



# CHINA DREAM

Compiled by Li Hongyan, Ma Lei  
Photos Courtesy of Photo Center of Xinhua News Agency  
Translated by Sun Qiang, Wang Guozhen

**Huangshan Publishing House**

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图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

中国梦: 英文 / 李红岩, 马磊编著. -- 合肥: 黄山书社, 2014.4  
ISBN 978-7-5461-4367-5

I. ①中… II. ①李… ②马… III. ①社会主义建设模式 - 中国 - 英文 IV. ① D616

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2014) 第 037618 号

中国梦 (英文)

李红岩 马磊 编著 孙强 王国振 译

出版人 任耕耘  
总策划 王亚非 田海明 林清发  
执行策划 包云鸠 任耕耘 司雯  
内容统筹 马磊  
责任编辑 高杨 王舒彦  
责任校对 汪盎然  
责任印制 戚帅  
装帧设计 未氓 刘俊

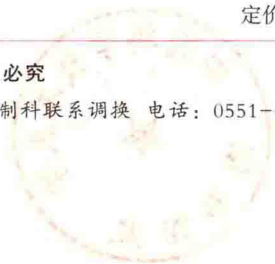
出版发行 时代出版传媒股份有限公司 (<http://www.press-mart.com>)  
黄山书社 (<http://www.hsbook.cn>)  
官方直营书店 (<http://www.hsssbook.taobao.com>)  
营销部电话: 0551-63533762 63533768  
(合肥市蜀山区翡翠路 1118 号出版传媒广场 7 层 邮编: 230071)

经 销 新华书店  
印 刷 合肥精艺印刷有限公司

开本 710 × 1000/8 印张 24 字数 250 千字  
版次 2014 年 4 月第 1 版 印次 2014 年 4 月第 1 次印刷  
书号 ISBN 978-7-5461-4367-5 定价 460.00 元

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## **Preface**

### **China Dream Proposed by Xi Jinping**

China Dream, concerning the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, is the largest and most ambitious concept ever envisaged in modern China. Inspired by China Dream, more than 1.3 billion Chinese people are pursuing and achieving their dreams with hard work. Their individual stories reflect their ideas, practice, development direction and future prospects.

China Dream combines both the plain dream and the great vision of the Chinese nation, and vividly expresses the common ideal and pursuit of all Chinese people as put forward by the Communist Party of China (CPC) and its leader Xi Jinping.

On November 29, 2012, the large-scale The Road toward Renewal Exhibition was opened in the National Museum of China, on the eastern side of Tian'anmen Square, Beijing. Xi, elected General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee at the First Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee held 14 days earlier, along with newly elected Members of the Standing Committee of the CPC Central Committee, had visited the museum.

At the end of the visit, Xi revealed China Dream to the world: Realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, which, Xi says, is the greatest dream of the Chinese nation in modern times. He went on to explain: "China Dream for the great renewal of the Chinese nation aims to achieve national prosperity, national rejuvenation and the happiness of all the people. Now, the Chinese people are more confident and capable of realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation than at any other point in history, and are closer to realization of this goal than at any moment in time."

China Dream proposed by Xi Jinping immediately won the enthusiastic response and heartfelt support of all Chinese people. It provides the theme and the ideological banner for China's development and advance since the 18th Party Congress convened in November 2012.

### **Goals and Connotations of China Dream**

The basic connotations of China Dream include national prosperity and revitalization as well as full achievement of people's happiness.

The basic goals of China Dream are to: complete the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects when the CPC marks its 100th founding anniversary in 2021, and to build an affluent, strong, civilized and

harmonious socialist modern country by the 100th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) in 2049.

It has become the dream of the Chinese nation, because it embodies the profound Chinese culture and national spirit created over more than 5,000 years of uninterrupted civilization, and the common ideals and beliefs of the Chinese nation. It also reflects the glorious tradition of relentless pursuit of progress, the long cherished wish of several generations and the common expectation of all Chinese, and offers overall benefits to the Chinese people and the Chinese nation. Under the guidance of China Dream, the nation will become more powerful and prosperous, civilized, harmonious and beautiful.

