Glossary

Abbasid Caliphate: The Abbasids (750-1258), with their capital in Baghdad, ruled an empire stretching from Africa to Central Asia. Their encouragement of literature, philosophy, the sciences, and the arts made this period a golden age of Islamic culture.

Bodhisattva ("Enlightenment Being"): Central figure in Mahayana Buddhism. Although able to enter nirvana, the Bodhisattva remains in the world to save all living things from suffering.

Caliph (Khalifa): Successors to Muhammad and leaders of the Muslim community.

Central Asia: Xinjiang (China’s largest province), Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and northern Afghanistan.

Chinggis Khan (1167-1227) first united the tribes of Mongolia in the early thirteenth century.

Dunhuang: City in western Gansu province where the two branches of the Silk Roads circling the Tarim Basin come together. In addition to being an important commercial town, from 366 CE until the 14th century, Dunhuang was a center of Buddhism.

East Turkestan: Older name for Xinjiang, the part of Central Asia now within the People’s Republic of China.

Emperor Wu (r. 141-87 BCE): Han dynasty ruler whose aggressive foreign policy sought to destroy the Xiongnu confederation that threatened China’s northern frontier. During his reign, Confucianism was established as state orthodoxy.

Eurasia: The continent of Europe and Asia.

Four Noble Truths: The core of Buddhist doctrine emphasizing the universality of suffering and the path to liberation.

Five Precepts: The basic concepts adhered to by all Buddhists—Do not kill; do not steal; don’t engage in sexual misconduct; do not lie; don’t use alcohol or drugs.

Golden Horde, Empire of the: Mongol-ruled domain established in the wake of the thirteenth century conquest of Russia.

Guanyin (Guanshiyin): Mahayana Buddhist Goddess of Mercy, widely worshipped in East Asia.

Hijra (Migration): In 622 Muhammad and his followers left Mecca for Medina. This event, the Hijra, marks the beginning of the Islamic calendar and the Muslim religious community (umma).

Hui: Chinese-speaking Muslims, thought to be of Persian and Central Asian origin.

Ilkhanid Dynasty (1256-1353): Mongol rulers of the Middle East and parts of Central Asia.

Inner Asia: In addition to Central Asia (see entry, above), Inner Asia consists of southern Siberia, Inner Mongolia, Mongolia, and Tibet.
Islam: Arabic for “surrender” or “submission.” A Muslim is “one who has surrendered” to God.

Jataka Tales: From the Sanskrit root “jan,” meaning “to be born.” The 550 Jataka Tales (“Birth Stories”) are believed to be about the former lives of the Buddha.

Ka’aba: The sanctuary in Mecca that is the most sacred place in Islam. Every Muslim making the pilgrimage to Mecca walks around the Ka’aba seven times.

Kareez: A traditional irrigation system used in the Middle East and Central Asia. Kareez rely on gravity to transport water through underground tunnels.

Kazakhs: Formerly a nomadic people, the Kazakhs are the second most numerous Turkic group in Central Asia.

Khubilai Khan (1215-1294): Grandson of Chinggis Khan and first ruler of China’s Mongol Yuan dynasty (1368-1644).

Kushans: The Kushans controlled parts of northwest India, Pakistan, and Central Asia from the second century BCE to the third century CE. Their domains included the southern route of the Silk Roads across the Tarim Basin.

Manichaeism: A religion founded by the Mesopotamia-born prophet Manes (third century CE) that spread throughout the Middle East and Central Asia. Manicheasism emphasized the struggle between good (light) and evil (darkness).

Mogao Caves: Near Dunhuang in Gansu province. Over five hundred in number, they serve as a living museum of Buddhist art. The artworks, manuscripts, and other objects found there reflect both the flourishing of Buddhism along the Silk Roads and the multi-ethnic character of Silk Roads culture.

Nestorian Christianity: The view that Christ consisted of both a human and a divine person as espoused by Nestorius, a Syrian bishop of the fifth century. Nestorianism was brought as far east as China by Iranian merchants and missionaries.

