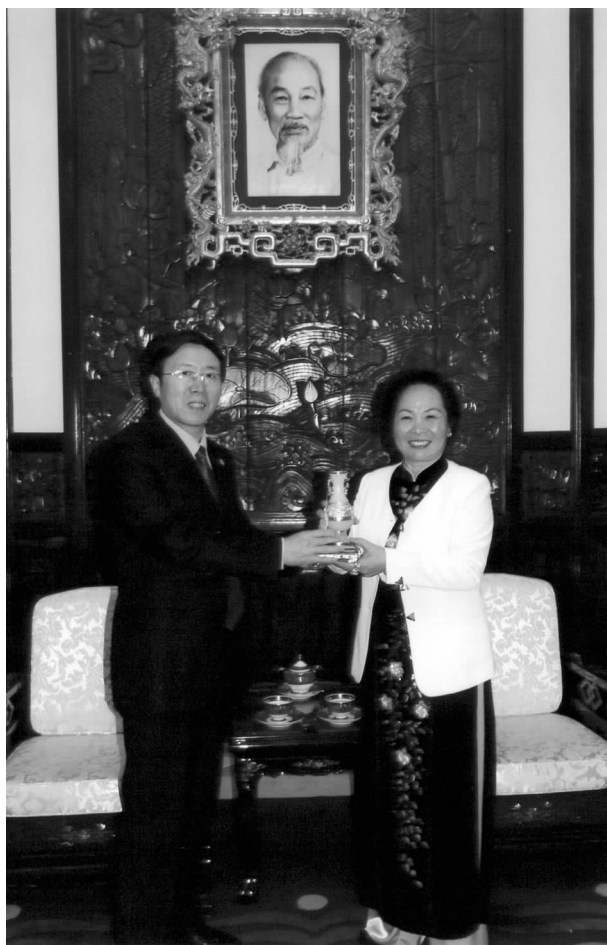
Vice President Feng Zuoku briefed them about the CPAFFC and its achievements in non-governmental exchanges with countries of the region. He said, sound diplomatic ties between the governments have provided good conditions for nongovernmental exchanges, while friendly non-governmental exchanges have laid solid foundations for the development of relations between different countries. In the past 54 years since its founding, the CPAFFC has established friendly and cooperative relationship with more than 400 non-governmental organizations and institutions in over 140 countries, and has played the role of enhancing understanding and promoting friendship between Chinese and other peoples of the world. In recent years, through the national and regional friendship associations' cooperation with the local governments and nongovernmental institutions, various activities rich in contents and varied in forms have been held and contributed to strengthening and consolidating the mass social foundations for the relations between the countries of our region.

Vice President Nguyen Thi Doan said, under the guidance of the "16-word" principles agreed by leaders of Vietnam and China, bilateral relations

between the two countries have developed smoothly in recent years, and the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations and the CPAFFC have played an important role in this regard. She highly praised the consensus reached by the two associations on friendly cooperation in 2008 and believed that with the joint effort of the two sides, those original proposals will be well realized.

Chairman Sisavath Keobounphan said, leaders of Laos and China have reached consensus in many

**Vietnamese Vice President Nguyen Thi Doan (right) meeting with CPAFFC Vice President Feng Zuoku**





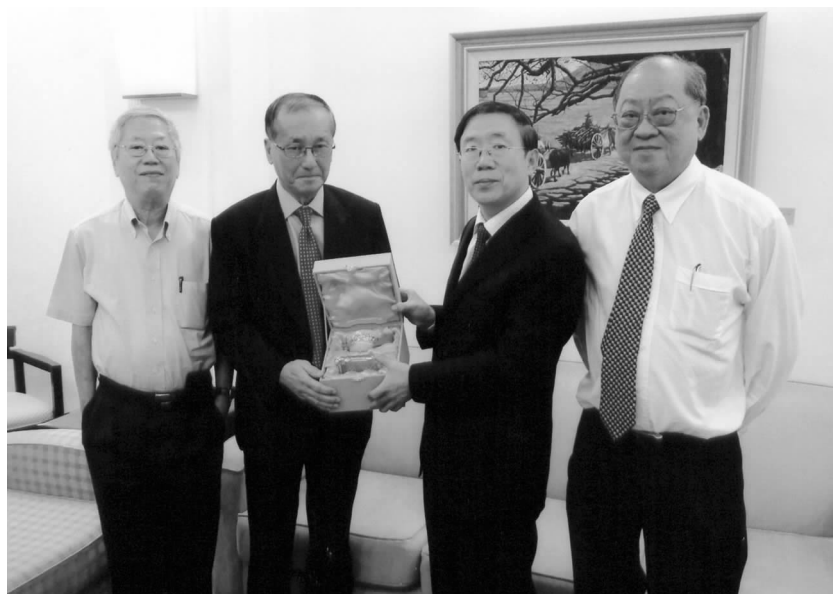


**Sisavath Keobounphan, central chairman of the Lao Front for National Construction, meeting with the delegation**

aspects on developing bilateral friendly relations in all fields. He used to be the president of the LCFA, and understood the importance of people-to-people friendship in the state relations. He was really pleased to see the friendship associations of the two countries have held various colourful activities to continuously deepen the friendship between the two peoples. LCFA President Bosaykham Vongdara said, the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party attaches great importance to its relations with China. He hoped China would put forth more constructive proposals and carry out practical cooperation. He would do all he could to cooperate so as to push forward the development of traditional friendship between Laos and China.

Deputy Secretary Lee Chiong Giam said, the Singaporean and Chinese people have enjoyed a long history of friendship. He would support the further cooperation between the SCFA and the CPAFFC so as to promote the steady development of friendship between Singapore and China.

