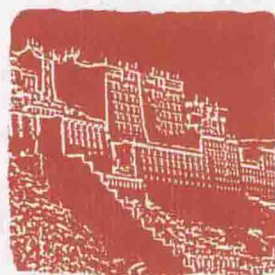


TIBET

FACTS AND FIGURES 2014

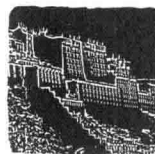


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PREFACE

The Tibetan Plateau maintained close contacts with other parts of China in the political, economic and cultural fields in history. Tibet was officially put under the jurisdiction of the Central Government of China, which is held by historians as the inevitable result of the historical development of China. In the 700-odd years thereafter, Tibet was ruled by the upper-class monks and lay people. During the period, the Central Government exercised rule over the territory of Tibet.

China, Tibet included, was reduced into a semi-feudal and semi-colonial society after 1840. While leaving no stone unturned to carve up China, imperialist powers worked hard to cultivate people who stood for national separation. These people did their best to incite Tibetan independence, but failed to succeed.

When the People's Republic of China was founded on October 1, 1949, the Central People's Government worked hard to seek the peaceful liberation of Tibet. When efforts made toward this end failed, the People's Liberation Army was forced to fight the Qamdo battle with the Tibetan Army in the winter of 1950. Tibetan separatists on the upper ruling class, who dreamed of opposing the national unification with support of imperialist forces, began negotiating with the Central Government. On May 23, 1951, the Agreement of the Central People's Government and the Local Government of Tibet on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet ("17-Article Agreement" for short) was signed in Beijing to bring about the peaceful liberation of Tibet. This was an important part of the cause of the Chinese people's national liberation, a great event in the nation's struggle against imperialism to safeguard national unity and sovereignty and a milestone marking the commencement of Tibet's progress from a dark and backward society toward a bright and advanced future.

Over the 63 years since then, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Central People's Government, and through the process of democratic reform, Tibet has abolished feudal serfdom and theocracy, established the system

of people's congresses with the people as masters of the country, the system of regional ethnic autonomy and the system of political consultation. Through this process it has gained unprecedented achievements in various undertakings, witnessed great changes in social outlook and profound changes in the people's lives, greatly improved the human rights conditions, achieved rapid and comprehensive economic and social development and made a world-acclaimed historical leap.

The past 63 years have shown that Tibet shares its destiny with the rest of the motherland; its development, in fact, would have been impossible without that of China as a whole. Tibet's rebirth and development would have been impossible without national unification, independence and prosperity, the great unity of the Chinese nation, the support of the entire nation and the firm leadership of the Central Government. Only by adhering to the leadership of the CPC, the path of socialism, the system of regional ethnic autonomy, and the development mode with Chinese characteristics and Tibet's regional features, can it enjoy lasting prosperity and a bright future.

CONTENTS



Administrative Division and Natural Environment 1

- ▶ Administrative Division 2
- ▶ Geography and Climate 11
- ▶ Natural Resources 19



Ethnic Groups, Population and Religion 49

- ▶ Ethnic Makeup 50
- ▶ Population 52
- ▶ Main Religions 54
- ▶ Freedom of Religious Belief 63



Customs and Folklore 85

- ▶ Tibetan Festivals 86
- ▶ Clothing Culture 87
- ▶ Catering Culture 88
- ▶ Traditional Marriage Customs and Funeral Customs 91
- ▶ Traditional Folk Houses 92



History and Administrative Division 25

- ▶ History 26
- ▶ Administrative Division 41



System of Regional National Autonomy 67

- ▶ Political Autonomy Right 68
- ▶ Economic Development 71
- ▶ Protection, Inheritance and Development of Traditional Tibetan Culture 76
- ▶ Democratic Reform and the Regional National Autonomy 79



Economy 95

- ▶ General Survey 96
- ▶ Aid to Tibet 98
- ▶ Financial Revenue and Expenditure 99
- ▶ Investment in Fixed Assets 101
- ▶ Agriculture and Animal Husbandry 103
- ▶ Industry 106
- ▶ Domestic Trade 108
- ▶ Foreign Trade 111
- ▶ Finance 113

