

Ethnicity and Ethnic Relations in China

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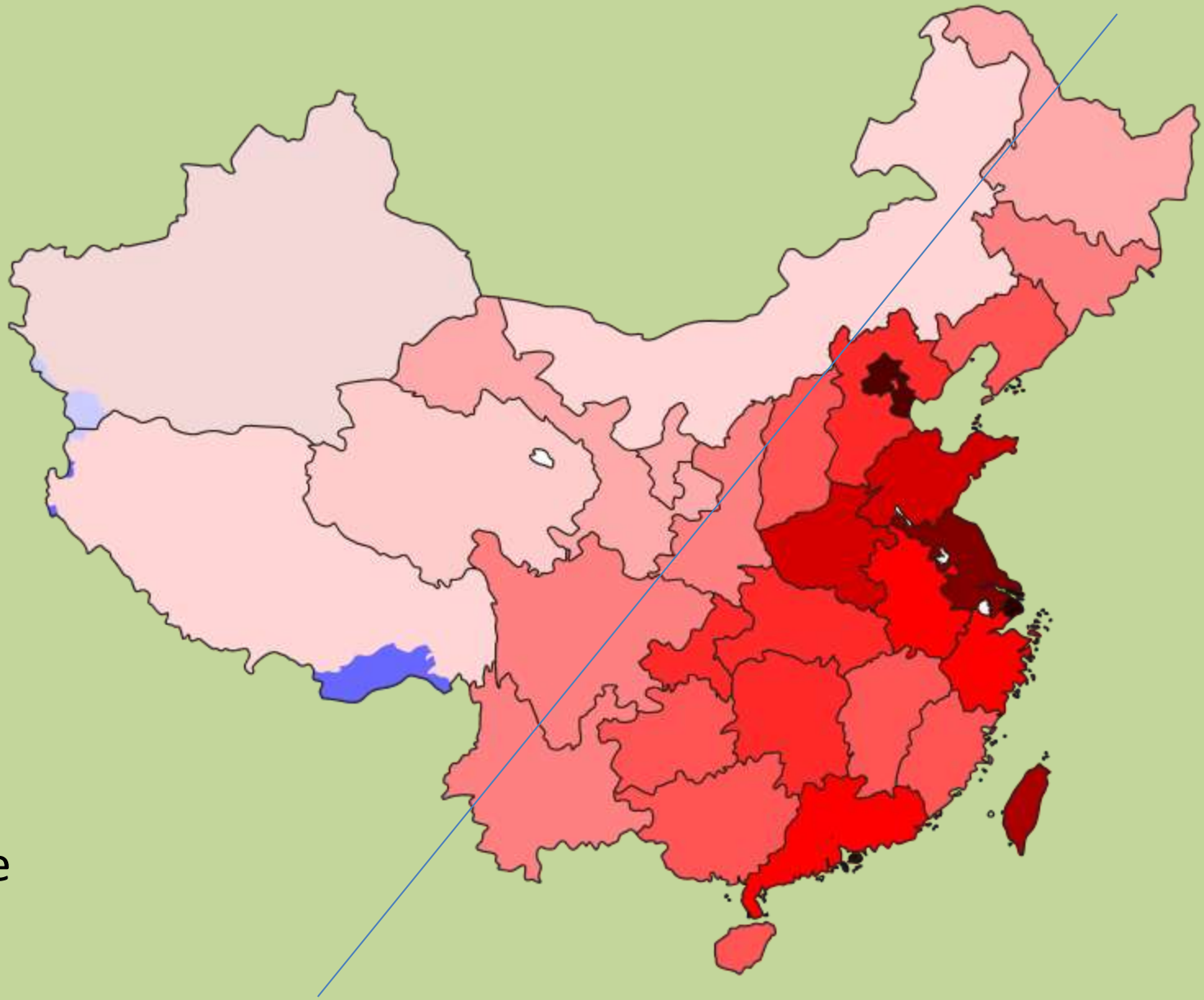
<http://global.usf.edu/confucius>

Outline

- Brief introduction
- Historical development
- Perceptions of ethnicity
- Challenges of ethnic relations
- Portraits of ethnic diversity
- Q & A

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.



