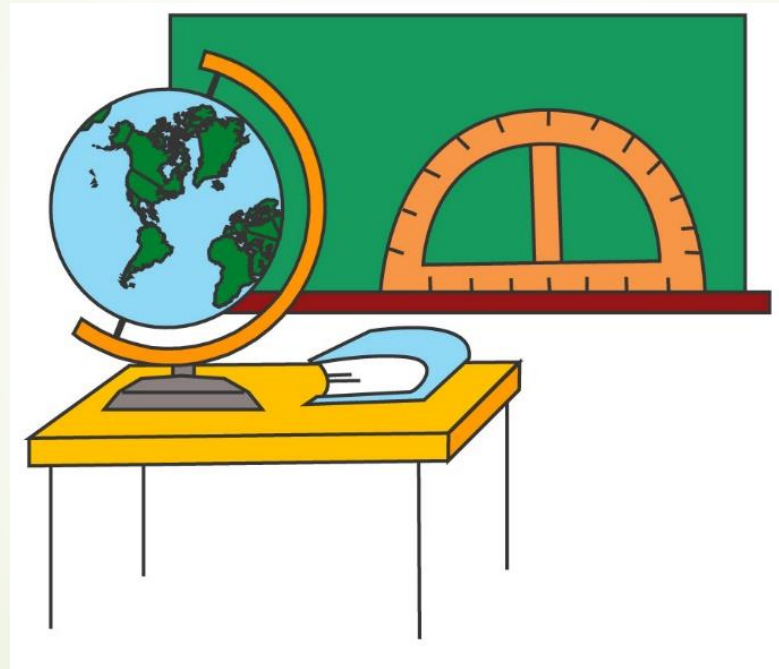


# PowerPoint Series on Geography of China (1) – The territory & provincial level administrative units of our country



Personal, Social and Humanities Education Section  
Curriculum Development Institute, Education Bureau

**Teacher Version**

## Notes to Teachers – The learning & teaching of Geography of China and its linkages with the Geography curricula



The ***Geography Curriculum Guide (Secondary 1 - 3)*** and the ***Geography Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4 - 6)*** have about 1/3 of their contents and examples on the physical and human geography of China. Before studying individual topics or examples related to geography of China, teachers should first teach this PowerPoint so that students can have a basic understanding of **the territory and provincial level administrative units of our country.**

This helps students to learn the topics of geography of China in the geography curricula.

# The Geographic Location of China

- Our country is located within **East Asia** and is at the west of the Pacific Ocean. Most of our country lies in middle latitudes.
- The **northernmost tip** is at  $53^{\circ}31'$  north near the town of **Mohe in Heilongjiang province**.
- The **southernmost area** is Zengmu Ansha of the **Nansha Islands** at  $4^{\circ}$  north.
- The **westernmost** is at the **Pamir Plateau of Xinjiang**, at  $73^{\circ}40'$  east.

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- **The easternmost place is at the confluence of Heilongjiang River and Wusuli River in the east of Fuyuan County, Heilongjiang province, at 135°05' east.**



