

From Mao Zedong to Xi Jinping: China Towards a New Era

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ABSTRACT

China is a large socialist developing country, and the CPC is the core leadership force chosen by the Chinese people to lead it. Mao Zedong was the creator of the Communist Party of China and the People's Republic of China. He led the Chinese people to complete the cause of liberation, carried out socialist construction and began to march toward modernization, forming the Mao Zedong Thought. The Chinese scholars agreed that Xi Jinping inherited Mao Zedong Thought and brought China into a new era. He put forward the strategic vision of realizing the Chinese Dream, the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In the new international environment and under the new historical conditions, Xi Jinping has formed a series of highly relevant and continuous theoretical thoughts. His theoretical thoughts have become the guiding ideology for China to become prosperous and strong and make greater global contributions. This paper Outlines the historical process of China from Mao Zedong to Xi Jinping and discusses Xi Jinping's main theoretical ideas from the Chinese scholars' perspective.

Keywords: Mao Zedong; Xi Jinping; Chinese dream; shared future

INTRODUCTION

China is the largest socialist developing country globally, and the Chinese people select the Communist Party of China (CPC) as the core leadership force of the country. The largest socialist country under the leadership of the Communist Party is the unique characteristic of China. Anyone studying contemporary China must recognize and respect China's unique characteristics. It is easy to understand that the leadership of the Communist Party of China is, therefore, naturally the country's leadership. Xi Jinping, the first General Secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee born in New China, climbed onto the Tiananmen Rostrum to attend a ceremony marking the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on Oct. 01, 2019.

Mao Zedong proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Now, Xi Jinping is steering the great ship "China" into a new era and continues to break the waves and sail far. Over the past 70 years, China, a socialist country ruled by the Communist Party of China, has gone through an extraordinary journey. The Chinese people have turned themselves into masters of the country, removed the hat of "sick man of Asia" and "poor and white," and become the world's second-largest economy. China has made a historic leap from standing up, becoming rich to strong.

This paper first briefly describes Mao Zedong's thoughts on China's construction and development. Then, from the perspective of Chinese scholars, it discusses the theoretical and ideological essentials and practical activities of Xi Jinping since 2012 in the historical process of leading the Chinese people to build a strong socialist country and realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

INDEPENDENCE OF THE NATION AND LIBERATION OF THE PEOPLE

Mao Zedong felt deeply the humiliation of modern China being divided and bullied by foreign powers in his youth and agreed with Gu Yanwu that "every man is responsible for the rise and fall of the world." He believed that the Chinese people should strive to enrich the country and strengthen the army. Reform to save the country with the big original as the call, "the world can do, the country is not rich and happy people?" To this end, he joined the army after the 1911 Revolution and served as a soldier in the New Army for four months. In July 1921, he participated in the founding of the Communist Party of China and had since made arduous efforts to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. On the eve of the outbreak of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, he became the core leader of the first generation of the Communist Party of China (Shi, 2013).

Mao Zedong appealed against the Japanese imperialists' arrogant ambition to launch a full-scale war of aggression against China. He stressed that the Chinese nation has the spirit to fight with its enemies to the end of blood, is determined to recover the lost territory based on self-reliance, and can stand on its own feet in the nation's forest. This appeal he made is on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. He stressed that the Chinese would fight for the independence and liberation of the Greater China nation to the last drop of blood! After the Anti-Japanese War broke out, he led the Chinese people's army to become the mainstay of the victory of the war. Later in the Liberation War, he led the Chinese People's Liberation Army to overthrow the reactionary rule of the Kuomintang government (Li, 2020).

Mao Zedong was not the first revolutionist with the thought of national rejuvenation. However, he was the first leader who proposed the strategic idea of national rejuvenation. When the People's Republic of China was founded, he solemnly declared: "From now on, the Chinese people, one-quarter of the total number of mankind, have stood up." The Chinese nation will join the big family of peace-loving and freedom-loving nations of the world and create its civilization and happiness with courage and diligence. A new era opened up in the history of China. Thus, after 22 years of arduous armed struggle, the People's Republic of China was established, the Chinese nation was "greatly transformed," and the first step of the "Chinese Dream" was realized (Fei and Chen, 2019).