CONTENTS



Transportation, Postal Services, and Telecommunications 139

- Highways 141
- Aviation 143
- Railways 145
- Pipeline Transportation 146
- Postal Services, Telecommunications and the Internet 148



Ethnic Groups, Population and Religion 161

- Education 162
- Science and Technology 165



Living Conditions and Social Security 193

- Living Conditions 194
- Social Security and Employment 196



Environmental Protection 155



Culture, Health and Sports 173

- Culture 174
- Medical Treatment and Health Care 182
- Sports Undertakings 185

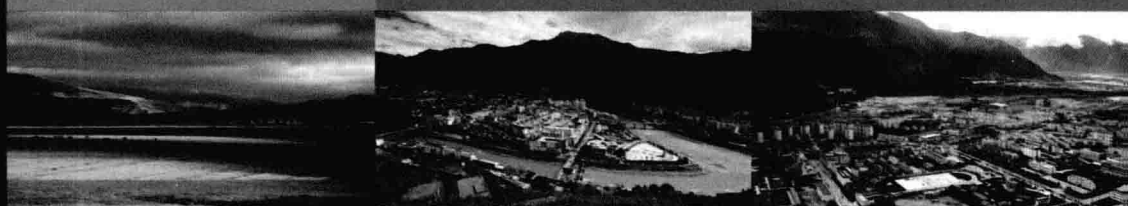


Tourism 209

- Tourism Resources 210
- Tourist Reception Capability 211

01

► Administrative Division and Natural Environment



Administrative Division

Geography and Climate

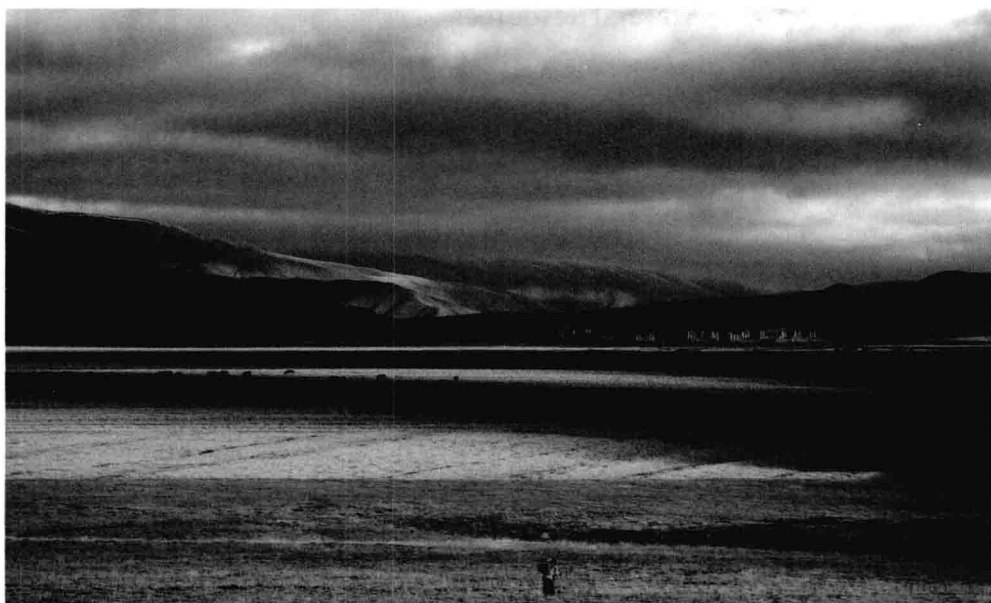
Natural Resources

01 Administrative Division and Natural Environment

Administrative Division

The Tibet Autonomous Region is one of the five provincial-level autonomous regions of the ethnic minority groups. Situated in the southwestern border area of the People's Republic of China, it lies at 78°25'-99°06'E and 26°50'-36°53'N, and covers an area of about 1.22 million square km, or one-eighth of China's land area. With a size equal to the total of the five countries including the Great Britain, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, Tibet is the second largest provincial-level area in China, next only to the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. It abuts the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and Qinghai Province in the north, Sichuan and Yunnan Provinces in the east and southeast. It also has a 3,800 km border with the

Tibet known as the "roof of the world".



neighboring countries of Myanmar, India, Bhutan and Nepal as well as Kashmir in the south and west. Tucked away at an elevation of over 4,000 meters on average, Tibet is often referred to as the Tibetan Plateau, which joins the Qinghai Plateau to form the “Roof of the World”.

