

interests of the peoples of the two countries, and facilitates peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region and in the world.”

In a speech to the Russian Duma (parliament), President Jiang took up the issue of how to create a peaceful and developing world, after a century whose disasters included two world wars and 40 years of Cold War. To end such tragedies, he said, it is essential to build a multi-polar world, in which it is no longer possible for a few powers to dictate to other nations. The broad group of developing nations, whose power is growing, is an important force on the international arena, Jiang said.

Already in the 1980s, President Jiang said, China’s leader, the late Deng Xiaoping, had the idea that it was indispensable to create a just and rational new political order. This means the creation of a *new type* of international relations, in which each state has the right, based on its own condition, to choose its direction of development.

Based on this foundation of sovereignty, Jiang told the Duma, nations can reject the mentality of the Cold War, and all those actions not favorable to peace and development. The developed nations must recognize the interests and needs of the developing nations, including by increasing investment and providing advanced technologies.

Without improving North-South relations, without reducing the economic gap, the world will have only rich nations and poor nations, and it will not be possible to guarantee peace and stability. China, he noted, had suffered a century of aggression and looting by imperialist nations, and knows very well how difficult it will be to achieve such peace and stability, but China also requires such conditions for its own development. China rejects arms races, military blocs, and hegemonism.

China wants Russia, which has made so many contributions to the world, also to achieve stability and economic renewal. China and Russia are creating a new strategic interaction, a new type of interstate relations, to stimulate the creation of a just and rational international order, Jiang said. But this is not any kind of political “bloc,” and is not aimed against any third country, he underlined.

Our two nations’ economies are complementary; they are developing relations on all levels, Jiang said. The two nations must put their forces together, to create a just and rational new world order, to make the future world a beautiful place.

Exporting advanced technologies

As LaRouche noted, in reflecting on the Chinese-Russian agreements, this focus on the whole developing sector, demonstrates that these accords are not only to produce, but also to *export* advanced technologies to other developing nations. Repeatedly in the past decades, the world has approached very close to instituting such a new order. This was Franklin Roosevelt’s policy at the end of World War II; this was the

policy of the Non-Aligned Movement, notably the NAM’s Colombo, Sri Lanka resolution of 1976; it was the policy of Ibero-American leaders in the early 1980s. In these and in other instances, however, LaRouche said, we were not able to carry this policy through. Now, there is another opportunity to create this new, just order, and there is hope that we can achieve it. This policy, to develop the Third World, will create international momentum for the “Eurasian Land-Bridge,” which is already the state policy of China.

Africa is one field for promoting a “new just and reasonable economic order.” Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng will be touring six African nations in May, one year after Jiang Zemin made an historic tour of the continent. On April 21, Li said that China wants to “strengthen consultation and cooperation in international affairs, support the just demands and reasonable proposals of African countries, stand together with them and other developing countries, and work jointly with them to promote just and reasonable international poli-

Iranian leaders invoke heritage of the Silk Road

Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani sent a message of greetings to the Second Conference on the Silk Road, meeting in Teheran at the end of April, in which he noted that the influence of Iranian civilization can be seen all along that historic route. This was just one of many recent statements and initiatives taken by Iranian leaders, to link up to the Eurasian Land-Bridge.

According to the English-language Iranian newspaper *Ettela’at International*, Rafsanjani’s message stressed (in the paper’s paraphrase) that “the impact of Iranian and Islamic culture and civilization could be seen in all stages of the blossoming of the Silk Road on the inhabitants and users of the ancient route.”

Rafsanjani stated that “Iran, enjoying a strategic geographical location, and its own distinct economic and cultural features, has long been recognized as an important country.” He said that the effect of the “great spiritual civilization” of Iran and Islam “can be traced on the route of the Silk Road, from China right up to the heart of Europe. The caravans carrying goods, silk, and spices used the Silk Road from Kashgar in China, to Damascus and Africa, from Samarkand, Bukhara, Khojand, and Khwarazm to Neishabour, Rey, Isfahan, and Far, from Shiraz to Benga

tics and a new economic order." Li will visit Zambia, Mozambique, Gabon, Cameroon, Nigeria, and Tanzania on May 5-14.