During the visit, in their talks the delegation and the counterpart organizations recalled the achievements made by both sides and exchanged views on future bilateral cooperative projects. All the friendship organizations agreed that the function of the friendship organizations as bridges should be brought into full play to enhance understanding and friendship between our peoples through the expansion of practical nongovernmental cooperation and exchanges in all fields. □



**CPAFFC Vice President Feng Zuoku calling on Lee Chiong Giam, deputy secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore**



# Sino-Burundian Friendship Association Delegation's First Visit to China

**Tang Ruimin**

**B**urundi, an inland African country, has an area of 27,834 square kilometres. Agriculture is the mainstay of its national economy, with 93 percent of its population engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry and over 50 percent of its national income generated from agriculture. In March this year, a Sino-Burundian Friendship Association Delegation headed by Ferdinand Nderagakura, minister of agriculture and livestock, visited China at the invitation of the CPAFFC.

Sino-Burundian Friendship

Association (SBFA) was founded in September 2007. Its members come from the political, diplomatic, military, educational, business and trade fields, many of whom have studied, taken training courses or done business in China. They cherish a deep affection for China and work for promoting understanding between the people of China and Burundi. Minister Nderagakura is also a member of the SBFA. He has studied in Zhejiang Agricultural University and is the first Burundian minister who has studied in China. The

delegation he led is the first one invited by the CPAFFC to visit China since the founding of SBFA. The SBFA regularly holds lectures on China, helping people to know about China so as to enhance friendship between the people of the two countries.

The delegation visited the Institute of Vegetables and Flowers under the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences. Upon learning that the Institute would run an agro-technician training course for Asian and African countries in

**(Continued on p.36)**

**The delegation in front of the National Stadium under construction**



# CPAFFC Cultural Exchange Working Group Visits Switzerland, Germany and Greece

## Wang Qing

At the invitation of the Swiss-Chinese Association (SCA) of Switzerland, the Villa Musica Foundation of Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany, and the Euro-Chinese Centre for Research and Development of Greece, a Cultural Exchange Working Group led by Wang Xiuyun, director general of the Department of Cultural Exchanges of the CPAFFC, paid a visit to the three countries from February 16 to March 5. The working group met with Pascal Couchepin, president of the Swiss Confederation, Dr. Thomas Wagner, president of the Swiss-Chinese Association, Dr. Elmar Ledergerber, mayor of Zurich, Marc Wehrlin, acting deputy director of Swiss Federal Office of Culture, Olivier Francais, vice mayor of Lausanne, Hofmann Gottig, state secretary of Rheinland-Pfalz and George Patoulis, mayor of Maroussi, and had wide contact with cultural institutions and local governments, during which the two sides had in-depth discussion on issues of common interest.

### In Switzerland

During his meeting with the working group, Swiss Confederation President Pascal Couchepin said, Switzerland is one of the countries that established diplomatic relations with China in the early days of the founding of the People's Republic and the two countries have enjoyed harmonious relationship ever since. On the questions of Tibet and Tai-

wan, Switzerland has always supported the stand of "one China". In recent years, the friendly cooperative relationship between the two countries continued to deepen and develop, especially some Swiss people who are sincerely friendly to China, like those in the SCA, have made great efforts to promote exchanges and cooperation with China. China's development has attracted world attention. This year, Beijing will host the Olympic Games and the Swiss people are now following with great interest the changes in China.

At the working group's meetings with Swiss cultural institutions including the Federal Office of Culture, the State Secretariat for Education and Research, the Cultural Service of Zurich, the UBS Art Collection and the Swiss cultural foundation Pro Helvetia, the two sides talked about the possibilities of cultural exchanges between the two countries and reached consensus on several projects. At the group's discussion with Pro Helvetia, the two parties found that they have certain things in common regarding cultural exchanges leaving them much space for cooperation. The two sides should strengthen contacts in future to make contributions together to promoting cultural cooperation and exchanges between China and Switzerland.

Both Zurich and Lausanne are very willing to carry out cultural exchanges with China. The City of

**Pascal Couchepin, president of the Swiss Confederation, meeting with the Working Group**



Zurich holds Drama Festival every year, and Dr. Jean-Pierre Hoby, director of the Cultural Service of Zurich hoped Chinese drama groups would participate in and give performance at the festival. The CPAFFC working group hoped the Cultural Service send a cultural study group to China to select the right drama troupes for performing at the festival. In Lausanne, the Summer Art Festival is held annually, during which artists from all over the world give various shows in open air for local residents and tourists. Their performances are well received. The Lausanne government gave Chinese artists their invitation to the art festival, and the working group expressed willingness to cooperate actively. The Federal Office of Culture would like to play the role of mediator between different cities and cantons so as to facilitate Chinese art troupes' tour in Switzerland.

### **In Germany**

The Villa Musica Foundation has had contact with the CPAFFC for 15 years. State Secretary of Rheinland-Pfalz Hofmann Gottig who is in charge of cultural undertaking, now serves as the president of the foundation. For 15 years, the two sides have exchanged music groups' visits, playing the role of bridge in the musical fields between China and Germany.

During their visit in Germany, the working group held discussions with Hofmann Gottig and Kurt Karst, general manager of the Villa Musica respectively. Both sides agreed that after over 10 years' cooperation, the two organizations through exchange of visits and holding cultural exchange activities have established trust and deepened friendship, and hoped that the exchange projects would be carried on in future. In their discussion on future cooperation, both parties believed that they should adopt more forms of exchange besides sending musicians on performance tours, and reached agreements on specific exchange projects for the following two years.

The Villa Musica has a Music Lovers' Club with more than 600 members, some of them accompany the musicians of the Villa Musica on their performance tours overseas. The working group had reached an agreement with the president of the Music Lovers' Club of the Villa Musica which provides: starting 2009, the Club will organize a

30-member delegation to visit China together with the German Music Group to promote mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and German people through musical exchanges.

