



The
SOPA
2021 Awards

June 24, 2021

| 19:00 HKT



The
SOPA
2021 Awards



| facebook.com/hksopasia



| **SOPAAsia**



| **@Sopasia**
#SOPAAwards2021



With Special thanks to our Sponsor and Partners

Awards
Administrator

HKU Journalism

Platinum
Sponsor

Google
News Initiative

Public Relations
Partner

|Citigate Dewe Rogerson
Financial and Corporate Communications

Supporting
Partners



Sharanjit Leyl

Master of Ceremonies

Producer and Presenter BBC World News

A look back on the 2020 top news stories from Asia Pacific in pictures

Byron Perry

SOPA Chair

Coconuts Media Founder & CEO

Madeleine Lim

SOPA Editorial Chair

Senior Executive Editor, Asia Pacific,
Bloomberg News

Irene Jay Liu

Google News Lab Lead, APAC
Google News Initiative

Michelle Bachelet

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Speaker

Excellence in Reporting Women's Issues 卓越女性议题报道奖

Honoring original coverage of women in Asia

三名受访的跨性别女性分别为单亲妈妈、纪录片编导及生意人网红。她们都曾靠男儿身、女儿心，从变性到生活上经历种种波折，一路走来特别卖力，她们在各自的岗位努力向世人证明，不是所有跨性别者都要卖身讨生活，就像社会上的其他群体，她们也能有所成就。

Honorable Mention

BBC Chinese
BBC 中文

Title of Entry:
**Representing the crisis and victories of women
in East and Southeast Asia**

《助守在异乡》：揭开台湾家庭
印尼佣工的真实生活

Journalist:
Lara Owen

《助守在异乡》：揭开台湾家庭 印尼佣工的真实生活

林娜 (Lara Owens)
BBC 东亚女性议题记者

2020年6月16日



在台湾一所小公寓内，40岁的穆吉 (Muj) 在晚上8点左右完成她这一天的最后一项工作，将一名患有脑退化症和帕金森症 (Parkinson's disease, 帕金森症) 的妇人长者扶上床。她要为这位长者做一切的事情，包括帮她合上眼。之后，她会坐在那里抚摸她的头发，直到她入睡。这之后是她从清晨到现在第一次有了自己独处的时间，她开始梳洗。

这部印尼一部新制作的纪录片《助守在异乡》(Help is on the way) 当中令人难忘的一幕。它讲述的是像穆吉这样在台湾的印尼外佣的故事。

穆吉是安娜 (Ana) 的全职照顾者，她悉心准备安娜的膳食，并且喂她吃。“我把她当成我自己的母亲，我就用同样的态度来对待她。”她对BBC表示。



穆吉由妈妈照顾，负责照顾母亲的母亲，77岁的南电视台主持人安娜 (Ana)。

就像很多在台湾的外籍佣工一样，穆吉将两个年幼的小孩留在家乡，来这里赚取比在印尼做梦都赚不到的高薪。

“我丈夫有外遇之后，我靠自己能力照顾孩子，就做了这份工作。我是个男人——如果我不出钱工作，我就养不起我的小孩。我父母是农民，我没有其他选择，只能丢下孩子。”她说。

这部影片触及了劳工权益、规则含糊的招聘机制以及有关移民、签证和性别身份等等议题。



在印尼，有很多家庭佣工的培训中心。

“我们希望这部影片引出关于移民劳工和他们家庭的故事，让人们去考虑他们的工作状况，获取有优质服务的能力，以及让移民劳工更好地了解安全的移民法规。”制片人尼克·卡尔帕克吉安 (Nick Calpakdjan) 解释说。

纪录片讲的是印尼的故事，也是台湾的故事。

“我希望它能成为一座连接两岸观众的桥梁，印尼和台湾，雇主和雇员，因为如果这个桥梁不存在的话，就会像我们彼此不认识一样。”导演伊斯达尔·法赫米·卢比斯 (Ismael Fahmi Lubis) 说。

26岁的苏玛玛和21岁的穆吉各自的家都把所有的希望放在出国挣钱的她们身上。于是，她们在西爪哇省南安由县的一家招聘中介花了1500美元，给她们提供三个月的培训，包括清洁、护理工作，以及初级的普通话，并且帮她们在海外找工作。

她们被培养，被各种拉扯成为符合条件的样子。她们要测体重，以符合台湾的标准——护理工最多只能体重比她们重五公斤的人，而且她们还会被反复警告，不要逃走，不能怀孕。

这些女性显然背负着重担，知道她们的收入可能让一家人脱离贫困，但同时又要意识到，这可能需要她们付出巨大的个人代价。

有一幕是苏玛玛在镜头前崩溃落泪。她回忆起过去在马来西亚工作的出国经历，她在那里被告知不能在房子里祈祷，想要离开却又不能。不过，她坚定地要去台湾，挣够钱来让父母能够去夏加。



Honorable Mention

BBC Chinese
BBC 中文

《助守在异乡》：揭开台湾家庭 印尼佣工的真实生活

林琳 (Lara Owens)
BBC东亚女性议题记者

2020年6月16日



在台湾一所小公寓内，40岁的穆吉 (Muji) 在晚上8点左右完成她这一天的最后一项工作，将一名患有脑退化和帕金森症 (Parkinson's disease, 帕金森症) 的妇人长者扶上床。她要为这位长者做一切的事情，包括帮她合上眼。之后，她会坐在那里抚她的头发，直到她入睡。这之后是她从清晨到现在第一次有了自己独处的时间，她开始晚

Award for Excellence

Initium Media
端傳媒



跨性别女性的美丽与哀愁

张静 / 2020年08月03日 3:30 AM
黄静 / 2020年07月03日 11:50 PM
王 / 陈露 / 陈露 / 陈露



跨性别女性认同的困境。跨性别人必须与社会的压力、种族主义、性别歧视、贫困和暴力抗争。(图:陈露)

今天是国际妇女节。这个节日的目的是纪念女权运动，并庆祝妇女在政治、经济和社会等领域的贡献及成就。据许多年来都在这天讲述不同成功女性的故事。《星岛周刊》今年把焦点放在女性中的少数群体——跨性别女性——庆祝她们的成长，以及为家庭、社会和经济做出的贡献。

跨性别是指性别认同或性别表达与出生时的性别不符的统称。性别认同是指一个人认为自己身为男性、女性或其他性别的心理意识。例如，一个生理上是男性的人在心理上却认同自己为女性。

去年5月25日，世界卫生组织通过对《国际疾病分类》的第11次修订，将“性别认同障碍”从精神障碍的分类中剔除，更名为“性别不一致”，并重新归入“性健康相关条件”一栏。据《联合国新闻》报道，世卫组织性健康和性别平等专家伊伊解释，“性别不一致”是指一个人在心理上所感受到的性别与生理性别不同，将它从精神障碍的分类中剔除，是因为“我们对于这一状况有了更加清楚的认识，了解到这其实并非精神健康问题，继续将其归为精神障碍会导致对这一群体的污名化。”

三名受访的跨性别女性分别为单亲妈妈、纪录片编导及生意人阿红。她们都曾育有儿女，女儿从发育到生活上经历种种波折，一路走来特别吃力，她们在各自的岗位努力向世人证明，不是所有跨性别者都要卖身讨生活，就像社会上的其他群体，她们也能有所成就。

Honorable Mention

GMA News Online



The Children Are ALL Grown Up Now

Three little girls were spared in the safety of their own homes, by the people closest to them. As the girls' bodies rise above the girls' bodies, the girls have grown into women who barely get their voices — each of them — heard, making more of their voices.

(Names have been changed to protect the identities of the survivors. Details in this story may trigger survivors of sexual abuse.)

REPORT BY MARIA MAE
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARGARET FLANAGAN
HEAD PRODUCTION BY JENNIFER ANN BROWN

MAY 14, 2020

SHARE THIS STORY

Facebook Twitter

Rappler

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

To cross coronavirus border, prostituted women abused by cops first

MAY 21, 2020 2:55 AM PHT
RALY RIVAS



MANILA, PHILIPPINES

The coronavirus pandemic unmasks yet again the abusive relationship between the police and prostituted women. Local governments have not been of much help.

The police and prostituted women have a long, toxic history in this country. But the coronavirus pandemic has made it much worse for the women.

Armed with a gun, and now with more stringent rules at their disposal, some policemen have converted their way to get what they want from Filipina women who are forced to sell their bodies to survive.

As the lockdown drags, these women — and men — were left with little choice but to give in to their armed tormentors.

Here are some of their harrowing stories.

The World of Chinese

"I knew very well that I was not having a stomach problem, nor had I been in a bad mood, nor had I been too tired to study," wrote Xuannan, a Shanghai ninth-grader, in an eating disorders support group on Baidu Forum last summer. "I became abnormal due to other reasons—my unspeakable secret."

Since she was 9 years old, Xuannan would lock herself in her room every night after dinner. She would weigh herself, and then lie on the floor in tears. Like an estimated millions of Chinese, mostly young women, Xuannan struggled with anorexia nervosa, a psycho-physiological disorder that manifests in self-starvation in pursuit of a distorted body ideal.

Anorexia nervosa is the deadliest mental disorder in the world, according to the US National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders. Around 18 to 20 percent of those who suffer from it die within 20 years due to organ failure or suicide.

Along with other eating disorders like bulimia nervosa—characterized by cycles of binging and purging—and binge eating disorder, anorexia emerges from a confluence of genetic, psychological and environmental factors. Typically peaking in the teenage years, eating disorders disproportionately affect females to males at a ratio of 9 to 1, and often arise in families with authoritarian or distant parent-child relationships.

Despite its lethality, the disorder remains largely misunderstood in China, where mental disorders, especially eating disorders, are still a novel concept.

"For parents who grew up in decades characterized by poverty, starvation, and the Cultural Revolution, food and eating are so precious. Many can't understand how, in this era of economic prosperity, their children refuse to eat," says Joyce L. C. Ma, professor of social work at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and consulting family therapist at the Shenzhen Nanshan Hospital.

"There's no doubt they love their children. But some fathers who come to me hear their children for choosing to starve themselves," says Ma, who has counseled families regarding eating disorders for 20 years. "I tell them, your child has an illness, you can't beat your child, you have to help your child."

While eating disorders were virtually unheard of in Asia just decades ago, they have risen in the region at an alarming rate. Psychologists began recording instances in Japan in the 1970s, and then in Singapore and South Korea. The first reports of bulimia cropped up in Hong Kong in the 1990s.

There is evidence that eating disorders follow economic development. A 2000 study comparing female high school students in three cities found that rates of disordered eating and body dissatisfaction were highest in Hong Kong, followed by the coastal first-tier city of Shenzhen. It was lowest in the capital of Hunan province, Changsha, in central China.

As China's middle class ballooned, so has the prevalence of eating disorders. A 2013 study found that the rate of eating disorders among young female university students in the city of Wuhan were on par with those in developed countries. In a 2015 paper, Kathleen Pike, executive director of the Global



A public health campaign in China aims to raise awareness of eating disorders. The girl in the photo is a model for the campaign.

Honorable Mention

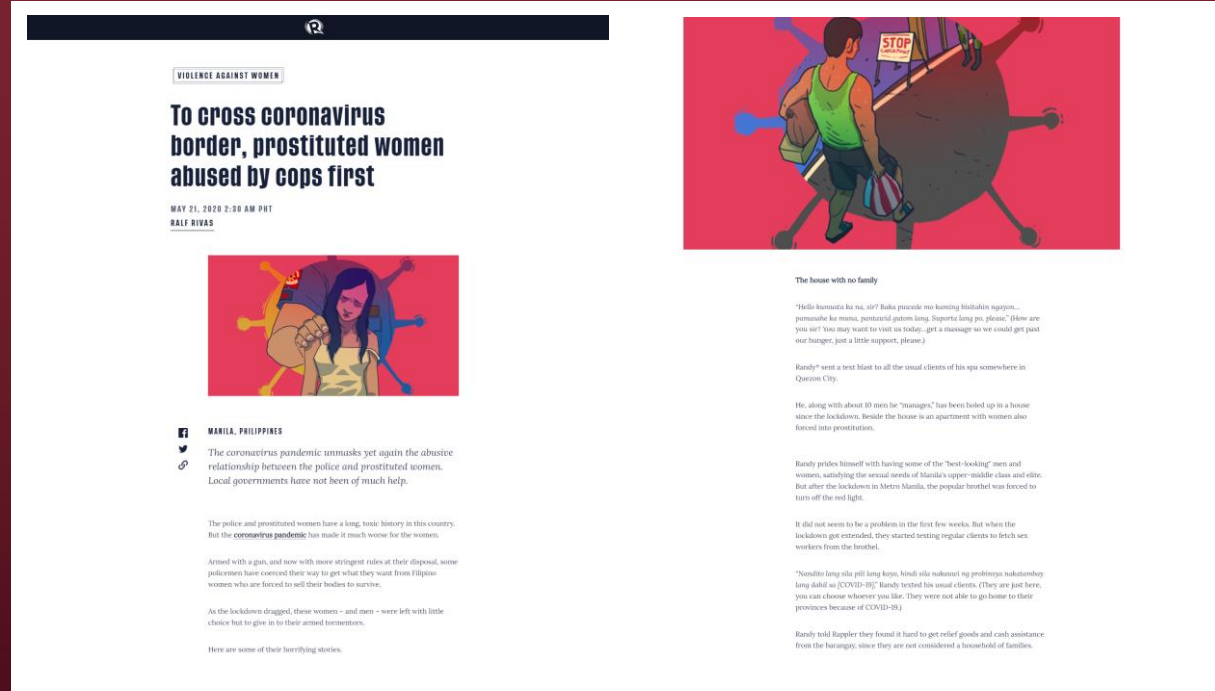
Rappler

Title of Entry:

Nowhere to run: To cross coronavirus border, prostituted women are abused by cops

Journalists:

Ralf Rivas and Michelle Abad



Award for Excellence

GMA News Online



The Children
Are ALL
Grown Up Now

Three little girls were raped in the safety of their own homes, by the people closest to them. As the girls' bodies now decay, the girls have grown into women who barely get their voices — each of them, heart-breaking, none of them consistent.

(Names have been changed to protect the identities of the survivors. Details in this story may suggest survivors of sexual abuse.)

WRITTEN BY MARLA MAHIG
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARGARET CLARE LARSEN
HEAD PRODUCTION BY JENNIFER ANN BOWEN

MAY 14, 2020

SHARE THE STORY
f

151

Honorable Mention

Rappler

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

To cross coronavirus border, prostituted women abused by cops first

MAY 21, 2020 2:55 AM PHT
RALY RIVAS



MARILIA, PHILIPPINES

The coronavirus pandemic unmasks yet again the abusive relationship between the police and prostituted women. Local governments have not been of much help.

The police and prostituted women have a long, toxic history in this country. But the coronavirus pandemic has made it much worse for the women.

Armed with a gun, and now with more stringent rules at their disposal, some policemen have converted their way to get what they want from Filipina women who are forced to sell their bodies to survive.

As the lockdown drags, these women — and men — were left with little choice but to give in to their armed tormentors.

Here are some of their harrowing stories.

The World of Chinese

"I knew very well that I was not having a stomach problem, nor had I been in a bad mood, nor had I been too tired to study," wrote Xuannuan, a Shanghai ninth-grader, in an eating disorders support group on Baidu Forum last summer. "I became abnormal due to other reasons—my unspeakable secret."

Since she was 9 years old, Xuannuan would lock herself in her room every night after dinner. She would weigh herself, and then lie on the floor in tears. Like an estimated millions of Chinese, mostly young women, Xuannuan struggled with anorexia nervosa, a psycho-physiological disorder that manifests in self-starvation in pursuit of a distorted body ideal.

Anorexia nervosa is the deadliest mental disorder in the world, according to the US National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders. Around 18 to 20 percent of those who suffer from it die within 20 years due to organ failure or suicide.

Along with other eating disorders like bulimia nervosa—characterized by cycles of binging and purging—and binge eating disorder, anorexia emerges from a confluence of genetic, psychological and environmental factors. Typically peaking in the teenage years, eating disorders disproportionately affect females to males at a ratio of 9 to 1, and often arise in families with authoritarian or distant parent-child relationships.

Despite its lethality, the disorder remains largely misunderstood in China, where mental disorders, especially eating disorders, are still a novel concept.

"For parents who grew up in decades characterized by poverty, starvation, and the Cultural Revolution, food and eating are so precious. Many can't understand how, in this era of economic prosperity, their children refuse to eat," says Joyce L. C. Ma, professor of social work at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and consulting family therapist at the Shenzhen Nanshan Hospital.

"There's no doubt they love their children. But some fathers who come to me bear their children for choosing to starve themselves," says Ma, who has counseled families regarding eating disorders for 20 years. "I tell them, your child has an illness, you can't bear your child, you have to help your child."

While eating disorders were virtually unheard of in Asia just decades ago, they have risen in the region at an alarming rate. Psychologists began recording instances in Japan in the 1970s, and then in Singapore and South Korea. The first reports of bulimia cropped up in Hong Kong in the 1990s.

There is evidence that eating disorders follow economic development. A 2000 study comparing female high school students in three cities found that rates of disordered eating and body dissatisfaction were highest in Hong Kong, followed by the coastal first-tier city of Shenzhen. It was lowest in the capital of Hunan province, Changsha, in central China.

As China's middle class ballooned, so has the prevalence of eating disorders. A 2013 study found that the rate of eating disorders among young female university students in the city of Wuhan were on par with those in developed countries. In a 2015 paper, Kathleen Pike, executive director of the Global



A public health campaign in China aims to raise awareness of eating disorders. The banners in the background read: 'Perfect Body Type', 'Devil's Body', and 'Challenge from the People'.

Award for Excellence

GMA News Online

Title of Entry:

The Children are All Grown Up Now

Journalists:

Kaela Malig, Margaret Claire Layug,
Jannielyn Ann Bigtas

Judges' Comments:

An ambitious and evocative account of the impact of incest and sexual violence on children. Sensitively told. The piece makes good use of art, includes a content warning and provides resources for fellow survivors.



The Children
Are ALL
Grown Up Now

These little girls were raped in the safety of their own homes, by the people closest to them. As the years passed into decades, the girls have grown into women who barely tell their stories — each of them heartbreaking, aware of their uncertain futures.

(Names have been changed to protect the identities of the survivors. Details in this story may trigger memories of sexual abuse.)

REPORT BY KAELE MALIG
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARGARET CLAIRE LAYUG
WEB PRODUCTION BY JANNIELYN ANN BIGTAS

MAY 14, 2021

SHARE THIS STORY

Twitter Facebook Email



I Am Regal

Overgrown adults, there were games.

The game had no rules, except one: don't tell. It was a game of hide-and-seek, a game of secrets, a game of lies. It was a game of survival, a game of staying silent, a game of staying invisible. It was a game of staying alive.

She was just four years old at the time, and even though she barely understood anything, her words made her understand the most important rule of the game: Don't ever tell another soul.

*The names and details in this story are fictional. The events and characters are based on the experiences of survivors of sexual abuse.

Honorable Mention

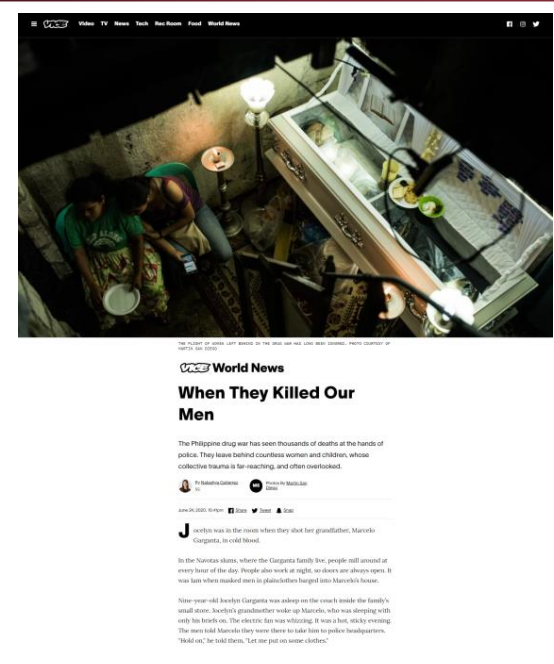
Al Jazeera English



The Washington Post



VICE World News



Honorable Mention

Al Jazeera English

Title of Entry:

India's Highway of Shame

Journalists:

Drew Ambrose, Rhiona-Jade Armont, Savitri Choudhury, Ashish Malhotra, Nick Olle



Honorable Mention

Al Jazeera English

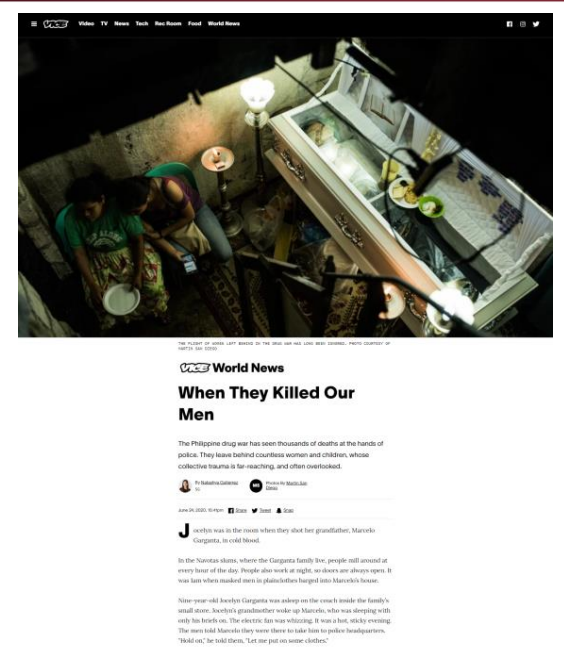


The Washington Post



Award for Excellence

VICE World News



Award for Excellence

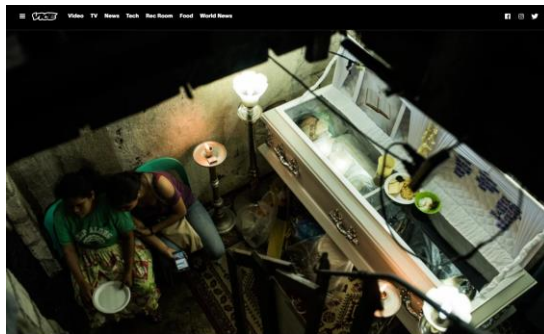
VICE World News

Title of Entry:
When They Killed Our Men

Journalist:
Natashya Gutierrez

Judges' Comments:

A detailed and important piece of journalism which showed the impact on women of the people left behind by Duterte's violent anti-drug war. A lot of work went into tracking down the relatives and piecing together their stories.



VICE World News **When They Killed Our Men**

The Philippine drug war has seen thousands of deaths at the hands of police. They leave behind countless women and children, whose collective trauma is far-reaching, and often overlooked.

by Natashya Gutierrez
Produced by Natashya Gutierrez

JAN 24, 2021, 10:00 PM | [Watch](#) | [Like](#) | [Share](#) | [Print](#)

Jocelyn was in the room when they shot her grandfather, Marcelo Gargano, in cold blood.

In the Naraina district, where the Gargano family live, people still avoid at every hour of the day. People also work at night, as darkness is always open. It was late when masked men in plainclothes barged into Marcelo's house.

Nine-year-old Jocelyn Gargano was asleep on the couch inside the family's small store. Jocelyn's grandmother woke up Marcelo, who was sleeping with only his back on. The electric fan was whirring. It was a hot, sticky evening. The men told Marcelo they were there to take him to police headquarters. "Hold on," he told them. "Let me put on some clothes."



These cases, I was taught that is relevant.

But even after the thousands of women since security, most women didn't see justice. Most women didn't see justice. Most women didn't see justice.

Jocelyn's father and Marcelo's eldest son, 27-year-old Joseph, was also outside. Some of the family members were allowed to approach Marcelo's corpse until hours of the Crime Operations (COCC) arrived. "That's my Papa!" he yelled at the cops. "That's my Papa!"

They took Jocelyn away, too. But instead of taking her to the car with the rest of the men who had been rounded up, they put her in a separate motorcycle. He was sandwiched by two men in civilian clothing. They said they would be taking her to the headquarters, too.

It was July 25, 2016, the early days of the drug war. Just three weeks since Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte was inaugurated. Over the course of two days, about 100 suspects died across the city, including Marcelo. About 20 men were taken to the police headquarters in Naraina that evening for investigation, in what became routine practice by cops in anti-drug operations across the country.

In a TV interview, Naraina city police chief Senior Superintendent Daniel Sinsig defended his task force. He said Marcelo was a drug suspect. His cops knocked, he said, but instead of cooperating, Marcelo got angry, pulled out a gun, and started shooting at them. Asked why his men chose to kill rather than simply neutralize Marcelo, Sinsig's face remained stoic.

"It was hard for them to decide where to shoot since the space was tight," he said. "There were doors blocking their view, and they had a tough time shooting accurately since they were aiming his bullets."

The family denies this version of the story. Marcelo did have a drug-related case from his hometown in Basil from a few years back, they admit, but he had stopped using illegal substances. Besides, the police didn't even search him before they started shooting, the family says.

In the months that followed, Sinsig's argument — that his cops shot in self-defense and that drugs were found on the suspect — became an eerily common narrative and justification for the thousands of police killings that followed. Witnesses and families repeatedly refused the claims.

Despite the fact that Jocelyn and her grandmother witnessed Marcelo's

Excellence in Journalistic Innovation 卓越新闻报道创新奖

Honoring the work that uses new or emerging digital tools to deliver news content in an innovative manner and/or encourages audience engagement with the news.

