

**Civilization States as
the role model for
India and China:**

A Chindian Perspective

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Two different perspectives

Conventional
wisdom

* migration &
unsettled life

* departure
from homeland



DIASPORA

new mindset

* pilgrimage &
universalism

* inter-cultural
interconnectivity



Diaspora created India

“No one knows whence and at whose call
came pouring endless waves of men
rushing wildly along ---
to lose themselves in its sea;
Aryans and non-Aryans, Dravidians and Chinese,
Scythians, Huns, Pathans, and Moghuls --- all have
merged and lost themselves in one body.”

Rabindranath Tagore, *Bharattirtha* (Indian Pilgrimage)



The hyphenated '**Indo**' :
e.g. 'Indo-Greek', 'Indo-Scythian',
'Indo-European', 'Indo-Iranian',
'Indo-Arabic', 'Indo-China' etc.
suggests the migration of
cultural India far and wide.



Buddhism : **INDIAN DIASPORA IN CHINA**

The Indian tradition of '*sannyasa*' (homelessness) destined **Buddhism** to become **DIASPORA**, while China made it her naturalized citizen.



Buddhism :

INDIAN DIASPORA IN CHINA

China has become the homeland
of Indian Bodhisattva-diaspora:



Maitreya

MILE
弥勒

has become
——The Chinese
‘Future Buddha’



China has become the homeland of Indian Bodhisattva-diaspora:

Avalokitesvar

GUANYIN 观音



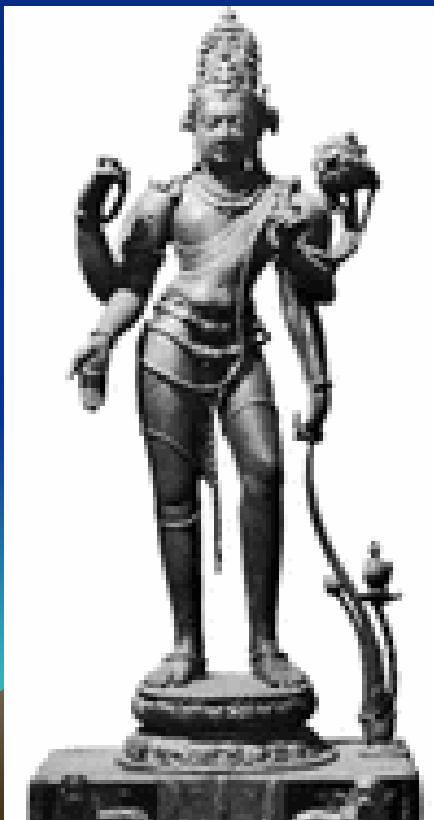
has become
—— the
“**GODDESS
OF MERCY**” of
East Asia



China has become the homeland of Indian Bodhisattva-diaspora:

