

## People's Republic of China: Churches and Religions Annual Statistical Overview 2010/2011

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In a certain sense we can speak of a breakthrough in the area of statistics on religion in the People's Republic of China since statistical data on the religious affiliation of the Chinese are being officially published with ever greater frequency, and in so doing the previously unofficial statistical data of the various organizations are being at least partially included in the publications. The extent of the breakthrough becomes even clearer if we take a look at the *Blue Book of Religions* (*Zongjiao lanpi shu* 宗教蓝皮书) for the year 2010, published by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Its title is *Zhongguo zongjiao baogao* 中国宗教报告 (2010). *Annual Report on China's Religions* (2010) (Beijing 2010). The statistics presented have also been disseminated by *China Daily* and by other media.

The *Blue Book* (henceforth *BB*) also presents statistical data on Christianity.<sup>1</sup> The review *Dangdai zongjiao yanjiu* 当代宗教研究 (Contemporary Religious Studies), published by the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, presents another example. In the second issue for 2010 there appeared a detailed study on Protestant religious personnel (*jiaozhi ren-yuan* 教职人员), which is based on a census, though neither names of places or provinces are given. From these studies we learn, for example, that in place N.N., 33% of Protestant religious personnel have a university or college education, while 27% have only an elementary education. Furthermore, 26% have attended secondary school and 14% have obtained a senior middle school diploma. These and similar statistics, which do not appear for the first time in this publication, naturally contribute details to the overall map of the general condition of religions in China although they are still too few and far apart for us to be able to use them to draw broad general conclusions.

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1 For a discussion of the work, see Anthony Lam, "A Review of the Development of Christianity in China from the latest edition of *Blue Book of Religions* (2010)," in: *Tripod* 2010, No. 159, pp. 54-62. For a French translation, see *Eglises d'Asie* 2011, No. 544, pp. 22-27. The information of the *BB* is also available online.

The following statistical data naturally take into account the data from the *BB* and other official publications. They are, however, assembled as every year (cf. *China heute* 2010, No. 1, pp. 22-33) on the basis of information published during the course of the year and culled in particular from the reviews *Xinde (Faith)*, *Tripod*, and *Zhongguo Tianzhujiào*, *South China Morning Post*, *Times Online*, *China Daily*, from the news agencies, especially *UCAN* and *Xinhua*, or published on the internet ([www.asianews.it](http://www.asianews.it); [www.fides.org](http://www.fides.org); [www.pewforum.org](http://www.pewforum.org); [www.assistnews.net](http://www.assistnews.net); [www.chinapartner.org](http://www.chinapartner.org) among others) as well as from other (mostly private) unpublished sources. These data are in no way to be deemed complete or exhaustive. As is ever the case, religious statistics vary widely and sometimes even appear to be contradictory. At most they can give indications of general tendencies in the condition of the religions, and particularly in the situation of Christianity and of the Catholic Church in the PR China.

These statistical data are being supplemented by other statistical information, which attempt to give a picture of the ever changing context in which the religions and churches in China live and work, and through which they are continually challenged.

According to the data of the *BB*, the number of Christians (Protestants) in the People's Republic of China is about 23 million (1.8% of the population), for which the distinction is made between baptized (67.5%) and unbaptized (32.5%) Christians. The number of Catholics is reckoned at 5.7 million (presumably without the so-called "underground Catholics").

The study also shows growth in the other officially recognized religions such as Buddhism, Daoism, and Islam. The number of Protestant churches and meeting points is given as being over 55,000 – most of which have been established or built in the last ten years. To date, more than 80 million Chinese Bibles have been printed.

As indicated in the *BB*, the statistics presented are simply "lowest estimates." As Janice Wickeri has partially established in her presentation of the numbers for the Protestant Christians, but which can be more or less generalized for all the religions, three points should be kept in mind: 1) Statistics on religions are a sensitive topic for local officials, who often do not want to have any census and for pragmatic reasons do not wish to have to deal with large numbers of faithful; 2) Statistics are also a sensitive topic for the faithful themselves, since they still do not dare to acknowledge their religiosity publicly, not knowing how, by whom, and for what purposes such data might be used; 3) Those who are not yet baptized do not readily identify themselves as "Christians," since the churches themselves do not officially recognize them as such, or because they themselves want to understand their "being Christian" as not affiliated with a specific church.<sup>2</sup>

Understandably, there are also different statistics about the number of Christians depending on which "camp" one is in and depending on one's sympathies. Thus some sources give the number as between 40 and 130 million. Already in 2006, the then-director of the State Administration for Religious Affairs (Bureau for Religious Affairs), Ye Xiaowen,

2 For a general view of the problem of religious statistics in the PR China see also Benoît Vermander, "Religious Revival and Exit from Religion in Contemporary China," in: *China Perspectives* 2009, No. 4, pp. 5-8. Yao Xinzhong and Paul Badham offer a social analysis of statistical data from various religions (including Christianity) in the PR China in their book *Religious Experience in Contemporary China* (Cardiff 2007).

estimated the number of Christians at about 130 million, though this information was denied by the Foreign Ministry. Other groups and researchers speak of about 54 million Christians in China. The semi-official statistical data generally do not take into account the “unregistered” faithful of the house churches or the Catholic underground Church.

Now as before, only Buddhism, Daoism, Islam, Catholicism, and Protestantism are officially recognized. The Russian Orthodox Church enjoys a certain recognition in areas where a Russian minority is to be found. The *BB* deals above all with the recognized religions, although it is interesting that it also includes an article on the various manifestations of Confucianism in popular culture as well as an article on the re-awakening of the (not officially recognized) popular religion.

With regard to the recognized religions, the *BB* ascertains that the development of Buddhism is being impaired by economic commercialism, even though it seems to be going through a “golden age” of development; Daoist ideals are being undermined by secularization; Muslims in China sense that there is a growing chasm between the history of their religion and modernity; and the Catholic Church finds itself with the dilemma of being squeezed between state promoted independence and the wish to normalize relations with the Vatican.

Approximately 86% of Chinese have some kind of religious belief, even though it may not be publicly practiced or acknowledged. Of the various religions, some observers note a strong growth in Buddhism (approx. 18% annually). It is estimated, for example, that there are currently more than 200 million practicing Buddhists. The number of visitors to the more than 130,000 religious sites throughout the country (many of which are admittedly also tourist attractions), seem to bear out this observation. Some famous temple complexes bring in as much as 100 million Yuan annually and have become significant economic factors in their respective regions.

## The Catholic Church

For the Catholic Church in the PR China the statistics for the year 2010 indicate a diverse variety of data. In the following layout the data for the years 2009/2010 were brought up to date and contrasted with those of the *BB*, compiled by Wang Meixiu of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Institute for World Religions (pp. 89-110). It is evident that the data of the *BB* were simply taken over from *Xinde* and are not based on any new census, although there are some significant complementary data as well as conclusions. Further numbers come from the Holy Spirit Study Centre (HSSC) in Hong Kong. Number of bishops and dioceses with/without bishops here and in the following as of December 2010.

### Catholics

	5.714,853 million ( <i>Xinde</i> )
Official	5.7 million (HSSC)
Estimates	12 to 14 million
<i>BB</i>	same figure as <i>Xinde</i> , although it is admitted (p. 98) that in the Catholic Church there is a “special situation” ( <i>teshu qingkuang</i> 特殊情況) and

that therefore the number of Catholics might be more than 6 million – it could be anywhere from 6–12 million.

Even though the *BB* does not go into detail, this is the first time that the admission is being made that the number of Catholics is larger than in the official figures, even though it still does not rise above 1% of the population. These Catholics find themselves among 1.3 billion Chinese (1 Catholic to approximately 300,000 non-Catholics), that is, they constitute a minority and are, in addition, a “marginal group.” It would be good here to add as well the view of the statisticians that Catholics are not keeping up to the general population of the country in terms of proportional growth.

### Dioceses

Official	97 (40 without bishop)
<i>BB</i>	100
HSSC	138 (116 active, 22 “inactive”); this is the number of dioceses which still exist from the canonical erection of the Hierarchy in China in 1946, even though some of them are not “active.”
De facto	79 “active” and 27 without bishop (see below: the line-up of bishops and dioceses).

### Bishops

Official	65 (HSSC)
Underground	38 (HSSC)
De facto	99 (total) (see the line-up of bishops and dioceses below)

### Priests

3,397 (*Xinde*). *BB* gives this figure as including all bishops, priests, and deacons.

Compared with the total number of Catholics, this is a very modest number: approximately one member of the clergy per 3,000 Catholics. This ratio differs, of course, from region to region. Some dioceses have a surplus of priests. Yet there is a lack of inter-diocesan cooperation and mutual support. One further problem with the statistics for priests is that while we have the more or less real number of newly ordained priests, we have no data about the number of priests who die each year.