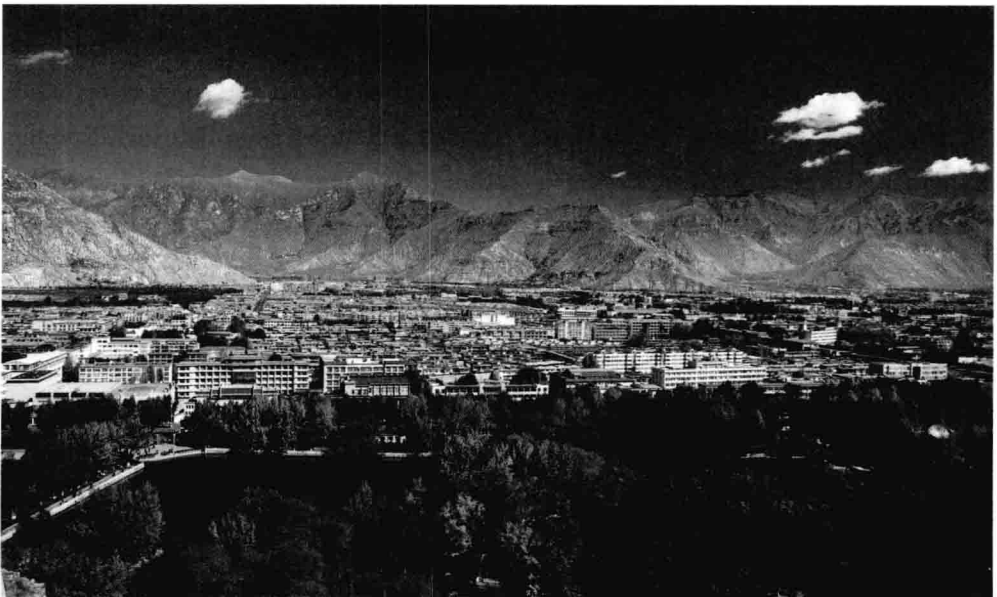
The Tibet Autonomous Region exercises jurisdiction over two prefectural-level cities (Lhasa City and Xigaze City), five prefectures (Nagqu, Qamdo, Nyingchi, Shannan, and Ngari Prefectures), and 73 counties. Lhasa is the capital of the region.

Lhasa City

Located in the central south part of Tibet, Lhasa is the political, economic and cultural center of Tibet as well as the most important air and land traffic hub. With an area of 31,622 square km, it exercises jurisdiction over Chengguan District and six counties including Dagze, Lhunzhub, Damxung, Nyemo, Quxu, Doilungdeqen and Maizhokunggar. The city is home to more than 30 ethnic groups including Tibetan, Han and Hui, of which Tibetans account for more than 87 percent of the total population.

It falls into the category of a highland monsoon climate. Tibet’s major grain and

Lhasa today.



economic crops could also be found in the city. Its medicinal herbs include Chinese caterpillar fungus, caladium, rhodiola root, ginseng fruit, musk and pilose antler. Its wildlife includes wild yaks, wild donkeys, black-necked cranes, Mongolia gazelles and Tibetan antelopes. Its traditional handicrafts include waist knives, kardian cushions, carpets, bamdian aprons, wooden bowls, and gold and silver jewelries.

