NATO shows its true colors as war machine

The NATO summit held on July 12 that would provide Ukraine with status whatever, which is banned by more than 130 nations, was a summit of the 30 members of the alliance with the aim of providing for the fourth time the small nation with a strategic status.

Under the weather
Extreme climate conditions pose threat to countries around world

GLOBE LEAD PAGE 7

Vision China studies influence of ancient culture on modern world

China Daily
Frid, July 14, 2023

Beijing stresses regional stability

Wang tells Blinken time-honored steps needed to put Sin-U.S. relations back on right track

By ZHANG YUNJI
zhangyunbi@chinadaily.com.cn

Seizing stability in the East Asia region and mending distrust from some countries outside the region are high on the agenda of a series of bilateral and multilateral meetings attended by Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi on Thursday.

Wang, director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, is in Jakarta, Indonesia, to attend the annual ASEAN-Plus Foreign Ministers Meetings — a series of meetings involving the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations plus countries including China, the United States, Japan and Russia.

On the sidelines, Wang also held bilateral talks with senior diplomats from countries including the US and Russia on Thursday.

Wang told the US Secretary of State Blinken that the US of late has been talking about reducing the risk of tension in the region. But, China does not have the habit of offering any gift so much that he invited his friend over for a look. The price this personalized air conditioner was sold for 120 units, or roughly a quarter with singular function.

Zhang is among the growing group of Chinese consumers who are diagnosing demand for domestic projects. In the past, people would not have been able to have a bigger design, pattern and freedom.

Demand for new kinds of products is being met by some famous digital technologies that are changing the market together with Chinese manufacturers and online retailers.

At the China Exhibition of modern"/CN-5, 07/14/2023 7:02:52 PM

CUSTOMERS BUY INTO HIGH-TECH CONSUMPTION

Industrial interest in helping manufacturers, retailers provide tailor-made products

By JAN PEPPER
jpepper@chinadaily.com.cn

The China Exhibition of modern"/CN-5, 07/14/2023 7:02:52 PM

Wi-Fi, 5G, AI, cloud computing and other high-tech consumer products are widely used in modern life. Consumers can get a better understanding of the development of these advanced technologies and try them at the exhibition. It is expected to overshadow the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.

At a symposium on cultural heritage and development on June 24, President Xi Jinping, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, summarized five previous features of China's civilization — resilience, originality, universality, inclusiveness, and peacefulness.

In his keynote speech at the event, Li, director of the National Culture and Cultural Industry Administration, said it is time to delve into the study and implementation of Chinese civilization to coexist in a peaceful manner.

"We will deepen our research in various fields, promote the world's multipolarization process and opposites harmonization of every kind," said Li. As a result, China and ASEAN have shared the highest common goals and the most common principles.

Also on Thursday, Wang attended the Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization on Cooperation and Dialogue between the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

China and ASEAN are currently each other's largest trade partner. When discussing the meeting, Wang estimated that their annual bilateral trade is expected to exceed $1 trillion this year.

When reviewing the landmark transportation projects achieved by China and ASEAN countries within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, he said that over 200 billion people have received tangible benefits.

Wang also said that China will otherwise continue the second part of the draft for the expected Code of Conduct for the expected Code of Conduct in the South China Sea, adding that it supports all parties to accelerate formulating a guideline document for the COC and ready to continue playing a constructive role in resolving the COC.

Chen Xiangqian, an expert researcher on China's Foreign Policy, said that China and ASEAN are now working to form a community with a shared future and a community of open and just, setting the basic framework against the ASEAN countries' future on the South China Sea.

In the early 90s, a team of archaeologists discovered the National Basket of Bejing, 1900 to 1900 in Beijing, marking a milestone in the early years of the Baby Han culture. The Han civilization is considered the oldest civilization in China, and its influence has spread to many parts of the world. The Han people have long coexisted with the other ethnic groups of China, and their culture has left a lasting legacy in the development of Chinese civilization.
Among the new products hitting the market are offerings designed to minimize skin contact with products that keep food fresh and healthy, a popular trend in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Beverly Wang, director of the Distribution and Consumption Institution at the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology Economics, said, “The new consumption model will also benefit industries such as cloud computing and artificial intelligence, driven mainly by a new round of technological revolution.”

