



WOLF TOTEM by Jiang Rong selected for the shortlist of the inaugural Man Asian Literary Prize

Beijing, 25 October 2007. The multi-million copy Chinese bestseller *Wolf Totem*, by Jiang Rong, has been included in the shortlist for the inaugural Man Asian Literary Prize.

This new prize was established to recognize new voices in Asian literature that are yet to appear in English. Five books from around Asia have been selected for the final list, with *Wolf Totem* the only representative from the Chinese mainland.

Penguin Group will publish *Wolf Totem* simultaneously around the English language world in March 2008. Translation rights to *Wolf Totem* have been sold into 16 languages and territories. A successful Italian release has already taken place, with imminent French, Korean, and Japanese publication dates.

Wolf Totem tells the story of a Beijing intellectual, Chen Zhen, who volunteers to live in a remote nomadic settlement on the outer edge of Inner Mongolia. It is the 1960s, the final heyday for the people of this remote region, who still live life according to an age-old balance of culture and tradition. As Chen Zhen learns to live in the new society, he becomes fascinated with the wolves – both mythological and real – that populate this harsh landscape. It is not long, however, before this careful balance between wolves and humans is upset when modernity arrives, in the form of the Cultural Revolution.

A publishing phenomenon in its home country, it has so far sold 2 million copies in its legitimate edition, with an estimated 4 million further copies on the pirated market. We look forward to continuing the success of this title with its global English release.

- Ends -

For further information please contact:

Jo Lusby on +86 10 6409 6516 or email Jo.Lusby@cn.penguin.com

Joanna Prior on 020 7010 3250 or email Joanna.Prior@uk.penguin.com