Lhasa has a long history, reflected in its rich endowment under State protection and 47 under the protection of the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR). Its famous cultural attractions include the Potala Palace, Jokhang Monastery and the Norbu Lingka, now listed by UNESCO as the World Cultural Heritage sites. Others include the Rampoche Monastery, Zhaibung Monastery, Sera Monastery, Zongjab Lukhang, Gandain, Curpu and Razheng monasteries, as well as the cultural site of the Neolithic period in Qoigong. Major natural attractions include Nam Co Lake-Nyainqentanglha Mountains National Scenic Area, Lhalu Wetland National the Nature Reserve, and Yangbajain Geothermal Field, the snow peaks of the Nyainqentanglha range, hot springs at Dezong and Doilung, and the nature reserves in Lhunzhub and Meizhukongka. Thus far, the TAR has opened more than 200 scenic spots, including some 20 major ones.

Xigaze City

LLocated in southwestern part of Tibet, Xigaze City abuts Bhutan, India and Nepal in the south. It covers Samzhubze District and 18 district and counties including Namling, Gyangze, Tingri, Sagya, Lhaze, Ngamring, Xaitongmoin, Bainang, Rinbung, Kangmar, Dinggye, Kamba, Zhongba, Yadong, Gyirong, Nylam and Sagya. It has Ngari as its western neighbor, its norther neighbor is Nagqu and its eastern neighbors are Lhasa and Shannan. With an area of 180,000 square km, it is home mainly to Tibetans. Other ethnic groups found here include the Han, Hui, Mongol, Naxi, plus Sherpa people.

Xigaze is the second political, economic, cultural and information center and transportation hub of the Tibet Autonomous Region. It is also China's youngest prefectural-level city established with the approval of the PRC State Council on June 26, 2014. It used to be a prefecture. The city government seat lies in the Samzhubze District (formerly a county-level city), which is 277 km from Lhasa. The Lhasa-



Xigaze is the largest agricultural production area in Tibet, known as the granary of Tibet. Pictured here is the farmland in Gyangze County, Xigaze.

Samzhubze Railway has been built and put into service.

Xigaze is home to many plateau pastures, fields, forests, and snow-covered peaks. The Qomolangma Nature Reserve boasts the world's highest most intact vertical ecosystem. According to the survey, Xigaze has 3,128 kinds of plants, including the Himalaya firs, Himalaya spruce, Himalaya larch, Himalaya *Pinus palustris*, and *Taxus* fauna; medicinal resources total about 1,000 kinds, including *Fritillaria thun-bergli*, dangshen, *Cordyceps sinensis*, *Rhizoma Gastrodiae*, snow-lotus flower, astragalus; animals in the national and regional nature reserves total 56 kinds, including Tibetan antelope, wild yak, Tibetan wild ass, Nagao Hamonkey, snow leopard, black necked cranes and Himalayan monal.

Xigaze City is the major area for the development of mountaineering in Tibet partly because it boasts five peaks each rising at least 8,000 meters above sea level: Qomolangma (8,844.43 meters), Lho Tse (8,516 meters), Makalu (8,463 meters), Cho Oyu (8,201 meters) and Xixabangma (8,012 meters). In the past two decades or so, China has opened 44 high peaks and mountaineering routes. Foreign mountaineering teams climbing Qomolangma now number over 20 a year.

Native produce of the city include wooden bowls wrapped in silver, tea tray and frames, Tibetan carpets, golden thread hats, Tibetan knives and kardian cushions. Major scenic spots and places of historical interest include the Tashilhunpo Monastery, Sagya Monastery, site of Tibetans fighting British invaders at Zongshan