REMOVE POVERTY AND REALIZE MODERNIZATION

After the recovery of the national economy, Mao Zedong proposed to build an economically and culturally backward country into a great industrialized socialist country with a high degree of modern education through ten "five-year" plans. The convening of the National Congress of the CPC marked that socialist transformation was completed, and our country entered a period of large-scale socialist construction. The tasks of the Communist Party of China are set out in the Eight New Party Constitution: to build China into a great, prosperous and advanced socialist country by giving it a strong and modern industry, agriculture, transportation and national defense. It is the initial expression of the "four modernizations" and mainly reflects the

requirements of socialist material civilization construction and will lay a solid material foundation for building a strong socialist modern industrial country.

In 1957, Mao Zedong published "On Correctly Handling Contradictions among the People" and "Speech at the National Conference of the Communist Party of China on Propaganda work." In the previous report, he clarified: We are now going to wage war on nature, develop our economy, develop our culture, strengthen our new institutions, and build our new nation. In the latter speech, he gave new thought to the meaning of modernization, proposing to "build a socialist country with modern industry, modern agriculture and modern science and culture." The construction of modern science and culture proposed here embodies the requirements of socialist spiritual civilization. When reading the Soviet Textbook on Political Economy at the end of 1959 and the beginning of 1960, he further enriched this thought, saying, "In building socialism, the modernization of industry, agriculture and science and culture was originally required, but now national defense must be added to it." Thus, he formulated the thought of the four modernizations relatively completely (Song and Zhai, 2020).

As for the realization of the "four modernizations," Mao Zedong in 1954 put forward the idea of building China into a powerful socialist industrialized country in about 50 years. During the Eighth National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 1956, he said that it would take 50 to 100 years for China to become a strong and prosperous country. In his speech to the conference of 7,000 People in January 1962, he pointed out that given China's large population, weak economic foundation and backward economy, it would take more than a hundred years for China to develop its productive forces significantly. Then China could catch up with and surpass the most advanced capitalist countries. It is, in fact, the goal of national rejuvenation (Yang, 2013).

In his report on the work of the Government delivered to the First Session of the Third National People's Congress, Zhou Enlai proposed a "two-step" strategy. The first step was establishing a relatively complete industrial and national economic system with three five-year plans. The second step is to strive for the complete modernization of agriculture, industry, national defense and science and technology by the end of the 20th century. China's economy will take the lead in the world. This plan is the grand blueprint of realizing socialist modernization that the Party and the government put forward formally at the earliest (Chen, 2011). At the first session of the Fourth National People's Congress in 1975, Zhou Enlai reiterated this grand blueprint and became the strongest voice to inspire the people in the difficult years of the Cultural Revolution. The "Chinese Dream" of the first generation of leaders with Mao Zedong as the core has not been fully realized, but it has accumulated historical lessons for the successors to find the right direction.

From the Era of Mao Zedong to the Era of Xi Jinping, Deng Xiaoping, and Jiang Zemin, Hu Jintao experienced the leadership of the transition period. They had established Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important thinking of the "Three Represents," and the scientific outlook on development. Deng Xiaoping's theory is a theoretical viewpoint based on the inheritance of Marxism and Mao Zedong Thought. It combined with the contemporary characteristics of Chinese practice, raising the understanding of socialism to a new scientific level and forming a new scientific system of the theory of building socialism with Chinese characteristics. The Three Important Thought of the Three Represents proposed by Comrade Jiang Zemin summarizes all

the theoretical and practical activities of the CPC and the state, including the fundamental direction, fundamental guidelines and fundamental basis of all work, and is the action guide for the CPC and the state to make great strides in the new century. Hu Jintao put forward the scientific concept of development, whose first key meaning is development. The core is people-oriented, and the basic requirement is comprehensive coordination and sustainability. The fundamental method is to coordinate and take into account. And on this basis, he proposed the idea of national defense and military construction, which reveals the basic laws of national defense and military construction in the new century and new stage, and is a scientific guide to promote the national defense and military construction under the new historical conditions (Cao, 2007).

