

Jiutai

九台

Jiutai (“Nine stages”) is a relatively modern city located along major highways in central Jilin Province in China’s northeast. Sitting only about 50 km (31 miles) northeast of the provincial capital Changchun, Jiutai is an important agricultural and industrial city which has attracted considerable foreign investment.

The population of Jiutai was 788,500 in 1990, rising modestly by 43,000 over the ten-year period to 2000. More than 90% of the city’s residents are Han Chinese. Intermingled with them are sizeable communities of almost 50,000 Manchu, 10,000 Koreans, 8,400 Hui who practice the Islamic faith, and 400 Mongols.

Nearby Changchun used to be the political and cultural capital of the Manchus. The Japanese invaders established the capital of Manchuko there, placing the Last Emperor, Pu Yi, on the throne. When the Japanese were forced out, Pu Yi was arrested and Manchuria was divided into the present three northeast provinces of Jilin, Liaoning and Heilongjiang.

Jiutai City has always lived in the shadow of its more prestigious and glamorous neighbor, Changchun, whose three-million people enjoy a standard of living higher than almost anywhere else in China.

Population:

788,550 (1990)
831,389 (2000)
876,500 (2010)

Province:

Jilin

Major Ethnic Groups:

Han 91.5%
Manchu 6.0%
Korean 1.3%
Hui 1.1%

Christians:

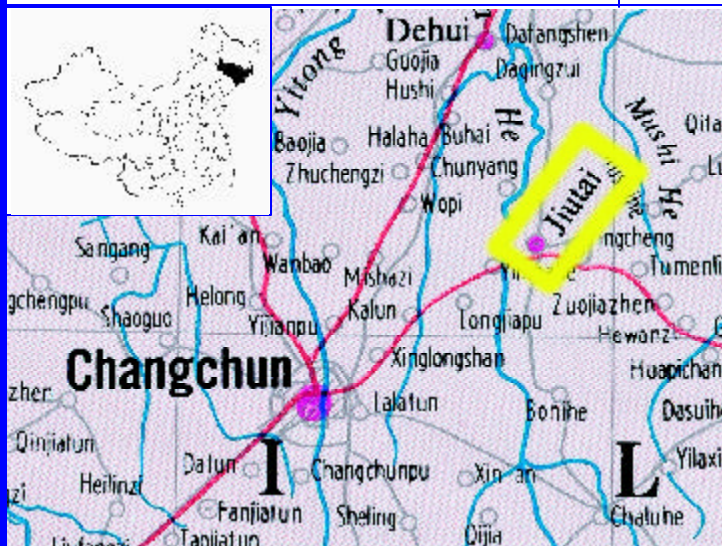
8,500 (1.0%)

Today few tourists bother to visit Jiutai, while Changchun goes from strength to strength. In 2002 they commenced an annual ice festival, attracting thousands of tourists from around the world. One enterprising bid to attract visitors to Jiutai was the construction of the Kalun Lake Holiday Village in the city.

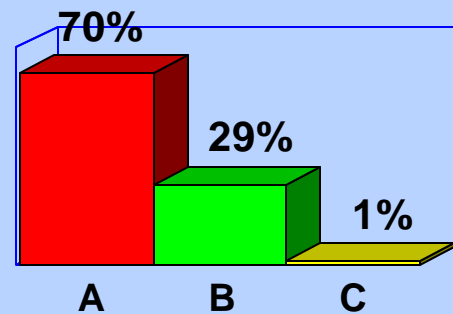
To the embarrassment and anger of local officials, Jiutai has made worldwide headlines for all the wrong reasons in recent years. During the severe crackdown on the Falungong Movement, dozens of practitioners of the Chinese sect were arrested and brutally treated in Jiutai. In February

2002, two female Falungong followers who were teachers at the Zuojia (Governmental) Officials’ School in Jiutai, were imprisoned at the Jiutai City Detention Center for distributing Falungong materials. The fact that these women had been teaching government and Communist Party members’ children caused great anger among officials in the city. Both women were tortured to death while in custody.

Christianity has a very low profile in Jiutai. There is a Three-Self Church in the city, and a small number of house churches, but overall the Gospel has made little impact in the lives of people here. The house church networks have been active through-



Status of Evangelization
(Awareness of Christ and the Gospel)



A = have never heard the Gospel or the Name of Christ
B = were evangelized but have not yet become Christians
C = Adherants to any form of Christianity



out Jilin Province, especially because of evangelists who came from Daqing City in Heilongjiang Province. Daqing experienced tremendous revival in the 1990s, and today is home to at least 200,000 house church Christians.

In 2001 we interviewed a top house church leader from Daqing, who reported on the work the house churches had been doing in Jilin. The leader said, "Formerly Jilin people's hearts were very receptive to the Gospel, but they seem to be becoming less so. At the start of our work there, in the early 1990s, it was quite easy to share the Gospel and see people accept the Lord. But since 1995 things seem to have slackened off little by little, so that now many people are indifferent to the things of the Lord. The main reason for this is because many of our believers had a limited understanding of the Word of God, so the quality of their life is not as strong as it should be. This adversely affects the fruit of the Gospel. Despite this we are sending workers to new areas of Jilin and the Kingdom of God is slowly advancing... In general it would be fair to say the Jilin house churches are not as strong as in Heilongjiang. Compared to Heilongjiang, they are struggling."

Pray for Jiutai

- 1 Pray Jiutai City would soon be saturated with the Good News, helping thousands to believe in Christ.
- 2 Bind the demonic strongholds that make ministry in Jilin difficult.
- 3 Pray Christians would be obedient to take the Gospel to Jiutai City.

Overview of Jiutai (based on 1990 census)

Pronunciation	: "Jeeu-tai"	Employed People	: 389,039 (49.3% of total population)
Old Spelling	:	Main Industries	: Agriculture 76.5%, Industrial 9.8%
Location	: central Jilin Province, northeast China	Education	University: 1.9%
Population	: 788,550 (1990 census)	(highest level attended):	High School: 38.4%
Males	: 404,769 (51.33%)		Primary school: 45.8%
Females	: 383,781 (48.67%)		Never attended any school: 13.9%
Households	: 193,264	Population under 15:	212,985 (27.0%)
Average Household	: 4.1 people	Adult Illiteracy	: 14.5% (men 9.4%; women 19.8%)
Divorced People	: 4,599	Major Nationalities	: Han 722,258
% divorced of Population:	0.58		Manchu 47,433
Centurions (1990)	: 2 people aged 100 or more		Korean 10,048
Immigrants to City	: 12,257		Hui 8,377
From same province:	9,199 (75.1%)		Others 434 (11 groups)
From other provinces:	3,056 (24.9%)	Christians (2003)	: 8,500 (1.0%)