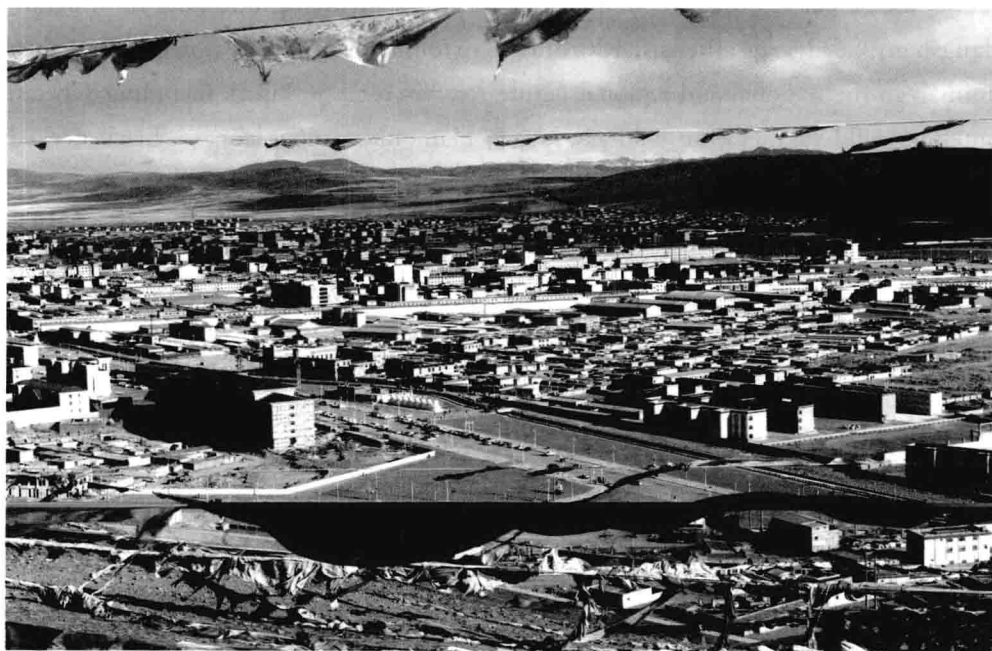
Hill, Xialhu Monastery, Tang Tianzu Envoy Inscriptions, Qoide Monastery and Zholmalhakang, which are subject to national cultural protection, as well as the Natang Monastery, Rongbo Monastery, Palkor Monastery and Parlha Manor.

Nagqu Prefecture

Nagqu Prefecture lies in northern Tibet abutting Xinjiang and Qinghai. It covers Nagqu, Jiali, Biru, Nyainrong, Amdo, Xainza, Sog, Bangoin, Baqen, Nyima and Shuanghu counties. Its total area is 286,500 square km. More than 98 percent of its population is Tibetan and their main livelihood is livestock breeding.

The central and western parts of Nagqu are located at an average elevation of over 4,500 meters. Maintaining a primitive ecology, the prefecture is dotted with some 1,000 rippling lakes including the Nam Co, the Serling Co and the Tangra Yumco, as well as many hot springs and geothermal, oil and gas fields. There are over 20 animal species subject to national first and second class protection.

Nagqu Town today.



Major special products include oxen and sheep wool, Cashmere goat wool, caterpillar fungus, snow lotus flower and musk.

Major scenic spots include the Tangula Mountain-Nujiang River Source National Scenic Area, Tangula Station of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, the Cona Lake in Amdo County, the Shaten Monastery in Nagqu County, the Arza Lake and the Chongyi Township Scenic Area in Jiali County, the Nujiang River scenic area and the Bomphan Primitive Forests in Biru County, as well as the Bacang, the Lungkar and the Lupug Monasteries of the Bon religion.

Qamdo Prefecture

Located in eastern Tibet, Qamdo Prefecture abuts Yunnan and Sichuan Provinces to the east, and Qinghai Province to the north. The Sichuan-Tibet, Yunnan-Tibet, Qinghai-Qamdo and other trunk highways meet here. There are also roads leading to various county seats. It covers Qamdo, Jomda, Konjo, Riwoqe, Dengqen, Chagyab,

A bird's eye view of Qamdo.



Baxoi, Zogang, Mangkam, Lhorong and Banbar counties. Covering an area of 130,000 square km, this prefecture is home to the Tibetan, Han, Mongolian, Naxi, Lisu and Hui ethnic groups.

There are some 80 high peaks each with an elevation of over 5,000 meters in the prefecture. In the river valleys, forests and natural pastures live more than 600 species of wildlife such as snow leopards, pandas, Yunnan golden monkeys and white lipped deer. It is rich in some 1,200 kinds of medicinal herbs including caterpillar fungus, musk, young pilose antler and the bulb of fritillary.