USHER SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS INTO NEW ERA

On Nov. 15, 2012, Xi Jinping, newly elected general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met with more than 500 Chinese and foreign journalists at noon after the first plenary session of the 18th CPC Central Committee. In his book *Great Power Ambitions*, Martin Jacques, a British scholar, said that Xi's appointment as general secretary of the Communist Party of China marked the beginning of an era. At the time, the effects of the 2008 global financial crisis were still spreading. After decades of development, China became the second-largest economy in 2010 and entered a critical period of realizing socialist modernization. The rise of some emerging countries accelerated. The global landscape is undergoing profound changes. Speaking to reporters, Xi outlined the mission of the new central leadership as "three responsibilities." These responsibilities are our responsibility to the nation, the people, and the Party. "The people's aspiration for a better life is our goal," he said. Fourteen days later, Xi proposed the "Chinese Dream" to "realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation." He ate food and clothes for the next few years, night after night. Shortly after he was elected as the General Secretary, Xi Jinping systematically reviewed the origin and evolution of socialism over the past 500 years. He summarized for senior Party officials the successes and losses of China's choice of the pluralist system. Further, he declared that we must stick to the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics (Han and Xie, 2020).

After taking office as the General Secretary of CPC, he visited the holy lands of the Chinese revolution many times. In Xibampo, he said, this is the place where rules are made; In Jinggang Shan, he said his journey was thousands of miles long, and he did not forget his original aspiration. 'This is the spiritual home of Chinese Communists,' he said at the site of the First Congress of the Communist Party of China. In Xiangshan, he said to "rush for the exam," sober and firm answer the new era (Yan, 2019). At the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2017, Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era was formally established. The idea attracted worldwide attention. "Xi Jinping: The Governance of China" is a global bestseller. Some state leaders even took the initiative to discuss the book's contents with Xi during their visits to China. The new guidelines place greater emphasis on overall party leadership. Xi Jinping is determined to lead the Communist Party of China, with nearly 90 million members, in self-revolution. Xi Jinping has launched a campaign to govern the Party with strict discipline comprehensively, promoted the introduction of the Eight-point Code of Conduct, and presided over the formulation of the Code of Conduct for Intraparty Political Life under New Circumstances and the Regulations of the Communist Party of China on Intraparty Supervision. He directed four thematic education activities to "purify" the party. He

metaphorically said, “We have to brush our teeth and wash our face, clean our house, wash dishes and clothes every day. We also have to do these things to build the Party” (Li, 2017).

He has led an unprecedented anti-corruption campaign with no blind spots. In the five years from the 18th CPC National Congress to the 19th CPC National Congress, 440 party officials at or above the provincial military level and other officials under the central government were investigated and punished. By the end of 2018, the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the State Commission for Supervision had placed more than 70 officials under investigation. Until September this year, provincial and ministerial officials were sacked, and the fight against corruption was always on the way. The website of foreign Affairs, a bimonthly US magazine, said Xi leads the world’s largest and most successful Marxist-Leninist organization and is determined to ensure that it remains so. The Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee in 2016 confirmed Xi’s position as the core of the CPC Central Committee and the whole Party. In March 2019, Xi Jinping met with the Italian Speaker of the House of Representatives, Giuseppe Fico. Fico asked Xi, “How did you feel when elected president of China?” “Such a big country has heavy responsibilities and arduous work,” Xi answered: I will live up to the people without myself. I am willing to live in a “no ego” state and contribute to China’s development (Meng et al., 2018).

“We are closer, more confident and capable than ever before to realizing the goal of national rejuvenation,” Xi said. According to the blueprint drawn up at the 19th CPC National Congress, after completing the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects by 2020, China aims to realize socialist modernization by 2035 and build itself into a great modern socialist country by the middle of this century. Chinese leaders aim to deliver a satisfactory answer to the people with a strong sense of mission. In the seventh year of Xi Jinping’s leadership, China’s economy has exceeded 90 trillion yuan, firmly ranking second. China is also the world’s largest industrial country, the largest trader of goods, the largest holder of foreign exchange reserves, second-largest recipient of foreign investment and second-largest consumer of goods.

According to data from China’s National Bureau of Statistics and the World Bank, China’s economy grew at an average annual rate of about 7 percent from 2013 to 2018. The world economy grew at an average annual rate of about 2.9 percent during the same period. China has the complete industrial chain globally, with over 220 industrial products topping the world. It has one of the longest high-speed rail networks to send probes to the moon’s far side. The number of Chinese companies in 2019 Global 500 has increased to 129, topping the list first. These achievements result from the Chinese people’s hard work and the deepening of reform and opening-up. Deng Xiaoping’s 1978 reform and opening-up were seen as a “social revolution” (Wang, 2008).