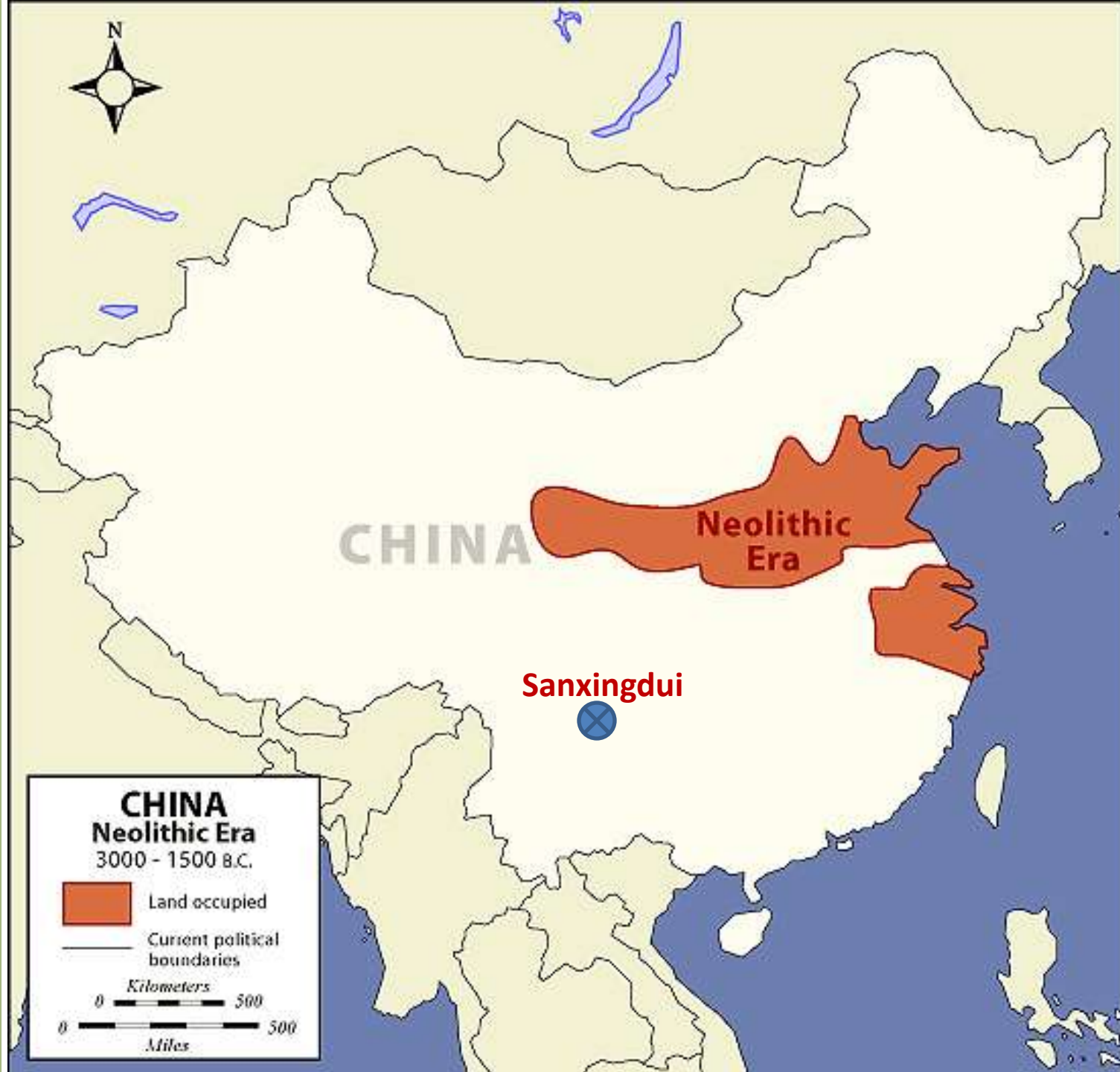
Major minority ethnic groups (2010 census)

- [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)**

Historical Development

- The Han Chinese evolved by interacting with different peoples around them.
- The Chinese civilization evolved and became richer by absorbing different cultures from the peoples around the Han.
 - The relationship between the Han and ethnic minorities is mutually beneficial .










