



**Press Review Taiwan
Science, Technology and Education**



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Science

Amis bamboo canoe tested for voyage to Japan (Focus Taiwan, 03.08.2016)

A Japanese anthropologist and others tried out an Amis bamboo canoe in waters off eastern Taiwan on August 3rd in preparation for a voyage to Japan next summer. The boat will have to travel some 110 kilometers east of Taiwan to Yonaguni in Okinawa Prefecture, the westernmost island of Japan. The planned voyage to Yonaguni is part of Kaifu's research on the movement of people from Taiwan to the Ryukyu Islands on similar vessels in the Paleolithic Period about 30,000 years ago. According to Japanese archaeologists, the early inhabitants of Japan most likely traveled tens of thousands of years ago from eastern Siberia to Hokkaido, from the Korean Peninsula to Kyushu and Honshu, and from Taiwan to the Ryukyu Islands.

NTU professor and team find evidence of legendary flood (China Post, 06.08.2016)

Geologists have found the first evidence for China's Great Flood, a 4,000-year-old disaster on the Yellow River that led to birth of the Xia dynasty and modern Chinese civilization. The findings in the journal Science may help rewrite history because they not only show that a massive flood did occur, but that it was in 1920 B.C., several centuries later than traditionally thought. This would mean the Xia dynasty, led by Emperor Yu, may also have started later than Chinese historians have thought. Yu gained fame as the man who was able to gain control over the flood by orchestrating the dredging work needed to guide the waters back into their channels. Restoring order after chaos earned "him the divine mandate to establish the Xia dynasty, the first in Chinese history," said the study, led by Wu Qinglong, professor in the department of geography at Nanjing Normal University.

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Education

Taiwan wins 3 golds, 1 silver at International Chemistry Olympiad (Focus Taiwan, 02.08.2016)

Taiwan won three gold medals and one silver at the International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) held July 23-Aug. 1 in Tbilisi, Georgia, eastern Europe, according to a statement from the Ministry of Education. The four students did very well in two sectors -- concept and laboratory skills -- at the IChO, said National Taiwan Normal University chemistry professor Chang I-shih, who led the Taiwanese delegation. A total of 264 participants from 67 countries participated in this year's competition. The Taiwanese team took second place in the international rankings, behind only the Chinese team, which grabbed four gold medals.

Tsai presents education awards, praises new immigrants' children (Taiwan Today, 04.08.2016)

President Tsai Ing-wen presented the 2016 President's Education Awards Aug. 2 in Taipei City, praising the 56 student recipients and singling out 12 for special mention in light of their status as children of new immigrants mainly from Southeast Asia. "You've shown the perseverance inherited from your parents," Tsai said during her address at the ceremony. "I believe your generation's efforts will help shape a new-look Taiwan." According to the president, past and present recipients come from different backgrounds and boast vastly different experiences. "But they share one thing in common: an ambition to strive to be the best," she said.

High school students win silver in international linguistics contest (China Post, 05.08.2016)

A team of Taiwanese high school students participated in the International Olympiad in Linguistics (IOL) competition, taking home a silver medal and two merit awards, according to reports on Wednesday. Fourteen-year-old junior high school student Cheng An-chi set the record for being the youngest participant to win an award at the IOL this year, which kicked off last month. The linguistics Olympiad has been held every year in different countries since 2003. It is one of 12 International Science Olympiads for high school students.\$

Taiwan youth win big at World Invention Creativity Contest in Korea (China Post, 06.08.2016)

Taiwanese high school students took home awards ranging from gold and silver medals and the "Area of Human Resources Award" following the World Invention Creativity Contest (WICC) in South Korea, according to reports Tuesday. Students put an infrared transmitter on the device, it detects objects nearing flames, so that when it detects a subject that is close to the stove, the outer flame is snuffed out automatically while the inner flame keeps burning in order to prevent accidental flare ups emitting from the stove.

**3 Tang Prize winners to visit in September (China Post, 08.08.2016)**

The three Tang Prize winners in biopharmaceutical science will visit Taiwan next month, during which they will attend the award ceremony, give lectures and host forums, the organizer said Monday. French microbiologist Emmanuelle Charpentier, American geneticist Jennifer Doudna and Chinese-American synthetic biologist Feng Zhang will arrive in the Tang Prize week beginning Sept. 22, according to the Tang Prize Foundation. The Laureate Lectures are scheduled to take place at the Howard Civil Service International House in Taipei Sept. 24, one day before the award ceremony.

Education center to support New Southbound Policy opens in Taipei (Taiwan Today, 15.08.2016)

Taiwan's first higher education center designed to support the government's New Southbound Policy was established August 12th at National Taipei University of Education, underscoring the country's efforts to expand exchanges with Association of Southeast Asian Nations member states in such diverse fields as business, culture, education and tourism.

Taiwan to boost scholarship opportunities for SE Asian students (Focus Taiwan, 25.08.2016)

Taiwan will significantly increase scholarship opportunities to attract students from Southeast Asia and India as part of the government's "New Southbound Policy," the Ministry of Education announced on 24th of August. Starting in 2017, the Taiwan Scholarship program will offer 182 openings for students from Southeast Asia and India per year, up from 97 at present, and each student will be awarded NT\$400,000 per year under the program. In addition, the scholarship openings for economically disadvantaged ethnic Chinese students from Southeast Asia will be increased by 700 per year, with each student to be awarded NT\$36,000 per year.