Official	1,900 (HSSC)
Underground	1,300 (HSSC)

### Sisters

5,451 (*Xinde*). *BB* gives the same figure.

Official	3,800 (HSSC)
Underground	1,550 (HSSC)

Here, too, we come to the conclusion that while we have the more or less correct number of sisters who pronounce vows, we have no statistics for the number of sisters who die annually.

### Convents

106 (*Xinde*). *BB* gives the same figure.

### Sisters' Novitiates

Official 40 with approximately 100 sisters in formation (HSSC)

Underground 20 with approximately 100 sisters in formation (HSSC)

Here the number of those actually entering or departing during novitiate is not known.

### Seminaries and Seminarians

10 with approximately 628 seminarians (*Xinde*)

*BB* same

Official 10 with 630 seminarians (HSSC)

Also here, the annual statistics for those entering or leaving the seminary before completing formation are not known.

### Minor Seminaries

30 with 630 seminarians (*Xinde*)

*BB* same

Official 30 with 600 seminarians (HSSC)

Underground 10 with approximately 550 seminarians (HSSC)

The statistics of *Xinde* for the year 2010 make mention of 350 **religious in "male orders"** (*sic!*). *BB* also mentions 350 religious in male orders (*nan xiuhui* 男修会) and comments (p. 98, note 2), that these religious belong to international congregations such as the Franciscans, the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), and the Jesuits. This admission is, in fact, a real breakthrough, since in the past there was total official silence about the existence in PR China of male religious belonging to international orders, all of which are still officially forbidden.

With reference to the **number of churches**, all of the statistical sources are in agreement. It is generally said that there are about 6,000 churches and chapels in China. *BB* mentions 5,967 churches and chapels.

**The social and cultural work** of the Catholic Church is beginning to grow in importance. The *Xinde* Institute for Cultural Studies has produced a list (admittedly incomplete) of these establishments in various Chinese dioceses (see *China heute* 2010, No. 1, pp. 23ff.).

*Xinde*-Information names 422 Catholic institutions. The *BB* refers to more than 400 institutions (p. 98), among which are three publishing houses, three research institutes, 220 small clinics, 11 hospitals, 81 homes for the aged, 22 homes for the handicapped or rehab centers, 44 kindergartens, and 35 regional or diocesan social service organizations. The report also notes that more than 80 religious sisters work in state health organizations. On principle, only those institutions are indicated which are under the official Church. Since the statistics from 2010 have not changed much, they were not repeated this year.

### New Leadership Boards of the Catholic Church in PR China

The 8th National Assembly of Catholic Representatives in the PR China (see *China heute* 2010, No. 4, pp. 208f.) finally met in December of 2010, after numerous postponements. At this assembly the new leadership of the official Bishops' Conference and of the Patriotic Association were "elected." Without going into the complex problems of this very controversial decision, the line-up of the new Church functionaries is as follows:

#### Bishops' Conference

Chairman: Bishop \*Ma Yinglin (Kunming)<sup>3</sup>

Vice-Chairmen: Bishops Fang Xingyao (Linyi), \*Zhan Silu (Mindong), Fang Jianping (Tangshan), Li Shan (Beijing), Pei Junmin (Liaoning), Yang Xiaoting (Yan'an)

Secretary General: Bishop \*Guo Jincai (Chengde)

Honorary Chairmen: Mr. Liu Bainian and Bishop Jin Luxian (Shanghai)

#### Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association

Chairman: Bishop Fang Xingyao (Linyi)

Vice-Chairmen: Bishops: \*Ma Yinglin, \*Guo Jincai, Shen Bin (Haimen), Meng Qinglu (Hohhot); Priests: Lei Shiyin (Leshan), Huang Bingzhang (Shantou), Yue Fusheng (Harbin); Sister Wu Lin (Hubei) und Mr. Shu Nanwu (Nanchang)

Secretary General: Mr. Liu Yuanlong (Beijing)

Advisors: Bishops: \*Tu Shihua (Huangshi/Beijing), Liu Jinghe (Tangshan), Li Mingshu (Qingdao), Yu Runchen (Hanzhong); Lay: Yu Jiadi (Anhui), Lu Guocun (Guangdong), Zhou Xiaowu (Shanghai), Liu Deshen (Chongqing)

Honorary Chairmen: Mr. Liu Bainian und Bishop Jin Luxian

### Bishops Deceased in 2010

1. Wang Chonglin (1921–2010), Zhaoxian (Hebei)
2. Jiang Taoran (1926–2010), Shijiazhuang (Hebei)
3. Yang Shudao (1919–2010), Fuzhou (Fujian)

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\* Consecrated without appointment from the Holy See.

## Bishops Consecrated in 2010

1. Cai Bingrui, Xiamen (Fujian)
2. Han Yingjin, Sanyuan (Shaanxi)
3. Li Suguang, Nanchang (Jiangsu)
4. Meng Ningyou, Taiyuan (Shanxi)
5. Meng Qinglu, Hohhot (Inner Mongolia)
6. Shen Bin, Haimen (Jiangsu)
7. Wu Junwei (Yuncheng, Shanxi)
8. Xu Jiwei, Taizhou (Zhejiang)
9. Yang Xiaoting, Yan'an (Yulin, Shaanxi)
10. Yang Yongqiang, Zhoucun (Shandong)
11. \*Guo Jincai, Chengde (Hebei)

## Installation as Official Bishops

The installation of former underground bishops as officially recognized diocesan bishops is a new and controversial phenomenon in the Catholic Church in China – controversial and hotly disputed in various regions principally because it leads to further divisions. Motivated by Pope Benedict XVI's 2007 letter to the Catholic Church in China, some underground bishops are either attempting to register with the State Administration for Religious Affairs so as to be able to work out in the open, or they are being manipulated and used by the Patriotic Association and installed as “official bishops.” To date, the following cases are known:

1. An Shuxin, installed as the official Bishop of Baoding (Hebei)
2. Du Jiang, installed as the official Bishop of Bameng (Shanba, Inner Mongolia)
3. Zhu Weifang, installed as the official Bishop of Wenzhou (Zhejiang)

Since there now continue to be, as always in the past, conflicting statistics on the number of bishops and dioceses, we present below an alphabetical **list of the bishops in the PR China** for the year 2010 [changes until mid-June 2011 in brackets]. The list includes all bishops – ordinaries, coadjutors, auxiliary bishops, and retired bishops – irrespective of their “affiliation” to either the underground or to the official Church; they are all bishops of the Catholic Church in China:

1. An Shuxin 安树新, Baoding (Heb)
2. Cai Bingrui 蔡炳瑞, Xiamen (FJ)
3. Cao Xiangde 曹缙德, Hangzhou (ZJ)
4. Chen Shizhong 陈适中, Yibin (SC)
5. Dang Mingyan 党明彦, Xi'an (SN)
6. Du Jiang 杜江, Shanba (NM)
7. Fan Zhongliang 范忠良, Shanghai (SH)
8. Fang Jianping 方建平, Tangshan (Heb)
9. Fang Xingyao 房兴耀, Linyi (SD)
10. Fang Zhigang 方志刚, Wenzhou (ZJ)

11. Feng Xinmao 封新卯, Hengshui (Heb)
12. Gan Junqiu 甘俊丘, Guangzhou (GD)
13. Gao Hongxiao 高宏孝, Kaifeng (Hen)
14. Gu Zheng 顾征, Xining (QH)
15. Guo Chuanzhen 郭传真, Jinan (SD)
16. Guo Jincai 郭金才, Chengde (Heb)
17. Han Jide 韩纪德, Pingliang (GS)
18. Han Jingtao 韩井涛, Siping (JL)
19. Han Yingjin 韩英进, Sanyuan (SN)
20. Han Zhihai 韩志海, Lanzhou (GS)
21. Hao Jinli 郝进礼, Xiwanzi (Chongli, Heb) [died March 9, 2011]
22. He Zeqing 何泽清, Wanzhou (CQ)
23. Hou Guoyang 侯国阳, Chongqing (CQ)
24. Hu Xiande 胡贤德, Ningbo (ZJ)
25. Huang Shoucheng 黄守城, Fu'an (FJ)
26. Huo Cheng 霍成, Lüliang (SX)
27. Jia Zhiguo 贾治国, Zhengding (Heb)
28. Jin Daoyuan 靳道远, Lu'an (Changzhi) (SX)
29. Jin Dechen 靳德辰, Nanyang (Hen)
30. Jin Luxian 金鲁贤, Shanghai (SH)
31. Lan Shi 蘭石, Sanyuan (SN)
32. Li Hongguang 李宏光, Yuncheng (Jiangzhou, SX)
33. Li Hongye 李宏业, Luoyang (Hen) [died April 23, 2011]
34. Li Jiantang 李建唐, Taiyuan (SX)
35. Li Jing 李晶, Yinchuan (NX)
36. Li Jingfeng 李镜峰, Fengxiang (SN)
37. Li Liangui 李连贵, Cangzhou (Heb)
38. Li Mingshu 李明术, Qingdao (SD)
39. Li Shan 李山, Beijing (BJ)
40. Li Side 李思德, Tianjin (TJ)
41. Li Suguang 李稣光, Nanchang (JX)
42. Li Yi 李毅, Changzhi (SX)
43. Liao Hongqing 廖宏清, Meizhou (GD)
44. Lin Jiashan 林加善, Fuzhou (FJ)
45. Liu Guandong 刘冠东, Yixian (Heb)
46. Liu Jinghe 刘景和, Tangshan (Heb)
47. Liu Jingshan 刘静山, Yinchuan (NX)
48. Liu Shigong 刘世功, Wumeng (NM)
49. Liu Xinhong 刘新红, Anhui (AH)
50. Lu Xinping 陆新平, Nanjing (JS)
51. Lü Shouwang 吕守旺, Yichang (HB) [died April 30, 2011]
52. Ma Cunguo 马存国, Shuozhou (SX)
53. Ma Xuesheng 马学圣, Zhoucun (SD)



