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WORLD CONGRESS ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OPENS IN TAIPEI

The World Congress on Information Technology officially opened Sept. 11 in Taipei City, drawing nearly 4,000 captains of industry, government officials and IT experts from 80 countries and territories for one of the most influential high-tech gatherings in the world.

Republic of China (Taiwan) President Tsai Ing-wen said in her opening address that the event represents an excellent opportunity to share best practices and strengthen international collaboration in promoting the digital economy and smart applications.

According to the president, the government is leaving no stone unturned in transforming Taiwan into a smart nation. Measures like the Asia Silicon Valley and DIGI-plus initiatives will establish the country as a benchmark in fostering emerging technologies and strength-

en supply chain integration with major economies across the world, she said.

Taiwan welcomes foreign businesses and talents to explore the nation's economic environment and cooperate with local companies in the development of innovative products and services in such fields as artificial intelligence, Internet of Things and Industry 4.0, Tsai added.

In his address, Minister without Portfolio Wu Tsung-tsong, who is responsible for technological development policies, said Taiwan is willing to share its expertise in digital economy promo-



tion with countries around the world. In this regard, he announced the launch of the Digital Nation Alliance, an annual forum to boost international collaboration and address the key issues highlighted at the WCIT.

Co-organized by the Industrial Development Bureau under the Ministry of Economic Affairs and U.S.-headquartered World Information Technology and Services Alliance, the 21st WCIT is themed Living the Digital Dream.

Running through Sept. 13 in Taipei, the WCIT features business-to-business matchmaking, a CEO summit on IoT

innovation, a high-tech exhibition, keynote speeches, a leaders' round table on circular economy practices, and a raft of parallel conferences and activities. In addition, various preshow events were

staged Sept. 10, including matchmaking sessions and the Gogoro Bike Carnival, which showcased products from the Taiwan-based electric scooter manufacturer. Launched 39 years ago in Barcelona, the congress has taken place annually since 2016. It is the flagship

event of WITSA, whose members make up 90 percent of the global information and communication technology market.



President Tsai Ing-wen addresses attendees at the formal opening of the 2017 WCIT Sept. 11 in Taipei City

Source: Taiwan Today

TAIPEI'S BOUNDLESS CULINARY CREATIVITY: MANGO SHAVED ICE IS A MUST FOR TOURISTS

Even when the wind is blowing and the rain is falling, or when the weather is biting cold, there is a steady flow of travelers at 15 Yongkang Street. This shop is filled with those enthusiastic about consuming a heaping bowl of mango shaved ice. In the past, this was the location of the famed Yongkang 15 shaved-ice shop. Today, it is home to

Smoothie House. Though the facade and interior may have changed, and to a certain degree the taste, what has remained the same is this shop's tremendous popularity. Taiwanese possess boundless culinary creativity. A prime example is the blending of mango with snowflake ice. A medley of other fresh Taiwan fruits is then heaped on top, and the concoction is covered with rich, mellow panna cotta. It looks amazing and tastes even better, with a moist, creamy texture that is pure delight.



Yongkang Street Mango Shaved Ice: Hallowed Ground for Foodies



Source: Taipei City Government, Photos: ???

The building that is today home to QingTian 76 was originally one of the residential housing units provided for National Taiwan University (then the Taihoku Imperial University) faculty members during the Japanese era. It was originally built for Japanese professor Masashi Adachi. Later it became the residence of Professor Ma Tingying, father of renowned writer Liang Xuan.



QingTian 76 – The Stories of the Past Brew a Sweet Melody

In recent times, it has undergone a transformation, and is today a quiet, secluded restaurant. It is hard to imagine that a place such as this – a work of Japanese architecture so simple and

rustic, yet so memorable – can exist in the heart of busy Taipei. The restaurant, which serves refined seasonal desserts and foods, is a great place to sit back and relax. Masashi Adachi was a professor in Taihoku Imperial University’s School of Agriculture and Forestry, engaged in the study of soil microbiology. He made many important contributions to Taiwan’s cane-sugar industry. In commemoration, QingTian 76 has specially introduced a unique beverage called “Sugarcane Wine”, a sweet collision of iced drip coffee and natural sugarcane juice with a wholly original taste.

