

长城



THE GREAT WALL

上海画报出版社

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《长 城》
THE GREAT WALL

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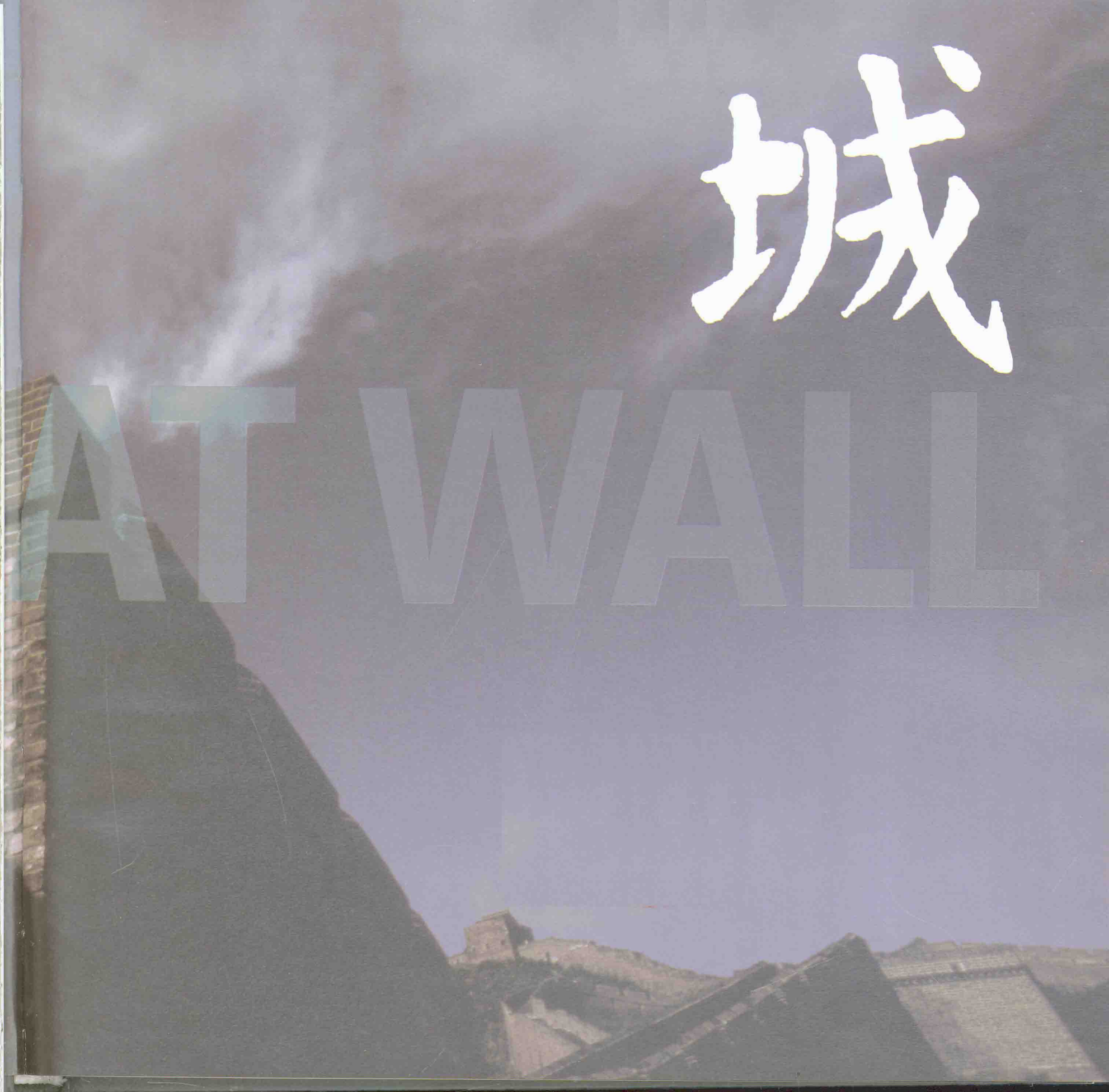
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城