Census in 2 AD:
57.67 million people in
12.36 million households

CHINA

LO YANG
CHANG'AN

**Han
Dynasty**

CHINA
Han Dynasty
206 B.C. - 220 A.D.

-  Land under rule
-  Great Wall
-  Current political boundaries

Kilometers
0 — 500


Miles
0 — 500




CHINA

T'ang
Dynasty

CHINA
T'ang Dynasty
618 - 906

 Land under rule

 Current political boundaries

Kilometers
0 ——— 500

Miles
0 ——— 500





CHINA

Ming
Dynasty

CHINA
Ming Dynasty
1368 - 1644

-  Land under rule
-  Current political boundaries







Perceptions of Ethnicity and the Challenges

- *Ethnic categories in imperial periods:*
 - Eastern Yi (东夷), Western Rong (西戎), Northern Di (北狄), and Southern Man (南蛮)
- *Ethnicity in the Republican period:*
 - Han, Manchu, Mongolian, Tibetan and Hui Muslim
 - Quote by Sun Yat-sen (*next slide*)
- *Ethnicity in PRC:*
 - Ethnic identification and autonomous areas (*2 slides*)
 - Ethnic policies (*references on separate slide*)
 - Challenges of ethnic nationalism (mainly from groups with strong religious identity, such as the Tibetans and Uyghurs)

Sun Yat-sen on Ethnicity

Some people say, after the overthrow of the Qing, we will have no further need of nationalism. Those words are certainly wrong... At the present we speak of unifying the “five nationalities” ([Han](#), [Manchu](#), [Mongol](#), [Hui](#), and [Tibetan](#)), yet surely our country has far more than five nationalities? My stand is that we should unite all the peoples of China into one Chinese nation (*Zhonghua minzu* 中华民族)...and, furthermore, develop that nation into an advanced, civilized nation; only then will nationalism be finished.

From: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zhonghua_minzu

Ethnic Identification based on hundreds of monographs and five principles

(shared language, territory, economic life, material and spiritual cultural traits)



Autonomous areas of China

<u>Level</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Chinese</u>	<u>Number</u>
<i>Province</i>	Autonomous regions	自治区	5
<i>Prefecture</i>	Autonomous prefectures	自治州	30
<i>County</i>	Autonomous counties	自治县	117
	Autonomous banners	自治旗	3

(in Inner Mongolia)

