

From "commercial connections" to "Embracing Innovation"

(Outlook China Magazine, Ting Wang)

Dear

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Ladies and gentlemen:

good morning guys!

I am honored to be invited by the conference to come to beautiful Bournemouth.

Part of my understanding of Bournemouth is from Mary Shelley, the author of the novel Frankenstein, who has been sleeping in St. Peter's Church in Bournemouth. From 1982 to the present, China has published this novel many times.

In the "General History of the World", the great contemporary historian Leften Stavros Stavrianos refer to the period from the 1,000 B.C. to 500 B.C. as classical period. He used "commercial connection" to summarize and define this period.

In other words, the early human civilization interaction was completed through the "commercial connection." From the second century B.C., Chinese goods crossed the desolate northwestern Gobi Desert to the Middle East, the Mediterranean coast and Europe, enabling people there to have a preliminary understanding of distant China through ceramics, silk, and Confucius. Similarly, commercial interactions have also enabled China to learn about the Gentiles from spices, tapestries, silverware, Christianity, and Catholicism. At that time, the attributes of goods from east to west were magnified and have become symbols of culture. Later, the German geographer Ferdinand von Richthofen called the passage connecting the east and the west the Silk Road.

Nowadays, this ancient passage has been given a new title of "Belt and Road", and it has also been given a new connotation of the "Silk Road Economic Belt" and the "21st Century Maritime Silk Road Economic Belt". We found that although more than two thousand years have passed, the core of the value of the ancient Silk Road remains unchanged. The Chinese people look forward to shaking hands with different civilizations, including the United Kingdom, on a more open

platform.

In 2015, President Xi Jinping visited the United Kingdom, which opened the "golden age" of Sino-British relations and opened the door for cooperation between China and Britain in clean energy and high-speed rail projects; in the same year, the "Chinese-English Exchange Year" was held, which laid a solid foundation for the development of Sino-English relations and the exchanges between the two peoples became more frequent. From large-scale investment to multinational business cooperation, from individual travel to folk cultural exchanges, there are lots of exchanges between China and the UK at all levels and industries. China's direct investment in the UK has increased year by year, the number of Chinese tourists to the UK has soared, and Chinese tourists' spending on shopping in the UK has also increased.

In China, some entrepreneurs and investors, when talking about the UK, can hear the concepts of "Golden Age" and "Golden Decade" from time to time. The Chinese people have shown great confidence and good expectations for the sound development of Sino-British relations.

China and the UK have new economic complementarities. In the past, China valued Western capital and technology, and the West, including the UK, valued China's market and affordable products. Now, new complementarities are forming. Britain and even Europe are very eager for Chinese investment. This complementarity has laid a solid foundation for the future exchanges and cooperation between China and the UK in industrial economy and culture.

Please allow me to return the topic to Bournemouth.

For Bournemouth, the Chinese people are familiar with the Bournemouth football team.

In the 2014-2015 season, the Bournemouth football team advanced to the Premier League. This is the first time the team has teamed up in the Premier

League in 116 years. The fans here are cheering, and the fans from far away China also learned the news instantly in the middle of the night, and they shared the joy and pride of the Bournemouth people.

In fact, both the Premier League football star and Rowan Atkinson, who plays Mr. Bean, will have a feeling of going home when they set foot on the Chinese land, this is the temperature of culture. Nowadays, young people in China like to watch the Premier League game, and they hope to interact with the football culture of the Premier League, and enjoy the energy and passion brought by the sport.

In September 2015, the Investment and Trade Department of the British Embassy in China set up the Ministry of Sports to build a bridge for inter-connected sports resources for Chinese and British companies. In this context, if the Bournemouth football team joins the Chinese element, everyone should not be surprised. If there is such a day, everyone here will be surprised to find that the number of fans of the Bournemouth football team may exceed the total population of the UK.

After the May Fourth Movement in 1919, especially after the reform and opening that began in 1978. This year happens to be the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening, the Chinese really began to understand the outside world. This is a memorable year. In the past 40 years, from the relatively closed to open the door, the Chinese economy has had an amazing interaction with the world.

The present China is in an era of economic and cultural transformation and innovation.

Expressed in the cultural field, the Chinese people hope that the ancient Chinese culture will renew new energy and help to enhance the country's soft power.

By 2020, the added value of China's cultural and creative industries is expected to reach more than 50 trillion yuan. This market is full of attractive opportunities and more possibilities. But how to tap and shape a new cultural paradigm and benefit

the people is an opportunity and a big topic.

The UK is a creative power. In the stage of China's economic transformation, the UK's service industry, including creative and art industries, will usher in more opportunities. China welcomes British funds to invest in China's cultural and creative industries. It also welcomes the UK to inject ideas and wisdom into China's creative industries, broaden the boundaries of exchanges and cooperation, and jointly create more cultural classics.

Whether it is business dealings or cultural exchanges, it is not one-way, but two-way, just as defined by the theme of this forum: Embracing innovation.

For Bournemouth, the most famous attraction is the crescent-shaped beach that stretches for more than a dozen kilometers. As you know, in China, there are many capitals for tourism investment that are looking for suitable investment projects on a global scale. In the future, if the British creative wisdom combined with China's tourism investment to invest and expand the border of Bournemouth's tourism industry, it will undoubtedly innovate a new industrial format. It is conceivable that Bournemouth will attract more Chinese and the tourists from the world to bring visitors, business, investment and shopping to Bournemouth, which help the employment and urban construction of Bournemouth. This is a benign interaction. As a media worker, I am obliged to introduce and promote Bournemouth through our work, so that more Chinese can understand this beautiful city.

The integration of industries and complementary cultures between China and the UK is becoming a trend.

On the occasion of the Chinese Lunar New Year in 2018, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce revealed that the Chinese and British sides intend to jointly build Xiong'an Financial Technology City. This news shocked the Chinese media. On the one hand, the UK values the future business opportunities of the Xiong'an New District. On the other hand, China believes that cooperation with the UK will help

China's financial industry. This paradigm of cooperation between the two countries fully embodies "harmony".

We are happy to see Sino-British cooperation as a model for global cooperation. The United Kingdom is a country that has truly governed the world. It has global wisdom and world language; it is the ancestor of free trade; it has the status of an international financial center; it has a great influence on international rules, standards and pricing power of commodities. In many ways, The UK is one of the best partners for China to participate in global governance and cooperation.

Speaking of this, I would like to especially appreciate the concept of "Embracing Innovation" proposed by Professor Li Hua.

"Embracing Innovation" is a win-win or win more innovation model. It is a kind of friendly innovation. This innovation is not based on the premise of sacrificing the interests of partners or the cultural characteristics of each other. What we are pursuing is under the premise of advocating cultural diversity to realize the sharing of interests and destinies.

Ladies and gentlemen, the golden age of China and Britain depends on the visionary wisdom of the politicians of the two countries and the joint efforts of the two peoples. Let us join hands and witness this great era together!

I wish the "China Innovation and China Model Series Forum" a complete success!

Thank you again!