Oasis: Desert areas having water supplies able to support vegetation. The water comes from rainfall in mountain ranges that feed underground springs. These underground springs can travel for hundreds of miles to water the oases.

Parthian dynasty (247 BCE-224 CE): At its height, the Parthian empire controlled Iran, most of the Middle East, and parts of Central Asia. They were key middleman in early Silk Roads trade.

Pastoralism: Lifestyle based on raising horses, sheep, and cattle.

Pax Mongolica: The period during the thirteenth century when Mongol-ruled domains brought relative peace to the entire Eurasian continent.

Period of Disunion (third to sixth centuries): Also called the Six Dynasties period. A time when non-Chinese peoples ruled the north and Chinese refugees controlled the south.

Porcelain: Hard and translucent ceramic that rings like a bell when struck.

Sasanian dynasty (224-651): One of the most powerful empires to rule the Iranian plateau and eastern part of the Fertile Crescent.
Sericulture: The raising of silkworms for their cocoons. The basis of silk production.

Shahada: The basic declaration of Muslim faith proclaiming that “There is no god but God. Muhammad is the messenger of God.”

Shi'a: Arabic for “faction” or “sect.” Followers of Ali, Muhammad’s son-in-law and the fourth caliph, whose murder ushered in the establishment of the Umayyad dynasty (661-750). His followers (predominantly in Iran and Iraq) regard him as a deputy of God rather than a secular ruler. The major religious schism in Islam.

Sunni: The Muslim majority, as opposed to the Shi’a.

Sogdians: An Iranian people from Central Asia. Between the fourth and ninth centuries they were probably the most important merchants trading along the Silk Roads.

Steppe: Plains consisting of grass and scrubland with high mountain ranges. The Eurasian steppe stretches from the borders of Manchuria westward to the Black Sea and the plains of Hungary.

Transoxiana (or Transoxania): Old name for the Central Asian region lying between the Amu Darya (Oxus) and Syr Darya (Jaxartes) rivers.

Tribute system: Policy whereby the imperial Chinese state dealt with nomadic peoples along its northern frontier. Tributary states acknowledged subservience to China and its emperor, presented token gifts, and sent hostages to the Chinese court. In return, steppe nomads and other foreigners received silk, cash, gold jewelry and ornaments, and the right to trade at frontier markets.

Turks: The people of modern Turkey are only one of many Turkic peoples. Today, speakers of Turkic languages live not only in Turkey, but also in Central Asia, northwest China, Iran, Afghanistan, and Russia.

Umayyad caliphate (661-750): The first Muslim dynasty, with its capital in Damascus.

Umma: The Muslim community.

Uyghurs: The Turkic/Muslim inhabitants of China’s Xinjiang province.

West Turkestan: Older name for the part of Central Asia now consisting of the five Islamic republics of the former Soviet Union plus northern Afghanistan.

Western Regions: The traditional Chinese name for Central Asia.

Xinjiang: China’s largest province, setting for the northern and southern Silk Roads routes around the Taklamakan desert.

Xiongnu: A pastoral nomadic people from Mongolia that established an empire during the third century BCE. They were the main foreign policy problem of the Han dynasty (202 BCE-220 CE).

Yurt (ger): A portable felt-covered tent used by Inner Asian nomadic peoples.

Zoroastrianism: The official religion of the Sasanian empire (224-651). The prophet Zoroaster (believed to have lived anywhere from the thirteenth to the sixth century BCE) promoted worship of a single god, Ahura Mazda.
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EIA. U.S. Energy Information Administration. Website: http://eia.doe.gov/emeu/international/contentsnjava.html


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Additional Resources

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WEBSITES FOR EDUCATORS

BRITISH LIBRARY
*The Silk Road: Trade, Travel, War, and Faith.* This exhibition brought together manuscripts, paintings, artifacts and textiles. [http://www.bl.uk/whatson/exhibitions/silkroad/main.html](http://www.bl.uk/whatson/exhibitions/silkroad/main.html)

CENTRAL ASIA RESOURCES
[http://www.orientarch.uni-halle.de/ca/cares.htm](http://www.orientarch.uni-halle.de/ca/cares.htm)

