

Striving Towards a Modern Coastal Metropolis

Dialogue with Ancient Zhedong Philosophers

By Jin Lu, Yang He, Ying Lvjin

Cultural confidence represents the most fundamental and profound force that sustains the development of a country and nation. The culture of self-improvement and moral excellence serves as a crucial bond for a country and nation to pursue a shared future and to connect with their ancestry.

Recently, the members of the Ningbo University Foreign Languages Publicity Team organized a series of cultural activities to celebrate the 12th International Chinese Language Day and the 28th World Book Day. Through these activities, they initiated a virtual dialogue with the great minds of the millennium-old Zhedong School (Eastern Zhejiang School). The activities included a reading session to promote the charm of Chinese characters, a recitation activity featuring the *Three Character Classic*, a Song Dynasty text for enlightening education, and a book discussion session focused on the modern values in Wang Yangming's philosophical and ethical masterpiece, the *Instructions for Practical Living*.

Experience the allure of the Song Dynasty and explore the enlightening literature for children of that time

Recently, the Ningbo University Foreign Languages Publicity Team and Yinzhou Library co-organized a "Library Night" event with the theme of "Spring Elegance, Ride the Wave of the Song Dynasty." The event was designed to introduce primary and secondary school students to literary classics and cultivate their appreciation of literature. With a focus on the springtime charm of the Song Dynasty, the event's site furnishings were selected to reflect the style of green landscape paintings from that era. Through



Cultural activities to celebrate the 12th International Chinese Language Day and the 28th World Book Day. [Photo provided to Ningbo Times]

this immersive experience, participants were able to explore the elegance of the Dynasty's culture and discover the literature that was used to enlighten children during that period.

The voice of children reciting aloud echoed through the venue, evoking memories of the classic monastic reading of the *Three Character Classic*: "Man on earth, good at birth. The same nature varies on nurture. With no education, there'd be an aberration. To teach well, you deeply dwell..." The book, written by Ningbo's Wang Yinglin, was the most popular reading material for children's enlightening education, offering valuable insights into family values and ethics. It is representative of the rich cultural heritage of Yinzhou, earning it a reputation as the "Land of Literature" and the "City of Poetry and Books".

Understand Wang Yangming and the modern values in Eastern Zhejiang culture

On the evening of the same day, students from prestigious universities gathered at the Alumni House of Ningbo University to attend a reading event for the book *Instructions for Practical Living*. As part of the event, Dr Fei Zhouying, an alumna of the School of Foreign Languages, shared her insightful perspective on the "Journey of Yangming Culture". The gathering attracted students from renowned universities, such as Peking University, Tsinghua University, Fudan University, and Zhejiang University, who participated remotely via an online video conference.

As a former core member of Ningbo University's Foreign Languages Publicity Team, Dr Fei has dedicated herself to promoting and sharing Chinese culture. She has authored two books, *Wisdom of Xinxue* and *The Voice of the Mind*, and has published nearly ten academic papers on the translation and dissemination of Yangming culture. During the sharing session, she emphasized that "Yangming cul-

ture symbolizes family values and is a precious cultural heritage of the people of eastern Zhejiang. It plays an important role in promoting Chinese culture to the world and building a robust cultural legacy."

Walk the walk: Chinese youth practice the Unity of Knowledge and Action

This has effectively demonstrated the unity of knowledge and action of Chinese youth, who are actively putting Chinese traditional culture into practice on the global stage.

The Foreign Languages Publicity Team aims to share Chinese literary classics with young people around the world and promote more excellent Chinese texts globally, as their way to mark the 28th World Book Day. "We are delighted to introduce the cultural value and modern significance of literary classics of the Zhedong School to more young people abroad and spread the positive aspects of our culture and social values to more corners of the world," said Song Xinyue, the team leader.

"Classic literature of Zhedong School provides us with the power for growth and cultural confidence," noted Mr Hu Jia, the Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee of the Faculty of Foreign Languages. "The Foreign Languages Publicity Team will continue to draw inspiration from these literary classics and promote their culture and values to more people around the world."

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Walk the walk: Chinese youth practice the Unity of Knowledge and Action

The Foreign Languages Publicity Team is a group of young students devoted to promoting the rich cultural heritage of China to the world. They use the Chinese language and classic books as a bridge to showcase the beauty of Chinese civilization. Their original creation of *Three Character Classic* and *Wisdom of Xinxue: A Comic Adaptation of Instructions for Practical Living*, has been selected as extracurricular reading materials in six Confucius Institutes worldwide, including the Northern Light Confucius Institute in Iceland and the Confucius Institute in Montenegro.