Honorable Mention

United Daily News
聯合報

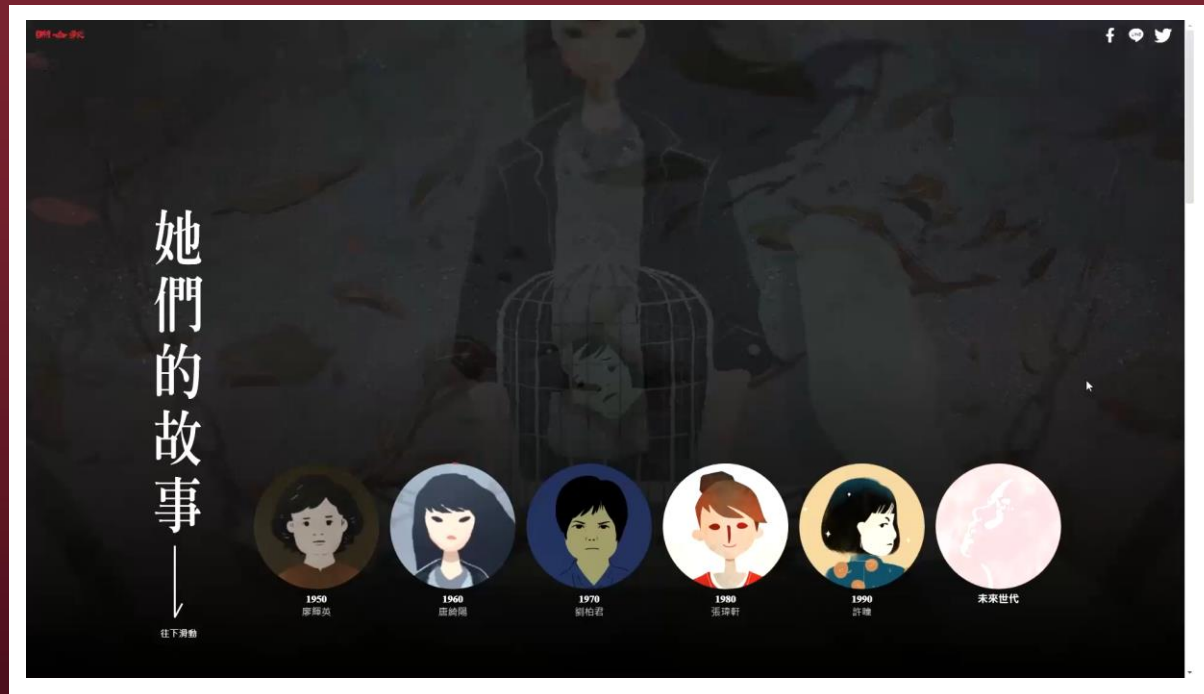
Title of Entry:

Her Story
她們的故事

Journalists:

Hsu Wei-Lin, Hsieh Wen-Chun, Hsu Ia-Wun,
Huang Wei-Ting, Chang Hsin-Tzu, Lin Guan-Yu,
Chou Jung-Sheng, Tu Chien-Tsung, Lin Hao-Yi,
Lin Po-Tung, Yu Cheng-Han, Chi Hsiang-Ju,
Tung Ku-Ying, Lin Hsiu-Tzu

許瑋琳、謝汶均、許藹雯、黃微庭、張心慈、
林冠宇、周融聖、杜建重、林濔一、林伯東、
余承翰、季相儒、董谷音、林秀姿



READr



Award for Excellence

The Reporter
報導者



Honorable Mention

United Daily News
聯合報



Award for Excellence

The Reporter
報導者

Title of Entry:

25 Years Controversy over Tainan Urban District Railway Underground Project
從租用到迫遷——南鐵東移，25年政策與地貌的轉變

Journalists:

Yu-Yo Lin, Roger Wen-Ting Yen, Fu-Nien Tsao,
Tzu-Lei Yang, Hao-Hsiang Ko, Chung-Jen Yu, Gina Lin,
Yu-Chen Huang, DaDa Wu, Shih-Yun Chang,
Chin-Hsuan Hung, Szu-Hua Chen, Hui-Chun Yang,
Po-Chun Ho

記者：林雨佑、嚴文廷、曹馥年

攝影：楊子磊

數位製作：柯皓翔

工程：余崇任

設計：林珍娜、黃禹禎、吳政達

編輯：張詩芸、洪琴宣、陳思樺

監製：楊惠君、何柏均



Award for Excellence

The Reporter
報導者

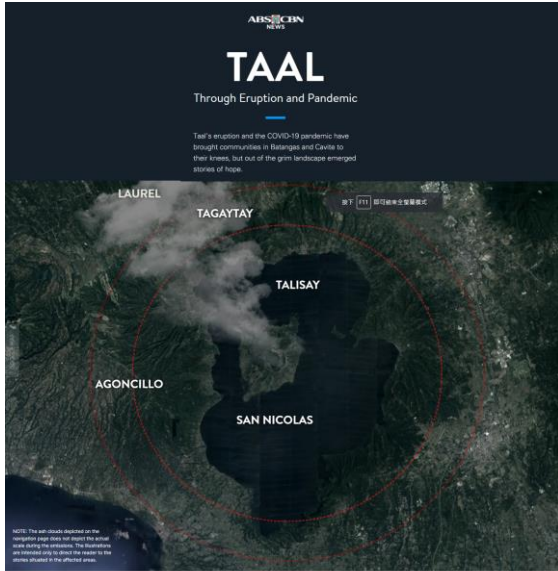
Judges' Comments:

Integration of multi-modal data to tell a story about urban development and skillful use of geo-locational application.

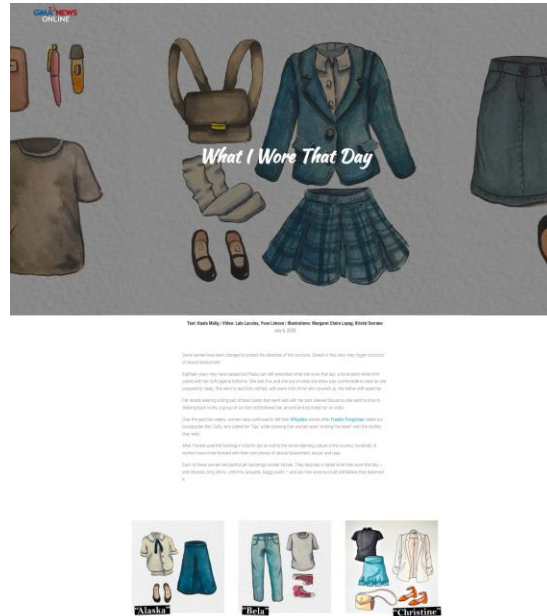


Honorable Mention

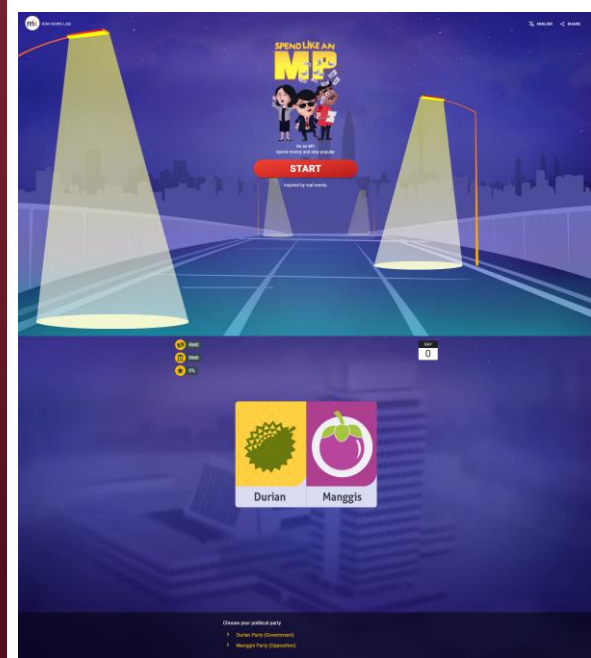
ABS-CBN News



GMA News Online



Malaysiakini



Honorable Mention

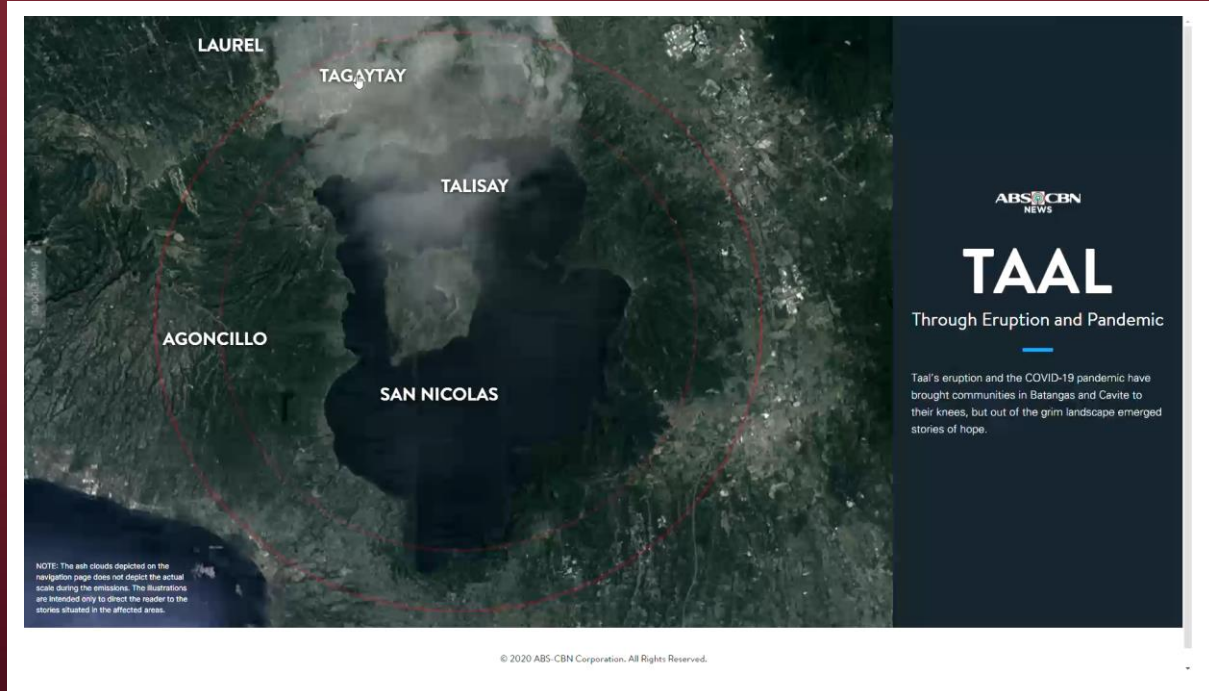
ABS-CBN News

Title of Entry:

TAAL: Through Eruption and Pandemic

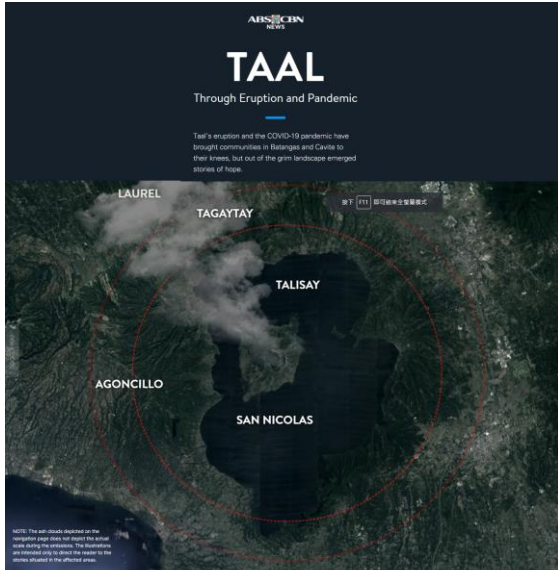
Journalists:

Katrina Domingo, Jonathan Cellona



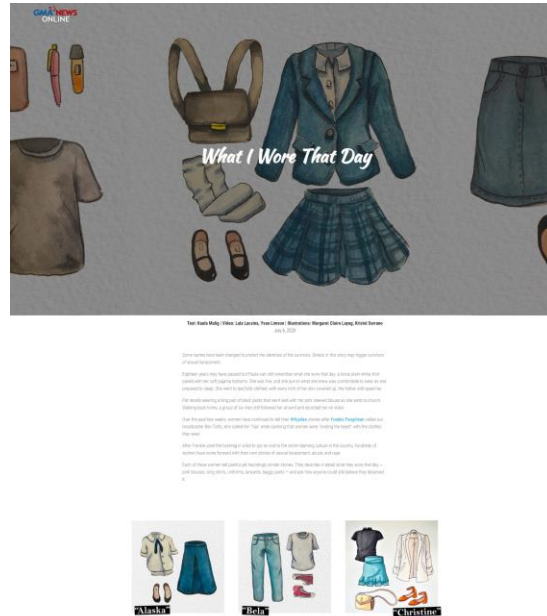
Honorable Mention

ABS-CBN News

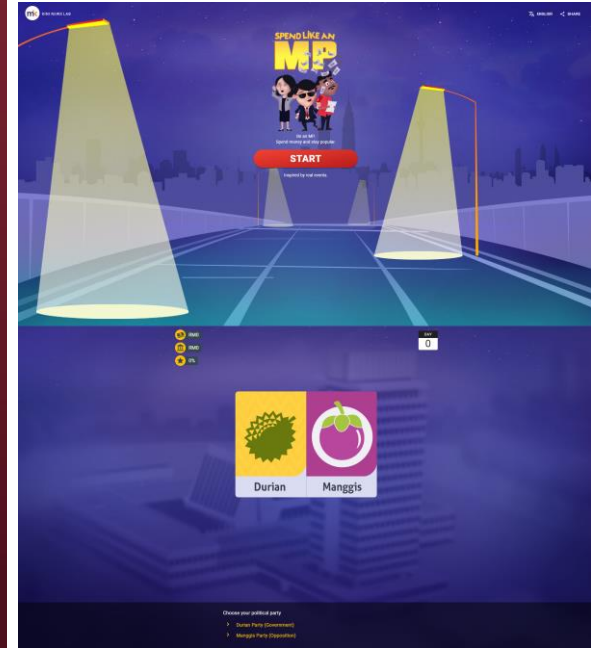


Award for Excellence

GMA News Online



Malaysiakini





Bloomberg

Bloomberg

The Best and Worst Places to Be as Variants Outpace Vaccinations

By Jonathan Harris, Rachel Chang and Noah Vahry
2021-04-12 12:11

Facebook Twitter LinkedIn

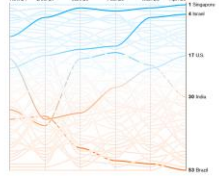
A combination of snuffing the virus and rolling out vaccines at one of the fastest rates in Asia saw Singapore top Bloomberg's Covid Resilience Ranking this month, dethroning New Zealand for the first time in our measure of the best and worst places to be in the pandemic era.

The tiny city state has gotten locally transmitted cases down to near zero thanks to border curbs and a strict quarantine program, allowing citizens to largely go about their everyday lives, even attending concerts and going on cruises. At the same time, Singapore has already administered vaccines equivalent to more than half of its population, an aspect of pandemic control that other virus eliminators like New Zealand, Australia and Taiwan are lagging on.

But if there's one lesson from April, it's that vaccination alone isn't ending the pandemic.

Changing Landscape

Nations shifts in the Covid Resilience Ranking %



Places like France and Chile, where people have good access to them, fell in the Ranking as outbreaks swelled—fueled by mutations of the virus that increasingly have their source in the developing world, where vaccines are in short supply and mitigation efforts are faltering. While more than one billion doses have now been administered globally, not enough are going to poorer nations like India, which are driving global infection levels to new records.

Norway has this placed out more worryingly than in Finland and Brazil, which dropped to the bottom two spots among the 53 economies ranked. Mexico, which has been last since the Ranking debuted in November, inched up in April for the first time, to 46th, as its virus testing improved.

Reuters

REUTERS GRAPHICS



Assessing Australia's "ecological disaster"

A Reuters analysis of more than 1,400 species highlights those hardest hit by bushfires

By Simon Stiles, Maria Khawar and Maria Alexander

JANUARY 21, 2020

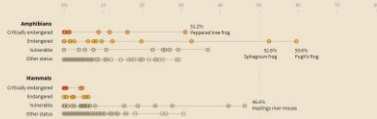
Australian governments have called the bushfires crisis "an ecological disaster" that threatens several species, such as koalas and rock wallabies.

A Reuters analysis of data since Sept. 1 shows the habitats of hundreds of Australia's land mammals, amphibians and reptiles have suffered from the fires.

Many species, including some that are critically endangered, have seen large swaths of their environment destroyed. Some of these species have had the majority of their territory wiped out, raising fears of extinction.

Percentage of habitat with fire activity

Based on satellite detected bushfire data from Sept. 1, 2019 to Jan. 15, 2020. Annual bushfires of limited area may vary. Dark dots represent a species.



Honorable Mention

The Wall Street Journal

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



High-Speed Trains, International Flights: How the Coronavirus Spread

China is far more mobile than it was during the SARS outbreak in 2003, giving new viruses a ready route to the world at large.

By Jonathan Stiles, Andrew Jones and Ross de Saussure
Published March 5, 2020 at 5:30 a.m. ET

When a new coronavirus appeared around a seafood market in the Chinese city of Wuhan, it didn't take long to get under the skin of the rest of the world.

The city so central China has direct flights to Tokyo, New York and Paris—more than 50 destinations in all. High-speed rail lines branch out to all directions. Busyness in the city, before the Chicago of China, was never placated then on.

Wuhan was a major hub of the region's transportation, and Chinese domestic income since the SARS epidemic in 2003—and so was the new virus. While most infections are still in the city's lower provinces of Hubei, more than 90,000 cases in more than 70 countries have been confirmed.

Riding the Rails

China has become more mobile at every possible way in the past 17 years. Its high-speed rail system extends nearly 21,000 miles, the longest in the world. People also travel faster speeds on the road than between major cities on trains that top 200 miles an hour.

High-speed railway development, by year



Honorable Mention

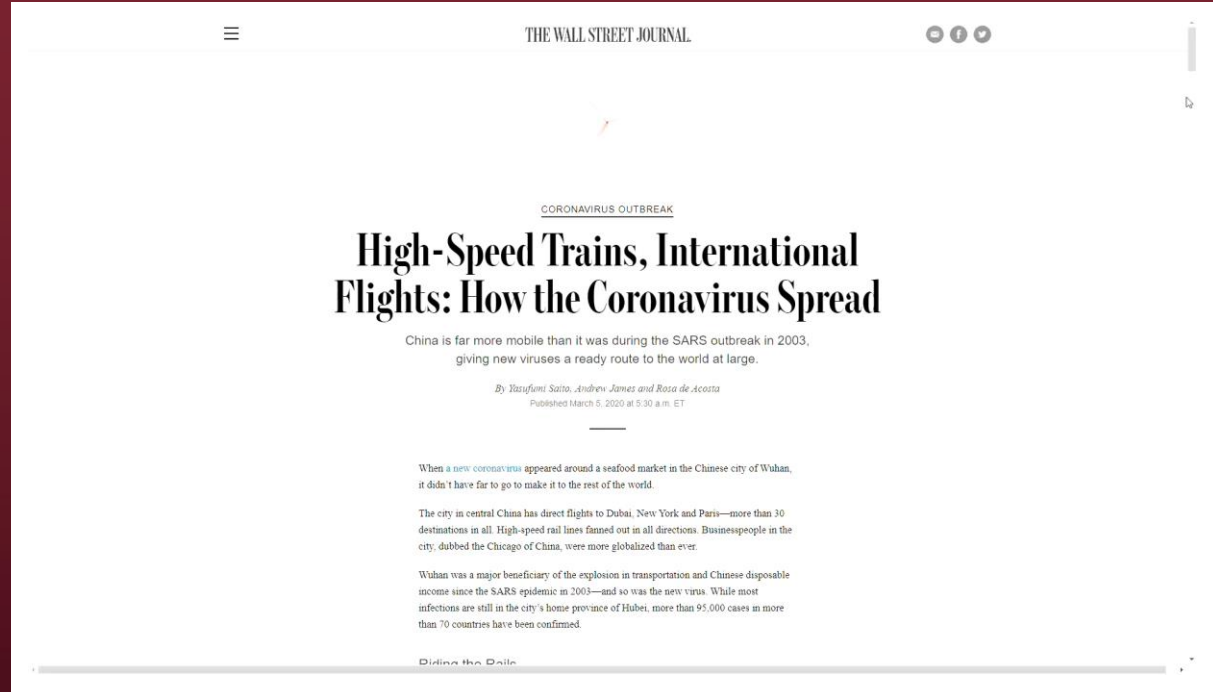
The Wall Street Journal

Title of Entry:

How the Coronavirus Spread

Journalists:

Yasufumi Saito, Andrew James and Rosa de Acosta



Award for Excellence

Bloomberg

Bloomberg

The Best and Worst Places to Be as Variants Outpace Vaccinations

By Jonathan Harris, Rachel Chang and Noah Vahry
2021-04-12 12:11

Facebook Twitter LinkedIn

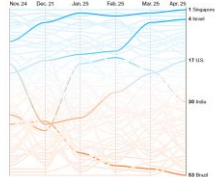
A combination of snuffing the virus and rolling out vaccines at one of the fastest rates in Asia saw Singapore top Bloomberg's Covid Resilience Ranking this month, dethroning New Zealand for the first time in our measure of the best and worst places to be in the pandemic era.

The tiny city state has gotten locally transmitted cases down to near zero thanks to border curbs and a strict quarantine program, allowing citizens to largely go about their everyday lives, even attending concerts and going on cruises. At the same time, Singapore has already administered vaccines equivalent to more than a fifth of its population, an aspect of pandemic control that other virus eliminators like New Zealand, Australia and Taiwan are lagging on.

But if there's one lesson from April, it's that vaccination alone isn't ending the pandemic.

Changing Landscape

Nations shifts in the Covid Resilience Ranking



Places like France and Chile, where people have good access to them, fell in the Ranking as outbreaks swelled—fueled by mutations of the virus that increasingly have their source in the developing world, where vaccines are in short supply and mitigation efforts are faltering. While more than one billion doses have now been administered globally, not enough are going to poorer nations like India, which are driving global infection levels to new records.

Northern Italy has played out more worryingly than in Poland and Brazil, which dropped to the bottom two spots among the 53 economies ranked. Mexico, which has been last since the Ranking debuted in November, inched up in April for the first time, to 46th, as its virus testing improved.

Reuters

REUTERS GRAPHICS



Assessing Australia's "ecological disaster"

A Reuters analysis of more than 1,400 species highlights those hardest hit by bushfires

By Simon Stiles, Maria Khramova and Maria Alexandru

JANUARY 21, 2020

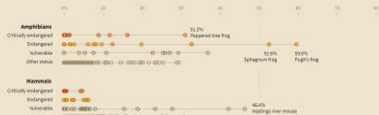
Australian governments have called the bushfires crisis "an ecological disaster" that threatens several species, such as koalas and rock wallabies.

A Reuters analysis of data since Sept. 1 shows the habitats of hundreds of Australia's land mammals, amphibians and reptiles have suffered from the fires.

Many species, including some that are critically endangered, have seen large swaths of their environment destroyed. Some of these species have had the majority of their territory wiped out, raising fears of extinction.

Percentage of habitat with fire activity

Based on satellite detected bushfire data from Sept. 1, 2019 to Jan. 15, 2020. Annual bushfires of limited area may vary. Dark dots represent a species.



Honorable Mention

The Wall Street Journal

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

High-Speed Trains, International Flights: How the Coronavirus Spread

China is far more mobile than it was during the SARS outbreak in 2003, giving new viruses a ready route to the world at large.

By Jonathan Stiles, Andrew Jones and Ross de Souza
Published March 5, 2020 at 5:30 a.m. ET

When a new coronavirus appeared around a seafood market in the Chinese city of Wuhan, it didn't take long to get under the skin of the rest of the world.

The city so central China has direct flights to Tokyo, New York and Paris—more than 50 destinations in all. High-speed rail has linked out to all directions. Busyness in the city, before the Chicago of China, was never placated then on.

Wuhan was a major hub of the region's air transportation, and Chinese domestic income since the SARS epidemic in 2003—and so was the new virus. While most airlines are still in the city's lower portion of 100, more than 10,000 cases in more than 70 countries have been confirmed.

Riding the Rails

China has become more mobile at every possible way in the past 17 years. Its high-speed rail system crisscrosses nearly 21,000 miles, the longest in the world. People also travel faster speeds on the road than between major cities on trains that top 200 miles an hour.

High-speed railway development, by year



Award for Excellence

Bloomberg

Title of Entry:

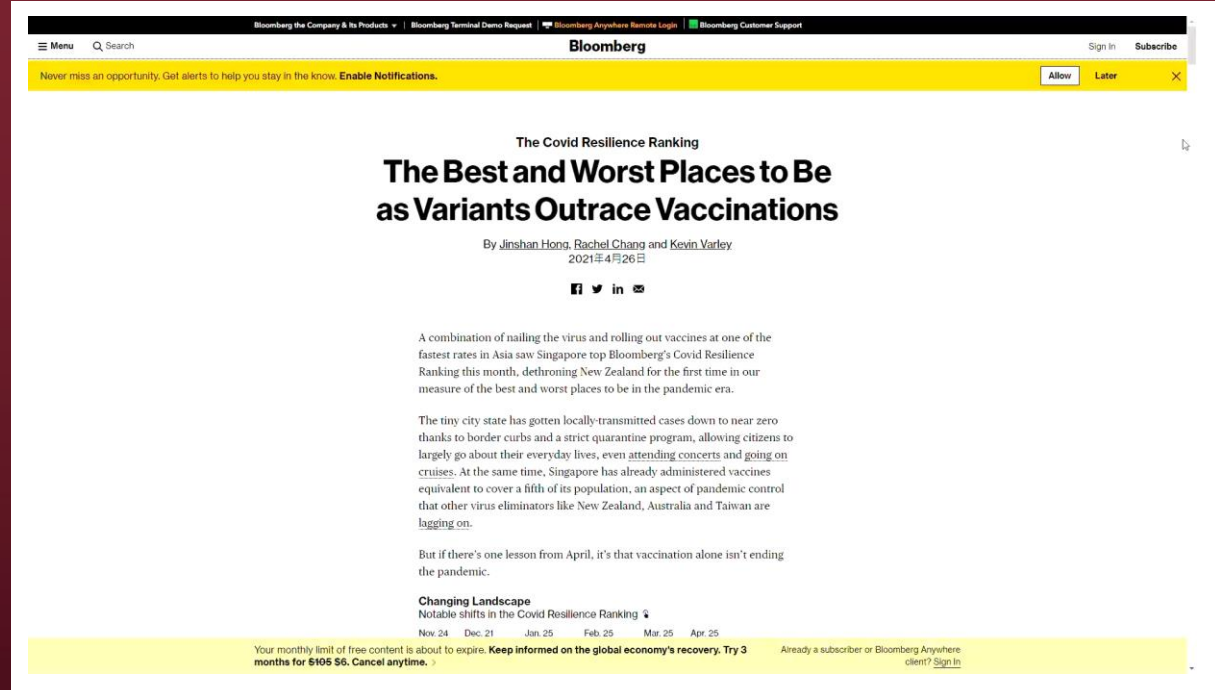
The Covid Resilience Ranking

Journalists:

Jinshan Hong, Rachel Chang, Kevin Varley

Judges' Comments:

Clever idea that clearly provides a public service. It was compelling how some countries ranked so highly on certain Covid data points but stumbled on others.