54. Ma Yinglin 马英林, Kunming (YN)
55. Ma Zhongmu 马仲牧, Chengchuan (NM)
56. Meng Ningyou 孟宁友, Taiyuan (SX)
57. Meng Qinglu 孟清录, Hohhot (NM)
58. Pei Junmin 裴军民, Shenyang (LN)
59. Qian Yurong 钱余荣, Xuzhou (JS)
60. Shao Zhumin 邵祝民, Wenzhou (ZJ)
61. Shen Bin 沈斌, Haimen (JS)
62. Shi Enxiang 师恩祥, Yixian (Heb)
63. Shi Hongzhen 石鸿楨, Tianjin (TJ)
64. Su Yongda 苏永大, Zhanjiang (GD)
65. Su Zhimin 苏志民, Baoding (Heb)
66. Sun Zhibin 孙知宾, Yidu (SD)
67. Tan Yanquan 谭燕全, Nanning (GX)
68. Tong Changping 同长平, Weinan (SN)
69. Tong Hui 童辉, Yan'an (Yulin, SN)
70. Tu Shihua 涂世华, Puqi (HB), resides in Beijing
71. Wang Chongyi 王充一, Guiyang (GZ)
72. Wang Jin 王荃, Yuci (SX)
73. Wang Milu 王觅录, Tianshui (GS)
74. Wang Renlei 王仁雷, Xuzhou (JS)
75. Wei Jingyi 魏景仪, Harbin (HL)
76. Wu Junwei 武俊维, Yuncheng (SX)
77. Wu Qinjing 吴钦敬, Zhouzhi (SN)
78. Wu Shizhen 吴仕珍, Nanchang (JX)
79. Xiao Zejiang 肖泽江, Guiyang (GZ)
80. Xie Tingzhe 谢庭哲, Urumqi (XJ)
81. Xing Wenzhi 邢文之, Shanghai
82. Xu Honggen 徐宏根, Suzhou (JS)
83. Xu Jiwei 徐吉伟, Taizhou (ZJ)
84. Yang Xiangtai 杨祥太, Handan (Heb)
85. Yang Xiaoting 杨晓亭, Yan'an (Yulin, SN)
86. Yang Yongqiang 杨永强, Zhoucun (SD)
87. Ye Ronghua 叶荣华, Ankang (SN)
88. Yu Runshen 余润深, Hanzhong (SN)
89. Yuan Wenzai 袁文宰, Haimen (JS)
90. Zeng Jingmu 曾景牧, Fuzhou (JX)
91. Zhan Silu 詹思禄, Mindong (FJ)
92. Zhang Huaixin 张怀信, Anyang (Hen)
93. Zhang Weizhu 张维柱, Xinxiang (Hen)
94. Zhang Xianwang 张献旺, Jinan (SD)
95. Zhao Fengchang 赵凤昌, Liaocheng (SD)
96. Zhao Kexun 赵克勋, Xuanhua (Heb)

- 97. Zhu Baoyu 朱宝玉, Nanyang (Hen)
- 98. Zhu Weifang 朱维方, Wenzhou (ZJ)
- 99. Zong Huaide 宗怀德, Sanyuan (SN)

The following **dioceses** currently have **at least one bishop**. The list includes all dioceses with a bishop, irrespective of whether they were combined by the official Church or – as in the unofficial Church – listed according to the old canonical hierarchy as drawn up in 1946:

1. Anhui 安徽 (AH): Liu Xinhong
2. Ankang 安康 (SN): Ye Ronghua
3. Anyang 安阳 (Hen): Zhang Huaixin
4. Baoding 保定 (Heb): Su Zhimin; An Shuxin
5. Beijing 北京 (BJ): Li Shan
6. Cangzhou 沧州 (Xianxian 献县, Heb): Li Liangui
7. Changzhi 长治 (SX): Li Yi
8. Chengchuan 城川 (NM): Ma Zhongmu
9. Chengde 承德 (Rehe 热河, Heb): Guo Jincai
10. Chongqing 重庆 (CQ): Hou Guoyang
11. Fengxiang 凤翔 (SN): Li Jingfeng
12. Fu'an 福安 (Mindong 闽东, FJ): Huang Shoucheng
13. Fuzhou 福州 (FJ): Lin Jiashan
14. Fuzhou 抚州 (JX): Zeng Jingmu
15. Guangzhou 广州 (GD): Gan Junqiu
16. Guiyang 贵阳 (GZ): Wang Chongyi; Xiao Zejiang
17. Haimen 海门 (JS): Yuan Wenzai; Shen Bin
18. Handan 邯郸 (Heb): Yang Xiangtai
19. Hangzhou 杭州 (ZJ): Cao Xiangde
20. Hanzhong 汉中 (SN): Yu Runshen
21. Harbin 哈尔滨 (Qiqihar 齐齐哈尔, HL): Wei Jingyi
22. Hengshui 衡水 (Jingxian 景县, Heb): Feng Xinmao
23. Hohhot 呼和浩特 (NM): Meng Qinglu
24. Jinan 济南 (SD): Guo Chuanzhen; Zhang Xianwang
25. Kaifeng 开封 (Hen): Gao Hongxiao
26. Kunming 昆明 (YN): Ma Yinglin
27. Lanzhou 兰州 (GS): Han Zhihai
28. Liaocheng 聊城 (Yanggu 阳谷, SD): Zhao Fengchang
29. Linyi 临沂 (SD): Fang Xingyao
30. Lu'an 潞安 (Changzhi 长治, SX): Jin Daoyuan
31. Lüliang 吕梁 (Fenyang 汾阳, SX): Huo Cheng
32. Luoyang 洛阳 (Hen): Li Hongye [died April 23, 2011]
33. Meizhou 梅州 (GD): Liao Hongqing
34. Mindong 闽东 (FJ): Zhan Silu
35. Mindong 闽东 (Fu'an 福安, FJ): Huang Shoucheng
36. Nanchang 南昌 (JX): Wu Shizhen, Li Suguang