The new consumption model will also benefit industries such as cloud computing and artificial intelligence, driven mainly by a new round of technological revolution. “Consumers have become a major driver of China’s economic growth,” said Dr. Wang. “With a significantly increasing demand for consumption growth, over 35 percent of the gross domestic product is comprised of household consumption.”

In the January-March period, the country’s retail sale increased 13.5 percent year over year to 12.7 trillion yuan ($2 trillion), said the National Bureau of Statistics. In the January-March period, the country’s retail sale increased 13.5 percent year over year to 12.7 trillion yuan ($2 trillion), said the National Bureau of Statistics.

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**TOP NEWS**

Kenyan protest over living costs

Kenya's economy has been hit hard by rising living costs, with inflation rates exceeding 10% for the first time in years. The government has been under pressure to find solutions to the crisis, which has sparked protests across the country. President Uhuru Kenyatta has announced plans to increase prices of key commodities, including maize and wheat, in an attempt to stabilize the economy. However, critics have warned that this could further fuel inflation and exacerbate the crisis.

**Offshore RMB sees strong surge vs dollar**

China's offshore RMB has seen a significant surge against the US dollar, hitting a record high of over 7.20 to the dollar. The appreciation of the RMB has been driven by a combination of factors, including China's economic recovery, the US dollar's weakness, and increasing expectations of policy normalization. The offshore RMB has gained over 650 basis points against the greenback since July. This is the second time in 2023 that the offshore RMB has breached the 7.20 mark.

**Culture: Civilization to be showcased to world**

China is set to launch a series of cultural events and exhibitions in preparation for the World Expo in 2023. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism has announced plans to showcase China's rich cultural heritage and promote cultural exchange and dialogue. The events will include exhibitions, performances, and cultural exchanges, aiming to promote China's cultural软实力 and enhance its global influence.

**True colors: NATO growth seen as reckless**

NATO's expansion is widely seen as a reckless move that poses a threat to global stability. The expansion has been met with opposition from Russia and other countries, and its impact on regional security is uncertain. The US and its allies have been criticized for neglecting the concerns of smaller countries and putting pressure on them to join NATO. The decision to expand NATO is contrary to the principles of multilateralism and could undermine global cooperation on issues such as climate change and terrorism.

**Foreign trade resilience, stability seen**

China's foreign trade growth has been robust, with exports growing at an annual rate of 10.4% in January and February. This is a positive sign for the country's economic recovery and represents a bright spot in the global economy. The strong performance of China's exports is expected to continue, driven by rising global demand and China's competitive advantage in manufacturing and technology. The government has been promoting a more open and inclusive trade policy, which is expected to further boost China's foreign trade growth.
Platform firms seen boosting recovery

Expects: Digital economy’s next stage of development will create more jobs

By IAN TIEFEL and CHIKI YU

China’s platform companies are entering a new stage of development and will play a more significant role in bolstering economic recovery and job creation, said a senior researcher at the National Development and Reform Commission.


**New three’ help driving exports**

By LI YEURU

China’s foreign trade landscape is undergoing a transformation, with digital platforms and technology playing an increasingly important role.


**Big data, platform firm’s new driver**

By NI XIAOJIE

Driven by big data and technology, platform firms are becoming new drivers for economic growth.


**China: US lift sanctions before visit**

By WANG JIEXIN

China has urged the United States to abandon political suppression of Chinese companies and lift all sanctions before President Xi Jinping’s visit to the US next week.


**China’s digital industry: future of growth**

By LI ZHIYU

China’s digital industry is set to become a new driver for growth in the post-pandemic era.


**China’s platform firms: future of innovation**

By YUAN SHIHAN

China’s platform firms are set to become a driving force for innovation.