Transportation

Smoothie House (main branch): MRT Dongmen Station, Exit 5, walk approximately 5 minutes

QingTian 76: MRT Dongmen Station, Exit 5, walk approximately 15 minutes

SHORT FILM SHOWCASES TAIWAN’S EFFORTS
IN SUPPORT OF **SDGS**

A short film highlighting Taiwan’s efforts in support of the U.N. 2030 Sustainable Development Goals was released Sept. by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Titled “Taiwan: A Partner for a Better World,” the video features some 80 scenes showcasing the nation’s

commitment to strengthening environmental protection and sustainable growth through such measures as em-



bracing agricultural innovations, developing renewable energy solutions and promoting recycling. The film, running 2 minutes and 20 seconds, was uploaded to the MOFA-backed Trending Taiwan YouTube channel and Facebook page, and has garnered more than 2 million views on the platforms since its release.

Broad-based cooperation is the key to achieving objectives like environmental conservation, the ministry wrote on its official Facebook page, adding that “Taiwan has and always will be a partner for a better world.” The film opens with shots of the natural beauty of Taiwan including Yushan, or Jade Mountain, the highest peak in East Asia at nearly 4,000 meters. Subsequent scenes convey the dangers of climate change before highlighting the success of government policies and public and private sector initiatives in such areas as fostering an-

imal conservation, the adoption of electric vehicles and the development of new medical technologies.

Also featured are efforts to achieve transitional justice for indigenous peoples and strengthen the nation’s education and health care systems, according to the MOFA.

The video wraps up with images of a humpback whale and its calf so as to symbolize the country’s dedication to marine conservation, the ministry said, adding that regular sightings of the mammals off Taiwan’s eastern coast demonstrate the effectiveness of related endeavors.

Adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in 2015, the SDGs are intended to end poverty, protect the environment, and secure peace and prosperity around the world. They comprise 17 goals spanning such areas as affordable and clean energy, climate action, gender equality, health and well-being, and sustainable cities.

Source: Taiwan Today



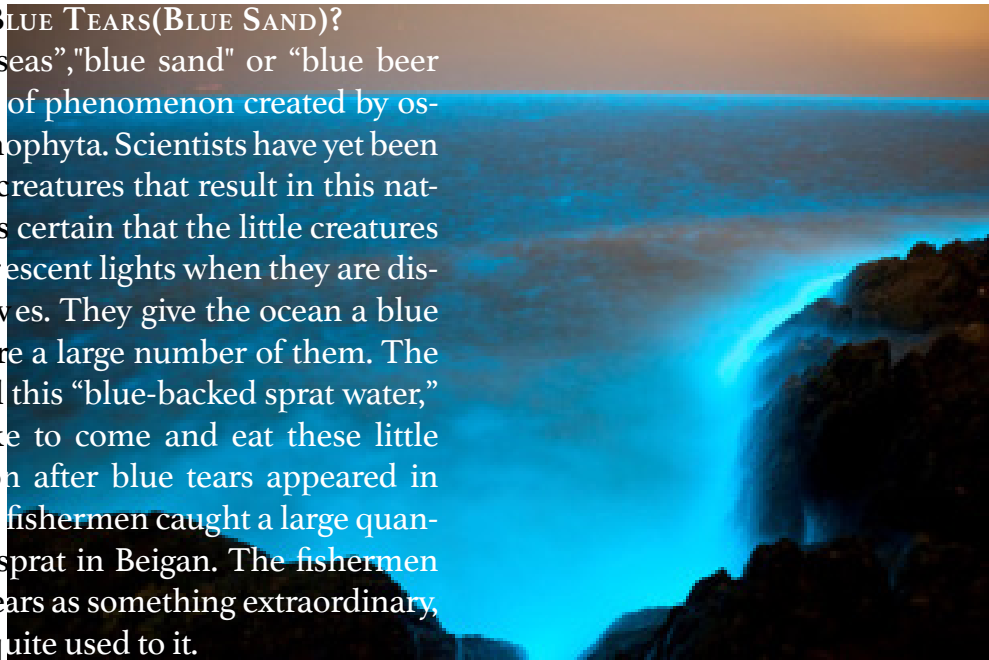
A wind farm features in a short film released Sept. 1 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs highlighting the nation’s efforts in support of the 2030 SDGs. (MOFA)



