

英本文國地理教科書

GEOGRAPHY OF CHINA

# INTRODUCTION

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## Name

China is one of the oldest countries in the world, the mother of civilization in Eastern Asia. In the course of her long history of four thousand years, she has *assumed* different names, such as the Han 漢, Tang 唐, and Taching 大清 Empires, signifying the different dynasties that at various periods held *sway* within her limits. To the outside world, she is always known by the Sanskrit 梵音的 name, China 支那. Three years ago, a *revolution* broke out in this ancient land resulting in the establishment of a republic. The republic is now known as the Chung Hwa Min Kwo 中華民國, or the Republic of China, thus doing away with the usage of *applying* the dynastic name to the land.

## Position and Area

In extent, the Republic is practically the same as the Taching Empire before the Revolution. It stretches from  $10^{\circ}$  to  $53^{\circ}$  north *latitude*, and from  $74^{\circ}$  to  $134^{\circ}$  *longitude* east of Greenwich 倫敦之革爾尼天文臺. From west to east, it stretches from the Pamir Steppe 帕米爾高原 to the Pacific Ocean 太平洋, and from south to north, from the Island of Hainan 海南島 to Russian Siberia 西伯利亞.

## INTRODUCTION

It has a total area of 4,278,352 square miles and a thriving population, commonly estimated at 400,000,000 souls. It ranks as the fourth largest country in the world. In shape, the Republic is like a great triangle with the Island of Hainan as its apex.

## Political Divisions

The political divisions of China are (China Proper or the Eighteen Provinces) Manchuria 滿洲, Mongolia 蒙古, (Chinese Turkestan) 新疆, Tibet 西藏, and Kokonor 青海.

The following table gives the names of the different divisions together with the capitals and area.

Divisions	Short Name	Capital	Area in square li
Chihli	Yen	Tientsin	458,694
直隸	燕	天津	
Fengtien	Feng	Chengte (Mukden)	310,000
奉天	奉	承德	
Kirin	Ki	Kirin	954,129
吉林	吉	吉林	
Heilungkiang	Hei	Lungkiang (Tsitsihar)	1,555,200
黑龍江	黑	龍江 (齊齊哈爾)	
Kiangsu	Su	Nanking	346,277
江蘇	蘇	南京	
Anhuei	Wan	Hwaining	377,114
安徽	皖	懷寧	

**Table Continued**

<i>Divisions</i>	<i>Short Name</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Area in square li</i>
Kiangsi	Kan	Nanchang	561,619
江西	贛	南昌	
Chekiang	Yueh	Hanhsien (Hangchow)	304,654
浙江	越	杭縣 (杭州)	
Fukien	Min	Minhou (Foochow)	299,609
福建	閩	閩侯 (福州)	
Hupei	Chu	Kianghsia (Wuchang)	548,192
湖北	楚	江夏 (武昌)	
Hunan	Sian	Changsha	578,333
湖南	湘	長沙	
Shantung	Lu	Licheng (Tsinan)	418,366
山東	魯	曆城 (濟南)	
Honan	Pien	Siangfu (Kaifeng)	524,609
河南	汴	祥符 (開封)	
Shansi	T'sin	Yangku (Taiyuan)	437,856
山西	晉	陽曲 (太原)	
Shensi	Tsin	Changan (Si-an)	524,492
陝西	秦	長安 (西安)	
Kansu	Lung	Kolan (Lanchow)	976,189
甘肅	隴	皋蘭 (蘭州)	
Sinkiang	Sin	Tihwa (Urumutsi)	5,511,041
新疆	新	廸化 (烏魯木齊)	

Table Continued

<i>Divisions</i>	<i>Short Name</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Area in square li</i>
Szechwan	Tsu	Chengtu	1,299,797
四川	蜀	成都	
Kwangtung	Yo	Fan-yu (Canton)	618,290
廣東	粵	番禺 (廣州)	
Kwangsi	Kwei	Lingkwei (Kweiling)	607,841
廣西	桂	臨桂 (桂林)	
Yunnan	Tien	Kangming (Yunnanfu)	640,150
雲南	滇	昆明 (雲南府)	
Kweichow	Tsien	Kweichu	502,256
貴州	黔	貴筑	
Mongolia		Kurun	9,022,617
蒙古		庫倫	
Tibet		Lhasa	3,664,484
西藏		拉薩	
Kokonor		Si-ning	2,400,000
青海		西甯	

## Population

Until a *census* of the country is taken figures regarding the population of China are all based upon estimates by different *authorities*. Those accepted by the Maritime Customs are as follows:—

Manchuria	17,000,000
Chihli	29,400,000
Shantung	38,000,000
Szechwan	79,500,000
Hunan	22,000,000
Hupei	34,000,000
Kiangsi	24,534,000
Anhuei	36,000,000
Kiangsu	23,980,000
Chekiang	11,800,000
Fukien	20,000,000
Kwangtung	32,000,000
Kwangsi	8,000,000
Yunnan	8,000,000
Other provinces (Shansi, Shensi, Kansu, Honan, Kweichow)	55,000,000

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Total... 439,214,000

## Mountains

Viewed as a whole, China is the most varied country in the world, mountains, plateaux, valleys, and plains giving place to each other *in rapid succession*. Broadly speaking, all the mountain chains of China are more or less related to the Chungling 葱嶺 or the Pamir Steppe, the "Roof of the World."