Xi Jinping is determined to see this “revolution” through to the end. In 2012, on his first visit to Beijing after becoming general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC), He said in Shenzhen that “reform and opening-up is a crucial move that determines the destiny of contemporary China” and that “stagnation and backsliding will lead nowhere.” The reforms led by Xi are characteristic of a new era: a greater focus on breaking through the barriers of entrenched interests. The reform pays more attention to top-level design and emphasizes “systematic, integrated and coordinated development.” At the Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee in 2013, a seven-year timetable for comprehensively deepening reform

was set out, and a large-scale reform plan was introduced. Xi Jinping has set “improving and developing the system of socialism with Chinese characteristics and modernizing China’s system and capacity for governance” as the general goal of comprehensively deepening reform. Over the years, Xi has presided over dozens of meetings of the Central Leading Group and committee for Comprehensively Deepening Reform. The most recent meeting, held in September, deliberated and approved more than a dozen reform plans and opinions, from supporting the reform of private enterprises to promoting labor and talent mobility, from lightening the burden of teachers to combating plastic pollution. It embodies the top-level design and is very detailed, reflecting the spirit of driving nails. Some of Xi’s mottos may help outsiders understand why “China Speed” and “China project” have been produced so frequently in the new era that they are amazed. Here are some of his mottos: “Do what you do and take the lead,” “Empty talk will ruin the country, but solid work will rejuvenate the country,” and “If you grasp an iron, you leave a mark; if you step on a stone, you leave a mark.”

In the seven years from 2012 to 2019, Xi made more than 60 visits to China, conducting in-depth investigations and research at the grassroots level to guide economic and social development and reform and opening-up. There are factories, villages, communities, ports, schools, and barracks. Sometimes he would go as high as thousands of meters above sea level; sometimes, to get to a village, he would get off the plane, transfer by train, and take a bus. Sometimes, when it rained during the expedition, he would roll up his trousers and hold up an umbrella to communicate with others. In 2019, he inspected work in Henan and proposed a strategy for ecological protection and high-quality development of the Yellow River Basin. He launched the Yangtze River Economic Belt development strategy a few years ago. China’s two “mother rivers” are bursting with new vitality in the new era. Xi has designed more market-oriented reforms and encouraged private firms to take their stakes. “Private entrepreneurs are our people,” he said when he presided over an unprecedented forum on private enterprises. One of Xi’s words most was “innovation” for seven years. “Core technology, key technology, begging is not changed.” He used to say.

In 2019, Xi Jinping visited Dunhuang and gave new instructions on the protection and development of culture. Cultural confidence, he often says, is “more fundamental, broader, deeper confidence.” Xi has led the reform of party and state institutions to create more efficient and modern government institutions. In the past few years, the number of items approved by the Chinese government was cut by a third. With online approval and a one-stop office in many places, enterprises no longer need to spend months going to many places to get their stamps stamped. Xi Jinping has advocated the rule of law in an all-around way. He stressed the importance of “100-1=0,” meaning that the negative impact of one wrong case is enough to destroy the good image accumulated by 99 impartial judges. The reform of the judicial system is being explored in terms of exercising judicial power independently and impartially by the law, improving the operation mechanism of judicial power, and improving the judicial protection system for human rights. In terms of ecological environment, he put forward the famous “theory of green mountains and clear waters.” Xi Jinping personally delivered the instrument of ratification of the Paris Agreement on climate change to the UN Secretary-General. The achievements of “green China” have been recognized and praised globally. There has been a marked reduction in pollution in many cities. Xi Jinping plans to promote the coordinated development of the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region and build the Xiongan New Area. The Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone, established in 2013, has been successfully expanded to 18

such zones, including the entire island of Hainan. Xi also announced greater openness in industries ranging from banking to automobiles.

Since entering the new era, China's investment environment has improved. According to the World Bank's Doing Business 2019 Report, China has jumped from 78th to 46th in terms of ease of doing business. China is a growing market -- data suggest it is on the verge of becoming the world's largest consumer market. According to data released by China's Ministry of Commerce in August, more than 24,000 foreign-invested enterprises were established in China in the first seven months of this year, with the actual use of foreign capital exceeding 530 billion yuan, up 7.3 percent year on year. Xi attended the world's first import-themed expo in Shanghai and mentioned "openness" 52 times in his 35-minute speech. The turnover at the exhibition is very encouraging. More businesses from around the world have signed up for the second CIIE. In 2018, Xi Jinping visited Shenzhen again. "We are here to show the world that China will never stop its reform and opening-up," he said. In the next 40 years, China will surely make new achievements that will impress the world" (Yang and Xin, 2018).

