

# Zunyi

# 遵义

Zunyi, with a population of around 600,000, is the second largest city in Guizhou behind the provincial capital Guiyang. Zunyi, is made up of two characters, *Zun*, which means "To obey or observe" and *yi* ("Justice or righteousness"). Today it sits on the railway line and major roads linking Guizhou Province with Sichuan Province and Chongqing Municipality further north.

Although the large majority of Zunyi residents are Han Chinese, the city is also home to pockets of people belonging to minority groups. In 1990 Zunyi was home to 2,200 Miao, 1,950 Gelao, 1,600

Tujia, 920 Bouyei, 850 Hui, 670 Manchu, 620 Dong, 360 Zhuang, and 320 Yi. In all, Zunyi contains people from 29 of China's 55 officially-recognized minority nationalities.

Zunyi has enjoyed a long history. It is known as "a land of wine," as some of the strongest alcohol in China is produced here. Iron and manganese ore are mined, and cotton, silk, chemicals and machinery are among the prominent products manufactured in the city.

Throughout history Zunyi has been an important military outpost. In the mid-1960s the government decided to develop the city as a base for scientific and industrial enterprises relating to na-

**Population:**  
435,136 (1990)  
588,781 (2000)  
796,600 (2010)

**Province:**  
Guizhou

**Major Ethnic Groups:**

Han 97.7%  
Miao 0.5%  
Gelao 0.4%  
Tujia 0.4%

**Christians:**  
13,000 (2.2%)

tional defense.

Despite these new economic projects, Zunyi and the whole of Guizhou Province remains one of the most impoverished in China. Many women and children have been kidnapped from Zunyi in recent years, and sold as wives or sex-slaves to Chinese men in other provinces. The *South China Morning Post* newspaper (18 September, 2000) reported that the police had rescued 123,000 women and children during a six-month nationwide crackdown on human trafficking. The abducted women were sold as brides or into prostitution, while most of the chil-

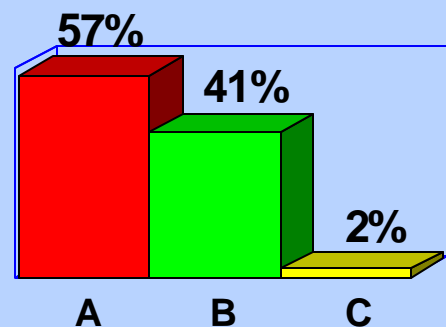
dren were sold to childless couples. In one case, the police in Zunyi cracked a gang that had abducted and sexually abused 84 women and children.

This demonic practice has been exacerbated by the one child policy in China, and the historical preference for boys over girls. Many couples abort their baby when they learn it is a girl. The result is a shocking imbalance between the number of males and females. Even in Zunyi the 1990 census revealed there to be 24,700 more males than females in the city.

Zunyi is famous throughout China for being the first major stop for the Communist forces during the Long March. In January 1935 the army entered Zunyi, decimated by their experiences in crossing



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



the Xiang River. The Red Army started the march with 85,000 men and women. At the end of 1934 they encountered their first battle as they crossed the Xiang. By the time they reached Zunyi a month later they had only about 30,000 troops left. A special meeting was held in Zunyi at which Mao Zedong emerged as the new leader of the Communist Party and the commander of the Red Army.

Christianity has failed to make much of an impact in Zunyi, although both Protestant and Catholic missionaries were based in the city. The Catholic Church suffered martyrdoms in Zunyi as long ago as 1862, when Wu Xuesheng was put to death during an anti-Christian persecution. In 1856 he had been arrested and remained in prison six years before being beheaded in 1862. Beijing was infuriated when the Pope canonized Wu and more than a hundred other Catholic martyrs in 2000.

The first Protestant missionaries in Zunyi were members of the China Inland Mission who arrived in 1902. Twenty years of work later they reported just 80 baptized believers.

Today most of the Christians in Zunyi are Catholics. Evangelism has been held back by linguistic and cultural barriers among the ethnic groups living in the city.

## Pray for Zunyi

- 1** Pray Zunyi would truly be known as a city true to its name, "observing justice and righteousness."
- 2** Ask God to send house church workers to reach the people of Zunyi.
- 3** Pray God would change and renew all lukewarm churches in Zunyi.

## Overview of Zunyi (based on 1990 census)

<b>Pronunciation</b>	: "Zoon-ye"	<b>Employed People</b>	: 246,999 (56.8% of total population)
<b>Old Spelling</b>	: Tsunyi	<b>Main Industries</b>	: Industrial 41.4%, Agriculture 23.6%
<b>Location</b>	: northern Guizhou Province, SW China	<b>Education (highest level attended):</b>	University: 7.7% High School: 49.9% Primary school: 32.6% Never attended any school: 9.8%
<b>Population</b>	: 435,146 (1990 census)	<b>Population under 15:</b>	97,885 (22.5%)
<b>Males</b>	: 229,929 (52.84%)	<b>Adult Illiteracy</b>	: 10.3% (men 5.5%; women 15.6%)
<b>Females</b>	: 205,217 (47.16%)	<b>Major Nationalities</b>	: Han 425,223 Miao 2,210 Gelao 1,949 Tujia 1,610 Others 4,154 (26 groups)
<b>Households</b>	: 106,563	<b>Christians (2003)</b>	: 13,000 (2.2%)
<b>Average Household</b>	: 4.1 people		
<b>Divorced People</b>	: 4,174		
<b>% divorced of Population:</b>	0.96		
<b>Centurions (1990)</b>	: 1 person aged 100 or more		
<b>Immigrants to City</b>	: 59,738		
<b>From same province:</b>	42,680 (71.4%)		
<b>From other provinces:</b>	17,049 (28.5%)		