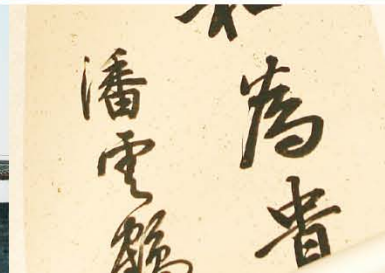




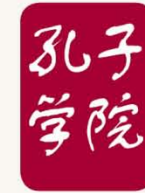
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Bunbury Critical Horizons Conference

By David Ambrose
Director of Confucius Institute



Bare Facts



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- The world's 3rd largest landmass after Russia and Canada – 960 m.sq.km. (Australia 5. m.sq.km)
- 85% of land area is mountains and hills
- 7% of world' arable land area
(since early 1990s 1% p.a. lost to non-agricultural use).
- 14 land borders



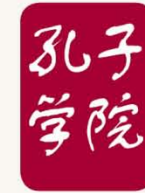
Population



- 1.3 bn. People
- Pre-1990, 80% rural population engaged in agricultural (subsistence) farming
- 50% now urban dwellers
- 150 cities of 1 million plus
- 500 million lifted out of poverty
- Chongqing Municipality 33 million; Australia – 22 million
- Post 1990, 150-200 million people have migrated from rural to urban areas (largest peaceful mass movement of people ever)
- 10 million people expected to move from countryside to urban areas annually



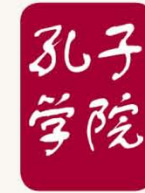
The Economy



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- 1980 - 2000 Quadruple GDP (achieved 1996/7)
- 2000 - 2010 Double GDP (achieved)
- 2010 - 2020 Double again (who doubts it?)
- 2050 – attain level of development enjoyed by advanced industrial economies in mid-80s
- World's 2nd largest economy
- Largest exporter of manufactured goods
- Largest manufacturer of motor vehicles
- Largest motor vehicle market
- Largest foreign reserves USD circa 3 trillion
- Largest recipient of FDI
- Largest producer of Coal – nearing 3 bn. tonnes; compare Australia – world's largest exporter of coal – c.150m tonnes
- Largest producer of steel
- World's largest emitter of green-house gases

Transport and Communications



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- 1970 China's rail network equal to the USA in 1865
 - 1986/7 first dual carriage-way highway Beijing- Tianjin opened
 - 2001 – 2008 trebled the length of expressways to 60,000 kms. equal in length to combined total of Canada, France and Germany
 - 2002 first high-speed train, Maglev, constructed 40kms Pudong - Pudong CBD
 - Currently building \$2 new high-speed railways, adding 13,000 kms of track
 - By 2012, China will have 50% of world's high-speed railway lines
 - 2008-9 built 6 new airports – total 166
 - 2010 – 2020 plan a total of 244 – with 80% of population within 100 kms of airport
-
- ❖ 700 million mobile phones
 - ❖ 400 million internet users (more than population of US)
 - ❖ 200 million bloggers and tweeters



Education



- Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution – Universities and schools closed – Teachers denounced as “stinking 9th category” of class enemies
- 1977-78 national university entrance exams – 10 million eligible to sit, 273, 000 admitted
- 2010 20 million undergraduates enrolled in Chinese universities – compare Australia’s total population (22 million)
- Shanghai has 39 universities, Australia 39

❖ *160,000 Chinese students studying in Australia*

