

Hebei college creates 1:10 scale model of 'Liaoning'

A model of Chinese aircraft carrier the "Liaoning" has been put on display at a college in Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, reports Yanzhao Evening News.

Located in the southeastern corner of the Hebei Institute of Communications, the model is 32.8 meters long, which is roughly 1:10 scale of the actual aircraft carrier.

The model has been designed by Ha Jing, deputy director of the logistics department at the college.

Lacking information about the aircraft carrier, Ha Jing has visited Kiev-built aircraft carrier in Tianjin twice.

The construction of the model required more than 50 tons of steel and nearly 10 months to complete.

"Several J-15 fighter aircraft models are still waiting to be installed on the ship to complete the model. Missile and machine gun placements will also be added," said Ha Jing.

He also says he intends to add multiple screens and electronic devices in the main cabin to make the aircraft carrier more authentic.

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Chinese court mandates ‘cooling off’ period for divorcing couples

Couples will be forced to undergo a compulsory three month “cooling off” period before being allowed to divorce, according to rules introduced by a district court in east China’s Shandong Province.

The People’s Court of Shizhong District in Jinan, the provincial capital, has demanded starting Tuesday, all divorcing couples take three months to become “calm” and “reasonable.” No one shall object to observing the mandate “without just cause.”

In the last week of the three-month period, the couple can ask the court to end or extend the period, according to the newly introduced court rules.

The measure was introduced because “judges frequently found that couples seeking divorce were not in a situation of irretrievable marriage breakdown,” according to Men Hongke, deputy head of the district court.

The court is trying to make a distinction between “marriage in crisis” and “marriage in ruins,” he said.

Men said that many couples file for divorce on impulse or due to excessive intervention by their parents. If these cases move directly to legal proceedings, a marriage in crisis could be placed on a fast track towards divorce, he added.

There has been both praise and criticism of the new rules online, with some applauding the effort to uphold marriage, while others see it as undue overreach by the court.

The court has jurisdiction over Shizhong District, which had around 713,600 residents in November 2011 when China conducted its most recent census.

Entrepreneur Lu Guanqiu dies at 72

A famous Chinese entrepreneur, founder and board chairman of Wanxiang Group, Lu Guanqiu, died Wednesday at the age of 72.

Lu was the first group of private entrepreneurs emerged after reform and opening-up.

In July, 1969, Lu and other six farmers, with 4,000 yuan (about 600 U.S.dollars), established an agricultural machinery plant. The plant now has become a transnational corporation with operational revenue over one hundred billion yuan and businesses covering manufacturing, energy, finance, agriculture and resources.

Lu's Wanxiang Group made many firsts among China's private enterprises. In 1984, Wanxiang became the first Chinese township company to sell automobile parts to the American market. In 1994, "Wanxiang Qianchao" went public in Shenzhen, becoming the first public listed township company in China. In 2001, Wanxiang purchased Universal Automotive Industries Inc, becoming the first Chinese township company to purchase an overseas listed company.

Lu Guanqiu was the pathfinder for China's private economy, said Yang Yiqing, a researcher on businessmen in Zhejiang.

Xi calls on CPC, KMT to contribute to cross-Strait ties

Xi Jinping, re-elected general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Wednesday, said the CPC and Kuomintang (KMT) Party should contribute to the peaceful development of relations across the Taiwan Strait and "the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation."

Xi's comment was in response to KMT Chairman Wu Den-yih congratulating him on his election for a second term.

In his congratulatory message, Wu said that with joint efforts from the two parties, cross-Strait relations have changed from tense opposition to peaceful development.

Wu said he hoped the KMT and the CPC can further adhere to the 1992 Consensus, deepen mutual trust and enhance cooperation in order to make new progress of peaceful development across the Strait.

In reply, Xi expressed hopes that the two parties would keep in mind the

well-being of compatriots across the Strait and the interests of the Chinese nation. He said the two parties should consolidate the existing political foundations, increase mutual trust and strengthen cooperation, to make contributions to the peaceful development of relations across the Taiwan Strait and "the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation."

Xi said that since 2005, the two parties have brought about the peaceful development of relations across the Strait on a common political basis of both adhering to the 1992 Consensus and opposing "Taiwan independence," which has benefited people on both sides of the Strait.

People First Party Chairman James Soong and New Party Chairman Yok Mu-ming, among others in Taiwan, also sent congratulatory messages to Xi.