The screenshot shows the Bloomberg website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Bloomberg the Company & Its Products', 'Bloomberg Terminal Demo Request', 'Bloomberg Anywhere Remote Login', and 'Bloomberg Customer Support'. Below this is a search bar and a 'Menu' button. A yellow banner below the navigation bar says 'Never miss an opportunity. Get alerts to help you stay in the know. Enable Notifications.' with 'Allow' and 'Later' buttons. The main article is titled 'The Covid Resilience Ranking' and 'The Best and Worst Places to Be as Variants Outpace Vaccinations' by Jinshan Hong, Rachel Chang, and Kevin Varley, dated 2021年4月26日. The article text discusses Singapore's top ranking in Bloomberg's Covid Resilience Ranking, dethroning New Zealand. It mentions that Singapore has a strict quarantine program and high vaccination rates. The article also notes that Singapore has already administered vaccines equivalent to cover a fifth of its population. At the bottom, there's a 'Changing Landscape' section with a chart titled 'Notable shifts in the Covid Resilience Ranking' showing data from Nov 24 to Apr 25. A footer banner at the bottom states: 'Your monthly limit of free content is about to expire. Keep informed on the global economy's recovery. Try 3 months for \$105 \$6. Cancel anytime.' and 'Already a subscriber or Bloomberg Anywhere client? Sign In'.

Excellence in Video Reporting 卓越视频报道奖

Honoring the work that demonstrates excellence in short-form video news reports. Entries should not exceed ten minutes in length. Virtual reality and 360-degree video are eligible to enter.

Honorable Mention

Apple Daily 蘋果日報

蘋人誌：銅鑼灣書店明日台北重開
不屈膝 再出發 林榮基

麥斯博愛 HKTV 2020.04.24 02:20



台灣銅鑼灣書店的小露台是林榮基的「身心靈花園」，花園浪花草、煙灰盅和電飯煲安靜地等待下一個任務。林榮基有時會站在窗前望遠，點一根煙，抽一口，輕煙四散，不過，他總會把露台的大門關上，因為一颳風，煙味隨時從露台飄入書店再經過走廊溜進鄰居單位裏。歷史教訓是活生生的：「如果嗆煙吹咕去喇邊，人總會投訴。」香港鐵漢流落台灣計劃重整旗鼓，不斷適應異鄉的怪怪怪怪。

記者：盧燕儀 周凱旋 朱熾慈 沈君帆
攝影：夏家朗 彭志行 張貴翔 沈君帆 梁建裕

Initium Media 端傳媒

【重磅影片】制裁風暴，行業積弱，誰能拯救香港製造？

一集四年電影，一集主題與國際化的香港製造，一集香港製造的國際化問題，他們在國際化的「香港製造」，到底可以發揮什麼作用？



香港製造——一集四年電影，一集主題與國際化的香港製造。



端傳媒

2021年4月

香港製造

2021年4月

香港製造

2021年4月

香港製造

2021年4月

香港製造

2021年4月

香港製造

2021年4月

香港製造

Initium Media 端傳媒

重磅影片：超過16000枚催淚彈，給香港留下了什麼？

「催淚彈的設計，既為了讓市民在一個短時間內，它會讓你感覺到像被炸彈炸死，你必須在短時間內逃出來。」



催淚彈



端傳媒

2021年4月

催淚彈

2021年4月

催淚彈

2021年4月

催淚彈

2021年4月

催淚彈

2021年4月

催淚彈

Honorable Mention

Initium Media

端傳媒

Title of Entry:

Hit hard by sanctions and structural weaknesses, how can Hong Kong manufacturers survive?

制裁風暴，行業積弱，誰能拯救香港製造？

Journalists:

Lin Kexin, Stanley Leung, Lam Chun Tung, Irene Chan

林可欣、梁詩聰、林振東、陳倩兒



提供更佳的體驗。

Award for Excellence

Initium Media

端傳媒

Title of Entry:

**What's Left of Hong Kong After Over 16000
Tear Gas Bombs?**

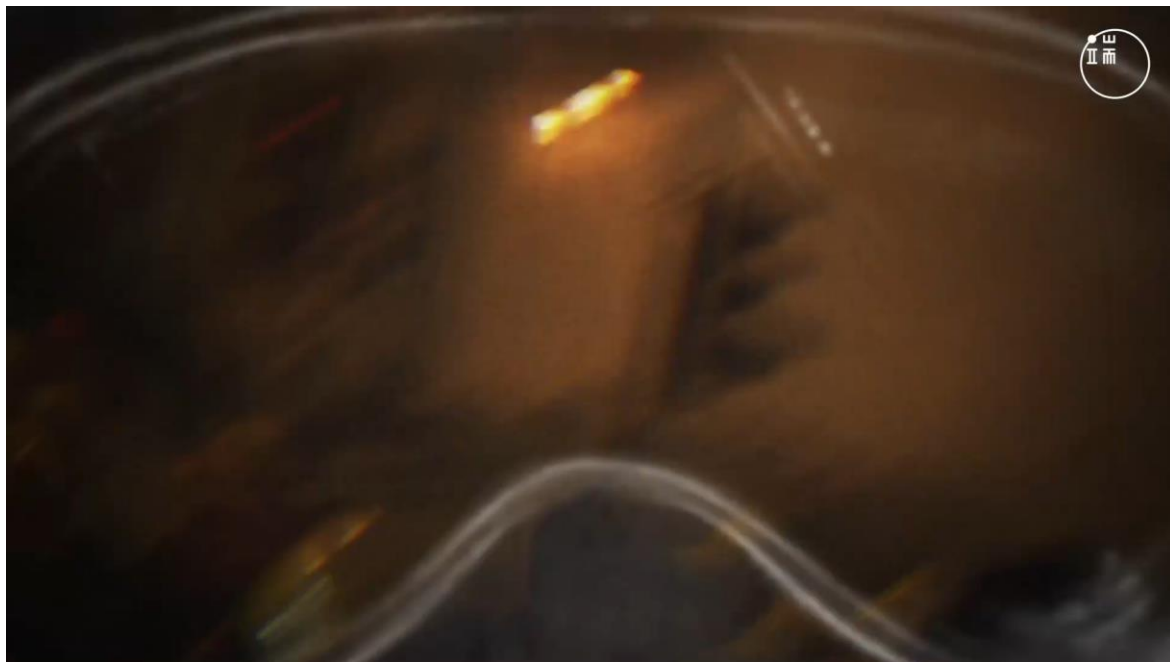
超過16000枚催淚彈，給香港留下了什麼？

Journalists:

Lin Kexin, Stanley Leung, Iris Yang, Irene Chan
林可欣、梁詩聰、楊鈺、陳倩兒

Judges' Comments:

This is an incredibly well-researched explainer that managed to strike the right balance between educational and engaging. The topic is of great public interest and relevant to our times, not only in Hong Kong but also to grassroots movements around the world.



Honorable Mention

ABS-CBN News



Rappler



Seafarers exiled by pandemic face peril, death



Rappler
THE COUNCIL

James Gaddis boarded the Pi-Yuen Yu in March 2019 and set sail for the fertile fishing grounds of Peru. More than a year later, by the time that his feet touched the ground again, the COVID-19 pandemic had brought the world to a grinding halt.

Sixth Tone



Wu Jialun and Edwin Saldias

2020.08.12 | 10:00 AM

This is the first installment of *Unraveled*, a series of special reports from a Chinese clothing hub struggling to cope with the economic fallout from the COVID-19 outbreak. Watch the second video in the series [here](#), the [third part here](#), and the [fourth part here](#).

GUANGZHOU, South China — In the heart of Guangzhou, there is a hidden world: a maze of small workshops, factories, and apartment blocks known as the "Hubei Village."

The tens of thousands of companies based here all focus on manufacturing garments.

It's the largest clothing base in China, churning out items that fill racks across the country and around the world.



Hundreds of migrant workers from the central and eastern provinces gathered in the Hubei COVID-19 treatment center in Wuhan, China.

Photo: David Holmes and 62

Around 1.6 million workers at the factories are migrants from the same region: Hubei province.

Honorable Mention

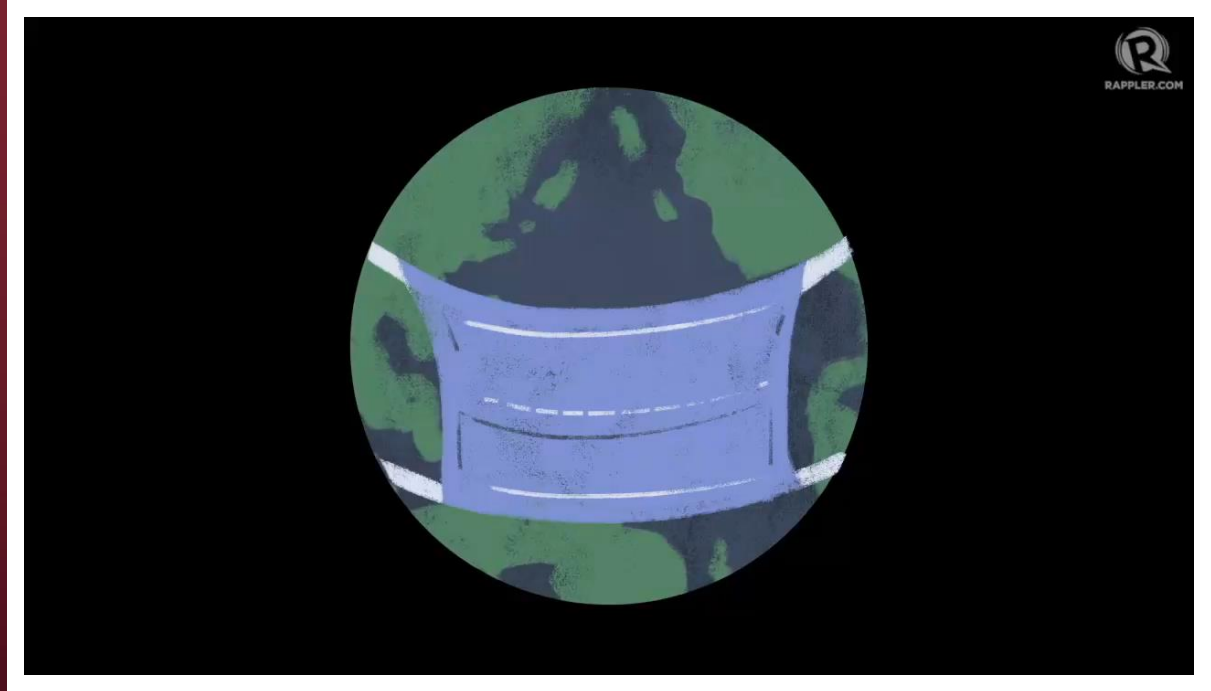
Rappler

Title of Entry:

Exiled by pandemic, seafarers face peril

Journalist:

Ana P. Santos



Award for Excellence

ABS-CBN News



Honorable Mention

Rappler



Seafarers exiled by pandemic face peril, death



Rappler
THE COUNCIL

James Gaddis boarded the Pi-Yuen Yu in March 2019 and set sail for the fertile fishing grounds of Peru. More than a year later, by the time that his feet touched the ground again, the COVID-19 pandemic had brought the world to a grinding halt.

Sixth Tone



Wu Jiajia and Edwin Ramirez

April 2020 | 10 minutes

This is the first installment of *Unraveled*, a series of special reports from a Chinese clothing hub struggling to cope with the economic fallout from the COVID-19 outbreak. Watch the second video in the series [here](#), the [third part here](#), and the [fourth part here](#).

GUANGZHOU, South China — In the heart of Guangzhou, there is a hidden world: a maze of small workshops, factories, and apartment blocks known as the "Hubei Village."

The tens of thousands of companies based here all focus on manufacturing garments.

It's the largest clothing base in China, churning out items that fill racks across the country and around the world.



Hundreds of migrant workers from the central and eastern provinces gathered in the Hubei COVID-19 treatment center in Wuhan, China. Photo: David H. Johnson and 672

Around 1.6 million workers at the factories are migrants from the same region Hubei province.

Award for Excellence

ABS-CBN News

Title of Entry:

Driver lives inside his jeepney as lockdown
halts public transpo

Journalists:

NXT Team

Judges' Comments:

By focusing on one jeepney driver's struggles and
heartache, this piece conveys in searing detail the
cost of Covid and the lockdown that followed.

Haunting.



Honorable Mention

Agence France-Presse



Ground zero: eight days in Wuhan, cut off from the world | AFP

觀看次數：14,402 次 · 2020年2月12日



For eight days, an AFP team lived and worked at the centre of a global health emergency, witnessing how life in the Chinese city of Wuhan was turned upside down as it was cut off from the world and as an extraordinary health crisis gathered pace around the world.

Subscribe to AFP and activate your notifications to get the latest news

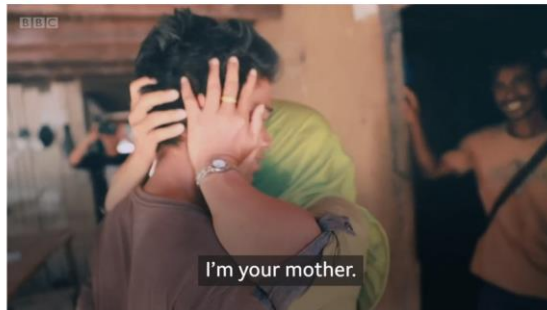
BBC World Service

BBC

NEWS

Home | Coronavirus | Video | World | Asia | UK | Business | Tech | Science | Stories | Entertainment & Arts

Asia | China | India



'Meeting the son I thought was dead'

Fifteen years after he lost contact with his mother, an Indonesian migrant worker has been reunited with his mother: thanks to a BBC report.

After his parents separated, Iwan was living with his dad in Malaysia. As a child he ran away due to conflict at home and lost contact with his family.

Without identity documents he couldn't seek help or go home until now.

Video by BBC Indonesia's Rahmatin Bonasir and Dawid Marta.

© 11 March 2020 | BBC News | Asia

The New York Times

DE'AN NEWS



Wearing a Mask? It May Come From China's Controversial Labor Program

By Amy Kim, New York Times Staff Writer, and David Johnston, New York Times Staff Writer

The latest investigation reveals that several Chinese companies are using tighter labor from a controversial government program to produce PPE, during the pandemic. The track record of that equipment to the U.S. and around the world.

Published: March 10, 2020

Honorable Mention

Agence France-Presse

Title of Entry:

Eight Days in Wuhan: Cut Off From the World

Journalist:

Leo Ramirez



Honorable Mention

Agence France-Presse



Ground zero: eight days in Wuhan, cut off from the world | AFP

觀看次數: 14,402 次 · 2020年2月12日



For eight days, an AFP team lived and worked at the centre of a global health emergency, witnessing how life in the Chinese city of Wuhan was turned upside down as it was cut off from the world and as an extraordinary health crisis gathered pace around the world.

Subscribe to AFP and activate your notifications to get the latest news

BBC World Service

BBC

NEWS

Home | Coronavirus | Video | World | Asia | UK | Business | Tech | Science | Stories | Entertainment & Arts

Asia | China | India



'Meeting the son I thought was dead'

Fifteen years after he lost contact with his mother, an Indonesian migrant worker has been reunited with his mother: thanks to a BBC report.

After his parents separated, Iwan was living with his dad in Malaysia. As a child he ran away due to conflict at home and lost contact with his family.

Without identity documents he couldn't seek help or go home until now.

Video by BBC Indonesia's Rahmatin Bonasir and Dawid Marta.

© 11 March 2020 | BBC News | Asia

Award for Excellence

The New York Times

DE'AN NEWS



Wearing a Mask? It May Come From China's Controversial Labor Program

By Amy Kim, New York Times Staff Writer, March 10, 2020

The latest investigation reveals that several Chinese companies are using tighter labor from a controversial government program to produce PPE, during the pandemic. We track some of that equipment to the U.S. and around the world.

Read the full story on the New York Times website

Award for Excellence

The New York Times

Title of Entry:

**Wearing a Mask? It May Come From China's
Controversial Labor Program**

Journalist:

Muyi Xiao

Judges' Comments:

A remarkable investigative report on an important human-rights issue. The thoroughness belies any possible rebuttal from the Chinese government or authorities. Top-class!



Excellence in Human Rights Reporting 卓越人权报道奖

Honoring the work that demonstrates high standards of reporting on a human rights topic of significance.

Initium Media
端傳媒



Stand News
立場新聞



Honorable Mention

Stand News
立場新聞



Initium Media
端傳媒



Award for Excellence

Stand News
立場新聞



Honorable Mention

Stand News
立場新聞



Award for Excellence

Stand News

立場新聞

Title of Entry:

Voices of the Castle Peak Bay Immigration Centre: Hunger strike for detainees' rights.
青山灣的呼聲：羈留者絕食抗爭

Journalists:

Olivia Cheng, Sebastian So
鄭祉愉、蘇曼詩

Judges' Comments:

Excellent in-depth reporting enhanced by personal stories of refugees.

立場新聞

【羈留者絕食抗爭，上】青山灣首次被聽見的呼聲：不自由毋寧死

30/08/21 - 19:52

巴基斯蘭裔羈留者 Mudassar Muhammad：點可以花人生四年咁呢度（青山灣入境事務中心）？即使結果係遣返都好，我寧願出去等...

Mehmood Rashid：只要仲有人嚟出面支持，我哋就會繼續。



▲ 8月2日，羈留者發起絕食抗爭，圖為青山灣入境事務中心。

為了抗議無限期羈留，CIC 內羈留者月初發起絕食，高峰時有 20 人參與。踏入第 39 日，約 15 人堅持，僅飲水和吃粥。絕食者在七樓護理室窗面掛上白布，掛上毛巾、衣服，各樣雜物的手越來越多。

那個清晨，廿廿等八人聲援絕食一小時，直至早上九點，羈留者才因前往日間活動室為止。

樓內的人已準備好為了離開 CIC，付出生命。絕食廿日決定在外餓食 50 小時，分發他們的清單，無論時間長短：「隨時飲水行如廁，至少到地行一餐飽……直至能隨時到自由為止。」



青山灣入境事務中心數據

388 羈留人士

300 位提出免遣返聲請

16 個床位，位於四樓中心醫院

30 人因疫情延誤遣返航班，當中 6 人為免遣返聲請人

資料來源：入境處提供
註：入境處未有保存羈留人數統計數字，亦未有綜合事件數

【根據於 14 日更新】

8 月 2 日清晨八點，屯門青山灣入境事務中心（下稱 CIC）外，「廿廿」廿日望神父親起五小時絕食。CIC 關主能聯同職工、親友排班開展長達十天的黑布白紙抗議，寫上「Freedom Now」，雙層樓內一樓半使用人知道的絕食行動。

「Freedom Now! 關外的人盡懂口號，真呀！Release! We can hear you Stay Strong!」

「Freedom Now! Release! Now! Now!」樓內羈留者看見了希望，希望即時在屋中絕食不聞也不見，其實漸漸清醒，他們有時喊口號，有時尖聲喊叫，每一聲附近居民都聽見他們的絕望呼聲，這聲聲次有人在外圍加聲。

入境處回應《立憲》，未有儲存中心內羈留時間數字，據了解，現時青山灣入境事務中心羈留的時長由數天至四年不等。

那何時才能離開？一般監獄的囚犯都有刑滿，刑滿就可出獄。但在青山灣入境事務中心，職員僅每天在禁閉室上寫日理釋者的名字，羈留人士亦不知自己何時離開。

《入境條例》第 372K 條列明，「在不與本條例賦予的任何其他權力的原則下，可將進入入境事務處或入境事務處副處長或入境事務處任何助理處長的留押聲請人，以等候其給予聲請的處理決定。」換言之，入境處有權無限期留押聲請人。

羈留通知書上未有寫上第 372K 條完整條文，僅簡單列出羈留原因，而多名羈留人士不知道可給入境處無限期羈留，亦不清楚羈留準則，但該處入境處處長表示，萬一聲請上訴遭拒，可申請司法覆核或向裁決上訴委員會的決定，更指到了司法覆核階段，就可選擇，但亦有羈留人士正處於司法覆核中，仍未選擇，據「行街紙」的爭執下。

立法會議員張國強批評入境處權力過大，亦無制衡，而羈留本應在特殊情況下使用，無限期羈留屬於越

Frontier Myanmar

Frontier
MYANMAR



Shan farmer's killing leaves villagers burning with anger

For years, residents of a conflict-blighted area of Shan State had 'seen their anger inside, but after the Tatmadaw gunned down a farmer, more than 10,000 villagers marched in protest.

By Brett Todd and Andrew Nachman / FRONTIER

When Yang Thaw meets the missing her husband was killed by the Myanmar military, she spends of her days.

"The meeting we called about going to the farms to separate the ones I wish we had gone because then we could have brought, but we were afraid of the Tatmadaw soldiers," she said. It was June 20, and they have soldiers were patrolling in the area. In recent days there had been several clashes between government forces and the Shan State Army South, the armed wing of the Revolutionary Council of Shan State.

Yang Thaw and her husband, Looing Hsu, thought they would be safe in the village than going out to the farms. They certainly didn't expect the Tatmadaw to open fire on civilian houses.



Honorable Mention

Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism



Philippine Jails are a Covid-19 Time Bomb

The Philippines has the most crowded correctional system in the world. It's only a matter of time before the virus enters and spreads in prison and jail facilities. Humanitarian groups have called for the early release of elderly and sickly and nonviolent, low-risk detainees.

By AIE BALACITAS SEE
April 10, 2021 | 10:00:00 AM

ON APRIL 5, the police brought to a prepacked detention center at the Quizon City Police District headquarters 21 residents of a poor community who had been arrested for breaking quarantine rules.

When they got there, the detainees were not tested for the coronavirus nor were they isolated from other inmates. "The police just took their body temperature using a thermal scanner and that was it," said lawyer Kristina Corti, who represented them. Since none of them showed Covid-19 symptoms, said Corti, they were locked up without being required to undergo a 14-day quarantine. Because the detention cells were already full, the 16 men were kept inside a 345-meter cell for male detainees that already housed nearly a dozen other inmates. Later they were moved to another cell, all of them crammed in a 34-meter space. The women were placed with other female detainees in a separate cell.

"Social distancing, of course, is impossible," Corti said. At night, the inmates sleep side-by-side on the same cold floor. They don't have easy access to toilets, making frequent handwashing difficult. The jail did not provide rubbing alcohol, masks or soap, although some donors sent some supplies.

Police lockups like those at the Quizon City police headquarters in Dikman are temporary holding areas for suspects undergoing investigation or awaiting court orders that would send them to more permanent detention centers. On March 14, just before the Metro Manila lockdown, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) suspended the transfer of these suspects to the 467 district, city and municipal jails under its jurisdiction.

This means that suspected offenders will have to be kept indefinitely in small lockups in police precincts that do not have doctors and nurses on staff. Most of these also do not have enough toilets or showers to service the influx of new inmates.

As of last week, more than 20,000 had been arrested for quarantine and curfew violations. Most have been released and will face charges once the health crisis is over. Some 4,000 are currently being detained in police lockups and are awaiting transfer to jails.

"If the police continue to arrest, their detainee population will continue to grow and will make their situation worse," said

Human Rights Watch, a non-governmental organization of the United States Department of Justice, and a partner in the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism.

The Wire

WIRE

REPORTAGE CASTLE

From Segregation to Labour, Manu's Caste Law Governs the Indian Prison System

In several states, prison manuals still dictate that labour within the prison should be assigned on the basis of caste.



Sakanya Shantia

Support Investigative Journalism

Support to Depth Reporting

Support Daily Reporting

Support the Wire

Powered by dthumpor

CASTLE

This article, part of the series 'Barred-The Prison Project', is produced in partnership with the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting.

Pulitzer Center

New Delhi/Mumbai/Bangalore: On his first day at the Alwar district prison, Ajay Kumar was greeted up for the worst. Torture, stale food, being cold and harsh labour – Bollywood had already acquainted him with the grisly realities of jails. "Ganesh kumar (I'll see you again)," a police constable, placed at the underused (UT) section, asked him in soon as he was escorted inside a tall iron gateway.

Ajay had barely stumbled something, when the constable snarled, "Kann jasti (Which caste?)" Kumar, Ajay pressed not then tentatively said, "Kann". The constable was not pleased with the response. He further inquired, "Bhaskar Kumar (Tell me the caste category)." An inconsequential part of his life so far, Ajay's caste identity, as part of a "Scheduled Caste", was now to shape his 97-day stay in the prison.

Ajay, barely 18 years old in 2016, had to clean toilets, sweep the verandah of the ward and help in other manual work like stringing water and gardening. His work would begin before dawn and continue till 5 pm each day. "I had assumed it was something that every new prisoner had to do. But in a week or so, it was evident. Only a select few were made to clean toilets," he says.

The arrangement was clear – those at the bottom of the caste pyramid did the cleaning work; those high above handled the kitchen or the legal documentation department. And the rich and influential did nothing; they only threw their weight around. These arrangements had nothing to do with the caste system, but they were a reflection of it.

Honorable Mention

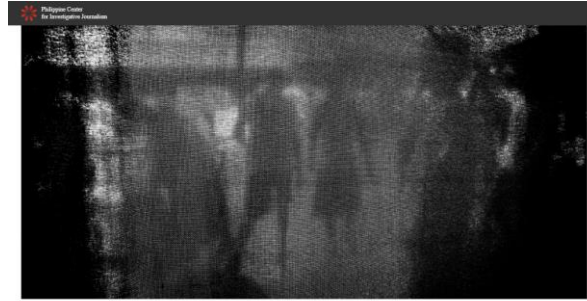
Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism

Title of Entry:

Philippine Jails are a Covid-19 Time Bomb

Journalist:

Aie Balagtas See



Philippine Jails are a Covid-19 Time Bomb

The Philippines has the most crowded correctional system in the world. It's only a matter of time before the virus enters and spreads in prison and jail facilities. Humanitarian groups have called for the early release of elderly and sickly and nonviolent, low-risk detainees.

By AIE BALAGTAS SEE
April 16, 2020 | 9:00:00 AM

ON APRIL 1, the police brought to a jam-packed detention center at the Quezon City Police District headquarters 21 residents of a poor community who had been arrested for breaking quarantine rules.

When they got there, the detainees were not tested for the coronavirus nor were they isolated from other inmates. "The police just took their body temperature using a thermal scanner and that was it," said lawyer Kristina Conti, who represented them.

