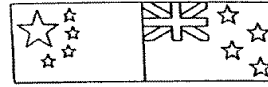




**NEW ZEALAND CHINA
FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY.**

新中友好協會



www.nzchinasociety.org.nz

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August NEWSLETTER 2009 If you would like to receive this newsletter by email please let Sally Russell know at salmike@xtra.co.nz

NEXT MEETING: Friday 4th September at 7.30pm at the Hastings District Council Chambers in Lyndon Road.

How does acupuncture work?



Australian, Heiko Lade working in Napier has 25 years experience including clinical experience in Hangzhou, China. He has a Masters degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine from University of Technology, Sydney with his research topic into multiple sclerosis and has taught traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture in Christchurch and Auckland.

Heiko will talk on:

- ✘ A brief history of acupuncture in China and in the west, New Zealand
- ✘ How does acupuncture work?
- ✘ Current political standing of acupuncture in New Zealand
- ✘ Different aspects of acupuncture - more than just needles

Everyone is invited to hear Heiko – we have had well attended meetings this year so please invite people who are interested in acupuncture or in health to come and find out more.

LAST MEETING: The film *The Flowery March* was an absorbing story of present day master chefs competing in an ancient tradition of preparing famous dishes from Yangzhou. Food was the winner and the hero also won his true love. The many Chinese present commented on the way an important part of their culture was portrayed and we all hugely enjoyed it.

TOM MILLS 28/9/1939-12/8/2009
Obituary - by Diana Madgin

"A visionary who helped shape the modern development of Tauranga" is how City Councillor Tom Mills was described in his Bay of Plenty Times obituary. NZCFS was a recipient of that visionary perspective, along with Tom's ability to get things done. In the early '80s, a young John Meldrum persuaded then National President Jack Ewan to include Tom Mills in an early prominent persons' tour. "Tom came back fired up about China," John said at his funeral. Tom could see the port city Yantai would be an ideal sister city for Tauranga, and he was quick to engender support amongst fellow councillors. In 1988, Tom brought the Tauranga Polytech, Rotary and City Council together to organise the first four people from Yantai to come to New Zealand for a year's study, a horticulturalist, an educator, and two IT specialists.

Tom saw friendship tours as the ideal foundation of understanding for newly developing trading partnerships, along with an opportunity for ordinary folk to see China at a modest price. For 18 years, Tom Mills, John Meldrum and, for much of that time, Dave Blanshard, in addition to their respective professions, became the NZCFS Tours Committee. The system they devised incorporated both funding for and membership of NZCFS from every client. It was a brilliant scheme, and funding eventually accrued to provide a foundation for the activities of the NZCFS.

NZCFS is enormously indebted to Tom for his far-sighted proposals and the steady work he did for our Society. His quiet, modest voice belied his intense belief in building bridges of friendship, and his clear understanding of corporate infrastructure enabled public and private partnerships in Tauranga's development. Tom was Deputy Mayor of Tauranga from 1983 to 1986.

In 2003, when Tom's health was already challenged by cancer, he became National Treasurer of NZCFS following Tony England's death. For nearly two years he's been helping Royden Smith "step into his considerable shoes". He offered knowledge, wisdom and insight, says Royden. "I have lost a good friend and a wonderful mentor."

Quanzhou Health and Legal Rights Training

Total cost: \$30,429 NZCFS: \$4,685 KOHA (NZCID): \$18,738 Quanzhou County: \$7,006

Quanzhou is two hours north of Guilin, Hastings' Sister City. It is a rural area where the annual income is less than NZ\$200 per person largely from rice and traditional crops. 10,000 ethnic Yao women and 8,000 children live below the poverty level. The land area per family is approximately ¼ acre or 0.1 ha and the geography of karst limestone makes farming difficult. Other difficulties are the general remoteness and lack of exposure to new ideas and techniques, isolation from markets and low levels of education among women in particular. Women are the main farmers as many men and younger people leave their village to seek work in cities.

This project gives women and families basic knowledge of health care, sanitation, maternal childcare and HIV/Aids awareness to inform their community. Health care is available in clinics but people need to know when they should take illness seriously and attend. Legal rights for women and families are similar to New Zealand law but village people do not know their rights or how to access them.

The Quanzhou Women's Federation wrote:

"Dear Madam Sally and NZCFS friends,

How are you? Thank you for your concern and support sincerely. Under your support and concern, 2 workshops on health care and legal rights have been carried out in Dongshan for 200 poor minority women in this June and July.