**China’s digital landscape: future of growth**

By WANG JIEXIN

China’s digital landscape is set to become a new driver for growth in the post-pandemic era.
Report: Domestic demand, BRI spur more opportunities for infrastructure developers

By FHAU NG-GUANCE

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has released its biannual report, "Asia Infrastructure Monitor: 2023 Update", which highlights the critical role of infrastructure development in driving economic growth, employment, and poverty reduction in Asia. The report emphasizes the need for sustainable and inclusive infrastructure projects to meet the region's rapidly growing demand for infrastructure services.

ADB Chief Economist and Director of the Economics and Research Department, Jung-Lee Lee, states that "infrastructure investment is essential for poverty reduction and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)." He further adds that "infrastructure development can support economic growth, enhance connectivity, and provide basic services to the most vulnerable populations in Asia.

The report highlights several key trends in infrastructure development in the region. First, there is a growing demand for sustainable infrastructure projects, such as renewable energy and water treatment facilities. Second, there is a need for more inclusive infrastructure projects that benefit all members of society, including women and marginalized communities. Third, there is a need for more resilient infrastructure projects that can withstand natural disasters and climate change.

ADB's report also notes that infrastructure development is facing several challenges, including funding constraints, political instability, and regulatory barriers. Despite these challenges, the report concludes that infrastructure development is essential for achieving the SDGs and fostering inclusive and sustainable economic growth in Asia.

The report also provides recommendations for policymakers, investors, and stakeholders. It suggests that policymakers should prioritize infrastructure development that meets the needs of all members of society, including the most vulnerable populations. It also recommends that investors should consider the long-term benefits of infrastructure development, including improved access to basic services, economic growth, and poverty reduction.

Overall, the report highlights the critical role of infrastructure development in driving economic growth and improving the lives of the people in Asia. It emphasizes the need for sustainable and inclusive infrastructure projects to meet the region's growing demand for infrastructure services. The report also provides valuable insights and recommendations for policymakers, investors, and stakeholders.

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Tansen's top gains spring from nation

By ZHIHUA WANG

The short-term fluctuations, however, have not altered Tansen's long-term commitment to the Chinese market as a long-term investor. The company's continued investment in the country has been driving exponential growth in the region, especially in the manufacturing sector, and is expected to continue in the years to come.

Tansen's chief executive officer, Michael Machuel, expressed his admiration for China's innovation over the past few decades and said that the country's commitment to the overall investment environment and seeking more cooperation opportunities has been instrumental in driving Tansen's growth in China.

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Adocco to further expand in Chinese market

By WEN LI in Shanghai

The Adocco Group (TAG), the largest human resources company in the world, will continue to invest in China by exploring new geographic opportunities with its local partner, said the company's chief executive officer during his visit to China in early July.

"China is a country with a huge talent pool," said Michael Machuel, Adocco's chief executive officer. "With a population of more than 1.4 billion people, China offers Adocco the opportunity to expand its operations in the country and to help more companies access the talent pool.

Adocco's expansion in China is part of its global strategy to become a leading provider of human resources services. The company has already established a strong presence in China, with a network of offices across the country. It plans to further expand its operations in the country, especially in the areas of recruitment, training, and talent management.

"We believe that China is a key market for Adocco," said Machuel. "We have already established a strong presence in the country and are committed to helping more companies access the talent pool. We believe that China is a key market for Adocco and we are committed to helping more companies access the talent pool."
**Game-changer AI gets full support**

Country to boost policies, develop national standards for LLM technology

By CHENG YU
dcyuan@caixin.com

China is actively encouraging artificial intelligence companies as well as other relevant institutions to build large language models, as part of a broader effort to boost the country’s progress in the critical technology. Chief PENG Fei, head of the AI firm OpenAI, on July 14, 2023, in Beijing, China.

