

QUJING 曲靖

Qujing is the second largest city in Yunnan Province in southwest China, with a population of approximately 1.1 million people. Located in the eastern part of the province, Qujing is second only to Kunming in Yunnan, which is only 157 km (97 miles) away.

Population:
824,137 (1990)
1,107,500 (2000)
1,488,400 (2010)

Province:
Yunnan

Major Ethnic Groups:

Han 96.0%
Yi 1.9%
Hui 1.3%
Miao 0.4%

Christians:
4,000 (0.4%)

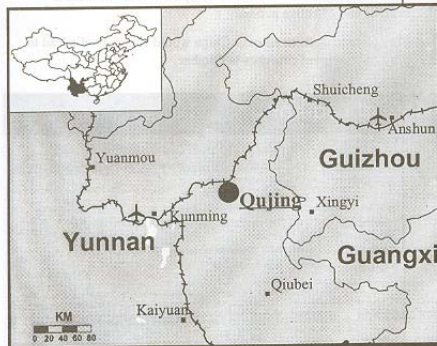
Since ancient times Qujing has been a strategic city. For two thousand years it has been known as the "key to entering Yunnan." From the time of the Shu Han Kingdom (221-263 AD) until the early Tang Dynasty (600's AD) it was the political, cultural and economic center of Yunnan, which at the time included parts of today's southern Sichuan and western Guizhou provinces. Today it has developed into an industrial municipality with much light manufacturing. Textiles, cigarettes and foodstuffs are the three main items produced in Qujing.

Although 96% of the city's population are ethnic Han Chinese, there is a collection of minority peoples also in Qujing. The largest of these are the more-than 16,000 Yi, followed by 11,000 Hui, 3,000 Miao and 1,200 members of the Bai nationality. Smaller minority peoples living in the city include 600 Zhuang, and about 200 each of the Bouyei, Manchu, Hani, Dai and Naxi nationalities. Yunnan Province contains 26 of China's officially

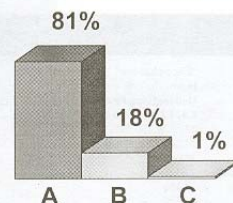
recognized minority groups, although in the 1950's more than 260 tribes and ethnic groups applied for recognition in Yunnan alone. Not wanting to deal with such a huge number of groups, the Chinese authorities clumped many groups together under one nationality who sometimes shared little cultural or linguistic similarities with each other. Even among the "Yi" in Qujing are people from the Naluo, Nasu and Neisu tribal groups. These groups cannot understand each other's speech and so revert to using Chinese in order to communicate with each other.

Qujing has an extremely high rate of illiteracy, especially among the women of the city. In 1990, a staggering 44% of adult females in Qujing were considered illiterate, while a further 49% were classified as semi-literate. That means that just 7% of women were able to adequately read and write. Qujing is primarily an agricultural-based city. More than 75% of employed people in the city have jobs in the agricultural sector.

Qujing receives a steady flow of foreigners—both tourists and businessmen. Some 50 km (31 miles) north of the city, in Maxiong Mountain, is the source of the Pearl River. What starts as an unremarkable spring inside a cave turns into China's third longest river. Despite its long history, there



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 = Adherents to any form of Christianity

are few ancient buildings or temples to see in Qujing. Many were demolished by the Red Guard during the anti-religious campaigns of the 1960's. In Luliang, further to the south, prayer and intercession teams can visit a Buddhist stronghold at the 'One Thousand Buddhas Temple of Great Consciousness', built in 1614.

Christianity has a long history in Yunnan Province. When Marco Polo traveled through the province in the 1300's he remarked on a number of Nestorian churches, but they died out with time. Historians are not entirely sure about why Nestorianism disintegrated in China. Some say it was because of a corrupt and sinful priesthood, while others put the blame on persecution for the demise of the movement.

The Protestant era began in Yunnan when John McCarthy of the China Inland Mission arrived in 1877. He had undertaken an epic journey on foot from Shanghai. Within 40 years, there were 75 missionaries working throughout Yunnan, with about 200 churches or meeting points. One report lamented, "From the very start work was exceedingly difficult and progress very slow. There seemed to be an undercurrent of anti-foreign feeling that prevented the missionaries from getting into touch with any but a very small number of the Chinese."

Before 1949, most success in Yunnan was encountered among minority groups in the western part of the province, especially among the Lisu, Nu, Jingpo, Lahu and Wa. Except for a people movement among the Yi and A-Hmao (Big Flowery Miao) in the northeast of the province, the Gospel did not spread much in other parts of Yunnan, including the Qujing area.

Today there are only about 4,000 Christians in Qujing, of which about half are Catholics and many of the remainder ethnic Yi and Miao believers. The Han in Qujing remain largely untouched and eternally lost.



A variety of fish, eels and other aquatic fare for sale at the Qujing market. Qujing is one of the most unevangelized cities in southern China. Just 0.4% of the city's population are Christians.

Pray for Qujing

- 1 Qujing was founded about the time Christ died and rose again, but most people in the city have yet to hear the Good News for the first time.
- 2 Pray the Gospel would break through the atmosphere of unbelief and pride that keeps many people in Qujing from searching for the Truth.
- 3 Pray the Name of Jesus Christ would soon be lifted up as a clear witness to the people of Qujing.

Overview of Qujing

Pronunciation : "Choo-jing"
Old Spelling : Ch'u-ching
Location : Yunnan Province, southwest China
Population : 824,137 (1990 census)
Males : 422,491 (51.26%)
Females : 401,646 (48.74%)
Households : 198,985
Average household : 4.14 people
Divorced people : 2,665
% of population : 0.32%
Centurions (1990) : 1 person aged 100 or more
Immigrants to City : 8,496 per year
From same province : 7,133 (83.9%)
From other provinces : 1,362 (16.1%)

Employed people : 495,150 (60.1% of total population)
Main Industries : Agriculture 75.6%; Industrial 10.3%; Professional 5.1%
Educational : University: 0.4%
Attainment : High School: 28.3%
(highest level attended)
Primary School: 42.6%
Never attended any level of school: 28.7%
Population under 15 : 27.2%
Adult Literacy : 68% (men 80%, women 56%)
Major Nationalities : Han 791,779
Yi 15,605
Hui 10,547
Miao 2,915
Bai 1,180
Others (30 groups): 2,111
Christians : 4,000 (0.4%)