37. Nanjing 南京 (JS): Lu Xinping
38. Nanning 南宁 (GX): Tan Yanquan
39. Nanyang 南阳 (Hen): Jin Dechen; Zhu Baoyu
40. Ningbo 宁波 (ZJ): Hu Xiande
41. Pingliang 平凉 (GS): Han Jide
42. Puqi 浦圻 (HB): Tu Shihua
43. Qingdao 青岛 (SD): Li Mingshu
44. Sanyuan 三原 (SN): Zong Huaide; Lan Shi; Han Yingjin
45. Shanba 陕坝, Bameng (NM): Du Jiang
46. Shanghai 上海 (SH): Fan Zhongliang; Jin Luxian; Xing Wenzhi
47. Shenyang 沈阳 (LN): Pei Junmin
48. Shuozhou 朔州 (SX): Ma Cunguo
49. Siping 四平 (Changchun 长春, JL): Han Jingtao
50. Suzhou 苏州 (JS): Xu Honggen
51. Taiyuan 太原 (SX): Li Jiantang; Meng Ningyou
52. Taizhou 台州 (ZJ): Xu Jiwei
53. Tangshan 唐山 (Heb): Liu Jinghe; Fang Jianping
54. Tianjin 天津 (TJ): Li Side; Shi Hongzhen
55. Tianshui 天水 (GS): Wang Milu
56. Urumqi 乌鲁木齐 (XJ): Xie Tingzhe
57. Wanzhou 万州 (CQ): He Zeqing
58. Weinan 渭南 (SN): Tong Changping
59. Wenzhou 温州 (ZJ): Fang Zhigang; Zhu Weifang; Shao Zhumin
60. Wumeng 乌蒙 (NM): Liu Shigong
61. Xi'an 西安 (SN): Dang Mingyan
62. Xiamen 厦门 (FJ): Cai Bingrui
63. Xining 西宁 (QH): Gu Zheng
64. Xinxiang 新乡 (Hen): Zhang Weizhu
65. Xiwanzi 西湾子 (Chongli 崇礼, Heb): Hao Jinli [died March 9, 2011]
66. Xuanhua 宣化 (Zhangjiakou 张家口, Heb): Zhao Kexun
67. Xuzhou 徐州 (JS): Qian Yurong; Wang Renlei
68. Yan'an 延安 (Yulin 榆林, SN): Tong Hui; Yang Xiaoting
69. Yibin 宜宾 (SC): Chen Shizhong
70. Yichang 宜昌 (HB): Lü Shouwang [died April 30, 2011]
71. Yidu 益都 (SD): Sun Zhibin
72. Yinchuan 银川 (NX): Liu Jingshan; Li Jing
73. Yixian 易县 (Heb): Liu Guandong; Shi Enxiang
74. Yuci 榆次 (SX): Wang Jin
75. Yuncheng 运城 (Jiangzhou 絳州, SX): Li Hongguang; Wu Junwei
76. Zhanjiang 湛江 (GD): Su Yongda
77. Zhengding 正定 (Shijiazhuang 石家庄, Heb): Jia Zhiguo
78. Zhoucun 周村 (SD): Ma Xuesheng; Yang Yongqiang
79. Zhouzhi 周至 (SN): Wu Qinjing

De facto, the following 27 **dioceses** have **no bishop** at all (either official or underground):

1. Anlong 安龙 (GZ)
2. Chengdu 成都 (SC)
3. Chifeng 赤峰 (NM)
4. Datong 大同 (SX)
5. Hankou 汉口 (HB)
6. Heze 荷泽 (SD)
7. Hongdong 洪洞 (SX)
8. Hunan 湖南 (HN)
9. Jiangmen 江门 (GD) [as of March 30, 2011: Liang Jiansen 梁建森]
10. Jilin 吉林 (JL)
11. Jingzhou 荆州 (Shashi 沙市, HB)
12. Leshan 乐山 (SC)
13. Nanchong 南充 (SC)
14. Puyang 濮阳 (Hen)
15. Shangqiu 商丘 (Hen)
16. Shantou 汕头 (GD)
17. Shiqian 石阡 (GZ)
18. Xiangfan 襄樊 (HB)
19. Xichang 西昌 (SC)
20. Xingtai 邢台 (Heb)
21. Xinyang 信阳 (Hen)
22. Yantai 烟台 (SD)
23. Yanzhou 兖州 (SD) [as of May 20, 2011: Lü Peisen 吕培森]
24. Yidu 益都 (SD)
25. Zhengzhou 郑州 (Hen)
26. Zhumadian 驻马店 (Hen)
27. Apostolic Vicariate of Tibet (Xizang 西藏)

### Priestly Ordinations

The *BB* lists 71 priestly ordinations for the year 2009, spread over 19 provinces (p. 99). As always, it is difficult to unearth exact statistics for priestly ordinations, especially in the unofficial Church. Here are the priestly ordinations known about with certainty for the year 2010:

- Anyang (Henan) 4
- Bameng (Inner Mongolia) 2
- Beijing 2
- Guiyang (Guizhou) 3
- Jinan (Shandong) 5
- Jinzhong (Yuci, Shanxi) 2
- Laohekou (Hubei) 1
- Linyi (Shandong) 2
- Macau 1

Mindong (Fujian) 2  
 Nanning (Guangxi) 4  
 Puzhong (Shanxi) 2  
 Shanghai 6 (4 for Wenzhou)  
 Shantou (Guangdong) 1 (first ordination in 10 years)  
 Taiyuan (Shanxi) 2  
 Xingtai (Hebei) 2  
 Yichang (Hubei) 4  
 Yongnian (Hebei) 2  
 Zhanjiang (Guangdong) 2

### Vows of Religious Sisters

According to the *BB*, 118 religious sisters professed perpetual vows in 2009 (p. 100). For 2010 the following numbers are known:

Datong (Shanxi) 1 temporal vows  
 Handan (Hebei) 3 perpetual vows  
 Hengshui (Hebei) 2 first vows, 4 temporal vows  
 Linyi (Shandong) ? first vows  
 Nanchong (Sichuan) 2 perpetual vows  
 Qingdao (Shandong) 3 novices, 2 postulants  
 Wenzhou (Zhejiang) 3 perpetual vows, 26 temporal vows  
 Xianxian (Hebei) 3 perpetual vows  
 Yongnian (Hebei) 6 perpetual vows

### New Churches

Despite all obstacles being put in the way, many churches are still being built in China today – with all of the problems that go along with such activity. The related problems and complications are referred to in *China heute* (2009, No. 1, pp. 47-52 and 57-60). Happily, by the way, new churches being built in China are at least being built in a modern style, as the journal *Yage* reports (see also *China heute* 2010, No. 4, pp. 267f.). In 2010 churches were either newly built or restored in the following locations:

Baotou (Inner Mongolia)  
 Daoli, Sanyuan (Shaanxi)  
 Fushun, Shenyang (Liaoning)  
 Haikou (Hainan): Laying of cornerstone  
 Heze (Shandong): Cathedral  
 Jianzhuang, Handan (Hebei)  
 Lanzhou (Gansu): Consecration of a church built in 2006  
 Laoheishan, Dongning (Heilongjiang)  
 Qibao (Shanghai): Restoration of a church built in 1912  
 Tancheng, Linyi (Shandong)  
 Wangzong, Ningguo (Anhui)

Weixian, Handan (Hebei)  
 Wuhan (Hubei)  
 Xianxian (Hebei)  
 Xiweizhuang, Cangzhou (Hebei)  
 Yongfuxian, Guilin (Guangxi)  
 Zhunge'er (Inner Mongolia)



In Lanzhou (Province of Gansu) a 2.5 meter high marble statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was erected in front of the cathedral. On the base there is an inscription in Chinese and English with the words of Mt. 11,2: “Come unto Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” St. Francis of Assisi’s “Prayer for Peace” is inscribed on the opposite side.

The new statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (left) and the inauguration ceremony (bottom).  
 Photos: Website of Lanzhou Diocese, [www.catholiclz.org](http://www.catholiclz.org)



### Baptisms in 2010

Even though there are, on average, approximately 100,000 baptisms a year in China, they do not lead to the overall growth of the Church since this number more or less matches the estimated number of Catholics who die each year. According to the evaluation of *Xinde*, baptisms in the year 2010 show several noteworthy features: 1) There were more baptisms than in the previous year; 2) The neophytes were predominantly young people; 3) The educational level of the neophytes was higher than it has been in previous years; 4) Through these baptisms the situation of the faithful has changed in terms of evangeliza-

tion: there are now 25% of new believers who need to be evangelized. The following is a selection of the numbers of baptisms for 2010. For further, more exact data for individual parishes see [www.chinacatholic.org](http://www.chinacatholic.org).

Anyang (Henan)	31+51+26 (Easter)
Bameng (Inner Mongolia)	15 (August 15)
Baoding (Hebei)	15 (Easter), 17 (August 15)
Beijing	56 (Easter)
Cangzhou (Hebei)	29 (August 15), 19 (August 22)
Chongqing	96 (Easter), 38 (August 15)
Ezhoushi (Hubei)	9 (Easter)
Fenyang (Shanxi)	4 (August 15)
Haimen (Jiangsu)	20 (Easter)
Handan (Hebei) (various churches of the diocese)	45+99 (Easter), 30 (August 15)
Heilongjiang	18 (Easter)
Hengshui (Hebei)	28 (Easter), 38 (August 15)
Hongkong	3,000 (Easter)
Huangping (Guizhou)	20 (August 15)
Innere Mongolei	17+14 (Easter)
Jinan (Shandong)	26 (Easter)
Lanzhou (Gansu)	9 (Easter)
Mianzhu near Chengdu (Sichuan)	180 baptisms after the 2008 earthquake
Nanchong (Sichuan)	30 (Easter, predominantly young people)
Ningbo (Zhejiang)	16 (August 22, among whom are children of migrants)
Ningxia	11 (August 15)
Puning (Guangdong)	6 (August 15)
Puzhong (Shanxi)	14 (Easter)
Renqiu (Hebei)	30 (Easter)
Sanyuan (Shaanxi)	10 (Easter)
Shantou (Guangdong)	11 (August 15)
Taiyuan (Shanxi; various churches of the diocese)	55+28+60+21 (Easter)
Tianjin	34 (Easter), 206 (June 5), 39 (August 15)
Tianshui (Gansu)	13 (August 15)
Wenzhou (Zhejiang)	23 (hearing impaired)
Xi'an (Shaanxi)	50+14 (Easter)
Xiamen (Fujian)	7 (Easter)
Xingtai (Hebei)	24+19 (Easter)
Xining (Qinghai)	5 baptisms of Tibetans
Yibin (Sichuan)	21 (August 15)
Yinchuan (Ningxia)	90 (Easter)

### Statistical Examples from the Dioceses

**Diocese of Hengshui** (Jingxian, Province of Hebei): The minor seminary at Hengshui accepted 20 new students of the 27 who had applied. Since its opening in 1994, the seminary

has educated 350 boys. Of these, 50 went on to the major seminary, although only 7 were eventually ordained priests.