In the north, we find the Tienshan-Altai System **天山** **阿爾泰** 一系, which *dominates* Sinkiang and Mongolia, and which, after forming parts of the northern frontier of China, runs through Russian Siberia to the Bering Strait **白令海峽**.

Next we have the Kuenlun **崑崙** and Himalaya **希馬拉耶** Ranges, extending in a west to east direction, the former to the north, and the latter to the south, of Tibet, until they join to form the series of high plateaux in Szechwan and Yunnan, to which the name of Chinese *Alps* has been given.

In the east, there are the three important mountain chains, the Inshan **陰山**, Peiling **北嶺**, and Nanling **南嶺**, which divide China Proper into a number of river basins.

The mountains of the Inshan Range are known as the Chilian Shan **祈連山** in the north of Kokonor, and as the Holan Shan **賀蘭山** in the north of Kansu. They receive the name of Inshan when they cross the north of Shansi and Chihli, whence they extend in a broken line until they *terminate* near the head waters of the Nonni **嫩江** in Manchuria. Their offshoots include the Taihang **太行**, the Sunling **松嶺**, and the Changpei Shan **長白山** mountains.

The Peiling mountains *projecting* from Tibet separate Kansu and Szechwan, extend through Shensi, Honan, and Anhwei, receiving different names at different places, and finally disappear near Lake Hungtze **洪澤湖**. They form



the water-sheds between the Yellow River 黃河 and the Yangtze Kiang 揚子江, the two greatest rivers of China.

Along the south bank of the Yangtze Kiang, stretches the Nanling, the third range, from Yunnan to Chekiang, including the Miaoling 苗嶺, Tayuling 大庾嶺, Meiling 梅嶺, and Bohea 武夷 mountains. Many of these mountains are famous for their *scenery* and give rise to a number of rivers in South China, of which the Sikiang 西江 or West River is the largest.

## Rivers

As already stated, the Yellow River and the Yangtze Kiang are the two greatest rivers of China. The Yellow River rises in Kokonor and passes through Kansu watering the Ordos country 河套即鄂爾多斯 and making it the richest district in Mongolia. From the Hungtao Shan 洪濤山 in northwestern Shansi, it runs south forming the boundary between Shansi and Shensi as far south as Tungkuan 潼關. Unable to cut its way through the Peiling, the river now turns east, *skirting* the foothills of the mountains of north Honan until it reaches the great Honan plain at Kishui 汜水. From this point it continues in a northeasterly direction and flows into the sea at Litsien 利津 on the northern coast of Shantung.

The Yellow River is 2,500 miles in length. It receives many tributaries, the largest of which are the Tatung 大通河



and the Tao 洮河 in Kansu, the Wei River 渭水 in Shensi, and the Feng River 汾水 in Shansi. It has been called "China's Sorrow," because it often overflows its banks, causing inestimable loss of life and property. It is of little use to commerce, as it is *choked with sand* at many places.

The Yangtze Kiang is both a *producer of wealth* and an *artery of commerce*. It is 500 miles longer than the Yellow River and like the latter it takes its rise in the mountains in Kokonor. In Szechwan it is known as the Puluichu 布壘楚 and in Yunnan as the Chinsha Kiang 金沙江. In Hupeh it receives the name of Chang Kiang 長江, the Long River. From its mouth at Shanghai 上海 to Hankow 漢口, large steamers can navigate safely—a distance of 600 miles. Between Hankow and Ichang 宜昌, only launches or light draught steamers can ply. With a network of tributaries, the Yangtze Kiang drains Szechwan, Hupeh, Hunan, Anhwei, Kiangsi, and Kiangsu, and along its banks there are many towns and Treaty Ports which handle the larger portion of China's trade. Thanks to the lakes in the Yangtze basin, there is less danger of overflowing from this river than from the Yellow River in the north. The West River rising in the Wumung mountains 烏蒙山, drains Yunnan, Kweichow, Kwangsi, and Kwangtung. It flows into the sea at Canton and is useful for purposes of commerce.