Avalokitesvara

Mount Putuo 普陀山



has
settled
at



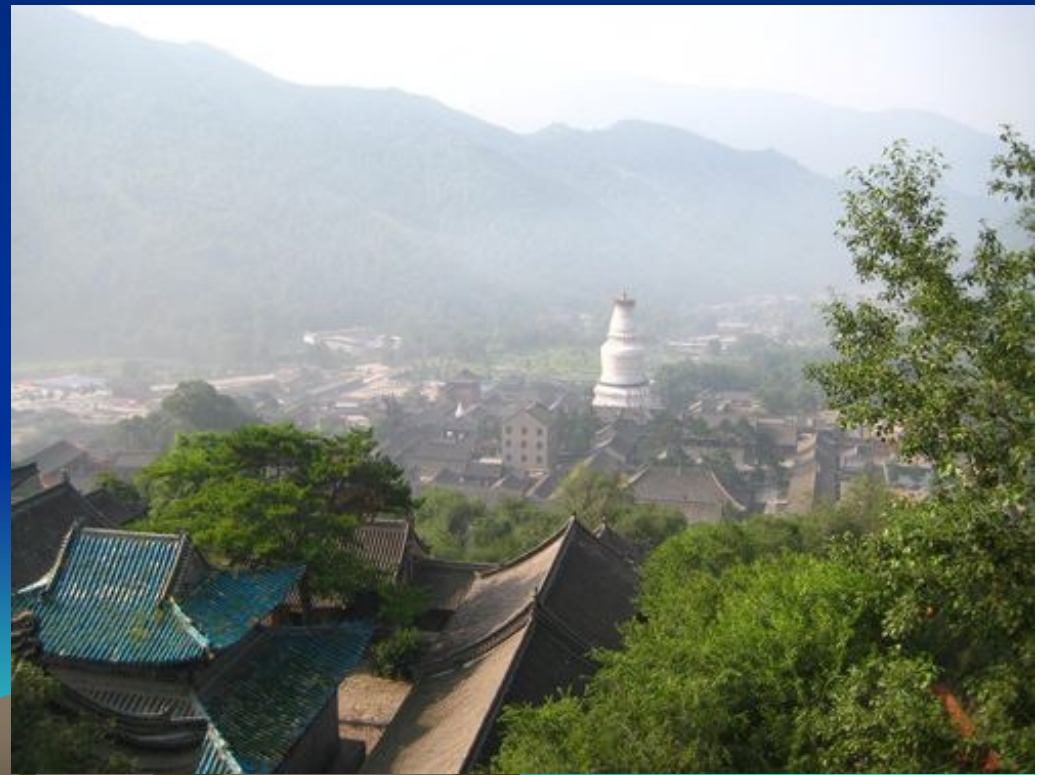
China has become the homeland of Indian Bodhisattva-diaspora:

Mount Wutai 五台山

Manjusri



has
settled
at



China has become the homeland of Indian Bodhisattva-diaspora:

Samantabhadra

Mount Emei 峨眉山



has
settled
at



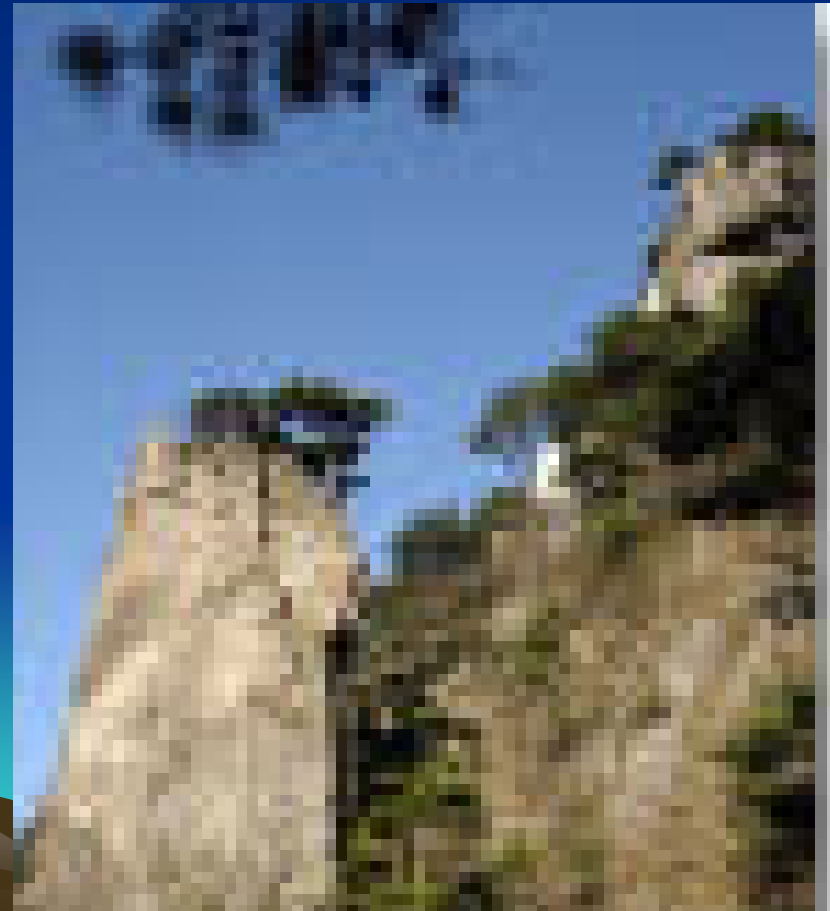
China has become the homeland of Indian Bodhisattva-diaspora:

