

# Religious Beliefs in China

OLLI Class - Summer 2012  
Session 2

*(The slides are for OLLI class use only.)*

Kun Shi

USF Confucius Institute

813-974-4391

kshi@usf.edu

<http://global.usf.edu/confucius>

# Religious Symbols for China and Beyond



# Readings on Chinese Religious Beliefs

- Chinese Religions (by Bob Whyte):  
<http://www.sacu.org/religion.html>
- Religions in China (from Wikipedia):  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion\\_in\\_China#Chinese\\_ethnic\\_religion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_China#Chinese_ethnic_religion)
- International Religious Freedom Report for 2011:  
<http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/religiousfreedom/index.htm#wrapper>
  - Search country report on China under the “Country/Regions” tab

# Yin and Yang for Balance

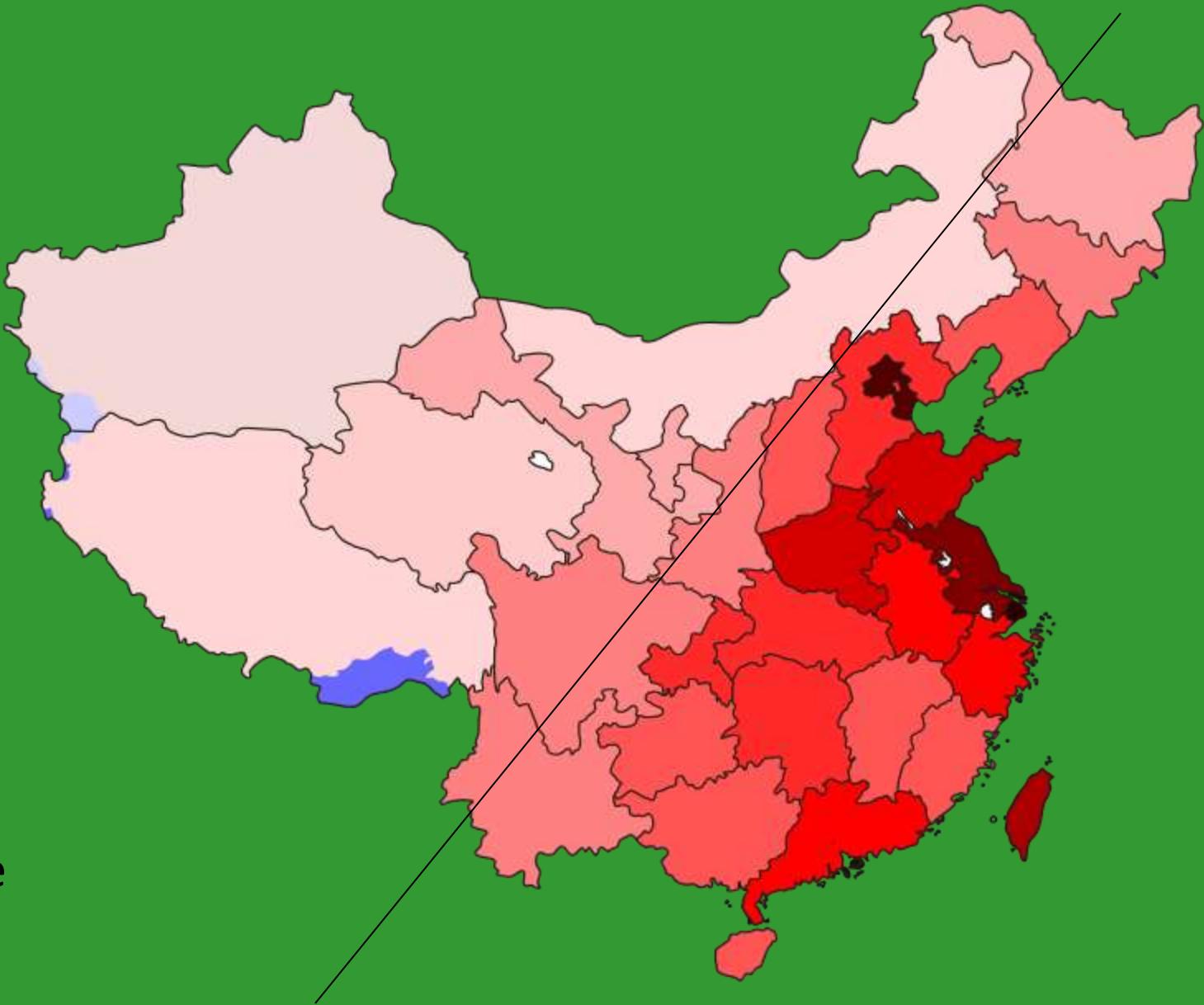


# Three Pillars of Chinese Religions

- **Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism in China:**  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gZY4i4Kg3s&feature=related>
- Lectures in Religion: **CHINESE RELIGIONS**  
(Presented by Dr. Andrea Diem-Lane):  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wiWvQdkopxE&feature=related>
- **China is diverse for its peoples, languages, religious beliefs and cultures.**

# Population Density in China

Western China has about 60% of the land with less than 20% of the population. Most of the ethnic minorities live in western China.