EURASIANET

INTERACTIVE CENTRAL ASIA RESOURCE PROJECT (ICARP)
This site provides materials on Central Asian history and culture, and includes over one thousand annotated links. [http://www.icarp.com](http://www.icarp.com)

INTERNATIONAL DUNHUANG PROJECT
Manuscripts, paintings, and artifacts from Dunhuang and other Silk Road sites. [http://idp.bl.uk](http://idp.bl.uk)

MENALIB: MIDDLE EAST VIRTUAL LIBRARY
This virtual library provides access to online resources and digital records of printed and other offline media related to Middle East and Islamic Studies. [http://ssgdoc.bibliothek.uni-halle.de/vlib/html/index.html](http://ssgdoc.bibliothek.uni-halle.de/vlib/html/index.html)

MUSLIM HERITAGE
A comprehensive Muslim heritage database. [http://www.muslimheritage.com/about/why.cfm](http://www.muslimheritage.com/about/why.cfm)

NATION MASTER
This site provides comprehensive encyclopedic profiles of all the world’s nations. [http://www.nationmaster.com](http://www.nationmaster.com)

SAUDI ARAMCO WORLD
The goal of this bimonthly magazine is to broaden knowledge of the cultures, history and geography of the Arab and Muslim worlds and their connections with the West. [http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com/about.us](http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com/about.us)

THE SILK ROAD FOUNDATION
[http://www.silk-road.com](http://www.silk-road.com)

SILK ROAD SEATTLE

TIMES OF CENTRAL ASIA
Search for the latest news by country, region and topic. [http://www.times.kg/](http://www.times.kg/)
China and Asia-Related Outreach Centers

American Forum for Global Education
New York, NY
(212) 624-1300
http://www.globaled.org
Resources and programs to help schools internationalize curriculum; develops curriculum (free on-line downloads and for purchase); study tours.

Asia for Educators, including the East Asian Curriculum Project (EACP)
Columbia University
New York, NY
(212) 854-1735
http://afe.easia.columbia.edu
Available K-12 materials include teacher’s guides, multimedia lesson plans, primary documents, and DBQs; study tours and institutes for teachers.

Asia Society
New York, NY
(212) 327-9227
Building awareness of the Asian-Pacific region; K-12 programs and materials include professional conferences, curriculum units, web links, exhibitions, lectures, and films.

Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Champaign, IL
(888) 828-2367
http://www.aems.uiuc.edu
 Helps K-12 teachers incorporate audio-visual material into the curriculum; database; library; video collection; publications; training workshops.

Asian Studies Outreach Program
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
(412) 648-7763
http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/asp/educational_outreach.html
Programs and resources available for K-16 educators include lectures, workshops, resource library, and curriculum materials.

Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI
(734) 665-2490
http://www.aasianst.org
Seeks to facilitate exchange of information through regional conferences, annual meetings, seminars, and publications such as Education About Asia, a resource journal for educators.

Center for Advanced Study of International Development (CASID)
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI
(517) 353-5925
http://www.isp.msu.edu/CASID/outreach.html
Promotes the internationalization of curriculum through workshops, summer institutes, resources, and classroom aids.

Center for Asian and Pacific Studies (CAPS)
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR
(541) 346-1521
http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~caps
K-12 activities and resources including workshops, lectures, institutes, conferences, and grant opportunities for scholars and educators.

Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia (CREECA)
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, WI
(608) 262-3379
http://www.wisc.edu/creeca
Programs include lectures, workshops, sending speakers to schools, and cultural events.

Center for Teaching International Relations (CTIR)
University of Denver
Denver, Co
(800) 967-2847
http://www.du.edu/ctir
Aims to internationalize K-12 curriculum by providing educators with lesson plan development, lending library; professional development conferences and workshops.
Consortium for Teaching Asia and the Pacific in the Schools (CTAPS)
University of Hawaii
Honolulu, HI
(808) 944-7111
http://www.EastWestCenter.org/edu-st.asp
Summer residential institutes, travel seminars, teacher exchange programs, performances, and exhibitions.