EVERY THING IS FOR PEOPLE'S GAIN, HAPPINESS AND SECURITY

In 2019, about 16,500 businesses were newly registered in China, and about 40,000 new jobs were found in urban areas. Over the past seven years, More than 80 million new urban jobs have been created in China, which is equivalent to the population of Germany. "Employment is the most important aspect of people's livelihood," Xi said. The development of the new economy, such as e-commerce, has created more jobs than ever before. Xi Jinping has encouraged and promoted this. Once, in a Beijing hutong, he suddenly appeared in front of a group of delivery boys and expressed sympathy for their hard work. China now has the world's largest express delivery industry, with more than 3 million couriers. Xi addressed in his 2018 New Year's speech: "I know the people are most concerned about education, employment, income, social security, medical care, elderly care, housing and the environment."

As general secretary, Xi Jinping, every year on the Spring Festival will come with ordinary people: braved the cold of minus 30 degrees Celsius border town see hard worker, also for the folks on his own to the procurement of necessities and played Ziba and the masses, to the door of the old neighborhood affixed happy word, concerned about the poor farmers have enough food to eat, the doctor has to safeguard, children can go to school. The principal contradiction facing Chinese society has evolved between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life. This important judgment made by Xi Jinping in the report to the 19th CPC National Congress reflects his scientific and accurate judgment and grasp of the national conditions and public opinions (Xu and Zhang, 2018).

During the education-themed "Stay true to our original aspiration and keep our mission firmly in mind," Xi repeatedly said that the purpose of the CPC is to serve the people wholeheartedly. It also reflects Xi's personal experience and will (Qu, 2019). Under the age of 16, he went to poor rural areas in Shaanxi province to join the queue, settle down and work for seven years. He wanted most of the villagers to have a hearty meal of meat. He said he came from a place of poverty. He understood the sufferings of the people. For a while, Chinese house prices were rising faster. Xi warned that houses are for living in, not speculation; a city can't have high-rises on one side and squalor shantytowns. In 2018, the per capita floor space of urban housing in

China reached 39 square meters, up 3.7 times from 8.3 square meters in 1949. About 200 million poor people can live in housing (Chen, 2020).

Xi Jinping thinks very carefully about the people. He often inspected the toilet of common people's homes in the grassroots investigation and was entrusted with garbage classification. During a recent visit to a village in Henan province, he proposed modernizing and facilitating living facilities so that villagers "can take hot showers." He also advised on the high incidence of myopia among students. A few decades ago, China's social security system was blank. By 2019, China had achieved full coverage of basic medical and old-age insurance for over 900 million people, forming the world's largest social safety net. In 2013, Xi proposed "targeted poverty alleviation." He set a goal of eradicating absolute rural poverty by current standards by 2020. It is 10 years ahead of the UN's goal of eradicating absolute poverty worldwide. More than 82 million people have been lifted out of poverty in seven years. Xi indicated that the problem of absolute poverty, which has existed in the Chinese nation for thousands of years, will be solved historically in the hands of our generation.

"The most outstanding achievement of China is the remarkable improvement in the standard of living of the Chinese people." Kishore Mahbubani, a professor at the National University of Singapore, said, "Even in the glory days of Chinese civilization, a huge underclass of people still lived in poverty. In Today's China, even low-income people enjoy good accommodation, education, health care and employment." Xi has made good on his words: "Love the people like your parents." At the first session of the 13th National People's Congress in March 2018, Xi Was re-elected as President, winning the unanimous support of nearly 3,000 NPC deputies.

BUILD A COMMUNITY WITH A SHARED FUTURE FOR HUMANITY

In 2014, the number of Chinese outbound tourists exceeded 100 million for the first time. China's outbound direct investment exceeded 120 billion US dollars, with two-way direct investment approaching balance for the first time. Thousands of Chinese workers study and live all over the world. "China is moving closer to center stage" has become a common expression in the news. How to handle the relationship between China and the world in the new era is a major task facing Chinese leaders. Nearly 20 years ago, when He was governor of Fujian Province, Xi promoted the implementation of Fujian's assistance to Papua New Guinea's East Highlands province for the demonstration project of fungus grass and upland rice cultivation technology. Fungus grass projects with functions such as desertification control, livestock breeding, power generation and new material development have spread to more than 100 countries, bringing hope to developing countries in Africa, Asia and the South Pacific (Liu, 2019).

