

Liaoning Province Background

Location

The Liaoning province, abbreviated as "Liao", is situated on the southern part of northeast China (118 53'-125 46' east longitude, 38 43'-43 26' north latitude). The largest distance from east to west is 550km, while from south to north is 550 km. Liaoning is a major link between China's northeast economic zone and the Bohai Sea Rim economic zone. Liaoning is adjacent to the Jilin province and northeast of the. Northwest Liaoning borders with the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, and next to the Hebei province.

The southern area overlooks the Bohai and Yellow Seas and faces the Democratic People's Republic of Korea over the Yalu River. Its borderline is over 200 kilometers long. Liaoning is a vital communication channel from to the northeast into Shanhaiguan Pass, as well as an important gateway and the northeast region and the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region leading to the Eurasian Continental Bridge.

Liaoning covers a total area of 145,900 square kilometers (1.5 percent of China's total area), which include 87,200 square kilometers of highland area (59.8 percent), 48,700 square kilometers of flat land (33.4 percent), 10,000 square kilometers of water area (6.8 percent). Liaoning includes an ocean area of 150,200 square kilometers, of which the Bohai Sea region covers 78,300 square kilometers and the North Yellow Sea region 71,900 square kilometers.

The coastline starts on the east side from the mouth of Yalu River and ends on the west side in Laolongtou of Shanhaiguan Pass. The coastline of the Liaoning province is 2,178 kilometers long and occupies 12 percent of China's total coastline. The Liaoning's islands are 622 kilometers long, with 506 inshore islands and islets, covering 187.7 square km. The major islands along the Yellow Sea are: the Outer Changshan Archipelago, the Inner Changshan Archipelago, the Shicheng Archipelago and Great and Little Deer islands. The main islands along Bohai Sea are the Chrysanthemum Island, the Great and Little Pen Rack mountains, the Changxing Island , the Fengming Island, the Xizhong Island, the East & West Ant Islands, the Huping Island and the Pig Island and the Snake Island.

Liaoning History

The Liaoning province has a long-standing history and time-honored culture. The discovery of the fossilized ape man's skull on the Mt. South Jinniu in Dashiqiao of Yingkou proves that ancestors of the human race labored, lived and multiplied on this land about 280,000 years ago. The 150,000-year-old stone ruins of the middle period of the Old Stone Age were unearthed from the Pigeon Hole in Kazuo county of Chaoyang city. About six or seven thousand years ago, Liaoning entered the New Stone Age. The large quantity of utensils unearthed from cultural remains in Xinle, Shenyang, belonging to the New Stone Age, indicate a prosperous existence in the late period of primitive society in Liaoning. The ruins of the Hongshan Culture at the Niuhe Ridge reveal a primitive civilized society with an embryonic form of a country, indicating that Liaoning is one of the places of origin of the Chinese civilization.

As early as 1600 B.C., Liaoning was a neighboring State of the Shang Dynasty, and was under the jurisdiction of the Yan State during the Spring and Autumn Period and Warring State Period. Since then, several dynasties had established their administrative institutions in the Liaoning region. Liaoning was the birthplace of China's last feudal dynasty – the Qing Dynasty (1644 -1911 A.D.). The Shenyang Imperial Palace and the Three Imperial Tombs (Yongling, Fuling and Zhaoling) from the early Qing Dynasty reflect the political, cultural and historical outlook of the period. The republic of China followed the system of Qing Dynasty. In 1929 A.D., the Fengtian Province changed into the Liaoning Province, which means that the Liaohe River valley is even more peaceful. Liaoning had always been the place where the Japanese Imperialists launched the aggressive war on September 18th, 1931.

After the foundation of the People' Republic of China in 1949, the Liaoning region was divided into two provinces: East Liaoning and West Liaoning, as well as Shenyang, Luda, Anshan, Fushun and Benxi under the jurisdiction of the central government. In August 1954 the East and the West Liaoning provinces merged into one province—the Liaoning Province.

There are 14 cities under the jurisdiction of the province, along with 16 county level cities, 28 counties and 56 districts under the cities' jurisdiction. Shenyang is Liaoning's capital, located in the central part of the province with an area of 12,900 square kilometers, including a urban area of 3,495 square kilometers. Shenyang is the center of politics, economy, culture, finance and trade of the province, as well as a major industrial base and a cultural city with a long-standing history.

Population & Nationality of Liaoning

The current population of the Liaoning province is 40,900,000, that is 3.4% of the mainland's total area. It ranks the twelfth in terms of population among the Chinese provinces, cities and autonomous regions. There are 21,300,000 urban residents, which is 52.13% of the total population in the province. The implementation of the family planning policy was first introduced in 1970 aiming at controlling the demographic growth and improving the quality of life. The population growth rate remains fairly low in the 1990s. Currently, the population birth rate of the province is stable at about 12% and natural growth rate is 6% . With the development of the social economy, education and health care industries, the general cultural quality and health condition is constantly improving. There 34 million people with different educational background among those who are above 6 years old, accounting for 83.1% of provincial total. 261 people out of every 10,000 are university graduates.