Since none of them showed Covid-19 symptoms, said Conti, they were locked up without being required to undergo a 14-day quarantine. Because the detention cells were already full, the 16 men were kept outside a 50-meter cell for male detainees that already housed nearly a dozen other inmates. Later they were moved to another cell, all of them crammed in a 344-meter space. The women were placed with other female detainees in a separate cell.

"Social distancing, of course, is impossible," Conti said. At night, the inmates slept side-by-side on the same cold floor. They didn't have easy access to toilets, making frequent handwashing difficult. The jail did not provide rubbing alcohol, masks or soap, although some donors sent some supplies.

Police lockups like those at the Quezon City police headquarters in Diliman are temporary holding areas for suspects undergoing investigation or awaiting court orders that would send them to their permanent detention centers.

On March 14, just before the Metro Manila lockdown, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) suspended the transfer of these suspects to the 467 district, city and municipal jails under its jurisdiction.

This means that suspected offenders will have to be kept indefinitely in small lockups in police precincts that do not have clinics nor doctors and nurses on staff. Most of these also do not have enough toilets or showers to service the influx of new inmates.

As of last week, more than 20,000 had been arrested for quarantine and curfew violations. Most have been released and will face charges once the health crisis is over. Some 4,000 are currently being detained in police lockups and are awaiting transfer to city jails.

"If the police continue to arrest, their detainee population will continue to grow and will make their situation worse," said Human Rights Watch senior Asia researcher and Southeast Asia director and an expert in Philippine law, "Yoon Young."



LOCKED UP: Detainees at the Manila Police District Station 5.
File photograph: Rick Ricomora. This image appeared in Ricomora's 2018 photo-book Human Writings, a six-year project that documented life inside Philippine detention centers.

Health risks of overcrowded jails

Narang was once a prisoner himself, having spent six years at the Quezon City jail before he was found innocent of involvement in a fraternity rumble that resulted in the death of one student.

"The Philippines has the most crowded correctional system in the world," he said. "It is only a matter of time before infectious creep into the very congested jail and prison facilities."

Like other prison advocates around the world, Narang is calling for the release of nonviolent, low-risk, and bailable pretrial detainees as well as vulnerable, elderly, and sickly inmates.

Both the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Human Rights Watch have also asked the government to release nonviolent prisoners. Saying overpopulated prisons, jails and lock-up cells make them fertile grounds for spreading infectious diseases.

"The early release of the most vulnerable detainees (elderly, sick) and those with minor offenses is an option that could be taken by the Philippine government," said ICRC spokesperson Allison Lopez.



Frontier Myanmar



Shan farmer's killing leaves villagers burning with anger

For years, residents of a conflict-blighted area of Shan State had kept their anger inside, but after the Tatmadaw gunned down a farmer, more than 10,000 villagers marched in protest.

By Brett Todd and Andrew Nachemson | FRONTIER

When Yang Thaw meets the missing far husband's wife Khin for the 10th time, she spends her days in tears.

"The meeting we called about going to the army to capture the army, I wish we had gone because then we could have caught him, but we were afraid of the Tatmadaw soldiers," she said. It was June 20, and they have soldiers were patrolling in the area. In recent days there had been several clashes between government forces and the Shan State Army South, the armed wing of the Revolutionary Council of Shan State.

Yang Thaw and her husband, Longing Yang, thought they would be safe in the village than going out to the army. They certainly didn't expect the Tatmadaw to open fire on civilian houses.



Honorable Mention

Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism



Philippine Jails are a Covid-19 Time Bomb

The Philippines has the most crowded correctional system in the world. It's only a matter of time before the virus enters and spreads in prison and jail facilities. Humanitarian groups have called for the early release of elderly and sickly and nonviolent, low-risk detainees.

By AIE BALACITAS SEE
April 10, 2020 | 10:00:00 AM

ON APRIL 5, the police brought to a prepacked detention center at the Quizon City Police District headquarters 21 residents of a poor community who had been arrested for breaking quarantine rules.

When they got there, the detainees were not tested for the coronavirus nor were they isolated from other inmates. "The police just took their body temperature using a thermal scanner and that was it," said lawyer Kristina Corti, who represented them. Since none of them showed Covid-19 symptoms, said Corti, they were locked up without being required to undergo a 14-day quarantine. Because the detention cells were already full, the 16 men were kept inside a 345-meter cell for male detainees that already housed nearly a dozen other inmates. Later they were moved to another cell, all of them crammed in a 34-meter space. The women were placed with other female detainees in a separate cell.

"Social distancing, of course, is impossible," Corti said. At night, the inmates sleep side-by-side on the same cold floor. They don't have easy access to toilets, making frequent handwashing difficult. The jail did not provide rubbing alcohol, masks or soap, although some donors sent some supplies.

Police lockups like those at the Quizon City police headquarters in Dikman are temporary holding areas for suspects undergoing investigation or awaiting court orders that would send them to more permanent detention centers. On March 14, just before the Metro Manila lockdown, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) suspended the transfer of these suspects to the 467 district, city and municipal jails under its jurisdiction.

This means that suspected offenders will have to be kept indefinitely in small lockups in police precincts that do not have doctors and nurses on staff. Most of these also do not have enough toilets or showers to service the influx of new inmates.

As of last week, more than 20,000 had been arrested for quarantine and curfew violations. Most have been released and will face charges once the health crisis is over. Some 4,000 are currently being detained in police lockups and are awaiting transfer to jails.

"If the police continue to arrest, their detainee population will continue to grow and will make their situation worse," said

Human Rights Watch, a non-governmental organization that monitors human rights and is based in Washington, D.C.

Award for Excellence

The Wire

WIRE

REPORTAGE CASTLE

From Segregation to Labour, Manu's Caste Law Governs the Indian Prison System

In several states, prison manuals still dictate that labour within the prison should be assigned on the basis of caste.



Illustration: Pankaj Choudhary



Sakanya Shantia

Support Investigative Journalism

₹ 499.00

Frequency: Monthly

Support to Depth Reporting

₹ 599.00

Frequency: Monthly

Support Daily Reporting

₹ 199.00

Frequency: Monthly

Support The Wire

Powered by dthumpor

CASTLE 10/03/2020

This article, part of the series 'Barred-The Prison Project', is produced in partnership with the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting.

Pulitzer Center

New Delhi/Mumbai/Bangalore: On his first day at the Alwar district prison, Ajay Kumar was greeted up for the worst. Torture, stale food, biting cold and harsh labour – Bollywood had already acquainted him with the grisly realities of jails. "Ganesh kumar (I tell me your caste)," a police constable, placed at the underused (ST) section, asked him in soon as he was escorted inside a tall iron gateway.

Ajay had barely mumbled something, when the constable snarled, "Kann jasti (Which caste?)" Kumar, Ajay pressed not then tentatively said, "Kann". The constable was not pleased with the response. He further inquired, "Bhaskar Kumar (Tell me the caste category)". An inconsequential part of his life so far, Ajay's caste identity, as part of a "Scheduled Caste", was now to shape his 97-day stay in the prison.

Ajay, barely 18 years old in 2016, had to clean toilets, sweep the verandah of the ward and help in other menial work like stirring water and grinding. His work would begin before dawn and continue till 5 pm each day. "I had assumed it was something that every new prisoner had to do. But in a week or so, it was evident. Only a select few were made to clean toilets," he says.

The arrangement was clear – those at the bottom of the caste pyramid did the cleaning work; those high above handled the kitchen or the legal documentation department. And the rich and influential did nothing; they only threw their weight around. These arrangements had nothing

Award for Excellence

The Wire

Title of Entry:

From Segregation to Labour, Manu's Caste Law Governs the Indian Prison System

Journalist:

Sukanya Shantha

Judges' Comments:

An important investigation, highlighting discrimination left over from the past, and bringing change. Reporting that made a difference.

THE WIRE

REPORTAGE CASTE

From Segregation to Labour, Manu's Caste Law Governs the Indian Prison System

In several states, prison manuals still dictate that labour within the prison should be assigned on the basis of caste.



Sukanya Shantha

Support Investigative Journalism

Support In-Depth Reporting

Support Daily Reporting

Support The Wire

Powered by **Alipay**

NEW CASTE

This article, part of the series 'Barred-The Prison Project', is produced in partnership with the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting.

Pulitzer Center

New Delhi/Mumbai/Bangalore: On his first day at the Alwar district prison, Ajay Kumar* was greeted up for the worst. Torture, stale food, biting cold and harsh labour – Bollywood had already acquainted him with the grimy realities of jails. "Chaudh bhai (Tell me some stories)," a police constable, placed at the undertrial (UT) section, asked him as soon as he was escorted inside a jail cell gateway.

Ajay had barely mumbled something when the constable snapped, "Kama janti (Which caste?) Unnau. Ajay paused and then hesitantly said, "Bajal". The constable was not pleased with the response. He further inquired, "Bhadari bhai (Tell me the caste category)." An inconsequential part of his life so far, Ajay's caste identity, as part of a "Scheffelin Case", was now to shape his 97-day stay in the prison.

Ajay, barely 18 years old in 2016, had to clean toilets, sweep the verandah of the ward and help in other manual work like storing water and gardening. His work would begin before dawn and continue till 5 pm each day. "I had assumed it was something that every new prisoner had to do. But in a week or so, it was evident: Only a select few were made to clean toilets," he says.

The arrangement was clear – those at the bottom of the caste pyramid did the cleaning work; those high above handled the kitchen or the legal documentation department. And the rich and influential did nothing; they only threw their weight around. These arrangements had nothing to do with the caste that one was arrested for or his conduct in prison. "Sub kach janti he another par she (It was all based on caste)," he says.

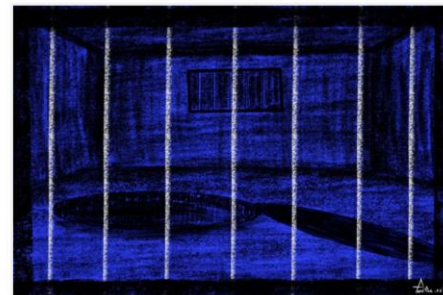


Illustration: Pariglab Chakraborty

"Every time I think of the incident, I lose my appetite," he says. Each time he sees a cleaner or a sweeper on the street, he flinches. "The sight reminds me of my own helplessness," he says.

Shocking as it may sound, Ajay's is not an uncommon case. He says everything in prison is decided by a person's caste. He was able to tell a person's caste merely by looking at the life they lived in prison. Ajay was a pre-trial detainee, and unlike those convicted, pre-trial detainees are exempted from working in jail. But at the undertrial prison, where convicted prisoners were only a handful, detainees like Ajay were called in for free labour.

When the rules themselves are casteist

Caste-based labour, in fact, is sanctioned in the prison manuals of many states. The colonial texts of the late 19th century have barely seen any amendments, and caste-based labour remains an untouched part of these manuals. While every state has its own unique prison manual, they are mostly based on **The Prisons Act, 1894**. These jail manuals mention every activity in detail – from the measurement of food and space per prisoner to punishments for

Ajay's experience matches what the Rajasthan Jail Manual lays out. While cooking and handling medical care in the prison is considered high-caste work, sweeping and cleaning is straightaway assigned to the lower castes.

For the cooking department, the prison manual states:

"Any Brahmin or sufficiently high caste Hindu prisoner from his class if eligible for appointment as cook."

Honorable Mention

The Associated Press

AP



CHINA CRACKS DOWN – THE UIGHURS

By DAKE KANG and COLLEAGUES
Associated Press

The Wall Street Journal



Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executives in India market approval to ban controversial posts, some employees allege

By David S. Gelles and Jeff Leach

Aug. 19, 2020, 12:47 p.m.

WSJ.com

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

The Wall Street Journal



Beijing Accelerates Campaign of Ethnic Assimilation

China has taken an aggressive approach to melting the nation's many groups into a national identity

By Eric Lipton, Jonathan Chen and John

Aug. 19, 2020, 12:47 p.m.

WSJ.com

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Facebook

Honorable Mention

The Wall Street Journal

Title of Entry:

Facebook: A Conduit for Hate in India

Journalists:

Newley Purnell and Jeff Horwitz



By [Newley Purnell](#) and [Jeff Horwitz](#)

Aug. 14, 2020 12:47 pm ET

[SHARE](#) [AA TEXT](#)

118 RESPONSES

In Facebook posts and public appearances, Indian politician T. Raja Singh has said Rohingya Muslim immigrants should be shot, called Muslims traitors and threatened to raze mosques.

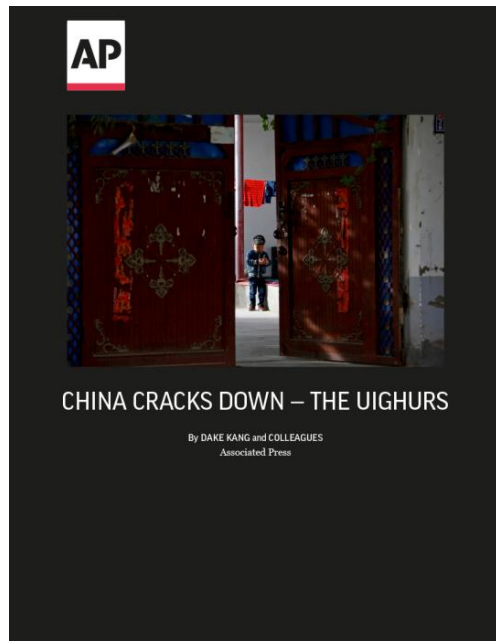
Facebook Inc. employees charged with policing the platform were watching. By March of this year, they concluded Mr. Singh not only had violated the company's hate-speech rules but qualified as dangerous, a designation that takes into account a person's off-platform activities, according to current and former Facebook employees familiar with the matter.

Given India's history of communal violence and recent religious tensions, they argued, his rhetoric could lead to real-world violence, and he should be permanently banned from the company's platforms world-wide, according to the current and former employees, a punishment that in the U.S. has been doled out to radio host Alex Jones, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and numerous white supremacist organizations.

Yet Mr. Singh, a member of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist party, is still active on Facebook and Instagram, where he has hundreds of thousands of followers. The company's top public-policy executive in the country, Ankhil Das, opposed applying the hate-speech rules to Mr. Singh and at least three other Hindu nationalist individuals and groups flagged internally for promoting or participating in violence, said the current and former employees.

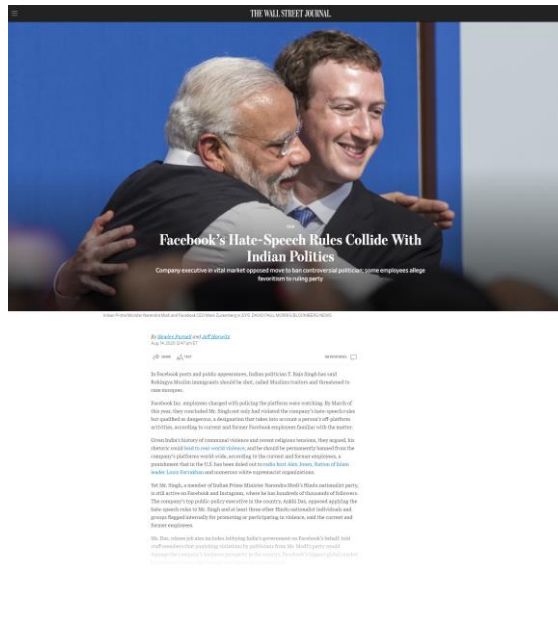
Award for Excellence

The Associated Press

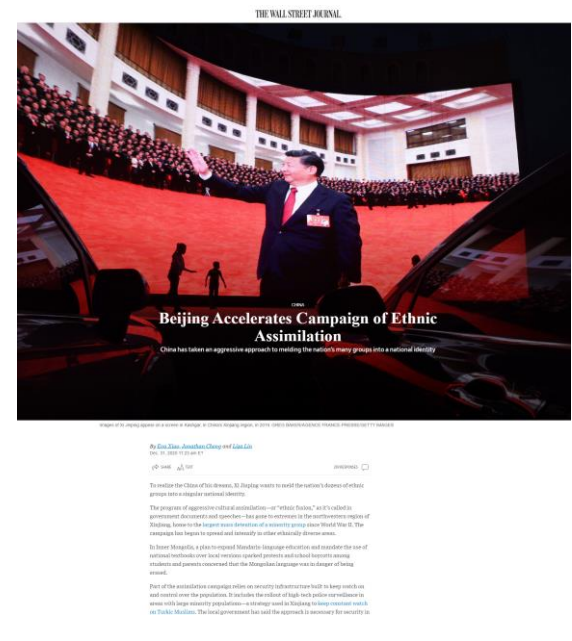


Honorable Mention

The Wall Street Journal



The Wall Street Journal



Award for Excellence

The Associated Press

Title of Entry:

China Cracks Down - The Uighurs

Journalists:

Dake Kang and colleagues

Judges' Comments:

This series is distinctive in reporting, through the compilation of a large data base, the scale of serious abuses against Uighur human rights ranging from enforced IUDs, abortions, sterilizations to separation of families. It also shows that Uighurs are discriminated against not just for political reasons but religious, too. The difficulty of reporting such issues in China also makes this series deserving of high marks.



Alii Baqytal hugs his mother, gulnar Qusirah, at their new home in Shenshy, Kazakhstan.



Left: People line up at the Artux City Vocational Skills Education Training Service Center in western China's Xinjiang region.

Zenz, a leading expert in the policing of China's minority regions. "This is part of a wider control campaign to subjugate the Uighurs."

U.S. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo denounced the policies in a statement Monday.

"We call on the Chinese Communist Party to immediately end these horrific practices," he said.

China's foreign minister derided the story as "fabricated" and "fake news," saying the government treats all ethnicities equally and protects the legal rights of minorities.

"Everyone, regardless of whether they're an ethnic minority or Han Chinese, must follow and act in accordance with the law," ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said Monday when asked about the AP story.

Chinese officials have said in the past that the new measures are merely

Excellence in Feature Writing 卓越专题特写奖

Honoring the work that demonstrates high standards of reporting and writing to describe an idea, event, trend or personality, or explain a topic of significance.

100

他還認為，新法為一個正當的標準。

過去一年，他照樣拜著老父和拜倫，從泰國來到台灣當農工12年後，卻因為病癱和經濟而陷入掙扎，性格變得沮喪且消沉。不過那天早上，父親的臉色明顯好多了，用熟悉過度的聲調問M：「要出門了嗎？幾點回來呢？」

沒有想到，M這趟來台灣，待了將近一年，他護照上的入境戳記仍停留在：「一九九〇年一月一日，附屬這本護照，最近一個月的時間，在美國使用。」

GMA News Online



The Children
Are ALL
Grown Up Now

Three little girls were reared in the safety of their own homes, by the people closest to them. At the year's latest anniversary, the girls have grown into women who barely all their issues — each of their heartbreaking, none of them uncommon.

(Names have been changed to protect the identities of the survivors. Details in this story may trigger survivors of sexual abuse.)

WRITTEN BY KATEA MAZUR

ILLUSTRATIONS BY HANNAH CLARK LAYNE

WEB PRODUCTION BY JESSICA WEBB

MARCH 6, 2021

2:45 PM (GMT-7)

15

Sixth Tone



By Derek Jones

SHANGHAI — Double pneumonia. The results of the CT scan were unmistakable as they were unbelievable. Zhang Chi's temperature had remained stable for the past five days. It was Thursday, and he had been eating and sleeping well, his energy and spirit gradually returning. The day before, he had been talking with other pneumonia patients online about the apparent success of his home-based recovery regimen, after several hospitals refused to admit him.

Now, he feels lost.

"I did everything I could. I took all the medicine I was told to, I ate nutritious meals at regular intervals, I made sure I got enough sleep," Zhang tells Sixth Tone by phone on Thursday afternoon. He is seated in his car outside Wuhan Central Hospital, where he's been waiting for four hours, with 90 people still ahead of him in line.

Thursday wasn't Zhang's first trip to a hospital, or even to this hospital. Five days earlier, on Jan. 25, he had seen a doctor at Wuhan Central after his fever returned, only to be told to return home and try not to come into contact with others.

"They told me, 'Don't go to a hospital — what you need is good rest,'" the 39-year-old says, adding that the doctor prescribed him oseltamivir, a generic version of Tamiflu. Zhang did as he was told, but his respiratory infection worsened, spreading from one lung to both.

Honorable Mention

VOD

Medical Waste Collectors: Cambodia's Unseen Front-Line Workers

17 min read

Gerald Flynn | Thu Apr 30, 2020 11:01 am



A Medical Waste Management Unit worker navigates the waste-strewn warehouse floor of the Dangkor landfill in Phnom Penh on April 9, 2020. (Gerald Flynn)

There is an audible crunch underfoot — the distinct sound of a syringe shattering — but Nguon Sokheng pays it no mind. After all, he has been working at Phnom Penh's Dangkor landfill site for 10 years. Crushing medical waste under his sandals is commonplace.

As he navigates the litter-strewn warehouse floor and heads toward an industrial incinerator with two yellow plastic bags bearing biohazard symbols, one bag splits and a slew of medical refuse pours out onto the floor. Armed with little more than red rubber gloves and a face mask,

Honorable Mention

VOD

Title of Entry:

Medical Waste Collectors

Journalist:

Gerald Flynn

Medical Waste Collectors: Cambodia's Unseen Front-Line Workers

Gerald Flynn | Thu Apr 30, 2020 11:01 am

17 min read



A Medical Waste Management Unit worker navigates the waste-strewn warehouse floor of the Dangkor landfill in Phnom Penh on April 9, 2020. (Gerald Flynn)

There is an audible crunch underfoot — the distinct sound of a syringe shattering — but Nguon Sokheng pays it no mind. After all, he has been working at Phnom Penh's Dangkor landfill site for 10 years. Crushing medical waste under his sandals is commonplace.

As he navigates the litter-strewn warehouse floor and heads toward an industrial incinerator with two yellow plastic bags bearing biohazard symbols, one bag splits and a slew of medical refuse pours out onto the floor. Armed with little more than red rubber gloves and a face mask, Sokheng scoops up the spilled pile of gloves, bandages and assorted bottles with his hands before tossing them into the incinerator.



Nguon Sokheng lifts bags of medical waste to be incinerated at the Dangkor landfill in Phnom Penh on April 9, 2020 (Gerald Flynn)

Sokheng is one of five men responsible for the disposal of the entirety of Phnom Penh's medical waste, which they pick up from more than 2,000 medical facilities around the capital. Four of the five men operate two incinerators at the landfill that burn through two metric tons of medical waste each day, working Monday to Saturday.

While their job was already thankless, since Cambodia confirmed its first case of Covid-19 in January, and dozens more in March and April, the team's mood has grown increasingly tense. The workers say they are poorly equipped, uninsured and in harm's way of infection, but few people are aware of the risks they take.

"The government is telling everyone else to stay home, stay safe, but we still have to show up every day with no support," Sokheng tells reporters this month. "They need to think about us too. We face these dangerous conditions every day and yet we get nothing. There's just no support from the government or from the stakeholders."

Behind him, plumes of black smoke belch out of the incinerators' chimneys.

Award for Excellence

GMA News Online



The Children
Are ALL
Grown Up Now

Three little girls were reared in the safety of their own homes, by the people closest to them. At the year's latest anniversary, the girls have grown into women who barely all their issues — each of their heartbreaking, none of them uncommon.

(Names have been changed to protect the identities of the survivors. Details in this story may trigger survivors of sexual abuse.)

WRITTEN BY: MARIA M. BACAL

ILLUSTRATIONS BY: KIMBERLY LAYNE LAYNE

WEB PRODUCTION BY: JESSICA ANN BOWEN

MARCH 6, 2021

SHARE FACTS:

Facebook Twitter

Sixth Tone



By Derek Jones

SHANGHAI — Double pneumonia. The results of the CT scan were unmistakable as they were unambiguous. Zhang Chi's temperature had remained stable for the past five days. It was Thursday, and he had been eating and sleeping well, his energy and spirit gradually returning. The day before, he had been talking with other pneumonia patients online about the apparent success of his home-based recovery regimen, after several hospitals refused to admit him.

Now, he feels lost.

"I did everything I could. I took all the medicine I was told to, I ate nutritious meals at regular intervals, I made sure I got enough sleep," Zhang tells Sixth Tone by phone on Thursday afternoon. He is seated in his car outside Wuhan Central Hospital, where he's been waiting for four hours, with 90 people still ahead of him in line.

Thursday wasn't Zhang's first trip to a hospital, or even to this hospital. Five days earlier, on Jan. 25, he had seen a doctor at Wuhan Central after his fever returned, only to be told to return home and try not to come into contact with others.

"They told me, 'Don't go to a hospital — what you need is good rest,'" the 39-year-old says, adding that the doctor prescribed him oseltamivir, a generic version of Tamiflu. Zhang did as he was told, but his respiratory infection worsened, spreading from one lung to both.

Honorable Mention

VOD

Medical Waste Collectors: Cambodia's Unseen Front-Line Workers

17 min read

Gerald Flynn | Thu Apr 30, 2020 11:01 am



A Medical Waste Management Unit worker navigates the waste-strewn warehouse floor of the Dangkor landfill in Phnom Penh on April 9, 2020. (Gerald Flynn)

There is an audible crunch underfoot — the distinct sound of a syringe shattering — but Nguon Sokheng pays it no mind. After all, he has been working at Phnom Penh's Dangkor landfill site for 10 years. Crushing medical waste under his sandals is commonplace.

As he navigates the litter-strewn warehouse floor and heads toward an industrial incinerator with two yellow plastic bags bearing biohazard symbols, one bag splits and a slew of medical refuse pours out onto the floor. Armed with little more than red rubber gloves and a face mask,

Award for Excellence

GMA News Online

Title of Entry:

The Children Are All Grown Up Now

Journalists:

Kaela Malig, Margaret Claire Layug, Jannielyn Ann Bigtas

Judges' Comments:

It's very hard to draw a reader into a subject so repellent as child rape. The authors have brought a number of issues to bear - confused families, indifferent authorities, traumatic processes as well as the permanently scarred victims - to present a compelling narrative.



The Children
Are ALL
Grown Up Now

These little girls were raped in the safety of their own homes, by the people closest to them. As the years passed into decades, the girls have grown into women who barely tell their stories — each of them heart-breaking, wary of their uncertain futures. Details in this story may trigger memories of sexual abuse.

REPORT BY KAELE MALIG
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARGARET CLAIRE LAYUG
WEB PRODUCTION BY JANNIELYN ANN BIGTAS

MARCH 4, 2020

SHARE THIS STORY

Twitter Facebook Email



I Am Regal

Overgrown & Blue, there were games.