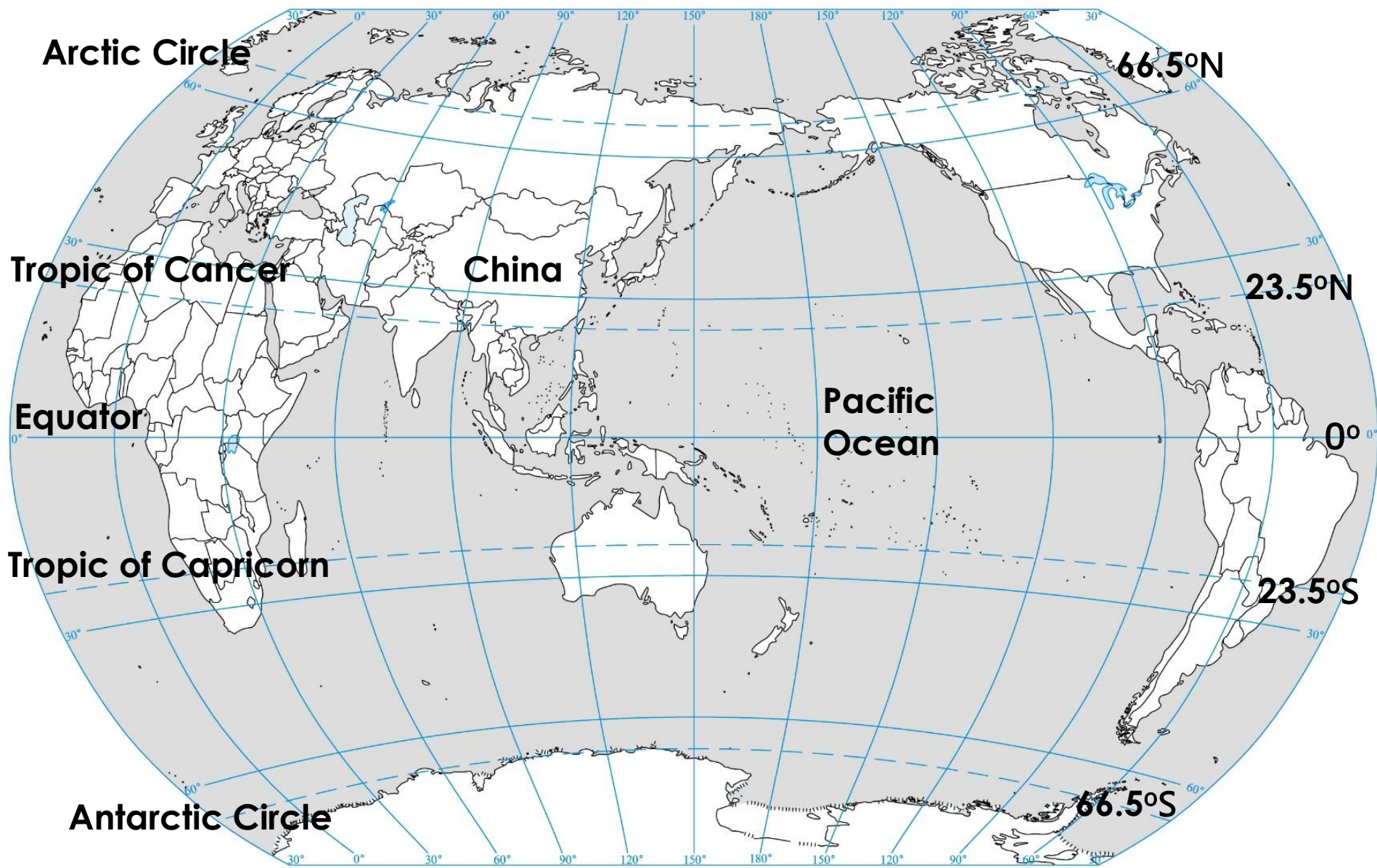


Figure 1 The location map of our country



## The Territory & National Borders

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- Our country has a **vast land mass**. Its total land area is 9.6 million km<sup>2</sup>, equivalent to a quarter of Asia's land area or almost equal to the entire land area of Europe.
  - The coastline of the eastern and southern regions extends over 18,000 km. The total sea area is over 4.7 million km<sup>2</sup>.
  - There are 7,600 islands of different sizes.

Figure 2 The territory of our country



# The Seas & Islands


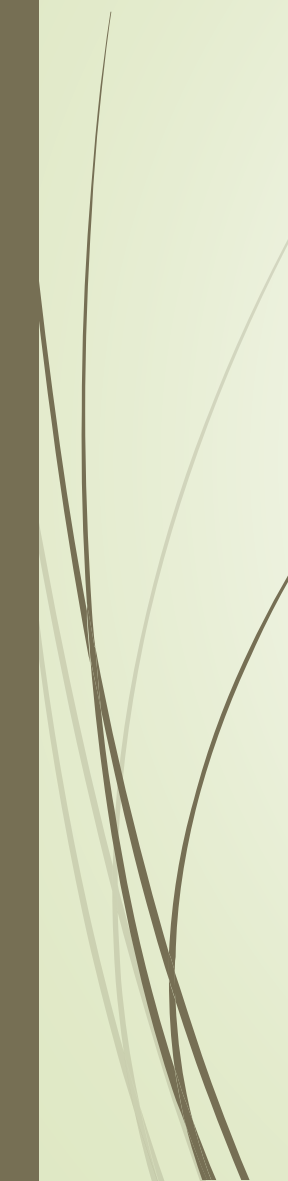
- Our country's territorial waters is composed of 1) the **Bohai Sea** and the **Yellow Sea**, 2) the **East China Sea**, and 3) the **South China Sea** (Figure 3)
- **Bohai Sea** is shallow and surrounded by land on three sides, covering a total area of about 77,000km<sup>2</sup>. Its water depth averages 18m, with a maximum depth of 70m. It is connected to the Yellow Sea.
- **The Yellow Sea** has an area of 380,000km<sup>2</sup>. Its water depth averages 44m, with a maximum depth of 140m. The Yellow Sea is also shallow.