During his visit to Papua New Guinea in November 2018, President Xi Jinping witnessed the signing of a package of agreements on China's assistance to Papua New Guinea, including fungus and upland rice technology. This incident reflects Xi Jinping's aspiration and thinking about building international relations. In his view, countries should respect each other; pursue fairness, justice and win-win cooperation. In March 2013, during his first overseas trip as Chinese President, Xi Jinping expounded on the concept of "a community with a shared future" and "a new type of international relations" at the Moscow Institute of International Relations (Liu, 2021). Xi Jinping comprehensively expounded on the main connotation of a community with a shared future for humanity two years later in his first speech at the UN. He elaborated

on building a world free from fear, universal security, free from poverty and common prosperity, free from isolation, openness and inclusiveness, clean and beautiful (Chen, 2019).

Xi Jinping proposed the Belt and Road Initiative is a platform for building a community with a shared future for humankind. The grand idea was to link continents and oceans with trade and investment. Different from the “doubts” of some Westerners, its purpose is to “integrate more countries and regions into economic globalization and jointly blaze a path of mutual benefit.” By the end of July this year, China had signed 194 cooperation documents on belt and Road Cooperation with 136 countries and 30 international organizations. According to a World Bank study released in June, the full implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative could lift 32 million people out of moderate poverty, increase global trade by 6.2 percent, trade-in economies along the routes by 9.7 percent and global income 2.9 percent. “Stadium diplomacy” has become a shining “name card” of the new era. From the circa summit, APEC meetings in Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, the G20 summit, the BRICS leaders meeting in Xiamen to the SCO summit in Qingdao and the boat Asia BBS, since the “area” of international cooperation of the two peaks BBS, the Beijing summit of the BBS on China-Africa cooperation dialogue among civilizations to the park in Beijing and Asia congress, China has become a hub for discussions on global governance and development (Su, 2019).

While presiding over these events, Xi told stories of how China’s development has given other countries a “free ride.” He explained the true meaning of a community with a shared future for humanity. He promoted innovation and improved the global governance system under extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. In recent years, Chinese nationals have served as heads of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and other international organizations, contributing more Chinese wisdom to global governance on relevant issues. The RMB has been included in the IMF’s Special Drawing Rights basket. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Silk Road Fund were also created.

China has become an indispensable force in resolving global and regional hotspot issues. They range from climate change to counter-terrorism, from nuclear proliferation to the wealth gap, from fair trade to war peacekeeping. In 2019, China became the second-largest contributor to UN membership dues after the United States. It is also one of the major contributors to UN peacekeeping operations and the largest troop contributor among the Security Council’s permanent members. The 10-year us \$1 billion China-UN Peace and Development Fund, established by China, was officially put into operation in 2016. For years, China has contributed more than 30 percent of global growth. China has steadily solved the food and clothing problem for over one billion people and contributed to over 70% of global poverty reduction. The World Bank calls it “one of the greatest events in human history.” China’s development experience and model have broadened the path for developing countries to achieve modernization (Zheng, 2021). As in Xi Jinping’s words: The Communist Party of China has always taken it as its mission to make new and greater contributions to humanity (Zhang and Kong, 2018).

THROUGH THE ROUGH SEAS TO THE BIG DREAMS

The word “struggle” appeared nearly 60 times when Xi gave the “first lesson of the term” to young and middle-aged officials at the Party School of the CPC Central Committee (National Academy of Governance) in September 2019. He addressed that the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation is not an easy task; to realize the great dream, we must fight hard. Xi’s sense of

struggle can be traced back to when he jumped the queue at Liangjiahe. The hardships of that time had trained him into an unyielding, courageous man. On the way forward, Xi said, the risks and tests we face will only become more complex, and “we may even encounter unimaginable tempests” (Yang, 2019). He sees the fight against corruption as a life-or-death battle. The war has gone from “corruption and anti-corruption are at a stalemate” to “overwhelming momentum is forming,” to “overwhelming momentum has formed,” to “overwhelming victory.” He boldly and wisely led the whole Party and the Chinese people to respond to the economic downturn challenges. He put forward the “new normal of economic development,” “New development concept,” and “supply-side structural reform” to promote high-quality economic development. He launched three critical battles against major risks, targeted poverty alleviation and pollution prevention and control (Lan, 2021).

