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China in 2008: What's Inside

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November 1, 2008 in [China in 2008](#), [Self-Promotion Saturday](#) by [The China Beat](#) | [No comments](#)

While our forthcoming blog-to-book, *China in 2008*, contains some content that regular *China Beat* readers will find familiar because versions of the pieces have either run or been linked to at *China Beat* (though many of these have been expanded or revised also), about one-third of the book is brand-new. Below, find the table of contents listing the essays included in the book's fifteen chapters. Each chapter also includes additional, brief excerpts from the blog which are not listed here. *China in 2008* will be published in early 2009.

Introduction

China in 2008: A Reflection on a Year of Great Significance, by Kate Merkel-Hess

Chapter 1: Anxieties of a Prosperous Age

NIMBY Comes to China, by Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom

Homeowners' Protests in Shanghai: An Interview with Benjamin Read, by Angilee Shah

Gilded Age, Gilded Cage, by Leslie T. Chang

Melamine and Milk in Modern China, by Anna Greenspan

Little Emperors or Frail Pragmatists? China's '80ers Generation, by Yunxiang Yan

Chapter 2: Tibet

At War with the Utopia of Modernity, by Pankaj Mishra

How to Think About Tibet, by Donald S. Lopez, Jr.

Ballooning Unrest: Tibet, State Violence and the Incredible Lightness of Knowledge, by Charlene Makley

Chapter 3: Meanwhile, Across the Straits...

Readings on Taiwan, by Paul R. Katz

Chapter 4, Nationalism and the Torch

Torching the Relay: An Interview with Geremie Barmé, with questions from Woroni

Chinese protesters extinguish Olympic torch in protest?, from Danwei.org

Why Were Chinese People so Angry about the Attempts to Seize the Torch in the International Torch Relay?, by Susan Brownell

Chapter 5, Earthquake and Recovery

Rumor and the Sichuan Earthquake, by S. A. Smith

Earthquake and the Imperatives of Chinese Mourning, by Donald S. Sutton

Chinese Responses to Disaster: A View from the Qing, by Kathryn Edgerton-Tarpley

China and the Red Cross, by Caroline Reeves

Resistance Is Useful, by Rana Mitter

After the Earthquake: Former students report on the disaster, by Peter Hessler

Letters from Sichuan II, by Peter Hessler

Chapter 6, Shanghai Images in Beijing's Year

Disappearing Shanghai, by Howard W. French

Chapter 7, Tiananmen Reconsidered

Tiananmen's Shifting Legacy, by Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom

The Gate of Heavenly Peace-Making, by Pär K. Cassel

Chapter 8, The Road to the Olympics

China's Olympic Road, by Susan Brownell

The Boycotts of '08 Revisited, by Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom

How to Talk to Strangers: Beijing's Advice, by Mary S. Erbaugh

Learning English, Learning Chinese, by David L. Porter

Chapter 9, The Olympics as Spectacle

It's Right to Party, en Masse, by Haiyan Lee

Where Were China's Women on 08/08/08?, by Nicole E. Barnes

What Would Mao Think of the Games?, by Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom

The Olympics Around the World, excerpts by Pierre Fuller, David Luesink, Miri Kim, Paola Voci, and Shakhrah Rahav

From Lovers to Volunteers: China's National Anthem, by Liang Luo

Beijing's Olympic Weather: "Haze," Blue Skies, and Hot Air, by Alex Pasternack

Beijing's Olympic Soundscape: Volunteerism, internationalism, heroism and patriotism at the 2008 Games, by Daniel Beekman

Chapter 10, China after the Games

One Bed, Different Dreams: The Beijing Olympics as seen in Tokyo, by James Farrer

China's Olympic Run, by Pallavi Aiyar

Chapter 11, Follow the Leader

Facing Up to Friendship, by Geremie R. Barmé

Preserving the Premier's Calligraphy at Beichuan Middle School, by Richard C. Kraus

Boss Hu and the Press, by Nicolai Volland

Hua Guofeng: Remembering a Forgotten Leader, by Jeremiah Jenne

Chapter 12, Things Seen and Unseen

Digital China: Ten Things Worth Knowing about the Chinese Internet, by Kate Merkel-Hess and Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom

The Chinese Press in the Spotlight, by Timothy B. Weston

Finding Trust Online: Tigergate to the Sichuan Earthquakes, by Guobin Yang

Things We'd Rather You Not Say on the Web, Or Anywhere Else, by David Bandurski

Chapter 13, Pop Culture in a Global Age

Kung Fu Panda, Go Home!, by Haiyan Lee

In Defense of Jiang Rong's Wolf Totem, by Timothy B. Weston

Wolf Totem: Romanticized Essentialization, by Nicole E. Barnes

Wei Cheng: From an Elite Novel to a Popular Metaphor, by Xia Shi

Faking Heaven: It's All Done with Mirrors, by Timothy S. Oakes

Chapter 14, Reinvented Traditions

The Global Rebranding of Confucius, by Julia K. Murray

China: Democracy, or Confucianism?, by Xujun Eberlein

Chapter 15, China and the U.S.

A Nation of Outlaws, by Stephen Mihm

Democracy or Bust: Why our Knowledge about What the Chinese Lack is Really No Knowledge at All, by David L. Porter

Follow the Money: A Tale of Two Economies, by Kenneth L. Pomeranz

Yellow Peril Consumerism: China, North America, and an Era of Global Trade, by Amy Hanser

Afterword by Kenneth L. Pomeranz