



# **BEIJING CENTRAL AXIS**

# A Building Ensemble Exhibiting the Ideal Order of the Chinese Capital

Beijing Central Axis runs north-south through the heart of the old city of Beijing, totaling 7.8 kilometres in length. It was initially constructed in the 13th century and shaped in the 16th century. With continuous refinement over seven centuries, Beijing Central Axis is an ensemble of building complexes and archeological sites that governs the overall layout of the old city.

Beijing Central Axis includes 15 components. At the northern end of the Axis are the Bell and Drum Towers; it then runs south through the Wanning Bridge and the Jingshan Hill, the Forbidden City, the Upright Gate, the Tian'anmen Gate, the Outer Jinshui Bridges, the Tian'anmen Square Complex, the Zhengyangmen Gate, the Southern Section Road Archeological Sites, to the Yongdingmen Gate at the southern terminus of the Axis. The Imperial Ancestral Temple, the Altar of Land and Grain, the Temple of

Heaven, and the Altar of the God of Agriculture are located on the east and west sides of the Axis.

The grand scale of Beijing Central Axis, its balanced and symmetrical layout and well-organized cityscape make it an outstanding example to represent the mature stage of the urban central axis of Chinese capitals. As the most complete example of its kind still extant in China, Beijing Central Axis has continued to dominate the city's development and stands as an exceptional testimony to the practice of the traditional Chinese concept of "choosing the center" in the construction of the capital city and embodies the philosophy of "neutrality and harmony prized in the Chinese tradition. Its urban layout fully reflects the paradigm of the ideal capital city as prescribed in ancient Chinese classics.

# AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE



**HE Cao Xiaolin**, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the State of Qatar.

ctober 1st is China's National Day. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. On behalf of the Embassy of China in Qatar, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all friends who have long cared for and supported the development of China-Qatar relations.

Over the past 75 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1st, 1949, under the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), hundreds of millions of Chinese people have forged ahead with concerted and unvielding efforts, achieving a tremendous transformation. China has stood up, grown prosperous and is becoming strong. It created two remarkable miracles of fast economic growth and long-term social stability over the past forty years. Since the convening of the 18th Communist Party of China National Congress in 2013, the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core has united and led the people of all ethnic groups across the country to overcome difficulties and press ahead with determination, scoring historic achievements and changes in the cause of the Party and the country. China has eradicated extreme poverty and built a moderately prosperous society in all respects, and is now marching in confident strides to build a great country and advance the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through the Chinese path to modernization.

China is committed to a high-standard opening up. In 2001, the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization was successfully held right here in the Dafna Hall. During the conference, a consensus decision was reached to admit China into the WTO, making China the 143rd member. Since then, China has continuously expanded its openness, strengthened ties with other countries, deepened mutually beneficial cooperation, and made positive contributions to global economic

development. Over the past 23 years since joining the WTO, China has contributed over 30% annually to global economic growth. China will continue to share development opportunities and dividends with countries in the world.

China is committed to promoting global common development. China has put forward the Global Development Initiative (GDI), advocating to forge a united, equal, balanced and inclusive global development partnership to jointly tackle prominent issues including food security, poverty reduction, and energy security. The GDI has been warmly received by the international community. More than 100 countries and international organizations have expressed support for the GDI, with over 70 countries participating in the Group of Friends of the GDI established at the UN. The library of the GDI projects is expanding, with over 200 projects achieving good results. Under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), more than 3,000 cooperation projects have been launched, galvanizing nearly US\$1 trillion of investment, establishing more than 3,000 cooperation projects, creating 420,000 local jobs, and lifting almost 40 million people out of poverty. China has always linked its own destiny with the destiny of the people of all countries in the world, promoted world development with its own advancement, and made its contributions to resolving challenges to development and advancing global development.

China is committed to maintaining world peace and stability. China has put forward the Global Security Initiative (GSI). This initiative aims to address the complex and intertwined security challenges with a win-win mindset, eliminate the root causes of international conflicts, improve global security governance, and promote durable peace and development in the world. China is a much-needed constructive force for safeguarding world peace and tranquility. From consistently promoting the political settlement of the Korean Peninsula issue and the Iranian nuclear issue to successfully mediating historic reconciliation between Saudi Arabia and Iran, to promoting peace for the Ukraine crisis and the latest Palestinian-Israeli conflict, China's sincerity and responsibility in safeguarding global security have always been consistent. China has always been a promoter of security and stability, a cooperation partner for development and prosperity, and a supporter for strength through unity in the Middle East, and will make greater contributions to reconciliation, peace and harmony in the

China is committed to advocating mutual learning among civilizations. China has put forward the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), calling for respecting the diversity of civilizations, upholding the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue and inclusiveness among civilizations, rejecting the imposition of values and models on others, and opposing the stoking of ideological confrontation. The GCI advocates robust international people-to-people exchanges and cooperation, promotes mutual understanding and friendship among people of all countries, and jointly advances the progress of human civilizations. China is ready to work together

China has always been a promoter of security and stability, a cooperation partner for development and prosperity, and a supporter for strength through unity in the Middle East, and will make greater contributions to reconciliation, peace and harmony in the region

with the international community to open up a new prospect of enhanced exchanges and understanding among different peoples and better interactions and integration of diversified cultures. Together, we can make the garden of world civilizations more colourful and vibrant.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the establishment of strategic partnership between China and Qatar. Under the strategic guidance of HE President Xi Jinping and HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, China-Qatar relations have gone through a "golden decade" of comprehensive and rapid development and have become a model of unity and mutual benefit among developing countries. The mutual trust between China and Oatar has continued to deepen. The cooperation between China and Qatar have achieved fruitful outcomes in various fields. The people-to-people exchanges have become closer and closer.

History and reality have proven that the China-Qatar friendship is built on a solid foundation, and possesses immense potentials for cooperation. Standing at a new historical starting point, China and Qatar will continue to embody the spirit of China-Arab friendship, characterized by solidarity and mutual assistance, equality and mutual benefit, and inclusiveness and mutual learning, deepen our strategic partnership with shared ideals and common aspiration for development, comprehensively advance exchanges and cooperation across all fields and levels, jointly safeguard international fairness and justice, promote regional peace and development, bring more benefits for our peoples, and usher in a new "golden decade" of China-Qatar relations!