## **Major minority ethnic groups (2010 census)**

- Zhuang (16.2 million)
  - Manchu (10.7 million)
  - Hui (9.8 million)
  - Miao (8.9 million)
  - Uyghur (8.4 million)
  - Tujia (8 million)
  - Yi (7.7 million)
  - Mongol (5.8 million)
  - Tibetan (5.4 million)
  - Buyei (2.9 million)
  - Dong (2.9 million)
  - Yao (2.6 million)
  - Korean (1.9 million)
  - Bai (1.8 million)
  - Hani (1.4 million)
  - Kazakh (1.2 million)
  - Li (1.2 million), and
  - Dai (1.1 million) (Smallest groups: Hezhen 4,640; Lhoba 2,965)
- Total minority population:  
114 million (8.5% of total)**

# Regional Dialects in China

can also be heard in Taiwan.



# Languages of Minority Peoples in China



# Confucian Ritual at Dacheng Hall, Qufu



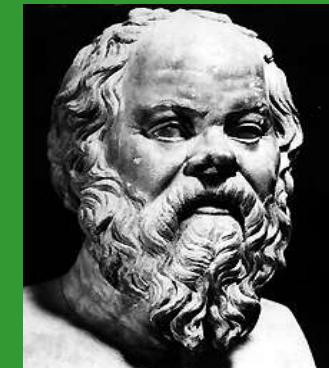
# Gate of Northeast Normal University



Know China in 10 minutes: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQHZHFIwMFM>

# Confucius and Socrates

- Both lived within a century of each other:
  - Confucius (551 – 479 BCE)
  - Socrates (470 – 399 BCE)
- Both were philosophers who were mainly concerned with questions of moral behavior.
- Both had an enormous influence on their societies.
  - Confucius = Eastern Civilization
  - Socrates = Western Civilization
- Neither left their thoughts in writing but their ideas were spread by their disciples.



# Temple of Heaven (14<sup>th</sup> century)



# Temples on Mt. Tai



# White Cloud Temple in Beijing



(TianChan Temple, 8<sup>th</sup> century)