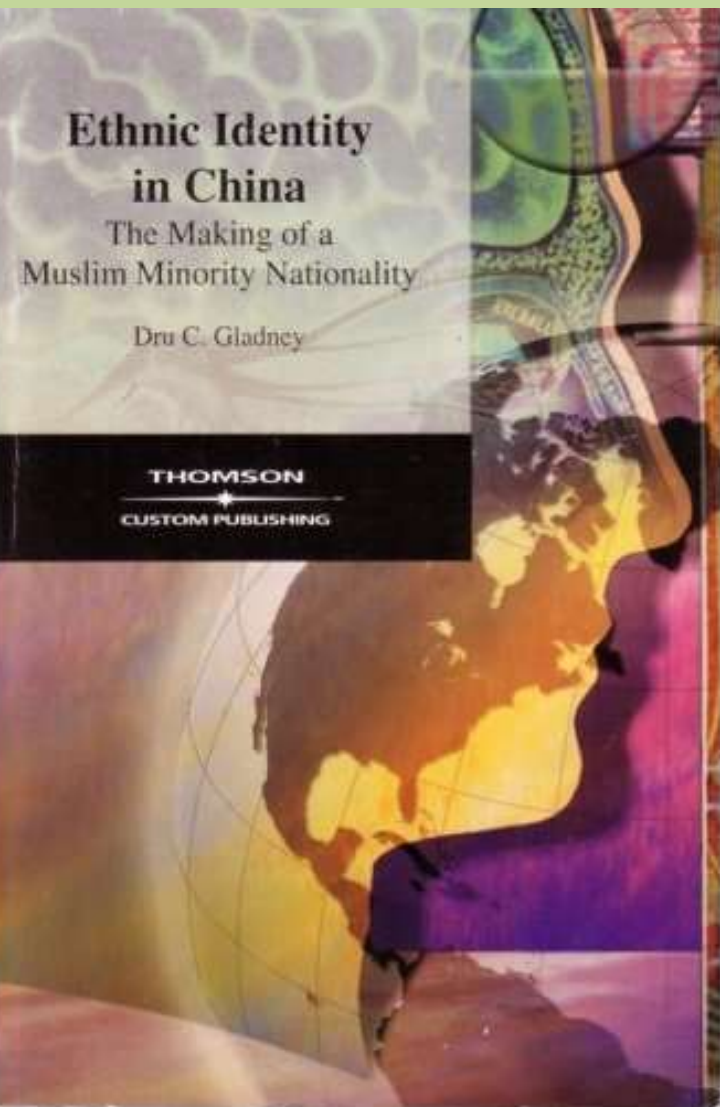
More than 270 autonomous townships with less power.

From http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autonomous_areas_of_China

About Ethnic Policies in China

- “The Evolution of China’s Ethnic Policies” (2009, *EAI Background Brief No. 440*; <http://www.eai.nus.edu.sg/BB440.pdf>)
- “China’s Ethnic Policies: Political Dimension and Challenges” (2009, *EAI Background Brief No. 441*; <http://www.eai.nus.edu.sg/BB441.pdf>)
- “Minorities and Government Ethnic Policy in China” (<http://factsanddetails.com/china.php?itemid=192&catid=5&subcatid=29>)
- Report of Congressional Executive Commission on China (http://www.cecc.gov/pages/annualRpt/annualRpt05/2005_3a_minorities.php#ethnicb)
- China’s White Paper on Ethnic Policy (http://www.china.org.cn/government/whitepaper/node_7078073.htm)