Lastly, I wish to extend my best wishes for the continued prosperity of the People's Republic of China, the well-being of our two peoples, and the enduring friendship between our two countries.



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Gulf Times thanks the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Qatar for the support rendered in preparing the supplement

#### **Economic Growth and Reform:**

# Strong impetus for common development of **CHINA AND THE WORLD**

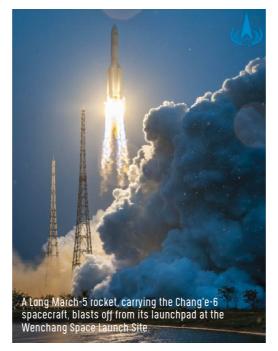


The Third Plenary Session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

n the first half of 2024, China's GDP reached RMB 61.7 trillion with a year-on-year growth of 5.0%, once again demonstrating to the international community the bright prospects of China's sustained economic growth.

China implements the new development philosophy, accelerates the cultivation of new productivity boosters, and continued to develop the high-tech industries represented by nextgeneration information technology, aerospace, and high-end equipment. Since the beginning of this year, China has successfully established the world's first 6G test network integrating communication and intelligence. Additionally, a total of 6 domestically produced C919 passenger aircraft have been delivered. China's Chang'e 6 lunar probe achieved the significant milestone of sampling and returning from the back of the moon. The output of new intelligent green products such as 3D printing, service robots, new energy vehicles, and solar cells has maintained double-digit growth.

In July, 2024, the Third Plenary Session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China was successfully held in Beijing. The



session adopted the Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Further Deepening Reform Comprehensively to Advance Chinese Modernization, which sent a strong message to the world regarding China's steadfast commitment to reform and opening up in the new era. It planned the Chinese path to modernization, and injected strong impetus into common development of China and the world:

First, China will accelerate efforts to build a high standard market system, which is a major reform task. Efforts will be made to build a unified national market, including the development of a unified urban-rural construction land market, a nationwide integrated technology and data market, and a unified national electricity market.

Second, China will improve the market system and rules for production factors such as labor, capital, land, knowledge, technology, management and data. The systems underpinning the market economy will be refined, including optimizing the systems for property rights protection, information disclosure, market access, bankruptcy exit and credit supervision.

China's new reform efforts will not only provide an institutional guarantee for modernization but also serve as a driving force for stable growth in the short, medium, and long term.

Third, China will strengthen its macroeconomic governance by improving the fiscal relations between central and local governments. Measures will be taken to make the tax system compatible with new business models.

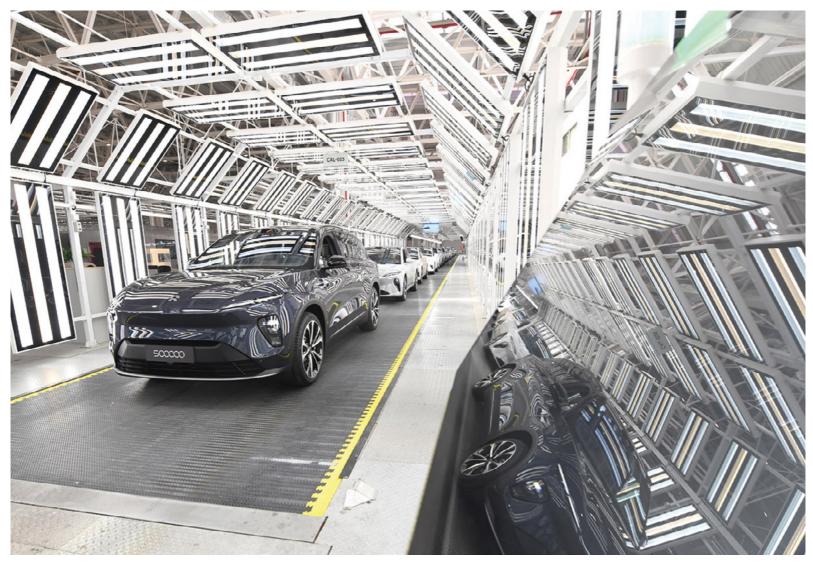
Fourth, China will remain committed to the basic state policy of opening to the outside world and continue to promote reform through opening up. Based on its own enormous market, China will enhance its capacity for opening up while expanding cooperation with other countries and develop new institutions for a higher-standard open economy. China will steadily expand institutional opening up, further reform the management systems for inward and outward investment, and refine the mechanisms for highquality cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative.

China's new reform efforts will not only provide an institutional guarantee for modernization but also serve as a driving force for stable growth in the short, medium, and long term. These reforms



The delivery ceremony of China's large passenger aircraft C919 at a manufacturing center of Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China Ltd.

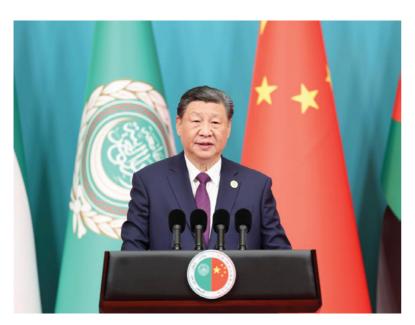
will help create a unified domestic market, foster new quality productive forces, and achieve major scientific and technological breakthroughs. As China opens its goods, services, capital, and labor markets more widely to the rest of the world in an orderly manner, the international community will increasingly benefit from China's development.



Chinese EV maker Nio's 500,000th vehicle rolls off the production line in Hefei, Anhui province.

## **China's Home-Ground Diplomatic Events:**

# **UPHOLDING WORLD PEACE AND** PROMOTING COMMON DEVELOPMENT



#### THE 10TH MINISTERIAL **CONFERENCE OF THE CHINA-ARAB STATES COOPERATION FORUM**

The 10th Ministerial Conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum (CASCF) was held in Beijing on May 30, to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of the CASCF. As the first ministerial meeting held after the successful first China-Arab States Summit, it is of great significance for implementing the outcomes of the China-Arab States Summit and accelerating the building of a China-Arab community of shared future in the

In his keynote speech at the opening ceremony on May 30, the Chinese President Xi Jinping announced that China is ready to work with the Arab side to carry forward the spirit of China-Arab friendship, and put in place the "five cooperation frameworks" to step up the building of a China-Arab community with a shared future. The first is a more dynamic framework for innovation. The second is an expanded framework for investment and finance cooperation. The third is a more multifaceted framework for energy cooperation. The fourth is a more balanced framework for mutually beneficial economic and trade ties. The fifth is a broader framework for people-to-people exchanges. The conference adopted the Beijing Declaration, the CASCF Execution Plan for 2024-2026, and a China-Arab States Joint Statement on the Palestinian Issue.

