

Zhanjiang 湛江

The ancient coastal port of Zhanjiang is located in the southern arm of Guangdong Province in southern China. Zhanjiang faces outward to the South China Sea, not far from northern Vietnam,

In 1990 the population of Zhanjiang was just under 1.1 million. 809,900 lived in Zhanjiang City itself, while an additional 289,600 lived in the nearby Potou District, which is also administered by Zhanjiang City. By 2000 Zhanjiang had grown to just under 1.4 million inhabitants. For the purpose of this book, we have combined the two administrative figures into one. The



larger Zhanjiang Prefecture is home to 6.2 million people. One of the standout statistics from Zhanjiang is the wide discrepancy between the sexes living in the city. In 1990 there were 53,000 more males than females in the city. This is due to the practice of infanticide, where many unborn girls are aborted or killed at birth; and also

Population:
1,099,569 (1990)
1,399,375 (2000)
1,780,900 (2010)

Province:
Guangdong

Major Ethnic Groups:

Han 99.6%
Zhuang 0.2%
Manchu 0.1%
Bouyei 0.1%

Christians:
26,500 (1.9%)

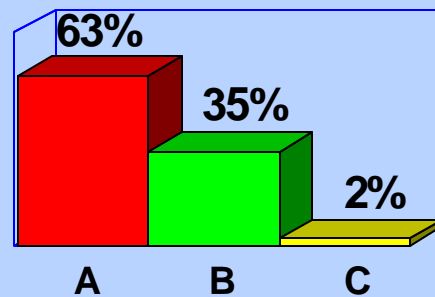
to the fact that Zhanjiang has become a popular place for migrant laborers to look for work (most job seekers are men).

In ancient times the Leizhou Peninsula was regarded as the territory of the southern barbarians. Corrupt officials were sent to this last outpost as punishment. Zhanjiang was the first port in China to open to foreign trade. When France took over today's Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in the 1890s, nearby Zhanjiang was caught up in the military and political struggle. As a result, the city was forcibly ceded to France in 1898. The French, who were not to let go of the

rich possession until World War II, renamed the city Guangzhou Bay. Today French-style houses, churches and other buildings remain in the city.



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



Today Zhanjiang is still famous for its port, the eight largest in China. Five berths capable of handling 10,000 ton ships are presently being constructed. Although they have long since dropped their claims to the city, the French today are permitted to use Zhanjiang as a base for their oil exploration projects in the South China Sea. Many ships haul cargo from Zhanjiang. The city produces one-seventh of the national sugar cane quota, and two-thirds of China's pearls. Other important products from Zhanjiang include salt, sugar, pineapples, mangos, petroleum, silver, rubber, and coffee.

Zhanjiang contains several important religious strongholds, including the large Sanyuan Pagoda in the southern part of the city. The Lei Family Ancestral Temple is the largest temple for ancestor worship in all of Guangdong and Guangxi provinces. It contains the ancestral tablets of hundreds of people who have lived and died without Christ in the city.

Incredibly, despite its size, there had never been a single Protestant missionary working in Zhanjiang at the time of a nationwide survey in 1922. Today less than two percent of the city confess Christ as their Lord. Many of the Christians in Zhanjiang were led to faith by overseas Chinese relatives visiting their hometown.

Pray for Zhanjiang

- 1** Pray the people of Zhanjiang would have the scales lifted from their eyes so they can see their need of Jesus.
- 2** Ask God to bring powerful and life-changing revival to Zhanjiang.
- 3** Pray against ancestor worship that keeps people from knowing the truth.

Overview of Zhanjiang (based on 1990 census)

Pronunciation : "Jahn-jeeung"
Old Name : Hoihong Luichow, Leichau
Location : SW Guangdong Province, south China
Population : 1,099,569 (1990 census)
Males : 576,543 (52.43%)
Females : 523,026 (47.57%)
Households : 246,285
Average Household : 4.5 people
Divorced People : 4,067
% divorced of Population: 0.37
Centurions (1990) : 5 people aged 100 or more
Immigrants to City : 67,171
From same province: 49,009 (73.0%)
From other provinces: 18,112 (27.0%)

Employed People : 562,429 (51.1% of total population)
Main Industries : Agriculture 49.6%, Industrial 17.3%
Education : University: 4.3%
(highest level attended): High School: 39.9%
 Primary school: 37.8%
 Never attended any school: 18.0%
Population under 15: 352,888 (32.1%)
Adult Illiteracy : 17.8% (men 10.5%; women 25.6%)
Major Nationalities : Han 1,095,695
 Zhuang 2,468
 Manchu 209
 Bouyei 148
 Others 1,049 (28 groups)
Christians (2003) : 26,500 (1.9%)