Ksitigarbha

Mount Jiuhua 九华山



has
settled
at



Buddhist construction in China

From 4th century

Baoguosì
保国寺

(*Temple
protecting
Chinese state*)



Buddhist construction in China

From 6th century

Guoqingsi
国清寺

*(Temple
celebrating the
purification of
Chinese state)*



Buddhist construction in China

From 6th century

Xingguochansi
兴国禅寺

*(Dhyana temple
revitalizing
Chinese state)*



Buddhist construction in China

From 6th century

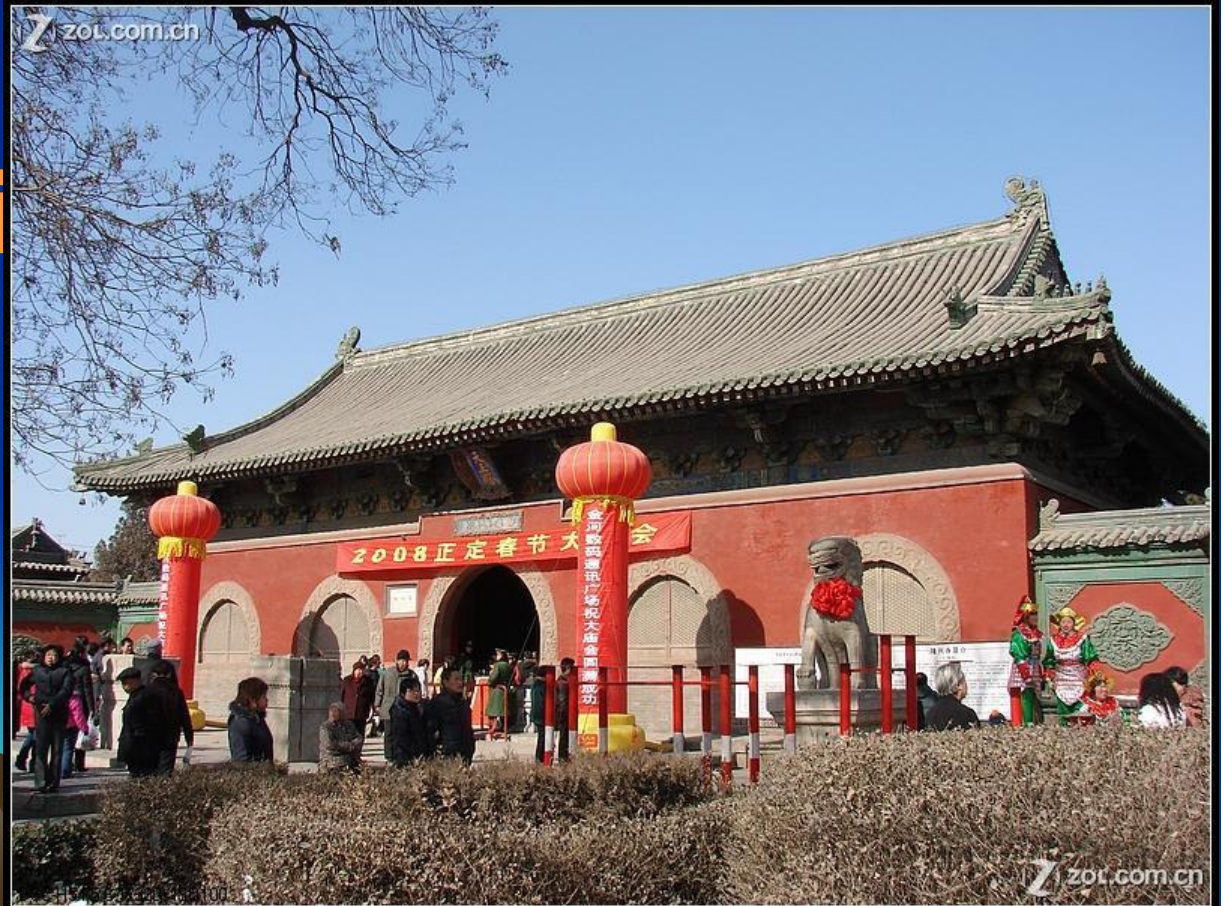
Anguosi
安国寺
(*Temple
pacifying
Chinese state*)



