



Thoughts from the Chairman

The Party is All

In Chairman Xi Jinping's mind, the Communist Party is The Way, The Truth, and The Light. It is the way that China returns to its "rightful place at the center of the world stage", and it is how he leads the Chinese people to the "great rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation". It is because of this that Comrade Xi has placed so much effort to ensure that the Party remains THE leading institution throughout all of China.

The democratic nations of the world are prone to mirror imaging. They talk about the triumph of democracy, and they celebrate the "End of History". They think that everyone wants to emulate them and their governments; and so when they look at China, they do so with their western lenses on. What they fail to understand is that China is fundamentally different.

Although there is an apparatus of government in China, that is to say the government of the People's Republic of China, it is not the supreme organizing entity, the Party is. When western political pundits and western so-called military strategists tell themselves that the CCP's primary goal is to 'stay in power', they fundamentally miss the point. The CCP is not a party within the system, it IS the System. And the fundamental goal of all systems of government is to stay in power.

The #1 goal of the British government, not the Tories, the Liberals, or Labor, but the government itself, is to stay in power. Same goes for the Americans, while they will talk about freedom and democracy, and crow about their constitution, the truth of the matter is that the primary concern of the U.S. government, not the Republicans or Democrats, but the government itself, is to stay in power. This is why they raised such a fuss about January 6th, 2021. And they have shown time and time again that they will disregard freedom, rights, and even the constitution itself, when that government is in peril; though they always feel bad about it and try to fix their transgressions later.

What they don't see is that for China, the Party is the System. It sits above and guides the government. It is present at all levels of society, and at all levels of government. That is what the "Leninist" part is all about- presence everywhere. Infusing the Party's goals, views, ideas, and ideology, everywhere at all times. This is why the Party Congress takes place first, in October of years ending in 2 or 7, and only then does the national people's congress meet, months later, to affirm the Party's decisions. Senior government leaders are first and foremost, senior Party leaders.

The same is true in the military, all senior military leaders are concurrently senior Party leaders. The PLA is not the army of China, it is the armed wing of the Communist Party, and the Party shall control the gun, full stop. The Party decides, the state and the military merely execute those decisions. Even when it is the same person occupying parallel roles in the Party and State, it is in his Party capacity that he decides, and then he carries out that decision in his other capacities.

This is the strength of the Communist Party, the presence throughout China, Chinese Society, and the PRC state. It allows the Party to understand the People, and to guide them. From the Grassroots level, with community Party groups and organizations, and leaders, through counties,

cities, provinces, and at the national level. Throughout civil society, this is true as well. According to the CCP Constitution, any organization with three or more Party members is required to establish a Party unit. This requirement applies to both domestic and foreign-invested companies, as well as state-owned enterprises. This is what facilitates the leadership of the Party throughout the commercial economy of China.

The same is true in social organizations, civil society, and religious affairs, the Party has the leading role and guides society as needed to reach the goals as set forth by the Party. By using these lower level Party cadre, the central leaders keep tabs on what is going on in the provinces and at the lower levels, and maintains “full process democracy”. What the Western system gets wrong is allowing unguided masses to foolishly swing back and forth in their policies without stability or direction, this will be their undoing.

Since the Communist Party’s victory in 1949, the education of the Chinese people has been guided and directed by the Party. The Party has been able to give the people the correct understanding of history, and to allow the people to correctly understand how the Party’s leadership has raised living standards within, and global respect outside, of China. The people have been taught, from kindergarten through graduate school, to never forget the national humiliation that China suffered at the hands of foreigners, and whatever bitterness the Chinese people are forced to eat, the Party will lead them back to greatness. The 1.4 billion people of China now share an understanding and world view that the Party has provided.

By utilizing modern technology, and correctly implementing a Leninist system, the CCP has been able to monitor nearly everyone, nearly everywhere in China, nearly all the time. This level of information and awareness feeds the Party’s security apparatus and allows the Party previously unheard of insight and control of the population. This will allow the Party to continue to establish the truly ‘harmonious society’, with a population that understand their correct place and relationships, and achieve the Party’s dream for China.

The Party is not part of the system, it is the system. This is the Party’s strength, which enables it to rule by law, to oversee all aspects of civil and commercial life, and to have the People’s Liberation Army bound to “safeguard the Party’s leading” role in society as the primary core mission. It is through the realization of the Leninist system, that the Chinese Communist Party will continue to march toward its goals of building a country that is "prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced and harmonious" with a “world class military”

The “Thoughts from the Chairman” series are not necessarily factual, but meant to be thought provoking, providing one possible viewpoint or idea, from that of a Chinese leader. *To reiterate, this article is nothing more than informed musings. It is intended to provoke thought and discussion. Nothing more.* Opinions, conclusions, and recommendations expressed or implied within are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Air University, the Department of the Air Force, the Department of Defense, or any other U.S. government agency. Cleared for public release: distribution unlimited.