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## China's reform, opening-up serve world's common development

China's reform and opening-up that started 40 years ago was the start of its endeavor to achieve common development as well as closer ties with the rest of the world.

What China could do to serve the world formed part of the deliberations when the reforms were still being discussed. In October 1977, then Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping told foreign guests that only when China changed its backwardness would it be able to make greater contributions to mankind.

### OPEN DOOR FOR COMMON DEVELOPMENT

Senior U.S. diplomat Charles W. Freeman Jr. was immediately aware of a "revolution" underway in China in the summer of 1979 when hearing the words "sole proprietor" from a Beijing street vendor from whom he bought a bowl of noodles. He predicted China's rapid rise when he was back in Washington. However, he said he had underestimated the consequent changes in China.

Actually, no one could foresee in December 1978 when China launched its reform and opening-up that the country's sole proprietors would have increased by over 500 times and privately-owned enterprises by 338 times. With an annual average growth of 9.5 percent, China now makes up around 15 percent of the global economy, up from 1.8 percent.

Now every part of its identity, such as being the world's second-largest economy, or largest trading country in goods, shows that the once poor, populous Asian nation has become



On December 18, a gathering celebrating the 40th anniversary of the country's reform and opening-up held in Beijing, capital of China

Photo by Xinhua

a driving force in global development and progress, with enormous contributions and influence thanks to the "China Miracle."

The reform and opening-up launched the modernization of China and has changed the whole world, said three-term Spanish Ambassador to China Eugenio Bregolat Obiols.

Poverty alleviation is an important episode in China's success story, said United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator Achim Steiner. "The achievement China made is outstanding in both scale and time. No other country has done it before," he said about China lifting some 700 million people out of poverty and contributing over 70 percent to global poverty reduction.

Both China and the world benefit from the efforts, said former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in late November,

while praising China's reform and opening-up for having brought about incredible achievements.

Currently, the world's future common development is taking shape partly with China's shift to high-quality growth in its new round of reform and opening-up, a growth based on innovation, coordination, green development, openness and sharing.

### NEW PATH OF COOPERATION AMID CHALLENGES

South Asia's island state Maldives opened its first cross-sea bridge to traffic in August 2018.

The China-Maldives Friendship Bridge in the Indian Ocean is a Belt and Road flagship project. In regions beyond, plenty of similar projects are forging closer bonds between countries and peoples while substantiating win-win cooperation marked by mutual

benefit.

**The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative has evolved into the largest platform for international cooperation five years after its launch, epitomizing China's thinking concerning development, diplomacy, global vision and international responsibility -- a sum total of the four decades of the country's reform and opening-up.**

The reform efforts also helped China develop its answer to a frequently asked question in the West: Does the awakened lion in the East bring opportunities or harbor threats for the world?

The Chinese answer features a commitment to the path of peaceful development and breaking away from the old Western mindset of power resulting in hegemony, and a strong political will to seek shared benefits through consultation and collaboration. **China aims for a new type**

**of international relations as well as a common community with a shared future for mankind.**

Aftab Siddiqui, founder of Britain's China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Working Group, said China's increasingly deep involvement in international affairs over the years has helped it exert global influence, in addition to setting an example in terms of its peaceful approach, which pursues consensus while objecting to interference in other country's internal affairs.

Amid new challenges stemming from a changing world, China has never stopped seeking solutions. Among them was the conclusion that peace and development are both major global trends or the vision of a common community with a shared future for mankind. The past was a testament to China's growth reinforcing the promotion of global peace and development.

China's approach of aligning the country's interests with the rest of the world's is a bid to build a more inclusive, democratic, open, innovative, and efficient multilateral world, the Spanish foreign policy magazine *Politica Exterior* has said, and is inspiring an increasing number of people worldwide.

### MUTUAL LEARNING, CONNECTIVITY

The International Free Trade Zone in Djibouti takes up an area about a tenth of the coastal country in Northeast Africa. It is being co-built with Chinese enterprises.

The billboard at the entry reads "Time is Money" and "Efficiency is Life," the same slogans that were

once popular in China. The aim is to build a sea transport, financial and trade center in East Africa.

World Bank President Jim Yong Kim said, "Understanding the path China traveled, historical decisions made, and their effects on the course of China's economy can inform decision-makers hoping to achieve similar outcomes in their countries and for their populations."

China's development path offers "an option other than the Western modes," said Zheng Yongnian, director of the East Asian Institute at the National University of Singapore. "Importing no foreign mode while exporting no Chinese mode -- this is itself something globally significant," he added.

