



Minorities in China:
an American University President's
Photographic Journey



中国
少数民族
一位美国校长的
摄影之旅

Author

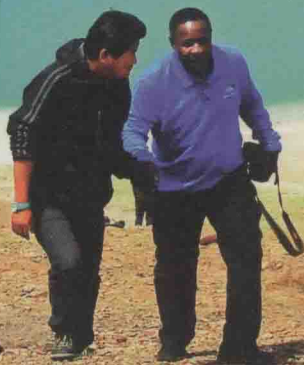
Sidney A. McPhee (U.S.A.)

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About the Author and Photographer

Dr. Sidney A. McPhee was named the tenth President of Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro in 2001. Under McPhee's leadership, MTSU, located in the southern United States, has engaged in almost 40 international partnerships in 17 different countries, including various study-abroad and cultural exchange programs and innovative research collaborations with international partners, with a special emphasis on China. A native of Nassau, Bahamas, and the longest-serving Chief Executive of any public university in Tennessee, McPhee's scholarly pursuits include international lectures and presentations in numerous countries, including China, Japan, South Korea, Israel, Belgium, Canada, England, Brazil, Malaysia, the West Indies, Turkey, Ethiopia and the Bahamas. China Agricultural University in Beijing awarded McPhee its highest academic award, Honorary Professor. He was appointed as Senior Advisor to the Chief Executive of Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters in Beijing, and he received Confucius Institute's Individual Performance Excellence Award during the 8th Annual Global Confucius Institutes Conference in Beijing. A book of his photographic essays, *China: Through the Eyes of an American University President*, published in July 2012, was released internationally. Prior to his arrival at MTSU, McPhee was Executive Vice Chancellor for the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) System. In addition, he served as the TBR's Chief Academic Officer and Interim Chancellor. McPhee also served in various faculty and senior-level administrative capacities at several major universities, including Oklahoma State University, University of Louisville and University of Memphis. McPhee is married to Elizabeth McPhee, and they have two adult children, Seneca and Sidney Anthony.

China

关于本书作者与摄影

西德尼·A. 麦克菲教授自 2001 年起担任墨城中田纳西州立大学第 10 任校长。在他的领导下，位于美国南部的中田纳西州立大学与以中国为重点的 17 个国家建立了约 40 项国际合作项目，其中包括留学与文化交流项目以及创新型研究合作项目等。麦克菲教授生于巴哈马首都拿骚，他是美国中田纳西州立大学任期最长的校长。他曾在中国、日本、韩国、以色列、比利时、加拿大、英国、巴西、马来西亚、西印度群岛、土耳其、埃塞俄比亚以及巴哈马等国家举办学术讲座与演讲。麦克菲教授曾获中国农业大学“荣誉教授”称号，还被国家汉办 / 孔子学院总部聘为高级顾问，在北京召开的“第八届年度全球孔子学院大会”上荣获“孔子学院先进个人”称号。他的摄影作品集《一位美国校长眼中的中国》于 2012 年 7 月出版，面向全世界发行。他在中田纳西州立大学任职之前，曾任美国田纳西州大学董事会副主任。此外，他还曾担任田纳西州大学董事会学术委员会主席以及临时会长职务。他还曾在美国其他几所高校任教和从事高级管理工作，这些学校包括俄克拉荷马州立大学、路易斯维尔大学、孟菲斯大学等。麦克菲教授与夫人伊丽莎白·麦克菲拥有一双儿女——塞尼卡和西德尼·安东尼，现均已成年。

China

Acknowledgements

致谢 





There is a common saying in China, often incorrectly attributed to Confucius, but properly credited to another philosopher, Laozi: "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." This book reflects many different journeys, and perhaps a million or more miles, and enough experiences to fill more than most life time.

When I was asked by my friends at the Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters to develop my first book, *China: Through the Eyes of an American University President*, which was published in 2012, I was both flattered by the invitation and overwhelmed by the response. I am a university administrator, and a social scientist by education and training, not a professional author or photographer. But I hoped that first book would be a window that not only provided a view of my perceptions of China, but give those in China a reminder of the wonders of their country through the images and words of a visitor.

