

SYNOPSIS



The Big Dam

Der grosse Damm

The resulting gigantic artificial lake would take up the floodwater and this in turn would protect the flood areas of the middle and lower reaches of the river from future catastrophes. Part of the world famous Three Gorge landscape, however, will sink into the reservoir in favour of floor protection and electricity. "Da Ba" will be a giant, the most powerful hydro-electric power plant in the world. For that reason its construction has also become an object of national prestige. Anyone who criticizes is arrested, according to the Chinese environment journalist, Dai Qing. She was in prison for ten months because she pointed to the foreseeable ecological consequences. The mega-weir also requires the biggest resettlement project in the world's history of dam construction. 1.5 million people will lose their homes and have to move to huge artificial cities. But many people do not want to leave the homes they've been accustomed to for decades. The victims express their displeasure in front of the ORF camera with remarkable openness.

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