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**China leads acceleration in global digital race**

REVIEW – China has seen a significant increase in the size of the global digital economy over the past seven years, and an accelerated development of the global digital economy. According to a research report released on July 1 at the main forum of the 2023 China Internet Conference in Beijing, the scale of China’s digital economy grew by 54.4 trillion to 2022, with a compound annual growth rate of 12.4 percent.

The share of the digital economy in the country’s GDP rose to 40 percent in 2022, with an increase of 5.5 percent year-on-year.

The number of global digital enterprises that reached RMB 10 billion in sales, accounting for 9 percent of GDP, increased by an average of 28.5 percent year-on-year.

Meanwhile, China and other countries around the world are acting on the key development of the global digital economy, with increased consumption and services to the public.

Data shows that in 2022, the operating income of China’s information technology industry was 43.1 trillion, and the information technology industry accounted for 7.7 percent of GDP.

Beijing and 18 partner cities, including almost all of China’s major cities, such as Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Nanjing, held the global digital economy partnership conference on July 14.

The initiative covers such fields as digital governance and digital transformation of processes, green development, and digital empowerment, and supporting global digital order in cooperation.

As China’s digital economy and global digital order are both experiencing a period of major growth, China has a huge advantage in shaping the new digital order.
Under the weather

A man helps a woman climb onto a flyover under construction on Wednesday after being displaced by rising waters amid heavy rain in New Delhi.

Extreme climatic conditions threatening communities across the globe set to increase

Countries across the world continue to experience extreme weather conditions such as severe thunderstorms, widespread fires and excessive heat waves.

In the United States, where emergency alerts were declared in several counties of New York, anxiety spread as a 10-year-old woman died after being swept up by floodwaters, as she tried to evacuate her Orange County home on Sunday. The flooding has caused “unspeakable” destruction, county official Steve Neuhaus said on Monday.

In Montpelier, the capital of Vermont state, streets turned into rivers and water spilt into adjacent downtowns, where a second flood issued. Blackouts occurred “record breaking flooding” over the past two days, according to local authorities.

Fear about global temperatures reaching record levels has become a reality, as the Earth’s average temperature hit 13.3°C on July 11 and 13.9°C on July 12 and 13. The melting of DC was crossed on consecutive days.

Heat waves also hit more places than predicted. In India, hundreds of people had to be taken to hospital when the temperature touched 41.5°C. Spain and Germany are all experiencing an extremely hot summer, and the United Kingdom had its hottest June since 1976.

These climatic conditions, associated with the warming of sea surface temperatures, have aggravated the situation, triggering extreme events across the globe.”

Other people and those with diabetes, obesity, heart disease and other serious health conditions are most at risk for severe weather conditions, according to experts.
Liaoning's Hongshan Culture sites seen as one of birthplaces of Chinese civilization

The importance of national heritage

China Daily committed to Xi's focus on promoting Chinese civilization

WHAT THEY SAY
Doctors in England launch unprecedented 5-day strike

BY JONATHAN POWELL in London jonathan.powell@theguardian.com

Junior doctors in England started a five-day strike on Thursday after losing a court battle over what is being reported as the longest-ever dispute over the future of the National Health Service.

Doctors have withdrawn from a planned 24-hour walkout on Tuesday to maintain some services after a judge ruled against their union, the Independent Medical Practitioners Association, and a union representing junior doctors, the Junior Doctors Federation. The ruling means hospitals are facing potential shortages of medical staff.

The strike is a significant blow to the government's efforts to reform the NHS, which has been under increasing pressure in recent years due to funding constraints and rising demand for services.

The strike is one of the longest in the country's history, and it has been a significant challenge for the government, which has been trying to implement a range of reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the NHS.

The strike is expected to have a significant impact on hospital services, with patients facing longer waiting times and reduced access to specialist care.

NATO refutes unwarranted accusations

BY MINH-ZHUANG

China's top envoy to the United Nations has refuted "unwarranted attacks and accusations" against China in a recent communique issued during the NATO Summit in Vienna, Lithuania.