Figure 3 The territorial seas and major islands



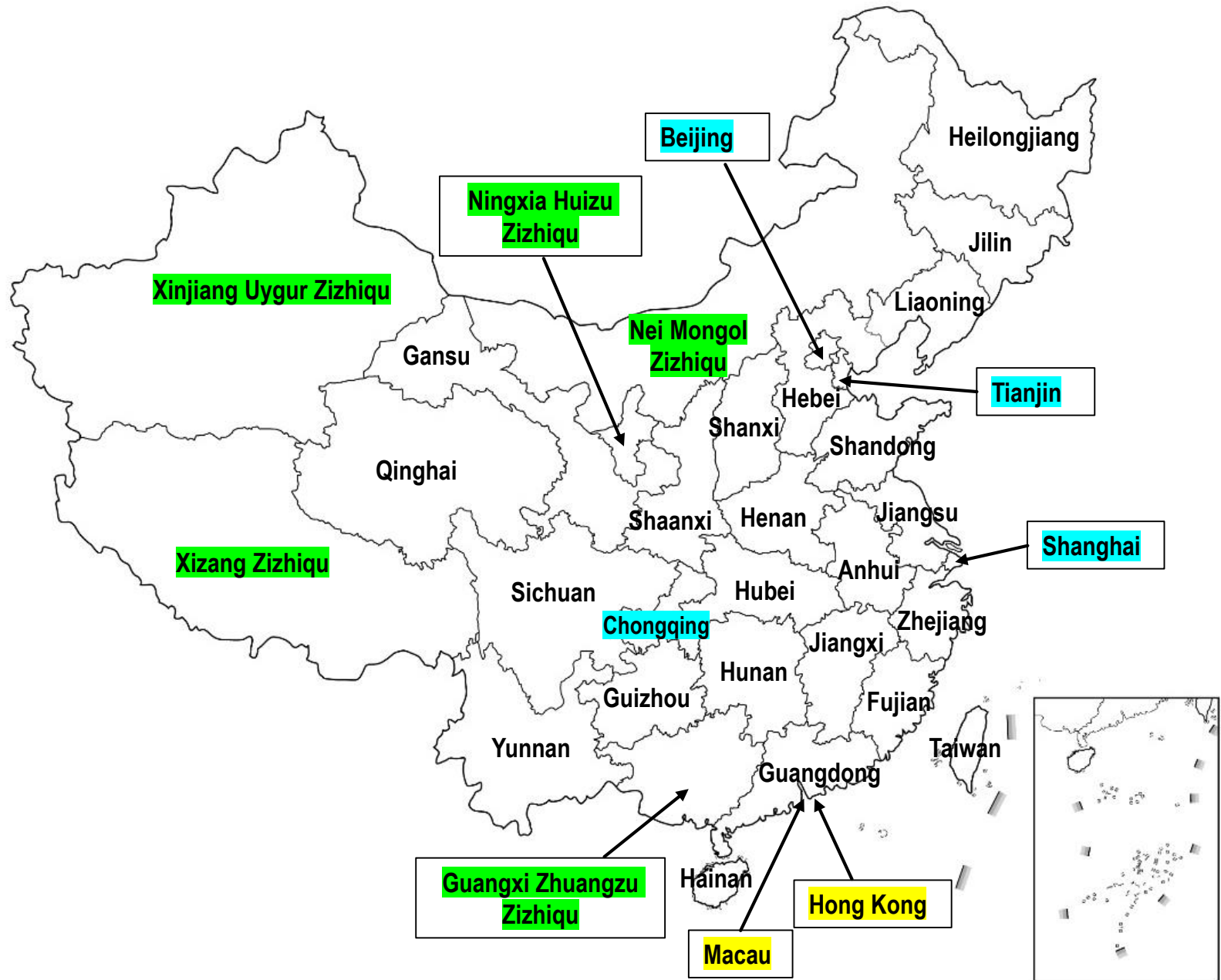
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- The total area of the **East China Sea** is 770,000km<sup>2</sup>. Its average depth is 349m. Hangzhou Bay is the largest bay in the East China Sea. Major islands in the East China Sea include Taiwan, Zhoushan Islands, Penghu Islands and Diaoyu Islands.
  - The **South China Sea** covers a large area of 3.5 million km<sup>2</sup>. The average depth is 1,212m. The major islands in the South China Sea include Hainan Island, Dongsha Islands, Xisha Islands, Zhongsha Islands, and Nansha Islands.
  - Zengmu Ansha of the Nansha Islands is the southernmost territory of our country.

