

In China with a friend III

Beijing



A photoessay by
Samran Sombatpanit
and **Karika Kunta**



21 slides - 102 photos



Above: Jing Ling Hotel (also in the same premises as IWHR) where Karika and I depended on their restaurant service throughout our stay.

Day 5, June 8. In Beijing we were put up at the guesthouse of the **International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation** (IRTCES – left photo, lower building), which is in the same premises as the **China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research** (IWHR). IWHR has 13 departments located in 4 campuses within Beijing. IWHR is headed by Dr Kuang Shangfu, who also heads the IRTCES, in which Dr Ning Duihu is his deputy.

IRTCES will soon serve as the Secretariat of WASWAC, with Dr Ning Duihu as the Secretary General. Since the IRTCES has been serving as the Secretariat of the World Association of Sedimentation and Erosion Research (WASER) since 2004 it is hoped there will be a strong synergy created between the two ‘world’ associations that are dealing in two very closely related subjects.

About IRTCES (International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation)

The IRTCES was jointly set up by the Government of China and UNESCO on July 21, 1984 (below left photo shows the inauguration of IRTCES) and the agreement was renewed on November 30, 2005 (bottom left photo).



IRTCES' duties are various. Organizing international meetings is one of the main tasks.

Photos at right, from top to bottom: (1) Pre-IRTCES 1st International Symposium on River Sedimentation (ISRS-1980) in Beijing; **(2)** 5th ISRS (1992) in Germany; **(3)** 6th SWC Symposium across Taiwan Strait (2001) in Beijing; **(4)** Another large meeting, organized in China.





Hangzhou Base for Estuarine and Coastal Research



Jingjiang Experimental Station



Pearl River Base



Simulating Experiment

RESEARCH

Erosion and sedimentation research facilities are provided at (left from top):

- **Hangzhou Base** for Estuarine and Coastal Research (1999)
- **Jingjiang Experimental Station**, Jingshou (1996)
- **Pearl River Base** for Scientific Research (2005)
- **Simulating experiment** facility in Hangzhou (1999)

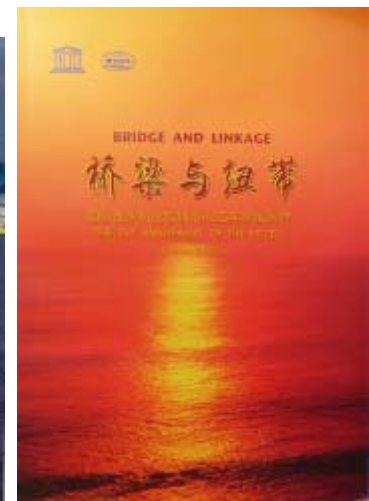
Journals, proceedings, periodicals, and technical books are published regularly.



IRTCES P U B L I C A T I O N S

You are welcome to write to Dr Ning Duihu, Deputy Director of IRTCES and Secretary General of WASWC at ndh@mwr.gov.cn and inquire about the availability of the center's publications to date. This informative A-4 22 pp blue book gives you its history, structure and international activities of IRTCES.

The orange book (Bridge and Linkage, 128 pp) gives an updated information about the organization. It was published on the occasion of the IRTCES's silver jubilee in 2009.





Good lunch enriched us with energy to spend for the afternoon when we had a program to visit some important places of Beijing, including the **Temple of Heaven**. *Right:* Patrons at a neighboring table of the restaurant in Jing Ling Hotel. Note the small window in the shorts of the baby to make his sanitation management easy.



Jing Ling Hotel as seen from outside

TIEN TAN – TEMPLE OF HEAVEN

THE SYMBOL OF BEIJING

The Hall of Pray for Good Harvests

was built in 1420 and rebuilt in 1890.