As arranged by the Villa Musica, the working group also called on the leader of the Luxembourg Music Information Centre and the Luxembourg Musicians' Association, composer Marcel Wengler. Marcel Wengler is very interested in exchanges with Chinese musicians and musical institutions, and has had some contacts with his Chinese counterparts. The CPAFFC working group said, they could serve as a bridge between Chinese and Luxembourg musicians and help to provide opportunities for them to visit music conservatories in Beijing so that they could learn from each other and compose music together.

### **In Greece**

The working group held discussions with the municipal government of Maroussi, Greater Athens of Greece.

The main stadium of 2004 Athens Olympic Games in Maroussi is located at one of the most important business centres in Greece. Mr. Christakis, general secretary of the municipal government briefed about its cultural facilities, especially the traditional shadow play and its museum. As China has longstanding art of shadow play, Mr. Christakis, on behalf of the city, expressed the desire to have cooperation with the CPAFFC in this regard by sending shadow play troupes to give performances in each others' country. The Shadow Play Week is held every September in Maroussi, during which children will start a new semester happily while enjoying traditional shadow plays. He also hoped the CPAFFC would send a Chinese shadow play troupe to participate in the annual festival. The working group suggested that after the Greek Shadow Theater performed for the Beijing Olympics, the CPAFFC could arrange for it to make a performance tour of other Chinese cities.

Within a limited span of time, by meeting with friends from various circles as many as possible and establishing contact with cultural authorities and institutes in the three countries, the working group has laid a sound foundation for further cultural exchanges between the CPAFFC and its European counterparts. □

# China Folk Shadow Play Performing Group in Austria and Germany

**Wang Wei**

Sent by the CPAFFC, the Daoqing Shadow Play Performing Group (alias Shi Family Troupe) of Huanxian County, Gansu Province made a performance tour in Austria and Germany from October 22 to November 5, 2007, during which it attended the International Puppet Theatre Festival in Mistelbach of Austria and gave performance at the opening ceremony of the International Puppet Art Festival in Bad Kreuznach of Germany. The performance tour was made at the invitation of the Austrian Association for Promotion of Friendship and Cultural Relations with China (AAPFCRC).

All the performers of the Daoqing Shadow Play Performing Group are ordinary farmers who have inherited the shadow play techniques from the older genera-

tions of their families or learned them since childhood. Their artistic style is simple and distinctive and shadow puppet figures are exquisite and unique. The main performer of the group, the 61-year-old Shi Chenglin, gave performances in Italy and caused a sensation there when he visited the country together with a CPAFFC delegation in 1987. Twenty years later, he led the Shi Family Troupe to give performances abroad again, demonstrating Chinese farmer performers' artistic attainments and vitality in the new era of China.

On October 23, at the seminar on the Chinese folk puppet and shadow show sponsored by the AAPFCRC, the group performed traditional items with distinct Daoqing shadow play features for the Austrian and German

professionals and students in stage arts. The audience marveled at the beautiful vocal music, puppet figures and backdrop of the Daoqing shadow play.

After finishing the performance in Vienna, that night the performers rushed to Mistelbach, a small city in Lower Austria 50 kilometres away from Vienna. Mistelbach is the centre of puppet and shadow show art in Austria and the whole Europe as well. Every October the International Puppet Theatre Festival is held in the city. Up till now the festival has been held for 29 years. The puppet and shadow play troupes from Beijing and Hunan have given performances there, giving the European audience an artistic treat. Different from the past, this time the shadow play troupe was an amateur one. Though its stage



The China Folk Shadow Play Performing Group putting on a show



# Second Council Meeting of China-Arab Friendship Association Held

## Our Staff Reporter

On March 27, the Second Council Meeting of the China-Arab Friendship Association (CAFA) was held at the auditorium of the CPAFFC.

At the meeting, Feng Zuoku, vice president of the CPAFFC and executive vice president of the CAFA, made a report on the work of the CAFA first council. Participants of the meeting approved the work report and the name list of the executive members and ordinary members of the second council. Tomur Dawamat was reelected president of the CAFA, and Yang Fuchang, Li Chengren, Chen Guangyuan, Wang Yunze, Feng Zuoku, Wu Sike and

Liu Zhiming were elected vice presidents, Jia Ling the secretary general. Then, participants were divided into three groups to have discussions on the political, economic and cultural topics. Many of them made valuable suggestions on future work of the CAFA.

A reception was held after the meeting. Tomur Dawamat, vice chairman of the 9th NPC Standing Committee and president of the CAFA, vice presidents and council members of the CAFA, as well as diplomatic envoys of Arab countries, totaling about 120 people, attended the reception. President Tomur

design and equipment were not as good as those of the professional troupes, its performances imbued with rich local colour fascinated the European audience. The Shi Family Troupe performed *The Monkey King Subdues the White-Bone Demon Three Times*, *The Monkey King Wreaks Havoc in Heaven*, etc. When they learnt that all the shadow puppets were operated by Shi Chenglin alone, they were greatly surprised. After the performance, the audience came to the back stage, trying to find out the secrets of the "ancient art from the East". During their stay in the city, the performers attended the seminar on the Chinese and European shadow play art sponsored by the municipal government, at which they gave accounts of the history and current situation of the shadow play of Huanxian County and the life of the shadow players. Ms. Helga Ruso, director general of the Cultural Bureau of Mistelbach, said

that the year 2008 marks the 30th anniversary of the Festival and expressed the hope that Chinese puppet and shadow play troupes would come to attend it then. During the Festival the Huanxian County shadow show performers watched performances given by players of other countries and had discussions with them about performing techniques.

