



## Kids' fashion

Children strut new wardrobes in Italian fashion show.

Style P15

TORSTEN SILZ/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

## Hyundai, a rising star

South Korea's Hyundai Motor Co. has finally shed its former reputation as a second-rate brand to become one of the world's premier auto manufacturers ... for more see *Business P6*

## Shen Yun wows

Acclaimed performing arts group leaves audiences stunned in its first South American shows

Entertainment P9



SHEN YUN PERFORMING ARTS

## A view from inside Burma's forgotten war

By SCOTT JOHNSON

Year after year after each wet season, the Burmese dictatorship, ironically called the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), commences its annual "dry season offensive" against the country's ethnic minorities. When the seasonal rains subside, without fail the SPDC moves forward implementing its "scorched earth" policy of burning tribal villages, plundering their rice fields, and shooting livestock. SPDC soldiers routinely rape and murder the fleeing civilians and upon "cleansing" a village, they lay mines so the survivors cannot return.

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The motivation is purely genocidal exploitation aimed at eliminating the tribal minorities so the SPDC can plunder the country's natural resources.

As result, there are today hundreds of thousands of refugees trapped along the Thai border, and, according to the Thai Burma Border Consortium, there may be as many as one million displaced people in Burma itself. As recently as June 3, the SPDC attacked a refugee camp called Ler Per Her, driving some 3,000 ethnic Karens across the border into Thailand.

For the ethnic Karen—one of Burma's largest ethnic minority groups of some 8 million persons—this suffering has become a generational lifestyle. Their political organization, the Karen National Union (KNU), recently recognized a 60-year anniversary of their struggle for freedom. After 60 years of persecution, however, one would think the free world could have done something to end the bloodshed.

Yet the SPDC continues unabated in its inglorious brutality, and news of this inhumanity just comes and goes as did the 2007 Saffron Revolution protests and 2008 Cyclone Nargis disaster. Aung San Suu Kyi's house arrest lingers in the media still, while China, Russia, and other nations feed the SPDC war machine and welcome the ongoing global impotence in confronting the SPDC.

To comprehend the injustice, one needs to envision the victims, the tribal minorities facing ethnic cleansing, their poor children, and orphans trapped in the world's longest running civil war. Today, along the Thai border, refugees are piling up in camps by the tens of thousands with little international protection.

CONTINUED ON P4 WORLD



COAL MOUNTAIN MINE: A view of mountaintop removal coal mining in Elk Valley in southeastern British Columbia, northwest of Flathead Valley. Environmentalists are concerned a similar project in the Flathead will contaminate the headwaters of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. GARTH LENZ, ILCP FLATHEAD RAVE

## U.N. to study potential threat to Canada-U.S. World Heritage Site

Conservation photographers set for expedition to B.C.'s Flathead Valley

By CINDY CHAN  
Epoch Times Staff

Decades-long concerns over energy and mining development proposals near a UNESCO World Heritage Site on the Canada-U.S. border have prompted the U.N. agency to launch a fact-finding mission to investigate potential threats to the region.

UNESCO's 21-member World Heritage Committee voted unanimously last week for a mission to evaluate and

recommend requirements to protect Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park.

The committee noted that potential coal mining and coalbed methane extraction within the unprotected Flathead Valley in British Columbia, which lies west adjacent to Waterton-Glacier, could threaten water supplies and the broader ecosystem spanning the area.

"This ecosystem has the highest density of grizzly bears in the interior of North America, the highest diversity

of plant species, with over 1,000 flowering plants alone. It's one of the most important grizzly bear and carnivore habitats in the Rocky Mountains," said Ryland Nelson, program coordinator with Wildsight, a southeastern B.C.-based conservation group.

Mr. Nelson attended the UNESCO meeting in Seville, Spain, representing an environmental coalition that comprises 12 U.S. and Canadian groups.

"We've been asking B.C. for over 30 years not to mine in the Flathead River Valley. We're asking that B.C. change their land use plan so that it does not allow mining on the headwaters of a World Heritage Site," he said.

