

Article for CM Football page of China Monitor Website CHINESE FOOTBALL section:  
NATIONAL TEAM page

## CHINA QUALIFIES FOR WORLD CUP 2002

Successful campaign ensure qualification with two matches  
still to go

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The Chinese national team has qualified for the 2002 World Cup next  
May/June in Korea and Japan after establishing an unassailable lead at the top  
of the Asian Qualifying Group B with two matches still to play.



Having finished six points ahead of Indonesia in the first group phase with a 100 per cent record of six wins from six games, China won five and drew one of their first six games in the second group phase to guarantee automatic qualification. Their impressive run of results mean the Chinese squad will line up in the final stages of a World Cup tournament for the first time in their history.

The feat confirms a remarkable achievement for national coach Bora Milutinovic. The Yugoslav will be coaching a team in the World Cup finals for the fifth time in succession, having previously been in charge of Mexico (1986), Costa Rica (1990), the United States of America (1994) and Nigeria (1998). However, all four previous countries had already qualified when

Milutinovic took over (Mexico and the USA as hosts). With China, in contrast, he has steered his squad through an arduous and potentially hazardous qualification programme involving 14 matches.



Details of the second phase of China's successful campaign are as follows:

### Asian Qualifying Group B

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
<b>CHINA PR</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>
United Arab Emirates	7	3	1	3	8	9	10
Qatar	7	2	3	2	10	7	9
Uzbekistan	6	2	1	3	10	10	7
Oman	6	0	2	4	1	12	2

Date	Venue	Goalscorers (home team)	Home	Score	Away	Goalscorers (away team)
16-08-01	Doha, QAT		Qatar	0:0	Oman	
17-08-01	Abu Dhabi, UAE	ALI Yaser Salem 21'	United	4:1	Uzbekistan	SHIRSHOV Nikolai 37'

		FARHAN Hareb 33' ALI Fahad 44' BAKHIT Zuhair 85'	Arab Emirates			
25-08-01	Shenyang, CHN	LI XIAO Peng 3' QI Hong 20' HAO Haidong 34'	China PR	3:0	United Arab Emirates	
26-08-01	Tashkent, UZB	IRISMETOV Jafar 37' KASIMOV Mirvjalal 52'	Uzbekistan	2:1	Qatar	BUJALOOF Abdulaziz 88'
31-08-01	Abu Dhabi, UAE		United Arab Emirates	0:2	Qatar	HASHIM Ahmad Khalifa 65' AL OBAIDLY Abdunnasser 71'
31-08-01	Muscat, OMA		Oman	0:2	China PR	QI Hong 71' FAN Zhiyi 84'
07-09-01	Doha, QAT	AL NAEMI Dahi 30'	Qatar	1:1	China PR	LI Wei Feng 89'
08-09-01	Tashkent, UZB	IRISMETOV Jafar 18' SHATSKIKH Maksim 38' KASIMOV Mirvjalal 53' KASIMOV Mirvjalal 67' IRISMETOV Jafar 84'	Uzbekistan	5:0	Oman	
14-09-01	Muscat, OMA	NAIROOZ Radhwan Ralim 52'	Oman	1:1	United Arab Emirates	MOHAMED Abdulazeez 13'
15-09-01	Shenyang, CHN	LI Wei Feng 63' FAN Zhiyi 75'	China PR	2:0	Uzbekistan	
21-09-01	Muscat, OMA		Oman	0:3	Qatar	RASOUL Waleed 25' BUJALOOF Abdulaziz 32' AL ENAZI Mohamed 73'
22-09-01	Tashkent, UZB		Uzbekistan	0:1	United Arab Emirates	AHMED Mohamed 5'
27-09-01	Abu Dhabi, UAE		United Arab Emirates	0:1	China PR	QI Hong 43'
28-09-01	Doha, QAT	AL ENAZI Mohamed 9' 46' HASHIM Ahmad Khalifa 86'	Qatar	2:2	Uzbekistan	KASIMOV Mirvjalal 45' SHIRSHOV Nikolai
04-10-01	Doha, QAT	RASOUL Waleed 47'	Qatar	1:2	United Arab Emirates	KHATER Subait 43' ALI Yaser Salem 83'
07-10-01	Shenyang, CHN	YU Gen Wei 38	China PR	1:0	Oman	
13-10-01	Muscat, OMA		Oman		Uzbekistan	
13-10-01	Shenyang, CHN		China PR		Qatar	
19-10-01	Abu Dhabi, UAE		United Arab Emirates		Oman	
19-10-01	Tashkent, UZB		Uzbekistan		China PR	