However, when they asked me to consider a second book, I must confess that I hesitated to accept the invitation. I did not want to merely extend what I attempted my first offering; such a task would only be

中国有句俗语：“千里之行，始于足下。”人们一般认为这句话出自孔子，但很可能它的真正出处是老子。这本书记录了我的许多旅程和经历，这些旅程累计起来有一百多万英里，这些经历足以让人感到人生的充实与丰盈。

2012年，我的第一本书《一位美国校长眼中的中国》出版，国家汉办/孔子学院总部的朋友提议我沿此方向继续拓展，我深感荣幸与感动。我是一名大学管理者，我的职业是大学行政管理，我受到的专业教育是社会科学研究。我不是职业作家，也不是摄影师。然而，我还是希望，我的第一本书能够成为一扇窗口，透过这扇窗，读者可以体会到我对我所经历的中国的感受。同时，我也希望能借我这个访客的文字与图片，让置身中国的人们领略到他们所在的国家所创造的伟大奇迹。

然而，当国家汉办的朋友建议我写第二本书的时候，坦率地说，我是有些犹豫的。我并不想仅仅对第一本书进行扩展。第二本书应该既要保留我在1999年第一次走访中国时的那种惊奇与感动，还要做得比第一本书更具深度。唯有如此，这项工作才有意义。





The author(left of center) at a 2018 visit to Yao ethnic village with Andrew Oppmann (right of center) and Rutherford County, Tennessee, Mayor Bill Ketron (right of Oppmann) and Dr. Zheng Guanping, Professor and Director of MTSU's Confucius Institute and our Assistant Vice Provost for International Affairs (far left).

本书作者(左四)与安德鲁·奥普曼(右三)、卢瑟福郡田纳西市市长比尔·凯特伦(安德鲁·奥普曼右侧)。美国中田纳西州立大学教授、孔子学院院长及国际事务协理副教务长郑冠平博士(左一)于2008年访问瑶族村

appealing if I could go a bit deeper than before, yet still retain a sense of the same wonder and awe that I have maintained since my first visit to China in 1999.

I hope that this book reflects the balance I strived to attain with this second effort: A brief exploration into the tapestry of different ethnic groups woven together throughout the different regions of China. Like the first book, I tell most of my stories through my pictures, which, as another saying popular in my country reminds, a picture can be worth thousands of words. I offer these images to you in a joyous expression of what makes each of us unique and special, yet also what we all share as fellow inhabitants of the same planet.

Any list of acknowledgements that I would put forward on this enterprise must first begin with Dr. Xu Lin, the former Chief Executive of Hanban and Director General of the Confucius Institute Headquarters. Xu, who I consider my *jiejie* (big sister), both encouraged and prodded me to continue this project. I treasure our friendship.

Dr. Zheng Guanping, Professor and Director of MTSU's Confucius Institute and Assistant Vice Provost for International Affairs at MTSU, guides and navigates my adventures in China to this day. Not only has he been a noble and faithful traveling companion, he is my great friend and sounding board.

我希望本书能够实现我的这一目标，即通过它，我想带领大家简要地了解中国不同地区不同的少数民族。这里的土地和人民组成的画面犹如一张展开的锦毯，五色相宣、千变万化。美国人常说，图像的表现力胜于文字。和我的第一本书一样，在这本书中，我主要以我在各个少数民族地区拍摄的照片为叙事媒介。通过这些令人心驰神往的照片，我想要努力表达的是，到底是什么令我们每一个人如此与众不同、独具特色，以及栖居在同一星球上的我们人类整体有何共性。

关于这本书的出版，我首先要感谢原国家汉办主任、孔子学院总部总干事许琳博士。我视她为大姐，是她激励我完成了此项目。这份情谊对我来说，弥足珍贵。

感谢中田纳西州立大学教授、孔子学院院长、国际事务协理副教务长郑冠平博士。郑冠平博士是我的朋友，也是我的中国之旅的向导和顾问。他为人忠厚，能力卓越，我为他感到自豪。

Mrs. Kimberly Edgar, my Chief of Staff at Middle Tennessee State University, has worked with me for more than two decades. Her loyalty and hard work made possible not only this book, but many other partnerships and relationships that our university has forged over the years.

Mr. Andrew Oppmann, MTSU's Vice President for Marketing and Communications, has traveled to China with me numerous times as we, along with Zheng Guanping, worked to build and maintain our institution's ties with many of this country's finest universities.

None of what I have been able to achieve in my adult life would have been possible without the love and support of Elizabeth McPhee, my wife of more than three decades, and our children, Seneca and Sidney Anthony. They share not only my love of China, but the sense of adventure that has permeated our travels to this country.

Finally, I also should note that this book was not intended to be an academic offering, but rather an informal collection of observations based upon my conversations with the people and places I visited. In many ways, this is my own personal photo album and travel diary. My thanks, finally, to the Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters, who helped me with this second collection of my photographs and provided the support to compile, fact-check and publish this project.

NOTE: All photographs that appear in this book were taken by the author except for the ones in which he appears. The minorities in each chapter were written according to the time I visited them.

