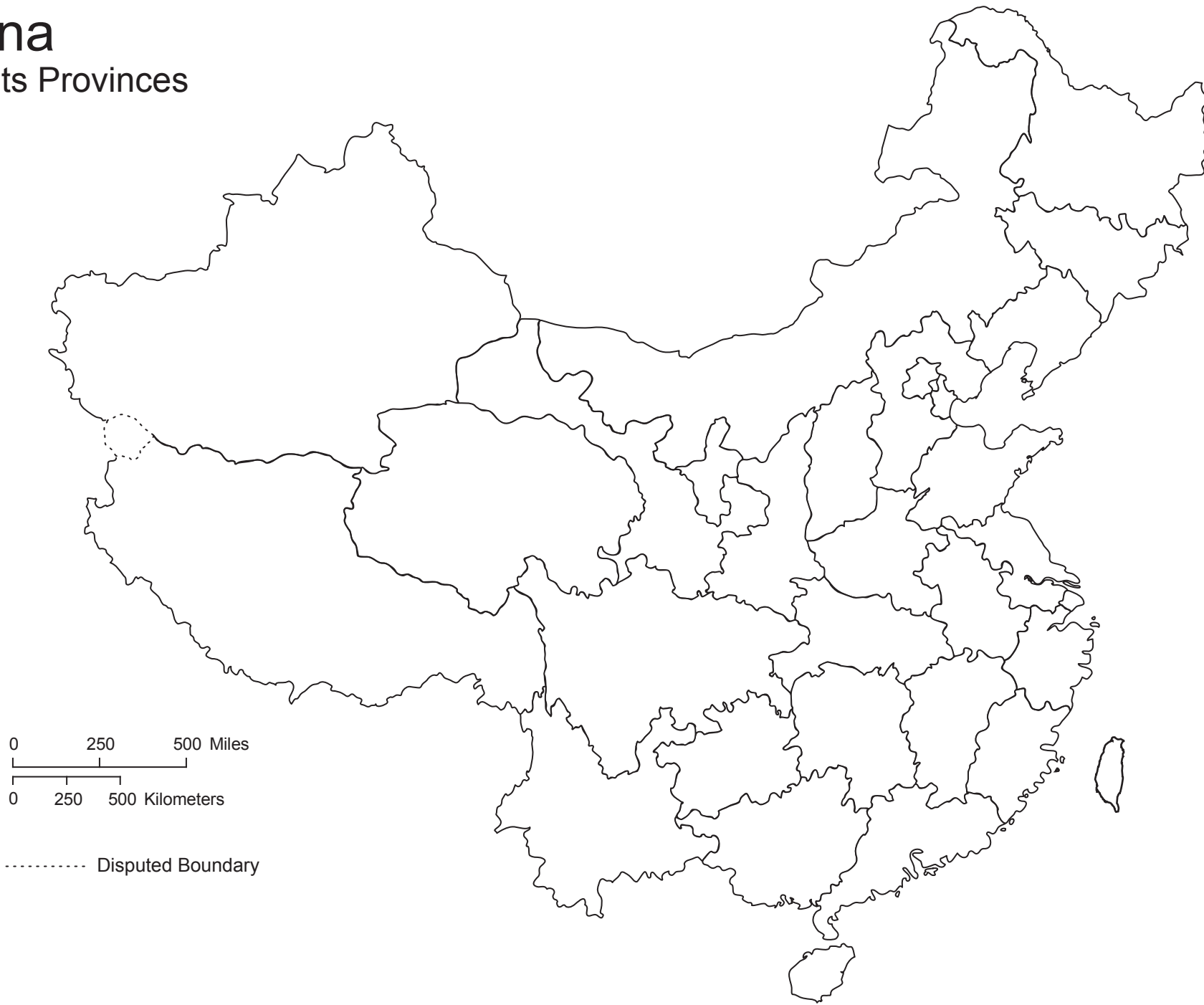


# China

## With its Provinces



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\*Taiwan has historically been part of China. Following the Communist victory on the mainland in 1949, 2 million Nationalists fled to Taiwan and established a government there using the 1946 constitution drawn up for all of China. Over the next five decades, the ruling authorities gradually democratized and incorporated the native population within the governing structure. However, Taiwan's status is disputed by mainland China, which claims Taiwan as its 23rd province. (Source: CIA World Factbook 2004)