# Spring Temple Buddha in Henan (153 meters)



# Guanyin Nansha, Sanya (108meters)





Leshan Buddha  
(71 meters) -  
work began in  
713AD

# Guanyin of Lianhuashan, Guangdong (41 meters)



# Guanyin of the Thousand Hands, Changsha (99 meters)





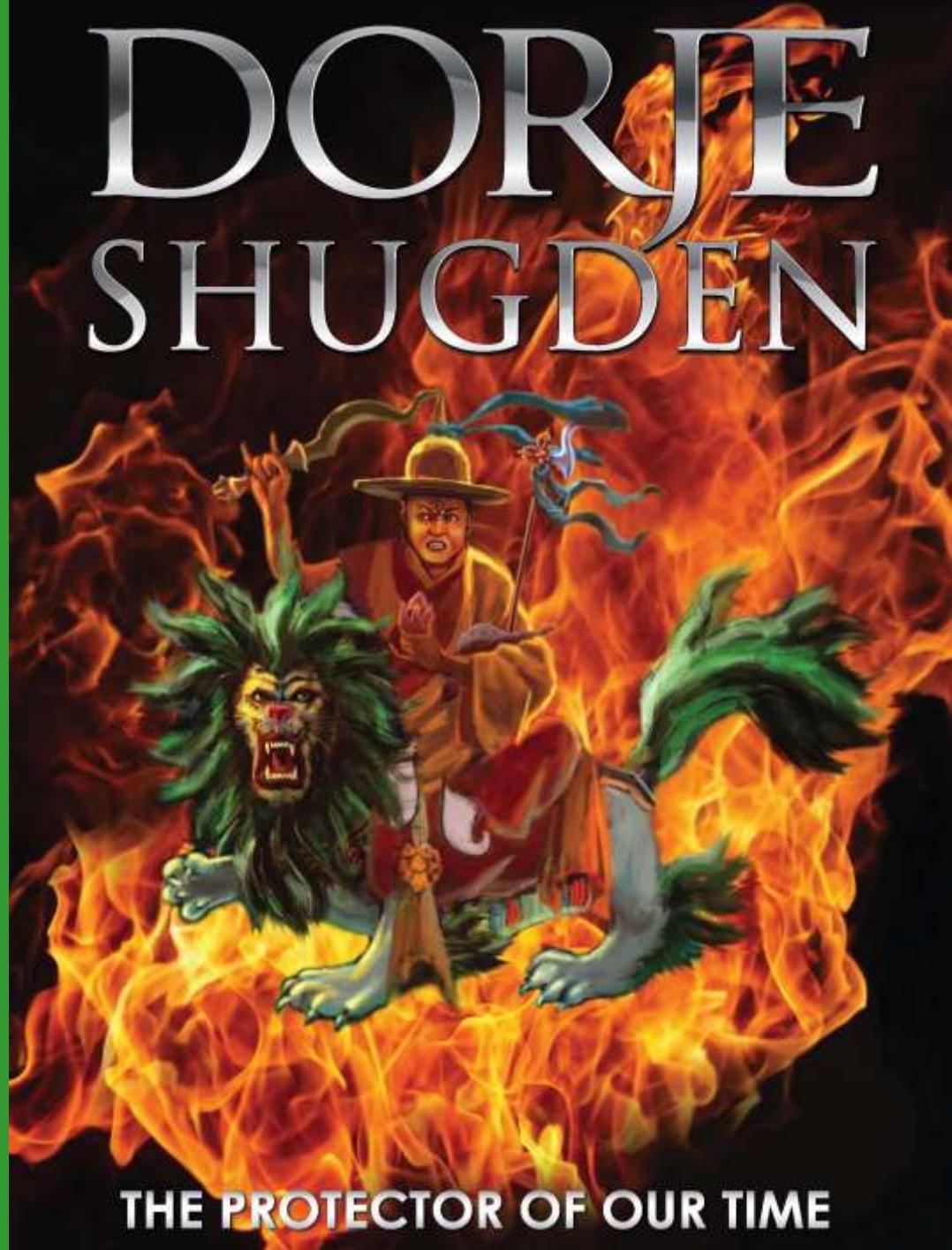
**Yuantong Temple in Kunming (Tang Dynasty)**

# Potala Palace in Lhasa (1645)



To learn more about Dorje Shugden, visit:

- 1.(Wikipedia)[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dorje\\_Shugden](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dorje_Shugden)
- 2.[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dorje\\_Shugden\\_controversy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dorje_Shugden_controversy)
- 3.<http://www.westernshugdensociety.org>
- 4.<http://www.dorjeshugden.com>
- 5.(video)<http://www.westernshugdensociety.org/video/message-to-dalai-lama>