China Institute in America
New York, NY
(212) 744-8181
http://www.chinainstitute.org/educators/index.html
Offers in-service courses, study tours, gallery exhibitions, workshops, seminars, and summer institutes.

East Asia Program
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY
(607) 255-6222
http://www.einaudi.cornell.edu/eastasia
K-12 programs and resources include lectures, conferences, films, performances, workshops, resource lending library, online curriculum.

East Asia Resource Center
University of Washington
Seattle, WA
(206) 543-1921
http://www.staff.washington.edu/earc
Seminars and study tours; workshops; lectures; curriculum development assistance; newsletter; curriculum materials; books.

East Asian Studies Center
Indiana University
Bloomington, IN
(812) 855-3765
http://www.indiana.edu/~easc/about
Outreach activities for scholars, K-12 educators and students; language pedagogy programs; film series; cultural workshops; study tours; regional conferences; lending library.

Five College Center for East Asian Studies
Smith College
Northampton, MA
(413) 585-3751
http://www.smith.edu/fceas
Encouraging the teaching of East Asian cultures: study tours; resource library; newsletter; institutes; conferences; workshops; seminars; lesson plans.

East Asian Studies Program
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ
(609) 258-4279
http://www.princeton.edu/~eastasia
Lectures; weekend lessons in Chinese and Japanese; workshops; films.

Inner Asia and Uralic National Resources Center (IAUNRC)
Indiana University
Bloomington, IN
(812) 856-5263
http://www.indiana.edu/~iaunrc
Brings Central Eurasia into the classroom: print and electronic resources; workshops; curriculum material; lending library.

Institute of East Asian Studies
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA
(510) 642-2809
http://eas.berkeley.edu
Weeklong summer institutes, speakers, electronic mentors, resource materials, lending library, seminars, conferences, and publications.

The Mansfield Freeman Center for East Asian Studies (FEAS)
Wesleyan University
Middletown, CT
(860) 685-2330
http://www.wesleyan.edu/east/mansfieldf/mansfield.html
Art exhibitions; colloquia; Japanese-style garden and tatami room; video collection.

National Geographic Society
Washington, D.C.
(800) 647-5463
http://www.nationalgeographic.com/education
On-site and online instructional material and programs on geography and human geography, interactive Web programs, curriculum units, downloadable maps.

Program for Teaching East Asia
University of Colorado
Boulder, CO
(303) 735-5122
http://www.colorado.edu/CAS/TEA
Summer institutes and study tours; curriculum consultants; web resources; workshops; resource room.
Programs in International Educational Resources (PIER), East Asian Studies
Yale University
New Haven, CT
(203) 432-6253
http://www.yale.edu/ycias/pier
K-12 activities and resources include summer institutes, lectures, language and culture consultations, professional development, study abroad, and a resource library.

Outreach Asia
Center of Asian Studies
University of Texas at Austin
Austin, TX
(512) 475-6038 or (512) 471-5811
http://asnic.utexas.edu/asnic/outreach/index.htm
Seminars, workshops, and resource lending library.

Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE)
Stanford University
Stanford, CA
(800) 578-1114
http://spice.stanford.edu
Multidisciplinary curricula on international and cross-cultural themes for use in K-14; free online lesson plans; seminars.

USC-UCLA Joint East Asian Studies Center (JEASC)
University of Southern California-University of California Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA
USC: (213) 740-2993
UCLA: (310) 825-0007
http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/EASC/
http://www.isop.ucla.edu/eas/default.htm
Seminars throughout the greater Los Angeles area; two-week summer workshops; conferences; exhibitions; speakers; educational resources.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Freer Gallery of Art
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC
(202) 633-4880
http://www.asia.si.edu
Guided tours of permanent and temporary exhibitions; curriculum packets for loan and purchase; lectures; films; hands-on demonstrations; performances of dance and music.

Asian Art Museum of San Francisco
San Francisco, CA
(415) 581-3500
http://www.asianart.org
Guided tours of exhibitions, lectures, films, workshops, access to resource center, hands-on demonstrations, and inter-museum loan.