#### THE CONFERENCE MARKING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIVE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL **COEXISTENCE**

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. In 1955, the Chinese leadership specified the Five Principles in their entirety for the first time, namely, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference

in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. With their inclusion in important international documents, the Five Principles have been widely recognized and observed by the international community.

On June 28, the Conference Marking the 70th Anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence was held in Beijing. The Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the conference and delivered an important address entitled "Carrying Forward the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and Jointly Building a Community with a Shared Future for

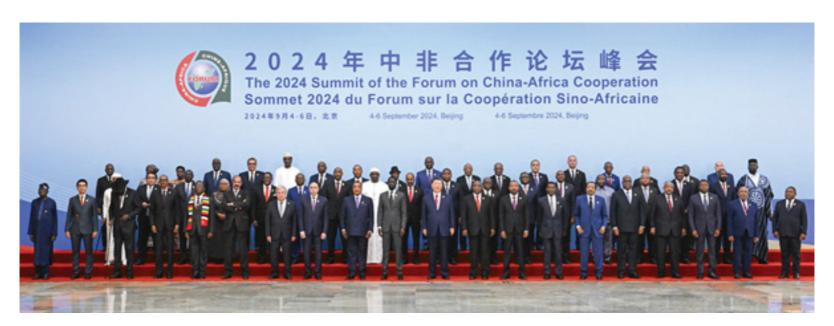


President Xi stressed that the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence has been written into China's Constitution long before. They are the bedrock of China's independent foreign policy of peace. China's resolve to stay on the path of peaceful development will not change. Its resolve to develop friendship and cooperation with all countries will not change. Its resolve to promote common development across the world will not change. China will continue to champion the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, work with all countries to build a community with a shared future for mankind, and make new and greater contributions to safeguarding world peace and promoting common development. The conference issued Beijing Declaration Of the Conference Marking the 70th Anniversary Of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence

#### THE 2024 SUMMIT OF THE FORUM ON CHINA-AFRICA COOPERATION (FOCAC)

The FOCAC Beijing Summit—a big friendly gathering of China-Africa family again in China's capital after six years —is a major event with great significance and far-reaching impact.

In his keynote address at the opening ceremony on September 5, the Chinese President Xi Jinping announced that bilateral relations between China and all African countries having diplomatic relations with China are elevated to the level of strategic relations, the overall characterization of China-Africa relations are elevated to an all-weather China-Africa community with a shared future for the new era, and China will work with Africa to take ten partnership actions for modernization. The summit adopted the Beijing Declaration on Jointly Building an All-weather China-Africa Community with a Shared Future for the New Era and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation - Beijing Action Plan (2025-2027).





#### THE 2024 WORLD AI CONFERENCE AND HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON GLOBAL AI GOVERNANCE

The 2024 World Al Conference represents an important measure for China to implement the Global Al Governance Initiative. It lends a strong impetus for global Al governance, establishes a new platform for international exchanges and cooperation on Al, and comprehensively showcases China's progress made on Al and Al governance.

On July 4, the Chinese Premier Li Qiang attended the opening ceremony of the 2024 World Al Conference and High-Level Meeting on Global Al Governance in Shanghai and delivered a speech. Li Qiang stressed that China is ready to work with other countries to make Al better serve global

development and enhance human well-being, jointly advancing towards a brighter intelligent future. Li Qiang put forward three suggestions. First, deepen innovation cooperation and unleash the intelligence dividend. Second, promote inclusive development and bridge the digital divide. Third, strengthen collaborative governance and ensure Al for good. The conference issued the Shanghai Declaration on Global Al Governance.

# RECONCILIATION DIALOGUE OF PALESTINIAN FACTIONS IN BEIJING

At China's invitation, senior representatives of 14 Palestinian factions held reconciliation talks in Beijing from July 21 to 23. This is the first time that all 14 Palestinian factions gathered in Beijing and held talks for reconciliation. It brings precious hope for the Palestinian people who have suffered for too long

On July 23, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi attended the closing ceremony of the reconciliation talks of Palestinian factions and witnessed the signing of the Beijing Declaration on Ending Division and Strengthening Palestinian National Unity.

Wang Yi pointed out that the most important consensus from the Beijing talks is to achieve the reconciliation and unity among the 14 factions; the core outcome is the affirmation of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of all Palestinian people; the biggest highlight is the agreement on establishing an interim government of national reconciliation focusing on the post-conflict reconstruction of Gaza; and the strongest call is for truly establishing an independent State of Palestine in accordance with relevant U.N. resolutions.

Wang Yi noted that China proposes a three-step initiative to help get out of the current conflict and predicament: The first step is to achieve comprehensive, lasting and sustainable ceasefire in the Gaza Strip as soon as possible, and ensure access to humanitarian aid and rescue on the ground. The second step is to make joint efforts toward post-conflict governance of Gaza under the principle of "Palestinians governing Palestine." The third step is to help Palestine become a full member state of the U.N. and get down to implementing the two-State solution.



# **Deepening Bilateral Mutual Trust**



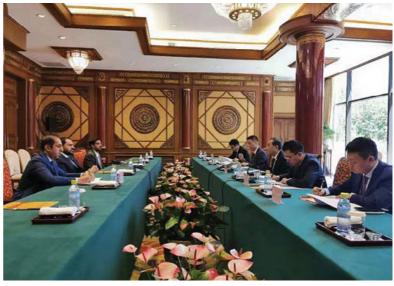
HE Ambassador Cao Xiaolin presented his credentials to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani in January.