Both China and Africa are faced with the task of safeguarding peace and seeking development, Li said. "The peace and prosperity of the world requires the stability and development of Africa, and any opinion or action to neglect Africa is incorrect. . . . China is willing to further develop political friendship with Africa, tap new channels of economic and trade cooperation, and pursue common development."

Intensive diplomacy

The Moscow summit was only part of an intensive overall diplomatic process. President Yeltsin will visit China in November, and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin will go there in June. Last year, after the April summit in Shanghai, Li Peng visited Russia to set up several commis-

sions to plan cooperation in trade and economics, power, transportation, nuclear energy, and other fields, which have now been consolidated. Just before the summit, Jiang Zemin met Russian Defense Minister Igor Rodionov on April 18 in Beijing.

Most important are the developing economic relations. As one of Russia's foremost Russian authorities on China and Russian-Chinese relations, Academician V.S. Myasnikov, said in a discussion with *EIR* on April 28, the current accords are creating a new kind of relationship between Russia and China. Professor Myasnikov, who is deputy director of the Academy of Science's Institute of Far Eastern Studies, said that now, for the first time in 400 years, China is a more powerful state than Russia. Yet at the same time, Russia has been the *only* nation from which China can get new technologies, because of the policy of "technological apartheid" by the West that has prevailed up to now.

In the 1950s and 1960s, Russia cooperated very closely

and India, and also from Tabriz to Erzurum, Bosnia, and Europe. . . .

"So one can easily notice that, even though the Silk Road was a trade route for ferrying goods, it played an important and effective role on cultural, social, and artistic communications."

Emphasizing the current construction of the Land-Bridge, Rafsanjani stated that "the revival of the Silk Route, through construction of the lengthy Persian Gulf-Sarakhs-Tajan railway which once again links China to Central Asia via Iran, is in continuation of efforts" of Iran to expand the Silk Road.

"Through the completion of the Kerman-Zahedan railway project in the near future, the Indian subcontinent will be connected to the north, west, and south, via Iran," he said, according to the Teheran news service IRNA. This vital rail line will finally link western and eastern Iran. Eastern Iran is already linked to the Pakistani rail system, which is connected to the Indian and Bangladeshi rail systems. These can be fully opened up, if there is a political resolution to the Indian-Pakistani conflict. This will be the first time in history that the Indian subcontinent will be connected to West Asia, Europe, and Central Asia, directly by rail link.

A speaker at the Teheran conference, Deborah Luhrman, communications head of the World Tourism Organization, said that Iran has a vital role to play concerning the Silk Road, because of its strategic location, its rich culture, and its economy. Furthermore, she added, "the Sarakhs-Tajan railroad link between the Iranian and Central Asian networks, which runs on the course of the historical Silk

Road, provides an important connection between Europe and Asia, especially China."

Ettela'at also reported that Rafsanjani, in a speech in Teheran the same week before the eighth international conference on rainwater catchment systems, asserted that Iran is prepared to place its valuable experience in harnessing of water resources, at the disposal of those countries which need it. Scientists and researchers from 46 countries attended the five-day conference. The Iranian President said that Iran was the right place for holding such a gathering, as the years of experience that it has accumulated, can help to achieve the objectives of the conference. The Iranian government has allocated huge sums for optimal use of water resources, the paper said.

Then, on April 24-27, another conference took place in Teheran, on "Archaeology Along the Silk Road," co-sponsored by the Iranian government and Unesco. Among the 40 experts in attendance, was at least one from the United States. Other countries represented included Russia, Nepal, Kazakhstan, India, China, and Uzbekistan, *Ettela'at* reported.

The ninth session of the China-Iran joint economic commission will begin on May 3, in Teheran. For this occasion, Chinese Deputy Prime Minister and Communist Party Central Committee member Lee Lanjing will travel to Iran. Under discussion will be various infrastructure projects. China is already cooperating in various areas in Iran, including building a subway network in Teheran, cement plants, hydroelectric and thermal power projects, glass manufacturing, copper mining, and oil.