At the legal training we asked the women some questions:

- Do you have family violence? - Some did occasionally, some never and a few often did.*
- What are the reasons for violence in your family? - Some women think that they were beaten by their husband because they did something wrong. They can understand this but said husbands have to be careful of their criticism approaches which could be too heavy; some women think they have married this guy and no matter who is wrong, it is ok that husband can beat her when he is not happy, you just bear it; some women said it is wrong to beat no matter what happens.*
- When you suffer from family violence, how do you protect yourself?
Before training - argue with him if he hits me, or hit him too; run away when my husband hits me; tell my mother, family, or leaders in the village and ask them for help.
After training - we know more - take appropriate defence, avoid danger in urgency; tell women committee leader in the village or other officer to educate their husband; call police if it is serious".*

全州县妇女联合会 QZWF
2009年8月3日 August 3, 2009



The first health-training workshop occurred in June 2009.

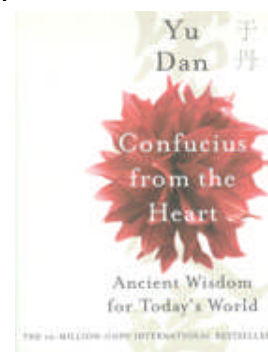
Donations

This work is possible because of the donations we all make.

Confucius from the Heart. Ancient Wisdom for Today's World

- Yu Dan Pan Macmillan, Sydney, 2009. ISBN: 9780330425353.

Yu Dan's interpretation of Confucius' teachings for the ordinary person has taken China by storm, selling over 10 million copies and thus is having a real influence on ordinary Chinese lives. The book began as a series of television programmes broadcast over seven days. The programmes and the book have propelled Yu Dan, a Professor of Media Studies in Beijing, to star status in China.



Simply written, and with a view to taking the wisdom of Confucius out of the hands of academics and philosophers and making it accessible to the general reader, *Confucius from the Heart* gives us a contemporary Confucius, one who can teach us how to attain spiritual happiness, adjust our daily routines and find our place in modern life.

Yu Dan argues that his sayings, or Analects are far from being merely interesting quotes from ancient lore, of little use in our hectic, stress-filled world. Instead, they are simple truths that can speak to each and every one of us and help us lead better, happier, calmer lives. This somewhat controversial book falls more into the category of a self-help book rather than a serious discussion of Confucian philosophy.

President's Notebook August 2009

PROMINENT PERSONS & LEADERS DELEGATION

What an enjoyable task your two National Vice Presidents and I had selecting this year's Prominent Persons and Society's Leaders Delegation to visit China late August, early September as guests of Youxie. The final selection is of prominent people from the worlds of education, law, migrant settlement, newspaper editing, tourism consulting, and civic affairs. This year Youxie have asked that an extra special participant be Jill Brame of Auckland, the daughter of the Rev Leslie Brame who served during the war years in the Lao Shan area for the London Missionary Society when he assisted hundreds of crashed allied airmen to travel back to their bases. Sadly Rev Brame died in Auckland earlier this year. We do wish the delegation a successful and enjoyable visit to Pingyao City of Shanxi Province and Zhengzhou City in Henan Province.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING 25 JULY

Your Executive had a very fruitful day in Wellington spent mainly on forward planning and outcomes from the National Conference in May. New Executive Committees were agreed upon and fantastic ideas for shorter more focused tours for 2010 were discussed and the concepts agreed upon. Certificates for our three new Honorary Members awarded at our National Conference have been printed and arrangements are in hand for their presentation. Executive was updated on the Auckland Branch and Confucius Institute initiative for a 'Gap Year' targeting high school graduates visiting China. Progress of the Jasmine music video project under development by Auckland Branch that our Annual Conference agreed to support financially, was received as was Peter Cornwall's generous scholarship for a National Youxie staffer to study in New Zealand for a semester. Also, a committee has been formed to progress the suggested structure of the Society changes that arose at Conference.

PROJECTS STUDY TOUR, October 8 -29, 2009

The Society Study Tour has grown to ten Society members and will visit Project sites with our partners including Gung-ho, Shaanxi and Guangxi Women's Federations, Shandan Cooperative Federation and Shandan Bailie School. They will meet grassroots communities and He Mingqing Scholars, learn about rural Chinese Society, taste the local food and see unique sights.

SHANDAN BAILIE SCHOOL VACANCY – We are looking for a replacement teacher preferably for a period of twelve months commencing in February next year. Contact Dave Bromwich (dbromwich@xtra.co.nz) if this appeals to you.

There is so much going on in our Branches and their newsletters give excellent ideas for involving members.

Kind regards,



Eric Livingstone, National President

Xinjiang and Uyghur unrest

An article from *Asian Currents*, The Asian Studies Association of Australia

The unrest in Xinjiang in July suggests that China's long-standing approach to its largest province is at risk of failure and looks set to result in further Uyghur unrest, writes **Michael Clarke**. Xinjiang is arguably more important to China than Tibet. China's largest province is endowed with significant oil and gas resources and acts as both a strategic buffer and gateway to Central Asia, with the province sharing borders with the post-Soviet Central Asian Republics, Russia, Afghanistan and Pakistan. The events in Urumqi, the regional capital of Xinjiang, in early July also point toward a number of other important non-geopolitical reasons as to why Xinjiang is of major importance for the future of China. The unrest, and the tensions that lay behind it, suggest that China's long-standing approach to Xinjiang (and other ethnic minority regions) is at risk of failure as both the practice and rhetoric of its development strategy in the region looks set to become overtly imperial in nature. This looks set to result in further Uyghur unrest in Xinjiang. Significantly, it also appears from the Han Chinese response to the riots that the People's Republic of China's majority has bought into this 'imperial' rhetoric.

