



Welcoming Chinese Visitors Handout 1

Chinese Language

Guoyu is now the official language of mainland China, Taiwan and one of the official languages of Singapore. After the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949 it was renamed to putonghua (common language) In Taiwan, it still goes under the name of guoyu, or 'national speech'.

In the West it is generally referred to as Mandarin.

Chinese Language

Hakka Chinese

The Hakka language is spoken in the southern Chinese provinces of Guangdong, western Fujian, Jiangxi, southern Hunan, Guangxi, southern Guizhou, south-eastern Sichuan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Hainan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Surinam, and overseas communities. The accent as spoken in Meixian (Moiyen) is considered as standard.