After finishing performing in Austria, the group went to Bad Kreuznach of Germany to give a show at the opening ceremony of the International Puppet Art Festival held in the city's puppet theatre museum. Mr. Dorner, curator of the museum, received the performers warmly and invited them as the only group performing at the opening ceremony to attend the Art Festival's press conference. On the evening of November 1, all seats in the theatre of the museum were taken. After a brief introduction of the background and scenarios of the plays, the

Chinese group performed several items such as *Flooding the Jinshan Temple*, *Juggling Feats*, etc. Bursts of warm applause broke out at the highlights of the performance. After the performance, many from the audience including professional puppet players consulted the Chinese performers on the art. A professional puppet playwright who specially came from Paris to watch the performance said that she had listened to the vocal music in Daoqing shadow play from the tape before and that she felt greatly thrilled when listening to such a tensile and simple music on the spot.

The short 10-day performance tour publicized to the European audience the Daoqing shadow play art, one of the Chinese intangible cultural heritages, and the local customs and farmers' cultural life in Gansu, helping them know more about the rich traditional culture of China's interior. □

# Citi Innovative English Teaching Competition Final Held

**Jiang Yingshan**

Citi Innovative English Teaching Competition Final for teachers in West China sponsored by the CPAFFC was held in Beijing from January 22 to 23, 2008. Wang Li, vice president of Citibank China, Professor Zhu Xudong and Ms. Ma Xin with the Beijing Normal University served as judges in the final. Over 50 English teachers of primary and middle schools from Guizhou, Yunnan and Sichuan provinces and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region took part in the finals. Twenty two teachers won prizes.

This competition is a follow-up programme of the English teachers training course in West

China from 2001 to 2005 sponsored by the CPAFFC with the Citigroup's support. In 2006 and 2007 preliminary competitions were held in the above provinces and the autonomous region. The teachers who got the first and second prize took part in the final in Beijing. In order to enhance the influence of the training course, the CPAFFC also invited the teachers who had received the training to watch the final in Beijing. In both the preliminary competitions and the final every competitor was asked to give a mock class according to the pre-provided teaching plan, and judges gave marks to the competitor on his or her teaching method and results.

After the final the teachers of the Beijing Normal University made comments on the competitors' performance. After the final, the competitors were assigned the work of one-year research on classroom teaching and requested to submit the research reports the following year. All the reports would be collected and compiled into a book which would be printed and sent to the teachers and schools that had taken part in the competitions so as to facilitate their exchanges and learning from each other. The competitions have helped the teachers consolidate what they had learned in the training course, strengthen exchanges among them and further improve

Dawamat and Mhd Kheir Al-Wadi, dean of the diplomatic corps of Arab countries and Syrian ambassador to China, delivered speeches. Then, the launching ceremony of the book, *Friendship Blooms*

*on the Silk Road*, edited by the CAFA was held.

In his speech, President Tomur Dawamat said, since the establishment of the CAFA in 2001, with the full support of ambassadors of Arab countries, it





Luo Qin (R.2), secretary general of the CPAFFC, Wang Li (L.2) vice president of Citibank China, and Ma Xin (L.1), teacher from the Beijing Normal University, with some of the prize winners at the awarding ceremony

their teaching skills.

In the past 7 years since the programme was launched, about 150 English teachers in China's western poor areas have attended the training course. The training and competitions have not only helped them update their teaching concepts and methods, but also by spreading their experience raised the whole teaching level in the schools and regions where they taught and lived. Many teachers who had taken part in the training

and competitions said that the training course and competitions with very practical contents were conducted in a new and lively way and that the teachers of the Beijing Normal University were experts with high professional level and new teaching concepts. They said that this programme had helped them greatly improve their teaching methods and broaden their vision; as a result, the students they taught did better academically. At the closing ceremo-

ny of the final, a teacher from Sichuan said from the depth of her heart, the programme has brought her many changes; she used to deliver her lessons in a dull and rigid way and now her class has become lively and cheerful. The students, their parents and the principal of her school all praise her new teaching methods. She is now being assigned more and more important teaching tasks by her school. □

has done meaningful work to further understanding and friendship between the Chinese and Arab people and promoted political, economic, trade, investment and cultural exchanges and cooperation between the two sides. Especially in the last two years, the CAFA held a series of new and innovative activities including the First China-Arab Friendship Conference, the First Training Course for Leading Members of Arab Countries' Friendship-with-China Organizations, and the Peace and China-Arab Friendship Tour. In October 2008, the Second China-Arab Friendship Conference will be held in Damascus, and it is believed that the conference will push forward the development of China-Arab friendly cooperative relations.

Ambassador Mhd Kheir Al-Wadi extended warm welcome to the expansion of the council and

absorbing council members from all over China, which indicate leading members of the association attach great importance to spreading China-Arab friendship extensively to cover more Chinese people. He also gave suggestions on the work plan of the new council. For example, he suggested establishing the Friendship Award for outstanding literary and ideological works that contribute to the development of Sino-Arab friendship, and the award could be presented to the winners at the biannual China-Arab Friendship Conference.

At the launching ceremony of *Friendship Blooms on the Silk Road*, Ambassador Al-Wadi was very delighted and enthusiastic. He thanked President Tomur Dawamat and the CAFA, and hoped that the Arab version of the book would be published as soon as possible. □

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# Spending the Spring Festival in Mianzhu

## —Home of Chinese New Year Pictures

Chuan You

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To publicize the traditional Chinese Spring Festival culture and China's intangible cultural heritage—Mianzhu Chinese New Year pictures and the achievements in the construction of new rural areas in Sichuan, and promote friendship between the people of Sichuan and other countries, the Sichuan Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (SIFA), the Deyang City People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, the Mianzhu City Government and City Committee of the CPC jointly held the Spring of Friendship 2008 in Mianzhu, the home of Chinese New Year pictures, on February 20, 2008. Over 100 people including consular officers of the ROK, Thailand, Pakistan and Germany in Chengdu, representatives of commercial offices of Japan, the ROK, Australia, Canada, Croatia, France, Germany, Russia, Sweden, Singapore, the United States and the U. K. stationed in Sichuan, as well as entrepreneurs, experts, scholars and friendly personages of the above countries were invited to the activity.

