

Li Datong Biography

Li Datong was born in Sichuan, China in 1952 and moved to Beijing with his parents two years later. In the midst of China's Cultural Revolution (1968), he was sent to the grassland of Inner Mongolia, a province in north of China, as an intellectual youth and spent the next 10 years of his life herding. He could finally leave Inner Mongolia in 1979 to work for the *China Youth Daily*, a nationally published well-known newspaper, and has been working there since.

During his 27 years careers in the paper, Li has worked as a provincial stationed reporter, specially appointed reporter, editor, and the directors of several editorial departments. His career was cut off in 1989, when he initiated and led the event of more than 1000 reporters in the Capital jointly conversing with the CCCPC (Central Committee of the Communist Party of China) regarding the reform of the China's press system. As a result, he was dismissed from his editor position for 5 years.

Li's post was reinstated in 1995 and he launched the *Bing Dian (Freezing Point)* weekly. In 11 years, *Freezing Point* published feature reports that widely reported every realm of contemporary China and touched many controversial topics. *Freezing Point's* influence on its readers was quite remarkable. At the end of January, 2006, *Freezing Point* was shut down by the authorities and Li was once again dismissed from his chief editor position and prohibited from editorial work.

Li Datong has published two books:

<i>The Story of Freezing Point</i>	2005	Guangxi Normal University Press, China
<i>Using News to Influence Today</i>	2006	TideTime Publishing Co.Ltd, HongKong