一位是中田纳西州立大学办公室主任金伯利·埃德加女士。她对工作兢兢业业、尽职尽责。她与我共事了二十余年，她的努力与付出为我完成本书提供了可能。多年来，她也为中田纳西州立大学与外界建立合作与交流项目作出了巨大贡献。

另一位是负责中田纳西州立大学市场与交流项目的副校长安德鲁·奥普曼先生，他多次与我和郑冠平博士一起走访中国。我们一起建设并保持着与中国多所顶尖大学之间的合作关系。

感谢我的妻子伊丽莎白·麦克菲，我们共同度过了三十余载的婚姻生活，感谢我的女儿塞尼卡和儿子西德尼·安东尼，没有他们的爱与支持，我就不可能有今天的成就。他们和我一样热爱中国，一样富有冒险精神，这种冒险精神贯穿于我们中国之旅的始终。

这本书是在我走访中国少数民族与地区见闻基础上整理而成的，是我的个人摄影作品集和游记，并非学术著作。最后，我要感谢国家汉办/孔子学院总部，他们为我的第二本摄影作品集提供了帮助，对该书的编撰、信息核对和出版给予了大力支持。

注：本书所使用的照片（包含作者本人的照片除外）均为作者拍摄。本书每章的内容按作者拜访少数民族村的时间排序。



My family and I were fortunate to attend the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

我有幸与家人一起观看了 2008 年北京奥运会

China

Introduction

前言

This year, 2018, marks the nineteenth consecutive year that I have had the honor and privilege of traveling to China each summer. My decision back in 1999 to act upon my curiosity and opt to embark on what was then a mysterious yet intriguing adventure was one of the best decisions I made in my life. I was a young administrator, with only perhaps a faint ambition that I would some day become a university president, when I first boarded that aircraft pointed toward China. The people I would encounter on that first trip, and each trip that followed, changed me for the better: It opened my eyes to the rich and varied tapestry of people, culture and geography that, woven together, form this country.

时光荏苒，自 1999 年起，我每年夏天都行走在中国的不同地区，如今已有 20 个年头。能有这样的机会，我深感荣幸。1999 年，出于好奇，我开启了神秘的中国之旅。回首往事，这是我一生做出的最好的选择之一。那时我刚在大学开始行政管理工作，当我第一次坐上飞往中国的航班时，没想到自己以后会成为一名大学校长。在我的首次中国之旅以及后来的旅程中，我遇到了形形色色的人，他们改变了我，在我的眼前呈现了一片新天地、新气象。中国的人文与地理，多姿多彩，富于变化，宛如一幅宏大瑰丽的画卷——这就是锦绣中国。



An example of some of the media coverage generated from my trips to China on behalf of MTSU.

关于我代表中田纳西州立大学访问中国的部分媒体报道



Yi Minority Village, Napo County, Guangxi. I love participating in the various cultural festivals with the villagers.

广西那坡县彝族村。我乐于参与村民们的各种节日活动并乐在其中



Photo with Minority ladies.

我与少数民族女士们的合影

I believe strongly in the power of visual learning. As such, like my first book, this second volume relies upon images from my travels throughout China, framed in proper context with brief narratives. My goal was both to explore the differences in the 55 ethnic minority groups that comprise the non-Han population within China. The Han majority and the 55 minority groups together are called the Zhonghua Minzu, a term embraced by the country's leadership to honor and respect the many different parts that, as a whole, are the Chinese people.

我相信图像的表现力。因此，就像我的第一本书一样，本书主要以我在中国旅行时拍摄的照片为主，以简短的介绍性文字为辅，旨在探索除汉族以外的中国 55 个少数民族之间的差异。汉族与其他 55 个少数民族一起构成了“中华民族”，这一称呼体现了中国国家领导人对组成“中华民族”的各个民族的尊重与重视。



My first book on China published in 2012.
我在 2012 年出版的第一部中国游记



I made a speech at Hanban in 2010.
2010 年，我在国家汉办作演讲

Again, for the record, while I am a spacing amateur photographer, my talents are far from those put forward by those who make a living and a life in this noble profession. I attribute whatever beauty or texture found in my images to the people and landscapes they captured. China's wonder is so vast and rich that it is difficult to not to take a compelling photograph.

说实话，我只是一名业余的摄影爱好者，无论在摄影技术还是才华方面，与那些专业摄影师都相差甚远。但是，中国很美。中国的少数民族与自然风景美妙绝伦，富有诗意，赋予我的画面自然的美感与质感。在这儿，不必费尽心机寻找摄影机会，好照片几乎可以信手拈来。我收获的好照片，不计其数。



My visit to Zhangjiajie where the movie *Avatar* was made.
我在张家界，这里是电影《阿凡达》的拍摄地