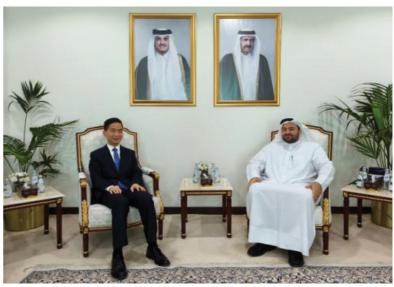
China and Qatar support each other in exploring independent development paths that suit our national conditions, support each other in safeguarding our core interests and major concerns, closely communicate and cooperate on major international and regional issues, jointly practice true multilateralism, and defend the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries.



HE Ambassador Cao Xiaolin presented a copy of his credentials to HE Sultan bin Saad Al Muraikhi, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, in January.



Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Deng Li met with Qatar's Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Mohammed bin Abdulaziz bin Saleh Al Khulaifi, in Beijing.



Ambassador Cao Xiaolin met with Qatar's Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Mohammed bin Abdulaziz bin Saleh Al Khulaifi.



Ambassador Cao Xiaolin met with HE Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr. Ahmed bin Hassan al-Hammadi



The Embassy of China in Qatar held a reception to celebrate the 2024 Chinese New Year and the arrival of HE Ambassador Cao Xiaolin.



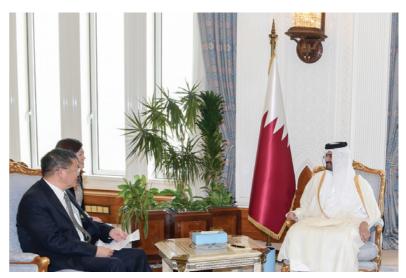
The Chinese Embassy in Qatar held a reception to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the strategic partnership between China and Qatar.

# **Good Partners in Achieving Common** Development

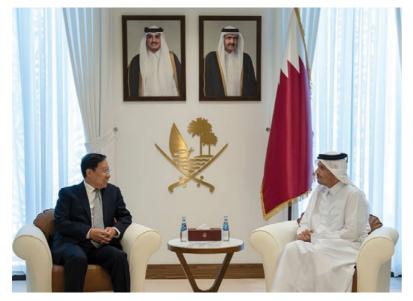
Over the years, economic and trade cooperation has flourished. Since 2020, China has been Qatar's largest trading partner and export destination for four consecutive years. Additionally, Qatar has become China's second-largest source of LNG imports globally.

At present, China is advancing Chinese path to modernization on all fronts through high-quality development, providing a super-sized domestic market and unprecedented development opportunities to countries worldwide, including Qatar. Qatar has launched its third national development strategy for 2024-2030, which aims to achieve sustainable growth goals under the Qatar National Vision 2030.

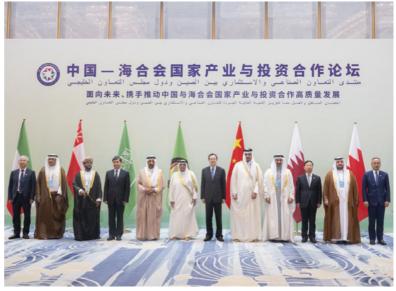
China wishes to strengthen the synergy between both countries' development strategies, promote win-win cooperation with shared benefits to a higher level, and enhance the high-quality Belt and Road Cooperation in order to make our countries good partners in pursuing our respective national development paths.



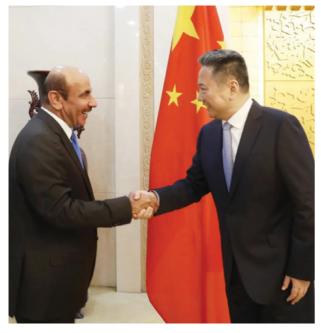
HH the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Thani met with Chairman of the National Energy Administration of China, Zhang Jianhua.



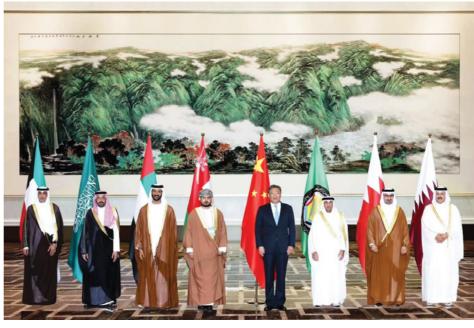
Qatar's Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani met with Secretary of the CPC Sichuan Provincial Committee and Chairman of the Standing Committee of Sichuan Provincial People's Congress, Wang Xiaohui.



Qatar's Minister of Commerce and Industry Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Qassim Al-Thani participated in the first China-GCC Countries Forum on Industry and Investment Cooperation in Xiamen.



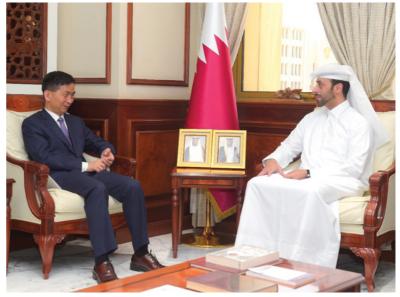
Chinese Minister of Transport, Li Xiaopeng, met with Qatar's Minister of Transport, Jassim bin Saif Ahmed Al Sulaiti, in Beijing.



Qatar participated in the First China-GCC Economic and Trade Ministerial Conference in Guangzhou.



Ambassador Cao Xiaolin met with Qatar's Minister of Finance Ali bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari.



Ambassador Cao Xiaolin met with Qatar's Minister of Municipality Abdullah bin Hamad bin Abdullah Al Attiyah.



Ambassador Cao Xiaolin met with Qatar's Minister of Communications and Information Technology HE Mohamed bin Ali bin Mohamed Al-Mannai.



QatarEnergy signed an agreement with China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC) in September for the construction of six QC-Max LNG vessels.

# CHINA-QATAR PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE EXCHANGES

# A Year of Fruitful Engagements

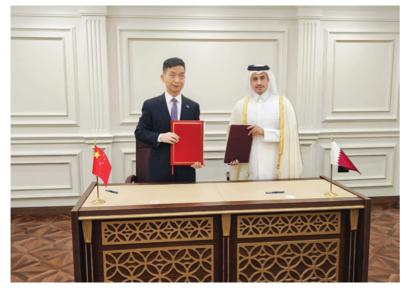
his year is a "fruitful year" for China-Qatar people-topeople exchanges. China's National Press and Publication Administration(NPPA) and the Ministry of Culture of Qatar signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Fields of Translation and Publication of Classics.