The game had become a part of our lives, but it was no longer a game. It had become a way to live, a way to escape the pain, the fear, the uncertainty of the world around us.

It was not a four-year-old at the time, and even though she barely understood anything, her words made her understand the most important rule of the game: Don't ever tell another soul.

The game had become a part of our lives, but it was no longer a game. It had become a way to live, a way to escape the pain, the fear, the uncertainty of the world around us.

It was April 2018, and at 55 years old, Zhang had a light dusting of grey in his thick black hair, a square face, and only a faint accent. Born in Shanghai, he had studied in Berlin and New York before settling in at Stanford and becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen. As the

The Wire China

Title of Entry:

Death of a Quantum Man

Journalist:

Shen Lu

The Wire *China*

COVER STORY

Death of a Quantum Man

Stanford physics professor Zhang Shoucheng, a potential Nobel laureate, was among the first casualties of the U.S.-China trade war. But when the world loses a brilliant scientist, who really wins?

BY SHEN LU — MAY 1, 2020



Illustration by Mike McDermid

Eight months before he killed himself, Zhang Shoucheng was giving a presentation about quantum computing, artificial intelligence, and blockchain encryption to a room full of Google employees. Dressed in a navy blue blazer, the theoretical physicist and Stanford University professor was engaging and confident as he used the Dan Brown novel *Angels and Demons* to help explain Paul Dirac's 1928 theory of antimatter.

Zhang was known for scientific theories and discoveries that could revolutionize computer technology, and he drew inspiration from Dirac's story.

"At the time," Zhang said of Dirac's theory, "no one believed him, but do you know what he said? He said, My equation is so beautiful, you guys simply just go look for it."

Evidence of antimatter was discovered five years later in cosmic-ray radiation, making Dirac's equation, Zhang told the audience, "one of the greatest predictions of all humanity — that something conceived of beauty also turned out to be true."



Developers like Google, Airbus and Huawei are racing to leverage these materials and others into transistors that could make conventional microchips obsolete and deliver "quantum computing" — massive new levels of processing power with far less energy consumption.

At his Google talk, Zhang showed a slide of a businessman and a cap and gown graduate walking towards each other to shake hands.

"This is a wonderful new world," he said, "where collaboration between academia and industry can really lead to great progress."

Zhang seemed unabashed and optimistic about this kind of collaboration, and yet his own involvement in industry had recently landed him in hot water. Five years earlier, in 2013, Zhang had started his own venture capital firm, originally called Danhua Capital, which invested hundreds of millions of dollars in technology startups.

Zhang was especially admired in his native China, and Danhua's financial backers included Chinese state-owned investment funds and the internet giants Alibaba and Baidu. Beijing regularly honored Zhang with laurels and research posts, coaxing him to give back to his homeland, and his fund became a lightning rod for U.S. apprehension over damaging technology transfer to China. Congressional testimony and a series of government reports in 2018 identified Danhua as a potential Chinese government instrument for acquiring

It was April 2018, and at 55 years old, Zhang had a light dusting of grey in his thick black hair, a square face, and only a faint accent. Born in Shanghai, he had studied in Berlin and New York before settling in at Stanford and becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen. As the

Award for Excellence

The Economist's 1843 Magazine

Title of Entry:

The coronavirus cruise: on board the Diamond Princess

Journalist:

Joshua Hunt

Judges' Comments:

A well-researched and well-paced piece that perfectly captures the fear, pathos and uncertainties of the early days of the Covid crisis.

LONG READS AND LIFE
1843 magazine

CORONAVIRUS

The coronavirus cruise: on board the Diamond Princess

They came for indulgence, relaxation and bottomless buffets. Then they found themselves trapped on a ship infected with a deadly virus. Joshua Hunt reports



On January 20th, some 2,500 passengers arrived at the port of Yokohama, where American sailors had disembarked 167 years earlier, ending more than two centuries of Japanese isolation. They looked forward to a cruise that would ferry them from one Asian port to the next, unencumbered by the demands of self-propelled tourism. Indulgence, at whatever price point they could afford, was their only concern as they left behind their jobs, retirement routines and cares for two untroubled weeks at sea.

The brochures called the *Diamond Princess* "a precious gemstone on the seas of the world", where, "day or night, it's always an adventure." The scene for that adventure was a 116,000-tonne cruise liner the length of three football pitches, which carries over 1,000 crew members in addition to its complement of passengers. From a distance it gleams white, with a belt of bright orange lifeboats wrapped around its midriff. Up close the main deck, which is dappled with swimming pools and hot tubs, has been painted shades of chemical blue and toothpaste green that manage to look simultaneously washed out and radiant.

Excellence in Magazine Design 卓越杂志设计奖

Honoring the magazine that demonstrates high standards in
visual presentation.

CITY MAGAZINE

《號外》



Home Journal

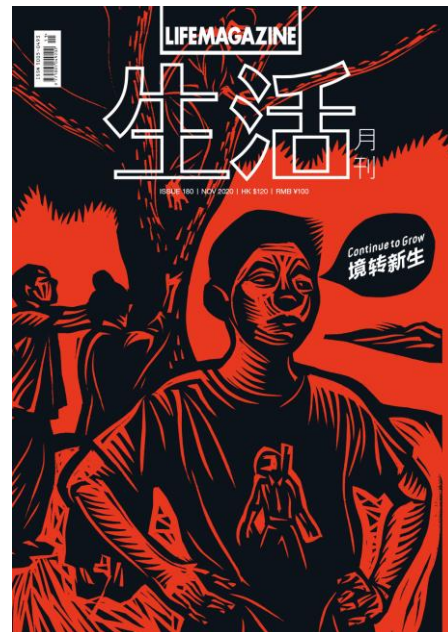
《美好家居》



Honorable Mention

LIFE MAGAZINE

《生活》月刊



Honorable Mention

LIFE MAGAZINE

《生活》月刊

Title of Entry:

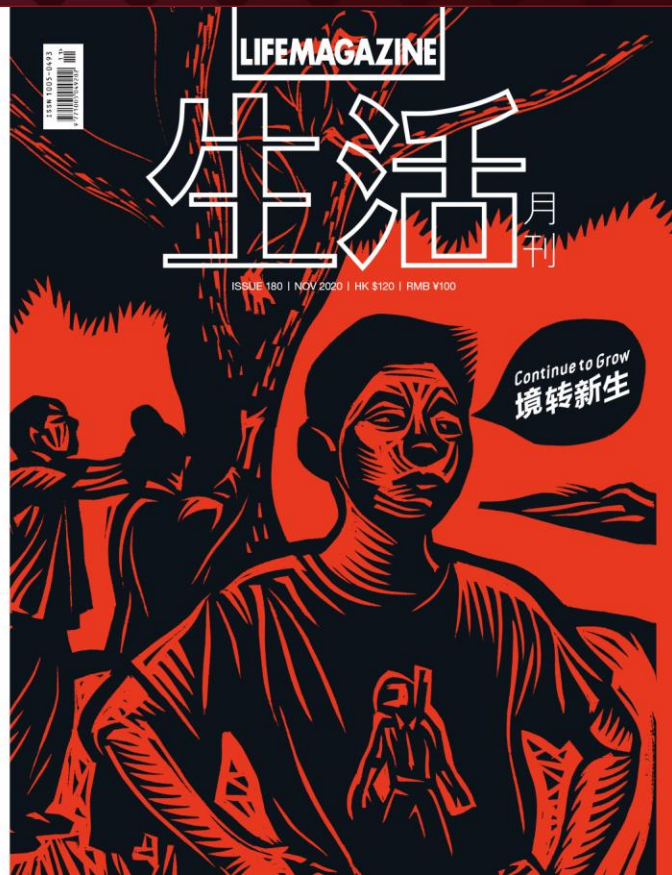
**Continue to Grow
境转新生**

Journalists:

**China Life Magazine Team
《生活》月刊团队**



杨晓·冯国平·2020·中国



Award for Excellence

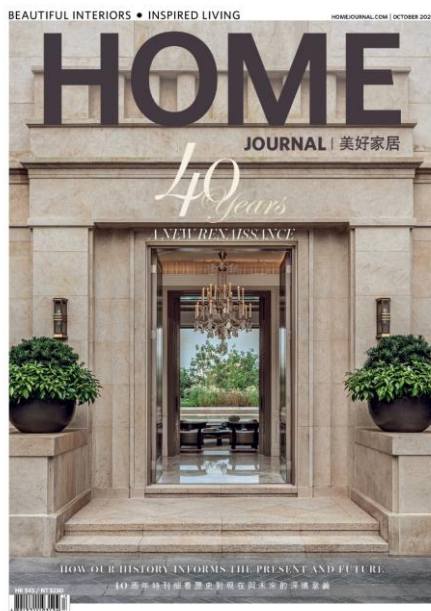
CITY MAGAZINE

《號外》



Home Journal

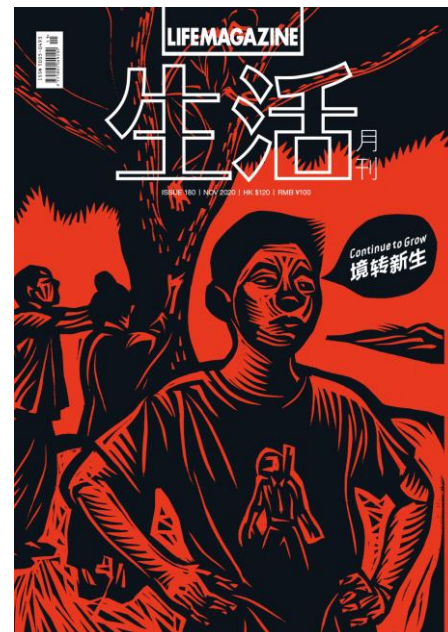
《美好家居》



Honorable Mention

LIFE MAGAZINE

《生活》月刊



Award for Excellence

CITY MAGAZINE

《號外》

Title of Entry:

NOWNESS ASIA

亞洲當下的美學啟動 電子超級高速公路上的
藝術短片發展

Journalists:

Journalists : Chan Fung King, Nico Tang

Graphic Design : Jim Yiu,

Designer : Wai Li

記者：陳奉京, 鄧炯榕

平面設計師：姚偉豪

美術設計師：李海威

Judges' Comments:

A collectible issue! Audacious. Creative and provocative design bursting with ideas, from the interactive cover to the horizontal page layouts, explosive typography and choice of photography. I simply couldn't get enough of this magazine.



NOWNESS.CN

貫穿生活
的美學範例

隨著科技進步，拍攝影片的門檻變得愈來愈低，現在甚至只需要下載一兩個 APP，從拍片到影片基本上是一部電話就可以包辦，然後透過社交媒體你就可以將作品成功發布出去，讓拍攝影片不再是導演或是藝術家們的專利，今天每個人隨時隨地都可以隨心創作。早於十年前 NOWNESS.COM 開始每日發布一條短片的形式，以時尚且富藝術感的美學角度出發，叫大家在日常平凡的生活裡發現不平凡；有趣的是，三年前 NOWNESS 被現代傳播集團收購，讓這個國際視頻平台在中國落地生根。編輯總監 LAWRENCE 說 NOWNESS 的定位依然是「高文化輸出」。只是在這個方興未艾的短片國度裡，NOWNESS 的美學願面對著怎樣的挑戰？

Award for Excellence

CITY MAGAZINE

《號外》

Title of Entry:

NOWNESS ASIA

亞洲當下的美學啟動 電子超級高速公路上的
藝術短片發展

Journalists:

Journalists : Chan Fung King, Nico Tang

Graphic Design : Jim Yiu,

Designer : Wai Li

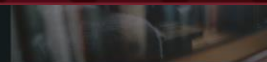
記者：陳奉京, 鄧炯榕

平面設計師：姚偉豪

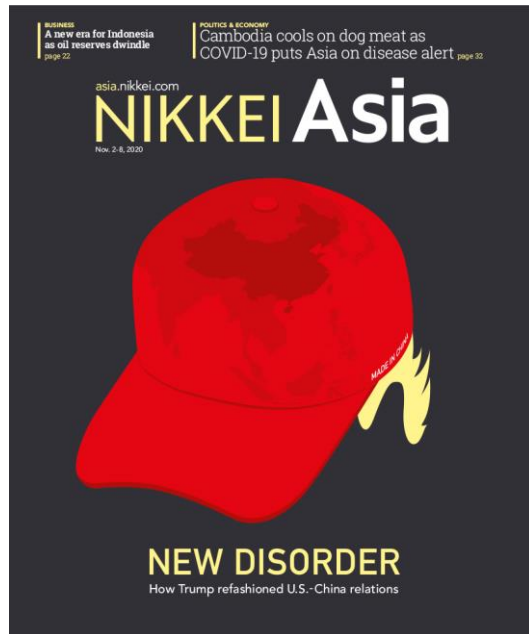
美術設計師：李海威

Judges' Comments:

A collectible issue! Audacious. Creative and provocative design bursting with ideas, from the interactive cover to the horizontal page layouts, explosive typography and choice of photography. I simply couldn't get enough of this magazine.



Nikkei Asian Review



S&P Global Platts



Honorable Mention

This Week In Asia



Honorable Mention

This Week In Asia

Title of Entry:
TOURISM WAKES UP

Journalist:
Quoc Huy Truong

A sustainable financing solution—along with Malaysia's proposal to cut the costs of the original plan—is expected to feature in talks between the two governments' joint men for the development, senior minister for economic affairs and minister for Malaysia and Transport Minister Hishamuddin for Singapore. Singapore's business manager economist Walter Therasia believed the Malaysia administration's immediate focus would be restoring the economy, and assessing trade and investment. "The goal is to build on a solid travel links when all of these haven't been in a solid position, would not make much sense," said Therasia, an associate professor with the Singapore University of Social Sciences. Lee Ai Nee, an economist with Maybank Kim Eng, said financing the project could be a big hurdle, with the two governments having strongly opposed ideas of dollars are their stimulus packages. Singapore has rolled out US\$4.5 billion worth of measures, while Malaysia's stimulus is for jobs up to nearly US\$4 billion—excluding US\$1 billion of direct fiscal injections. Therasia's rebuttal notion that the rail link could have an immediate stimulus effect. "It's unlikely that the spending will come in a very long time, but it will offer a reference for the local economy," he

said. Also on Malaysia's mind was the long-term viability of the project, and a strong consensus that the joint agencies' "new revenue" would include a separate reduction in travel. Experts say the use of videoconferencing tools, which have grown popular during lockdown periods, is likely to be longer term after the health crisis has passed, reducing the need for business travel. In the meantime, the wholesale dumping of US airline stocks by the bond market can congregate as Berkshire Hathaway—its investment portfolio in the United States—has added to the bearishness about the future of the rail. However, Law Teik Hui, an associate professor with Malaysia's

Putra University, remained upbeat about the viability of the rail link. The original plan was for the line to be built in three phases: from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore, a current business district to 25 hours, from an average of 2 hours by air. The actual timeline on the 200km rail line would be 10 months, similar to a flight when take-offs, landings and taxiing are taken into account. A build—the original timeline between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore—was an average of 1.5 hours. "Anything, demand will increase over time," said Law, who speculates about engineering. "Covid-19 will be over one day, and we cannot let

the old days of buses, a packed train and a bus, but back to the original plan." Others, like independent Malaysian transport analyst SM Sultan (SM Sultan), said a fresh feasibility study might be needed to assess just how demand for the link would be affected by factors such as the dramatic rise of online corporate meetings. Estimates published soon after plans for the link were first announced by Hisham and Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in 2013 put the passenger load at 22 million a year within 10 years of operation. James Su, an entrepreneur, said the link would be a game-changer between the two neighbors, with their interrelated economies and sectors, was reason to remain bullish about passenger loads even after taking into account the pandemic's effects. "There has been a lot of talk about the interconnectivity of the Malaysian and Singapore economies, we believe that there is still a strong business case for the connection of the high-speed rail," he said. The analysis said that given the experience of the pandemic, it was likely the project would have "parameters" built into accommodation. "We never thought about things like that before, but due to the coronavirus we so unexpectedly,

but now hygiene and social distancing must be considered in construction," he said. Attention is expected to focus not on the first deadline that the two countries agree. Once the project gets the green light, attention will turn to the international leader for a company to design, build, maintain and finance rolling stock and rail assets. An earlier exercise—which drew interest from major rail players from Japan, China and Germany—was called off after the September 2018 deal to delay the project. It is a sign of global market expectations for the project, the shares of Malaysian construction firms MTL Corporation, Gamuda Berhad and Malaysia Resources Corp Berhad—which were previously awarded a contract for civil works for part of the Malaysian portion of the line—opened markets. It is not known if the awards will be valid when the development is restarted. The latest arm of Iskandar Waterfront Holdings, a Chinese state firm that co-owns the Bandar Malaysia development near the rail link in Kuala Lumpur, has also gained over the last week. Bandar Malaysia's joint venture owner is the Malaysian government and China's China Railway Engineering Corp. ■



SINGAPORE PRIME MINISTER LEE HSIEN LOONG (left) and MALAYSIA PRIME MINISTER ISHMAEL HISHAMUDDIN (right) during a joint press conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on July 10, 2019.

THIS WEEK IN ASIA

MAY 24-30, 2020



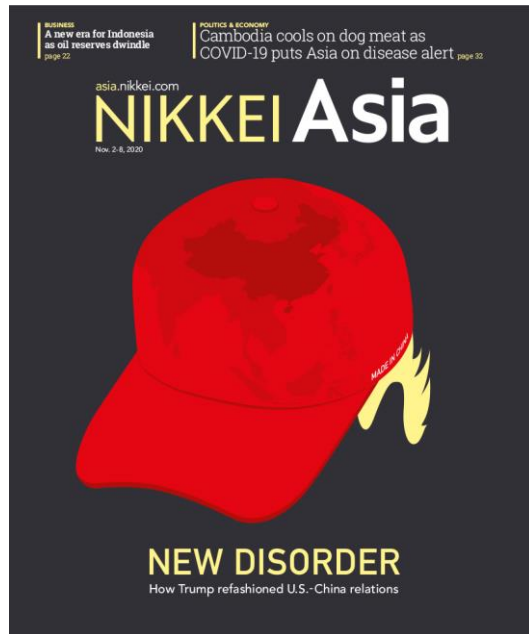
COVID-19 WILL BE OVER ONE DAY, WE CAN'T LET IT HOLD US BACK

Law Teik Hui

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Award for Excellence

Nikkei Asian Review



S&P Global Platts



Honorable Mention

This Week In Asia



Award for Excellence

S&P Global Platts

Title of Entry:

Insight magazine - September 2020

Journalist:

Emma Slawinski

Judges' Comments:

Clean, tight data graphics with the Hin Leong and Asia's Oil recovery as standout graphical presentations. This is what great business reporting should be like every day.



End of an era: the downfall of Hin Leong

The Hin Leong scandal rocked the Singapore trading community earlier this year, topping many earlier bankruptcies in the commodities space in terms of financial losses. Eric Yep unpicks the company's path to self-destruction and assesses the fallout



S&P Global Platts Insight

September 2020

Asia, oil demand
and coronavirus

Battery supply
chains deglobalize

Pricing US Gulf Coast
oil flows

TOP 250
GLOBAL ENERGY
COMPANY RANKINGS

The path to net zero

Award for Excellence

S&P Global Platts

Title of Entry:

Insight magazine - September 2020

Journalist:

Emma Slawinski

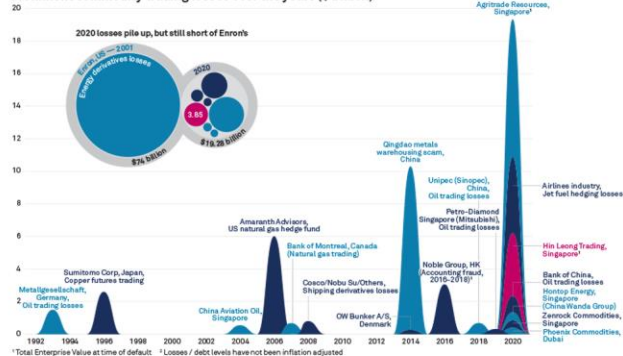
Judges' Comments:

Clean, tight data graphics with the Hin Leong and Asia's Oil recovery as standout graphical presentations. This is what great business reporting should be like every day.

The Hin Leong story: rise and fall of a Singaporean oil tycoon

2020 has been a tough year for oil and even worse for those caught on the wrong side of the price collapse. For Hin Leong Trading, one of Asia's largest petroleum traders founded by Singaporean tycoon Lim Don Kuin, the turmoil exposed faultlines in a highly secretive business.

Prominent commodity trading losses over the years (\$ billion)*

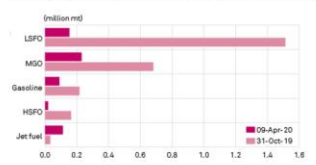


What went wrong at Hin Leong

- Derivatives losses**: of \$800 million go unrecorded, overstatement of derivatives gains by \$2.1 billion over 10 years
- Alleged fabrication of fictitious gains**: from derivatives trading and fictitious sales invoices
- Overstated asset value**: by \$3 billion; \$2.23 billion in recoverable and \$0.8 billion in inventory shortfalls
- Resale of collateralized inventory**: to generate cash flows
- Release of fuel cargo**: to persons not holding bills of lading

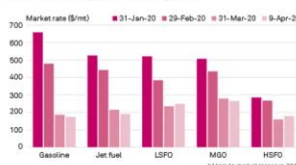
Decline in inventory volume

77% of petroleum stocks (worth \$1.136 billion) lost in 6 months



Decline in inventory value*

Over 50% fall in petroleum fuel prices



Sources: Court documents, company filings, S&P Global Platts, S&P Global Market Intelligence, news reports

26 Insight

September 2020

The rise and fall of Hin Leong

- pre-1963**: OK Lim comes to Singapore from small Chinese town of Putian
- 1963**: Hin Leong Trading is established ("Hin Leong" means "Prosperity")
- 1965**: "One-man-one-truck" dealer sells oil to taxis, buses and fishing boats
- 1968**: Acquires first vessel, 100 dwt "Sea Lion"
- 1973**: Hin Leong Trading incorporated as oil trading company
- 1976**: Ocean Tankers incorporated as ship chartering company
- 1976**: Ocean Bunkering Services set up as bunkering company
- 1980s**: HLT becomes one of Singapore's largest petroleum traders
- 2008**: Universal Terminal starts operations
- 2010**: Talks with Sinopec to build \$6 billion - \$8 billion refinery fizzle out
- 2014**: Plans for Universal Terminal IPO fail to materialize
- April-20**: Brent crude crashes to \$22/b, COVID-19 slashes oil demand
- April-20**: HLT defaults on loans, lenders freeze credit lines
- April-20**: OK Lim resigns, Hin Leong files for bankruptcy protection
- May-20**: Hin Leong put under judicial management
- May-20**: Ocean Tankers put under judicial management
- June-20**: Judicial managers issue report on widespread irregularities
- July-20**: Assets subject to multiple claims, lawsuits
- Aug-20**: OK Lim charged in court for abatement of forgery
- Aug-20**: Xihua Holdings put under judicial management
- Aug-20**: PWC sues OK Lim and 2 children for \$3.5 billion

Lim family empire



September 2020

Insight 27

Excellence in Arts and Culture Reporting 卓越艺术及文化报道奖

Honoring the work that demonstrates high standards of reporting and writing in fine arts and cultural topics, including food and travel.