Surface tensions

On the surface, the demonstration and subsequent riot of some 3000 Uyghurs in Urumqi on 6 July that resulted in 156 deaths and over 1000 injuries (mostly Han Chinese) was caused by events at a toy factory far to the east in Guangdong Province. Days before, Han Chinese workers attacked Uyghur migrant co-workers, beating two of them to death and seriously injuring 61 on the basis of a rumour that Uyghurs had raped Han girls. Reports and images of this violence spread to Xinjiang via the Internet, including the posting of a video of the incident on You Tube. This proved to be the spark for the 6 July demonstration and subsequent violence in which Uyghurs attacked Han Chinese businesses and individual Han Chinese on the streets. Significant numbers of Urumqi's Han population then took to the streets on 7 July, many of them crudely armed, vandalising Uyghur businesses and attacking Uyghur merchants before being dispersed by the security forces.

Deeper tensions

While Guangdong proved to be the spark, long-term Uyghur resentments generated by Beijing's approach to Xinjiang provided ample fuel for the fire. Since the mid-1990s Beijing has sought to use Xinjiang's strategic position at the crossroads of Central Asia to its advantage by investing heavily in infrastructure and oil and gas developments that link the region simultaneously to Central Asia and to China. The logic is that ethnic minority opposition, such as that from the Uyghur, can be assuaged by delivering economic development, which, in turn can only be ensured by 'opening up' the region to Central Asia. While economic development has surely arrived in Xinjiang, the question remains as to its effects. Economic development and increased government investment have also brought increasing numbers of Han Chinese into the province. For example, 37 per cent of Xinjiang's population in 1990 was Han and by 2000 this had risen to nearly 41 per cent (these figures did not account for the significant 'floating population' of seasonal Han

migrants estimated to be around 700,000), raising the spectre of the dilution of the Uyghur in their homeland.

There are also major economic disparities between Han and ethnic minorities, and between urban and rural populations, with the Uyghur tending to make up a large majority of the poor rural population.

Han also dominate the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), the real centre of power in Xinjiang. Meanwhile, the old Uyghur quarters of the region's major cities such as Kashgar are bulldozed to make way for modern shopping malls and apartment buildings and Uyghur language is marginalised in educational institutions.

Hand-in-hand with the Han's political and economic domination of Xinjiang, an imperial discourse has developed that conceives of Han Chinese civilisation as a transformative, modernising force with the underdeveloped periphery, such as Xinjiang and Tibet, as its object. Thus, the discourse surrounding the Great Western Development campaign, which is targeted at regions such as Xinjiang, resembles a 'civilising project' that combines the Han centre's perceived superiority and its commitment to raise the level of the peripheral peoples' civilisation.

A statement from Wang Lequan, the CCP's First Secretary in Xinjiang, in justifying the state's emphasis on the use of Mandarin, for example, highlights this. He suggested that 'the languages of the ethnic minorities have very small capacities and do not contain many of the expressions in modern science and technology, which makes education in these concepts impossible. This is out of step with the 21st century'.

Han hegemony and the ungrateful 'natives'

There are, however, two major implications stemming from this imperial project which hold the potential to undermine Beijing's grip on Xinjiang. The first is that historically civilising missions tend to generate greater ethnic consciousness among those who are being 'civilised'. Second, the apparent success in embedding Han dominance in Xinjiang may be contributing to a collective hubris that could result in greater inter-ethnic tension and violence in Xinjiang.

In the aftermath of the riots it was common to see in Chinese and international media reports the sentiment of many Han in Xinjiang, which amounted to a bewildered and angry, 'Why did these Uyghurs do this after all the progress we've brought to Xinjiang?' This anger has also been directed outwards towards the West, and the United States in particular, with the Chinese Government's denunciation of US-based Uyghur activist Rebiya Kadeer raising the potential for it to become an irritant in China's diplomacy.

Michael Clarke is a Research Fellow at the Griffith Asia Institute and a widely published author on Xinjiang and China's relations with Central Asia. His latest publication with **Colin Mackerras** is "China, Xinjiang and Central Asia: History, Transition and Crossborder Interaction into the 21st Century" (London: Routledge 2009).
(Editor's note Colin Mackerras was a keynote speaker at our 2004 conference)

Shanghai's Expo

Shanghai is a happier place today (Aug 27) as local residents begin a smile campaign for the upcoming 2010 World Expo, which is being held in China for the first time.

The smile campaign will raise public awareness for the global event by collecting a million photos of smiles.