"The Cold War has long ended, but the ghost of the Cold War mentality has been looming over the world," said Wang, adding that "NATO has become a regional club that poses a threat to the legitimate security interests of other countries in the region, forming a threat to the peace and stability of China's surrounding maritime area, the many Medias.

"As a transparent, democratic and open defensive alliance, the Alliance has a very serious responsibility to ensure regional security and stability, and should not become a regional club that poses a threat to the legitimate security interests of other countries in the region, forming a threat to the peace and stability of China's surrounding maritime area, the many Medias.

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EU votes in favor of nature restoration

BY CHEN WEIHUA

The European Parliament on Wednesday adopted the EU Nature Restoration Law that aims to protect biodiversity and combat climate change, despite the opposition of 29 of its 27 political groups. The law will ban nature-destroying activities, such as Lux Sola, for at least 25 years. It will also ban the destruction of wetland areas, including wetlands, peatland, and forest areas. The law, supported by 336 MEPs, is expected to enter into force in 2024 and will be implemented by national governments.

China’s President Xi Jinping (center) visits Xinjiang’s innovation and technology offices in Kunming, Yunnan province, on January 29. He pledged to share his region’s experiences and technologies with Uganda. This is the first trip to Africa by a Chinese president in the past 11 years. Xinhua and Handout are the other sources during the visit. 2023/1/29 XINHUA

Military alliance’s attempt to interfere in Asia-Pacific security sparks fears

VLADIVOSTOK, Russia - The 2nd Vnukovo summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization concluded on Wednesday amid divisions among members and criticism from the international community. During the summit, Turkey and Greece, NATO’s closest ally, announced a new military base in Estonia. The conference also failed to agree on a joint statement and fails to show any indication of progress towards the goals set out by the allies at the 2018 Brussels summit. The summit is being held at a time of increased tensions between the United States and China.

Will Patten, a lawyer at the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that “the United States and China are engaged in a new Cold War in the Asia-Pacific region.” He added that the situation is “very tense and very dangerous.”

“Both sides should avoid provoking each other and should focus on de-escalating tensions,” he said.

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Divisions come to the fore at NATO summit

Military alliance’s attempt to interfere in Asia-Pacific security sparks fears

US President Joe Biden (center) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (right) attend the 2021 G-20 summit, the first in-person meeting of the group since 2019. (Photo: Reuters)
**Comment**

**Currying favor with White House will ultimately bleed UK economy**

Counselling to protect the United Kingdom’s National Security and Investment Act (UKNISA) annual review report earlier this month, 650 investment reviews and 17 final notifications were released, including those on RWE and ENI. The White House has been self-serving in its dealings with the UK, the author argues.

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**Opinion Line**

**Developed countries cannot shrink climate change duties for too long**

The Chinese government has been making headline-grabbing climate promises as part of its effort to build its global role. But critics say these promises are not backed up by actions.

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**What They Say**

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**So-called arbitration award nugatory ploy of US**

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Overemphasizing security

The West should see the negative impact of its theory of decoupling with China and construct constructive exchanges with Beijing

The overemphasizing of security concerns is both a strategic error and a strategic threat. The overemphasis cannot be an element in the current international landscape. At the Summer高峰会, the United States and some Western countries repeatedly accused "de-risking" in their China policy.

In the name of de-risking, they have taken precautionary restrictions on China in terms of market access and supply chains. Recently, the US and the Netherlands strongly restricted exports to China. Washington continues to tighten security standards on some Chinese investments.

This puts pressure on China, proposed by some US companies, specifically targeting the so-called "hostile" countries. Although the leaders of the US and the West have realized that decoupling with China in the interests of wealth, parties, they still insist on monopolizing the right to define the risks for security and ease de-risking to continue their economic bullying of China.

In fact, the premise of security issues in global dialogues. Western countries should be aware of their conditional thinking and carry on diplomacy with China. Marcuse, a German economist, said, "China has become a global superpower and China's economic growth has reshaped the contours of the world economy."