Ultimately, China Dream is the people's dream. The Chinese people have an ardent love for life. They wish to have better education, more stable jobs, more income, greater social security, better medical and health care, improved housing conditions, and a better environment. They want their children to have sound growth, have good jobs and lead a more enjoyable life. Upon being elected as the General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, Xi Jinping said: "To meet their desire for a happy life is our mission. It is only hard work that creates all happiness in the world." China Dream is the organic unity of the dreams of the State, the nation and every individual citizen. Every Chinese is a member, participant and a creator of realizing China Dream. As long as the opportunity is grasped, every Chinese can achieve their dreams and live the desired good life.

China Dream also involves peace, development, cooperation and a win-win situation, so that it is related to the dreams of people of other countries. During the process of realizing China Dream, this country, in conjunction with others, will promote the achievement of lasting peace and common prosperity, and make new and greater contributions to the noble cause of peace and development.

## **How to Realize China Dream**

Any individual, a country or a nation, must struggle to realize various dreams. How, then, to realize China Dream? The Chinese people have already given much consideration to this.

To realize China Dream and ensure people live a better life, it's necessary to follow the successful road discovered through painstaking exploration, namely the road of socialism with Chinese characteristics. This road has been hard-won through over 30 years of great reform and opening up, 60-odd years of continuous exploration since the founding of the PRC, and represents a profound summary of more than 170 years of national development in modern times, along with the inheritance of more than 5,000 years of time-honored civilization of the Chinese nation, thus having profound historical origins and broad realistic foundations. It is just because of following this road that China has achieved remarkable results. Unique cultural traditions, a unique historical destiny and unique basic national conditions, dictate that China inevitably chooses and follows a development road with distinct Chinese characteristics. Therefore, the Chinese people have confidence in this road from perspectives of theory and system, and firmly believe they can continue to develop and follow a path well

suited to China's national conditions.

To realize China Dream, the nation must carry forward the Chinese spirit, namely a national spirit with patriotism as the core, and with reform and innovation as the core. This spirit is the soul of concentrating efforts and rejuvenating the country. Patriotism is the ideological strength uniting the Chinese nation. Reform and innovation provide the necessary ideological power. Throughout the reform and opening up, the Chinese people have always believed that, as long as all ethnic groups in the motherland's family carry forward the great national spirit demanded by the times, and constantly enhance ideological ties for unity and the ideological power to become stronger, they will always be able to forge ahead with youthful spirit.

To realize China Dream, it is necessary to concentrate the power of China, namely the great unity of all its ethnic groups. The Chinese believe that, as long as they are closely united and struggle for a common ideal, they will be very powerful and have broader space for realizing all their dreams. With dreams, opportunities and struggles, all manner of beautiful things can be created. People of all ethnic groups must keep the overall mission in mind, make joint efforts and concentrate their wisdom and strength to form an invincible power.

China Dream, as a people's dream, must be realized by closely relying on the people, and must always benefit them. It's necessary to listen to the voice of people and respond to their expectations at all times, ensuring the right of equal participation and equal development, safeguarding social fairness and justice, continuously achieving new progress in rights to full education, employment, medical and old-age care, and housing, constantly realizing, safeguarding and developing the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority, ensuring more development results benefit everyone more equitably, and steadily advancing towards common prosperity based on continued economic and social development.

Realization of China Dream must rely on hard work. Empty talk jeopardizes national interests; hard work can rejuvenate the nation. History shows that individual destiny is closely related to the destiny of the nation. A strong country benefits each citizen. It is a glorious and arduous undertaking to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, needing the joint efforts of succeeding generations. Therefore, only by adopting a down-to-earth attitude and through hard work and joint efforts, can the Chinese people realize the sought-after great national rejuvenation.

China needs friendly cooperation with other countries. All people in the world are pursuing the goals of democracy, freedom, rule of law, justice, equality and happiness based on their own unique development road. The Chinese people love peace, staunchly follow the road of peaceful development, unswervingly adhere to the win-win strategy of opening up, and are committed to developing friendly cooperation with all countries and fulfilling their due international responsibilities and obligations. Together with the rest of the world, the Chinese people will promote the lofty cause of promoting global peace and development.



:: On October 1, 1949, Chairman Mao Zedong solemnly declared to the world: "The Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China is founded today!"

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# Seeking

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Chapter I

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# Dreams



In the century from the 1840s to the 1940s, the Chinese nation suffered unimaginable sufferings and sacrifices. This experience makes it possible for them to form a common ideal, namely “rejuvenating the nation”. It becomes the goal of countless Chinese people with lofty ideals, and also a prominent theme of Chinese history in the 20th century.

