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Stepping into the 21st century, an age-old China, after having been through a tough quest for over a century, has eventually found its way out of the mists of history and been set on its path of development to the future. In particular, 40 years of reform and opening-up process in China has witnessed the country's economic takeoff, which is approaching the world's best at an unprecedentedly fast pace. China is regaining its due position in world history.

Yet, the awareness of the traditional culture, which has deeply taken root in Chinese people's consciousness, is reawakened and comes together with a booming economy and an overall improvement of China's national power. Chinese civilization has endured a long silence, and now it starts to embrace a new trend of revitalization.

As a future-oriented culture, Chinese civilization needs to provide its people with a solid foundation to settle down and lead a stable life. But as we are entering a new era, how can we spot a poetic idyll for our spiritual home? How can we invigorate our lives? In a globalized world, these problems are deemed to be solved to achieve the rejuvenation of Chinese civilization.

It is common knowledge that all civilizations possess a two-sided nature: for one, human beings create civilizations; for another, civilizations shape human beings. Ideals, pursuits, and innovations by humanity are key driving factors for the development of civilizations, whereas the accomplishment of humankind depends on the spirits that originate from civilizations, pass down to and nurture their offspring. Therefore, the vital issue concerning the future development of all societies lies in the growth of that spirits and the cultivation of all lives.

The fact that Chinese people and nation boast their identities as "Chinese" is not because of the unique geographical or biological features, but the distinctive culture, spirits and civilizations. Without Chinese civilization, the Chinese people and nation will no longer pride themselves on such identities. This age of globalization has

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swamped people with the boom and prosperity in cultural communications and a deluge of cultures, thoughts, and ideas from across the world. However, Chinese civilization is the only right remedy for Chinese people to put down roots peacefully amid the hurly-burly of an unsettled epoch.

The 21st century has seen increasingly focuses on traditional cultures in civil, governmental and academic sectors. Nevertheless, we do not aim at being conventional when we become the bearers of Chinese civilization. Instead, Chinese people must seek fresh water from the fountainhead—intelligence from our traditional culture. Meanwhile, we ought to raise some original solutions to tackle an ever-changing world in reality and the challenges it poses.

When we cast our visions at a much bigger world, we will notice that there are more difficult tasks in tackling worldwide issues and improving global governance amid a new wave of globalization. Involving in this trend, Chinese civilization should contribute more ideas and intelligence that modern Western civilizations struggle to come up with.

A new stage, where clashes and conversations between civilizations are extraordinarily intense, has already begun in our world today. This new stage, different from any other one throughout history, enables the trace of globalization to reach every corner of the world. No culture or civilization can stay aloof from this phenomenon: they interact, interlace, and inhabit the same world, but they also confront, conflict, and clash with each other.

The rejuvenation of Chinese civilization in this century is put on in such an era and setting. In a globalized world, understandings and communications that bridge different civilizations are promptly demanded. Chinese civilization, renovated in modern times, should get rid of the outdated and long-established conventions of “Civilizations are destined to collide.”

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By contrast, it is supposed to be an advocate and supporter of “Civilizations should communicate,” and work hard to appeal for sympathy and tolerance among civilizations, despite we are living in a worsening situation where people are diametrically opposed to one another. In this way, lasting peace and common prosperity will be secured in the society of mankind, which will certainly come true by reaching uniformity out of a variety of civilizations and seeking unity out of a diversity of civilizations.



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