In his speech at the opening ceremony, Qi Guosheng, deputy secretary general of the Sichuan Provincial Government, expressed his hope that friends from various countries would, as always, take interest in and support Sichuan's efforts for opening up, particularly for enhancing people-to-people friendship with other countries, and the development of Sichuan Province and the construction of its new rural areas. He hoped that the people of China and other countries would work hand in hand to make new contributions to the harmony and progress of the human society.

Qin Lin, president of the SIFA, presided over the opening ceremony. In his speech, Jiang Guohua, secretary of the Mianzhu City Committee of the CPC, said, with a history of 2,000 years, Mianzhu is a famous historical and cultural city in Sichuan. He hoped that through visits and exchanges, friends

from various countries would know better about the city and bring back the friendship of the Mianzhu people and the charm of the Mianzhu New Year pictures to let more people know about and like the city.

Mianzhu is one of the top ten county-level cities of economic strength in Sichuan. Its New Year pictures have a long history and vivid themes and are very much liked by the people. Its liquor *Jian-nanchun*, which was already enjoyed by the imperial court of the Tang Dynasty as early as over 1,000 years ago, is a famous brand known both at home and abroad. During the activity, the hosts invited the foreign guests to visit the Museum of Mianzhu New Year Pictures, the Museum of the History of *Jian-nanchun* Liquor, the exhibition of Mianzhu New Year pictures and the village of Mianzhu New Year pictures. The foreign guests visited farmers' homes where they watched the making of New Year pictures and learnt to paint the pictures themselves, took part in a series of folk custom activities including sports, watched the dragon and lion lantern performance, the folk costume show, the shadow and puppet plays, lanterns at the lantern festival, the display of fireworks and the folk music performance, and learnt to make *tangyuan* (dumplings made of glutinous rice flour) and *jiaozi* (Chinese-style ravioli) by themselves. They spent the Lantern Festival together with the local people and experienced gaiety, happiness and harmony in Sichuan's new rural areas.

The foreign guests highly praised the activity and hoped that they would strengthen exchanges and cooperation with Deyang and Mianzhu in the economic, trade, cultural and tourist fields in future. □





# *Great and Boundless Love*

## —Evening Party in Commemoration of 110th Anniversary of Birth of Premier Zhou Enlai Held

**Gong Zengying**

**G**reat and Boundless Love—Evening Party in Commemoration of the 110th Anniversary of the Birth of Premier Zhou Enlai, jointly sponsored by the CPAFFC, Michael Eric Bosman Hotung Foundation of Hong Kong and the National Centre for the Performing Arts and presented by the China Friendship Foundation for Peace and Development, was held on the evening of March 4 at the National Centre for the Performing Arts. Gu Xiulian, vice chairperson of the NPC Standing Committee, Abdul'ahat Abdurixit and Chen Kuiyuan, vice chairmen of the CPPCC National Committee, and other state leaders attended the evening party. Leading members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television and the Beijing Municipal People's Government, CPAFFC President Chen Haosu, Vice Presidents Li Xiaolin, Feng Zuoku, Li Jianping and Secretary General Luo Qin were also present on the occasion.

The evening party which combined features of concert and evening entertainments included various performances such as symphony, poem recitation, songs and Peking Opera with stories told and photos and documentaries of interviews shown in between the performances. Dozens

of new and old art stars participated in the evening party and performed wholeheartedly for the audience.

The Master of Ceremony of the evening party had an interview with Madam Chan Fusheng, vice president of Michael Eric Bosman Hotung Foundation, during which she expressed with emotion her profound memories for the premier. She said she knew a lot of people in Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan, who have never met Chairman Mao or Premier Zhou, but like herself, still highly respect the two great figures. Premier Zhou did not have daughters or sons, yet he treated all the Chinese people as if they were his own children. His love is great and boundless.

President Chen Haosu said, on the occasion of the 110th anniversary of the birth of Premier Zhou, we hold this commemorative evening party for him so as to keep in mind his selfless dedication and lifelong commitment to the rising of China, and express all the Chinese people's respect for him and the deep memory of him they have cherished. We would like to tell our forefathers that the rising of China has become an indisputable brilliant fact, and China's development will lead to world peace, prosperity, stability and happiness. We must encourage ourselves to make the greatest contributions to China's rise and progress of the world, so as not to fail the trust of our forefathers. □



# Dick Pastor: A Life Devoted to US-China Friendship

**Zhang Yan**

***Three old men happily got together again  
Chatting about what happened last sixty years  
There are still great expectations before them  
Don't forget to meet again in Beijing in 2008!***

The above lines were written on a scroll by then 90-year-old famous Chinese writer and calligrapher Ma Shitu for Dick Pastor, an American ex-soldier fighting with China against Japanese aggression during the Second World War, who came to have a grand reunion with Ma and myself in Kunming in the

**Dick Pastor**



fall of 2004. In the early hours of January 20 of 2008, while the Beijing Olympics are approaching, Dick Pastor passed away peacefully, but with a great regret, in New York at the age of almost 90.

Dick Pastor (1918-2008), a former member of the US 14th Air Force, nicknamed Flying Tigers, had been stationed in Kunming, a southwest China city in 1944, when the US military came in to help defend against Japanese invasion. Ma and myself had been the young students of the Southwest Associated University in the same city, who had initiated a great friendship with a group of American GIs. Dick was one of them.