AT WALL







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論

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

前言

城墙曾经出现在古代世界的各个角落，罗马帝国和其他一些国家也建造过长城，但只有中国建造过绵延一万余里的长城，并且拥有长达两千余年的长城建造史。今天，世界上其他长城大多已经踪影全无，或者只留下若干残段，而总长6,700千米的明长城的大部分还基本完好，成为一项独特的历史奇迹，是人类文明的珍贵遗产。

早在春秋战国时代，各诸侯国为了互相防御，各自在险要地段修筑长城。公元前656年，楚国在方城构筑城墙，是长城最早的记载。战国时，齐、楚、魏、燕、赵、秦、中山等国相继建筑长城。公元前221年秦始皇灭六国后，为了防御北方匈奴的南侵，于公元前214年将秦、赵、燕三国北边的长城加以修缮和增建，联接起来，形成一条西起临洮（今甘肃岷县），东至辽东（今朝鲜半岛西北海滨）的“万里长城”。此后，汉、北魏、北齐、北周、隋各朝都曾在北边与游牧民族交界地带筑过长城。这些长城的遗址、遗迹分布在今河南、山东、陕西、山西、河北、甘肃、宁夏、新疆、内蒙古、辽宁、北京、天津等省、市、自治区，也分布在今蒙古国和朝鲜境内。长城经过地区的地貌有平原、丘陵、山脉、山峰、高原、河流、湖泊、河谷、盆地、峡谷、沙漠、戈壁、荒漠、沼泽、草原、森林、海洋，其海拔高度相差达3,000多米。

明朝为了防御元朝残余势力和鞑靼、瓦剌族的侵扰，自洪武（公元1368—1398年）至万历（公元1573—1619年）年间，先后十八次修筑长城。明长城的主体西起嘉峪关，东至山海关，在今山西、河北之间还筑有内长城。在很多重要地段，都筑有多道城墙，最多的有二十多道。在山海关以东至今辽宁丹东市东北鸭绿江边，也筑有长城，但因明中期以后很少修葺，保存下来的遗址较少。明长城横贯甘肃、宁夏、陕西、山西、内蒙古、河北、北京、天津、辽宁等省、市、自治区，是历代长城遗迹中最完整、最坚固、最雄伟的实物。本书的绝大部分照片所拍摄的就是明长城。

长城的建筑和维护曾经耗费了中国无数的人力和物力，在生产力不发达的古代，要兴建如此巨大的工程，必然要给人民带来沉重的负担，因此修长城往往也是和统治者的暴政联系在一起的。可以说，长城是先民鲜血和生命的结晶。也正因为如此，长城充分显示了人类的决心和力量，显示了先民的智慧和技艺。建造长城的材料有土、沙、砖、石、芦苇、红柳、木材，或者直接利用山岭、高地、悬崖、峭壁、沟壑、河岸。长城不仅是一道或多道的墙，还有各种门、楼、关、台、墩、闸、桥、洞、隧道以及各种军事设施。长城不只是一项孤立的防御工程，还配有兵营、仓库、道路、桥梁、津渡、驿站、衙署、渠道、屯田、居民点。它不仅是一个军事与民政兼顾的体系，也是人工建筑与自然环境有机结合的整体。今天，当我们漫步在长城之上，攀上高耸的烽火台，登上雄伟的城楼，穿过一道道关隘，或者在无垠的戈壁追寻长城的遗迹，在高山之巅俯瞰逶迤在崇山峻岭中的城墙，在渤海之滨看长城没入滚滚波涛，在边塞古战场凭吊千古忠魂，我们不能不为先民的伟大业绩所震撼，不能不为中国悠久的古代文明而自豪。

长城无疑是军事对抗的产物，但长城的功能主要是防御，而不是扩张和侵略。从春秋战国开始，长城的建造都是一国或一个政权为了巩固已有的领土或势力范围。秦始皇修建万里长城的目的，也是为了将已经夺回的秦、赵、燕的旧地稳定下来。实际上，秦始皇并没有将领土扩展到长城以外的想法。西汉和东汉的军队曾多次越过长城，推进到蒙古高原或更远的北方，但这是出于打击匈奴军事力量的目的，汉军从未在那里久驻，汉朝的行政区域也从来没有超过长城一线。在汉朝和匈奴保持着和平状态的阶段，长城是双方公认的边界。明朝初年也曾用兵于蒙古高原，但在长城筑成后，其稳定的行政区域就限于长城之内。在只有弓箭的冷兵器时代，长城在防御游牧民族以骑兵为主力的掠夺和袭击中发挥了积极的作用，这就是为什么历代汉族统治者大多会不惜

