









Xinhua, 18 Nov 2006



Xiamen Shangbao, 24 Nov 2006



Madang, May 2009  
Picture c/- Patrick Matbob



Goroka, May 2009

## *After the Jason Tan “assassination”*

After they were caught, it affected everyone. People would say that the worst sorts of people are here; Chinese killers have come into our country. Our reputation was destroyed. Wherever Chinese people go, particularly Fuqingese, our name is worse than pig shit. There's too much illegal migration, and there are too many new arrivals.”

## *Views on the Chinese Embassy in Port Moresby*

“Even when someone gets killed, they re no use. They'll just send out a notice telling you to take extra care, and not to go out.”  
“All they can do is host visitors, conduct ceremonies, there's no capacity to do much in PNG. China is still too poor... and besides, this country isn't that important. It was only after Taiwan [tried to] buy their allegiance that they gave it some attention.





Fuqing  
(pronounced  
“Fu-ching”)

It was the millennium, and China was boasting about having met the basic needs of society, but then your English countrymen wanted to know, if life over there is so great, why are people risking their lives to come here? [Then President] Jiang [Zemin] was furious. He got on the phone to the Customs Bureau and told them to crack down on people smuggling. If two or three people from your village were caught, then no one in the village could get a passport. That's what our government is like. One person does something, and another one pays for it. In the past, the emperor would issue a decree to punish a clan for one person's treason. Now, damn them, it's the whole village. The ban stayed for seven years.

Villager, Fuqing



Planti  
stim!





The Fujian Province Overseas Chinese Affairs Office has no eyes for this place [PNG]; they just don't see it. They only see Japan, America, Australia and Canada. They look down on PNG. It only has five million or so people, after all... There are hundreds of thousands of Fuqing migrants in Japan, and if each of them sends back 5000 yuan (\$800) per month, that's hundreds of millions in remittances. In PNG, there might be over a thousand migrants, and they earn less.

China-PNG Friendship Society Chairman, Fuqing





Their quality is low. Most don't understand foreign languages and have no knowledge of foreign trade. Under pressure of competition, they blindly followed the tide out of China. They own nothing and are impatient for success. Acting without fear, they often make rash decisions. Facing bureaucratic inefficiency has been difficult. They lack the capacity to overcome barriers to doing business, and the patience of previous migrants, grasping for money with no thought to the consequences. They are happy to use cash to grease all transactions. "Improper" behaviour has drawn contempt not only from the old Chinese, but it has transformed locals from respecting the Chinese to resenting their presence.

Guangdong Office of Overseas Chinese Affairs, 2006















# Work

These [old] Chinese, when they see Mainland Chinese, they look down on us; on our low level of education, our poor English. Our English is poor, that's true, and we work like dogs. Their lives are different, plenty of leisure, so when we work like that, it influences their business. They'll open at eight o'clock, close at five, and won't open in the evening; we'll be open at seven, and stay open until seven at night. There's contempt, but also fear... We're Chinese, just like them, but they think we're garbage: working all hours, living in terrible conditions – Fuqing shopkeeper, PNG

[Robbing Chinese shops is] nothing to do with racism. They don't care who you are, or where you're from. They don't have an income, they can only stay at home, and wait for remittances to arrive from overseas. They can't find work. They don't know how to plan for their future – Fuqing factory manager, Tonga





Assimilable stock?

落叶归根？

A falling leaf returns to its roots