The US has also been de-emphasizing that the US-China relationship faces some security issues, but the US has repeatedly emphasized the "intolerable" nature of China's human rights issues.

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Wisdom prevails as martial arts drama boosts genre

Brains rather than brawn is the key to unconventional hero’s popularity, Xu Fan reports.

When veteran scriptwriter Liang Zhenzhao revealed that his new wuxia (martial arts) series The Ingenious One can prove that martial arts literature still possesses vigor and vitality, then it will justify the effort and dedication we have put into its creation.

Liang Zhenzhao, scriptwriter

Deep within the hearts of most Chinese wuxia fans lies a vast realm of chivalrous righteousness. If The Ingenious One can prove that martial arts literature still possesses vigor and vitality, then it will justify the effort and dedication we have put into its creation.

Liang Zhenzhao, scriptwriter

A new era from The Ingenious One, which continues a revered tradition of Chinese martial arts genres. Above right: The popular wuxia series actor Chen Xiao as an unconventional hero who plays on the wisdom to face off enemies, and actress Mao Xiaotian as the protagonist’s tantalizing temptress. (PHOTO PROVIDED BY NSD/FARA)

Legacy etched in terraces serves modern purpose

KUNMING — Amid the rice terraces in Diankou village in Southwest China’s Yunnan province, Li Zhengfu ranks among the local Liang people for more than 1,000 years. Rice cultivation, fish farming and duck raising — all are inseparable terraces. It is a way of life that weaves a story of harmony, tradition, wisdom and innovation.

The Cultural Landscape of Honghe Hani and Yi Terraces was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2013. The terraces cascade down the slopes of the towering Ailao Mountains to the banks of the Honghe River. Over the past 1,200 years, the Hani people have developed a complex system of channels to bring water from the forest mountainous regions to the terraces. This forms a synthetic agricultural ecosystem of houses, villages, terraces and rivers.

Li’s fields are nestled in the core region of these terraces. However, the rugged slopes of the Ailao Mountain lack large areas of flatland, making modern agricultural equipment impractical for these small terraces. Consequently, the income derived from the terraces remained limited for many years. Despite these challenges, Li remained steadfast. “The terraces are my nest,” he says. “We can lose anything, but not the fields.”

The terraces flourished, as did the local cuisine of rice, duck, and fish. Li’s Hani cuisine is renowned for its unique flavors and traditional methods. Furthermore, the terraces provide a rich source of inspiration for Liang’s work.

However, traditional Hani villages and their terraced fields face new challenges. Urbanization, environmental degradation, and the pressure of economic development have all contributed to the decline of these traditional landscapes. Yet, the terraces remain a symbol of tradition, resilience, and cultural heritage.

In response to these changes, the Liang family and the Ailao Mountain Terraces Association have been working to preserve and promote the terraces. They have organized workshops and seminars to teach traditional terracing techniques to a new generation of farmers. Through these efforts, the terraces are being restored, and the cultural heritage they represent is being preserved.

In recognition of their efforts, Liang and his family were awarded the prestigious UNESCO Prize for Cultural Diversity in 2019. This recognition serves as a testament to the enduring value of these traditional landscapes.

In the words of Liang, “The terraces are more than just fields; they are a living bridge connecting the past and present. They are a testament to the resilience of our culture.”

Liang’s dedication to preserving and promoting the terraces is an inspiration to all who seek to preserve and respect our cultural heritage. Through his efforts, the terraces continue to thrive, preserving a slice of traditional Chinese culture for future generations to enjoy.

Above left: A scene from The Ingenious One, which continues a revered tradition of Chinese martial arts genres. Above right: The popular wuxia series actor Chen Xiao as an unconventional hero who plays on the wisdom to face off enemies, and actress Mao Xiaotian as the protagonist’s tantalizing temptress. (PHOTO PROVIDED BY NSD/FARA)

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Liang’s dedication to preserving and promoting the terraces is an inspiration to all who seek to preserve and respect our cultural heritage. Through his efforts, the terraces continue to thrive, preserving a slice of traditional Chinese culture for future generations to enjoy.