Omar Al Jaber, Acting Chief of the Tourism Development Sector at Qatar Tourism visited China. The "Happy Chinese New Year: Xinjiang is a Beautiful Place" folk music and dance show was successfully held in Qatar. Many Qatari friends commended it as "the most spectacular performance".

Batches of Qatari young students participated in the "Chinese Bridge" summer camp in China, embodying the Arab proverb "Seek knowledge

even if it is far away in China." The Sanxingdui Museum and the Katara Cultural Village jointly held a digital immersive exhibition to showcase to the residents of Doha the splendor of ancient Chinese bronze civilization, which thrived 3000 years ago.

Friendship holds the key to sound state-to-state relations. The Chinese Embassy in Qatar is willing to work with friends from all sectors in Qatar to jointly implement the significant consensus of our two heads of state, striving to create more new opportunities for people-to-people exchanges, consolidate the popular support for the strategic partnership between China and Qatar, and contribute more positive energy to building a China-Arab community with a shared future.



Ambassador Cao Xiaolin, on behalf of the NPPA of China, and Assistant Undersecretary for Cultural Affairs at the Ministry of Culture Dr. Ghanem bin Mubarak Al Ali, on behalf of the Ministry of Culture of Qatar, signed the MoU.



Qatar adult learners of Chinese attended the "Chinese Bridge" Training Program.



Omar Al-Jaber, acting chief of the Tourism Development Sector at Qatar Tourism, visited China's Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.



Qatar middle school students participated in the "Chinese Bridge" summer camp.



The "Happy Chinese New Year: Xinjiang is a Beautiful Place" folk music and dance show.



The opening ceremony of Sanxingdui Digital Immersive Exhibition at Katara Cultural Village.



Chinese books were exhibited at the Doha International Book Fair.

# Healthy and stable development of military relation

In the past year, the military relation between China and Qatar has continued to develop in a healthy and stable manner and achieved positive results. High-level visits between the two armed forces have played an important leading role in enhancing mutual understanding and trust. Both navies carried out pragmatic exchanges and cooperation. We have seen

more and more military training taking place in the military academies of both countries. The cooperation between China and Qatar in defense industry is also expanding and deepening. We believe that the prospects for China-Qatar military and security cooperation are promising in the future.



HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah visited China.



Lt. Gen. Jing Jianfeng, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Joint Staff Department of the Central Military Commission, visited Qatar.



HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah visited Chinese defense industry booth during DIMDEX 2024.



The PLA Navy delegation visited DIMDEX 2024.



The 44th PLA Navy escort fleet visited Doha.



The PLA National Defense University delegation visited Qatar.



China is home to one of the world's four great civilizations, which has nurtured a rich culture and artistic heritage. Music, dance, opera, martial arts, calligraphy, painting, engraving, silk weaving, porcelain making, cuisine, and architecture all possess a unique Chinese flavor and charm.

China warmly welcomes visitors from around the world.





The Great Wall, one of the world's most iconic landmarks, is a must-visit attraction in China. Spanning over 21,000 kilometers, this ancient wonder offers a glimpse into China's rich history and architectural marvels. Located about 60-130 kilometers (1-2 hours' drive) from Beijing, the Great Wall provides an unforgettable experience for travellers. There are several sections in Beijing, including Mutianyu, Badaling, Jinshanling, Jiankou, Simatai, and Huanghuacheng Great Wall. Hike along its winding paths, marvel at the breathtaking panoramic views, and immerse yourself in the grandeur of this UNESCO World Heritage site. You can learn about the wall's construction and appreciate its magnificence up close.

## 2 Forbidden City



The Forbidden City, located in the heart of Beijing, is a captivating destination that offers a glimpse into the grandeur and history of imperial China. With its impressive architecture and cultural significance, it is a must-visit attraction for travellers. The Forbidden City served as the imperial palace for over 500 years that served as the residence of 24 emperors during the Ming and Qing dynasties and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Situated in downtown Beijing, the Forbidden City is easily accessible for visitors. Once inside, you can explore the vast complex and marvel at its stunning palaces, ceremonial halls, and beautiful gardens. Take your time to admire the intricate details of the buildings and learn about the lives of emperors and their courtiers.

### 3 Terracotta Warriors



The Terracotta Warriors in Xi'an, Shaanxi, is a remarkable archaeological site that attracts visitors worldwide. Discovered in 1974, this ancient army of life-sized clay soldiers, horses, and chariots was created to accompany Emperor Qin Shi Huang in the afterlife. The site showcases the incredible craftsmanship and historical significance of the Qin Dynasty (221-207 BCE).

Situated approximately 40 kilometers from Xian, the Terracotta Warriors are easily accessible to tourists. Once there, you can explore the three excavation pits, each revealing different aspects of the army's formation and weaponry. Witness the sheer magnitude of the military and marvel at the intricate details of each statue.





The Bund, located in the metropolis Shanghai, is an iconic waterfront area that offers a unique blend of history, culture, and modernity with stunning skyline views and architectural marvels. Situated in the heart of Shanghai, the Bund is easily accessible to visitors. Stroll along the waterfront promenade and admire the architectural beauty of the buildings, such as the neoclassical Bund Customs House and the Art Deco Peace Hotel. Marvel at the contrast between the historical structures and the futuristic skyscrapers of Pudong across the river.

There are several things to do in the Bund area. Take a Huangpu River Cruise to fully appreciate the panoramic views of the skyline. Explore the Bund Sightseeing Tunnel, an underground tunnel that connects the Bund to Pudong, offering a unique visual experience. Visit the Shanghai Museum of Art or indulge in some retail therapy at Nanjing Road, a bustling shopping street nearby.

### **5** Jiuzhaigou Valley

Jiuzhaigou Valley, located in Sichuan province, is a mesmerizing destination that captivates travellers with its stunning natural beauty. With its turquoise lakes, cascading waterfalls, and snow-capped peaks, Jiuzhaigou Valley is a paradise for nature enthusiasts and photographers.



Situated around 330 kilometres from Chengdu, Jiuzhaigou Valley is easily accessible by flight (1 hour), bus or private transfer. The journey by private car takes approximately 8-10 hours, but the scenic landscapes along the way make it worthwhile.