Cleveland Museum of Art
Cleveland, OH
(888) 262-0033
http://www.clemusart.com/educatn
Workshops; guided tours; in-service programs; slide packets (for loan and purchase); free newsletter.

The Crow Collection of Asian Art
Dallas, TX
(214) 979-6430
http://www.crowcollection.org
Resources and activities include free teacher’s workshops, teaching packets, and school tours.

Detroit Institute of Arts
Detroit, MI
(313) 833-7900
http://www.dia.org
Guided tours, lectures, and lesson plans.

Kimbell Art Museum
Fort Worth, TX
(817) 332-8451
http://www.kimbellart.org
Guided tours, educational materials, introductions to special exhibitions; free newsletter.
Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
Los Angeles, CA  
(323) 857-6000  
http://www.lacma.org  
School tours; programs for special education and learning-disabled students; interactive video learning; high school internships.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
New York, NY  
(212) 879-5500  
http://www.metmuseum.org  
K-12 activities and resources include catalogues and other publications, study center, library, website with comprehensive timeline, photos and slides for rent.

Minneapolis Institute of Art  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 870-3131  
http://www.artsmia.org  
http://www.artsconnected.org/classroom  
Tours, workshops, a downloadable teacher's guide, video collection, suggested readings, maps and interactive classroom lessons.

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
Boston, MA  
(617) 267-9300  
http://www.mfa.org  
Guided visits; curriculum packets; resource guides (free and for purchase); workshops; free e-newsletter; consultations.

Portland Art Museum  
Portland, OR  
(503) 276-4225  
http://www.portlandartmuseum.org  
Resource center; guided tours; speaker's bureau; interactive computer programs; teacher packets for purchase.

Rubin Museum of Art  
Art of the Himalayas  
150 West 17th Street  
New York, NY  
(212) 620-5000  
http://www.rmanyc.org  
Educational outreach to teachers, families, and the community. K-12 museum visits, lesson plans, and other multidisciplinary activities.

Seattle Asian Art Museum  
Seattle, WA  
(206) 654-3208  
http://www.seattleartmuseum.org  
School tours, curriculum development, lectures, seminars, film, resource library.
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http://libraries.mit.edu/guides/subjects/islamicarchitecture/visual/archive.html  T, T, T

Ashmolean Museum http://www.ashmolean.org/  I

Thomas Barfield  Map A

Kirby A. Bartlett-Sloan  R

Judy Bonavia: Map D

British Library http://www.bl.uk/  Front Map in Color

British Museum http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/  W, W

Buddha Dharma Education Association Inc. http://www.buddhanet.net  N, N, N, Q

Sonja Bunes BUS http://www.sonjabunes.com/exhibitions/sonja_o_sonja04.html  F, F

Calgary Coin and Antique Gallery http://www.calgarycoin.com  I

Cambridge University Press http://uk.cambridge.org/  Maps H, I

Lier Chen  2, 4, 4, 4, T, T, T, T


Collectors’ Heaven http://www.collectorsheaven.at  W

Coin Invest Trust http://www.coin-invest.li  M

George Babcock Cressey  A, B, D, H

Conway Library, Courtauld Institute of Art http://www.courtauld.ac.uk/  Q, W

Creswell Archive, Ashmolean Museum http://www.ashmolean.org/  O


Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative (ECAI) http://ecai.org  E

Phil Endecott  C

Robert Fiala  S, S, S

Fine Arts Library, Harvard College Library http://hcl.harvard.edu/finearts/  O, T

James A. Flath The Nianhua Gallery http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/history/nianhua/  R

Footprints Tours, Ltd http://www.greenkiwi.co.nz/footprints/  P

Rex Geissler: GCI http://greatcommission.com  T

Harcourt Brace & Company http://www.harcourt.com/  Map J


Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts and Dunhuang Academy http://ignca.nic.in/  P

