

## 1: Great Wall of China | New7Wonders of the World

*A Modern China and a New World: K'Ang Yu-Wei, Reformer and Utopian, (Publications on Asia of School of International Studies, No 25) Hardcover - March 1,*

In the 3 years from to , China used 6. These 7 modern wonders are just some of the things that have been built recently with all the construction material. It is the biggest concrete structure in the world too. It cost about 56 billion US dollars to build. See the huge dam and amazing scenery on a Yangtze cruise. It is a showcase of 21st century engineering. To save energy, the tower is built like a thermos bottle with an outer skin consisting of two glass facades. The line traverses the distance from London to Russia, or about the distance from New York to Colorado, for comparison. The trip currently takes 8 hours, and the price is economical: It now has more than million people. The PRD generated 9. The highest railway in the world highest elevation 5, meters or 16, feet , with the highest station and highest tunnel, is one of the greatest engineering feats in modern Chinese history. Empty Cities and Malls It is said that "20 new cities are being built every year in China". Aerial photographs of many new projects show big developments with almost no cars! It covers acres, twice the size of the Pentagon in Washington DC, and is vacant. The biggest building in the world in terms of total floor space, the New Century Global Center in Chengdu, eclipses all other malls and is faring better. Other Modern Chinese Wonders Interesting fact: In , China produced million metric tons of steel. This is almost 8 times what Japan produced and more than 10 times what the US produced. The Zhangjiajie Glass Bridge is the longest and highest of its kind in the world. Megaprojects are not limited to the Mainland. Recommended Tours Modern wonders abound at the Bund in Shanghai. Here are our top recommended tour ideas including these modern wonders:

## 2: The Rise of China as a Global Power

*[Discuss China's role in the world with New York Times journalists in a new Facebook group [here](#).] China's leadership turned to entrepreneurs in the late s, after the government had led.*

Chinese alcoholic rice wine containers. Alcoholic beverage and the process of fermentation: The earliest archaeological evidence of fermentation and the consumption of alcoholic beverages was discovered in neolithic China dating from 7000 BC. Examination and analysis of ancient pottery jars from the neolithic village of Jiahu in Henan province in northern China revealed fermented residue left behind by the alcoholic beverages they once contained. According to a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, chemical analysis of the residue revealed that the fermented drink was made from fruit, rice and honey. Clapper-bells made of pottery have been found in several archaeological sites. With the emergence of other kinds of bells during the Shang Dynasty c. 1600 BC. The earliest evidence of wooden coffin remains, dated at 4800 BC, was found in the Tomb 4 at Beishouling, Shaanxi. Clear evidence of a wooden coffin in the form of a rectangular shape was found in Tomb in an early Banpo site. The Banpo coffin belongs to a four-year-old girl, measuring 1.7m. As many as 10 wooden coffins have been found from the Dawenkou culture 4800 BC site at Chengzi, Shandong. Cookware and pottery vessel: The earliest pottery, used as vessels, was discovered in 7000 BC, found in Xianrendong Cave located in the Jiangxi province of China. The dagger-axe or ge was developed from agricultural stone implement during the Neolithic, dagger-axe made of stone are found in the Longshan culture 4800 BC site at Miaodian, Henan. It also appeared as ceremonial and symbolic jade weapon at around the same time, two being dated from about 4800 BC, are found at the Lingjiatan site in Anhui. It consisted of a long wooden shaft with a bronze knife blade attached at a right angle to the end. The weapon could be swung down or inward in order to hook or slash, respectively, at an enemy. Some of the earliest evidence of water wells are located in China. The Chinese discovered and made extensive use of deep drilled groundwater for drinking. The Chinese text The Book of Changes, originally a divination text of the Western Zhou dynasty BC, contains an entry describing how the ancient Chinese maintained their wells and protected their sources of water. A well excavated at the Hemudu excavation site was believed to have been built during the Neolithic era. The oldest fired bricks were found at the Neolithic Chinese site of Chengtoushan, dating back to 4800 BC. By 4800 BC, fired bricks were being used at Chengtoushan to pave roads and form building foundations, roughly at the same time as the Indus Valley Civilisation. While sun-dried bricks were used much earlier in Mesopotamia, fired bricks are significantly stronger as a building material. A painted stick dating from 4800 BCE excavated at the astronomical site of Taosi is the oldest gnomon known in China. The ancient Chinese used shadow measurements for creating calendars that are mentioned in several ancient texts. According to the collection of Zhou Chinese poetic anthologies Classic of Poetry, one of the distant ancestors of King Wen of the Zhou dynasty used to measure gnomon shadow lengths to determine the orientation around the 14th-century BC. Jade was prized for its hardness, durability, musical qualities, and beauty. Lacquer was used in China since the Neolithic period and came from a substance extracted from the lac tree found in China. The discovery in northern China of domesticated varieties of broomcorn and foxtail millet from 4800 BC, or earlier, suggests that millet cultivation might have predated that of rice in parts of Asia. The success of the early Chinese millet farmers is still reflected today in the DNA of many modern East Asian populations, such studies have shown that the ancestors of those farmers probably arrived in the area between 30,000 and 20,000 BP, and their bacterial haplotypes are still found in today populations throughout East Asia. Rowing oars have been used since the early Neolithic period; a canoe-shaped pottery and six wooden oars dating from the 4800 BC have been discovered in a Hemudu culture site at Yuyao, Zhejiang. The earliest use of turtle shells comes from the archaeological site in Jiahu site. The shells, containing small pebbles of various size, colour and quantity, were drilled with small holes, suggesting that each pair of them was tied together originally. Similar finds have also been found in the Dawenkou burial sites of about 4800 BC, as well as in Henan, Sichuan, Jiangsu and Shaanxi. Triangular-shaped stone ploughshares are found at the sites of Majiabang culture dated to 4800 BC around Lake Tai. Ploughshares have also been discovered at the nearby Liangzhu and Maqiao sites roughly dated to the