代价修建长城的原因。也正是在这一意义上,长城成为坚韧不拔和牢不可破的象征。“把我们的血肉筑成我们新的长城”,中华人民共和国国歌中的“长城”显示了中华民族反对侵略、捍卫领土完整和独立自由的决心。

长城的修建将农业民族与游牧民族分割开来,也使农业和牧业的界线固定下来。在中原王朝大力修建长城的年代,今天中国的范围内就不可能统一在一个政权之下。秦汉的长城以北有匈奴、鲜卑,明长城之外是鞑靼、瓦剌、女真。而当北方少数民族越过长城,当长城的功能丧失或者被完全废除时,长城内外却往往能统一在一起,如蒙古建立了疆域辽阔的元帝国,满族最终统一了全中国。但历史并不是单线发展的,农业民族与游牧民族,汉族与少数民族,农业区与牧业区的分割虽然有不利于统一的一面,但也有促使游牧民族、少数民族和牧业区进步的一面。这些民族为了生存和进步,不得不向汉族和农业民族学习,不得不使用军事以外的手段,包括引进汉族文化和中原王朝的制度。分裂孕育着统一,分裂阶段为统一奠定了基础。另一方面,以武力实现的统一必定是以生命财产的巨大损失为代价,形成空前浩劫,留下长期难以消除的后遗症。历史没有完满的选择,从这一意义上说,长城的存在并非毫无积极意义,同样是历史的必然。

长城的主要作用固然是隔离和封闭,但决定一个国家、一个民族或一个时期是否开放却同长城的存在与否没有直接的因果关系。因为长城上的门可以关闭,同样也可以打开,这取决于建造长城的人,也取决于长城内外的形势。汉朝筑有长城,与匈奴以长城为界,但并没有影响张骞、班超通西域,也没有影响来自西域(包括今天的印度、巴基斯坦、阿富汗、伊朗、哈萨克斯坦等南亚、中亚各国和欧洲)的人员和文化流入中原。长城上的一些关隘因此而成为交流和贸易的据点,成为对外开放的基地。相反,清朝不仅不再修建长城,而且废除了长城沿线的绝大部分关隘,但并没有因此而改变闭关锁国的政策,连长城沿线也不例外。所以,脱离具体情况来判断长城的作用是封闭还是开放,是毫无意义的。历史上中国的开放与否,更不应由长城来负责。

不过,无论如何,长城已成为中国历史的见证:战争与和平、封闭与开放、破坏与建设、对峙与融合、分裂与统一、悲哀与欢乐、衰落与繁荣……在长城两侧都曾发生,甚至同时并存。但到公元1644年以后,这一切逐渐成为过去。经历了二千多年的风雨沧桑和悲欢离合,长城内外的民族都加入了中华民族大家庭,长城南北的土地从此都成为伟大祖国的神圣疆域。从此,长城的军事和政治作用消失了,而它的文化作用凸现了。长城成了中华民族的共同财富,成了中国文化的瑰宝。

只有中国才会出现长城,只有中国才需要建造长城,只有中国才可能建造长城。长城的历史是中国历史的一部分,只有了解长城,才能理解中国的历史,才能认识中国的文化。

如果你要了解长城,就请跟着这本画册——

俯瞰长城

阅读长城

感觉长城



葛剑雄

1996年8月

INTRODUCTION

City walls had emerged all around the world in ancient days. Great walls were constructed in Roman Empire and other countries, while only China had built the Great Wall meandering over 10,000 li and could boast of having kept records of history of construction of the Great Wall for over 2,000 years. No trace of old city walls can be found as historical relics in general, and to the utmost only some dilapidated remnants still remain, but the most part of the 6,700 kilometers of the Great Wall of the Ming Dynasty is yet intact turning out to be a unique historical miracle and invaluable treasure of the culture of mankind.

