We will seize the opportunity to raise Shandong's international image and showcase its long history and profound culture.

Guo Shuang, governor of Shandong

The Bohai and Yellow seas, one of the four major seas in the world, have an area of 700,000 square kilometers and a coastline of 2,880 kilometers. Shandong is endowed with abundant natural resources, including gold, coal, petroleum and gas, salt, and fishery resources. Shandong also has important agricultural bases, with yields of grain, cotton, vegetables and aquatic products leading the nation.

The geographical and natural advantages create great developmental potential for the province with a population of more than 90 million. Both the national and provincial government statistics show that last year, the province's GDP totaled 5.14 trillion yuan ($827 billion), an increase of 8.7% compared to the same period last year, with a China's third-largest economic output.

Shandong also boasts a long history and fascinating cultures. It is not only the birthplace of Confucius and Mencius but also of Sun Yat-sen — the author of "The Art of War." "Shandong is one of the birthplaces of Chinese culture and has a great influence on world civilization," said Guo Shuang.

"Confucianism and other philosophies developed by ancient sages have played an important role in China's history and have a great influence on world civilization," said Guo Shuang.

"During the wedding ceremony of a couple in Jinan Province, the newlyweds' discussions in Jinan — the city where Confucius was born — and the local cultural history and history of the world," Guo Shuang said.

"In the 22nd International Congress of Historical Sciences, which will be held in Shanghai in June, the papers will focus on exchanges to give about 3,000 artistic performances across the world. Local traditional music and dance performances by Shandong artists impressed Southwestern Chinese artists when they were shown during the Thai-Chinese Cultural Year that began in Bangkok in May. In addition, Shandong artists have been invited to participate in the 40th anniversary of the United Nations exposition. "The event presents a unique opportunity to talk about Shandong," said Guo Shuang. "Over the past three years, Shandong people have exchanged with and attracted amounts of local government, folk arts, cultural dialogues, and professional forums and seminars. "Traditional cultural exchange activities will provide foreign artists with new experiences for understanding the traditional arts. The two sides agreed to promote cultural exchanges and set up a mechanism to encourage more cultural exchanges."

"Artists from Shandong performed in Bangkok to show the traditional culture of the province."