Buddhist construction in China

From 6th century

Longxingsi
隆兴寺
(*Temple
Of
prosperity*)



Buddhist construction in China

From 7th century

Xingguosi
兴国寺

*(Temple
revitalizing
Chinese state)*



Buddhist construction in China

From 8th century

Guannngshengsi

广胜寺

*(Temple of wide-
spread victory)*

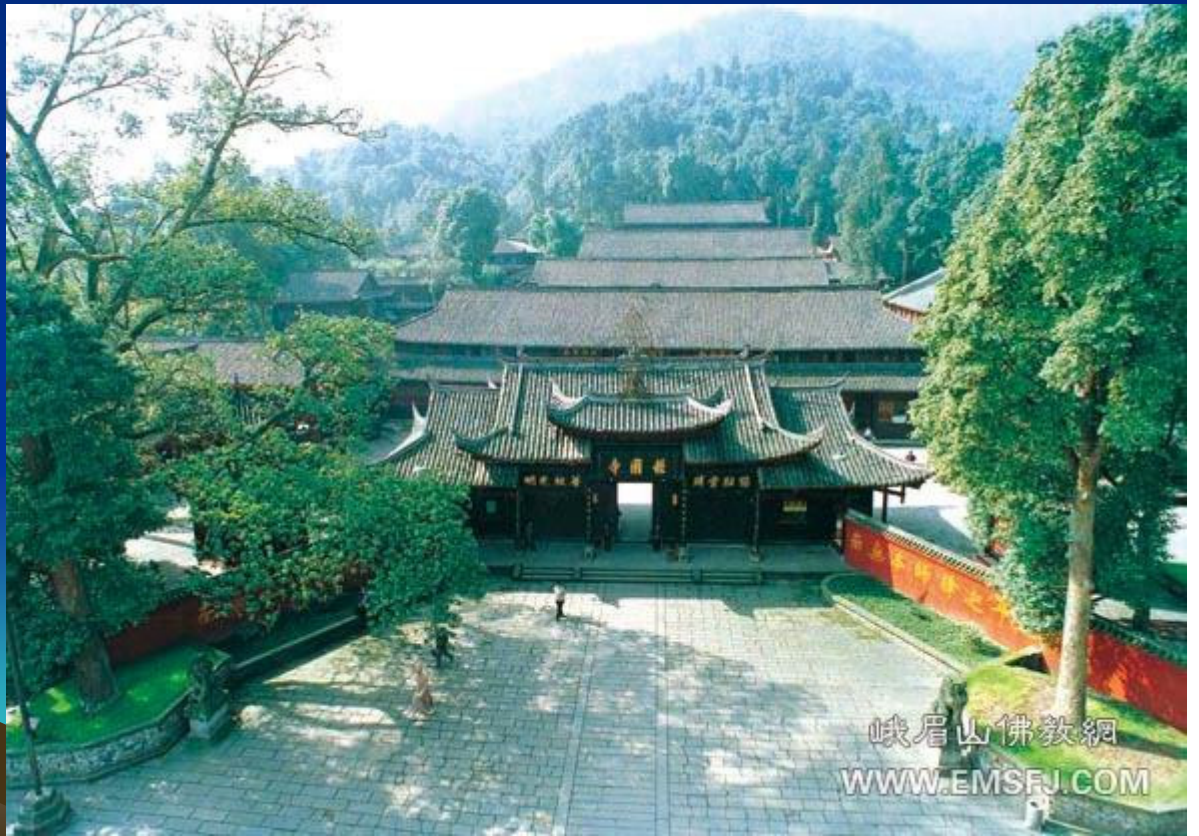


Buddhist construction in China

From 17th century

Baoguosì
报国寺

*(Temple to
redeem our
gratitude for
Chinese state)*



峨眉山佛教網
WWW.EMSFJ.COM

Indian contribution

TO CHINA

- 1) Reunification and political stability
