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# Veverka Bros.

PRODUCTIONS

**CHINA**  
THE REBIRTH OF AN EMPIRE  
Press Kit

VEVERKA BROS. PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS "CHINA: THE REBIRTH OF AN EMPIRE" A DOCUMENTARY BY JESSE AND JEREMY VEVERKA [WWW.CHINAREBIRTH.COM](http://WWW.CHINAREBIRTH.COM)

The poster features a collage of Chinese symbols: a large red flag with yellow stars, a rising arrow, a golden statue of a leader, a modern city skyline, a traditional Chinese building with a red banner, and silhouettes of people. The background is a warm orange and yellow gradient.

## Brief Synopsis:

(125 Words)

China's unprecedented growth has placed it on the verge of overtaking the United States as the world's preeminent power. But what type of power will China become? In today's interconnected and globalized world, the answer effects each and every one of us. In Pakistan and Afghanistan, China's humanitarian activities and investment in infrastructure have won it the hearts and minds of the people. Yet in Tibet and Xinjiang, China is reviled as an imperialistic abuser of human rights. Will China use its strength to dominate its neighbors and become a 21st century empire, or will China's youth lead the country towards democracy? Whether it's a peaceful rise or potential threat, China's 21st century emergence as a great world power will change the lives of everyone.

## Medium Synopsis:

(250 Words)

China's unprecedented growth has placed it on the verge of overtaking the United States as the world's preeminent power. Meanwhile, Chalmers Johnson, author of *Blowback* and *The Sorrows of Empire*, argues that America's preoccupation with militarism has all but sealed its fate as a nation in long-term decline. But if China surpasses the United States, what type of power will it become? In today's interconnected and globalized world, the answer effects each and every one of us.

In Pakistan and Afghanistan, China's humanitarian activities and investment in infrastructure have won it the hearts and minds of the people. Yet in Tibet and Xinjiang, China is reviled as an imperialistic abuser of human rights. Despite trumpeting its vision of a ethnic unity at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the Chinese government has gone to great lengths to silence dissenting voices such as Rebiya Kadeer, de facto leader of the Uyghur people. Kadeer has replaced the Dalai Lama as Beijing's number one public adversary.

Will China follow in the footsteps of history's other great powers and use its strength to dominate its neighbors, trample ethnic and religious minorities, and become a 21st century empire? Or will a wealthy China's youth lead the country towards democracy, much like Taiwan? The international community shares responsibility in this outcome, but is it too dependent on Chinese trade to care? Whether it's a peaceful rise or potential threat, China's 21st century emergence as a great world power will change the lives of everyone.

## Biographies:

### Jesse Veverka

Co-director and Producer

Jesse Veverka is originally from Ithaca, New York and holds a BA economics and MS in engineering from Cornell University. He now resides in Yokohama, Japan where he works as a filmmaker and freelance writer. *China: The Rebirth of an Empire* is the first feature-length film that he has produced and co-directed. His previous films include *Malana: Globalization of a Himalayan Village* (2010, 17 min.), *Useless Suff* (1997, 34 min.), *Dudes with 'Tudes: Assassin* (1996, 5 min.), *Dudes with 'Tudes II* (1995, 6 min.), and *Dudes with 'Tudes* (1994, 7 min.)



### Jeremy Veverka

Co-director, Composer and Producer

Jeremy Veverka is originally from Ithaca, New York, and holds a BA in English from Cornell University. With a focused interest in photojournalism, Jeremy has visited such high-risk locations as Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraqi Kurdistan, and Lebanon as both a writer and photographer. He is also a talented musical producer whose electronic music project, 3jane, created material for such clients as Armani Exchange. Jeremy composed the original scores for the films, *Malana: Globalization of a Himalayan Village*, and *China: The Rebirth of an Empire*.



## Key Interviews:



Chalmers Johnson

Author of *Blowback*, *The Sorrows of Empire*, and *Nemesis*, and co-founder of JPRI.



Rebiya Kadeer

President of the Uyghur American Association.



Wei Jingsheng

Chinese dissident. His foundation works to promote Chinese democracy and human rights.



Freddy Lim

Pro-democracy activist and lead singer of the Taiwanese heavy metal group ChthoniC.

## Film Stills:

Ding Xi, an economist from Hairbin Institute of Technology, invites us to “come to China and have a look.”



The torch relay, prior to the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, were accompanied by a massive show of Chinese nationalism.

In Paris, Nagano, San Francisco and elsewhere, the torch relay also met with intense protest.



The director of a madrasa in tribal Pakistan explains that, if given a choice, Pakistan will support China over the U.S.

As China continues to grow, how will it wield its power?

