

THE CHINESE IN FOREGINERS' EYES

Stereotypes about China and Chinese people come from the lack of knowledge about this country. In fact there is always a grain of truth in every caricature.

Here are some stereotypes:

The Chinese are strong in mathematics

In Chinese schools there are three main subjects: mathematics, Chinese and English, over which children shed more than one liter of tears. Children of all ages at any time complain about the huge homework, and mathematics is constantly on the list.

So this stereotype is true.

Everyone owns Kung Fu tricks

And this is not true.

Although in the country there are several specialized schools in which Kung Fu is on a par with mathematics and other important subjects. As a rule, children who do not listen to their parents enter such schools.



China is a land of dragons

And it is true.

It is clear that the fake, but dragons can be found everywhere: on the facades of buildings, on the covers of the hatches, on the emblems of some companies, and as stand-alone sculptures. Dragons are not bloodthirsty mythological creatures, as they are represented in the European worldview, but on the contrary, friends, protectors and advisers.

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Here do not find forks

And this is a half-truth.

If we talk about Chinese traditional restaurants and small eateries, then most likely not, you will not be served a fork. In European restaurants and large supermarkets you will find cutlery for every taste and color.

The Chinese are unceremonious and not brought up

This is a half-truth.

And all because we give value judgments and look one-sided. The Chinese have a different attitude to what is considered to be "bad form". But publicly blow your nose in a headscarf, contact the elder by name, or allow him to pay a friend for lunch - these are already serious violations of Chinese etiquette.

The Chinese are all looking alike

And this is not true.

The Chinese differ from each other in the shape of the eyes, the shape of the nose and lips, skin tone. You will not find two completely identical. Beautiful is considered to be a Chinese woman with large round eyes and white skin. Growth and build are not very important. For men do not impose such requirements.

The Chinese are hardworking and hardy

And this is true.

The legends about the hard work and endurance of the Chinese roam around the world. Overpopulation and great competition are paying off: people know that they need to work hard to get money and that they need to be competitive.