- 2) Pilgrimage, tourism, horizontal mobility, development of remote areas
- 3) “Golden Era” --- The Tang Dynasty
- 4) Enrichment of classical scholarly tradition
- 5) Cultural renaissance
- 6) Dragon and phoenix extravaganza
- 7) Female *chakravartin* emperor

DRAGON AND PHOENIX EXTRAVAGANZA

Chinese dragon
3,000 years ago



Chinese dragon
now



Evolution of the Dragon image



Qin Dynasty
(221-206BC)



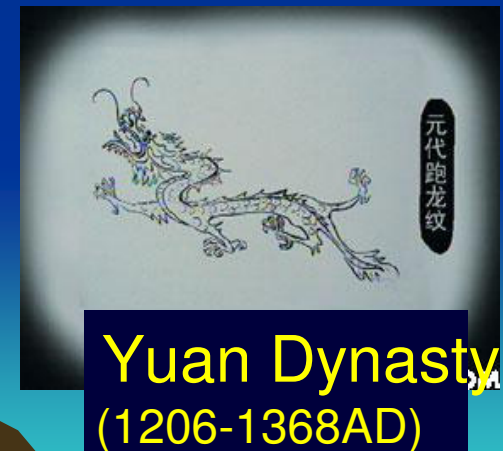
Han Dynasty
(202BC-220AD)



Tang Dynasty
(618-906AD)



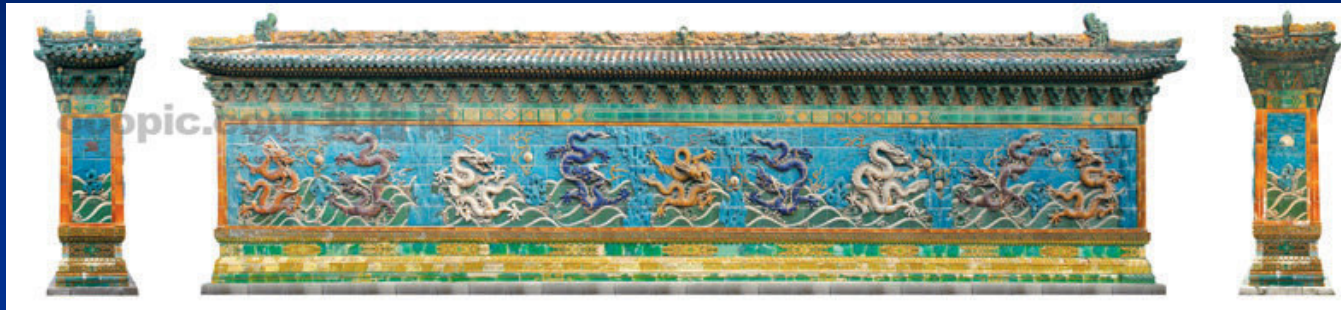
Song Dynasty
(960-1276AD)



Yuan Dynasty
(1206-1368AD)