**Diocese of Hong Kong:** There are over 350,000 Chinese and more than 170,000 foreign-born Catholics, for a total of about 530,000. Between 1950 and 2010 more than 480,000 persons were baptized in Hong Kong (approximately 5,000 in 2010). The diocese has 51 parishes, 1,600 catechists, and 1,200 men and women commissioned for various ministries. Hong Kong has more than 360 church run schools, of which 274 are Catholic and 90 are Anglican, with the remainder belonging to other denominations. Church schools are presently fighting for their independence, that is, they are trying to avoid a requirement that they create a governing board which would be independent of church control.

**Diocese of Jiayi (Chiayi, Taiwan):** This diocese comprises the City of Jiayi and the Districts of Jiayi and Yunlin. There are 12,000 Catholics, 31 diocesan priests, 18 religious priests, 1 deacon. 400 baptisms during the course of 2010. The diocese was erected in 1952 as an Apostolic Prefecture and 1962 promoted to a diocese.

**Diocese of Jiangxi:** Today this diocese combines the dioceses of Nanchang, Yujiang, and three other dioceses. It received a coadjutor bishop in 2010. There are more than 100,000 Catholics and 40 priests. Matteo Ricci lived in Nanchang in 1595, and it was in Nanchang that his first Chinese tracts were produced.

**Diocese of Jinzhong (Yuci, Shanxi):** Jinzhong was created in 1931. It has more than 20,000 Catholics, 30 priests, 29 seminarians, and 30 sisters belonging to the diocesan congregation of the Assumption of Mary. The diocese runs a clinic.

**Diocese of Lanzhou (Gansu):** There are more than 35,000 Catholics, 38 churches, 30 priests, 200 sisters from the three congregations of the Holy Family, the Holy Spirit, and the Daughters of Our Lady of China. There are 80 sister novices and 40 seminarians.

**Diocese of Sanyuan (Shaanxi):** More than 40,000 Catholics, 40 churches and 12 chapels, 38 priests, three sisters' congregations totaling several hundred religious.

**Diocese of Shantou (Guangdong, erected 1946):** There are 130,000 Catholics, 150 churches and chapels, 20 priests, 40 sisters (Congregation of Our Lady Queen of all Hearts). In 2010, 120 young men and women participated in a pastoral course to prepare them to assist the priests with religious instruction during their summer holidays.

**Diocese of Taichung (Taichung, Taiwan):** 26,464 Catholics in five deaneries, 35 parishes, 71 priests, 10 brothers, 114 sisters, 9 catechists, and 4 seminarians. The diocese is celebrating 100 years of evangelization.

**Diocese of Taizhou (Zhejiang):** 6,000 Catholics, 25 churches and five chapels, five priests, and nine sisters. Most of the faithful live in rural areas. After 50 years without a shepherd, the diocese finally received a bishop in 2010.

**Diocese of Xining (Province of Qinghai),** created in 1937 as an Apostolic Prefecture and cared for by the Divine Word Missionaries (SVD). Today Xining has more than 3,000



Catholics, six priests, and 17 sisters. The faithful gather for worship in three churches and 19 mission chapels.

**Diocese of Yan'an** (Yulin). Approximately 40,000 Catholics, 20 priests, and 24 sisters. The diocese encompasses a territory of 80,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Bishop Yang Xiaoting was named as coadjutor in 2010. In March of 2011 he was installed as ordinary of the diocese.

**Diocese of Yichang** (Hubei): 22 priests, 11 sisters, and more than 20,000 faithful divided into 16 parishes.

**Diocese of Zhaoxian** (Hebei): more than 60,000 Catholics, 60 priests, 124 sisters, 170 students in the minor seminary, 52 in the major seminary, 1,145 churches and chapels. The Bishop of the diocese, Raymund Wang Chonglin, died in 2010.

**Diocese of Zhengding**: an underground diocese in Hebei Province; for which the official name is Shijiazhuang. There are over 150,000 Catholics, 60 churches and chapels, 100 priests, 60 seminarians, and numerous sisters in a couple of diocesan congregations. The former official Bishop of the diocese, Jiang Taoran, died in 2010. The legitimate Bishop Jia Zhiguo lives “underground,” and he is arrested frequently each year. In doing this, the government is trying to “coax” him to “come out” of the underground.

**Shijiazhuang** (Hebei): The Regional Major Seminary in Shijiazhuang, which featured in the news in 2010 due to the protest action undertaken by the seminarians, has provided formation for 472 seminarians since its opening in 1984. 420 of them have been ordained, and in that time, three of them have been appointed bishops.

**Taipei**: In 2010 the Regional Major Seminary in Taipei numbered 12 seminarians, the first time that the number had risen above 10. Of these, nine are from Taiwan and three are from Malaysia. Two come from the Archdiocese of Taipei itself, two from Hualian, two belong to the Order of Clerics Regular (Camillians), and one each comes from the Dioceses of Xinzhu, Taizhong, and Jiayi.

**In Taiwan** there are currently seven dioceses. There are 373 churches with resident priests. In addition, there are 354 mission stations and 120 chapels, which are only open during certain hours of the day. In the Diocese of Xinzhu (Hsinchu) alone, there are 76 such chapels. Since the number of faithful in Taiwan is continually declining, some churches and chapels are being used for other purposes. Thus the Cathedral of Hualian was converted into a museum. In the Diocese of Jiayi (Chiayi) 30 places of worship were converted into public service centers or other social organizations. Two churches have been converted into homes for the aged.

### Up-to-date List of Catholic Internet Sites

In attempting to visit the pages given below, please be aware that they may not always open without problems. Everything depends on the moment-to-moment situation in the country and some sites may be blocked by the authorities for one reason or another.

## Catholic Diocesan Websites

Baoding	<a href="http://www.bdcatholic.org">www.bdcatholic.org</a>
Beijing	<a href="http://www.catholic-bj.org">www.catholic-bj.org</a>
Beijing, Seminary	<a href="http://www.bjnsccl.com">www.bjnsccl.com</a>
Beijing Shangzhi Institute	<a href="http://www.shangzhi.org">www.shangzhi.org</a>
Beijing <i>Tianguang bao</i>	<a href="http://www.tianguangbao.org">www.tianguangbao.org</a>
Chengde	<a href="http://www.catholic-cd.org">www.catholic-cd.org</a>
Chengdu	<a href="http://www.cddioocese.com">www.cddioocese.com</a>
Chongqing	<a href="http://www.singo.org.cn/bbs">www.singo.org.cn/bbs</a>
Dali	<a href="http://www.catholicdl.org">www.catholicdl.org</a>
Dalian	<a href="http://www.dlcatholic.org.cn">www.dlcatholic.org.cn</a>
Fengxiang	<a href="http://www.fxjq.org">www.fxjq.org</a>
Guangxi	<a href="http://www.catholicgx.org">www.catholicgx.org</a>
Guizhou	<a href="http://www.gztzj.cn">www.gztzj.cn</a>
Handan	<a href="http://www.hdcatholic.org">www.hdcatholic.org</a>
Hanzhong	<a href="http://www.hzdiocese.org">www.hzdiocese.org</a>
Harbin	<a href="http://www.bchjh.org">www.bchjh.org</a>
Heilongjiang	<a href="http://www.cgm66.cn">www.cgm66.cn</a>
Hengshui	<a href="http://www.hstzj.com">www.hstzj.com</a>
Jilin	<a href="http://www.jlcatholic.com">www.jlcatholic.com</a>
Jilin, Seminary	<a href="http://www.jlseminary.com">www.jlseminary.com</a>
Jining	<a href="http://www.catholicjn.org">www.catholicjn.org</a>
Langfang	<a href="http://www.ccbbs.org">www.ccbbs.org</a>
Lanzhou	<a href="http://www.catholiclz.org">www.catholiclz.org</a>
Leshan	<a href="http://www.lstzj2009.com">www.lstzj2009.com</a>
Liaoning	<a href="http://www.lnjq.org">www.lnjq.org</a> ; <a href="http://www.lncatholic.org">www.lncatholic.org</a>
Linyi	<a href="http://http://linyijiaoqu.blog.sohu.com">http://linyijiaoqu.blog.sohu.com</a>
Macao	<a href="http://www.catholic.org.mo">www.catholic.org.mo</a>
Nanchong	<a href="http://www.nctzj.org">www.nctzj.org</a>
Nanjing	<a href="http://www.iyesu.cn">www.iyesu.cn</a>
Nanyang	<a href="http://www.nycatholic.org">www.nycatholic.org</a>
Ningbo	<a href="http://www.nbcatholic.org">www.nbcatholic.org</a>
Qiqihar	<a href="http://www.qqhrcatholic.org">www.qqhrcatholic.org</a>
Quanzhou	<a href="http://www.qztzj.org">www.qztzj.org</a>
Sanyuan	<a href="http://www.syjql.cn">www.syjql.cn</a>
Shanghai	<a href="http://www.catholicsh.org">www.catholicsh.org</a>
Shenyang, Seminary	<a href="http://www.syseminary.org">www.syseminary.org</a>
Shijiazhuang, Jinde	<a href="http://www.jinde.org">www.jinde.org</a>
Shijiazhuang, Seminary	<a href="http://www.hbcseminary.org">www.hbcseminary.org</a>
Sichuan, Patriotic Association	<a href="http://www.sctzj2006.com">www.sctzj2006.com</a>
Taiyuan, Diocese	<a href="http://www.tycatholic.cn">www.tycatholic.cn</a>
Taiyuan, Seminary	<a href="http://www.shanxixiuyuan.com">www.shanxixiuyuan.com</a>
Tangshan	<a href="http://www.tsjq.org">www.tsjq.org</a>