Legacy etched in terraces serves modern purpose

KUNMING — Amid the rice terraces in Diankou village in Southwest China’s Yunnan province, Li Zhengfu ranks among the local Liang people for more than 1,000 years. Rice cultivation, fish farming and duck raising — all are inseparable terraces. It is a way of life that weaves a story of harmony, tradition, wisdom and innovation.

The Cultural Landscape of Honghe Hani and Yi Terraces was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2013. The terraces cascade down the slopes of the towering Ailao Mountains to the banks of the Honghe River. Over the past 1,200 years, the Hani people have developed a complex system of channels to bring water from the forest mountainous regions to the terraces. This forms a synthetic agricultural ecosystem of houses, villages, terraces and rivers.

Li’s fields are nestled in the core region of these terraces. However, the rugged slopes of the Ailao Mountain lack large areas of flatland, making modern agricultural equipment impractical for these small terraces. Consequently, the income derived from the terraces remained limited for many years. Despite these challenges, Li remained steadfast. “The terraces are my nest,” he says. “We can lose anything, but not the fields.”

The terraces flourished, as did the local cuisine of rice, duck, and fish. Li’s Hani cuisine is renowned for its unique flavors and traditional methods. Furthermore, the terraces provide a rich source of inspiration for Liang’s work.

However, traditional Hani villages and their terraced fields face new challenges. Urbanization, environmental degradation, and the pressure of economic development have all contributed to the decline of these traditional landscapes. Yet, the terraces remain a symbol of tradition, resilience, and cultural heritage.

In response to these changes, the Liang family and the Ailao Mountain Terraces Association have been working to preserve and promote the terraces. They have organized workshops and seminars to teach traditional terracing techniques to a new generation of farmers. Through these efforts, the terraces are being restored, and the cultural heritage they represent is being preserved.

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A musical celebration of compassion

New oratorio about Jewish refugees to make global debut in the city, Xu Xiaomin reports.

Shipswreck artifacts go on show for first time

Produced by a group of top international musicians, an oratorio telling the story of Jewish refugees navigating their new life in Shanghai during World War II will have its global premiere in the city this November.

Maestro Zu Long, the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic have jointly commissioned the oratorio titled Embrace, composed by award-winning American Korean-American composer Aaron David Dworkin, the winner of the Leonard Bernstein Award for Orchestral Composition awarded by the New York Philharmonic.

The oratorio will premiere in New York’s Carnegie Hall on November 1 before moving to the China Shanghai Symphony Hall next month. The Shanghai Symphony Orchestra and the Shanghai Municipal Department of Cultural Affairs will jointly organise the oratorio, which will be conducted by Mark Campbell, who also serves as the artistic director and conductor of the Zhongzhou Philharmonic Orchestra.

The oratorio will present on November 14 at the Shanghai Symphony Hall before making its US premiere in the David Geffen Hall at the Lincoln Center in New York on November 15. The idea for the production came from Yu, music director of the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, who spoke to Dworkin about it at the beginning of 2023 in New York. Both of them then agreed to produce a work that would move a moment in history.

In the 1990s, Yu says that he was moved by a news report about the Nazis in Europe as most countries were facing a Jewish migration or had faced their own history. The port of Shanghai opened its doors to about 30,000 Jews despite suffering the atrocities of Japanese invaders at the same time.

This act of kindness led many Jews elsewhere to杉杉 the “Shangri-La of the Orient”.

"With all that said, this is a story of bravery and love that is told through a musical language. The oratorio will allow for it to be presented around the world," Yu adds.

The Jewish refugees and Chinese residents who engaged the Jews experienced a unique crossing of cultures.

If you go

**Travelling from Rivers and Ocean Underwater Archaeology and the Yangtze River Delta**

Archaeology and the Yangtze River Delta, an exhibition running from September 2 to December 31. The exhibition will offer insights into the rich history of the Yangtze River Delta, one of the most densely populated regions in the world.