When economic and trade frictions broke out between China and the United States, under Xi Jinping’s direction, China responded with the principle and attitude of “not willing to fight, not afraid of fighting, and having to fight when necessary.” (Guan, 2019). He met with US President Donald Trump in Buenos Aires and Osaka to push for an important step in resolving trade frictions between the two countries. On the Hong Kong issue, Xi said that if Hong Kong falls into the vortex of “pan-politicization” and artificially creates confrontation and confrontation, it will not help the situation but will seriously hinder economic and social development. When meeting with the new Chief Executive of the Macao SAR, he pointed out that facts have proved that the principle of “one country, two systems” is fully feasible, achievable and popular. Xi actively promoted the reunification of the motherland. He proposed to explore the “two systems” plan for Taiwan and enriched the practice of peaceful reunification. “We do not promise to renounce the use of force and reserve the option of taking all necessary measures. We are targeting the interference of external forces and the very small number of ‘Taiwan independence’ separatists and their separatist activities, not our Compatriots in Taiwan,” he said (Wu, 2019).

Xi Jinping has taken bold steps to reform national defense and the armed forces, firmly establishing combat effectiveness as the only fundamental criterion. Protecting China’s overseas interests has become one of the military’s new-era missions. Mr. Xi has directed evacuations during unrest in West Asia and North Africa. The resulting film is a record box office hit in China. “He is more determined to protect his interests.” “Foreign Affairs magazine wrote in a recent article.” We face the struggles not short-term, but long-term,” Xi said. “At least, they should accompany the whole process of realizing the second Centenary Goal.” (Xu, 2019). Xi Jinping and his ruling team are keenly aware of the complexity and volatility of the outside world and keenly aware that China is still the largest developing country. In May 2019, Xi Jinping visited Yudu County in Jiangxi province, where the Red Army gathered for the Long March and called on people to follow the new Long March. In the 1930s, the Chinese Workers’ and Peasants’ Red Army fought the long March of 25,000 li against the harsh nature, heavy enemy forces and the wrong line of the Party. They made great sacrifices and finally won the victory of the revolution. In the eyes of Chinese Communists, all the hard work is to achieve their glorious and sacred goal.

CONCLUSION

From Mao Zedong to Xi Jinping is a historical development process of Chinese society from weak to strong. Mao Zedong and Xi Jinping hoped to realize the Chinese dream of great national

renewal. It has been the common pursuit of a generation of Chinese Communists for nearly a century. Although they may have slightly different standards, goals and priorities for the "Chinese Dream," it is essential and common to make the country prosperous, revitalize the nation, and bring happiness to the people to realize socialist modernization and build a community with a shared future for humankind. Leaders of different eras have slightly different "Chinese dreams" because they have both broad and strict interpretations of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Mao Zedong's goal was to catch up with and surpass the most advanced capitalist countries globally, developed countries. In his vision, it may take half a century to catch up with and surpass the developed countries in the world from the full realization of modernization. He set the goal of achieving the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation because, in his view, China is a big country, accounting for a quarter of the world's population. Still, its contribution to humanity is not commensurate with its population. It embarrasses us and will change in the future. He believes That China should make a greater contribution to humankind.

The theoretical system of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics is a continuation and development of Mao Zedong Thought and a high summary of the ideology and values of contemporary China. Its core content is to realize the great Renaissance of the Chinese nation and fulfill the Chinese dream. Stand in the height of the human history development, construction of deep thinking what kind of world, such as how to build the world's major topics about human fate, actively advocate and promote the construction of human destiny community, the depth of the building close relations between China and the world. He elaborated on the idea of building a community with a shared future for humankind and expounded on China's willingness and confidence to follow the path of peaceful development.

This thought has responded to the concerns and expectations of the international community and demonstrates China's responsibility as a major country. Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era takes the world and humankind as coordinates and stage. It is based on China and strives to modernize China's system and capacity for governance. It also looks to the world and actively provides Chinese wisdom and solutions for global governance, demonstrating profound global vision, broad human feelings and superb strategic thinking.

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