The best time to visit Jiuzhaigou Valley is during the autumn months of September to November when the foliage turns vibrant shades of red, orange, and yellow. Spring, from April to June, is also a great time to visit when the valley comes alive with blooming flowers.

## **6** Mount Huangshan



Mount Huangshan is a majestic destination that attracts travellers with its breathtaking beauty and iconic granite peaks. Known for its ethereal sea of clouds, ancient pine trees, and stunning sunrises, Mount Huangshan is a mustvisit for nature enthusiasts and hikers. Situated in the Anhui province, Mount Huangshan is approximately 60 kilometres away from the city of Huangshan.

The best time to visit Mount Huangshan is during spring and autumn when the weather is mild and the landscapes are at their most vibrant. In Summer, enjoy warm weather and clear skies. offering ideal conditions for experiencing the "Sea of Clouds". Winter is also the time to view the snow.

#### **Ancient Villages in Southern** Anhui - Xidi and Hongcun



Journey into the picturesque Xidi and Hongcun Ancient Village, nestled amidst the majestic scenery of the Huangshan Mountains. Xidi and Hongcun Ancient Village offers a captivating glimpse into the past, capturing the essence of traditional Chinese architecture and rural life. This UNESCO World Heritage Site, boasting well-preserved Ming and Qing dynasty buildings, enchanting canals, and a peaceful atmosphere. guarantees an unforgettable journey through time. Located approximately 70 kilometres from Huangshan City, it serves as an idyllic escape.

### 3 Zhangjiajie National Forest Park



Nestled amidst the breathtaking landscapes of Hunan Province, Zhangjiajie National Forest Parkis a haven for nature enthusiasts and adventure seekers. This captivating site, renowned for its towering sandstone pillars, mystical rock formations, and diverse ecosystems, promises an unforgettable journey into China's natural wonders. Zhangjiajie National Park is located in the northwestern part of Hunan Province, approximately 40 kilometres from Zhangjiajie City.

There are several things to do here. Take a ride on the famous Bailong Elevator, which offers breathtaking views of the surrounding scenery. Explore the enchanting Yuanjiajie Scenic Area, home to the famous Hallelujah Mountain seen in the movie "Avatar." Hike through Tianzi Mountain: Witness the stunning rock formations, panoramic views, and unique flora and fauna of this iconic mountain. Hike along the Golden Whip Stream, a picturesque trail that winds through lush forests and alongside crystal-clear streams.

## Yangshuo

Yangshuo, located in the Guangxi Autonomous Region of China, is a captivating destination that draws travellers with its stunning landscapes and vibrant local culture. Surrounded by towering limestone karsts and the picturesque Li River, Yangshuo offers a unique blend of natural beauty and outdoor adventures.

Situated approximately 65 kilometres from Guilin, Yangshuo is easily accessible by Li River cruise (4 hours) or bus, making it a popular side trip for visitors exploring Guilin.

There are several top attractions and activities to experience in Yangshuo. Taking a leisurely boat ride along the Li River is a must-do, offering breathtaking views of the karst peaks and lush countryside. Exploring the famous West Street is another highlight, with its lively atmosphere, local handicrafts, and delicious street food. Cycling or bamboo rafting along the Yulong River provides an opportunity to immerse oneself in the tranquil rural scenery.

## **West Lake**



West Lake, nestled in the heart of Hangzhou, Zhejiang, is an iconic natural landmark that has captivated hearts and inspired artists for centuries. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is not just a picturesque lake, but a symbol of cultural heritage and breathtaking beauty.

West Lake is not just a visual feast; it's a playground for relaxation and recreation. Cruise across the lake on a traditional boat, enjoying the gentle breeze and the tranquil scenery. Hike the scenic trails surrounding the lake, breathing in the fresh air and soaking in the breathtaking views.

## **Classical Gardens of Suzhou**



With a history spanning over 2,500 years, the Classical Gardens of Suzhou are a testament to the deep reverence for nature and the seamless integration of it into living spaces by the Chinese people. These gardens were not merely decorative spaces; they were intended to be microcosms of the natural world, offering havens for contemplation, relaxation, and artistic expression.

Step into a world of serenity and refinement at the Classical Gardens of Suzhou, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Explore the Humble Administrator's Garden, Lingering Garden, Net Master's Garden, Canglang Pavilion, Lion Grove Garden, Garden of Cultivation, and others in Suzhou. Stroll through these meticulously designed gardens, adorned with pavilions, bridges, ponds, and rock formations, and immerse yourself in the tranquility of traditional Chinese landscaping.

#### Huangguoshu Waterfall

Huangguoshu Waterfall, nestled amidst the picturesque landscapes of Guizhou province, stands as a testament to nature's awe-inspiring grandeur. With its cascading waters plunging over 77 metres and spanning a width of 101 metres, Huangguoshu is not only one of the largest waterfalls in Asia but also a captivating destination for travellers seeking adventure and natural beauty.

Distance from Guiyang: Guiyang, the capital of Guizhou province, is the nearest major city to Huangguoshu Waterfall, located approximately 128 kilometres away.

13) Xiapu Mudflat

Nestled in the northeastern corner of Fujian Province, lies the captivating Xiapu Mudflat. This breathtaking natural landscape, encompassing 40 square kilometres and boasting over 400 kilometers of coastline, has earned its reputation as one of the most stunning mudflats in the country, and a true photographer's paradise.

The most magical moments at Xiapu Mudflat occur during sunrise and sunset. As the sun peeks over the horizon, bathing the landscape in a warm glow, the mudflats come alive with a vibrant palette of colours. The reflections of the sky on the water create a mesmerizing mirrored effect, while the silhouettes of the fishing boats add a touch of human presence to the scene.

14 China Snow Town

Deep in the heart of Heilongjiang Province, lies a winter wonderland known as China Snow Town. This charming village, nestled amidst snow-capped mountains and pristine forests, transforms into a magical landscape during the winter months, attracting visitors from all over the world with its breathtaking scenery and unique cultural experiences.

From December to March, China Snow Town is blanketed in a thick layer of snow, turning houses, trees, and even the landscape into whimsical sculptures. The air is crisp and invigorating, the silence broken only by the crackling of snow underfoot and the occasional burst of laughter from children playing in the streets.