Tianjin	<a href="http://www.catholic.tj.cn">www.catholic.tj.cn</a>
Xi'an	<a href="http://www.rcxa.org">www.rcxa.org</a>
Xi'an, Caritas	<a href="http://www.caritasxa.org">www.caritasxa.org</a>
Xianxian (Cangzhou)	<a href="http://www.xianxiancc.org">www.xianxiancc.org</a>
Xingtai	<a href="http://www.ccxtd.cn">www.ccxtd.cn</a>
Xuanhua	<a href="http://www.xhchina.org">www.xhchina.org</a>
Yunnan	<a href="http://www.catholicyn.org">www.catholicyn.org</a>
Zhejiang	<a href="http://www.cczj.org">www.cczj.org</a>
Zhouzhi	<a href="http://www.cnzatholic.org">www.cnzatholic.org</a>

#### Other Relevant Catholic Sites

<http://catholicexchange.com>  
<http://catholic-liturgy.org.hk>  
<http://kkp.catholic.org.hk> (Diocesan newspaper *Gongjiao bao*)  
<http://windowp.org>  
[www.amityteachers.net](http://www.amityteachers.net)  
[www.cathlinks.org](http://www.cathlinks.org)  
[www.catholiccentre.org.hk](http://www.catholiccentre.org.hk)  
[www.catholic-liturgy.org.hk](http://www.catholic-liturgy.org.hk)  
[www.catholic.org.hk](http://www.catholic.org.hk)  
[www.catholic.org.tw/theology](http://www.catholic.org.tw/theology)  
[www.catholic.org.tw/witness](http://www.catholic.org.tw/witness)  
[www.catholicworld.info](http://www.catholicworld.info)  
[www.ccccn.org](http://www.ccccn.org)  
[www.cccjz.com](http://www.cccjz.com)  
[www.cecc.gov](http://www.cecc.gov)

This site contains the Annual Report of the China Commission of the US Congress, with detailed information on, among other things, political prisoners in the PR China and violations of human rights.

[www.chinacatholic.org](http://www.chinacatholic.org) (*Xinde / Faith*, Shijiazhuang)  
[www.chinesemartyrs.ca](http://www.chinesemartyrs.ca)  
[www.fides.org](http://www.fides.org)  
[www.hkcabi.org.hk](http://www.hkcabi.org.hk)  
[www.jlcatholicbible.com](http://www.jlcatholicbible.com)  
[www.kcg.org.tw](http://www.kcg.org.tw)  
[www.musicasacra.org.hk](http://www.musicasacra.org.hk)  
[www.pimehlc-org/homeen.html](http://www.pimehlc-org/homeen.html)

This is the recently reorganized website of the PIME missionaries of Milan, Italy, who have been working in Hong Kong since 1858. The site gives comprehensive information on the priests, laity, and activities.

[www.riccibase.com](http://www.riccibase.com)  
[www.sbofmhk.org](http://www.sbofmhk.org)  
[www.theology.org.hk](http://www.theology.org.hk)

[www.vatican.va/chinese/index.html](http://www.vatican.va/chinese/index.html)

New to the Vatican site are the Chinese translations of the *Code of Canon Law* (CIC) and of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Previous versions of the website already contained the translation of the Bible and some of the documents of the Second Vatican Council.

Additional information about interesting sites can be found at the website of the Holy Spirit Study Centre:

[www.hsstudyc.org.hk/en/en\\_link\\_mainland.html](http://www.hsstudyc.org.hk/en/en_link_mainland.html)

## Protestant Christians in China

According to the latest statistics, which can be found in the *BB* (pp. 190-212) and which were also compiled by Janice Wickeri,<sup>4</sup> there are in China 23,050,000 Protestants of various denominations, that is, 1.8% of the population. The data are based on surveys taken in recent years. Other articles speak of 34-36 million Protestants.

There are, however, still further, higher figures, which are compiled from various sources and which include, among others, groups which have absolutely no connection or only a loose connection with the Three-Self Patriotic Movement and with the China Christian Council. Thus, according to some articles, the Seventh Day Adventists in China have 4,000 communities with approximately 400,000 adherents.

67.5%, or 15.56 million, are counted as baptized Christians; 32.5%, or 7,490,000, are not yet baptized. 69.9% of the Protestants are women, an overwhelming majority. More than half (54.6%) of the Christians have only primary school education, only 2.6% have education at junior college level or above. The majority of Protestants, more than 60%, is from 35-64 years old. Most Protestant Christians live in East China and along the Yangtze.

The survey was taken in 54,360 households having a total of 211,750 persons in 2,718 villages and 321 districts. Households with no Christians in the family filled out only one questionnaire. Those households with Christians filled out a questionnaire for each Christian. Altogether, 63,680 questionnaires were handed out. 100% were returned. The survey questionnaire put the following 19 questions: 1) Number of persons in the family; 2) Gender; 3) Age; 4) Ethnic group; 5) Family status; 6) Educational level; 7) Profession; 8) Religious affiliation; 9) The age at which the person became a believer; 10) In which year was that? 11) Reasons for becoming a believer; 12) How did one come into contact with religious belief; 13) Frequency of participation in religious activities; 14) Location at which one participates in religious activities; 15) Attitude to other religions; 16) Attitude towards the tradition of "grave-sweeping" and *qingming*; 17) Are non-believers ready to be friends with believers? 18) Why do non-believers not believe? 19) Within the family are there believers of other religions? Janice Wickeri summarizes the results of the survey in the following points:

4 JW [Janice Wickeri], "Chinese Protestant Christians: Who, What, Where, Why – Findings of A Questionnaire Survey of Chinese Protestant Christian Households by the Institute of World Religions Research Group," in: *Amity News Service* 28 (2010) 10-12, pp. 6-8.

**Growth of Protestantism:** The Protestant churches have grown most rapidly since 1993. Believers from before 1965 make up only 3% of all Protestant Christians. 5.7% became Christians between 1966 and 1981; 17.9% between 1982 and 1992; 42.4% between 1992 and 2002; and 31% between 2003 and 2009. This means that 73.4% of Protestant Christians became believers since 1993.

**Regional distribution:** The regional distribution of Protestant Christians is as follows: East China 42.5%; Central China 29.2%; Northeast China 11.4%; Southwest China 6.6%; North China 4.9%; Northwest China 3.8 %; South China 1.6%.

**Motives for conversion:** 68.8% gave personal illness or the illness of a family member as the reason for becoming a Christian. In reality what is meant is the recovery from illness of oneself or of a family member. For 15% family traditions and influence were the crucial factor. 44% were introduced to Christianity by members of their immediate family or by other relatives. 46.5% were brought to Christianity by other believers or by friends.

**Participation in religious activities and registration:** 57.8% of Protestant Christians take part in religious activities “often”; 38.2% “sometimes” and only 3.9% admit that they do not take part. 67.9% go to registered churches and meeting points; 20.2% frequent unregistered churches and meeting points; 26.7% attend services in the homes of friends; 22.4% have services in their own homes. The survey shows that believers with a higher educational level generally go to the registered churches.