Since then, this friendship has continued in a zigzag way, heavily affected by the relations between the U.S. and China. Back in 1945, three of the GIs in the group (Ed Bell, Howard Hyman and Jack Edelman) had the fortune to meet Chinese Communist leader Mao Zedong in Chongqing who predicted the friendship between our two peoples was bound to blossom even though at the time the US government was hostile to the appearance of a “new China”. Since the founding of the People’s Republic of China in 1949, the US government broke with China and our personal relationship thereby cut off for thirty years. Due to their insistent support of the recognition of new China, Dick and other members of the GI group suffered persecutions during the 1950s’ McCarthyism hysteria. Likewise, in the ten years of turmoil during the “cultural revolution”, each of us involved in the American friendship activities were labeled as “international spies”. All these dark clouds were driven away only by the normalization of relations between the U. S. and China in 1979. Our friendship since then could be resumed and flourished again. And it even continued to our second and third generations.

As a trade union journalist, Dick had been always politically active in the American progressive movements against racial discrimination and for the

# Cherish the Memory of International Fighter Morzec Shippe

Luo Yisu

The year 2007 marks the 70th anniversary of the July 7 Incident and the outbreak of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. During the 8-year anti-Japanese war, a number of foreign progressive journalists, writers and medical doctors with internationalist thought came to China to report the Chinese army's and people's brave fight against Japanese aggressors and to go to the front to heal the wounded and rescue the dying. Among them was Morzec Shippe, a writer and journalist and a respectable international friend and fighter who was born in Poland, joined the German Communist

Party and laid down his life on the battlefield of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression in China's Shandong. We should never forget him.

Morzec Shippe was born in Krakow, Poland on June 13, 1897. At that time Poland was carved up by Prussia, Russia and Austria. Krakow was located in the Austria-occupied area. His original name was Morzec Crzyb. In 1919 at the age of 22 he went to study in Germany and after graduation from university he joined the German Communist Party and changed his name to Hans Shippe and was called Morzec Shippe by his family. He took part in the German workers'

movement and later went to the Soviet Union working as a journalist. In 1925 he came to Shanghai and then to Guangzhou to join the Chinese revolution working in the translation section of the General Political Department of the National Revolutionary Army. After the defeat of the Great Revolution in 1927, he returned to Germany and worked as an editor of *Die Rote Fahne*. During that period he in the penname of Asiaticus wrote articles about the Chinese revolution and published the book *From Guangzhou to Shanghai 1926-1927*. After Hitler came into power in 1933, Shippe and his wife Grzyb Rusenberg came to settle down in Shanghai.

end of notorious Vietnam War. Being in China during the Second World War had almost changed his life. Since then he has been energetically involved in the promotion of friendship with China. First he worked for the American Committee in Aid of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives (INDUSCO) and later for the US-China Peoples Friendship Association (USCPFA), a nation-wide popular organization since the seventies.

As early as in 1972, following President Nixon's "ice-breaking visit" which changed the Sino-US relations, Mr. and Mrs. Pastor made their first trip to China after the war. Dick Pastor inquired about the whereabouts of his Chinese friends wherever he went, as if he were looking for his kinsfolk. Then, the "cultural revolution" was in its height. We were either locked up in "cow sheds" or doing manual labour at the out-of-the-way May 7th Cadre Schools. How could he find us? In fact, even if he

had found us, we would not have been allowed to see him, an American. Following him, our other American friends also visited China successively. Despite their repeated efforts, none succeeded in getting in touch with us. This puzzled our American friends greatly.

Dick Pastor had a long-time dream: a great reunion with his Chinese friends in the same old place of Kunming. But he was not allowed to take such a long travel until his health was rehabilitated. Over a year, he carefully made his best effort to attain the target set by the Doctor. And finally he made his dream come true in September 2004 together with his 90-year-old wife Naomi. Touched that he would make this trip across the Pacific even in a wheelchair, Ma Shitu from Chengdu, Sichuan Province, and I myself from Beijing immediately flew over to join him. The authorities of Yunnan Province, which had benefited from the contributions

As one of the initiators, he together with Agnes Smedley, George Hatem and Rewi Alley formed a group to study Marxism, the international situation and China's problems. After the July 7 Incident, he followed the cause of the Chinese national liberation with greater interest and continued to write in the penname of Asiaticus and published reports and commentaries on issues about China and the Far East in the English and German publications. In 1938 he went to Yan'an from Wuhan to do interviews, and Chairman Mao Zedong met and talked with him. In Yan'an Shippe made extensive contacts with people of various circles and came to know better the enthusiasm and activities of the Chinese army's and people's united fight against the Japanese aggression. After returning to Shanghai in 1939, he together with Agnes Smedley and Jack Belden went to the headquarters of the New Fourth Army in Southern Anhui to do interviews and met with the Army's leaders including Ye Ting, Xiang Ying and Chen Yi. After return-

ing to Shanghai, he wrote reports and commentaries about the interviews, giving publicity of the New Fourth Army's struggle and praising the Army's courage and devotion to the Anti-Japanese War. Most of the articles were published in the English periodical *The American Asian Review*. He felt very sad at the Southern Anhui Incident, and wrote articles such as *Biography of General Ye Ting* and *China's Internal Frictions are to Japan's Advantage*, sternly condemning the act by the Kuomintang.

In January 1941 when the New Fourth Army was rebuilt up, Shippe and his wife came to its headquarters to do interviews. Liu Shaoqi, Chen Yi and Su Yu talked with him. He visited the barracks, villages, urban residential districts and schools, making extensive contacts with people of various circles to collect firsthand materials. In two months he finished the draft of a book of 80,000 words *The Eighth Route Army and the New Fourth Army in China's Joint Struggle Against Japanese Aggression* and a great

number of reports and commentaries including *Revisit the New Fourth Army's Base Area*.