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- **Taiwan** is the largest island, with an area of 35,798km<sup>2</sup>. Mountains and hills account for 69% of its area.
  - **Hainan Island** is the second largest island, with a total area of 33,556km<sup>2</sup>. To its north, Hainan Island is separated from Leizhou Peninsula by the Qiongzhou Strait. The narrowest part of the strait is only 18km wide.
  - **Chongming Island** is the third largest island, with an area of 1,083km<sup>2</sup>. It is the largest sand bar at the mouth of Chang Jiang and is also the largest alluvial island in our country. Chongming Island is formed by the deposition of sediments and sand transported by Chang Jiang and coastal flows.

# Provincial Level Administrative Units

- There are 34 administrative units at provincial level, including 4 **municipalities**, 23 **provinces**, 5 **autonomous regions** and 2 **Special Administrative Regions** (Figure 4 & Table 1). Each administrative division at the provincial level has an abbreviation or an alternative name.
- The location of the people's government of a provincial level division is called the **provincial capital city**, whereas the location of the People's Central Government is called the capital city of the country. **Beijing** is the **capital**.

# Figure 4 Provincial level administrative units





# Table 1 Provincial level administrative units

Provincial level administrative divisions (Provincial capital)	Abbreviation / (alternative name)
Beijing	Jing
Tianjin	Jin
Hebei (Shijiazhuang)	(Ji)
Shanxi (Tiayuan)	(Jin)
Nei Mongol Zizhiqu / Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region (Hohhot)	Neimenggu
Liaoning (Shenyang)	Liao
Jilin (Changchun)	Ji
Heilongjiang (Harbin)	Hei
Shanghai	(Hu) / (Shen)
Jiangsu (Nanjing)	Su
Zhejiang (Hangzhou)	Zhe
Anhui (Hefei)	(Wan)
Fujian (Fuzhou)	(Min)
Jiangxi (Nanchang)	(Gan)



Provincial level administrative divisions (Provincial capital)	Abbreviation / (alternative name)
Shandong (Jinan)	(Lu)
Henan (Zhengzhou)	(Yu)
Hubei (Wuhan)	(E)
Hunan (Changsha)	(Xiang)
Guangdong (Guangzhou)	(Yue)
Guangxi Zhuangzu Zizhiqu / Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region (Nanning)	(Gui)
Hainan (Haikou)	Qiong
Chongqing	(Yu)
Sichuan (Chengdu)	Chuan / (Shu)
Guizhou (Guiyang)	Gui / (Qian)
Yunnan (Kunming)	Yun / (Dian)
Xizang Zizhiqu / Tibet Autonomous Region (Lhasa)	Zang
Shaanxi (Xian)	Shan / (Qin)
Gansu (Lanzhou)	Gan / (Long)



<b>Provincial level administrative divisions (Provincial capital)</b>	<b>Abbreviation / (alternative name)</b>
Qinghai (Xining)	Qing
Ningxia Huizu Zizhiqu / Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region (Yinchuan)	Ning
Xinjiang Uygur Zizhiqu / Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region (Urumqi)	Xin
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	Gang
Macau Special Administrative Region	Ao
Taiwan	Tai