

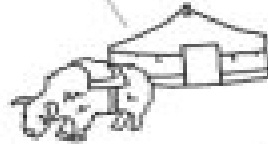
The Lunar New Year is a fifteen-day celebration with food and fireworks. On the last day, young men perform the Dragon Dance with a large paper dragon.



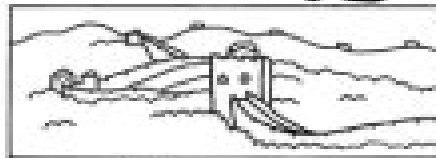
# China

## ASIA

Inner Mongolia is a vast grassland where people herd yaks and live in circular tents called yurts.



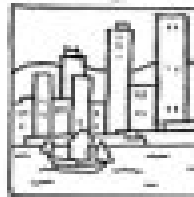
Tea is China's national drink.



The Great Wall of China winds across mountains and deserts for 4,163 miles. It was built more than 2,000 years ago to protect China from invasion by the Huns.

The Forbidden City in Beijing was the home of the dragon throne of the emperors of China, and commoners were not allowed to enter.

The British colonized Hong Kong in the nineteenth century, but turned it over to China in 1997. It is famous as a center for trade, finance, and tourism.



Chinese Flag

### Fast Facts

China is one of the oldest and greatest civilizations in the world, with a written history dating 3,500 years. It has the largest population in the world, with more than 50,000 babies born every day.

**CAPITAL:** Beijing

**AREA:** 3,705,410 square miles

**POPULATION:** 1,298,847,624

**LANGUAGE:** Mandarin Chinese

**CURRENCY:** Yuan (renminbi).

Hong Kong dollar

**MAIN EXPORTS:** machinery,

textiles, clothing, footwear,

toys, sporting goods, mineral fuels