### Age of Protestant Christians

- 35–64: over 60%
- 14 and younger: 0.6%
- 15–24: 3.7%
- 25–34: 5.9%
- 35–44: 16.1%
- 45–54: 23.4%
- 54–64: 24.6%
- 65 and older: 25.7%

### Educational Level of Protestant Christians

- Primary school or less: 54.6%
- Junior middle school: 32.7%
- Senior middle school or technical middle school: 10.1%
- Junior College (*dazhuan*) and higher: 2.6%

**Age at time of conversion:** The survey shows that almost half of all Protestant Christians (44.4%) converted between the ages of 35 and 54. But there are regional differences. In Northeast China 54% converted between the ages of 35 and 54. In South China, however,

22.7% were younger than 14; 24.4% were between 25 and 34. This can be traced back to a greater influence of the family in South China. All told, 5.9% of Protestants were younger than 14 at the time of conversion; 9.5% were between 15 and 24; 16.5% between 25 and 34; 22.5% between 35 and 44; 21.9% between 45 and 54; 17% between 55 and 64; and 6.8% at age 65 or older.

**Attitude toward other religions:** 17.8% of Protestants regard other religions as “just as good as their own,” while 47.5% are of the opinion that other religions are not as good as Christianity.

**Attitude toward the “grave-sweeping” and toward the qingming festival:** The survey was trying to determine the extent of acceptance of traditional Chinese customs. 52.9% consider the “grave-sweeping” as a “traditional custom” and 57% believe that it is a form of “remembering the dead.” According to the census, most people identify with these traditional customs. 18.1%, for example, are of the opinion that these customs “protect the family.” However, 15.1% were convinced that these customs belong to the realm of “superstition.”

## The Orthodox Church in the PR China

According to statistics drawn from various sources, the total number of Orthodox Christians in all of China is somewhere between 8,000 and 20,000 members. In an interview on March 16, 2011, Metropolitan Hilarion, in charge of Foreign Affairs at the Moscow Patriarchate, said that about 15,000 Orthodox Christians live in the PR China, even though officially there are no Orthodox priests present. He named Beijing, Shanghai, Heilongjiang, Xinjiang, and Inner Mongolia as the main areas of the Orthodox Church (cf. *Interfax*, 16 March 2011). According to data compiled by Piotr Adamek SVD, of the Monumenta Serica Institute, Orthodox Christians are spread over the following areas of China:

Harbin (Heilongjiang)	120–200
Inner Mongolia	5,000–8,000
Xinjiang	3,000–9,000, of which
Urumqi	2,000–3,000
Kuldja/Yining	100–400
Dacheng/Czuguczak	2,000
Beijing	200–400
Shanghai	100
Hong Kong	150
Taiwan	200

Smaller communities of Orthodox Christians (15-20 persons) can be found in Tianjin, Guangzhou, and in Yunnan.

### I. Patriarchate of Constantinople

- 1 Bishop (Metropolitan of Hong Kong and Southeast Asia, Nektarios Tsilis)
- 2 Priests (1 in Hong Kong, 1 in Taiwan)

- 1 Church (Cathedral of St. Luke, Hong Kong: 704 Universal Trade Centre, 3 Arbuthnot Road, Central)
- 1 Chapel (Holy Trinity Community, Taipei: 4th Fl. No. 389-12 Shi-Yuen Road, Hsin-Dieng City)

## II. Moscow Patriarchate

- 2 Chinese clerics in Shanghai (Michel Wang Quansheng, 87, and Protodeacon Evangel Lu Yaofu, 83)
- 4 Russian priests visit China on occasion and celebrate the liturgy
- 15 Seminarians from the PR China are currently studying in Russia

### Churches

(a) accessible to Chinese:

St. Nicholas Church in Urumqi (Xinjiang)

St. Nicholas Church in Yining (Xinjiang)

Mother of God Church in Harbin (Heilongjiang)

St. Innocent of Irkutsk Church in Labdarin/Ergun (Inner Mongolia)

(b) accessible only to foreigners:

Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Hong Kong

Church of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Beijing (in the Russian embassy)

Community in Shanghai (Liturgies are celebrated in the Russian consulate)

House chapel in Guangzhou

Community in Shenzhen

Community of the Most Holy Trinity in Macau (since 2009; no chapel of its own)

### Internet Sites on the Orthodox Church in China

chinese.orthodoxy.ru – a webpage with information on the Orthodox Church in China.

No longer updated.

godaughter.com – a webpage of the Orthodox Church in Taiwan. In Chinese.

omhksea.org – a webpage of the Orthodox Metropolitan of Hong Kong and Southeast Asia (Patriarchate of Constantinople). In English and Greek.

orthodox.cn – a webpage of the Orthodox Fellowship of All Saints of China, USA, in collaboration with the Orthodox Brotherhood of Ss Peter and Paul in Hong Kong (Moscow Patriarchate). In Russian, English, and Chinese.

orthodox.tw (also: theological.asia and theology.cn) – a webpage of the Orthodox Church in Taiwan with material on theology and liturgy. In Chinese and partially in English.

orthodoxy.hk – a webpage of the Orthodox Brotherhood of Ss Peter and Paul in Hong Kong (Moscow Patriarchate). In Russian and English.

pravostok.ru – a webpage of the Orthodox Church in Russia, which sometimes carries information on the church in the Far East.

rusca.ru – a webpage of the Association for Russian Culture “Voskresenie” with information on the Orthodox Church in China. In Russian.

Blogs: There are also numerous blogs in Chinese, for example: orthodox.8bbs.cn (a Forum for Chinese members of the Orthodox Church); douban.com/group/orthodoxy (a Forum on Orthodox theology); johnsanidopoulos.com/search/label/Orthodoxy in Asia (Mystical theology. The Weblog of John Sanidopoulos).

## Miscellany on the Chinese Context

According to preliminary figures of the National Bureau for Statistics (NBS) the **population** of China at the end of 2010 has reached 1.341 billion. The number of farmers-turned-workers grew to 242.23 million. The number of rural workers working outside their home towns increased by 5.5% to 153.35 million. According to figures of the NBS, 26.88 million live in poverty. According to forecasts of the Chinese Bureau for Population and Family Planning, the number of Chinese will reach almost 1.4 billion by 2015, and 1.65 billion by 2033. Of these, more than 700 million will live in the cities. This means that for the first time in the history of China the urban population will outnumber those living in rural areas. More than 200 million persons will be over 60 years of age. At present, China's population is 2.5 times larger than it was at the time of the founding of the PR China in 1949. The number of those over 65 increased last year by 7.25 million to 166.14 million (that is, 12% of the total population).

By 2010, the **population of Tibet** reached the figure of 2.93 million inhabitants, which means that it has doubled in the last 50 years. In 1959 1.23 million persons lived in Tibet. The average life expectancy of Tibetans increased during that same period from 35.5 years to 67 years.

**Taiwan:** The birth ratio in Taiwan is 1.05 births per woman (in the PR China the figure stands at 1.8). This means that there has been a dramatic reversal from 1951, when the rate was 7.04 births per woman and from 1984 when the rate was 2.1 births per woman. In 2010 a total of 191,310 children were born in Taiwan (3.7% fewer than in the previous year). This reality will have social consequences in areas such as the number of children in schools. The Ministry of Education predicts that by 2021 more than 164 schools will have to be closed. It will also mean that the population is aging. Today, one of ten persons is 65 years old. In future, it will be one out of every three. The change in birth patterns is also reflected in an imbalance between the sexes. Annually 109 boys are born to every 100 girls (from this, the Ministry of Health concludes that each year approximately 4,000 baby girls are aborted). These processes will naturally also have a trickle down effect on care for the elderly.

**Children and women.** In the PR China approximately 3 million children are “hidden” every year, due to the fact that they were not born according to the “One Child Policy.” They



were a second or a third child. However, it is common for parents to be able to regularize things by paying local authorities an “administrative fine” of at least 2,000 Yuan. According to statistics of the Ministry of Public Security, the Chinese police between April 2009 and May 2010 freed 4,743 abducted children and 8,703 women. More than 12,000 perpetrators were incarcerated.

According to government statistics, of the 7.1 million inhabitants of **Hong Kong**, 846,800 persons are living below the **poverty level**.

In **Taiwan** the Ministry of the Interior estimates that the number of families living below the **poverty level** is approximately 108,000 – almost 10,000 more than in the previous year.

More than 22 million persons and more than 7.4 million hectares of land in China are plagued by continual **water shortages and drought**, especially in the Provinces of Guangxi, Guizhou, Yunnan, Sichuan, and in the City of Chongqing. There are also water distribution problems in the northern Provinces of Shanxi, Hebei, Gansu, and Ningxia. Official statistics show that almost half of the Chinese population does not have access to clean water, which causes almost 200 million illnesses and more than 60,000 deaths each year. Hydro dams built in China, such as the dam on the Lancang (Mekong) River, are the cause of water shortages farther down along the lower stretches of the river, that is, in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. In the region it is common to talk about “hijacking” the rivers.

