


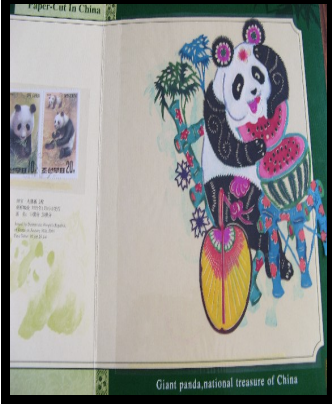
# China Artefacts Box

Each object in this box has been photographed and a short description to help you use the object in a meaningful and culturally respectful way. Please check that all the objects shown below are in the box when you first collect it and that all the objects are returned, in good condition, at the end of the loan period. Some objects are fragile please treat with care. Any lost or damaged objects will be charged for. Thank you.

Total number of objects in box = 41

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Kuai Zi (Chopsticks)</u></b></p> <p>Chopsticks – a pair of small even-length tapered sticks, are the traditional eating utensils of China, Japan, Korean, Vietnam and Thailand.</p> <p>Chopsticks are commonly made of wood, bamboo, metal, bone, ivory, and in modern times, plastic as well. The pair of sticks in manoeuvred in one hand – between the thumb and fingers – and used to pick up pieces of food</p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Peking Opera (Facial Painting)</u></b></p> <p>Among the hundreds of forms of opera throughout China, Peking Opera exerts the greatest influence, and is therefore regards as a national art form. The accompanying music, singing and costumes are all fascinating and artistic. The facial painting are representations of the roles of the characters. The unique make-up in the opera allows the characters on the stages to reveal themselves voicelessly.</p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Paper Cutting</u></b></p> <p>Paper cutting is a very distinctive visual art of Chinese handicraft. It originated from the 6<sup>th</sup> century when women used to paste golden and silver foil cuttings onto their hair at the temples, and men used them in sacred rituals. Later, they were used during festival to decorate gates and windows. After hundred of years' development, now they have become a very popular means of decoration among country folk, especially women.</p>
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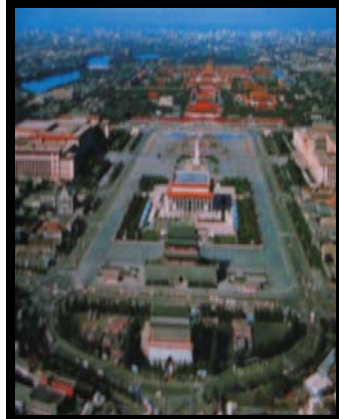
### Chinese Knots

Chinese knot work is a kind of characteristic folk decoration of handicraft arts practiced in China. Such knot work appeared in ancient times, developed in the Tang and Song Dynasty (960-1229 A.D.) in China and was popularized in Ming and Qing Dynasty (1368-1911 A.D.). The Chinese knot has now become a type of elegant and colorful craft, removed from its original practical use.



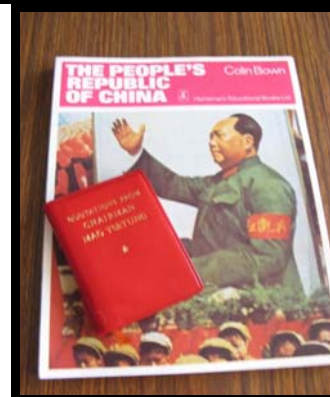
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### Beijing (Peking)

Beijing is the capital of the People's Republic of China (PRC). It was formerly known in English as Peking. Beijing is also one of the four municipalities of the PRC, which are equivalent to provinces in China's administrative structure. It is recognized as the political, educational, and cultural center of the PRC, and is China's second largest city in terms of population, after Shanghai. Beijing is one of the Four Great Ancient Capital of China. The 2008 Summer Olympics were held in Beijing.



### The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution (1966-1976)

In China, there was struggle for political power within the communist Party of China, which grew to include large section of Chinese society and eventually brought the China to the brink of civil war



## Chinese characters

A Chinese character is a logogram used in writing Chinese, Japanese, sometimes Korean, and formerly Vietnamese. A complete writing system in Chinese characters appeared in China 3200 years ago. 4% of Chinese characters are derived directly from individual pictograms, and of the remaining 96%, some are logical aggregates, but most are pictophonetics.



## Chinese Lunar Calendar

The Chinese Lunar New year is the longest chronological record in history, dating from 2600 BC. Like the Western calendar, the Chinese Lunar Calendar is a yearly one, with the start of the lunar year being based on the cycles of the moon. Therefore, because of this cyclical dating, the beginning of the year can fall anywhere between late January and the middle of February. The Chinese Lunar Calendar names each of the twelve years after an animal, namely – rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and boar.



## Lion Dance

The lion costume may be operated by a single dancer, or more frequently by a pair of dancers. The single dancer springs about while energetically moving and shaking the head and operating the jaws and eyes. The pair of dancers, forming the back and fore legs of the beast, mimic the motions of a single animal as they move between platforms of varying elevations. The dance is traditionally accompanied by gongs, drum and firecrackers, representing the descent of good luck.



## Chinese Currency (Ren Min Bi)

The Chinese Yuan – Ren Min Bi (RMB) is the basic unit of currency issued by China. One Yuan can be divided into 10 Jiao or 100 Fen. The official exchange rate between U.S. dollar and RMB is about 1:7.8 (1 U.S dollars = 7.8 Yuan).



### Tea mug with lid



### Tea Jar

Many people use these jars to carry their tea. In the morning they will put the leaves in the jar and cover with hot water. Fresh hot water will be added during the day.



### Chinese Fans

Fans were used in China many thousands of years ago and made out of many different materials, such as silk, paper, feathers and palm leaves. Tradition has it, folded fan were introduced to China from Japan and Korea about 1000 years ago. They were usually made with fine paper mounted on bamboo. The scholars found it interesting to paint their poetic and artistic expressions on the surface.



### Chinese newspapers