Apple Daily 蘋果日報

香港低慾望 | 月光族記者實試一周只用\$750 前大學講師
周華山低物慾生活逾10年：源於年輕人看不到前景

更新時間 (HKT): 2020.12.25 06:00



五光十色的霓虹燈，馬照跑、舞照跳、魚翅撈飯、獅子山下的拼搏精神，人人力爭上游向更好的生活進發，「香港在過去三四十年都是高慾望社會，消費、刷爆卡、豪花錢、旅遊、吃喝玩樂，我們很習慣這種高慾望，但現在的高慾望是這樣……」前大學講師、非牟利慈善團體「自在社」創辦人周華山說罷，敲了一記銅鑼，在迴盪的餘音中說道：「外在的世界正在崩潰，現在的高慾望是追求內在的平靜。」香港正由過往的高慾望社會步入不婚、不生、不育、不買樓的低慾望社會趨勢。

Radio Free Asia

不停筆 用艺术为香港发声|专题

2020-09-02

Tweet

Share 0

Email

Comment

Share

Print

电邮本文 评论 分享 打印



香港漫长的“自由之夏”，从2019年初夏点燃烽火，这一年多来，有一群艺术家为香港自由而战，拿画笔当武器，抗争艺术遍地开花。

2019年7月4日，香港《苹果日报》以空白版抗议港府的壹周刊打压，很多艺术家买了报纸回去画画。“年轻版画家Kay Wong买下10多份报纸，以墨水、马克笔、压克力颜料等作画，画下她眼中的反送中运动。”《反抗的画笔》策展人陈怡静告诉采访第一线后，2020年夏天在台湾重现香港的抗争艺术。Kay Wong跨海寄来原稿，一字一句写下作品介绍：“我的画笔会继续追求自由民主。”

《反抗的画笔》展览网罗66位港台艺术创作者，一幅幅画作、漫画如水流般汇聚，透过画笔书写抗争史。“这种展览不可能在香港再出现，就像西藏、新疆一样回不去了。”香港艺术创作者Kevin仁足展场感叹，“港版国安法的无形压力真的是蛮恐怖的，像是白色恐怖的压力。”

“从2014年到现在，香港的自由空间一直往下掉，整个制度已经毁了，这个很痛。”Kevin曾站上雨伞运动的前线，看到政治暴力不断扼杀香港人，他选择投入抗争艺术行列，“我们要让世界知道香港发生什么事情，把我们天赋有的艺术创作能力，转换成抗争的行为。”

Honorable Mention

WHYNOT 歪脑



5月开港，香港回归以来北京特区政府成立后，在香港正式回归后，香港进入了一个新的时代。在回归前的1997年，大陆facebook用户激增，大陆版中，色彩鲜艳非常吸引眼球，黄色经济刺激和文宣，政治的诉求与希望，如此让人难以抗拒。

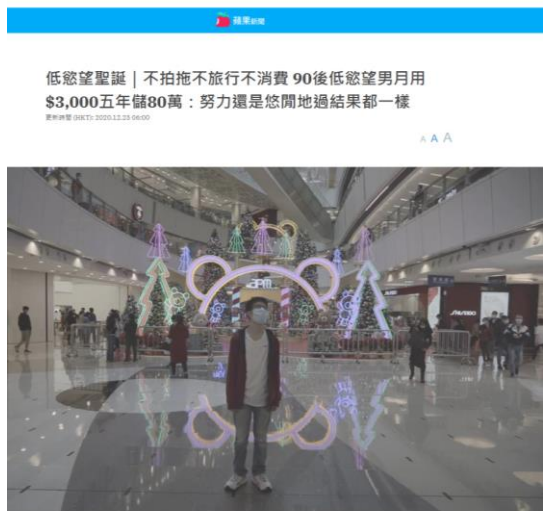
2009年6月18日，《港区国安法》刊例正式生效，香港从此进入新的时代。随着国安法的实施，香港的社会环境发生了巨大的变化，许多艺术家和创作者开始感到压力，他们的创作自由受到了限制。

文艺工作者的使命是创作，而自由是创作的土壤。在未知的国安法红线下，香港文艺工作者对于未来的创作充满焦虑。他们开始寻找新的创作空间，尝试用不同的方式表达自己的观点。



Award for Excellence

Apple Daily
蘋果日報



「**慾望世代**」是日本近年的新興詞彙，又稱低慾望世代，專門形容八九十年代出生的一群，歷經九十年代初經濟泡沫破滅，於是沒有慾望，甚至對應付人際關係都疲憊，亦沒有崇高理想，甘於穩定的現狀，只顧能力範圍內的事，休息日多在自己家中度過，今年二十四歲的Andy Lee就是港版「慾望世代」的一員。

Radio Free Asia

不停筆 用艺术为香港发声|专题

2020-09-02

Tweet

Share 0

Email

Comment

Share

Print



香港漫长的「自由之夏」，从2019年初夏点燃烽火，这一年多来，有一群艺术家为香港自由而战，拿画笔当武器，抗争艺术遍地开花。

2019年7月4日，香港《苹果日报》以空白版抗议港府的壹周刊打压，很多艺术家买了报纸回去画画。「年轻画家Kay Wong买下10多份报纸，以墨水、马克笔、压克力颜料等作画，画下她眼中的反送中运动。」《反抗的画笔》策展人陈怡静告别采访第一线后，2020年夏天在台湾重现香港的抗争艺术。Kay Wong跨海寄来原稿，一字一句写下作品介绍：「我的画笔仍会继续追求自由民主。」

《反抗的画笔》展览网罗66位港台艺术创作者，一幅幅画作、漫画如水流汇聚，透过画笔书写抗争史。「这种展览不可能在香港再出现，就像西藏、新疆一样回不去了。」香港艺术创作者Kevin仁足展场感叹，「港版国安法的无形压力真的是蛮恐怖的，像是白色恐怖的压力。」

「从2014年到现在，香港的自由空间一直往下掉，整个制度已经经受了，这个很痛。」Kevin曾站于雨伞运动的前线，看到政治暴力不断扼杀香港人，他选择投入抗争艺术行列，「我们要让世界知道香港发生什么事情，把我们天赋的艺术创作能力，转换成抗争的行为。」

Honorable Mention

WHYNOT
歪脑



5月开港，香港回归由北京特区政府接管，在香港正式回归后，香港文艺创作者在禁忌的土地上，能生出倔强的花吗？

2020年6月18日，《港区国安法》刊宪正式生效，香港从此进入新的历史阶段。随着国安法的实施，香港文艺创作者在禁忌的土地上，能生出倔强的花吗？

文艺工作者的使命是创作，而自由是创作的土壤，在未知的国安法红线下，香港文艺工作者对于未来的创作充满疑虑，他们问了几个创作问题，尝试解答内心的疑惑。

他以「奴僕」來形容父母對他的養育模式。但在文憑試將父母突然的關心、卻令他發現二人一直隱約抱有期盼。期待他上大學出人頭地。「其實最明顯就是老中學文憑試期間，他們會

Red 17 hours and 15 minutes, including time with his wife during a lay flight, as a crew in Delta 7, Anderson County, Tennessee, October 21.

Honorable Mention

Sixth Tone

Title of Entry:

Future Nostalgia: China's Video Games Plug Into Ancient Culture

Journalist:

Kenrick Davis



Developers are using a modern medium to resurrect centuries-old traditions, as the industry responds to a rising tide of patriotism.

Kenrick Davis

Apr 22, 2021 | 3:29 PM EDT

After his real estate startup collapsed in 2014, Tian Huiyao was left devastated and unsure what to do next. Then he made a decision that caught many off guard.

He would create a mobile game to teach the world about the ancient art of Chinese jinyun.

It has taken nearly six years for the 36-year-old to teach himself to code, assemble a team, and bring his vision to life. But after a few false starts and 5 million yuan (\$740,000) of investment, the game finally launched in June.

In *Mortise & Tenon*, players carve complex joints into floating blocks of wood, so the lumber can slot together tightly. Chinese craftspeople have been constructing buildings using this nail-free technique — known as *summao* in Chinese — for an estimated 7,000 years.

“I hope to lend my strength to passing on *summao* culture ... And to let more people know that China is the coolest.”

—Zao Huiyi, developer

The gameplay is decidedly low-thrill — akin to a 3D version of Tetris, but slower and set to soothing instrumental music. Some have also commented that a shortage of levels somewhat detracts from the experience.

But China's gamers love it. On the app store TapTap, *Mortise & Tenon* has an average rating of 8.1 out of 10 from over 5,000 reviews, and it has already been downloaded over 2 million times across Chinese app platforms.

The secret to the game's success has been its appeal to patriotic users happy to see an intangible national treasure represented with such care and creativity. In the product description, Tian sets out his mission clearly.

“I hope to lend my strength to passing on *summao* culture,” he writes. “To introduce it in a way that young



Gameplay screenshot from the video game Shadow Puppetry. Screen captured from Steam.

“Shadow puppetry is ... a precious treasure given to us by the ancients,” reads the product introduction. “Would it be possible to combine shadow puppetry with games, to make young people understand our China's awesome 5,000 years of culture — while also having fun?”

Indie titles like these remain niche, but they've found a market thanks to the sheer scale of China's video game market. Tian tells Sixth Tone. In 2019, the country had 640 million gamers and its gaming companies made \$33.1 billion in revenue.

Major developers like Tencent and NetEase, meanwhile, are competing to integrate aspects of ancient China into their existing franchises. To do this, they're forming alliances with leading museums and cultural institutions, which help the tech companies create in-game content based on well-known historical artifacts, traditions, and monuments.

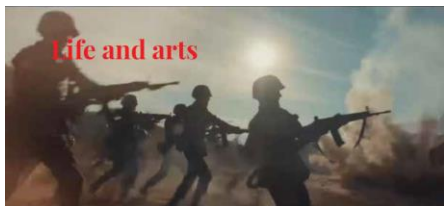
Tencent's highly popular mobile battle game *Honour of Kings*, for example, has used this approach to develop a slew of traditional costumes. Players can now dress characters in outfits inspired by the *tanxian* masks in northwestern China's Miao Grottoes, the southern Chinese tradition of lion dancing, as well as several forms of Chinese opera.

To coincide with Qingming Festival this April, *Honour of Kings* worked with a research institute in the eastern Shandong province to introduce players to the local tradition of kite-making. Players could fly virtual Wharfang kites and view documentaries and livestreams about the craft that were accessible in-game.



Award for Excellence

Frontier Myanmar



Dubious legends

A television drama that extols the role of the Tatmadaw in Myanmar's modern history is a failure of art and propaganda but provides insights into the psychology of the armed forces.



46 | July 16, 2022 | Volume 8, Issue 5

By Myint Myint Thu

We tend to fall in love with films that serve our hearts as well as our minds, and can unwittingly forget all sorts of dialogue in the mix. Understanding this, Myanmar's armed forces have for decades tried to weave citizens into its own vision of itself and its role in the country's modern history through the power of cinema and television. But with different characters, emotional dialogue and contented public, a backlash erupted these attempts.

Handily financed propaganda movies are often released to commemorate armed forces' day, which is marked on March 27 each year. The extravagant, star-studded *Gate of Dawn*, released in 2015, distracted us from the Tatmadaw's brutality in suppressing the 2008 national uprising in urban areas by focusing on a battle between the Tatmadaw and the Karen National Union that happened at the same time. The lavish narrative briefly addressed the bloodshed and brutality of the 8-8-88 uprising, which ended with a ceasefire, by saying, "The Tatmadaw had to take responsibility and protect the country."

Honorable Mention

Sixth Tone



Future Nostalgia: China's Video Games Plug Into Ancient Culture

Developers are using a modern medium to resurrect centuries-old traditions, as the industry responds to a rising tide of patriotism.

Kenneth Davis

March 2021 | 1,000 words

After his real estate startup collapsed in 2014, Tian Fubao was left devastated and unsure what to do next. Then, he made a decision that caught many off guard.

He would create a mobile game to teach the world about the ancient art of Chinese jianyu.

It has taken nearly six years for the 36-year-old to teach himself to code, assemble a team, and bring his vision to life. But after a few false starts and 5 million yuan (\$740,000) of investment, the game finally launched in June.

In *Mortals & Tenors*, players carve complex joints into floating blocks of wood, so the lumber can slot together rightly. Chinese calligraphers have been constructing buildings using this call-free technique — known as *summao* in Chinese — for an estimated 7,000 years.

The gameplay is decidedly low-thrill — akin to a 3D version of Tetris, but slower and set to soothing instrumental music. Some have also commented that a shortage of levels somewhat detracts from the experience.

But China's gamers love it. On the appstore TapTap, *Mortals & Tenors* has an average rating of 9.1 out of 10 from over 5,000 reviews, and it has already been downloaded over 2 million times across Chinese app platforms.

—Tian Fubao, developer

The secret to the game's success has been its appeal to patriotic users happy to see an ancient cultural treasure represented with such care and creativity. In the product description, Tian sets out his mission clearly:

"I hope to lend my strength to passing on *summao* culture," he writes. "To introduce it in a way that young

Sixth Tone



In China's Villages, Bullfighting Enjoys a Bloody Renaissance

In southwestern China, bullfighting has attracted big crowds. But as the sport grows, it's also changing into controversy.

Kenneth Davis

March 2021 | 1,000 words

YUZHONG, Southwest China — At the end of an ancient red country road, a dense crowd of over 3,000 people gathered for a game that was once a village pastime.

Toward noon, the crowd gathered in the village square and along the road. Elderly children ran and play on family picnic mats. Young couples in traditional and modern dress stood around the square, while the fight took place in the center. Women in modern dress held up their phones to take photos of the fight.

It's a wildly traditional scene typical of community life in rural China. But this is no ordinary festival event. The crowd is here to watch a ferocious battle between a human and a bull. In southwestern China, bullfighting has attracted big crowds. But as the sport grows, it's also changing into controversy.

—Kenneth Davis

March 2021 | 1,000 words

The tournament in Yuzhong, Southwest China — an agricultural region in southwestern China — will see more than 70 cattle fight in one-on-one bouts over a succession of stock red rounds, with the eventual winner crowned "king of the bulls." The winner of the top round will take home a commercial prize package, a bull goat, and over 300,000 yuan (\$24,000 in cash).



But it's a wildly traditional scene typical of community life in rural China. But this is no ordinary festival event. The crowd is here to watch a ferocious battle between a human and a bull. In southwestern China, bullfighting has attracted big crowds. But as the sport grows, it's also changing into controversy.

Award for Excellence

Frontier Myanmar

Title of Entry:

**Dubious legends:
The Tatmadaw's propaganda fail**

Journalist:

Frontier Myanmar

Judges' Comments:

Disturbingly prescient. This timely review of a Myanmar television drama financed by the military offers clues as to why the Tatmadaw failed to win an election they rigged heavily in their favor and why international observers failed to see the coup coming.



Dubious legends

A television drama that extols the role of the Tatmadaw in Myanmar's modern history is a failure of art and propaganda but provides insights into the psychology of the armed forces.

By Myint Myat Thu

We tend to fall in love with films that move our hearts as well as our minds, and can unwittingly ingest all sorts of ideology in this way. Understanding this, Myanmar's armed forces have for decades tried to woo citizens over to its own vision of itself and its role in the country's modern history through the power of cinema and television. But with clichéd characters, unnatural dialogue and contrived plots, it has largely bungled these attempts.

Handsomely financed propaganda movies are often released to commemorate Armed Forces Day, which is marked on March 27 each year. The extravagant, star-studded *Epic of Stars*, released in 2013, detracts us from the Tatmadaw's brutality in suppressing the 1988 national uprising in urban areas by focusing on a battle between the Tatmadaw and the Karen National Union that happened at the same time. The film's narrative briefly addresses the bloodstained history of the 6-8-88 uprising, which ended with military coup, by saying, "The Tatmadaw had to take responsibility and protect the country."



This year, for the 73rd anniversary of Armed Forces Day - originally called Resistance Day to commemorate the revolt against the occupying Japanese in World War Two - Tatmadaw propaganda targeted for the more ambitious format of a 15-part TV drama. *Legends of Warriors* is a historical drama that screened on military-owned Myanmar Television and MRTV-4, a joint venture between the government and private company Frontier Group, between March 4 and 27 and was promoted by an aggressive marketing campaign.

But despite its multi-decade narrative, ranging between 1942 and the present day, and its relatively lavish production values and star-filled cast, this drama to the military's untimely victory and achievements represents more of the same. The drama, with its title dialogue, overblown set pieces and naively partisan presentation of history, makes clear that the Tatmadaw has yet to master the subtle art of indoctrination.

In *Legends of Warriors*, the Tatmadaw's infamous role in 1948 is described as being necessary "to protect the country from falling into enemy hands". Many in the TV audience might be expected to roll their eyes, hearing this line more than four years into the term of a popularly elected government whose leaders were heavily



involved in the 1988 uprising.

However, in a year when the National League for Democracy is expected to win another election, *Legends of Warriors* provides a useful insight into how the still-powerful military thinks of itself during changed times, even if the power of its propaganda is doubtful.

One of the main characters in the drama is Mye Mya Thun, a young woman living in the present day who has a crush on the

boy living next door - an aspiring military officer who dreams his life "to be made for the Tatmadaw". Her innocent infatuation evolves into a deeper personal devotion for the military when, "drinking the military blood" inside her, Mye Mya Thun also enlists in the Tatmadaw. The same blind love motivates most characters in *Legends of Warriors* and is presented as an example of how patriotic citizens should regard the armed forces.

Even Karen characters in the drama love the Tatmadaw, despite the war between Karen insurgents and the Tatmadaw. Nya Lay Phun, a Karen nurse who is saving Tatmadaw from during fighting with the Karen National Defence Organisation on Hpaung's mountains in late 1948, is portrayed as a big-hearted angel whose eyes are always filled with tears because she "can't bear the sight of Tatmadaw soldiers suffering".

The drama secures viewers via one of the principal characters that the "Tatmadaw does not harbour any hatred for the Karen" in its attempt to crush the Karen pursuit of greater autonomy is based on the need to save Myanmar "from shattering into pieces". A Karen officer in the Tatmadaw is shown shedding tears when he was prevented from joining battles against the KNDU. Moments before he is taken to a detention camp for Karen on suspicion that he might join the rebels, the Karen Uncle Tom declares that "he is loyal to the Tatmadaw for eternity".



Honorable Mention

Financial Times



Cho Nam-joo: the novelist inspiring east Asia's 'MeToo' movement

Her bestselling novel about South Korea's marriage sector — and shock a child abuse ring

Edward Mills, 10 January 2021

Just minutes into our lunch, with the first of eight courses served but our chopsticks untouched, Cho Nam-joo wants to tell me about her conception.

The South Korean author — whose novel *Killing*, from 2012 has helped to inspire a new wave of women's rights activism in east Asia — says there was a deal struck between her father and his brother.

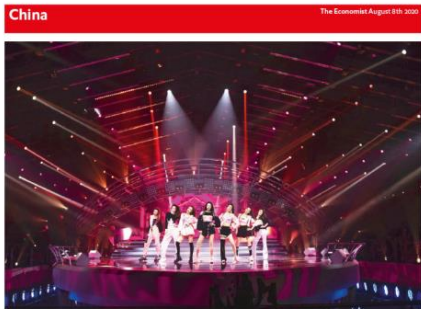
Had she been born a boy, her uncle — whose own wife was pregnant with her sixth child, having already had five daughters — would be free to take the child as his own. (The contemporary cousin turned out to be a boy.)

The tale neatly illustrates the Korean society into which Cho arrived in the late 1970s: boys before girls, men over women. These are the same concerns that animate the 45-year-old writer's groundbreaking book, which has become one of the most popular Korean novels in years, selling a third of a society beset with sexism. More than 100 copies have been sold since it was published four years ago, and translations are now making a mark on hundreds of thousands of readers across Japan, China and Taiwan — countries that, like Korea, have struggled to shake off centuries of patriarchal dominance.

Neither Cho, her editor nor her publisher expected the book to become such a sensation. Before *Killing*, Cho lived in anonymity among greater Seoul's 250,000 citizens. Despite publishing two earlier books — one telling the tale of a boy with sexual violence, another depicting life in a poor district of the South Korean capital — she was mostly unknown in the country's literary scene.

"I was not the kind of author that a publisher contacted first, asking them to write a manuscript," she says. The editors at Minumsa saw some potential, but their target was to sell 8,000 copies.

The Economist



China Heady Hunan

CHINA

How Mao Zedong's home province has become a hot of popular culture

A MONTH THIS summer's television hit in China has been "Seven Who Make Waves". The show involves 10 female celebrities over the age of 30 competing for a spot in a five-member band. Women watch them train, perform and live together (some of the contestants are pictured). Five hundred women, picked at random, get to vote for their favourite. Within three days of its airing in June, over 100 million had watched the first episode on Mango TV, a streaming app owned by the state television network of Hunan, a central province. Social-media sites brim with praise from young females for these somewhat older role models at last, a break from the devoted women and deep-fried figures beloved of official broadcasters.

Making waves is what Hunan Broadcasting System (HBS) does best. It is the most-watched television network after China Central Television (CCTV), the state broadcaster — and occasionally surpasses

them twice as high as their contribution to national output. At their heart in Hunan is a broadcaster with a knack for cranking out programmes that are watched throughout China. Its root men's affiliates produced six of China's best liked consumer dramas and eight of its most popular songs.

Changsha's standing has turned its biennial "Golden Eagle" award into one of China's three most prestigious prize-giving ceremonies for TV stars. By 2019, per person, Hunan ranks sixth among China's 31 provincial-level regions. But its own people are the country's fifth biggest spenders on culture, education and entertainment.

Hunan's journey to national pop-culture prominence began in the 1990s when the provincial broadcasting authorities created a satellite TV station with license to try something new. It produced lively news reports, a celebrity-led variety show called "Happy Camp" and even a matchmaking programme. By 2000 Hunan in Beijing were being given with placards boasting: "We have Hunan Satellite TV", the New York Times observed at the time.

Much of that early success was the work of a Hunanese innovator, Wu Wenbin. When he took over as director of the Hunan Radio and Television Department, Mr Wei read up about America's entertainment industry. On land once used by a state-run rose farm, he built a vast park for television

→ Also in this section

22 Debating divorce

→ Chagun in a way

The Wall Street Journal

WSJ MAGAZINE | FEATURE | MINNIEFRODO

Why BTS Runs the World

The South Korean pop group has reached the top of the U.S. charts, united millions of fans around the world into a self-styled ARMY, shattered online viewing records and been part of a major IPO. Now BTS is preparing to release a new album.



By Kim Yoon-jeong

Nov. 10, 2020 7:57 am ET

WSJ MAG | 107

It's been a really long time since we had a face-to-face interview like this," Rappler J. Hope, 26, a member of the South Korean group BTS, jumps into conversation while waiting for his handouts to settle in. The coronavirus pandemic put a hard stop to the group's world tour, which would have taken them across 27 cities in three continents this year. But it hasn't made them any less busy as they look ahead to the release of a new album.

In early September, all seven members of BTS — short for their Korean name Bangtan Boys, which they alter in English to "Beyond the Scene" — were camped out in Seoul's artsy Yeonnam neighborhood, just weeks after their latest rocky hit, "Dynamite," topped global charts and became the most downloaded song of 2020 in the United States. Dressed in monochrome outfits, rapper RM, Suga and J-hope and vocalist Jung Kook, Jin, V and Jimin — as they are known by their stage names — shuffled between interviews and the BTS' photo shoot inside a house-turned-studio cafe. Clearing security to meet them involved surprisingly little hassle: a name check, temperature screening and Covid-19 health form followed by a short walk to the entrance where security personnel quickly glanced at name tags.

In July, BTS broke the Guinness World Record for staging the biggest virtually attended live-stream music performance, which attracted fans from over 100 countries. "They put the real thing, though. That feeling of being onstage is really the best thing I probably get in life. Even if I were one day, I think I'd be back for this," says Jin, 27, of being onstage in front of BTS' devoted fans, officially dubbed ARMY. The name stands for "Adorable Representative M.C. for Youth," though the demographics of the band's fans have now extended well beyond that age group.

In part thanks to the ardor of the ARMY—which one count estimates as high as 48 million, based on online commentary by unique authors—the band is often called "the Beatles of

Honorable Mention

The Economist

Title of Entry:

The space between the lines: Culture in Xi Jinping's China

Journalists:

Simon Rabinovitch and Stephanie Studer

China

The Economist August 6th 2020 21



Entertainment
Heady Hunan

CHINA
How Mao Zedong's home province has become a font of popular culture

AMONG THIS summer's television hits in China has been "Slayers Who Make Waves". The show involves no female leads, stories over the age of 30 competing for a spot in a five-member band. Viewers watch them train, perform and live together (some of the contestants are pictured). Five hundred women, picked at random, get to vote for their favourite. Within three days of its airing in June, over 300m had watched the first episode on Mango TV, a streaming app owned by the state television network of Hunan, a central province. Social media sites brim with praise from young feminists for these somewhat odd role models; at last, a break from the divorced mothers and dewy-faced ingénues beloved of official broadcasters.

Making waves in what Hunan Broadcasting System (HBS) does best: it is the most watched television network after China Central Television (CCTV), the state broadcaster—and occasionally suppresses

→ Also in this section

21 Debating divorce

→ Chagun a away

tion twice as high as their contribution to national output. At their heart in Hunan is a broadcaster with a knack for cracking out programmes that are watched throughout China. In 2008 Mao's affiliate produced six of China's best-rated consumer dramas and eight of its most popular songs.

Changsha's standing has turned into its ennobling "Golden Eagle" awards into one of China's three most prestigious prize-giving ceremonies for TV stars. By 2019, per person, Hunan ranks 6th among China's 31 provincial-level regions. But its true people are the country's fifth-highest spenders on culture, education and entertainment. Hunan's journey to national pop-culture prominence began in the 1990s when the provincial broadcasting authorities created a satellite TV station with licence to try something new. It produced lively news reports, a celebrity-led variety show called "Happy Camp" and even a matchmaking programme by 2000 hotels in Beijing were luring guests with placards boasting, "We have Hunan Satellite TV", the New York Times observed at the time.

Much of that early success was the work of a Hunanese broadcaster, Wei Wenhui. When he took over as director of the Hunan Radio and Television Department, Mr Wei read up about America's entertainment industry. On land once used by a state-run farm, he built a vast park for television.

Books & arts

The Economist August 16th 2020 61



Body art
The new ink masters

CHINA
China makes its mark on the world of tattoos, both in design and in approach

"TATTOO ARTISTS are those of tall young men, 4, his muscles taut and skin firm. One is covered in thick swags of black Chinese calligraphy from shoulder to wrist. That and the other limbs—around ten in all—are piled in a dissonant heap on Wu Chang's desk. They are models that he commissions, made of silicon rubber that looks and, crucially for him, feels like real skin. Wu Chang is a tattooist in the coastal city of Wenzhou. Having seen hundreds of his carefully inked pieces of art walk out of his studio door, he wanted to keep a few to decorate the walls. "Otherwise, all I have is imperfect pictures," he says.

These might be the quickest tattoos in China, but they are part of a much broader trend. Tattooed arms, backs and legs are fast becoming common sights in the country's biggest cities. The delicate floral and fauna of traditional Chinese art have migrated from rice paper to bodies, carried along by a revolution in techniques. And the innovations pioneered by China's tattooists

government so concerned about cultivating its global appeal, the real question is why it cannot recognise the beautiful gift under its nose—or, more accurately, on the forearm of the nation.

Tattooing is not new in China. Literature from the Tang dynasty (618-907) describes people getting tattooed with scenes of natural beauty and lines from poetry. Without question the most famous tattoo in Chinese history belonged to Yue Fei, a revered 13th-century general in the Song dynasty who had four characters inscribed on his back (the Chinese characters "serve the realm with utter loyalty").

These, though, are the positive exceptions. For much of Chinese history tattoos were seen as markers of trouble. They were the preserve of borderland barbarians, rogues, bandits and criminals, whose faces were sometimes tattooed as punishment. Some believe that Confucianism frowns on tattoos as an act of filial impiety that damages your body, which is seen as an extension of your parents.

China's modern dalliance with tattoos began in the 1980s as foreign fashions streamed into the country, just then opening to the world. Tattoo parlours popped up in its biggest cities, especially Shanghai and Beijing. Artists mostly imitated the designs popular elsewhere. But by the late 1990s a uniquely Chinese style was emerging, best captured in the work of Wei Wen.

→ Also in this section

61 The Freemasons

61 Elena Ferrante's new novel

→ Home Entertainment

61 Listen to the Beatles

Award for Excellence

Financial Times

Title of Entry:

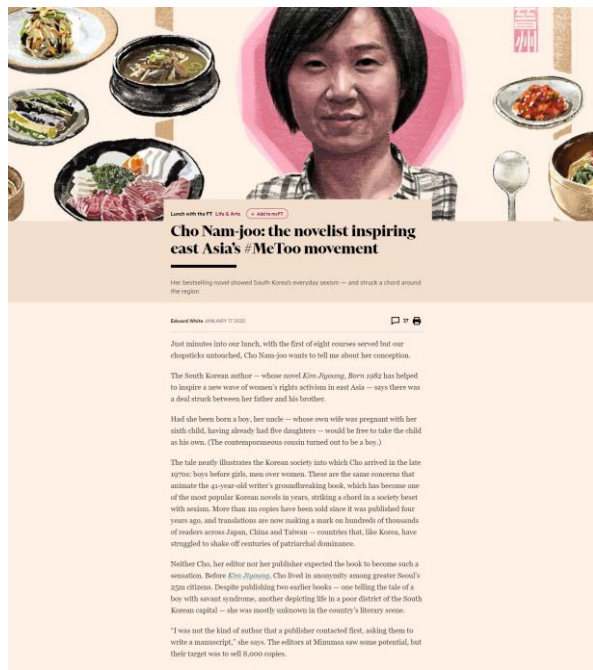
South Korea confronts the challenges facing women in the country

Journalists:

Edward White, Song Jung-a, Kang Buseong

Judges' Comments:

A strong package of well-reported articles that show how South Korea's deep-seated bias against women, including sexual violence, overhangs all aspects of the country's culture even as the K-Pop wave reaches greater heights globally.