Evolution of the Dragon image

The nine-dragon monument, Beihai Park, Beijing



dharmaratna



Evolution of the Dragon image

The dragon robe



dharmaratna,
ocean waves and
Mount Sumeru at
the bottom

From the GARUDA-NAGA pair To the DRAGON-PHOENIX pair



garuda



Yuntai near the Great Wall



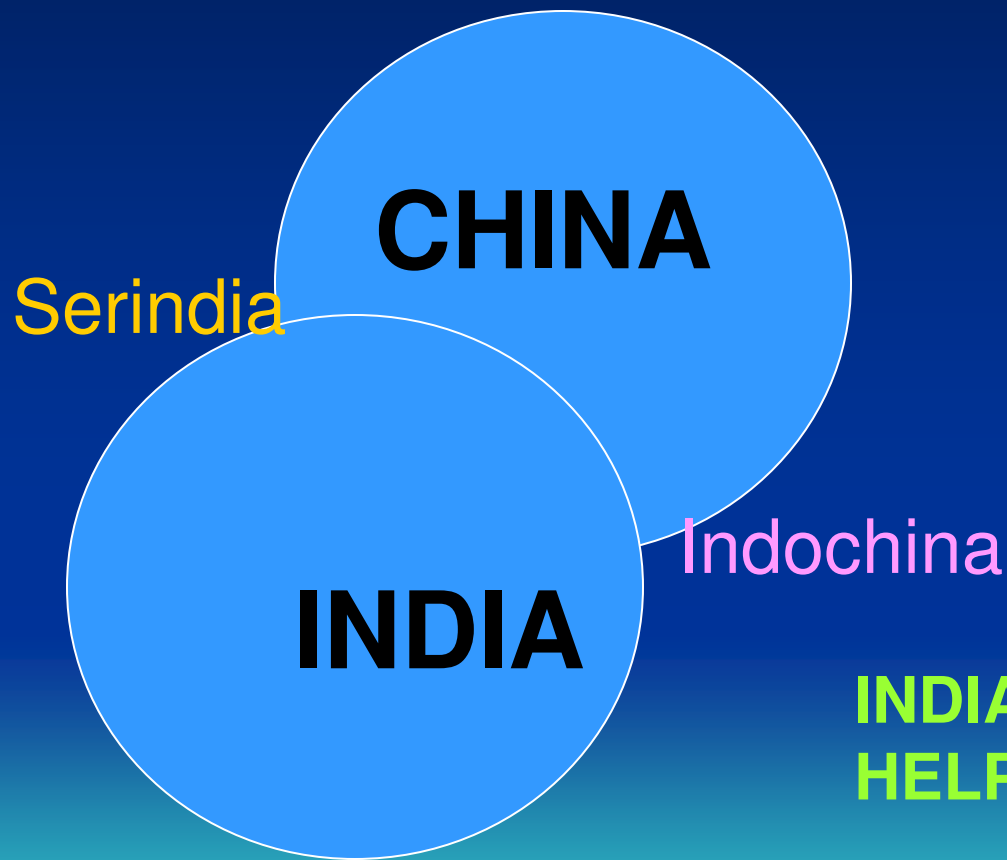
Indian contribution to China

Female chakravartin emperor

Empress Wu, reigning 690-705,
her reign title: “Sacred *suvarna-*
cakravartin emperor beyond
traditions 越古金轮圣神皇帝”



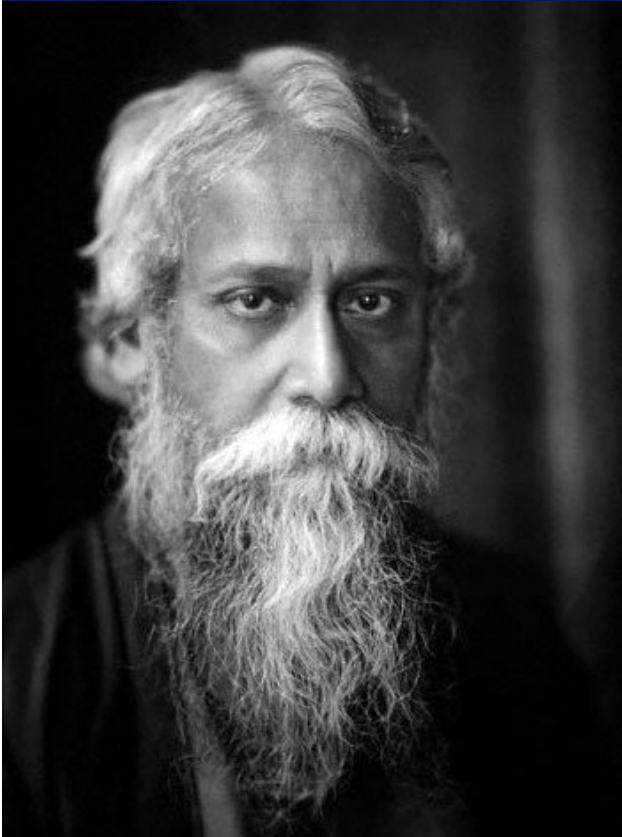
Interconnectivity between Indian and Chinese civilizations