- **Location:** Shanghai History Museum, 335 Nanning Road, Huangpu district, Shanghai

**Shanghai Museum**

The New Philharmonic Orchestra will perform Erez, an oratorio telling the story of Jewish refugees in Shanghai, at the David Geffen Hall in New York’s Lincoln Center. In February, The Shanghai Symphony Orchestra (right) will present the work at the Shanghai Symphony Hall. Photos provided to chinadaily.com.cn

By ZHANG KUN in Shanghai

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Objects retrieved from the Huangtai River in January, 3, 5 ships were on display for the first time at the exhibition, “Stories from the Bottom: Underwater Archaeology and the Yangtze River Delta.” The Shanghai History Museum, which this time of three exhibits focusing on 3D objects, photographed and interactive displays.

The exhibition showcases the stories of the shipwreck discoveries, achievements made by China’s underwater archaeologists, the importance of the study of deep-sea ancient cities, and the significance of underwater archaeology’s development in China.

Shanghai museum director Liu Xin said the exhibition is the first of its kind in China and will offer a new perspective on the study of ancient cities.

In 2017, the museum launched a project to excavate shipwrecks on the Yangtze River Delta, which has so far yielded numerous important findings.

The exhibition will run until March 2024.
**Developing a new lease of life**

Ancient city is reaping the benefits of long-term regeneration projects, which target historical neighborhoods and dormant industrial sites, **Zhang Run** reports in Changsha, Jiangsu.

Changsha, an ancient city with a history of more than 2,500 years, is taking measures to improve the lives of its citizens and bring new life into its old town. Located in the south of Jiangsu province, in 1986, Changsha was an ancient city in China to win the title of "Heritage City". In 1996, an ancient city wall discovered and uncovered a prehistoric site that provides insights into the development of human activities, such as agriculture, which was well-reflected by the discovery of fossilized rice grains. The site was approved to be part of the "Ancient Chinese Settlement with Rice Culture" and received the 2006 Peking University Award for Outstanding Cultural Heritage Protection.

Today, the old city still has many residential communities with extensive building areas dating back to the early 20th century. The majority of these buildings are made of brick and have a unique urban landscape that meets the needs of the residents. The old buildings have been a focus of preservation efforts, and many of them have been restored.

In 2016, Xilingon ("West Creek"") Real Estate, a member of the first neighborhood, opened a new residential area. The project, which is located in the urban area of the city, has won numerous awards for its architectural design and has contributed to the development of the city's cultural landscape. However, only a few residents have moved into the area, and some of the buildings remain empty.

The local administration has taken a proactive approach to address this issue. In May, the city started a campaign to renovate and transform some of the old buildings for commercial development, which will provide new opportunities for the local community.

**Top left: A bird’s-eye view of the Xilingon community in Changsha, Jiangsu province. Top right: An ancient lifestyle center in the city, converted from old warehouses and pottery workshops. Middle: Changsha is a historical city with many houses and communities dating back to the early 1900s. Above left and right: The old community and vintage houses under restoration in the Xilingon community, ready to move back in.**

**Young dancers given opportunity to shine**

**By CHEN NAI**

On July 6, the Beijing Dance Academy launched its Junior Youth Dance Company in the capital.

Young dancers aged 15 to 18 will join the company to perform different dance forms, such as ballet, traditional Chinese, and contemporary dance, and to develop their skills. The Beijing Dance Academy, which is the top dance school in China, is dedicated to the development of the next generation of dancers.

**When I am with the older, I am reminded of my younger days studying at the academy.**

Wang Yuhao, artistic director of the Beijing Dance Academy, told the China Daily: "We will introduce these young dancers to the audience for the first time. They are not the only dancers in the academy, but they are the future of the academy. They will bring new hope and vitality to the academy." The dancers are expected to perform at various venues across the city.

**Shanghai Daily**"}

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