The writer has a slight frame and a faintly nervous demeanour. Her understated manner belies the outsized impact of her novel, which follows a Korean woman from childhood to motherhood, documenting the misogyny, sexist discrimination and predatory behaviour she faces along the way. A film adaptation was released in Korea last year, topping the local box office and receiving critical acclaim, and English translations will appear in February in the UK and in April in the US.

The book was written in just a few months in late 2015. Offended by degrading media portrayals of women, but without designs of a bigger project, Cho started collecting interviews, articles and statistics.

Despite boasting the world's 12th largest economy by GDP, following a remarkable rise from the ashes of civil war and widespread poverty, South Korea ranks 108 out of 153 countries in the World Economic Forum's global gender gap report, and the percentage of women in senior corporate and public jobs is among the lowest in the world. There are also high rates of psychological and physical violence against women; a 2017 study by the Korean Institute of Criminology revealed that four out of five men abused their girlfriends while dating.

After a few months of research Cho decided she needed to put it "into my own words". Kim Jiyoung — whose name is the Korean equivalent of "Jane Smith" — was born. "What can I say about Kim Jiyoung? If you look at the cover of the UK and Japan editions, it shows a silhouette with no face. This shows her very well... She doesn't undergo great tragedy or happiness. She can be seen as the collective experience of Korean women — a daughter, a student, an employee and a mother — with the element of the individual taken out; that is what Kim Jiyoung is."

With our shrimp tower still mostly standing, plates with a collection of *jeon* — small fried pancakes — arrive. I offer her first pick while jealously eyeing the

Excellence in Explanatory Reporting 卓越解释性报道奖

Honoring the work that demonstrates high standards of reporting, writing and in-depth analysis to explain a topic of significance.



Honorable Mention

CommonWealth Magazine

天下雜誌

Title of Entry:

Taking on U.S. Pork: How Taiwan Can Win
《天下雜誌》707期〈迎戰美豬 台灣怎麼贏？〉

Journalists:

Laura Kang, Kuo-Chen Lu, Cathy Chiang,
Ching-Kang Wang, Shu-Ren Koo, Sophie Lin,
Yun-Ting Huang
康育萍、呂國禎、江慧珺、王慶剛、
辜樹仁、林綺薇、黃韵庭



豬，是台灣飲食文化的重要一環。從豬頭、豬鬃、豬耳、豬舌、豬心、豬肝、豬肺、豬脾、豬胃、豬小腸、豬大腸、豬尾巴、豬腳、豬蹄、豬骨、豬皮、豬鬃、豬耳、豬舌、豬心、豬肝、豬肺、豬脾、豬胃、豬小腸、豬大腸、豬尾巴、豬腳、豬蹄、豬骨、豬皮，豬的各個部位都能變出不同的料理。在台灣，豬的料理種類繁多，從傳統的滷肉飯、紅燒肉、豬腳湯，到創新的豬肝麵、豬心麵、豬肺麵、豬脾麵、豬胃麵、豬小腸麵、豬大腸麵、豬尾巴麵、豬腳麵、豬蹄麵、豬骨麵、豬皮麵，豬的各個部位都能變出不同的料理。在台灣，豬的料理種類繁多，從傳統的滷肉飯、紅燒肉、豬腳湯，到創新的豬肝麵、豬心麵、豬肺麵、豬脾麵、豬胃麵、豬小腸麵、豬大腸麵、豬尾巴麵、豬腳麵、豬蹄麵、豬骨麵、豬皮麵，豬的各個部位都能變出不同的料理。

豬，是台灣飲食文化的重要一環。從豬頭、豬鬃、豬耳、豬舌、豬心、豬肝、豬肺、豬脾、豬胃、豬小腸、豬大腸、豬尾巴、豬腳、豬蹄、豬骨、豬皮、豬鬃、豬耳、豬舌、豬心、豬肝、豬肺、豬脾、豬胃、豬小腸、豬大腸、豬尾巴、豬腳、豬蹄、豬骨、豬皮，豬的各個部位都能變出不同的料理。在台灣，豬的料理種類繁多，從傳統的滷肉飯、紅燒肉、豬腳湯，到創新的豬肝麵、豬心麵、豬肺麵、豬脾麵、豬胃麵、豬小腸麵、豬大腸麵、豬尾巴麵、豬腳麵、豬蹄麵、豬骨麵、豬皮麵，豬的各個部位都能變出不同的料理。

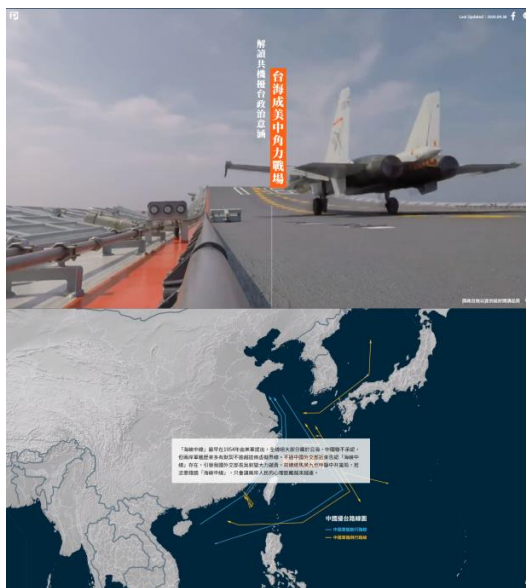
Honorable Mention

CommonWealth Magazine
天下雜誌



Award for Excellence

Taiwan Public Television Service



United Daily News
聯合報



但到了歐巴馬執政後期，美國發現中國藉由發展一帶一路在東亞各國發展勢力、竊取美國技術，幾乎有超越美國的態勢。習近平的「戰戰外交」也讓美國備感威脅。

Honorable Mention

Rappler

Ocean lockdown: Filipino seafarers face perils, death at sea

NOTED: 2021 6:06 PM PST
ANA P. SANTOS



MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Part 2: Long-haul fishing is notorious for its exploitative working and deplorable living conditions. Solitary months in the high seas place crew at the mercy of extreme weather disturbances and at risk of physical abuse by multination captains.

DEBORAH LUNA BRILL AND KRISTINA DIA
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PULITZER CENTER

Imen Caban and 13 other men carefully wrapped their 1-year-old son in a white blanket before placing it in the ship's freezer. Afterwards, the men gathered around a sleep-deprived

Some Chinese crew members played cards on their 10 by 10 table and laid out some food, a bottle of instant noodle, and coffee. In the kitchen, they lit cigarettes and hung it on the freezer's lock.



Sixth Tone



Many in China are calling for the country to scrap the two-child policy. Yet families that break the rules, or face harsh punishments.

by David

2021-01-11 10:00 AM

This is the third story in a series exploring how China's decision to end the one-child policy has impacted Chinese society over the past few years. The policy change, which allowed some families to have two children, was announced in 2016. The other articles in the series can be read [here](#) and [here](#).

For most people in China, the upcoming national census is a source of anxiety. But for Chen Yueshan, it's a source of intense anxiety.

The Beijing resident, who spoke with Sixth Tone using a pseudonym to protect her privacy, is worried the census is a double-edged sword for Chinese families who will receive her family's secret.

In March 2019, Chen gave birth to a daughter — her third child. Ever since, she's been trying to keep the little girl as hidden as possible, in case the authorities punish her family for breaking China's one-child ban.

Chen and her husband have more photos of their new baby in social media, most of their friends, and colleagues have no idea she has a daughter.

"The rest of this colleague lives in the same neighborhood, my husband never shows their daughter for a week otherwise," Chen tells Sixth Tone. "He's afraid of bumping into his colleague."

Despite concealing to one child policy in 2015, China is now facing a baby boom. In 2019, the country had a birth rate of 12.37 per 1,000 people, a record high since 1963. The country has not yet got rid of the double-edged sword policy, allowing women and men will receive tough penalties on anyone caught breaking the rules. Couples that have a third child face fines from 10,000 to 20,000 yuan, and child employees are sometimes fired and blacklisted.

For Chen and her husband — who both work in the public sector — the threat of being fined is a very real. They have no intention that anyone will report them to the family planning bureau. Chen also mentioned her concerns might be over her family's details to the authorities.

For the birth ban of the one-child policy, birth bans, they might not die a surprise. Chen said years, there have been other women who have been punished for breaking the country's birth controls.

Growing number of experts and officials have called for the two-child rule to be scrapped, arguing it would help boost the country's slowing birth figures. In 2019, there were more than 1.6 billion people in China, the world's second most populous country.

Sixth Tone



Inside Wuhan's 'Fangcang' Shelter Hospitals

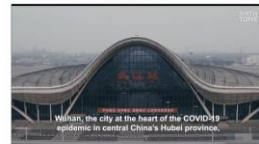
Since February, Wuhan authorities have sought to quarantine COVID-19 patients with mild symptoms in new administrative clinics. How does the system work?

Part 2

2020-03-11 10:00 AM

Nearly three weeks passed from the day Chen Chen was shown a more single room CT scan to the day she was told she could leave a hospital bed. Two of those weeks she spent quarantined at her home in Wuhan, the capital of China, in the heart of the COVID-19 epidemic. The third she spent in isolation at a designated clinic.

But the last night for Chen wasn't at a typical hospital. Instead, she was admitted to a sports arena — one of 16 temporary "Fangcang hospitals" or Fangcang set up in Wuhan since late February, allowing the discharge of beds in traditional hospitals.



Wuhan, the city at the heart of the COVID-19 epidemic in central China's Hubei province.

The 36-year-old Wuhan resident had been experiencing fatigue, intermittent fever, and a dry cough since taking her fourth fever in late January. CT scans showed that both patients had lung damage. Though the new hospital health care system at the time — established and set up of health media resources, and medical staff — made it impossible for them to be admitted. Out of options, they decided to go to the Fangcang hospital for the next two weeks.

In China, there are around 1,000 Fangcang for every 10 Fangcang beds, according to official data. Originally, conventional medical resources often mean that or even end a process must only on a few Fangcang hospital for the most serious cases. The Fangcang of Fangcang beds in Wuhan was set up early in the city grappling with the COVID-19 epidemic, and eventually made Fangcang beds in late Jan. 20.

During the early stages of the epidemic in Wuhan, many infected patients with mild symptoms were unable to receive treatment because beds were required for patients whose conditions were severe. But almost treatment on the day of these mild patients' health deteriorating to severe, with sufficient quarantine periods may have caused the epidemic to spread further. Wu Xianmei, the head of China's National Health Commission, said last week.

Award for Excellence

Sixth Tone

Title of Entry:

China's Two-Child Policy, Five Years On

Journalists:

Ni Dandan, Fan Yiyi, Wang Lianzhang

Judges' Comments:

A comprehensive and broadly reported look at the ramifications of China's shift to a two-child policy. The detailed interviews with parents and grandparents help to bring the issues to life, giving the stories a more intimate tone.



The Lingering Fear of China's Three-Child Families

Many in China are calling for the country to scrap the two-child policy. Yet families that break the rules still face harsh punishments.

Ni Dandan

10/28/2020 | 7 min read

This is the third story in a series exploring how China's decision to end the one-child policy has impacted Chinese society over the past five years. The policy change, which allowed every family to have two children, was announced on Oct. 29, 2015. The other articles in the series can be read [here](#) and [here](#).

For most people in China, the upcoming national census is a minor annoyance. But for Chai Yuanxuan, it's a source of intense anxiety.

The Beijing resident, who spoke with Sixth Tone using a pseudonym to protect her privacy, is worried the once-in-a-decade survey of Chinese households will uncover her family's secret.

In March 2019, Chai gave birth to a daughter — her third child. Ever since, she's been trying to keep the little girl as hidden as possible, in case the authorities punish her family for breaking China's two-child limit.

Chai and her husband have never posted photos of their new baby on social media. Most of their friends and colleagues have no idea the child exists.

"As one of his colleagues lives in the same neighborhood, my husband never dares take our daughter for a walk downstairs," Chai tells Sixth Tone. "He's afraid of bumping into his colleague."

“
My husband never dares take our daughter for a walk ... He's afraid of bumping into his colleague.

- Chai Yuanxuan, mother

Despite scrapping its one-child policy in 2015, China is nevertheless facing a historically low birth rate and a **rapidly aging population**. The country has yet to get rid of its decades-old family-planning system and can still impose tough penalties on anyone caught breaking the rules. Couples that have a third child face heavy fines, and state employees are sometimes **fired and blacklisted**.

For Chai and her husband — who both work in the public sector — the threat of losing their jobs is very real. They live in constant fear that someone will report them to the family-planning bureau. Chai is also concerned the census takers might forward their details to the authorities.

Yet the family hopes if they can just keep their heads down, they might one day get a reprieve. Over recent years, there has been a slow, uneven, but undeniable shift in China toward further loosening the country's birth controls.

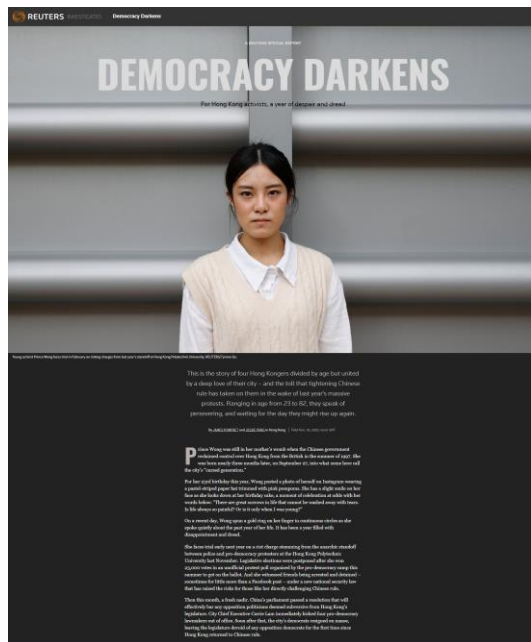
A growing number of experts and officials have called for the two-child rule to be scrapped, arguing it would help boost the country's plunging birth figures. In 2018, there were even **signs** the government might comply.

That year, several deputies to the National People's Congress — China's top legislative body — submitted a proposal to eliminate birth limits. Some demographers confidently **forecast** the change would be implemented by the end of the year.

Those predictions ultimately proved to be premature, but some local authorities have taken their own steps to defang the family-planning regime. At least nine provinces, for example, have **abolished** regulations forcing public sector employers to fire staff for having a third child.

Honorable Mention

Reuters



The Wall Street Journal



The Wire China

The Wire *China*

Is America's Antibiotic Supply at Risk?

With a global pandemic and a fraught trade war, many are wondering if China's pharmaceutical monopoly presents a national security threat.

BY GARDNER HARRIS AND ALEX W. RAUBER — APRIL 12, 2020



WASHINGTON — The baby had so many pounds wringing his face he could barely open his right eye, a photograph that left the president, national security adviser and close aides nearly speechless with horror. A global pandemic had begun in a hospital in Oklahoma City. Doctors soon diagnosed smallpox, a virulent, deadly and disgusting infection that had disappeared from the planet two decades before. What would the president do? This was the scenario that a cast of Washington power players sought to tackle over two days at Andrews Air Force Base in June 2001. The exercise, code-named Dark Winter, has passed into Washington lore as the first high-profile alarm of the dire consequences of a pandemic. For months after Dark Winter, advisers to President George W. Bush attempted to come to grips with what they predicted would happen in such a contagious overlanded hospital, broken medical supply chain and frenzied grocery buying. Three months later, the 9/11 attacks hit.

Honorable Mention

Reuters

Title of Entry:

Democracy Darkens in Hong Kong

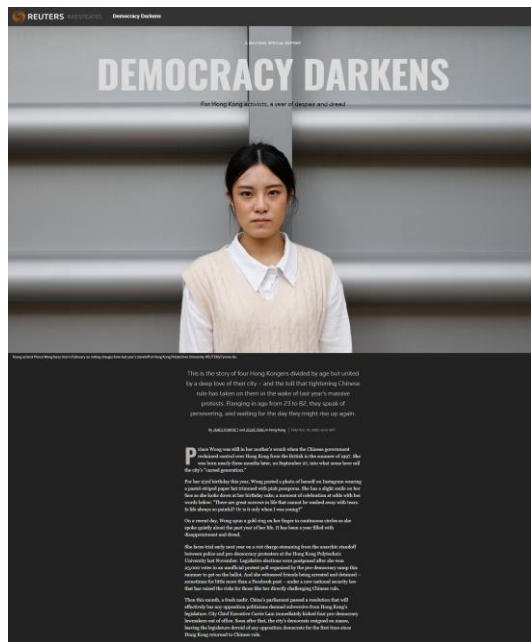
Journalists:

**Anne Marie Roantree, James Pomfret, Jessie Pang,
Pak Yiu, Marius Zaharia, Tyrone Siu**



Honorable Mention

Reuters



Award for Excellence

The Wall Street Journal



The Wire China

The Wire *China*

Is America's Antibiotic Supply at Risk?

With a global pandemic and a fraught trade war, many are wondering if China's pharmaceutical monopoly presents a national security threat.

BY GARDNER HARRIS AND ALEX W. RAUBER — APRIL 12, 2020



WASHINGTON — The baby had so many pounds wringing his face he could barely open his right eye, a photograph that left the president, national security adviser and close aides nearly speechless with horror. A global pandemic had begun in a hospital in Oklahoma City. Doctors soon diagnosed smallpox, a virulent, deadly and disgusting infection that had disappeared from the planet two decades before. What would the president do? This was the scenario that a cast of Washington power players sought to tackle over two days at Andrews Air Force Base in June 2001. The exercise, code-named Dark Winter, has passed into Washington lore as the first high-profile alarm of the dire consequences of a pandemic. For months after Dark Winter, advisers to President George W. Bush attempted to come to grips with what they predicted would happen in such a catastrophic overlanded hospital, broken medical supply chain and frenzied grocery buying. Three months later, the 9/11 attacks hit.

Award for Excellence

The Wall Street Journal

Title of Entry:

Xi Jinping's "China Solution"

Journalists:

Jeremy Page, Lingling Wei, Liza Lin

Judges' Comments:

A very good example of explanatory journalism. Among the articles, however, the profile of Xi stands out as a very well reported and illuminating portrait of the Chinese leader. It takes the reader through his entire life history in a way that offers real insights into the kind of leader he became and the policy direction he has chosen.



How the U.S. Misread China's Xi: Hoping for a Globalist, It Got an Autocrat

Early hopes that Xi Jinping would want closer integration with the U.S.-led global order have become one of the biggest strategic miscalculations of the post-Cold War era

By [Jeremy Page](#)

Feb. 22, 2022 7:46 am ET

PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD

NEWSPAPER

BEIJING—In the two years before Xi Jinping became China's leader in 2012, U.S. officials tried to size him up through a series of face-to-face meetings.

During talks in China in 2011, Mr. Xi, then vice president, asked about civilian control of the U.S. military, shared his thoughts on uprisings in the Middle East and spoke, unprompted, about his father, a renowned revolutionary. When he visited the U.S. in 2012, he was relaxed and affable, chatting with students and posing for pictures with Magic Johnson at a Los Angeles Lakers basketball game.

The U.S. officials' conclusion: Although Mr. Xi was far more confident and forthright than Hu Jintao, the stiff and scripted leader he would succeed, he likely shared his commitment to stable ties with Washington and closer integration with the U.S.-led global order. Some even hoped Mr. Xi would kick-start stalled economic reforms.

It was one of the biggest strategic miscalculations of the post-Cold War era.

Excellence in Business Reporting 卓越经济报道奖

Honoring the work that demonstrates high standards of reporting on a business topic of significance.

Honorable Mention

Business Weekly 商業周刊



Initium Media 端傳媒



Initium Media 端傳媒



Honorable Mention

Business Weekly
商業周刊

Title of Entry:

100 Trends in the Post-Pandemic World
後疫情世界100關鍵趨勢

Journalists:

製作人: 田習如
文: 蔡靚萱、楊少強、李雅筑、侯良儒
研究員: 李大任
攝影: 駱裕隆
編輯: 周盼儀
設計: 陳靖



Honorable Mention

Business Weekly
商業周刊

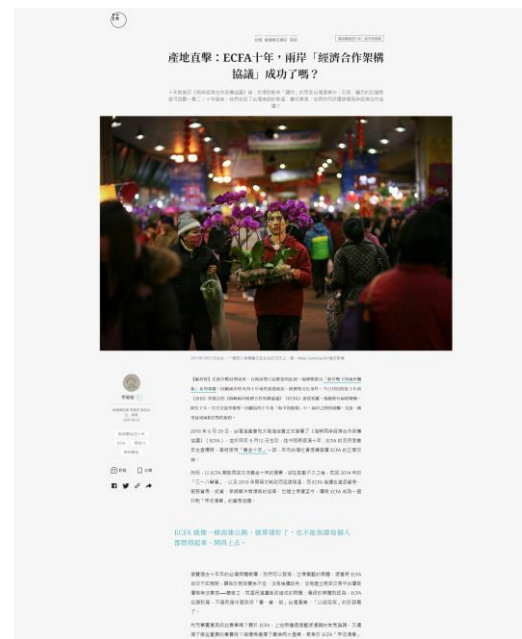


Award for Excellence

Initium Media
端傳媒



Initium Media
端傳媒



Award for Excellence

Initium Media
端傳媒

Title of Entry:

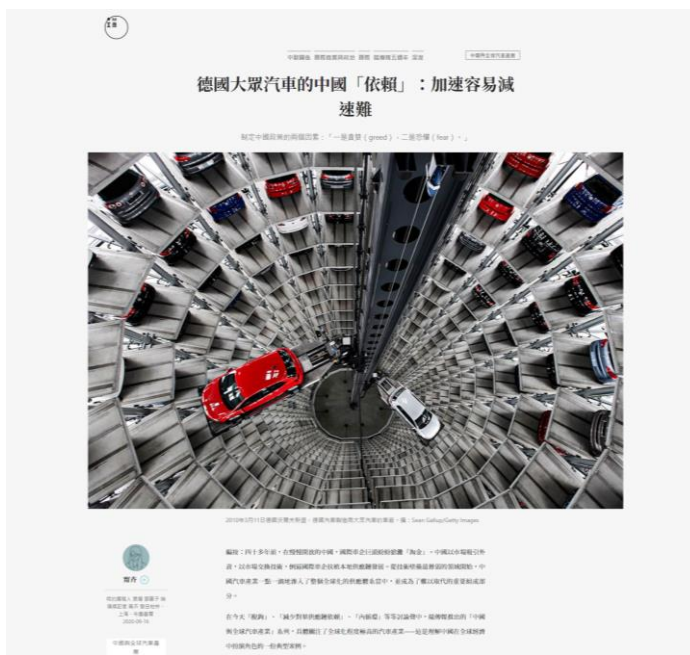
Volkswagen's "dependency" on China: easier to speed up, difficult to slow-down
德國大眾汽車的中國「依賴」：
加速容易減速難

Journalists:

Ning Hui, Zhu Yi, Luo Songsong
甯卉、朱易、羅松松

Judges' Comments:

A good and comprehensive case study on the dilemma global corporations face in operating in China.



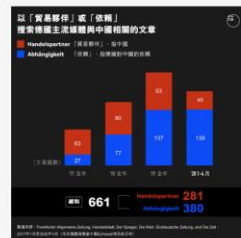
依賴

德國「大眾」(Volkswagen)是「寶馬」(BMW)和「奔馳」(Mercedes-Benz)之外，德國第三大汽車公司。2019年1-9月，大眾汽車在中國市場銷售了14.1萬輛汽車，比2018年同期增長了10%。在中國市場，大眾汽車的銷售額佔其全球總銷售額的15%。

2019年10月，德國工業聯合會 (IHK) 表示，德國汽車業對中國市場的需求，已成為其出口增長的關鍵。在2019年，德國汽車業對中國市場的需求，已成為其出口增長的關鍵。

2019年10月，德國工業聯合會 (IHK) 表示，德國汽車業對中國市場的需求，已成為其出口增長的關鍵。在2019年，德國汽車業對中國市場的需求，已成為其出口增長的關鍵。

2019年10月，德國工業聯合會 (IHK) 表示，德國汽車業對中國市場的需求，已成為其出口增長的關鍵。在2019年，德國汽車業對中國市場的需求，已成為其出口增長的關鍵。



進入2019年，柯世納表示，大眾汽車在中國市場的發展策略是「一慢再慢，二慢再慢，三慢再慢」。

Honorable Mention

Frontier Myanmar

Frontier Myanmar

Sixth Tone



KEZ takes Yangon port operator to court over massive delays

KEZ took to suing the owner of Yangon's largest port for more than 150,000 tonnes, in an effort to get the port's operator to speed up the handling of cargo. The port's operator is the Yangon Port Authority (YPA).

By THE IRRAWADDI and THE IRRAWADDI NEWS SERVICE / IRRAWADDI

The port's largest private bank, KEB, is taking a major step towards the port's operator to speed up the handling of cargo. The port's operator is the Yangon Port Authority (YPA).

KEZ has filed a lawsuit against the port's operator, the Yangon Port Authority (YPA), for more than 150,000 tonnes of cargo. The port's operator is the Yangon Port Authority (YPA).

In the past, the Yangon Port Authority (YPA) has been accused of delaying the handling of cargo. The port's operator is the Yangon Port Authority (YPA).

The port's largest private bank, KEB, is taking a major step towards the port's operator to speed up the handling of cargo. The port's operator is the Yangon Port Authority (YPA).

KEZ has filed a lawsuit against the port's operator, the Yangon Port Authority (YPA), for more than 150,000 tonnes of cargo. The port's operator is the Yangon Port Authority (YPA).



On the Thai-Myanmar border, COVID-19 closes a billion-dollar racket

The closure of borders of Thailand trade along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to fuel and electricity, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

By THE IRRAWADDI and THE IRRAWADDI NEWS SERVICE / IRRAWADDI

The border's closure of borders of Thailand trade along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to fuel and electricity, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

The border's closure of borders of Thailand trade along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to fuel and electricity, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

The border's closure of borders of Thailand trade along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to fuel and electricity, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

The border's closure of borders of Thailand trade along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to fuel and electricity, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

The border's closure of borders of Thailand trade along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to fuel and electricity, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

The border's closure of borders of Thailand trade along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to fuel and electricity, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.