# Dorje Shugden at Ganden Monastery, India



# Churches in Beijing and Shanghai



# Christianity in China

- Different worldviews between Christianity and Confucianism
- Stages of Christianity into China:
  - “First Christian offensive” in the 15<sup>th</sup> century
  - Chinese rites prohibited in 1715 by Rome
  - “Century of Ban” for Christianity in China by Emperor Kangxi decreed in 1721

## ***Opium Wars:***

- \*1839-1842 & 1856-1860: Treaty allowed for “unrestricted propagation of the Christian gospel in China
- Taiping Rebellion (1850); Boxer Rebellion (1895-1901)

# Huaisheng Mosque in Guangzhou (1350AD)



# Id Kahr Mosque in Kashgar



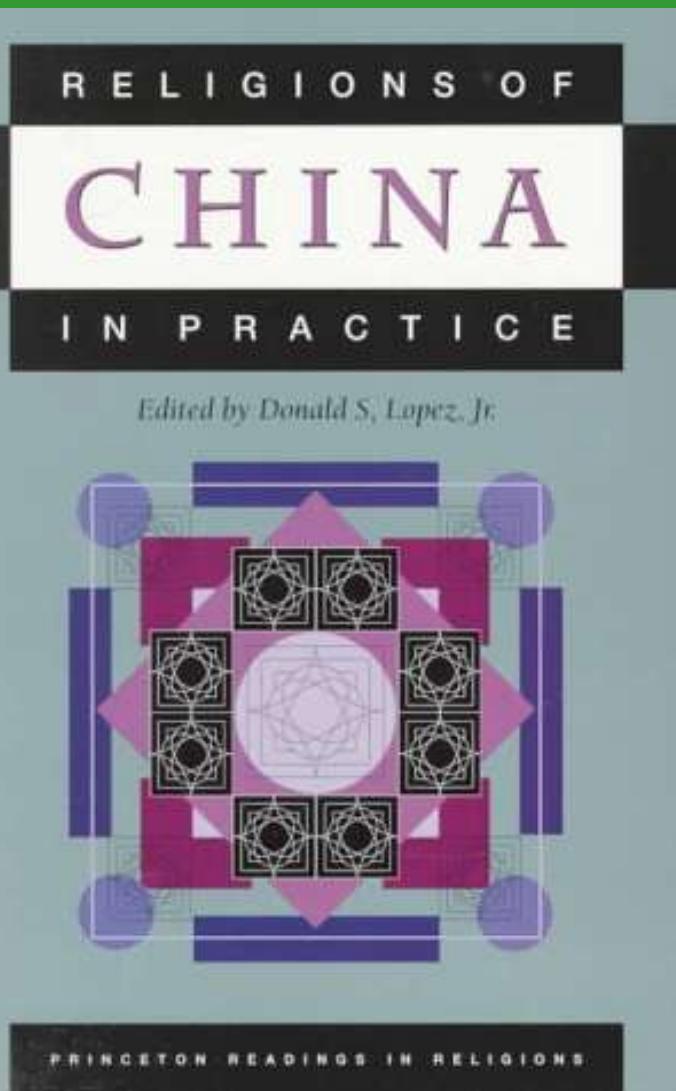
中华回乡文化园

Bai Chongxi  
ROC Army General



Hui Liangyu  
PRC Vice Premier





# Religions of China in Practice

(Princeton University Press, 1996)

This third volume of *Princeton Readings in Religions* demonstrates that the "three religions" of China--Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism (with a fourth, folk religion, sometimes added)--are not mutually exclusive: they overlap and interact with each other in a rich variety of ways. Selections from minority cultures here are the folktale of Ny Dan the Manchu Shamaness and a funeral chant of the Yi nationality collected by local researchers in the early 1980s. Each of the forty unusual selections, from ancient oracle bones to stirring accounts of mystic visions, is preceded by a substantial introduction.