During the Spring and Autumn period (770—476 B.C.) and the period of the Warring States, the ducal states had been building Great Walls at their strategical located districts for self defence. The earliest record about construction of city wall was at Fangcheng by the state of Chu in 656 B.C. During the Warring States, the states of Qi, Chu, Wei, Yan, Zhao, Qin and Zhongshan had been building walls one after another. By 221, the 1st Emperor conquered all six rival states, and to reinforce the frontier defences against the Xiongnu invasion to the south, the northern great walls originally built by the states of Qin, Zhao and Yan were joined up and extended to form a Great Wall of more than 5,000 kilometers from Lintao (the present Min Xian County of Gansu Province) in the west to Liaodong (the present northwest sea border of Korean Peninsula) in the east.

The following dynasties — Han, Northern Wei, Northern Qi, Northern Zhou and Sui had also continued building Great Wall at their northern frontier adjacent to the nomad's territory. The relic of those Great Walls are scattering in the present provinces and the autonomous regions of Henan, Shangdong, Sha'anxi, Shanxi, Hebei, Gansu, Ningxia, Xingjiang, Inner Mongolia, Liaoning, and municipalities as Beijing, Tianjin and also parts of the present Mogolia and Democratic People's Republic of Korean. The terrain of the districts where the Great Wall passed through were varied. There were plains, hills, mountain ranges, peaks, plateau, rivers, lakes, valleys, basins, gorges, deserts gobis, wilderness, marshes, prairies, forests and oceans with varied elevation up to over 3,000 meters.

To Guard against the molestation of the remaining forces of Yuan and Tartars, the Ming Dynasty had re-built and repaired the Great Wall 18 times from the reigns of Hong Wu (1368—1398) to Wan Li (1573—1619). The basic portion of the Ming Great Wall started from Jiayu Pass in the west and terminated at Shanhai Pass in the east. There were also inner walls in present Shanxi and Hebei Provinces. Also many layers of walls were built between strategic sections. A wall was once constructed from Shanhai Pass to the Dandong city of Liaoning in the east up to the brink of Yalu River at the northeast, but little was left



consequent to lack of repair after the later Ming Dynasty. Running through the provinces and autonomous regions of Gansu, Ningxia, Sha'anxi, Shanxi, Inner Mongolia, Hebei, Liaoning and the municipalities of Beijing and Tianjin, Ming Great Wall was the most comprehensive, solid and majestic construction. Most pictures of this album were taken from the Ming Great Wall.

Immense manpower and materiel had been exhausted for the construction and maintenance of the Great Wall. Such momentous project would certainly be a heavy burden to the people. No wonder the construction of the Great Wall had always been inseparable with the tyranny of the sovereigns and the accomplishment at the cost of people's blood and life. Great determination and might, wisdom and skill were fully revealed through their work. A great variety of materials were used for the construction: earth, sand, bricks, stone, reed, red willow and timber. Hills, tableland, precipices, cliffs, ditches and river banks were also fully utilized. The Great wall was not only constructed of walls. There were different gates, towers, passes, platforms, mounts, dams, bridges, caves, tunnels and other military facilities. The Great Wall was not only an isolated stronghold of defence. Barracks, depots, roads, bridges, ferries, stations, yamen, channels, garrison land and residential areas were also provided. Consideration was given for serving the dual purpose of military and civil requirements and eventually the Great Wall emerged as a complete system and an organic amalgamation of architecture and natural situations environment.

The Chinese people cannot but be amazed by the great accomplishments of their predecessors and proud of the long standing Chinese civilization, while sauntering on the great walls, climbing up the summit of beacon towers and the majestic wall gate tower, passing through the numerous passes, or penetrating deep into the immense desert to seek after the remnants of the ancient Great Wall, having a bird's eye view of the walls snaking through the mountains, watching the Great Wall submerged into the Bohai Sea and lamenting the patriotic souls in the ancient battle fields.

Doubtlessly the Great Wall had been build for military purposes, but it had always been serving the purpose of defence and not for expansion or aggression. Since the days of Spring and Autumn and the period of the Warring States, the construction of the Great Wall had been for the purpose of consolidating the territory or sphere of influence of a country or a political power. The building of the Great Wall by the First Emperor was also aiming at the stabilization of the old territories of the Qin, Zhao and Yan States, and in reality he had no intention of expanding his territory out of the Great Wall. The soldiers of West and East Han did repeatedly crossed the Great Wall and pushed over to the Mogolian Plateau and further north, but they were aiming at overwhelming the forces of the Xiongnu and had never had left stationary garrisons there. So the Han territory had

never been over the Great Wall line. While Han and Xiongnu were at peace, the Great Wall had always been recognized as the boundary.