IN THE GORGES OF THE YANGTZE

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Other notable rivers of the country are:—

1. The Liaoho 遼河 of Fengtien, which falls into the Liaotung Gulf 遼東灣;
2. The Kuho 沽河 in Chihli, which flows into the Gulf of Chihli 直隸海灣;
3. The Chientang Kiang 錢塘江 in Chekiang, which flows into the Hangehow Bay 杭州灣;
4. The Minkiang 閩江 of Fukien, which flows into the sea at Foochow; and
5. The great Amur River 黑龍江 in Manchuria, which flows into the Strait of Tartary 韃靼海峽.

The Yenisei 葉尼塞河 and the Obi 鄂畢 in Siberia, the Indus 印度河 and the Brahmaputra 雅魯藏布江 in India 印度, the Salwin 薩爾溫 in Burma 緬甸, and the Mekong 湄江 in Tonquin 安南, all rise in the mountains of China.

Of rivers that flow into salt lakes, the Tarrim 塔里木 and the Ili 伊犁 in Sinkiang, the Chardam 柴達木 in Kokonor, and the Jabkau 扎布噶 in Mongolia are the largest.

The following table shows the *average elevation of the* various regions above the sea level:—

China Proper;

Yellow River Valley	2,000 feet.
Yangtze    "    "	1,500   "
West       "    "	1,000   "
Chekiang and Fukien	1,500   "

Chihli and Kouwai	1,000 feet
Mongolia	5,000 „
Manchuria	1,000 „
Sinkiang	3,000 „
Tibet	13,000 „

### Lakes

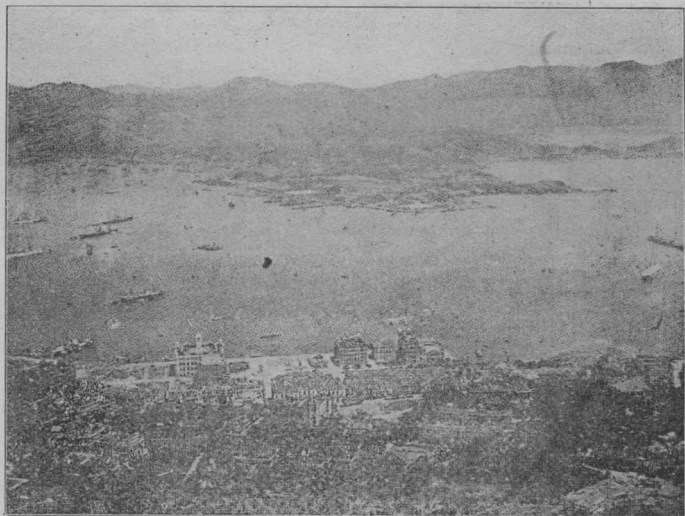
Wherever a lake receives the waters of a river and passes them out in the same manner, it remains fresh like the river that feeds it. Lake Tungting 洞庭 in Hunan, Poyang 鄱陽 in Kiangsi, Taihu 太湖 and Chohu 巢湖 in Kiangsu, Hungtze 洪澤 in Anhwei, and Kangmin 昆明 and Erhai 洱海 in Yunnan, are lakes of this kind.

In the west and northwest, there are many salt lakes, which have no outlets to the sea. The Kokonor 青海湖 in Kokonor, Tengri nor 騰格里海 in Tibet, Lobnor 羅布泊 in Sinkiang, and Kosogol 庫蘇古爾泊, Ubsagol 烏布薩湖, and Kara usu gol 哈喇烏蘇湖 in Mongolia, are the largest (both nor and gol signify lakes).

### Islands, Bays, and Gulfs

China has a long coast line extending over a thousand miles and is studded with hundreds of islands. The largest two are: Formosa 臺灣 off the coast of Fukien, a Japanese possession since 1895, and Hainan 海南 off the coast of Kwangtung. Of the smaller islands, Hongkong 香港, a

British *Colony*, Amoy 廈門, a treaty port, and Chusan 舟山 are the most important. The large island of Tsungming 崇明 off the coast of Kiangsu is the gift of the Yangtze.



HONGKONG AND HARBOR

The numerous gulfs and bays along the coast afford many excellent harbors. Commencing at the south, we give them in the following order: the Gulf of Tongquin 東京灣, Tungan Bay 同安灣, Taichow Bay 台州灣, San Mun Bay 三門灣, Hangchow Bay 杭州灣, Kiaochow Bay 膠州灣, the Gulf of Chihli 渤海, and the Liaotung Gulf 遼東灣.