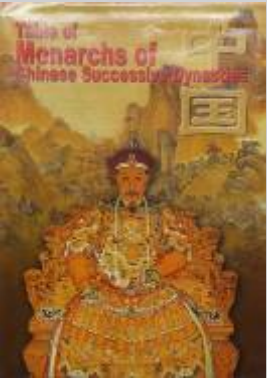
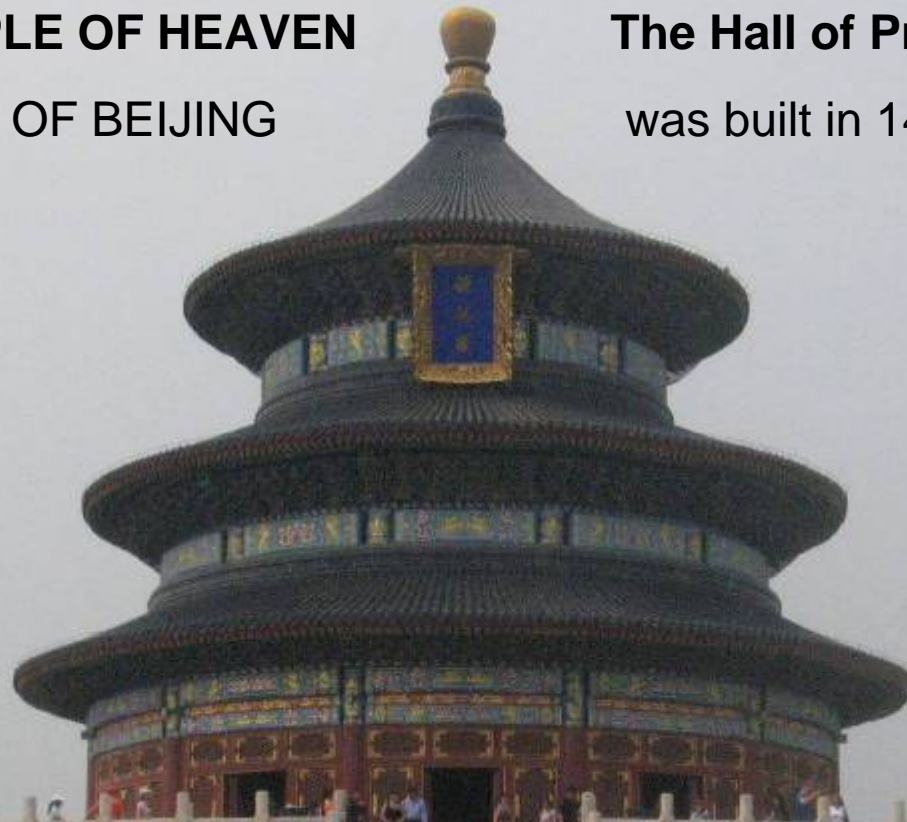


Table of Monarchs of Chinese Successive Dynasties – available at the Temple.



This is a suitable place that first time travelers to Beijing should visit and make a good wish.

The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests is the masterpiece of Chinese ancient wooden architecture. It is a perfect combination of Chinese ancient architectural technology and art. The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests is the famous historical sites in Beijing. A lot of Chinese and foreigners have been attracted to visit it. Each visitor enjoy its ingenious architecture design, graceful art sculpt and abundant culture connotation.

The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests has been the symbol of Beijing.



Heavenly Centre Stone

As the surface of the uppermost terrace of the Circular Mound is paved with nine concentric rings of stone slabs, the round stone slab in the centre is called the Heavenly Centre Stone. It is surrounded by 9 stones in the first ring, 18 in the second, up to 81 in the 9th ring, symbolizing the Nine Heavens. If one speaks standing on the Heavenly Centre Stone, their voice will be particularly resonant and sonorous.



From upper left photo: First appearance of the Temple of Heaven as we entered the premises from the north gate; In front of the main structure of the temple; Interior of the **Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests** wherein emperors in the past prayed for good harvests; Standing on the round centre stone to wish something one wants to, with its description shown below; The smaller structure of the premises, the **Imperial Vault of Heaven**; Beautiful stone carving between two rows of steps; The Wooden Stove where a calf and all other offerings were burnt with pine twigs and reeds as a warm welcome to the Imperial God.



On the way back, we stopped at Wangfujing, a very popular walking street in the heart of Beijing.





In the evening, we went out to taste and buy some tea for friends and relatives back home.



WORK MEETING OF THE WASWAC SECRETARIAT

Day 6, June 9. Meeting of WASWAC Secretariat at IRTCES. Representatives from many organizations attended. WASWAC will start transferring data and information to the new Secretariat at IRTCES, which will fully function next year.