China's "journey" has repeatedly demonstrated that all roads lead to modernization and that globalization is no Westernization. As the old saying goes, the feet know where the shoes bite, i.e. every country should determine its own development path based on history, reality and the experiences of civilizations.

Martin Jacques, a professor at Cambridge University, noticed a need for Western countries to learn more, saying China, with its new perception of socialism, has offered the world "a new example" and "a new possibility."

The past four decades of China's reform and opening-up have seen common development and progress in its in-depth interactions with the world. The process also testifies to China's confidence and capability to promote global growth and to contribute to a better tomorrow for mankind.

(XINHUA)

### STORY

## Railway photographer Fu Shikai reflects on past forty years

At the recently concluded Sixth Yunnan Photography Exhibition, We met Fu Shikai, a famous railway photographer. Once a locomotive driver, Fu now contributes to a railway photography column. His works, focusing on the railway, include more than one million photographs.

Recalling his photographing experience in the past 40 years, Fu talked eloquently.

In 1973, he was studying at a locomotive driver school. When he first saw a train driver operating the steam engine, he was greatly impressed. He managed to find a camera and photographed the memorable moment. He described his feelings as follows: The steam engine is like a steel man, masculine and powerful.

Ten years later, when he first saw a diesel locomotive, he again felt excited. In his photographs, the internal combustion locomotive was no longer a steel man but became a pretty girl, with the green body attractively decorated with two yellow ribbons and two small red flags.

In the early 1990s, the electric locomotive came to Yunnan. In Fu's eyes, the electric locomotive not just showed the character of a steel man but was clean and free of pollution, and the

drivers were wearing white gloves. "The electric locomotive is fast and had great capacity. It consumes electricity when going uphill but generates electricity when going downhill. It's amazing!" said Fu. In addition to the locomotive, he also paid attention to people, buses and depots along the railway lines.

Now Yunnan is in the era of high-speed rail, and the great changes make Fu extremely excited and almost overwhelmed. From a professional perspective, he recorded the changes brought by the high-speed rail era as well as his inner feelings. "Formerly unimaginable things are turned into reality. Railway workers' dreams have finally come true. Like the EMU train, our country is developing rapidly," Fu said emotionally.

Now Fu has another dream. He hopes to hold a personal photography exhibition and share the history of the Yunnan's railway development with more people. His photographs are witnesses of the development of railway transportation in the past 40 years of reform and opening up. "I was once a locomotive driver. We must be worthy of this era," Fu said. (By Li Hongfeng, Photo by Fu Shikai)



### CULTURE

## 18 years: Achang cook carries on traditional Guoshou rice noodle

As the food documentary "Once upon a Bite" gets popular around China, the Achang people's *Guoshou rice noodle* (or cross-the-hand rice noodle) has drawn more and more attention of the audience.



Prepare the *Guoshou rice noodle*

*Guoshou rice noodle* originates from Husa Town, Longchuan County, Dehong Dai and Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture. It is the delicacy of Achang people. And it gets the name because people eat it barehanded.

In 2000, Lin Zhengliang, a cook of *Guoshou rice noodle*, left his hometown Husa for Mangshi city, capital of Dehong prefecture, where he opened the Yuanzhi Husa *Guoshou Rice Noodle Restaurant*.

Today, the Yuanzhi Restaurant has developed into one of the most popular restaurants in Mang City. Behind the delicacy, there are Lin Zhengliang's persistence in carrying on the traditional Achang cooking skills and local people's love for their hometown.

Born and growing up in an Achang village, Lin has a special love for *Guoshou rice noodle*. Under the instructions from his father's generation, Lin has become a master in cooking the rice noodle. "As a homemade delicacy of Achang people, *Guoshou rice noodle* is a signature dish whenever there is an Achang wedding banquet," said Lin. *Guoshou rice noodle*

is famous for its various ingredients. Among them, the grilled pork is worth mentioning. "How delicious the meat will be is largely dependent on how proper the temperature is. You need to ensure the juice to be contained in the meat, making it taste fresh and tender," Lin introduced.

"If you eat barehanded, the rice noodle will be more appetizing. With chopsticks and bowls, you can eat one bowl. But no chopstick and bowl, you can have two."

"If you eat barehanded, the rice noodle will be more appetizing. With chopsticks and bowls, you can eat one bowl. But no chopstick and bowl, you can have two," Lin said, the food tastes differently when you enjoy it in different ways.