same period. Harris says this indicates that more intensive cultivation in fixed, probably banded, fields had developed by this time. The post-Liangzhu ploughs used draft animals. Archaeological excavations show that using steam to cook began with the pottery cooking vessels known as yan steamers; a yan composed of two vessel, a zeng with perforated floor surmounted on a pot or caldron with a tripod base and a top cover. The earliest yan steamer dating from about BC was unearthed in the Banpo site. The first evidence of pottery urn dating from about BC comes from the early Jiahu site, where a total of 32 burial urns are found, [ ] another early finds are in Laoguantai, Shaanxi. The burial urns were used mainly for children, but also sporadically for adults, as shown in the finds at Yichuan, Lushan and Zhengzhou in Henan. Quern stones were used in China at least 10, years ago to grind wheat into flour. The production of flour by rubbing wheat by hand took several hours. Saddle querns were known in China during the Neolithic Age but rotary stone mills did not appear until the Warring States Period. The site is located in the heartland of the northern Chinese loess plateau near the Yellow River. The archaeological evidence of the use of rammed earth has been discovered in Neolithic archaeological sites of the Yangshao and Longshan cultures along the Chinese Yellow River , dating back to BC. By BC, rammed-earth architectural techniques were commonly used for walls and foundations in China. In , a Chinese and Japanese group reported the discovery in eastern China of fossilised phytoliths of domesticated rice apparently dating back to 11, BC or earlier. However, phytolith data are controversial in some quarters due to potential contamination problems. By BC, rice had been domesticated at Hemudu culture near the Yangtze Delta and was being cooked in pots. One of the earliest salterns for the harvesting of salt is argued to have taken place on Lake Yuncheng , Shanxi by BC. Sericulture is the production of silk from silkworms. The oldest silk found in China comes from the Chinese Neolithic period and is dated to about BC, found in Henan province. The cultivation of soybeans began in the eastern half of northern China by BC, but is almost certainly much older. Wet field cultivation, or the paddy field, was developed in China. The earliest paddy field dates to BP, based on carbon dating of the grains of rice and soil organic matter found at the Chaodun site in Kushan County. A[ edit ] Bronze mirror of the Sui Dynasty “ showing the twelve divisions of the Chinese zodiac , the latter of which goes back to the Warring States period “ BC in China Acupuncture: Acupuncture, the traditional Chinese medicinal practice of inserting needles into specific points of the body for therapeutic purposes and relieving pain, was first mentioned in the Huangdi Neijing compiled from the 3rd to 2nd centuries BC Warring States period to Han Dynasty. The earliest and most complete version of the animal zodiac mentions twelve animals which differ slightly from the modern version for instance, the Dragon is absent, represented by a worm. Early Chinese artillery had vase-like shapes. This includes the "long range awe inspiring" cannon dated from and found in the 14th century Ming Dynasty treatise Huolongjing. This change can be seen in the bronze "thousand ball thunder cannon," an early example of field artillery.