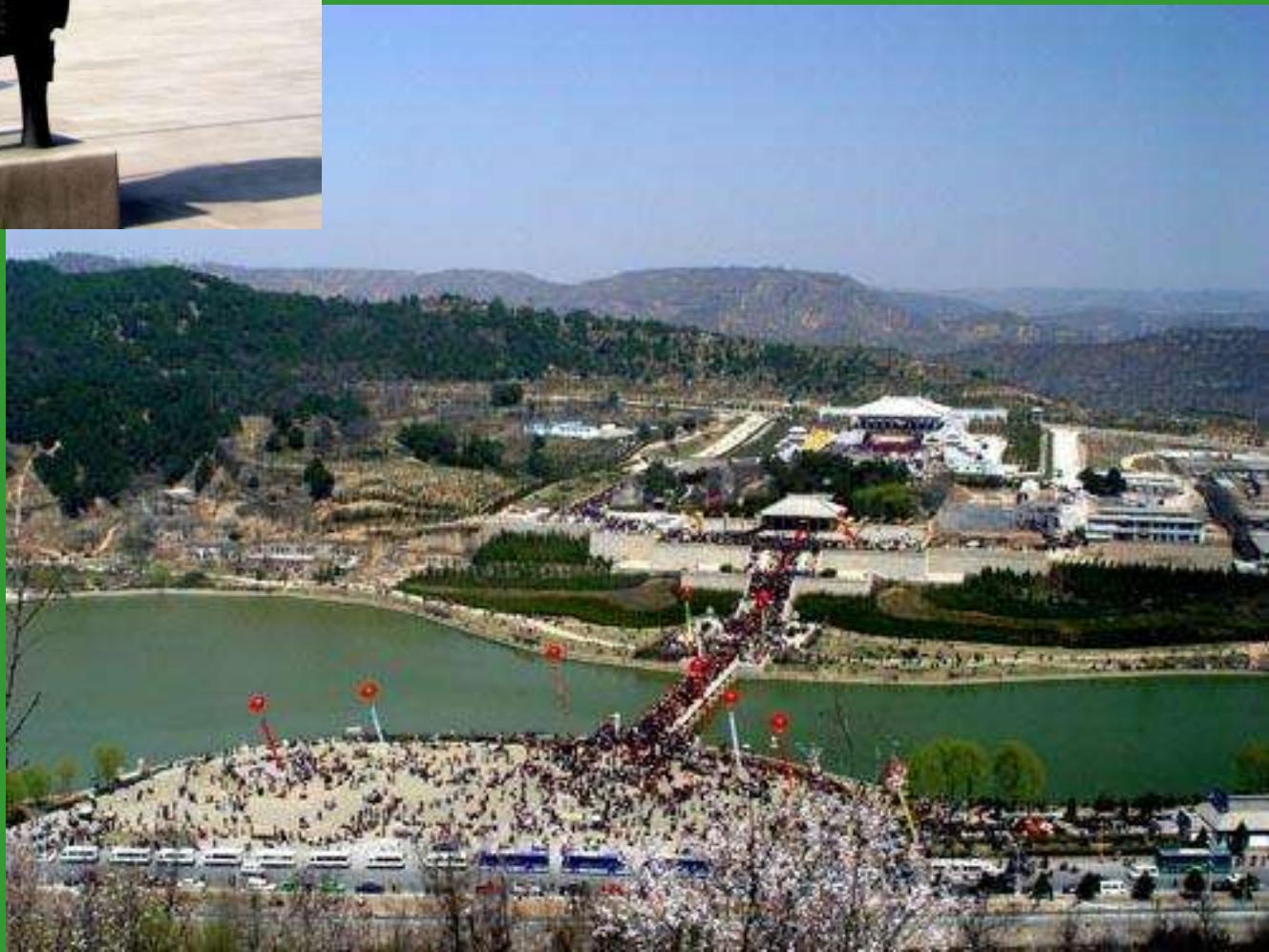
# Huang Di and Yan Di Monument (Henan, 106 meters)

*4000-year old legendary ancestors of all Chinese*





# Huangdi Mausoleum (Henan)



# YanDi ShenNong Hall 炎帝神农大殿



# A church in Beijing







# A church in Beijing

