

CHINA DIGEST

Quotable

“When I read in President Xi’s speech that ‘the dream of the Chinese people is closely connected with the dreams of other peoples of the world’ and that ‘it is necessary to adhere to new development concepts’, I thought that indeed he put on the table of the global arena the challenge of understanding the real meaning of ‘common human destiny’ today.”



PETRE ROMAN, former prime minister of Romania, referring to the speeches delivered by President Xi Jinping in Davos, Switzerland, and the United Nations Office in Geneva a year ago.

ON THE SUBJECT OF ADMINISTRATION

“Laozi said: ‘I have three precious things that I prize and hold fast. The first is compassion; the second is frugality; the third is not presuming to be at the head of the world.’”

Scroll 34; Lao Zi

Editor’s note: This is an extract from *The Governing Principles of Ancient China*, based on 360 passages excerpted from the original compilation of *Qunshu Zhiyao*. *Qunshu Zhiyao* or *The Compilation of Books and Writings on the Important Governing Principles*, commissioned by Emperor Tang Taizong of the Tang Dynasty in the seventh century, contains advice, methods and historical notes on the successes and failures of the imperial governments of China. Today it continues to be relevant as a source of inspiration for self-improvement, family management and interpersonal relations.

Xi and May push to advance Sino-UK ties

China and Britain should enhance connection of development strategies and deepen cooperation in such areas as finance, nuclear power and investment, President Xi Jinping told visiting British Prime Minister Theresa May on Feb 1.

The two countries should design bilateral ties from a strategic and overall vision, continue to carry forward high-level dialogues in strategic, financial and cultural areas, and enhance exchanges between the legislatures, political parties and militaries of both sides, Xi said.

The president called on the two countries to boost mutual understanding, respect each other’s core interests and major concerns, and properly handle sensitive issues.

May said that in 2015, the “golden era” of United Kingdom-China relations was established when Xi made a successful state visit to the UK.

“Since then, I think we have indeed achieved a great deal in enhancing the links between our two countries, both in terms of people links but also trading links,” May said.

Tackle ‘sensitive’ issues, premier tells Japan

Premier Li Keqiang has described China-Japan ties as undergoing “warmth mixed with chills”, and he called on Japan to effectively tackle sensitive issues, including historical ones, and properly manage and control divergences.

Li also urged Tokyo to present positive prospects to all walks of life in both countries when he met with visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono in Beijing on Jan 28.

It is hoped Japan will create an ideal atmosphere for expanding cooperation, restarting the dialogue involved and promoting East Asia regional cooperation, Li said.

During Foreign Minister Wang Yi’s talk with Kono, earlier on the same day, Beijing and Tokyo agreed to convene a new round of the China-Japan-Republic of Korea Leaders’ Meeting as soon as possible.

The Foreign Ministry said the two sides agreed to create an enabling environment for convening the trilateral gathering.



President Xi Jinping and his wife, Peng Liyuan, enjoy a tea break with British Prime Minister Theresa May and her husband, Philip May, at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse on Feb 1. DING LIN / XINHUA

Rejection of flights ‘harms Taiwan people’

Taiwan’s rejection of additional flights during Spring Festival harms Taiwan people’s rights by obstructing them from returning home for family reunions, a Chinese mainland official said on Jan 31. Spring Festival begins on Feb 16 this year.

“The move is very stupid and unpopular among people,” Ma Xiaoguang, spokesman for the State Council, said at a news conference.

He noted that the Taiwan authority is linking additional flights during Spring Festival with the M503 air route, which are two completely unrelated issues.

“The Taiwan authority is taking Taiwan people hostage to get revenge on mainland airlines,” he said.

The island’s aviation authority rejected 176 additional cross-Straits flights operated by China Eastern Airlines and Xiamen Airlines, claiming safety concerns over the south-to-north operation of the M503 air route, which both airlines use. The decision is expected to affect 50,000 passengers.

FM: Beijing to ensure success of year’s events

China will ensure the success of a slew of international events it will host this year to boost opening-up and development, which is the trend of this era, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Jan 30.

Wang also reaffirmed China’s commitment to reform and boosting economic globalization. He was speaking at the Foreign Ministry’s New Year’s reception for foreign diplomats based in Beijing.

This year, China will host the Boao Forum for Asia, Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit, the leaders’ summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the China International Import Expo.

Wang said that in this year, the 40th anniversary of the start of China’s reform and opening-up, it has become clear that the past four decades have followed “an indispensable path for achieving development and prosperity”.

Monitoring system gets an upgrade

China is revising its environmental monitoring regulations to pre-

vent officials from interfering or falsifying data. The move came after local officials were recently exposed for spraying mist near stations to improve air quality readings.

The Regulation on Environmental Monitoring and Management will be updated to strengthen the rules, “providing a stronger tool for environmental authorities to punish violations”, Liu Zhiqian, head of the monitoring department at the Ministry of Environmental Protection, said on Jan 31.

Several cases were uncovered in January, including one in Northwest China’s Ningxia Hui autonomous region, where a district environmental authority used a mist cannon to trick a national air pollution monitoring station’s equipment atop a building. But the water turned to ice, creating solid proof of their deception.

Eye in the sky begins its watch

China’s first space-based X-ray observatory, the Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope, started formal operations on Jan 30 after more than seven months of an in-orbit

>> PAGE 3



China Daily Asia Weekly’s circulation is audited by BPA Worldwide



© 2018 China Daily All Rights Reserved VOL 9 • NO 5

A member of the Asia News Network

CONTACT US

Published by China Daily Asia Pacific Limited, Unit 814-815, Hing Wai Centre, 7 Tin Wan Praya Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong.

Tel: 852-2518 5111

Fax: 852-3543 0702

Feedback:
editor@chinadailyapac.com

Subscriptions:
852-3465 5430
subscription@chinadailyapac.com

Advertising:
852-2518 5128

SUBSCRIPTION

Australia: 1800-843 933
Brunei: 673-2336492
Cambodia: 855-12 977 536
Dubai, UAE: 971-4-5519685
Hong Kong: 852-3465 5430
India: 022-42202101
Indonesia: 62-21-5367 7736
Japan: 81-3-3820 1227

Malaysia: 603-7980 3002
Myanmar: 959-876 2909
Nepal: 977-1-5005601
Pakistan: 92-300-2774651
Philippines: 63-2-2266999
Republic of Korea: 02-1688 2952
Singapore: 65-6388 3838
Thailand: 66-(0)2-3901678