15 Kanas Lake

Kanas Lake, located in the north of Xinjiang, is a hidden gem that beckons travellers with its serene beauty. Known for its crystal-clear waters, surrounding snow-capped mountains, and lush forests, Kanas Lake is a paradise for nature enthusiasts and photographers. Kanas Lake is approximately 500 kilometres from Urumqi.

The best time to visit Kanas Lake is during the autumn months of September and October when the foliage transforms into a kaleidoscope of vibrant colours. Spring and early summer are also ideal for pleasant weather and blooming wildflowers.

# Echoing Sand Mountain and Crescent Lake

Nestled in the heart of the Gobi Desert in Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, just outside the ancient Silk Road oasis town of Dunhuang, lies a breathtaking natural wonder known as Echoing Sand Mountain and Crescent Lake. This captivating landscape, a mesmerizing blend of towering dunes and a serene crescent-shaped lake is a must-visit destination for any travellers seeking a unique and unforgettable adventure.









The Hani rice terraces are situated in Yuanyang county, Honghe prefecture, Southwest China's Yunnan province. Hani Terraces, particularly created by the Chinese Hani ethnic group, is an absolute wonder of farming civilization with a long history of more than 1,300 years. The UNESCO's World Heritage Committee inscribed the cultural landscape of Honghe Hani Rice Terraces onto the prestigious World Heritage List in 2013.

The 950-hectare Rice Terraces is like the ladders to the heaven with over 3700 levels, rising up from 800 metres to 2000 metres.

Victoria Peak Ascend to the top of Victoria Peak,

Ascend to the top of Victoria Peak, the highest mountain in Hong Kong SAR, for panoramic views of the city skyline and the surrounding Victoria Harbour. Enjoy the breathtaking vistas, capture stunning photos, and experience the vibrant atmosphere of this iconic landmark.

Spectacular Views: The primary allure of Victoria Peak lies in its unparalleled views of Hong Kong's sprawling cityscape. Witnessing the mesmerizing skyline, sparkling harbour, and surrounding mountains from the peak's vantage point is an absolute feast for the eyes.

Iconic Peak Tram: Embark on a memorable journey to the summit of Victoria Peak by riding the historic Peak Tram. This charming funicular railway, which has been in operation since 1888, offers a scenic and nostalgic experience as it ascends steep slopes, providing stunning views along the way.





# Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao A

The Hong Kong–Zhuhai–Macau Bridge (HZMB) is a 55-kilometre bridge–tunnel system consisting of a series of three cable-stayed bridges, an undersea tunnel, and four artificial islands. It is both the longest sea crossing and the longest open-sea fixed link in the world. The HZMB spans the Lingding and Jiuzhou channels, connecting Hong Kong S.A.R and Macau S.A.R with Zhuhai—a major city on the Pearl River Delta in China.

#### **20** Sun Moon Lake

Sun Moon Lake, situated in Taiwan Province, China. It is the largest body of water in Taiwan Province. Sun Moon Lake surrounds a tiny island called Lalu. The east side of the lake resembles a sun while the west side resembles a moon, hence the name. Sun Moon Lake is located 748 m (2,454 ft) above sea level. It is 27 m (89 ft) deep and has a surface area of approximately 7.93 km2 (3.06 sq mi). The area surrounding the lake has many trails for hiking.





## EVERY WEEK, THERE ARE 61 DIRECT PASSENGER FLIGHTS BETWEEN CHINA AND QATAR, LINKING DOHA WITH EIGHT MAJOR CITIES IN CHINA

| City      | Route          | Airlines                | Flight No. | Schedule           | Time          |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Beijing   | Doha-Beijing   | Qatar Airways           | QR 892     | Everyday           | 02:15-15:00   |
|           | Doha-Beijing   | Xiamen Airlines         | MF 846     | Everyday           | 01:45-14:40   |
|           | Beijing-Doha   | Qatar Airways           | QR 893     | Everyday           | 01:45-05:55   |
|           | Beijing-Doha   | Xiamen Airlines         | MF 845     | Everyday           | 18:30-22:45   |
| Hong Kong | Doha-Hong Kong | Qatar Airways           | QR 818     | Everyday           | 01:55-15.10   |
|           | Doha-Hong Kong | Qatar Airways           | QR 816     | Everyday           | 08:10-21:35   |
|           | Hong Kong-Doha | Qatar Airways           | QR 815     | Everyday           | 01:25-04:40   |
|           | Hong Kong-Doha | Qatar Airways           | QR 817     | Everyday           | 19:10-22:25   |
| Guangzhou | Doha-Guangzhou | Qatar Airways           | QR 874     | Everyday           | 02.30-15:30   |
|           | Doha-Guangzhou | China Southern Airlines | CZ334      | Everyday           | 01:15-14:30   |
|           | Guangzhou-Doha | Qatar Airways           | QR 875     | Everyday           | 01:35-05:05   |
|           | Guangzhou-Doha | China Southern Airlines | CZ333      | Everyday           | 19:20-22:50   |
| Shanghai  | Doha-Shanghai  | Qatar Airways           | QR 870     | Everyday           | 02:35-16:30   |
|           | Shanghai-Doha  | Qatar Airways           | QR 871     | Everyday           | 00:35-04:50   |
| Hangzhou  | Doha-Hangzhou  | Qatar Airways           | QR 890     | Sun, Tue, Wed, Fri | 02:20-16:30   |
|           | Hangzhou-Doha  | Qatar Airways           | QR 891     | Mon, Wed, Thu, Sat | 00:55-05:20   |
| Chongqing | Doha-Chongqing | Qatar Airways           | QR 880     | Mon, Wed, Fri      | 02:35-15:10   |
|           | Chongqing-Doha | Qatar Airways           | QR 881     | Tue, Thu, Sat      | 01:50-04:50   |
| Chengdu   | Doha-Chengdu   | Qatar Airways           | QR 860     | Tue, Thu, Sat      | 02:20-14:55   |
|           | Chengdu-Doha   | Qatar Airways           | QR 861     | Sun, Wed, Fri      | 02:00-05:00   |
| Xiamen    | Doha-Xiamen    | Xiamen Airlines         | MF 832     | Mon, Thu           | 19:30-07:55+1 |
|           | Xiamen-Doha    | Xiamen Airlines         | MF 831     | Tue, Fri           | 00:05-05:00   |



The Paris 2024 Olympic Games concluded in August, with Team China winning 40 gold, 27 silver, and 24 bronze medals. This result marks Team China's best performance at an Olympic Games held overseas

Counting from China's first Olympic gold medal in 1984 thanks to Xu Haifeng's shooting prowess, China successfully surpassed the 300-gold medal mark in Paris. Over the past 40 years, Chinese sports have evolved from achieving occasional standout performances to becoming an undeniable powerhouse of global sports.