### 3: A New Literary History of Modern China – David Der-wei Wang | Harvard University Press

*The book, Modern China and the New World, presents some of the most important issues confronting present-day China with the authors' insightful views. As an expert on the Asian-Pacific studies, Professor Doyle acknowledges China's role in shaping the future of the world in topics such as China's foreign policy and its relations to the U.S. and.*

Tsardom of Russia[ edit ] Main article: Tsardom of Russia Russia experienced territorial growth through the 17th century, which was the age of Cossacks. Cossacks were warriors organized into military communities, resembling pirates and pioneers of the New World. This area was settled by a population of free people practicing various trades and crafts. Cossacks became the backbone of the early Russian Army. In , the peasants of Ukraine joined the Zaporozhian Cossacks in rebellion against Poland-Lithuania during the Khmelnytsky Uprising , because of the social and religious oppression they suffered under Polish rule. Finally, Ukraine was split along the river Dnieper , leaving the western part or Right-bank Ukraine under Polish rule and eastern part Left-bank Ukraine and Kiev under Russian. In the east, the rapid Russian exploration and colonisation of the huge territories of Siberia was led mostly by Cossacks hunting for valuable furs and ivory. Russian explorers pushed eastward primarily along the Siberian river routes , and by the mid century there were Russian settlements in the Eastern Siberia, on the Chukchi Peninsula , along the Amur River , and on the Pacific coast. Reason and Enlightenment[ edit ] Further information: The Age of Reason in the Western world is generally regarded as being the start of modern philosophy , [56] and a departure from the medieval approach, especially Scholasticism. Early 17th-century philosophy is often called the Age of Rationalism and is considered to succeed Renaissance philosophy and precede the Age of Enlightenment, but some consider it as the earliest part of the Enlightenment era in philosophy, extending that era to two centuries. The 18th century saw the beginning of secularization in Europe, rising to notability in the wake of the French Revolution. The Age of Enlightenment is a time in Western philosophy and cultural life centered upon the 18th century in which reason was advocated as the primary source and legitimacy for authority. Enlightenment gained momentum more or less simultaneously in many parts of Europe and America. Developing during the Enlightenment era, Renaissance humanism as an intellectual movement spread across Europe. The basic training of the humanist was to speak well and write typically, in the form of a letter. The term umanista comes from the latter part of the 15th century. The people were associated with the studia humanitatis , a novel curriculum that was competing with the quadrivium and scholastic logic. They self-consciously imitated classical Latin and deprecated the use of medieval Latin. By analogy with the perceived decline of Latin, they applied the principle of ad fontes , or back to the sources, across broad areas of learning. The opposing two sides were, the Ancients Anciens who constrain choice of subjects to those drawn from the literature of Antiquity and the Moderns Modernes , who supported the merits of the authors of the century of Louis XIV. Fontenelle quickly followed with his Digression sur les anciens et les modernes , in which he took the Modern side, pressing the argument that modern scholarship allowed modern man to surpass the ancients in knowledge. Scientific Revolution The Scientific Revolution was a period when European ideas in classical physics , astronomy , biology , human anatomy , chemistry , and other classical sciences were rejected and led to doctrines supplanting those that had prevailed from Ancient Greece to the Middle Ages which would lead to a transition to modern science. This period saw a fundamental transformation in scientific ideas across physics , astronomy , and biology , in institutions supporting scientific investigation , and in the more widely held picture of the universe. Individuals started to question all manners of things and it was this questioning that led to the Scientific Revolution, which in turn formed the foundations of contemporary sciences and the establishment of several modern scientific fields. The French Revolution inspired a wave of revolutions across Europe. Liberalism and Nationalism were popular ideas that challenged Absolute Monarchies in the 19th century. French Revolution Toward the middle and latter stages of the Age of Revolution, the French political and social revolutions and radical change saw the French governmental structure, previously an absolute monarchy with feudal privileges for the aristocracy and Catholic clergy transform, changing to forms based on Enlightenment principles of citizenship and inalienable rights. The first revolution led to government by the

National Assembly , the second by the Legislative Assembly , and the third by the Directory. The changes were accompanied by violent turmoil which included the trial and execution of the king, vast bloodshed and repression during the Reign of Terror, and warfare involving every other major European power. Subsequent events that can be traced to the Revolution include the Napoleonic Wars, two separate restorations of the monarchy, and two additional revolutions as modern France took shape. In the following century, France would be governed at one point or another as a republic, constitutional monarchy, and two different empires. National and Legislative Assembly[ edit ] Main articles: It provided the focus of political debate and revolutionary law-making between the periods of the National Constituent Assembly and of the National Convention. The Directory and Napoleonic Era[ edit ] Main articles: The period of this regime 2 November until 10 November , commonly known as the Directory or Directoire era, constitutes the second to last stage of the French Revolution. Napoleon, before seizing the title of Emperor, was elected as First Consul of the Consulate of France.