**CHINA---THE
CIVILIZATION
STATE**

**INDIA---THE
HELPER**

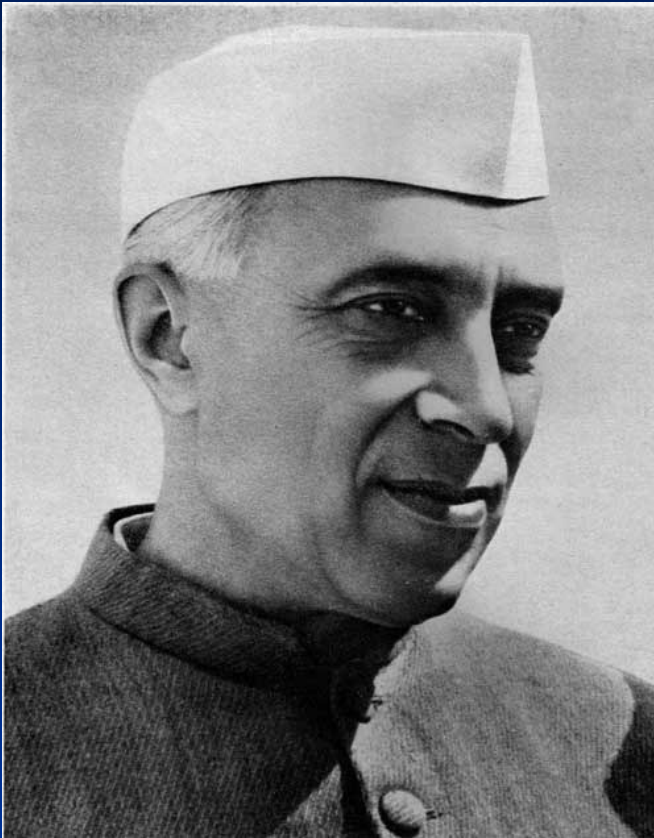
Idealism of Chindia



Tagore considered
India and China

“**BROTHERS**”

Idealism of Chindia



Inspired by Tagore,
Jawaharlal Nehru launched

“**Hindi-Chini
Bhai Bhai**”

Nehru's China visit 1954



One million people (almost the entire city of) **Beijing** lined up the roads between the airport and the guest house to welcome the arrival of **Nehru** and **Indira** cheerfully.

Mao Zedong & Nehru became bosom friends



Mao said to Nehru at parting:

*“O, sadness can’t be sadder
When parting companion
During my lifetime,
And gladness can’t be gladder
With a charming person,
A buddy of a new kind.”*

Jawaharlal Nehru, Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai wanted to establish a new **India-China** relations, but the “**geopolitical paradigm**” would not allow it.



India & China

are islands of “**Civilization States**”
in the sea of “**Nation States**”

- *They were born in the Era of the **Cold War**
- *They were inexperienced and led to the garden path by the **geopolitical paradigm**
- *They have not lost their “*souls in the pursuit of some temporary advantages*” (**Nehru’s** words)
- *They must wake up from the stupor of **India-China rivalry** to pursue **Chindian harmony and fraternity**

India & China

means making 40% of mankind
sufficiently fed, well provided and happy



India--
1.2
billion

China--1.4 billion



Arms race between the two fraternal civilization states: unwise and unthinkable!



US President **Eisenhower** lamented: “Our toil, resources and livelihood are all involved; so is the very **structure of our society.**”

Is there a boundary dispute?

Absolutely not!

- * Never has there been any boundary between India and China, without boundary people have lived happily and peacefully for millennia.
- * The lands lying between India and China have never been governed by the **People's Republic of China** (1949-), nor the **Republic of India** (1950-), hence no *territorial dispute*.