At that time, the Eighth Route Army was setting up anti-Japanese base areas in Southern Shandong bordering on Northern Jiangsu. In order to collect information for publicizing the Eighth Route Army's fight against Japanese aggression, Shippe asked his wife to go back to Shanghai, and he went to Shandong alone. In September he arrived at the headquarters of the 115th Division of the Eighth Route Army in Binghai Area of Shandong Province. The division leaders including Luo Ronghuan, Zhu Rui and Li Yu met with him. The Communist Party, the government, the army and the people in the base area jointly held a welcoming meeting at which he said, he would tell the people in the world "Whoever wants to know how the Chinese people are fighting bravely against their enemy, he must come to China's base areas behind the enemy lines!" In Binghai Area under very difficult living and working conditions,

made by the American Flying Tigers during the war, warmly and hospitably hosted us with the best facilities available. We had a miraculous reunion after 60 eventful years of China and the world. We were invited to tell our unique stories to the new generation students about this unusual part of history. We were taken to see a modern Kunming that we no longer recognize. With our memories to guide us, we were unable to track where we had frequently met, picnicked or carried on hot debates every fortnight between 1944 and 1945.

Through endless discussions during the reunion, we three all agreed that the world has changed a great deal more than we had dreamed it could sixty years ago. In fact, our two countries, the U. S. and China, are playing a decisive role in

the world affairs. It is true that there have been differences between our two governments. But it is even truer that the relations between our two peoples have always been friendly on the basis of increased mutual understanding. Our profound and everlasting friendship provides a brilliant example.

A group of American and Chinese cameraman and producer had covered this trip and made it into a 60-minute documentary *60-Year Story of A Beijinger—A Chinese Journalist and His American Friends*. In 2007, Dick Pastor watched its English edition with great satisfaction. In one sense, it is a radiant record of Dick's life-long love affair with China.

When Olympic Games open in Beijing in August 2008, I am sure Dick Pastor will be watching it happily and closely from the heaven. □



# The Blue Danube

Gu Zixin

## The House of Anne\*

Who should be willing to become a bronze statue  
Only at the age of fifteen  
Who should hope to exhibit childhood in a museum  
And thus it could never grow

But in Amsterdam  
Stands such a bronze statue  
And in a red brick building there  
One sees a museum of a girl of flowery age

A garret on the top story  
A garret like a pigeon-house

Shippe went here and there to collect materials and engrossed in writing. He published several long reports including *The Eighth Route Army in Shandong* and *Fight for Recapturing Shandong* and replenished and revised the first draft of his book he had written in Northern Jiangsu. He came to the conclusion: "Without the persistent struggle by the Chinese Communist Party, the Eighth Route Army and the New Fourth Army behind the enemy lines, it is unimaginable that China's Anti-Japanese War could have been carried on up to now."

In October 1941, the Japanese army planned to launch mopping-up operations of an unprecedented scale in the area of Yimeng Mountains. The Shan-

dong Sub-Bureau of the CPC Central Committee asked Mrs. Shippe who had come to the base area to visit her husband and collect his manuscripts to return to Shanghai earlier than planned, and also tried to persuade Shippe to leave Shandong. But Shippe firmly refused and asked to stay with the army. Not long after, the 50,000-strong Japanese troops besieged the Yimeng mountain area. Owing to a great disparity in numerical strength, the Eighth Route Army organized retreat. The staff of the Party and government organizations and the guards regiment in the base area formed several echelons to fight and try to break out of the encirclement separately. The second echelon which Shippe followed moved about and

fought against the Japanese troops in the mountains. Between battles Shippe was busy jotting down what he saw and heard and at night when the fighters took rest he did his writing. The fight became fiercer. The leaders of the Shandong Sub-Bureau of the CPC Central Committee again asked him to return to Shanghai. But he said, "This is the time that needs me most. I must stay with you." Dressed in the Eighth Route Army's uniform, he put down his pen, took up the gun and joined the life-and-death struggle between the Eighth Route Army and the Japanese aggressors. At the end of November, the Daqing Mountain Battle, the fiercest battle in the history of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggres-

And a small patch of sky nailed on the window  
 Form the whole world for the girl  
 Where is her school  
 Where are the windmills  
 Where are the tulip flowers  
 They're all gone, all trampled by the boots of fascists  
 Only an old tree in front of the window and a few stars  
 Stars trembling in the barking of police dogs  
 Are all the scenery the girl saw everyday

But there was also love and tenderness  
 Look at the deep pencil line at the garret door  
 It was drawn by her father to measure her height  
 From thirteen to fifteen  
 She grew 13 mm. taller  
 But there was also dream and longing  
 Some drawings are still pasted on the wall  
 And her diary (the diary saturated with miseries and horrors)  
 Was softly calling for spring and sunlight

She could grow still taller  
 She could make a wife, a mother in the future  
 And become an enviable woman writer  
 But German policemen broke into here  
 Then, a young girl  
 A genius  
 A beautiful cardamom not yet to blossom  
 Together with other tens of thousands of innocent victims

sion in Southern Shandong, broke out.

In the book *International Friends and the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression* published ten years ago, there is the following account:

"At dawn on November 30 when the second echelon which Shippe had joined was on its way of evacuation, it was besieged by a Japanese brigade near Xisuo Village in Yinanyazi Township and forced to enter the battle in haste. At that time the second echelon with only one company of fighters was in a perilous position. Shippe like other fighters took up the weapon to fight a

life-and-death battle against the Japanese troops. But, as there was a great disparity in strength between the enemy and our force, the battle was fought most courageously and cruelly. Shippe laid down his life in Wudaogou at the foot of Daqing Mountain. Seven cadres above the rank of division commander and soldiers in hundreds also died during the battle. After the battle when the army and civilians cleared up the battlefield, they found Shippe's body riddled with bullets, and with a solemn gun-holding salute buried him on the spot."