The number of **HIV and AIDS cases**, according to activists in the PR China, could actually be ten times higher than official statistics indicate. The official numbers indicate more than 700,000 cases. Already three years ago, UNAids gave the number of HIV infected as more than 700,000 and of actual AIDS patients as 85,000. The official news agency *Xinhua* reported that according to official statistics of the Ministry of Health, there were in China 50,000 deaths among those infected with AIDS. The provinces hardest hit are Yunnan, Henan, Sichuan, Guangdong, Xinjiang, and Guangxi.

In **Hong Kong** there were 396 new known cases of **HIV infection** in 2010 (the previous year there had been 435). The total number of those infected with HIV is currently at 4,443 persons.

**Suicide.** According to statistics of the Taiwanese Ministry of Health for the year 2010, there were 4,063 incidents of suicide in Taiwan during 2009 (that is, approximately one every two hours!) – 65 less than in the previous year. The majority are males. The Ministry of Health runs a suicide prevention center which is open round the clock.

**Internet.** According to official Chinese statistics there are in China at least 384 million internet users, that is, 28.9% of the population. The annual increase amounts to 31.95 mil-

lion users. There are 3.23 million websites, and 233 million people telephone via internet. In addition, there are over 220 million bloggers in China.

According to their own statistics, in 2010 the **Chinese Communist Party** had 78 million members, an increase of 2 million, or 3%, since 2008. A report of *Renmin ribao* of June 28, 2010 says that in 2010 20 million applied for membership, but only 10% were accepted.

**NGOs** (Non-governmental organizations). According to statistics published by Deng Guosheng of Qinghua University, there are currently 425,000 registered NGOs in the PR China (there were only 4,500 in 1988) and approximately one to three million non-registered smaller and larger NGOs.

**Christians in Hong Kong**, according to a survey of the Church Renewal Movement, are characterized by weak social awareness. Of the 1,142 Protestant Chinese-language churches in Hong Kong only 20.6% have any kind of social outreach program, and social service stands at the end of a list of 20 themes of pastoral work. Most programs involve religious instruction (88.5%) and Bible (81.6%). Engagement for social purposes is generally prompted by current catastrophes and is temporary. The survey also shows that about half of the circa 600,000 Protestants take part in religious services each week. In 99.6% of the churches the service is conducted in Cantonese. Only 26 churches offer a service in English (2.1%). Nine other churches use Japanese, Korean, or another language (0.7%).

A small survey among the **Catholics in Hong Kong** (2,653 persons) has revealed that 30.6% did not do any Bible reading during the last year. 73.3% read the Bible only occasionally. As a reason for this, most of those questioned (43.1%) said that they were too busy. 800 admitted that they do not pray every day (28.1), again giving the excuse that they were too busy. 45% have not gone to confession in the last year, and 25.7% claim that it is not necessary since God is merciful.

In 2010 there were 22.85 million **university students in the PR China**, of whom 5 million came from poor families. Through the so-called “Green Channel,” that is, with state help and subsidies, 585,000 students were enrolled in a university. Every year families have to pay about 8,000 Yuan for the university studies of one child. For rural families this could mean an entire year’s income.

**Students from the PR China.** For the year 2011, Taiwanese universities and institutes of higher learning plan to admit approximately 2,000 students from the PR China. – During the 2009/2010 academic year, there were 128,000 Chinese students studying in the USA – a 30% increase over the previous year.

There are more than 300 “**Confucius Institutes**” spread over more than 90 countries of the world.

**Chinese in Africa:** The Chinese population in Madagascar and Mauritius amounts to more than 50,000 persons. The biggest Chinese group, about 300,000, lives in South Africa, with a “China Town” in Johannesburg. All in all, there are approximately one million mainland Chinese living in Africa. There are 50 Chinese-African “friendship schools” and also “Confucius Institutes” in 16 countries. The number of Africans studying in China has also risen to about 5,500 (especially in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Dalian, Nanjing, Wuhan, Xiamen, and Guangzhou).

There are currently about 54,000 Korean students in China. Overall there are more than 800,000 Koreans with residence in China, represented by an organization called “The Korean Community in China” (KCC). Koreans represent the largest group of foreigners in China. 150,000 live in Qingdao, 120,000 in Beijing, 80,000 in Shanghai, the rest are spread over various other cities. The Catholics among them are officially cared for pastorally by Korean priests.

**Surveillance.** Going by the statistics of various news agencies, the number of security or surveillance cameras mounted in different cities for the purpose of general surveillance is growing. In Urumqi there are about 60,000 cameras in the streets; in Guangzhou there are 2.2 million (also in connection with the Asian Games); in Chongqing 310,000, in Beijing 470,000, and in the smaller city of Xining 5,000. The total number of security cameras mounted in Shanghai in connection with Expo 2010 is not known. According to cautious estimates, Chinese cities are currently being watched by about seven million cameras. Others are being mounted or are in the planning.

## A Look at the Statistics of 100 Years Ago

A comparison of the statistics of today with those of 100 years ago is always instructive. The Chinese Mission, as *Die Katholischen Missionen* report for 1910 (No. 5, pp. 125ff.), was making gratifying progress, according to reports sent in to the editors. Here are but a few examples – concentrating this time on regional development, since it is the historical reason for the Catholic Church becoming rooted in these regions.

The Lazarist Mission (Vincentians, CM) included seven Apostolic Vicariates (North-, East-, West-Zhili, Nord-, East-, South Jiangxi and Zhejiang), and counted 286,000 Christians in 3,580 parishes. The journal notes a particularly strong growth of Christians in what is today the Diocese of Baoding, at that time North-Zhili. 520 sisters worked in the schools and hospitals, together with 2,300 men and women teachers. The mission had almost 1,500 churches, chapels, and mission stations. “Following the Boxer troubles, there has been a strong movement to Christianity. The Christians assembled, filled with new courage, and on top of the ruins more beautiful churches rose up than there had been before. In the individual mission areas, a much more cohesive organization was introduced.”

According to the same sources, there was an equally gratifying progress in the French Jesuit (SJ) missions of Jiangnan (No. 4, p. 96). The statistics describe 25 mission districts, 1,191 parishes, 184,364 baptized, 110,758 catechumens, 8,383 adult baptisms (of which

1,230 were deathbed baptisms), 6,517 infant baptisms, 1,680 marriages, 645 boys' schools with 15,226 pupils, 589 girls' schools with 10,216 pupils. 153 priests were laboring in the mission, of whom 24 were Chinese Jesuits and 41 were diocesan priests – all together 194 priests. “Thus far 103 Chinese priests have gone out from the mission seminary, of whom 26 were Jesuits. 7 work in North-Shandong, 5 in Hubei, and one each in Guangdong and Hong Kong. ... Of the 103, 5 completed their studies in Europe, 4 in the Holy Family Seminary in Naples, and one in the Propaganda in Rome” (No. 5, p. 26).

For the Apostolic Vicariate of Southeast-Zhili (today in the Province of Hebei) the journal noted (1910, No. 3, p. 73) the following: 65,024 Christians, 8,861 catechumens, 341 churches and chapels, 1,630 “outstations,” 2 major and minor seminaries with 87 students, 5 colleges with 613 pupils, 9 schools for virgins, 62 schools providing meals (*Kostschulen*) with 1,793 pupils, 253 elementary schools with 4,204 boys, 285 elementary schools for girls with 3,765 pupils. 71 priests (of whom 20 Chinese) worked in the mission. There were 17 brothers (5 Chinese), and 620 catechists. 2,927 adults had been baptized and 16,689 children.

The mission in South-Shandong, cared for by the Divine Word Missionaries (SVD), had a population 100 years ago of almost 12 million “heathen,” 51,941 baptized Christians, 42,051 catechumens, 178 churches and chapels as well as 1,006 “houses of prayer.” The personnel consisted of one bishop, 63 European and 13 Chinese priests, 12 lay brothers, 36 sisters (15 Franciscan Missionaries of Mary – FMM and 21 Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters – SSpS), 767 male catechists, and 341 female catechists. The mission had a major seminary with 80 seminarians, two catechetical schools with 10 male students and 95 female students, four middle schools for boys with 201 pupils, three state-recognized middle schools with 250 pupils, 48 small Chinese schools with 533 pupils, other schools with more than 3,700 pupils, seven orphanages caring for 557 children, one home for the aged with 72 “guests,” one hospital in Qingdao as well as a number of clinics with a “dispensary for the poor” (No. 6, p. 150).