

**REGION**



Pic. 1: map of Fujian province

**FACTS**

<b>Surface:</b>	121 400 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Inhabitants:</b>	34,71 million
<b>Average Income:</b>	15.006 Renminbi/per capita
<b>Language:</b>	Min-dialect, Putonghua (Mandarin), Hakka
<b>Religion:</b>	Buddhism, Taoism and Animism

**INTRODUCTION**

Fujian is one of the provinces on the southeast coast of China. Fujian borders Zhejiang to the north, Jiangxi to the west, and Guangdong to the south. Taiwan lies to the east, across the Taiwan Strait.

The name Fujian results of the combination of Fuzhou and Jian'ou, two cities in Fujian. The name was coined during Tang Dynasty.

Most of Fujian is administrated by the People's Republic of China. The archipelagoes of Quemoy and Matsu are under the control of Taiwan. Thus, de facto there are two provinces (in the sense of government organisations) with the same name. Fuzhou is the provincial capital of Fujian.

**HISTORY**

For the Han Chinese, this area was also known as Minyue, perhaps an ethnic name and associated with a Chinese word with pejorative associations (now pronounced Mán), and „Yue“, after the State of Yue, a Spring and Autumn Period kingdom in



Pic. 2: Treaty of Shimonoseki

Zhejiang Province to the north. Minyue was a de facto kingdom until the emperor of Qin Dynasty abolished the status. After the fall of the Qin Dynasty, civil war broke out between two warlords, Xiang Yu and Liu Bang who founded the Han Dynasty; later in 202 BC.

The Han Dynasty collapsed at the end of the 2nd century AD, paving the way for the Three Kingdoms era. Sun Quan, the founder of the Kingdom of Wu, spent nearly twenty years of subduing the Shan Yue people, the Yue people living in mountains.

The first wave of immigration of the gentile class arrived in the province in the early 4th century AD. These immigrants were primary from eight families in central China: Lin, Huang, Chen, Zheng, Zhan, Qiu, He, and Hu. The first four names remain as the major surnames of modern Fujian.

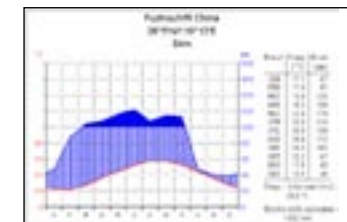
Late Ming and early Qing Dynasty symbolized an era of large influx of refugees and another 20 years of sea trade ban under the Kangxi Emperor, a measure intended to counter the refuge Ming government of Koxinga in Taiwan. Incoming refugees, did not translate into a major labor force owing to their re-migration into prosperous regions of Guangdong province. In 1689, the Qing dynasty officially incorporated Taiwan into Fujian province. Settlement of Taiwan by Han Chinese follo-

wed, and the majority of people in Taiwan are descendants of emigrants from Fujian. After Taiwan was separated into its own province in 1885 and ceded to Japan in 1895, Fujian arrived at its present extent. It was substantially influenced by the Japanese after the Treaty of Shimonoseki of 1895 until the Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945) of WWII.

Owing to the mountainous landscape, Fujian was the most isolated province of eastern China due to the lack of rail and underdeveloped networks of paved roads before the 1950s. Fujian has a strong academic tradition since Southern Song Dynasty. In the Chinese Academy of Science and Chinese Academy of Engineering, there are more members from Fuzhou than from any other cities. In addition, it should also be pointed out that the slow development of Fujian in its early days was really a blessing in disguise; today, the province has the highest forest coverage rate and the most diverse biosphere in China.

**CLIMATE**

Fujian has a subtropical climate, with warm winters. In January the coastal regions have a temperature about 7-10 °C while



Pic. 3: precipitation/temperature Fujian

the hills have a temperature about 6-8 °C. In summer, temperatures are high, and the province is threatened by typhoons coming from the Pacific Ocean. The average annual precipitation is about 1400-2000 mm.

**TOPOGRAPHY**

Fujian province is mostly a mountainous region and is traditionally described to be „8 parts mountain, 1 part water, and 1 part farmland“. The north-west of Fujian with the Wuyi Mountains is the highest part of the province. The highest point of Fujian is Huanggang Peak in the Wuyi Mountains, with an altitude of 2157 m.

The province faces East China Sea to the east, South China Sea

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to the south, and the Taiwan Strait to the southeast. The coastline is ragged and has many bays and islands. Major islands include Quemoy (controlled by Taiwan), Haitan Island, and Nanri Island.

In case of its diversive topography Fujian has many cliffs and rapids.

Fujian is separated from Taiwan by the 180km-wide Taiwan Strait. Some of the small islands in the Taiwan Strait are also part of the province.



Pic. 4: wuyi mountains

### VEGETATION

Fujian includes a range of vegetation types. The floral diversity of plants in Mount Wuyi area for example includes 284 families, 1,107 genera and 2,888 species of higher plants. Probably the most extensive and important vegetation types are the evergreen broad-leaved forests, which include some of the largest tracts of humid sub-tropical forests in the world. Eleven broad vegetation patterns have been described: temperate coniferous forest, warm coniferous forest, temperate broad-leaved and coniferous mixed forest, deciduous and broad-leaved forest, evergreen broad-leaved and deciduous mixed forest, evergreen broad-leaved forest, bamboo forest, deciduous broad-leaved shrub forest, evergreen broad-leaved shrub forest, brush-wood and meadow steppe. At higher altitudes there is a distinctive cloud-forest.

### ETHNICAL GROUPS

Most of the Chinese population are the Han. The Hakka, a Han Chinese people with its own distinct identity, lives in the south-western part of the province. The *She*, living in the mountainous regions in the north, are the largest minority group of Fujian.

#### Images:

Pic.-Nr.:1 <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:China-Fujian.png>;  
Pic.-Nr.:2 <http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Vertrag-Shimonoseki.jpg> ;  
Pic.-Nr.:3 [http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Klima\\_fuzhou.png](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Klima_fuzhou.png);  
Pic.-Nr.:4 <http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Wuyishan.jpg>;

#### Websites:

[http://www.unep-wcmc.org/sites/wh/mt\\_wuyi.html](http://www.unep-wcmc.org/sites/wh/mt_wuyi.html)  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fujian>