In 18 years, Lin insists on using Husa-produced ingredients to cook *Guoshou rice noodle* in Zhiyuan Restaurant. "Only these ingredients from Husa can be cooked into genuine *Guoshou rice noodle*," Lin said, maybe delicacies also have their own "roots". According to him, the *Guoshou rice noodle* is part of Achang people's life. "If you cook the noodle with ingredients from other places, you will lose its soul and weaken its vitality."

(Daguan Weekly)

### POVERTY ALLEVIATION

## Mulberry and silkworm help get rid of poverty

Zhou Yonghong is a farmer from Banqiao Village, Jiucheng Town, Luxi County. He chose to grow mulberry and rear silkworm three years ago. It was a positive choice and a passive transfer as well.

Coal mining used to be the mainstay of Jiucheng Town. Farmers worked on coal mines nearby and their lives were comfortable. However, according to the policy deployed at the national level, small coal mines scattered throughout Jiucheng Town were closed one after another. Villagers lost their income sources and became poor due to lack of other skills.

In 2013, Luxi County launched a program of mine green restoration. Banqiao Village took advantage of the program and guided farmers to plant mulberry trees widely which has not only consolidated the achievements of mine green restoration, but also explored a poverty alleviation way supported by green ecological industry.

"Planting mulberry tree and rearing silkworm is

easy. The cost is low and the skills is easy to learn but the income is pretty good. It can not only solve the employment problem of the surplus rural labor force, such as the elderly, women and the sick, but also enable farmers returning from mines to achieve sustained and stable income. Cheng Zhoufu, secretary of Jiucheng Party Committee, has sorted out his thoughts with other village carders and work team members from the Migrant Development Bureau resident in his village.

Zhou Yonghong is a member of the successful transformation. Not only he himself got rid of poverty, and 4 poor households have been absorbed to work on his base.

Hemin Village and Dabanqiao Village under Banqiao Village Committee provided 3.6 million mulberry seedlings to their farmers. Over 3000 mu mulberry trees were planted and 285 households from 5 village groups got involved, in which 137 are poor households on file.

By Li Shufen



Silkworm helps villagers get rid of poverty (Photo by Yunnan.cn)

## World's longest span railway arch bridge in China



Aerial photo taken on Dec. 9, 2018 shows the railway arch bridge across the Nujiang River in southwest China's Yunnan Province. With a grand arch bridge erected on Monday morning, Chinese constructors have built the longest-spanning railway arch bridge with a single span of 490 meters. The bridge is a key project of the 220-km-long Dali-Ruili railway which is a key section of the China-Myanmar international railway corridor linking Kunming, the provincial capital of Yunnan, with Yangon of Myanmar

Photo by Xinhua

## A grand Indian wedding in Kunming

A traditional and grand Indian wedding was held in Kunming on December 8 through 14. The new couples from the Sanjay Jain family of the Siddha Group of India, got married by the Dianchi Lake and added a touch of exotic favor to the Spring City in winter.

"My family members held weddings abroad before, but this is the first time here in Kunming. The beautiful lake and mountain, fresh air and colorful ethnic cultures are very new to us," said one guest at the wedding.

Wang Xiangyun, president of Yunnan China-India Cooperation and Exchanges Promotion Association, said Kunming was selected because of its advantaged climate and unique ethnic culture.

As early as January 20, 2018, Ma Zhanwu, China's Consul-General in Calcutta met with Mahesh Saharia, the honorary local

Consul-General in India and Chairman of the India-China Cooperation Promotion Center in his official residence. Mr. Saharia said that West Bengal is only two hours' flight from Yunnan Province, where there are many advantages for exchanges and cooperation in education, culture and tourism. At present, West Bengal is increasingly enthusiastic about exchanges with China and looks forward to establishing closer ties with Yunnan. In particular, many Indians go abroad to hold luxury weddings and some intend to go to Yunnan. He hoped that with the support of the China's Consulate General, their first large-scale wedding could be able to hold in Kunming. Consul-general Ma appreciated the counterpart's commitment to promote friendly exchanges between China and India over the years and indicated that his Consu-

late-General would like to work closely with them to promote the development of relations between West Bengal State and Yunnan Province by actively providing assistance.

Yunnan is located at the junction of China and South and Southeast Asia. Its unique geographical location made it a bridge connecting the Pacific Ocean and the Indian Ocean and a link between Southwest China and South

and Southeast Asia. According to the wedding organizer, Kunming has good software and hardware conditions and easy to access for undertaking large-scale weddings from India. They hoped that with the successful holding of this large-scale wedding, Yunnan will become a high-end wedding destination with its unique attractions for Indian couples.

**Comprehensive Report, Photo by Li Qiuming**