SPOTLIGHT

Fishing Moratorium Starts

By Dong Na

The East China Sea was officially closed for fishing on May 1.

At Shipu Pier in Xiangshan County, rows of fishing boats docked at their berths in an orderly manner.

"The most important work of the fishing season is to overhaul the fishing boats, including the machinery, to meet the opening of fishing in September in the best condition," Chen Haibing, a 54-year-old fisherman, said.

The fishing moratorium means some fishermen's income would be reduced. Chen believes that the fishing moratorium is to ensure that there will be high-quality fish to catch in the future. Moreover, fishermen now have a strong sense of ecological protection, and if they catch protected animals such as sea turtles, they will release them as requested.

"Sometimes, we go to sea for a month, and the fishing moratorium allows us to take a break and reunite with our families." On the shore of the pier, a fisherman said that some of his peers will choose to go home to see their relatives and friends during the fishing moratorium, some will do odd jobs to provide for their families, and the local government will also hold activities such as sports games and skills training to enrich their lives.

During the fishing moratorium, it is banned to sell eight types of wild live and chilled seafood, including hairtail and yellow croaker. However, for the first week after the fishing moratorium starts, the market can still sell seafood from the East China Sea, but the prices are on the expensive side.

In Ningbo wholesale aquatic products market, the total amount of frozen and chilled products in storage exceeded 10,000 tons, including 190 tons of live fresh, 8,820 tons of frozen products, and 1,710 tons of dried products, quite enough for the people's consumption demand for aquatic products.

Frozen products, aquaculture products, and exotic catches will be the three main supply sources of sea food during the fishing moratorium. In addition, offshore seafood is not affected by the fishing moratorium. Farmed seafood which has developed rapidly in recent years will be available in large quantities. There are also imported king crabs and salmon from the North Pacific Ocean and Southeast Asia that will be continuously supplied to the market.

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双语汇 Different Tongues

宁波中心大厦：宁波第一高楼

By Jin Lu

The Ningbo Central Plaza Tower recently completed its core structure, which has 80 floors and a height of 375.85 meters, officially becoming the "tallest building in Ningbo".

近日，宁波中心大厦核心结构80层完成，高度达到375.85米，真正成为“宁波第一高楼”。

A landmark building in Ningbo and located in the core area of the Ningbo East New Town, the Ningbo Central Plaza Tower has been highly anticipated since its construction began, attracting many photography enthusiasts.

作为宁波的地标建筑，位于东部新城核心区的宁波中心大厦，从开建以来就备受关注，常有摄影爱好者驻足拍摄。

The total construction

area of the Ningbo Central Plaza Tower project is approximately 250,000 square meters, with a total height of 409 meters, including three underground levels and 80 aboveground floors.

据介绍，宁波中心大厦项目总建筑面积约25万平方米，总建筑高度409米，地下三层，地上80层。

The first 60 floors are international Grade-A office space, while the upper 20 floors are occupied by the Ritz-Carlton, a world-class luxury hotel chain.

其中，1至60层为国际甲级写字楼，61至80层为世界顶级奢华酒店丽思卡尔顿酒店。

Currently, the curtain wall of the Ningbo Central Plaza Tower is progressing in an orderly manner. The next step will involve the installation of mechanical and elec-



The Ningbo Central Plaza Tower. /宁波中心大厦。

[Photo by Tang Yan] 唐严 摄

trical systems, interior decoration, curtain walls, fine decoration, and flood lighting, among other professional engineering projects. The entire building is planned to have its crown structure completed by the end of this year and is set to be open for use by 2025.

目前，宁波中心大厦正在

有序进行幕墙施工。下一步，将开展机电安装、装饰、幕墙、精装修、泛光照明等专业工程施工。整个大厦计划今年年底塔冠施工完成，2025年投入使用。

Once completed, the Ningbo Central Plaza Tower will not only be the tallest building in Ningbo but also a hub to further

enhance the city's international influence. It will become a service center to global entrepreneurs and a milestone symbol for Ningbo's opening-up strategy to the world.

建成后的宁波中心大厦，不仅是宁波最高楼，还将进一步增强宁波国际化城市综合服务功能，成为宁波打造国际开放枢纽的象征和标志。