In the beginning of the Ming Dynasty, there were hostilities on the Mogolian plateau, but after construction of the Ming Great Wall, the steady administration area was limited within the Great Wall. Only in the days of the cold armaments of bows and arrows, the Great Wall could play an active role in the protection against the nomadic calvary's plunder and aggression. That's why the Great Wall had been regarded as the symbol of firm and indomitable might. In the national anthem of the Chinese People's Republic, The 'Great Wall' in the line 'Construct our new Great Wall with our flesh and blood' revealed the determination of the Chinese people to fight against foreign aggression and uphold the integrity of our territory, freedom and independance.

The construction of the Great Wall had separated the agricultural people from the momadic people and made a stationary demarcation line between the agricultural people and nomadic tribes. Otherwise, in the days when the central empire were striving to built the Great Wall, the unified China in the present scope could not be realized. There were the Xiongnu and Xianbei people north of the Great Wall in the Qin and Han Dynasties and the Tartarts, Warla and Nuzhen people beyond Great Wall in the Ming Dynasty. When the northern ethnics were able to cross over the Great Wall, and annuled its function, the territory on both sides of the Great Wall would be united, as the Yuan Empire established by the Mongols and the Manchus unified whole China. But history had not been developed in a straight line. The separation of the agricultural and nomadic people, Han and the ethnics and the farming and stock raising districts, had the disadvantage points in splitting, but there was also the advantageous aspect in accelerating the progress of the nomadic and ethnic people. For their existence and progress, they had to learn from the Han and agricultural people other than military means, as the introduction of Han culture and the imperial system. Separation may carry within itself unification factors and lay the foundation for unification. On the other hand, unification through conquest would invariably cause immense loss in human life and property, and great calamity with long sequelae. There could be no choice in the occurence of historical events. The existence of the Great Wall had been meritorious and the natural consequence with the evolution of history.

The main function of Great Wall being separation and closure notwithstanding, her existence had no direct causality to the open or close of a country or a nation in a certain period. The open or close of Great Wall were decided by the builder and the



THE GRE 長城 AT WALL

changes of situation on both sides of the Great Wall. The Great Wall had been the boundary between Han and Xiongnu, but it hadn't hinder Zhang Qian and Ban Chao's contact with the Western Regions nor the entrance of the people and culture of the Western Regions (including the present India, Pakistan, Afganistan, Iran, Harsakstan and south Asiatic, midwestern Asiatic and European countries). Some of the passes of the Great Wall turned out to be strongpoints for communication and trade, and became bases for opening to the outside world. On the contrary, the Qing government had not only stopped repairing the Great Wall, but also abolished many passes along the wall, whereas the close door policy were not changed. Therefore there is not point to justify the role that the Great Wall had been playing in the open or close of a state disregarding the existing situation. The Great Wall was not responsible.

Anyway, the Great Wall had been an historical witness of China's war or peace, close or open, destruction or construction, antipathy or amalgamation, separation or unification, joys or sorrows, prosperity or decline... all these had happened on both side of the Great Wall, and sometimes happened concurrently. But after 1644, all became things of the past. After the vicissitudes of life, joys and sorrows, partings and reunions, various nationalities on both sides of the Great Wall have joined up to form a big family. Territories on the north and south of the Great Wall have all become part of the great nation. The military and political function vanished, while its cultural role has become prominent. The Great Wall has become the common wealth of the Chinese nation and the treasure of Chinese civilization.

The Great Wall could only appear in China, only China had the need of constructing the Great Wall, and only China could construct the Great Wall. The Great Wall's history has been a part of China's history. Only by knowing the Great Wall, you can understand China's history and understand China's Culture.

In case you want to know the Great Wall, please follow this album,...

Looking down at the Great Wall

Reading the Great Wall

Feeling the Great Wall

Ge Jian xiong

August 1996