MATSU *Blue Tears*

WHAT ARE BLUE TEARS (BLUE SAND)?

Blue tears”, “blue seas”, “blue sand” or “blue beer seas” refer to a kind of phenomenon created by ostracodes — or pyrrhophyta. Scientists have yet been able to identify the creatures that result in this natural wonder. But it is certain that the little creatures emit light-blue fluorescent lights when they are disturbed by ocean waves. They give the ocean a blue sheen when there are a large number of them. The people of Matsu call this “blue-backed sprat water,” because the fish like to come and eat these little ones. Last year, soon after blue tears appeared in Nangan and Beigan, fishermen caught a large quantity of blue-backed sprat in Beigan. The fishermen don’t see the blue tears as something extraordinary, however. They are quite used to it.



Source: Matsu National Scenic Area Administration

Photos: Matsu Blue tears (Courtesy of Matsu National Scenic Area Administration)

WHEN DO THE BLUE TEARS APPEAR?

For blue tears to appear, there must be strong southern winds. Only in this way will the disturbed creatures emit blue light. The phenomenon is most likely to happen in April and May. We cannot guarantee that you are sure to find the blue tears when you are here, because this is a natural phenomenon.



“STAR SANDS” AND BLUE TEARS

As you walk through “star sands,” you shall notice that you are leaving light-blue footprints behind. The light actually comes from the frightened little creatures washed ashore by waves. But the light is so dim that it is hard to take photos of it – only the human eyes can observe it. Try long exposure and see if you can successfully take a picture of the star sands.

We recommend the following places for you to enjoy the star sands: Fuzheng Beach and Mengao Port in Dongju; Qiaozi, Qin Beach and Tanghoudao Beach in Beigan; and Jinsha Beach in Nangan. Again, because blue tears are a natural phenomenon, we cannot guarantee that you are sure to find them when you are in Matsu. Please also stay safe as you look for them – it is recommended to hire a local guide or see if the B&B you stay with offers such a tour.

The Matsu Islands are a minor archipelago of 36 islands and islets in the East China Sea, under streamlined Fujian Province, Republic of China (ROC). It is the smallest county in Taiwan.



CHIEN MU'S LAST CLASS: THE CULTURED ELEGANCE OF SU SHU HOUSE

Sanya Huang
/tr. by Jonathan Barnard
Taiwan Panorama

Chien Mu (1895–1990), an important scholar of contemporary history, hoped from a young age to pursue an academic career, but circumstances cut short his formal education. Although merely a secondary-school graduate, diligent self-study would earn him honorary doctorates from the University of Hong Kong and Yale, and membership of Taiwan's Academia Sinica. His works run to more than 17 million Chinese characters, and the full stack of his publications tops 190 centimeters.

During the span of 77 years from when he was 18 to 95 years old, his career as an educator brought him to posts at Peking University and National Southwest Associated University.

Later he would move to what was then the British colony of Hong Kong, where he founded New Asia College at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and educated many prominent scholars, including Yan Gengwang of the Academia Sinica and Yu Ying-shih, who would have a distinguished career in the United States. In his later years, Chien Mu lived at Su Shu House in Taipei's Wai-shuangxi, where he continued to lecture and write. The compound became a spiritual stronghold, attracting those with a deep interest in Chinese culture.