Major scenic areas include Qamdo County's Qambaling Monastery and Karu New Stone Age Ruins, Zugung County's Meili Snow Mountain, and Zaya County's carved rock paintings and Lunglung stone carvings.

Nyingchi Prefecture

Located in southeastern Tibet, Nyingchi Prefecture is on the middle and lower reaches of the Yarlung Zangbo River. It abuts India and Myanmar to the south. It covers Nyingchi, Gongbo'gyamda, Mainling, Medog, Bome, Zayu and Nang counties.

Bayi Town, the political, economic and cultural center of Nyingchi Prefecture.



Covering an area of 99,700 square km, it is home to the Tibetan and Han, as well as Moinba, Lhoba and some other ethnic groups.

Under the impact of the warm air current from the Indian Ocean, Nyingchi Prefecture is free from unbearably hot weather in summer and freezing cold in winter. It is blessed with plentiful precipitation and humidity. Forests covering 2.64 million hectares teem with old giant spruce trees, while the oldest cypress tree is 2,500 years old. Timber reserves exceed 800 million cubic meters. The number of known higher plants reaches some 2,000. The lowest elevation is about 1,000 meters. Some places in the prefecture are suitable for growing rice, oranges, bananas and lemon. Rare wildlife includes Bengal tigers and Yunnan golden monkeys. Native produce include tube of elevated gastrodia, pseudo ginseng, fritillaria, Hongjintian, Chinese caterpillar fungus, glossy ganoderma and other medicinal herbs. Nang County's Tibetan hats and wooden bowls, Bome's "Qomolangma holy tea", and Ye'ong Tibetan knives, Zayu's woven bamboo products and Tibetan wooden bowls are famous in China.

Nyingchi boasts eight scenic areas comprising 40 scenic spots. They include ones acknowledged as outstanding by world tourism organizations, 4A ones recommended by the China National Tourism Bureau, as well as the national forest park - the Basum Co Scenic Area. Others include the Namjiagbawa Scenic Area, the Yarlung Zangbo Grand Canyon, the Yi'ong Geological Park and the Serchila National Forest Park, plus various kinds of glaciers.

Shannan Prefecture

Located on the middle and lower reaches of the Yarlung Zangbo River, Shannan Prefecture abuts Bhutan and India to the south. It covers Nedong, Chantang, Qonggyai, Konggar, Sangri, Qusum, Coma, Lhunze, Co Nag, Nanggarze and Lhozhag counties. With an area of some 80,000 square km, it is home to the Tibetan, Han, Hui, Moinba and Lhoba ethnic groups. Tibetans occupy 98 percent of the total population.

As one of the major cradles of the Tibetan race, Shannan has a long history. It has 10 cultural relic sites subject to national protection, including the Tombs of Tibetan Kings, the Samye Monastery, the Changzhub Monastery, the Zhatang Monastery, the Jidui Tubo Tombs Group, the Leshan Tomb, the Lhagyali Imperial Palace Ruins,



Tibetan farmers in their holiday's best during the Ongkor (Bumper Harvest) Festival.

the Namserling Manor, the Gyiru Lhakang, Segya Goto Monastery, as well as holy mountains and holy lakes.

It boasts snow-covered mountains, glaciers, pastures, unspoilt river valley, and places of historic interest. The Yarlung River National Class Scenic Area was ever the only one of its kind in Tibet. The prefecture has such tourist sites featuring scenic beauty and human interest - the Yamzhog Yumco Lake Scenic Area, the Samye Scenic Area and the Holy Lakes Scenic Area.

Native produces include pulu woolen fabrics, Tibetan joss sticks and kardian cushions.

Shannan Prefecture is an area with sound transport facilities. The Lhasa Gonggar Airport is located in Gyizholing Town of the prefecture's Gonggar County.

Ngari Prefecture

Located in western Tibet, Ngari Prefecture abuts Kashmir, India and Nepal to the west and south. With the border extending 116 km, the prefecture has over 60 mountain passes leading to other parts of the world. Of the seven counties under its