



38 Inside the post-macho world of Asia's massaged, moisturized men

# TIME

October 31, 2005  
Vol. 166, No. 18

**LETTERS** ..... 4  
**NOTEBOOK** ..... 7  
**MILESTONES** ..... 11  
**PEOPLE** ..... 51

## ASIA

**NORTH KOREA:** A visit to the Hermit Kingdom reveals a nation that's in no hurry to reform—and may even be growing more repressive.... **12**

**MALAYSIA:** The death of Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi's wife deals a personal blow to a leader still struggling with political reforms meant to define his administration..... **20**

## WORLD

**SYRIA:** A U.N. report implicates Syria in a high-profile assassination and draws attention to the troubles of the shadowy police state ..... **22**

COVER: Photograph for TIME by Paul Hu—Assignment Asia

## COVER STORY

**Metrosexuals** Asia's new generation of males are well-dressed, sensitive guys who aren't ashamed to get a manicure ..... **38**

## THE FUTURE OF ENERGY

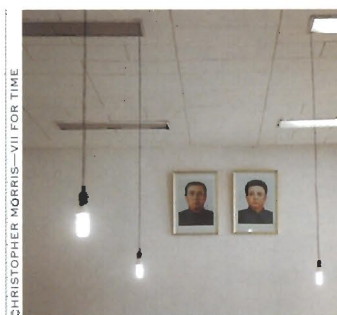
**RETHINKING PETROLEUM:** As the world's demand for oil grows and shortages become more common, the need for smart policies and alternative sources is more urgent than ever... **26**

**MAXING OUT:** Dwindling oil fields mean that production will soon start to decline—or maybe it won't. Two opposing viewpoints on a question that will shape our future..... **32**

**IDEAS:** From alcohol-powered autos to photosynthetic generators, TIME explores seven inventions that could help ease the energy crunch..... **36**

## ARTS

**MOVIES:** The mercurial, hardworking Joaquin Phoenix has played many an intense supporting role. As country singer Johnny Cash in *Walk the Line*, he gets to play a legend..... **44**



CHRISTOPHER MORRIS—VII FOR TIME

**12 ▲ North Korea is still a model of Stalinist stagnation**

**26 ▼ Can we overcome our oil addiction?**



ILLUSTRATION FOR TIME BY MCRIBILLO

TIME Asia publishes four double issues a year. Each counts as two of 54 issues in an annual subscription. TIME Asia may also publish occasional extra issues. Principal office: Time & Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, N.Y. 10020-1393. U.S. TIME Asia principal editorial and business office: Oxford House 30th floor, Taikoo Place, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong. © 2005 Time Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. TIME and the Red Border Design are protected through trademark registration in the U.S. and in the countries where TIME magazine circulates. Subscribers: if the postal services alert us that your magazine is undeliverable, we have no further obligation unless we receive a corrected address within two years. Customer service and subscriptions: for 24-7 service, please use our website [timeasia.com/customer\\_service](http://timeasia.com/customer_service). You may also contact our Customer Services Center at (852) 3128-5688 or e-mail [enquiries@timeinc.com](mailto:enquiries@timeinc.com) or write Oxford House 30th floor, Taikoo Place, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong. (In Japan enquiries can be made to 0120-666-236 or [custservjapan@timeinc.com](mailto:custservjapan@timeinc.com) or Roppongi Hills P.O. Box 58, Minato-ku Tokyo 106-6134.) Mailing list: we make a portion of our mailing list available to reputable firms. If you would prefer that we not include your name, please contact our Customer Services Center. TIME Asia is edited in Hong Kong and printed in Singapore. Singapore MICA (P) No. 119/10/2005. Malaysia KDN permit PP(s) 676/11/2005. Worldwide publisher: Ed McCarrick.