ORIGINS OF SU SHU HOUSE

Chin Chao-fen, executive director of the Su-Shu-Lou Cultural and Educational Foundation, notes that the line “Strong grass cannot be felled by the wind” truly captures the essence of Chien Mu's life. From the Xinhai Revolution that ended the Qing Dynasty, through the War of Resistance Against Japan and the Se-

cond Chinese Civil War, to the madness of the Cultural Revolution, which engulfed mainland China and impacted Hong Kong when Chien was based there, and on up to the severing of ROC–US diplomatic relations, which occurred after he had moved to Taiwan, Chien determinedly forged ahead with his scholarship, completing his massive academic project *A New Study of Zhu Xi* as well as ambitious cultural works such as *Examining Chinese People and Culture Through Chinese History* and *The Global Situation and Chinese Culture*. These books are highly accessible introductions to Chinese culture that cultivate a sense of cultural self-confidence and self-respect.

In 1964, Chien stepped down from his post as president of New Asia College, after 16 years in Hong Kong working as an educational administrator. Eventually, Chien Mu and his wife decided to move to Taiwan and came first to scout out land to build on. A good friend who knew he was looking for a building site recommended the Su Shu House location, which is in a small basin surrounded by hills at Waishuangxi in Shilin, a



northern suburb of Taipei City. At high points the site offers views of the National Palace Museum halfway up the opposite slope. Babbling Waishuangxi Creek, which runs all four seasons of the year, can be found down the hill. The scenery is beautiful.

Zoned for cemeteries, the land was cheap, which was important for an academic who hadn't accumulated substantial savings. He thus decided to build his home here

COURTESIES EXTENDED TO A SCHOLAR

Changing the zoning to residential took more than a year, during which time Chien once again moved back to Hong Kong. The basic designs for Su Shu House were drawn up by Chien's wife, based on the style of their house in the Sha Tin neighborhood of Hong Kong.

When ROC president Chiang Kai-shek learned of Chien's plans to move to Wai-shuangxi, he had the Yangmingshan Administration Bureau take over responsibility for constructing the home. Once Chien was actually living at Su Shu

House, Chinese Culture University founder Chang Chi-yun invited him to teach graduate students in history at the university, and Chien had the students come to his house two hours a week for class. At the invitation of National Palace Museum director Jiang Fucong, Chien also received a special appointment as a researcher at the museum.

"When Mrs. Chien would do yardwork," notes Chin Chao-fen, "her husband might come out, sit on a stone bench and muse: 'Let me look around.... That would be a good spot for a pine.' They personally planted all the trees, flowers and other plants in this garden."

HOLISTIC HUMANISM

People tend to describe Chien Mu as an historian, and he himself described history as an essential means to understand both the past and the future. He firmly believed that the Chinese conception of harmony between man and nature could be of tremendous benefit to mankind.

Traditional Chinese values help to supplement places where Western thought



Su Shu House (courtesy of Taipei City Government)

comes up short, such as when considering the meaning of happiness. Chien Mu was aware that despite the appearance of developmental diversity in today's world, in truth Western commercial and material culture dominates. Because that dominant culture lacks a basic and essential cultural understanding of human values, it offers a future of narrowed horizons.

One doesn't read Chinese cultural classics simply as an academic exercise, but rather to understand how their content can be integrated into people's actual lives and be disseminated to the world through people's hearts and minds. Otherwise, that content will exist only as stale words on the pages of dusty old books.

A short film highlighting Taiwan's efforts in support of the U.N. 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. For more information about this short film, [click here](#).

UNENDING LAST CLASS

Chien Mu announced that June 9, 1986 would be the date of his last lecture before his retirement from Chinese Culture University. Luminaries such as Professor Lu Yaodong, General Kong Lingsheng, and politician James Soong were eager to avail themselves of a last opportunity to study under the great educator, and they all attended the lecture at Su Shu House. Today the furniture he used while he lived there is still in place, as are his complete written works. The garden still features his beloved pines and bamboo. As one sees these markers of his life and cultural spirit, it almost seems as if the departed master of the house remains as well, still giving his last class.

Should you have any question, please contact us at taiwaninfo.hungary@gmail.com

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