CONTINUED ON P2 NATION

## Google framed in China

Accusations regarding pornography part of attempt to tighten censorship

By STEPHEN GREGORY  
Epoch Times Staff

An attack on the U.S.-based search engine Google in mid-June brought to a climax the regime's campaign to introduce its Internet filtering software Green Dam-Youth Escort.

The regime accused Google.cn (Google China) of providing easy access to pornography on the basis of fabricated evidence. This accusation provided the regime a pretext for shutting down Google search results that can provide links to politically sensitive Web sites.

The charges against Google were aired on CCTV (China Central Television) on June 18 on a top-rated, nationally televised show called "Focus Report." Similar in format to "60 Minutes" or "20/20," "Focus Report" has a reputation among China media watchers as being a vehicle for the regime's propaganda campaigns.

The June 18 show devoted its entire program to an examination of how Google enabled pornography searches in China. Among those interviewed were the vice-director of the NGO China Internet Illegal Information Reporting Center (CIIRC) and a young man who was identified as a college student.

The college student, Gao Ye, complained that the pornographic materials on the Web do great harm, especially through Google's links. He described how a friend of his had overcome a previous interest in pornography, but then Google had made it very easy for him to find these kinds of Web sites again, causing him to become "disturbed."

CONTINUED ON P4 WORLD

## Is Canada disengaged?

By MATTHEW LITTLE  
Epoch Times Staff

Across the country Wednesday, Canadians of all backgrounds celebrated what this nation means to them. But some warn that the history and values that have made Canada what it is today are slowly being forgotten, leaving the next generation of Canadians and future newcomers at a loss.

Canada is one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the world and has been a land of immigrants since our Indigenous people first crossed the harsh landscape of the frozen Bering Sea from Siberia tens of thousands of years ago.

The second major immigration to Canada began when Europeans arrived 500 years ago, and minus a couple slowdowns during the two Great Wars, people have flocked to this land from a growing list of countries around the world.

After Canada eliminated nation-of-origin restrictions in 1962 and opened its doors to non-Europeans, a dramatic immigration shift has been seen as people from Asia, the Middle East, Africa and elsewhere turn Canada into a world within a nation—a country with pockets of people from hundreds of different ethnicities.

This multiculturalism has become a cornerstone of our national identity; some would argue it is now the foundation.



Revellers enjoy the Canada Day festivities at Queen's Park in Toronto Wednesday. TANYA DAI/THE EPOCH TIMES

But while Canada has embraced the new, some organizations and politicians are concerned it has lost some of the old and that inadequate knowledge of our country's history, institutions and government is preventing new Canadians and young Canadians from engaging fully with their country.

CONTINUED ON P2 NATION

## Sarkozy pushes strongly for 2025 'Grand Paris'

By AURELIEN GIRARD  
Epoch Times Staff

PARIS—Two months after the April 29 announcement of a "Grand Paris" roadmap to 2025, French President Nicolas Sarkozy further detailed on Tuesday, June 30, his vision of Paris's urban development during a round table in La Defense, Paris's financial district.

One million square meters of offices and housing facilities are to be expected in La Defense so as to make it become a rival of London's "City" district. But this is only the tip of the iceberg of what could become the most important revolution in Paris urbanism since the work of Baron Haussmann in the late nineteenth century.

'HOTSPOT' LOGIC

Part of Sarkozy's plan is to make the La Defense financial district, at the Western "corner" of Paris, the

major economic hub of the Grand Paris. To support this, transportation infrastructure will be built to create a direct link with both Orly and Charles de Gaulle airports. La Defense could also become Paris Central station for all national super-fast trains (French "TGV"), housed in Paris Dauphine University. This would be no less than a complete remodeling of the infrastructure and economic dynamics of the Paris region. South of Paris, the Saclay plateau, where several major public research centers are based, would become Paris's scientific hub. And to the north, Saint-Denis city would become house to creative works.

To link these hotspots as well as other "spots of excellence" and cities, more than 128 km of railways, mostly subways running automatic trains at 80 km/h around Paris, will be built.

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