China's African Traders Confront a Formidable New Foe: Alibaba

As the Chinese tech giant tightens its grip on Africa's e-commerce market, Africans in China suddenly find their businesses at risk.

By THE IRRAWADDI

ZHEJIANG, East China — China's Alibaba.com is a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

The garment market is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Today, however, Alibaba.com is the only player to be seen.

You could be a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Alibaba.com's main business is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba.com's main business — and it's a major force in the market through the booming e-commerce of Yangon's International Trade City.

Honorable Mention


Frontier Myanmar

Title of Entry:

KBZ takes Yangon port operator to court over massive debts

Journalists:

Thomas Kean and Kyaw Lin Htoon



Frontier
MYANMAR

KBZ takes Yangon port operator to court over massive debts

KBZ Bank is suing the owner of Myanmar Industrial Port over alleged unpaid debts of more than US\$200 million, in a case that is symptomatic of the problems facing the country's leading banks as they seek to resolve legacy non-performing loans.

By THOMAS KEAN and KYAW LIN HTOON / FRONTIER

The country's largest private bank, KBZ, is taking a leading businessperson and his company to court, alleging unpaid debts in excess of US\$200 million, in what is believed to be Myanmar's largest ever loan default.

KBZ has filed suits against businessman U Ko Ko Hsun and Winmar Aungmye A Shin Company Limited at the Yangon Region High Court, alleging he and the company had failed to repay loans and had accumulated a total debt including interest of around \$226 billion (US\$21.4 million at current exchange rates).

Ko Ko Hsun is the managing director of M&I and his family holds 100 percent of the company, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. M&I owns and operates one of the country's busiest ports, Myanmar Industrial Port in Yangon's Shwepyithar Township.

In 2016, the International Finance Corporation provided a \$40 million convertible loan to M&I to expand the port but the relationship later soured over company governance issues, according to two sources with knowledge of the deal.

The loan was envisaged as the first phase of a \$200 million financing package that would also have included \$140 million in long-term senior loans from the IFC and other foreign lenders, but the second phase never materialised. IFC confirmed to Frontier that it exited the project in December 2018 after M&I repaid the \$40 million loan.

KBZ commenced litigation against Ko Ko Hsun and M&I in December 2019 and this month the bank began presenting evidence to support its claim. Frontier understands it is the largest such claim to be heard in a Myanmar court, and that, taken together, Ko Ko Hsun and M&I are possibly the largest private sector entities in the Myanmar banking system.

At a January 13 hearing attended by Frontier, lawyers for KBZ alleged that Ko Ko Hsun owed the bank more than \$43 billion in principal and interest as of October 30, 2019. In a separate hearing the following day they alleged that M&I had accrued debt of \$216.3 billion in November 6, 2019.

At the hearings, lawyers for KBZ said the bank initiated the legal action because failure to repay the loans could lead to losses for the bank as well as the public, whose money – in the form of deposits – was lent to M&I and Ko Ko Hsun.

The lawyers detailed how Ko Ko Hsun and M&I had in 2015 raised an overdraft of \$1.2 billion and \$140 billion, respectively, at an interest rate of 5 per cent. The interest was reduced to 3 per cent in 2017, the bank's lawyers told the court.

By the time KBZ called in the debt in December 2017, Ko Ko Hsun had increased the overdraft on more than 10 occasions, and M&I had raised its overdraft at least five times, the bank's lawyers told the court this month. They did not specify whether Ko Ko Hsun or M&I had made any payments to reduce the overdrafts since the loans were issued, or what the increases for the overdraft were used for.

Honorable Mention

Frontier Myanmar



KEZ takes Yangon port operator to court over massive debts

KEZ took to suing the owner of Yangon's largest port for more than 150,000 million, in a case that is symptomatic of the problems facing the country's leading banks as they seek to resolve long-term performing loans.

By THE IRRAWADDI and ANTHONY LUN (SINGAPORE) | FEBRUARY 2021

The country's largest private bank, KEZ, is taking a leading businessman and his company to court, alleging unpaid debts totalling over 150,000 million Kyats (about \$1.5 billion) to Myanmar's largest ever bank.

KEZ has filed a suit against businessman U Kyauwe and his company, Kyauwe & Co. (K&C), the owner of the Yangon Yangon High Gate, a major port and the country's largest port. The company has been in financial trouble since it was founded in 2010, and its debts to KEZ are mounting.

As for the bank, it is the managing director of K&C who has been in the spotlight, with the company's financial problems and its relationship with the government's financial institutions. The bank's relationship with the government's financial institutions is a key factor in the bank's financial problems.



Award for Excellence

Frontier Myanmar



On the Thai-Myanmar border, COVID-19 closes a billion-dollar racket

The closure of borders of illegal trade goods along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to drugs and cosmetics, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

By NAI JITTU BUN and THEIRADA KHAU | FEBRUARY 2021

The borders, billions of dollars of goods have crossed the Thai-Myanmar border through the border with goods from China's border. The border is a key factor in the country's economy.

But the borders of illegal trade goods along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to drugs and cosmetics, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

But the borders of illegal trade goods along the border with Thailand to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is causing shortages of everything from food and medicine to drugs and cosmetics, highlighting the vast scale of informal trade with Thailand.

Sixth Tone



China's African Traders Confront a Formidable New Foe: Alibaba

As the Chinese tech giant fights to gain a foothold in Africa's e-commerce market, Africans in China suddenly find their businesses at risk.

By Peter

ZWE SING, East China — China's Alibaba cuts a formidable figure in the markets through the booming e-commerce of New International Trade City.

The giant market is the world's largest for wholesale goods — an Alibaba's core focus with cheap goods in China's products. During its first year, traders bring in 100,000 tons of goods from China to Africa, and the market is growing.

Today, however, Alibaba is the only player to be seen.

You need to be a major African businessman who owns their businesses connecting companies to their home courts with Chinese manufacturers. But the city has changed drastically in 2020.

Across 80% of China's Africa residents left China during the last New Year holiday in late January, and as China's economy was not starting to take hold, few have returned, with China's economy not starting to take hold.

The roughly 1,500 Africans that stayed here, however, found a tough year. While they avoided the problems encountered by Black residents in southern China, they entered a world of lockdown and months of lockdown.

Now, business is finally picking up again at the International Trade City. Yet Alibaba — a multinational e-commerce giant — is still the only player to be seen.

It is not because he has not been successful in connecting companies, though they hardly help. Rather, it's the way the pandemic has helped market a new business model, one that is more directly competing with him for sales in the e-commerce giant Alibaba.

"I don't see Alibaba really as the owner of Alibaba," says Maguire, "who is a platform for selling Chinese companies. Now, it's because part of the African trade network."

The Chinese tech giant is a major player in the market, and it's the only player to be seen.

Trade in the market is a key factor in the market, and it's the only player to be seen.

Trade in the market is a key factor in the market, and it's the only player to be seen.


Award for Excellence


Frontier Myanmar

Title of Entry:
Myanmar's billion-dollar border racket

Journalists:
Naw Betty Han and Thomas Kean

Judges' Comments:
What fun coverage. It's rare to read such blatant examples of officials skirting the law, and benefiting from it. While the smuggling activities described in these articles were to some degree hiding in plain sight, the journalists deserve enormous credit for bringing them into the public eye -- and apparently at great risk to their own safety.





On the Thai-Myanmar border, COVID-19 closes a billion-dollar racket

THE NEW YORK TIMES

By NAW BETTY HAN and THOMAS KEAN / FRONTIER


For decades, billions of dollars of goods have crossed the Thai-Myanmar border through dozens of illegal trade gates in Kayah State's Myawaddy Township that are run by armed groups.

Each day, hundreds of trucks drive to the Thai side of the Thung Yit (or Thai River) in Myanmar, where their cargo is processed by Thai Customs, unloaded by hand onto small boats, ferried across the narrow stretch of water to Myawaddy and stored in warehouses for distribution throughout Myanmar. Most of this happens in broad daylight, and is legal on the Thai side and tacitly approved in Myanmar.

Through conflict, natural disaster and political instability, these "hot gates" have nearly always remained open, providing a steady stream of imported goods to markets around the country.

Not only do the gates provide a financial lifeline to the armed groups that control them, they enable businesses to skirt trade regulations — and Customs duties — on everything from fabric and liquor to cars and used refrigerators, costing the country hundreds of millions of dollars a year in lost tax revenue. Government officials acknowledge the gates are illegal, but insist they are powerless to close them.

But then came COVID-19. For the past two months the illegal gates have been closed, and cross-border trade has been limited to a single official crossing, the No 2 Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge. Although some traders have tried to switch to legal channels, most of the goods, such as liquor, that come through the illegal gates cannot be imported legally. Trade has fallen from about US\$10 million a day in February to as little as \$1 million a day in April, according to the Myawaddy Chamber of Commerce. Stocks of imported goods have run out, while exports to Thailand have also been hit hard.



Honorable Mention

The Information

EXCLUSIVE ASIA APPLE

Apple Took Three Years to Cut Ties With Supplier That Used Underage Labor



By Wayne Ma

Share full article

Dec. 31, 2020 6:01 AM PST

Seven years ago, Apple made a staggering discovery: Among the employees at a factory in China that made most of the computer parts used in its MacBooks were two 15-year-olds. Apple told the manufacturer, Suyin Electronics, that it wouldn't get any new business until it improved employee screening to ensure no more people under 16 years of age got hired.

Suyin pledged to do so, but an audit by Apple three months later found three more underage workers, including a 14-year-old. Apple, which has promised to ban suppliers that repeatedly use underage workers, stopped giving Suyin new business because of the violations. But it took Apple more than three years to fully cut its ties with Suyin, which continued to make HDMI, USB and other parts for older MacBooks under previous contracts. A person close to Suyin, which is headquartered in Taiwan, said that the company hadn't intentionally hired underage workers and that it had passed Apple's audits in later years.

The New York Times

Internet Police to Action

Online enforcers are dragging in hundreds for questioning as an assault on online speech continues. They are a sign of how Beijing has given censors a more punitive role.

f d t w



David Hong



By Paul Mozur

March 16, 2020

SHANGHAI — As China tries to reshape the narrative of its fumbled response to the coronavirus outbreak, it is turning to a new breed of police that carry out real-world reprisals for digital misdeeds.

The Wall Street Journal



Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executive in viral market opposed recent Indian government action on employee safety

By David G. ...

Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executive in viral market opposed recent Indian government action on employee safety

By David G. ...

Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executive in viral market opposed recent Indian government action on employee safety

By David G. ...

Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executive in viral market opposed recent Indian government action on employee safety

By David G. ...

Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executive in viral market opposed recent Indian government action on employee safety

By David G. ...

Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executive in viral market opposed recent Indian government action on employee safety

By David G. ...

Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executive in viral market opposed recent Indian government action on employee safety

By David G. ...

Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Honorable Mention

The New York Times

Title of Entry:

With Technology, China Seizes Control

Journalists:

Paul Mozur, Raymond Zhong, Aaron Krolik, Ronen Bergman, Edward Wong

Internet Police to Action

Online enforcers are dragging in hundreds for questioning as an assault on online speech continues. They are a sign of how Beijing has given censors a more punitive role.



David Huang

 By Paul Mozur

March 18, 2020

SHANGHAI — As China tries to reshape the narrative of its fumbled response to the coronavirus outbreak, it is turning to a new breed of police that carry out real-world reprisals for digital misdeeds.

The internet police, as they are known here, have gained power as the Communist Party has worked to seize greater control over the thoughts, words, and even memories of China's 800 million web users. Now, they are emerging as a bulwark against the groundswell of anger over governance breakdowns that exacerbated the epidemic.

Officers arrive with an unexpected rap at the door of online critics. They drag off offenders for hours of interrogation. They force their targets to sign loyalty pledges and recant remarks deemed politically unacceptable, even if those words were made in the relative privacy of a group chat.

In the central city of Chengdu, a recent law school graduate, Li Yuchen, said he was pulled from his home in early February after writing a sarcastic treatise in classical Chinese about censorship. The police questioned him from late afternoon until midnight, first asking him whether he loved his country, to which he said yes. Mr. Li said he was forced to sign a statement disavowing his views and pledging loyalty to the party.

The experience mirrored what happened to the hero of Mr. Li's essay, a Wuhan doctor named Li Wenliang, who tried to alert colleagues about the spread of a mysterious virus in a chat group, only to be called to a police station and forced to sign a confession for spreading rumors.

When Dr. Li died of the coronavirus, waves of mourning and anger swept across China's internet.

The Information

EXCLUSIVE ASIA APPLE

Apple Took Three Years to Cut Ties With Supplier That Used Underage Labor



By Wayne Ma

Share full article

Dec. 31, 2020 6:01 AM PST

Seven years ago, Apple made a staggering discovery: Among the employees at a factory in China that made most of the computer ports used in its MacBooks were two 15-year-olds. Apple told the manufacturer, Suyin Electronics, that it wouldn't get any new business until it improved employee screening to ensure no more people under 16 years of age got hired.

Suyin pledged to do so, but an audit by Apple three months later found three more underage workers, including a 14-year-old. Apple, which has promised to ban suppliers that repeatedly use underage workers, stopped giving Suyin new business because of the violations. But it took Apple more than three years to fully cut its ties with Suyin, which continued to make HDMI, USB and other ports for older MacBooks under previous contracts. A person close to Suyin, which is headquartered in Taiwan, said that the company hadn't intentionally hired underage workers and that it had passed Apple's audits in later years.

Honorable Mention

The New York Times

Internet Police to Action

Online enforcers are dragging in hundreds for questioning as an assault on online speech continues. They are a sign of how Beijing has given censors a more punitive role.

f d t w



David Hwang



By Paul Mozur

March 16, 2020

SHANGHAI — As China tries to reshape the narrative of its fumbled response to the coronavirus outbreak, it is turning to a new breed of police that carry out real-world reprisals for digital misdeeds.

Award for Excellence

The Wall Street Journal



Facebook's Hate-Speech Rules Collide With Indian Politics

Company executive in viral market appeared recent to last controversial politician, some employees allege

By David G. Savage and Michael...

Feb. 16, 2020 12:01 PM EST

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

1/1 view 1/1

Award for Excellence

The Wall Street Journal

Title of Entry:

Facebook: A Conduit for Hate in India

Journalists:

Newley Purnell and Jeff Horwitz

Judges' Comments:

Brave reporting and data-mining, exemplary writing and editing that had an immediate impact. Proof that good journalism still packs a punch governments can't ignore.



SOPA Award for Young Journalists

亚洲出版业协会最佳新人记者大奖

Honoring an outstanding journalist under 30 years old who has shown exceptional talent and commitment in their coverage.

Award for Excellence

Wang Xi 王希
Initium Media 端傳媒



Carey Chung 鍾欣諤
Next Magazine 壹週刊

國產溫度計 | 餐廳放蛇實測 體溫29度照放行
「求其度」掀爆發危機

發布日期: 2020-11-04 07:00



此項炎疫確在世界各地再創新高，但香港人已漸漸適應，除了戴口罩、勤洗手，港府列明所有人進入食肆前都要量體溫，設立隔板，推出一出，全城以為免疫前進行儀式消費，你係去餐館飯，你係去酒店Stacyation，結果讓衛生「疫」，早前就接連傳出餐館Stacyation群組，有港人與好友與餐館隔鄰某度度假園生活後初步確診，感染源頭不明。

現時全港餐館都會要求提放一部溫度計於門口，食客離高手「舉」一舉就攝，應一確信心保證，然而這些溫度計與胃不度，《壹周刊》記者實測及觀察，這一款新型的溫度計溫度極大，有食客量得29度，食店照放行，驚萬亦無從情況，有餐館竟與食家不合作，拒量體溫。溫度計變形式化，政府亦無監管，量了的只是售賣溫度計的供應商，卻漠視了疫情。

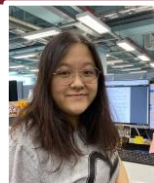
實測：不正常低溫 29度照放行

時間：下午12:30

地點：荔枝角KFC

結果：食客以為自己有病

職員反應：無視



Xiaoshan Xue 薛小山
Radio Free Asia

RFA 自由亞洲電台



1919年12月份發生的「廈門聚會案」(或稱「1226大抓捕」)曾經震撼世人，使得中國半個多世紀的公民社會面臨黑暗如夢魘的氣氛。轉瞬一年已經過去，這二十位人權律師和維權人士在這一年中經歷長期監禁、騷擾、傳喚、甚至被槍殺。這個事件被認為是「709」事件之始，中國公民運動最大規模的群体性迫害。這場革命到底發生了什麼？為何引起中國當局在福建、山東、北京、河北、四川、浙江等地展開聲勢浩大的「清鄉行動」？自由亞洲電台記者薛小山的專題報導，將回顧。

查看以前的文章 >>

Award for Excellence

Wang Xi 王希
Initium Media 端傳媒

Judges' Comments:

This entry shines in multiple ways: The fact that the reporter stayed in Wuhan soon after the virus spread is laudable. The reporting conditions, both political and logistical, would have been difficult. Despite the constraints, the reporter succeeded in poking holes in the Chinese propagandistic narrative by gathering first-hand information and integrating second-hand reporting of the feelings, experiences, and events encountered by affected individuals.



大陸 武漢 2019冠狀病毒疫情

確診名單外的死亡患者

「病人越來越少。」郭曉華每日從過急診部門。畢竟「烏雲壓」的人數還算小規模探報。「當時就覺得情況不妙了。患者在那兒就等死。」



2020年1月25日，一名病人到達武漢市紅十字會醫院，由穿上全套防護服的醫護人員接診。圖：Hector Retamal/AFP via Getty Images



中國武漢 2019冠狀病毒疫情
內政部 國家安全委員會
國家安全委員會 國家
2020-01-26

新聞時空

評論 收藏

Facebook Twitter Email Print

四十歲的胡順（化名）參加過好幾次葬禮，但他沒想到，輪到自己的母親時，會這麼倉促。這聲「不體面」。

與胡順（化名）於1月6日出院後染病，13日被收進武漢市同濟醫院的發病部門。兩天後死亡。醫生要求每天跳上立即送往漢口鐵道火化，家屬爭取到兩天時間，費費於1月18日完成。

據胡順描述，他時時時，不光評價由胡順，還體面而來之後迅速火化。化屍、整理遺容、無友友等無情無義，就此立有。胡順等了兩個小時。拿到屍袋，即和趕往30公里外的黃陂山墓園。到時是下午四點多。工作人員已經下班，留下一位好心的近五度胡順和兩位同事人員，協助胡順草草安葬了這聲胡順。

「不知道這場病也九息之下，最近會賣得我們？」胡順心裏不是一滋味，一切都在短短的十天之內，「到底還是什麼病？是不是那種（新型冠狀）病毒？」太多的問題得不到解答，他拿到手的，只剩一紙死亡證明，引起真真正正死亡的疾病胡順情況那一種報警，靈位終止。

武漢當地一位醫護人員對胡順介紹，僅22日一晚，未被確診，死於火化的屍體就達二十多具。大多數人的情況類似——不單轉到由發病醫院治療，沒有經過診斷過轉運，醫院給出死亡證明後，靈位終止，胡順終止，社區獲得性終止。（註：武漢市由發病醫院直接火化，武漢市發病公共衛生事件醫療救治點醫院，在火化過程中，新型冠狀病毒感染的對象是由醫院中接收。）

2019年12月31日，武漢市衛生局首次通報出現不明原因肺炎疫情，距離第一起病例已過去30天。（註：1月24日，武漢一經醫生在國際權威醫學雜誌《柳葉刀》刊登論文稱，首發病人在12月1日確診。）1月8日，該病毒體被初步判定為新型冠狀病毒。武漢市衛生局隨後多次表示，不發病人體人證據，據此該病沒有得到公眾重視。直到1月20日，「SARS專家」，國家呼吸系統疾病臨床醫學研究中心主任鍾南山院士在對武漢疫情進行考察後宣佈病毒人傳人，最近平出指示，中國國家衛生健康部每日發布數據，持續升高的感染人數和不斷強化的感染範圍才令武漢在春節期間下的中國人意識到——疫情遠比想象中嚴重。

That gentleman couldn't tell Katherine to get on the list, and when she asked his secretary what the selection criteria was, they insisted that 50

Award for Excellence

Alice Su
Los Angeles Times

Judges' Comments:

Alice Su is a talented writer with a keen eye for detail, and she keeps the reader riveted with first-hand experiences covering difficult and sometimes dangerous situations. Her determination in following through with reporting these sensitive stories clearly shows, especially through the many voices of subjects putting themselves at risk for speaking. In addition, Alice shows a talent for analysis and explanatory journalism for her insightful portrait of Xi.

Los Angeles Times
ORIGINAL VERSION: <https://www.latimes.com/CHINA/CHINA-INTERVIEW-MUSLIM-MINORITY-CAMP/2020-12-20/>



LOCAL WOMEN stand on a street in Ürümqi, the capital of northwest China's Xinjiang region.

XINJIANG CAMP SURVIVORS SPEAK

Uighurs are surveilled, face forced labor in homeland.

By Alice Su

URUMQI, CHINA — The car drove toward a site visible by satellite but not marked on Chinese maps. It lay hidden in the mountains along a desolate road lined with Islamic cemeteries. The car traveled south as a red sun sank over snow-blanketed peaks, turning umbrellas to silhouettes.

Sight was coming to Xinjiang. The car approached a police tower guarding the Hongyuan Clothing Park compound. A dog appeared on the building's wall. "Forget not the Party's mercy, walk with the Party forever." In an instant, police and men in dark clothing sprinted toward the car, surrounding the reporters inside.

"Delete everything," one of the men ordered. The reporters complied and left, only to be stopped twice more by cars that swarmed in front and beside them, baring our mirrors who demanded double-checks of the journalists' phones and cameras.

This was territory Chinese authorities did not want the outside world to see: evidence against President Xi Jinping's claim of bringing mass "happiness" to the northwestern region of Xinjiang, where a vast system of surveillance, detention, cultural erasure and forced



ACCESS TO a residential compound in Ürümqi is controlled by surveillance, a facial recognition system and guards inside.

labor has devastated the Uighur people in their homeland.

On a recent weeklong trip across Xinjiang, a Times reporter and a colleague working for a German outlet visited more than a dozen prisons, detention centers, demolished mosques and former reeducation camps turned into high-security factories. The Times met with Uighurs — they are predominantly Muslim — who spoke of their imprisonment, fear and life in the region.

The Chinese government's tactics in Xinjiang are the culmination of tensions that have simmered since the Mao era, when the state sponsored a massive influx of Han Chinese settlers. The repression that followed led to deadly riots and Uighur attacks on police and civilians, some of which were blamed by a separatist movement.

In 2017, the Chinese government forced more than a million Uighurs, Kazakhs and other ethnic minorities into indoctrination camps in what authorities described as a "counter-terrorism" strategy. But many swept into that system had no ties to extremist or separatist groups.

Jevan Shirmenem, 28, a Uighur who left China as a student in 2011 and is now a tour guide in Istanbul, Turkey, lost contact with his parents and brother when they were taken to the camps in 2018. Only in June this year did he hear from his father, who called from a police station. His first sentence after two years was not a greeting, but an accusation that his son had joined "reactionary groups" abroad. Shirmenem was shocked.

He hadn't joined any political movements, he told his father. "This was my father's mouth," Shirmenem said. "But it was the Xinjiang authorities and public security speaking through him."

His mother, he said, had been sent to prison — probably because she visited him in Turkey in 2013. When Shirmenem asked the Chinese Embassy in Turkey for proof of her trial or conviction, they suggested he instead write a list of his activities and contacts abroad. "If you can figure out where you did wrong, tell us," an embassy official told him.

Shirmenem's parents were civil servants who taught him to speak fluent Mandarin and avoid politics. But being Uighur, he said, made him a target for the Communist Party. "They reached their hands into my family, strangled us and wouldn't let us go," he said of the party. "As long as you are Uighur, you are political."

Los Angeles Times CHINA'S INTERNMENT CAMP SURVIVORS | MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020 2

In Xinjiang today, cameras hang over every street and inside every taxi, sending video to the police. Residential compounds are watched by facial recognition systems, security guards and pandemic QR codes that are scanned at every entry or exit. Police in flak jackets stand at bus stops, stores and ubiquitous "convincement stations" that often have large portraits of Xi surrounded by happy children, smiling through the windows.

Whatever technology misses, human eyes report. Inside a Uighur store near Ürümqi's grand bazaar, a document on the wall listed 10 Uighur names and phone numbers linking nearby stores together, along with instructions to spread party doctrine, watch for outsiders and monitor acts threatening "social stability" in a village on the outskirts of Kashgar, powers announced an upcoming disciplinary inspection of local cadres and welcomed villagers to report any suspicious behavior of the cadres.

Several Uighur villages the reporters visited near Kashgar and Kashi appeared empty. Signs were posted on doors stating that the locks had been changed because residents had been absent for too long. Murals portrayed Uighur women herding out of black with long colorful clothing and a giant as chopping Uighurs holding an East Turkistan flag — a symbol for Xinjiang independence — into pieces.

Every day, the two reporters were summoned off trains and planes upon arrival. They were registered, photographed and given coronavirus tests by police. Their car was pulled by several vehicles and men who sometimes called police to stop them. At times, the men intimidated the journalists.

During one confrontation in a village outside Kashi, an official blarneyed: "You can't speak with the people here. We've had too many negative reports from outside. You can only speak with the people we arrange." Talking to locals would create a "security problem," he said.

What the minders preferred to present of Xinjiang was an illusion of normalcy: Uighurs mingled with Han Chinese at the night market in Lashgar. They invited shoppers to see samples at a meat museum in Ürümqi. They sang about ethnic unity and "never splitting apart" in slick music videos played at tourist sites.

In Kashi, minders led reporters to a place to watch dozens of mostly middle-age Han Chinese residents wearing Uighur costumes, dancing to a Uighur song. "Aren't these uncles and aunts cute?" one of the minders said.

Behind these performances lies a years-long program to eradicate Uighur heritage and replace it with Han Chinese culture and obedience to the Communist Party. More than



MANY MOSQUES in Kashi, Xinjiang, have been destroyed, but the Uighur nation will not be destroyed, its name changed and its facade covered with a sign that said: "Love the Party, Love the Nation."

Los Angeles Times CHINA'S INTERNMENT CAMP SURVIVORS | MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020 3



**Please find us on Twitter:
@sopasia #SOPAAwards2021**