International Energy Agency http://www.iea.org/  L

Islamic Paths http://www.islamic-paths.org/home/  O

John Murry Publishers  C

Marleen Kassel  1, 1, 2, 5, 5, A, A, B, C, C, E, Q, T

Kimbell Art Museum, Ft. Worth, TX http://www.kimbellart.org/  S

Ira M. Lapidus  Maps H, I

Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/catalog.html

Harold Loucks  C

Nupam Mahajan http://www.med.unc.edu/~nupam  I

MAPS IN MINUTES http://www.mapsinminutes.com/  Front Map

The Mariner's Museum http://www.mariner.org/  K


Microsoft Encart, http://encarta.msn.com/  T

Eric Mose Estate  B,

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) http://visibleearth.nasa.gov/  A

National Geographic Society http://www.nationalgeographic.com/index.html  Map E


Pacific Atlantic Coin Company http://www.pacoin.com/  U
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**About the Essay Authors**

**Stefano Carboni**, curator in the Department of Islamic Art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, was born in Venice, Italy. He graduated cum laude in Arabic language and Islamic art at the Faculty of Oriental Languages of the University of Venice, followed by a year at the American University in Cairo, before moving to London to pursue post-graduate studies. He earned a doctorate in Islamic art at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, in 1992. During his tenure at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, he has been responsible for a large number of international exhibitions, among them the acclaimed *Glass of the Sultans* and *The Legacy of Genghis Khan*. As co-editor of *The Legacy of Genghis Khan*, he won the prestigious Alfred H. Barr prize in 2004. He has also published the catalogue of the Islamic glass collection in the Kuwait National Museum. He is presently working on his biggest exhibition project to date that focuses on the artistic and cultural relationship between Venice and the Islamic world.

**Morris Rossabi**, Professor of History at the City University of New York, received his Ph.D. in Central and East Asian History from Columbia University. His research has centered on China and its neighbors in Inner Asia who were active participants along the Silk Roads. He is the author of *Khubilai Khan: His Life and Times* (1988); *Modern Mongolia: From Khans to Commissars to Capitalists* (2005); *Governing China’s Multiethnic Frontiers* (2004); *Voyager from Xanadu* (1992); and other books and articles, including the chapters on China and Inner Asia for the authoritative *Cambridge History of China*. He has also been involved in exhibitions at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Cleveland Museum of Art. He has traveled extensively along the Silk Roads.

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**Chun-fang Yu**, after a career at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, from 1972 until 2004, is currently Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Religion at Columbia University. Born in China, she graduated from Tunghai University in Taiwan with a double major in English Literature and Chinese Philosophy, followed by a M.A. degree in English from Smith College, and a Ph.D. degree in Religion from Columbia University. Her primary field of specialization is Chinese Buddhism and Chinese religions, with an interest in the impact of Buddhist thought and practice on Chinese society as well as the impact of Chinese religious traditions on the domestication of Buddhism in China. She is the author of *The Renewal of Buddhism in China: Chu-hung and the Late Ming Synthesis* (1981; reprint 2003); *Kuan-ying: The Chinese Transformation of Avalokitesvara* (2001); *Encountering the Dharma: Studies on Chinese Buddhism* (2004); co-editor with Susan Naquin, *Pilgrims and Sacred Sites in China* (1992); and contributor of the chapter on “Ming Buddhism” to the *Cambridge History of China* (1989) and the chapter on Qing Buddhism in the same series (forthcoming). She is completing a study of Buddhist nuns in contemporary Taiwan, focusing on the roles they have played in the revival of Buddhism in Taiwan during the last three decades.
About the Project Directors and Editors

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About TEACH CHINA

The Teach China program provides K12 educators with numerous opportunities for professional development. It not only offers courses, workshops, and seminars on traditional and modern China and other East Asia-related topics, but also conducts multi-week study tours for selected groups of teachers. In addition, Teach China is involved in the ongoing creation of accurate and up-to-date curriculum in collaboration with an expanding group of scholar-consultants.

About CHINA INSTITUTE

CHINA INSTITUTE IN AMERICA was founded in 1926 by a group of distinguished American and Chinese educators, including John Dewey and Hu Shih. It is the oldest bicultural organization in America focused exclusively on China. China Institute is a non-profit cultural and educational institution that promotes the understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of Chinese civilization, and provides the historical context for understanding contemporary China.

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