China Beat Birthday: Now We Are Three

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China Beat very quietly celebrated its third birthday last Friday, making the site now almost a senior citizen in the constantly enlarging arena of China blogs. While we’re very happy with the work we’ve been doing for the past three years—and we hope China Beat readers and contributors are equally pleased with our efforts—it’s always nice to shake things up a bit. For that reason, China Beat is now undertaking a collaborative venture with the journal Twentieth-Century China, a move that we hope will continue to bring together the worlds of online and print publishing.

What does this mean? You won’t see any significant changes to the China Beat site, and subscribers to TCC will continue to receive print copies of the journal. So for the most part, things will continue as normal. But TCC will soon begin publishing book reviews at China Beat (the first one a review by Jeremy Tai of Rebecca Karl’s Mao Zedong and China in the Twentieth-Century World), and there will also be occasional posts calling attention to the content appearing in new issues of TCC.

Twentieth-Century China, the official journal of the Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China, was founded in 1983 (originally as Republican China) and publishes scholarly articles in history and the social sciences, covering topics ranging from the late Qing through the turn of the 21st century. A quick glance at the TCC editorial board shows that there’s already quite a bit of synergy between China Beat and the journal: board members include a number of people who have written for or been mentioned at China Beat, including Geremie Barmé, Prasenjit Duara, Elizabeth Perry, and Peter Zarrow.

The journal’s side of this collaboration is headed by TCC Chief Editor Jay Carter (who has also written for China Beat in the past few months) and book review editor Margherita Zanasi, who will be overseeing the content published here under the TCC imprint. So, as China Beat enters its fourth year (wow!), I’m very pleased to welcome the TCC editors and readers to our site. This is something of an experiment in the realm of publishing, and I look forward to seeing both publications explore the new directions opened up by such a collaboration.