### 4: Modern history - Wikipedia

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### 5: Modern Chinese Armour

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A poor match for the Marxist requirement that a state should industrialise before being ripe for revolution, agrarian China pursued a different path under the leadership of Mao Zedong. The stage was set for veteran politician Deng Xiaoping to rise to the top and implement his ideas of reform. Politics, however, remained under the tight control of the CCP, as the crushing of the Tiananmen Square student uprising demonstrated. Thus, just as Chairman Mao could proclaim in that China had stood up, so too market forces - or capitalism - allowed communist China to rehabilitate itself to the point where the rise of China is becoming a serious issue of consideration for 21st century international relations. As *The Economist* has observed: Indeed, China has been well equipped with the philosophical resources for socially constructing peace through Confucianism, Daoism and Buddhism. In all, the rise of China could represent an alternative to American global dominance. Whether this alternative is a form of complementary balance like the Chinese yin-yang symbol, or a dangerous competition for global hegemony, has remained a matter of debate. The yin-yang perspective is not without persuasion, though there are problems still complicating the hoped for harmony. Perhaps greatest amongst them is the problem not of physical power but the soft power of values: To understand this phenomenon of the emergence of China, it is important to establish what it takes to be a global power in the contemporary world. The term global power is a more contemporary term for great power, as traditionally employed in the International Relations IR literature, and a better fit for 21st century conditions than superpower. Superpower was the creation of the politics of 20th century nuclear weapons technology, even though the coining of the term in did not take the nuclear dimension into account but rather the global reach of a nation. Indeed, it needs to broaden out to the more traditional great power attributes of maintaining sufficient diplomatic, economic, and military resources for preserving the international order in which great powers presume themselves to be the main actors. In short, a global power needs to promote international order; possess formidable military capability and the communicated will to use it; and engage productively in transnational projects such as global justice, as well as deal effectively with transnational threats such as militant religious extremists. II Does China fulfil the criteria? Does it affect the criteria? Besides the balancing-of-power in maintaining this socially constructed system, great powers also engage in the order preserving mechanisms of international law, diplomacy, concerting or joint management of the system, and war when it acts to preserve or defend the system rather than destroy it. It is involved in more than international governmental organizations that deal with issues ranging from drug trafficking to the environment; 14 and it is an ardent supporter of the United Nations and international law, warning against the exercise of military power when peaceful methods of diplomacy ought to be given greater scope for realization. Even before its economic rise and military modernisation, China was a vocal critic of superpower conduct in world affairs. Even with the collapse of the Cold War structure, and the clear military and economic superiority that now rests with the remaining superpower, the United States still supports the prevailing state system and is sensitive to balance-of-power as well as concerting behaviour. Thus China may continue to exercise its role of superpower critic as the need arises. China is not alone in its balancing efforts, as the failure of the US to gain UN support for its war on Iraq in demonstrated. In this sense, the European Union EU and its member states, Russia and others act as both a concerting and balancing force. China, too, acted in concert with the US in its campaign against state-defying terrorism. Even though the US went ahead regardless, it still returned to the UN to gain a mandate to continue in the aftermath of the war and to involve other nations. This indicates that the American hegemon is aware of the need to maintain its power through legitimacy, as well as reducing its foreign policy costs in material terms, in the rate of casualties, and hence in domestic public opinion terms. Unlike the characteristically unipolar structure of the state system over which Washington presides coupled with US unilateralist management tendencies, China has been a strong advocate of multipolarity and, of late, multilateralism. Such a proposition supports the China threat thesis if a one is opposed to the emergence of an