## Seas and Straits

The Yellow Sea 黃海 is in the east of Shantung; the Eastern Sea 東海, east of Chekiang and Fukien; and the China Sea 南海, south of Fukien and Kwangtung. The Formosa Strait 臺灣海峽 which separates Formosa from Fukien, joins the Eastern and China Seas. The Strait of Hainan 瓊州海峽 separates the Island of Hainan from Kwangtung, and the Pescadore Channel 澎湖, the Pescadores 澎湖島 from Formosa. Nimrod Sound 象山港 possesses some natural advantages and promises to be one of the bases for the Chinese navy of the future. /

## People

<sup>相傳</sup> <sup>交付</sup> According to tradition, the Chinese came to this country from the northwest at a very remote period. They settled along the banks of the Yellow River, and engaged themselves in agricultural pursuits. Their wars with the aborigines were constant and desperate and through their valor and industry, they succeeded in gradually driving the latter southward.

For a long time, the Chinese were contented with the Yellow River valley where the <sup>黃</sup> <sup>土</sup> loess soil produced more than enough for their needs. But when they advanced into the Yangtze valley and the territory to the south, the

土著  
aborigines had once more to give up their homes. The result was that the Miaotze 苗子 and other tribes are to-day chiefly found in the Miaoling and the adjacent territory.

For the transportation of rice from the Yangtze basin to the north the Chinese constructed a canal 運河 600 miles long connecting Hangchow with Peking, and for the protection of themselves against the Mongols, they built a wall 5,000 miles long from Shanhaikuan 山海關 in the east to Kiayukuan 嘉峪關 in the west.

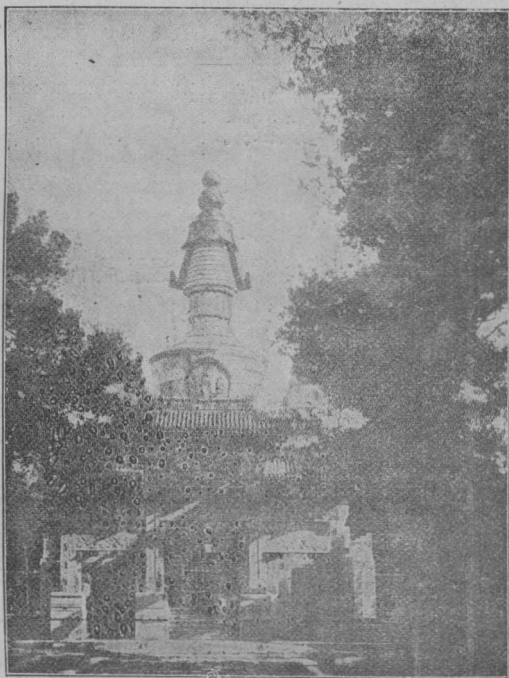
The Mongols, Manchus, Tibetans, and the Turks are all non-Chinese races. At one time or other, these non-Chinese races were the *conquerors* of China or of parts of the east country. The conquerors in war, however, have become the conquered in peace.

## Religion

No higher religion was known among the Chinese than the worship of ancestors and *nature*. Confucius 孔子 and Laotze 老子 both tried to reform the world by the introduction of a *strict system of morality*. They tell us the proper relation between man and man but say nothing as to the relation between man and God. It is the *corruption* of later ages that has given to their systems a *religious aspect*. And the Chinese Buddhism 佛教 of to-day is not the same Buddhism that was brought from India in the Han Dynasty.



Nothing, therefore, is further from the truth than the statement that there <sup>存在</sup> exist in China side by side the three religions of Confucianism 儒, Taoism 道, and Buddhism 釋. It would perhaps be nearer the truth to say that a mixture of the three is the religion of the Chinese. This is borne out by the fact that in every Chinese funeral <sup>葬礼</sup> procession <sup>进行</sup>, such as is so frequently seen in a large town in China, no matter how long or short the procession may be, there are always bands



THE LAMA TEMPLE AT PEKING

of Buddhist and Taoist priests employed to say prayers in behalf of the deceased, and these priests are employed not by Buddhists or Taoists, but by Confucianists. The Mongols, Manchus, and Tibetans believe in a debased form of Buddhism, called Lamaism 喇嘛教. They worship their Lamas as the *representatives* of Buddha. The Turks are Mohammedans 回教徒.

## Government

As already pointed out, a republic has dawned upon China. Yuan Shih Kai 袁世凱 is elected President for a term of six years. There is as yet no permanent constitution 憲法 which assures the present form of government. We are still in the transition period 過渡時代, and nothing definite and permanent in regard to government has been settled. Suffice it to say that we have at present in place of the Emperor a President who *wields* much of his powers and performs some of his duties.

In the provinces, the offices of the Prefects 知府 are abolished. There are no more prefectures 府 but provinces 省, intendantcies 道, and hsien 縣 or districts. At the head of the province is the Ch'un An Sze 巡按使 or Civil Governor. In military matters, the Chiang Ch'un 將軍 or Military Governor *functions* in his stead.