How to create a new boundary?

- *create a “**geo-civilizational paradigm**” in the mind, and regard neighbours as **brothers**, not **rivals**.
- *Make the boundary a symbol of **Chindian friendship and harmony**, not wasting resources and damaging the health of our sons and daughters in uniform at the heights beyond 5,000 metres where no life can survive in Nature.



Make the new boundary a symbol of Chindian friendship and harmony



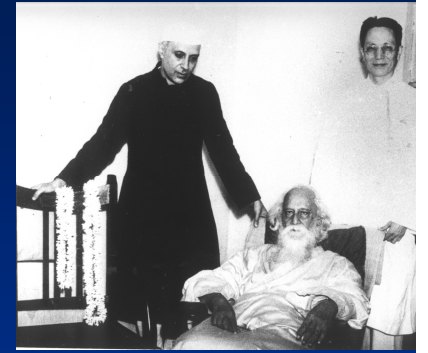
not the
showcase of
India-China
rivalry



Revisit history



Left: Huili (Matiyukta?) 4th c Indian diaspora who claimed the hill at Hangzhou as one flown from Bihar and he became the patriarch of this temple by the West Lake.

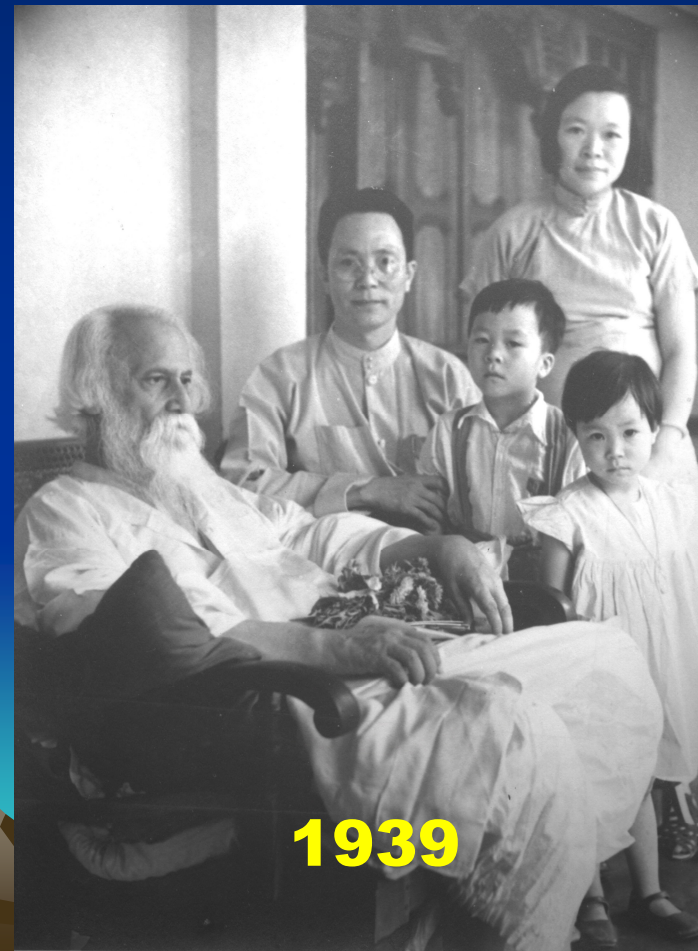


Right: Tan Yun-shan Chinese diaspora who fell into Visva-Bharati (Tagore's world-bird-nest campus) and helped build Cheena-Bhavana.



Tagore Christened Me “Asoka”

photos at Santiniketan



Tagore on India-China fraternity

“Such a rare event did happen and the path was built between our people and the Chinese in an age when physical obstruction needed heroic personality to overcome it and the mental barrier a moral power of uncommon magnitude.”

His blessings for the 2 civilization states

“two leading races of that Age met, not as rivals on the battle-field, each claiming the right to be the sole tyrant on earth, but as noble friends, glorying in their exchange of gifts” .