Ethnic Identity and Nationalism

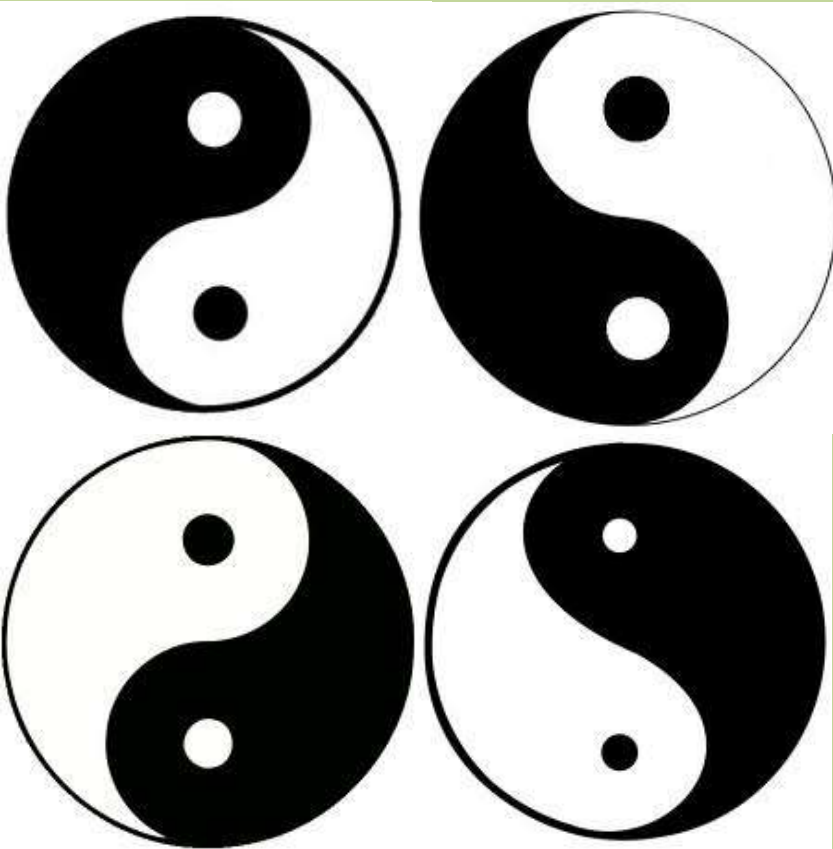


Ethnic identity is usually displayed through language and religion.

Challenges to ethnic nationalism – keeping the balance.

- a) How ethnic minorities are governed determines their loyalty towards the state.
- b) Whether members of a group want to claim independence determines the government willingness to allow for autonomy.
- c) Globalization has serious impact on ethnic relations because indigenous cultures have to adapt for the socio-economic changes, and migrants are attracted to minority areas.

Yin & Yang Approach: a Balance



Books by Melvin Goldstein

Prof. of Case Western Reserve University

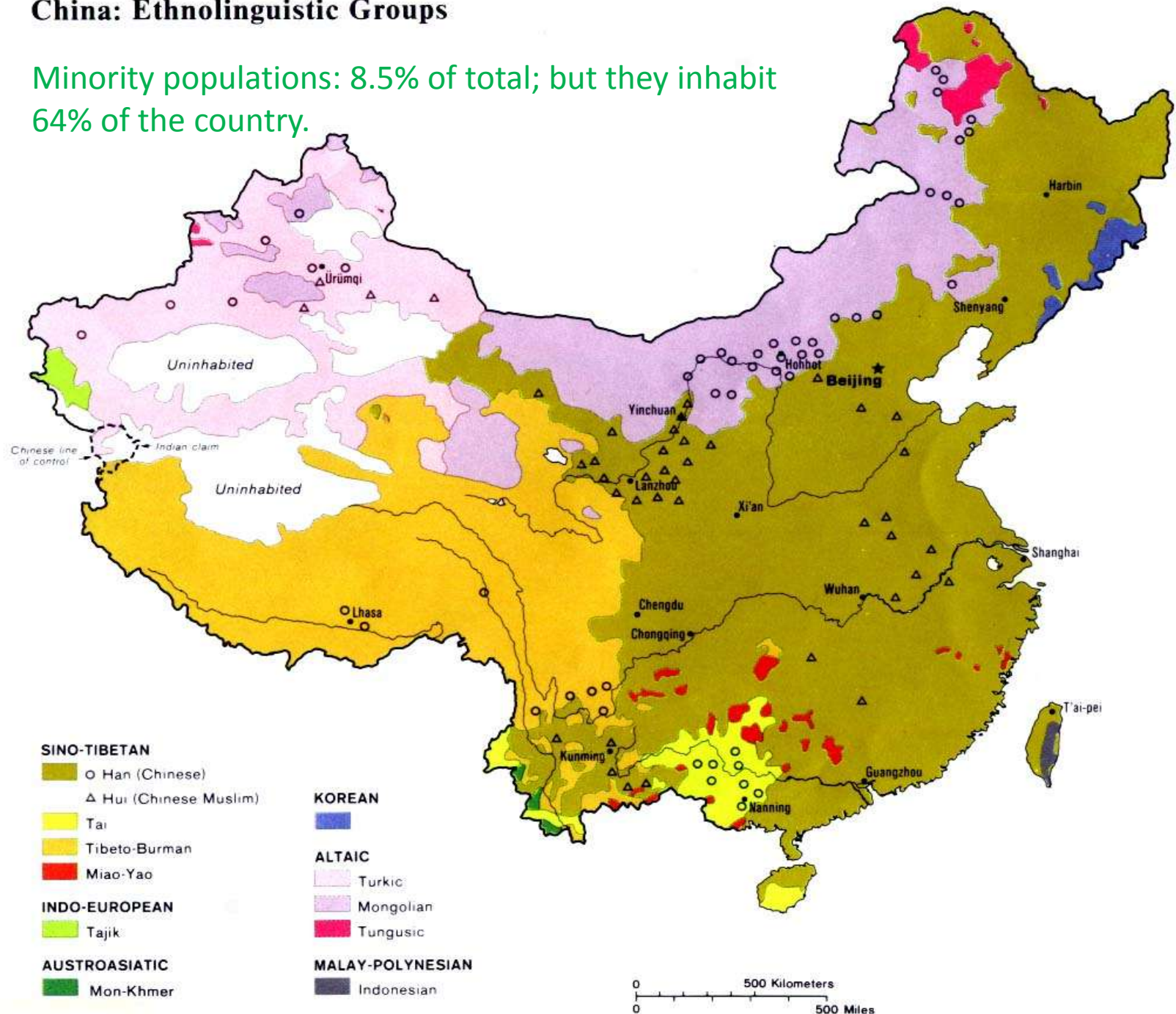
- (1989) *A History of Modern Tibet, 1913-1951: The Demise of the Lamaist State*. University of California Press.
- (1997) *The Snow Lion and the Dragon: China, Tibet and the Dalai Lama*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- (2007) *A History of Modern Tibet, Volume 2: The Calm Before the Storm: 1951-1955*. University of California Press.