Historic breakthroughs were made by Chinese athletes at the Paris Olympics in sports such as tennis, artistic swimming, rhythmic gymnastics and BMX cycling.



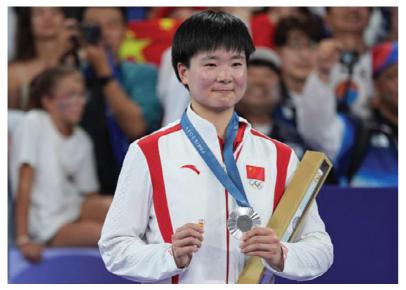
Chinese swimmers, delivering their performances collected a total of two gold, three silver and seven bronze medals at the Paris Olympics. Pan Zhanle shattered his own world mark set earlier in the year with a remarkable 46.40 in the final of the Men's 100m Freestyle. Another highlight in the pool was the men's 4x100m medley relay.



Olympic women's tennis singles gold medalist, 21-year-old Zheng Qinwen, advised people to dare to dream as it could propel one to strive for future success after her epic win at Roland Garros. Zheng is the first Asian athlete to win an Olympic tennis singles gold medal.



Eighteen-year-old freestyle BMX cyclist Deng Yawen noted that her pride and confidence has solidified when she heard the national anthem at the award ceremony, after she claimed China's first gold medal in BMX cycling.



Chinese gen-Z athletes also contribute some charming sportsmanship moments. To show respect to wounded Spanish badminton player, female badminton silver medalist He Bingjiao brought a pin of Spain to the podium.



China's world champion in the women's 20-kilometer race walk, Yang Jiayu. Chinese athletes also collected several gold medals from traditional advantageous campaigns. World champion shooters Huang Yuting and Sheng Lihao won the first gold medal of Paris Olympics in the 10m air rifle mixed team. 17-year-old Quan Hongchan got the gold medal in the women's 10m platform final of diving. Yang Jiayu clinched the gold medal in the women's 20-kilometer race walk.



China's World champion shooters Huang Yuting and Sheng Lihao.



China's world champion Quan Hongchan in the women's 10m platform final of diving.

# **Paris Paralympic Games**

Paris Paralympic Games, securing 94 gold medals, 76 silver medals, and 50 bronze medals, decisively leading the medal table. On top of that, Chinese athletes have broken multiple world records. China's dominance continued in its key events, with swimming, athletics, table tennis, and wheelchair fencing contributing to the bulk of the medals. At the previous Paralympic Games in Tokyo, the Chinese delegation won an impressive 96 golds, 60 silvers, and 51 bronzes, totaling 207 medals and setting 29 world records. This marked the fifth consecutive Paralympics where China topped both the gold and overall medal tables.



Zou Lijuan threw 9.14 meters in the women's shot put F34 final in Paris, winning China's 200th gold in the track and field events at the Paralympic Games since their first participation in the Paralympics in 1984.



Hu Yang, Wen Xiaoyan, Wang Hao, Jia Dengpu and Zhou Guohua won the gold medal of the 4x100m Universal Relay final of Para Athletics at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

### Suhail -





Thuraya >





# Suhail and Thuraya

## Friendly Envoys from China

AS FRIENDLY ENVOYS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, SUHAIL AND THURAYA INSPIRE ENTHUSIASM FOR CHINA AMONG THE PEOPLE OF QATAR AND OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES IN THEIR OWN UNIQUE WAY

he giant panda is regarded as a "national treasure" of China. Under the concern of HE President Xi Jinping and HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, two giant pandas from China, Suhail and Thuraya, arrived in Qatar in 2022. Their arrival marks Qatar as the first country in the Middle East to receive Chinese giant pandas, reflects a new height in China-Qatar relations, and marks a new chapter in the friendship between China and the Arab world.

As friendly envoys between the two countries, Suhail and Thuraya inspire enthusiasm for China among the people of Qatar and other Arab countries in their own unique way, promote the idea of harmonious coexistence between humans and nature, and demonstrate the commitment of both China and Qatar to peace and development.

**Suhail (Chinese Name-Jing Jing):** The male panda, born on September 19, 2019, weighs 140

kg. His Arabic name, "Suhail", refers to one of the brightest stars visible in the Gulf region, carrying significant cultural meaning in Qatar.

Thuraya (Chinese Name-Si Hai): The female panda, born on July 26, 2019, weighs 110 kg. She is named after the Pleiades star cluster, also known as "Thuraya" in Arabic, which holds great significance in Qatari culture.



Al Khor Panda House is the first of its kind in the Middle East. It is located in Al Khor Family Park, 50km north of Doha. It is part of a 120,000-square-metre custom-built park that features spacious enclosures, green spaces, and a large viewing atrium where panda enthusiasts can observe these magnificent creatures. It is designed to closely mimic the natural habitat of the Minshan Mountains in Sichuan. China

#### It features:

▶ Air-Conditioned Sports Grounds: Specially designed areas for physical activity to keep the pandas active and healthy.

- ► Indoor Exhibition Hall: A space where visitors can learn more about pandas and their conservation
- ▶ Separate Bedrooms: Each panda has its own private sleeping area.
- ▶ Controlled Environment: The habitat maintains precisely controlled humidity levels and air conditioning to ensure the pandas' comfort
- ▶ Additional Amenities: Including swimming ponds, play platforms, interactive landscapes, nursery facilities, and a dedicated hospital for the pandas.

#### How to visit the Panda House?

Visitors can explore the Panda House daily from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, enjoying a unique opportunity to see Suhail and Thuraya in their beautiful, carefully designed home.

Tickets are required. Visitors need to book their tickets on OUN mobile app of the Ministry of Municipality

