

Remarks at the Opening of the 3rd National Indigenous Art Triennial: Defying Empire Exhibition

PRIME MINISTER:

Yanggu gulanyin ngalawiri, dhunayi, Ngunawal dhawra. Wanggarraijinyin mariny bulan bugarabang.

We are here tonight on Ngunnawal land and we honour and respect the elders past and present.

We thank you Paul for your very, very characteristically warm and beautiful welcome.

And thank you Gerard for inviting me here tonight.

And thank you above all to all of the artists.

What remarkable set of works you've presented, proving, demonstrating if anyone doubted it that the oldest continuous human culture in the world, that of our First Australians, is alive and dynamic, it is old and new.

It is as old as the deepest most ancient root of a great tree and as new as the flower of the morning on the very height.

The works are profound. They bring every tradition together and, of course, they are done by artists of all ages.

We have works that reach more into the traditional modes of expression.

The beautiful weavings of Yvonne Koolmatrie from the Riverland.

Lola Greeno's beautiful chains of shoals and bones.

And then of course those like Reko Rennie, of course, who is appropriating the latest technology, a Rolls Royce no less – driving that around his country.

And of course Daniel Boyd appropriating, not just defying empire, appropriating empire and re-expressing colonial works in a similar way, it is different but similar, that Danie Mellor does with some of his works. Although Danie is not in the exhibition here tonight.

But, thank you all so much. I am so honoured to be here to open this exhibition.

It is a wonderful example, as I said, of the continuous dynamic culture of First Australians – how it enriches all of us.

This is the great genius of our nation. We are old and new. We are as old as the oldest continuous human culture on earth. And as new as the latest expression of that culture. As new as the baby in the arms of her migrant mother.

It is a remarkable achievement that we have and as we walk closer and closer to fulfilling the promise of Reconciliation we build on the foundations of the great achievements, the truth telling that led to the '67 Referendum – the truth, the love, the commitment, the commitment above all to each other and to recognising how our art expresses our humanity, speaks to us from 50,000 years ago to the flower of the morning.

Thank you all very much.

Congratulations to the curatorial team. Above all thank you and congratulations to the artists. And of course the sponsors, Wesfarmers, all of you that have enabled this wonderful exhibition to happen.

Thank you very much.

[ENDS]

[China stresses role of philosophy and social sciences](#)

China has stressed the significance of philosophy and social sciences in developing socialism with Chinese characteristics.

Philosophy and social sciences with Chinese characteristics are a necessary requirement in the new era, said Wang Weiguang, president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

“Philosophy and social sciences play an critical role in the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics,” Wang said.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China is speeding up building “philosophy and social sciences with Chinese characteristics,” a system including various fields such as history, economics, politics, culture, society and ecology.

It is necessary for philosophy and social sciences to better play their role in the complicated international situation when various thoughts and cultures intertwine, said Wang.

With more than 30 years of reform and opening up, China has made remarkable economic and social progress, but various ideologies and thoughts keep cropping up.

It is still a complex task to build consensus. We have an urgent need to solve these major theoretical and practical problems through philosophy and social sciences with Chinese characteristics, Wang said.

The Council agreed on a new system for resolving double taxation disputes between member states. Ministers also discussed a proposal for a common corporate tax base (CCTB) in the EU, aimed at reducing the administrative burden of multinational companies.

[China completes construction of 1st Hualong One nuclear project](#)

China successfully installed the containment dome for its first demonstration nuclear power project using Hualong One technology, a domestically developed third-generation reactor design, in east China's Fujian Province on Thursday.

The hemispherical dome, weighing 340 tonnes and measuring 46.8 meters in diameter, was installed by crane on the No.5 unit of China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) in Fuqing City at 5:58 p.m.

The installation marks the completion of construction work on the pilot project and the beginning of the assembly stage, said Yu Peigen, deputy general manager of CNNC at the site of installation.

The dome will be used for protection against nuclear accidents under extreme conditions, and both its design and installation are very demanding processes.

"The installation is much more difficult than that of traditional nuclear reactors because the whole weight of the dome and the ropes is more than 500 tonnes," said Yang Jianguo, the lifting commander at the site.

Construction of the pilot project began in May 2015 and was scheduled to take about 62 months to finish.

The successful installation of the dome will contribute to the development of China's domestic third-generation reactor design and enhance the confidence in Hualong One among Belt and Road countries to boost cooperation, said Wang Shoujun, chairman of CNNC.

The country has actively promoted Hualong One at home and abroad. There are

now four projects using Hualong One design under construction, including two reactors in Karachi, Pakistan.

During the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation earlier this month, CNNC also signed a cooperation framework agreement with Argentina, a key emerging market for Chinese companies, which included using the Hualong One design for the country's fifth nuclear unit.

[China to increase polar research cooperation with six countries](#)

The Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration (CAAA) on Thursday signed memorandums of understanding with polar region research institutions from six countries in order to step up cooperation in the field.

According to the administration, the memorandums will deepen cooperation with Argentina, Chile, Germany, Norway, Russia and the United States, in fields such as site inspection, scientific research, logistic support, environmental protection and management, personnel exchanges, policy planning and education.

All sides agreed to practice international cooperation as advocated by the Antarctic Treaty to deepen practical cooperation.

The CAAA is under the administration of the State Oceanic Administration, which has led its affiliated institutions to sign cooperative agreements with more than 10 countries in the study of Arctic and Antarctic regions.