In this way, a communist and an international fighter laid

down his precious life for the Chinese people's cause of resisting Japanese aggression for saving the country. He died a great hero's death.

After liberation in 1949, the local People's Government erected a monument in memory of Morzec Shippe with the inscription of "Long Live M. Shippe!" by General Luo Ronghuan, commander of Shandong Provincial Military Command.

M. Shippe died at the age of 44. He spent 10 years in China. The Chinese people will never forget his glorious deeds and great contributions. □

Were persecuted to death in ice-cold concentration camps with typhoid

Thus she became a bronze statue of fifteen years  
Standing in front of the garret  
While her diary, her tears and her hopes  
Have become all the languages that humankind speak  
And have turned into white pigeons, numberless pigeons  
Flying all over the world  
Flying, flying with deep grief

**\*The House of Anne Frank is in Anne Museum in the centre of Amsterdam. A Jewish young girl, Anne lived from 1942 to 1944 in this city occupied by Germany, hiding herself in a small garret, and wrote hundreds of thousands of words in diary. Finally she was discovered by the German police and persecuted to death with her family. Anne's diary has been published and translated into 50 languages and widely spread throughout the world.**

### **The Book Burning St e i n B e r l i n \***

A wide and empty square  
Under the thick steel-glass boards  
There 're a few empty bookshelves  
The books already burned into ashes  
Raging flames  
Young and excited faces throbbing in firelight  
Throw all thoughts and voices  
Into fire  
For the sake of the rule of a single thought  
And in order to sing praises of a leader day and night

This is an ordinary story of humanity  
The stake of the church in the Middle Ages  
Burning books and burying scholars alive in the ancient East  
And the soaring flames extended thence to modern times  
Are all chapters in this story

Has the story already finished  
Has the fire been extinguished  
At least, on Berlin Square  
On its previous fires  
You can see a warning  
And  
Some confession

**\*The square opposite Homburg University is the site where German Nazis burned books. On the evening of May 10, 1933 tens of thousands of students, holding torches, burned over 20,000 books. Now in the underground of the square there is a cave covered with steel-glass; and some empty bookshelves are displayed here to indicate the site of book burning. □**

**(Continued from p.2)**

relationship is one of the most important bilateral relationships in the world and he was glad to see its progress in recent years. He was confident that the bilateral relationship will maintain the positive momentum. Bush also expressed his expectation to watch the Beijing Olympic Games this August as the Honorary Captain of the US Olympic Delegation. He stated that Olympic Games is a worldwide sports event and should not be politicized. The Chinese government and people have made huge efforts to host this event and he believed that the Beijing Olympic Games will achieve full success.

In his keynote speech at the World Leaders Symposium Bush recalled his life and contacts between the U. S. and China during the period from October 1974 to December 1975 when he was director of the US Liaison Office in China. He said that as early as that time, he was already aware of the importance of China to the U.S., and that the U.S. must

develop bilateral relations with China. Now US-China relationship has become the most important external relations of the U.S. and its development is of key significance to the peace, security and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific Region and the world as a whole.

At his interview with *Today's Focus* of CCTV International, Bush spoke about his views on people-to-people diplomacy. He said that having paid eighteen visits to China since leaving presidency, he was deeply impressed by the enthusiasm and friendliness of the Chinese people. People-to-people diplomacy is very important, as a person could possibly change his view of the other country because of finding identity with an individual of that country he has got in contact. Without people-to-people interaction, the two countries will be like two ships sailing closely at the vast ocean at dark night, but never see each other. The U.S. and China should strengthen people-to-people friendly contact in future. □

**(Continued from p.21)**

September, the minister proposed to send Burundian agro-technicians to attend the course. The Institute expressed warm welcome and its willingness to establish cooperative relations in agricultural technology with Burundi. It also presented a dozen varieties of disease- and pests-resistant, high-yielding vegetable seeds to the Burundian visitors for them to try out. The delegation discovered that the climate, soil and crops in Guangxi were similar to those in Burundi. The Burundians hoped to introduce food-processing techniques from China to Burundi. Due to the hot weather and the lack of processing and preservation techniques in Burundi, there is great waste of crops such as sugarcane, cassava and banana. The Burundian guests also visited a methane-generating pit at a farmer's house in Guangxi and showed great interest in it. Guangxi is advanced in the world

in bio-gas technology, where bio-gas is widely used to generate power to save energy and reduce emissions. In Burundi, 40 percent of its population has no access to electricity. The low-cost bio-gas technology of Guangxi is very much suited to Burundi, where there is ample raw material. During the visit to Shan Dong Foton Lovol Heavy Industry International Trade Co., Ltd., a group member of the Council of the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association (CAPFA), the Burundian side extended invitation to the Chinese side to attend the agricultural exposition that would be held in Bujumbura to exhibit mini tractors that could be used on the hilly terrain of Burundi and small engineering equipment suitable for the transformation of farmland and irrigation facilities.

Shanghai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., also a group member of the Council of the CAPFA, con-

tacted the delegation and gave quotation of prices of relevant veterinary medicines. The company's products are sold in Ethiopia, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the West African market. It built a pharmaceutical plant in Sudan ten years ago which has achieved remarkable results. Its products are suited to African countries.

The delegation hoped that China would support Burundi's agricultural development projects through sending experts and running personnel training courses. Minister Nderagakura held that China is leading the world in agro-technology. He expressed the hope that through cooperation in agricultural technology between the two countries, mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples would be strengthened and Sino-Burundian friendship would be passed on generation after generation. □