Taiwan student wins human rights award (Taiwan Today, 28.08.2016)

A Taiwan student received a Human Rights Hero Award from Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization Youth for Human Rights International Aug. 27 during its annual summit at U.N. headquarters in New York, the first time a person from the country has been granted the honor. The student was named one of this year's two recipients for his long-term efforts to promote human rights awareness by, for example, delivering lectures in schools on the subject of bullying, as well as his participation in medical missions to Nepal. Liao was one of eight youth delegates representing the Chungghwa Association for Human Rights, the local YHRI chapter, at the event in New York.

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Technology**Taipei turning landfill site into solar power plant to expand renewables (China post, 01.08.2016)**

Taipei is building its first solar power plant using ground mounted solar panels at a venue that used to be a landfill site, according to the city government on July 30th. The project is part of the capital's efforts to expand the use of renewable energy. The plant is expected to be completed by the end of this year, and will be able to generate up to 2 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity per year, the city's environment protection department said.

Taiwan to host 2017 World Congress on Information Technology (Taiwan Today, 03.08.2016)

The World Congress on Information Technology, to be held in Taiwan next year, aims to attract major industry players from home and abroad to showcase the latest trends in information and communications technology with an emphasis on smart city applications and services. Organized by IDB Sept. 10-13, 2017 under the theme "Fulfilling the Promises of the Digital Age: Building and Sharing the Dream," the event will consist of conferences, business-to-business matching events, ICT awards and speeches at Taipei International Convention Center as well as a special exhibition on Taiwan's smart city technologies at Taipei World Trade Center. This will mark the second time the country has staged the event, having previously served as host in 2000.

**HTC introduces Viveport app store for VR headset (Focus Taiwan, 06.08.2016)**

Taiwan-based smartphone brand HTC Corp. launched a new app store for its HTC Vive virtual reality headset on Saturday to provide users with a wider range of content. According to HTC, the Vive platform has already prompted thousands of developers to enter the groundbreaking world of virtual reality. The Viveport store is expected to create a platform for long term engagement between developers and consumers in the exploration.

HTC, Alibaba Cloud to work together on virtual reality (Focus Taiwan, 10.08.2016)

Taiwan-based smartphone brand HTC Corp., which has intensified its efforts to broaden its product portfolio, has teamed up with China's Alibaba Cloud in a strategic partnership to explore the booming virtual reality (VR) business. Under the bilateral cooperation agreement, the two partners will leverage the advanced computing technology commanded by Alibaba Cloud to make a breakthrough in innovative solutions for the VR business.

Taiwan in 10th place in e-government survey by Waseda University (Focus Taiwan, 15.08.2016)

Taiwan and the United Kingdom tied for 10th place in the 2016 Waseda University International e-Government Rankings, up seven places from last year, according to a statement issued Monday by the National Development Council (NDC). The survey of 65 countries and regions rates governments on network preparedness, online services and applications, management optimization, national portals and homepages, government chief information officers, e-government promotion, e-participation and digital inclusion, open government data, and cyber security. Taiwan ranked eighth in both the open government data and e-government promotion categories, and 10th in the category of online services and applications, according to the NDC.

Taiwan-designed health bracelet wins Red Dot 'Best of Best' award (Focus Taiwan, 16.08.2016)

A health-monitoring bracelet designed by two Taiwanese students so that diabetes patients can measure their blood sugar levels and receive insulin injections without pain has won a Red Dot Design Award for 2016, in the "Best of the Best" category. The bracelet, named Circle Life, was created by Lin I-hsiang, who is studying industrial design at the National Taipei University of Technology (NTUT), and Yeh Chia-yu, a student of commercial design at the National Taiwan University of Science and Technology.

Earth observation satellite Formosat-2 retired after 12 years of service (China Post, 20.08.2016)

The Formosat-2, Taiwan's first Earth observation satellite, has been decommissioned after 12 years of service, seven years longer than it was designed to survive. The satellite, which lost the ability to adjust its camera's angle and position after a malfunction in June, completed its final communication with the control center Friday. Launched in May 2004, the satellite took roughly 2.55 million pictures during its lifetime, according to the National Space Organization (NSO). The group made contact with the satellite twice a day throughout the 12 years.

96% of Taiwanese connect to internet every day: Google (China Post, 24.08.2016)

Google released a study Monday that found 96 percent of Taiwanese surf the internet every day, falling only behind Hong Kong in Asia. According to data from the 2016 Consumer Barometer report, Taiwan ranks only slightly behind Hong Kong, which sees 97-percent of its population connect to the web every day. The report showed smartphone penetration rates in Taiwan had reached a record high of 82-percent. Nearly all young respondents owned a smartphone, and the percentage reached 100-percent for the 25 to 34 age block.

Internet of things to be the highlight of TAITRONICS (China Post, 28.08.2016)

The Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) plans to highlight the internet of things (IOT) at the 2016 Taipei International Electronics Show (TAITRONICS). The exhibition will be held at Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center from Oct. 6 to 9 by TAITRA and the Taiwan Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association.

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