Welcome to
WASWAC SECRETARIAT
MEETING
Beijing, China



Samran



Wang Fei Liu Xiaoying Lu Shunguang Samran Sombatpanit Jin Hai Li Dingqiang Liu Guobin
Ning Duihu Zhuang Xuliang Liu Xiangfeng Liu Zhen Karika Kunta Lu Shengli Liu Guangquan
Li Rui Wang Yanwei Kuang Shangfu Zheng Hui Wang Ying

Group photo after the end of the meeting



THE BANQUET
when everyone was happy with everyone else





Mao Zedong's Mausoleum



The Epitaph at Tiananmen



Entrance to the Forbidden City (Palace Museum)



Great Hall of the People

We spent an easy afternoon at **Tian'anmen Square**

Old Beijing Railway Station, now a museum →



No caption is needed.



A military monument



Qianmen Gate



and at Qianmen Street,



then went to concert at the **National Center for the Performing Arts, Beijing.** (Sorry, no camera allowed inside!)



BUSINESS TALK



Day 7, June 10. Discussion about running the WASWAC Secretariat from its seat in Beijing.



Details	Central	Regional	Total
Officials	621	309	1,030
Contract Employees	238	804	1,042
Government Employees	270	733	1,003
Total	1,099	1,226	2,325

There are 18,000 Soil Doctor Stations (Regional Offices)

Sharing information to accelerate implementation of soil and water conservation: Experience of WASWAC



Samran Sombatpanit
WASWAC Past President

Guangzhou, Yangling and Beijing, P. R. China
June 3-12, 2010



Afternoon: Karika and Samran presented their works to the staff of IRTCES.



Dr Tian Yi, a long-time friend of Karika came to visit her and joined us at lunch today. It was a pleasant rendezvous for both of them. Dr Yi works at the School of Land Sciences and Technology, China University of Geosciences in Beijing.

BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY

School of Environment



Liu Xiaoying Xie Yun Ouyang Wei



Postgraduate
students

Late afternoon: Dr Liu Xiaoying brought us to meet Dr Wei Ouyang and Dr Xie Yun at Beijing Normal University (BNU) to discuss about Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) being operated in China and cooperation between BNU and WASWAC and LDD in that issue. SWAT text book, shown as the inset, is available in China. Pls write to Dr Liu Xiaoying at liuxy@iwahr.com if you want to buy it.

Ouyang & Samran



School of Environment



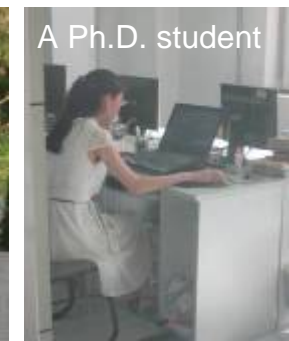
Study room for M.Sc. students



Group photo of an early event



A Ph.D. student



Papers published by researchers from the School of Environment



Display of soil monoliths



Good bye, and we will meet again soon.





Day 8, June 11. Today we went to inspect a SWC experimental site 70 km NNE of Beijing and visit the Great Wall at Badaling.

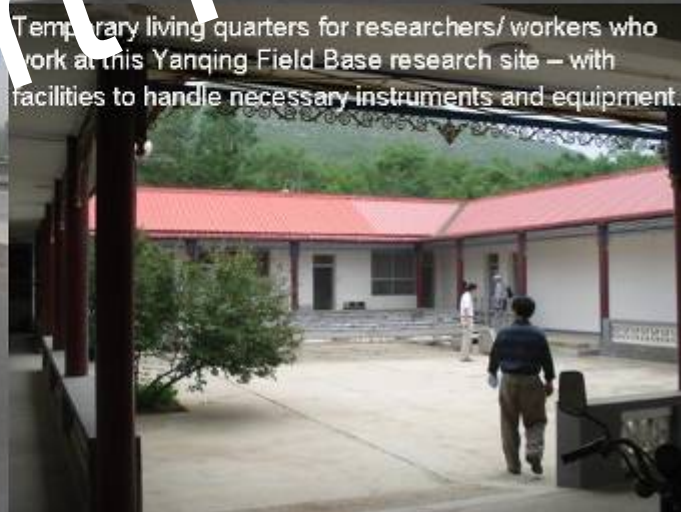
The road from Beijing up north is well protected by trees on both sides.



A toilet booth in Yanqing County where we waited for our guide



The Center kindly sent a car to facilitate our trip today and asked Mrs Tong Yuling to accompany us.



Temporary living quarters for researchers/ workers who work at this Yanqing Field Base research site – with facilities to handle necessary instruments and equipment.

Part IV