Oriental hegemonic power in the state system preferring an Occidental one, or b if one is opposed to unipolarity, preferring a closer semblance of balance-of-power in bipolarity or multipolarity. In light of increasing opposition to US hegemonic leadership in the aftermath of the Iraq war, China may garner some support for its rise as a serious balancer to the US. However, the US would need to entrench itself in world-defying, self-aggrandising behaviour to warrant such an adversarial image. Indeed, the US would need to lose its hegemonic legitimacy and China to gain it. The Pursuit of Great Power Legitimacy It is unlikely the US will persist in such a self-destructive path of loss of legitimacy but it is possible that China will capitalize on it tactically in order to make strategic gains in its own legitimacy enhancement. And this is only in the political field. There is economic and military strength to consider too. This, China appears to be doing. Of interest are its more positive relations with traditional rivals Russia and India. This trade region will create an integrated market of 1. At the same time China has committed itself to a code of good conduct over the contested ownership of seabed resources in the South China Sea. Its dependence on oil imports has led it to energy investments in countries which are not only resource rich but also at polar extremes in terms of friend or foe in the American strategic spectrum. Why would China choose to invest in such politically risky energy producers? The answer largely lies with the benefits to be gained by entering regions that are prohibited to American business interests. It is more likely that it is a demonstration to Taiwan - an internal not international affair, as far as Beijing is concerned. It may be argued that with its minimal deterrent force China is hardly a nuclear superpower to be taken seriously. On the other hand, China does have global reach - how many nuclear warheads are needed to constitute a threat and to be deemed a credible deterrent? It does not have a strategic alliance system to defend or an umbrella under which allies shelter - as is the case with the US and its defence partners. Thus China can claim nuclear superpower status without arousing undue suspicion. The suspicion which it does arouse concerns Taiwan - and this is precisely what Beijing intends: For all its good-neighbourly diplomacy and calls upon the presiding superpower to exercise restraint in the exercise of its coercive power, China in domestic Tibet, Xinjiang, democracy movements, human rights and quasi-domestic PRC-Taiwan affairs is seen as overbearing when handling the problem of dissent. Irrespective of minority claims within its sovereign territory, China remains an accepted great power in the IR system. In military terms it is also a superpower if one accepts that its nuclear arsenal is adequate to the task of global deterrent reach and that its conventional forces can defend China in the improbable event of attack. Unlike the US and other modern military establishments, China lacks the latest technology. However, it continues its program of modernization, which it is increasingly able to afford thanks to a strengthening economy. Thus while China is a great power, exercising a valued balancing and concerting role in the system, it has yet to be accepted as a superpower along US lines. In terms of global power, China demonstrates an ability to engage in global governance when state-managed as in the UN and its agencies and transnational business relations benefiting from investments from transnational companies, but where issues of dissent and their wider ramifications are involved particularly democracy and human rights issues, global civil society is not overly impressed with China. Social networks independent of the state, including human rights activists, as well as postmodernist views on diversity and tolerance, find the authoritarian government of China troubling and out of touch with the global ethos. How will this affect the global community? Goods and, increasingly, services will not only be made in China but made for China. This does not imply a new cultural hegemony. Multiple traditions continue to express themselves in mandalas of their own syncretic design. This Sanskrit word which means circle is especially pertinent to the future of world trade. These are mandalized globalizations with Centres of cultural orientation, acting as ideational sources, 37 rather than Wallestianian Centres of industrial power dominating a dependent Periphery. What appears to be happening is state adaptation to this condition by seeking the benefits of globalisation while concerting to control its threats terrorism and international crime. It has still to present an acceptable human rights face to the world, but this may be managed through adoption of a contemporary Confucian humanism. It is expected to become the largest by the year by PPP calculations. Along with India, it is one of the two great civilisations of Asia. While India could rival China in the dimensions of greatness, China has had a head start. In terms of world powers, one cannot forget that an innovative America, an integrating Europe, and possibly a revitalising Russia, are also contenders. Great

powers - indeed global powers with unprecedented economic and security interdependence - must concert together as much as compete. The world no longer operates, if ever it did, as a zero-sum game. History has already demonstrated the latter proposition to be plausible. The international system is thus better served when rise of China becomes probable. A Handbook and Guide, Praeger, Westport, , p. Snow, Cases in International Relations: Portraits of the Future, Longman, New York, Toynbee, Change and Habit: Mark Borthwick, Pacific Century: The traditional call to pay tribute to the emperor of China was lai hua, meaning come and be transformed civilisationally. Hedley Bull, The Anarchical Society: China is not in favour of such a development as it supports multipolarity, and clearly the US is currently better qualified to aspire to such a condition - one which would effectively remove China as a balancer. See Hubert Vedrine et al. See Press-Barnathan, , p. This has evolved to China signing a code of conduct the Declaration of the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea in November whereby the signatory parties pledge not to use force to resolve the Spratly issue. Simon and Schuster, New York, This casts China in an unwarranted threatening light. The ancient Greeks sought human harmony through a balance of appetite, spirit, and reason. As to virtue, this is an ancient Chinese ideal par excellence. Virtue is thus seen as a legitimate or ethically-based power. By the same token, ethical behaviour is potent with power - it constitutes legitimacy. In Chinese traditional thought the balance sought is between yin and yang - between soft and hard power. This balance is not in equal measure of both but with civil wen or soft power leading over martial wu or hard power elements. Thus the ideal balance would be regarded, by way of illustration, as three parts yin and two parts yang. Sun Tzu, The Art of War trans. Griffith , Oxford University Press, London, On the contemporary use of the mandala metaphor, see articles in previous issues of The Culture Mandala, www. This term derives from the constructivist theoretical framework in International Relations, discussed in K.

### 6: China - BBC News

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