References for Understanding

- *Plurality and Unity in the Configuration of the Chinese People* (by Fei Xiaotong 1988;
<http://www.tannerlectures.utah.edu/lectures/documents/fei90.pdf>)
- “Separate but Loyal: Ethnicity and Nationalism in China” (2010, East-West Center;
<http://www.eastwestcenter.org/fileadmin/stored/pdfs/ps056.pdf>)
- “Understanding the Chinese Civilization State”
(by Economist Martin Jacques; January 31, 2011;
<http://www.pddnet.com/video-understanding-the-rise-of-china-020111>)

China: Ethnolinguistic Groups

Minority populations: 8.5% of total; but they inhabit 64% of the country.



Portraits of Ethnic Diversity

- Photos of “family portraits” of all ethnic groups in China (<http://www.chinahush.com/2009/12/06/family-portraits-of-all-56-ethnic-groups-in-china>)
- YouTube of “family portraits” of all ethnic groups in China (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwuOall-JqE&NR=1>)

NOTE: These photos/images are authentic because each one shows exactly where it was taken and who were in it. The costumes and material items displayed are genuine. One sample photo of the Zhuang is provided in the next slide.

壮族 | ETHNIC ZHUANG

· 摄影：陈海汶 · 拍摄时间：2009年3月25日 · 拍摄地点：中国广西壮族自治区崇左市大新县桃城镇
· 海拔：253米 · 经纬度：东经 107° 11' 北纬 22° 50'



莫美兰 (30岁) 陆佩瑶 (37岁) 何荷花 (37岁) 刘素明 (80岁) 何德桂 (80岁) 谢文娟 (80岁) 谢礼东 (11岁) 黄福祥 (45岁) 农海坤 (9岁) 谢海堂 (68岁) 莫小能 (25岁) 范礼民 (42岁) 陆旭 (26岁) 农海坤 (38岁) 陆佩杰 (26岁) 冯洁琳 (22岁) 莫桂兴 (68岁) 农海宁 (19岁) 潘平康 (24岁) 韦科 (25岁) 谢中北 (45岁) 冯成 (30岁) 蒙海岩 (33岁) 许西培 (44岁)

Gate of Northeast Normal University

Q & A



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.

