

IAN JOHNSON

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Work Experience

Current:

- free-lance correspondent based in Beijing for *New York Review of Books*, *The New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *National Geographic* and *New York Times Magazine*.
- instructor, The Beijing Center, teaching accredited university course on Chinese religion and society, advising fellowship students.
- advising editor, *The Journal of Asian Studies*.
- Senior Policy Fellow, Mercator Institute of Chinese Studies, Berlin.
- advisor, New York University Center for Religion and the Media.

January 2006 to April 2010: senior correspondent, *The Wall Street Journal*.

March 2001 to December 2005: Germany bureau chief, *The Wall Street Journal*.

Oversaw ten reporters covering European economics and politics.

January 1997 to March 2001: reporter, acting China bureau chief, *The Wall Street Journal*. Oversaw five reporters covering China.

August 1994 to January 1997: Beijing bureau chief, Baltimore's *The Sun*.

August 1992 to August 1994: New York bureau chief, Baltimore's *The Sun*.

September 1989 to August 1992: Free-lance correspondent in Berlin. Covered fall of Berlin Wall, German unification.

Education

M.A., Freie Universität Berlin, Chinese Studies (Sinologie), 1993.

Intermediate and advanced German language study, 1988-89, Berlin.

Advanced Chinese language, 1986-88, Taipei.

B.A., University of Florida, interdisciplinary in Asian Studies and Journalism, 1985. Included six months at Peking University.

Awards/Fellowships

2017 Shorenstein Annual Award for Coverage of Asia.

2014 Asia Society, citation for excellence, series on Chinese urbanization.

2013 Alicia Patterson Fellowship, award for book on civil society/religion.

2011 Open Society Fellowship. Project on religion and civil society in China.

2007 Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University. Work on religion, civil society.

2004 German Marshall Fund, Peter R. Weitz Prize, series on trans-Atlantic ties.

2001 Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting.

2001 Overseas Press Club award for foreign reporting.

2000 Society of Professional Journalists award for foreign reporting.

1997 Overseas Press Club. Team award for coverage of Asian financial crisis.

Languages

Fluent in Chinese and German. Proficient in French.

Books

The Souls of China: The Return of Religion After Mao (Pantheon, April 2017).

A Mosque in Munich: Nazis, the CIA and the Rise of the Muslim Brotherhood in the West. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, May 2010). Translated into Arabic, French, German, Indonesian, and Italian.

Wild Grass: Three Portraits of Change in Modern China. (Pantheon, 2004, Vintage/Penguin 2005). Translated into Chinese, Japanese, and Korean.

Chapters/Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Chasing the Yellow Demon: Intangible Cultural Heritage in a North China Village," *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 76, Issue 1 (February 2017), pp. 76-133.

"The Presence of the Past in China," concluding chapter in: *Oxford Illustrated History of Modern China*, Jeffrey Wasserstrom, ed. (August, 2016)

"The North Peak," in: *Chinese Characters: Profiles of Fast-Changing Lives in a Fast-Changing Land*. Berkeley: University of California Press, September 2012, p. 15-24. Excerpted on The Asia Society's ChinaFile: <http://www.chinafile.com/north-peak>

"Deng's Heyday," in: *My First Trip to China: Scholars, Diplomats and Journalists Reflect on their First Encounter with China*. Kin-ming Liu, ed. Hong Kong: Muse Books, November 2012, p. 282-292. Excerpted on The Asia Society's ChinaFile: <https://www.chinafile.com/dengs-heyday>

"Two Sides of the Mountain: The Modern Transformation of Maoshan." *Journal of Daoist Studies*, 5 (2012). Pp. 89-116.

Other

Speaking: Numerous public talks at universities, foreign relations groups, chambers of commerce and bookstores, as well as radio and television appearances. Topics include China (especially search for values, religion, politics, stability, reform), Islam in Europe, non-fiction writing, and problems in journalism.

Personal: Born in Montreal, Canada. U.S. and Canadian citizenship.