In 1911, a bourgeois revolution, led by Sun Yat-sen, later reputed as the father of the Chinese revolution broke out in China. Sun was the first to propose the slogan “rejuvenating the Chinese nation”. The Revolution of 1911 ended the system of autocratic monarchy that had prevailed for some 2,000 years. In 1912, the Republic of China, the first such democratic republic in Asia, was founded.

The Revolution of 1911 paved the way for China to open to the outside world and embark on the road to civilization.

Sun Yat-sen hoped that China could develop industries in a peaceful environment. He wanted to build a rail network of 100,000 miles to connect the coastal areas, the hinterland and the border areas, a million miles of roads, world-class large ports respectively in the coastal areas of northern, central and southern China. He was one of many people at the time desiring to “save the nation by engaging in industry”.

However, after the Revolution of 1911, Sun Yat-sen’s ideals were not realized, and an era of warlordism occurred. It was in this context that the New Culture Movement emerged in 1915,

advocating science and democracy, new morality and new forms of literature, while opposing ignorance, despotism, old morality and old forms of literature. From then on, advocating science and democracy while opposing superstition and blind obedience became an irresistible trend.

In 1917, the October Revolution broke out in Russia, to be followed by the end of World War I. In January 1919, the victorious nations held the Peace Conference in Paris. As one of the victors, China proposed that defeated Germany must return China’s national interests and rights it had forcibly seized from the 19th century to China. However, this reasonable request was rejected, and German privileges in Shandong Province were transferred to Japan. This directly led to the outbreak of the May 4th Movement of 1919 with the landmark significance. From then on, advanced Chinese intellectuals developed new goals and found new social reform directions. This also directly affected the birth and development of the CPC.

On July 1, 1921, the Communist Party of China (CPC) was formally founded based on an ideal of saving the country. Li Dazhao, one of the major founders, declared: “For world civilization and human wellbeing, young people should strive to build families, country, nation, the human race, the Earth and the Universe, which are all full of youth.”

The CPC quickly proposed to eliminate civil unrest, overthrow the warlords, build domestic peace and achieve an independent,

free, democratic, united and prosperous China.

On September 18, 1931, Japan staged the “Mukden Incident” as an excuse to gradually occupy the entire Northeast China. On July 7, 1937, it created the Lugouqiao ( Marco Polo Bridge ) Incident in Beijing to launch comprehensive aggression against China. In the following eight years of war, Chinese military and civilian casualties exceeded 35 million, and China’s direct economic losses amounted to US\$100 billion, with US\$500 billion in indirect economic losses. Because of the Japanese invasion, the new industries that had developed in China since the 1860s were almost destroyed. At the same time, China achieved its first complete victory in resistance against foreign invasion for national liberation in modern times. It also marked a turning point for the nation in moving from a situation of decline to revitalization.

China’s War of Resistance against Japan ( 1937-1945 ) also made a significant contribution to victory in the world anti-fascist war, and China’s international status was improved significantly.

Since the First Opium War in 1840, Western powers had imposed more than 1,000 unequal treaties on the Chinese people. China had since remained emaciated and enjoyed low national status. The Chinese people had never ceased fighting against these unequal treaties. From World War I to World War II, China carried out various activities aimed at abolishing the unequal treaties in a concentrated way. After World War II, China had basically got rid of these unequal treaties, had recovered tariff sovereignty and various other concessions, and abolished the system of consular extra-territorial jurisdiction, etc. This process was completed with the founding of the People’s Republic of China ( PRC ) On October 1, 1949. Only then could China truly obtain independent sovereign status and establish truly equal relations with other nations. Complete abolition of the unequal treaties was an important symbol of true independence.



:: Ruins of the Yuan mingyuan Imperial Garden in Beijing destroyed by British French troops in 1860.

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## **China Reduced into a Semi-Colonial and Semi-Feudal Country**

During the Second Opium War (1856-1860), the Qing Government was forced to sign unequal treaties such as the Treaty of Tianjin, the Convention of Peking and Treaty of Aigun, with countries such as Britain and France. Old China thus lost more than 1.50 million square km of territory, and further became the cheap raw material supply source and commodity market of Western capitalist countries. National sovereignty was damaged seriously, and old China became a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country quickly.

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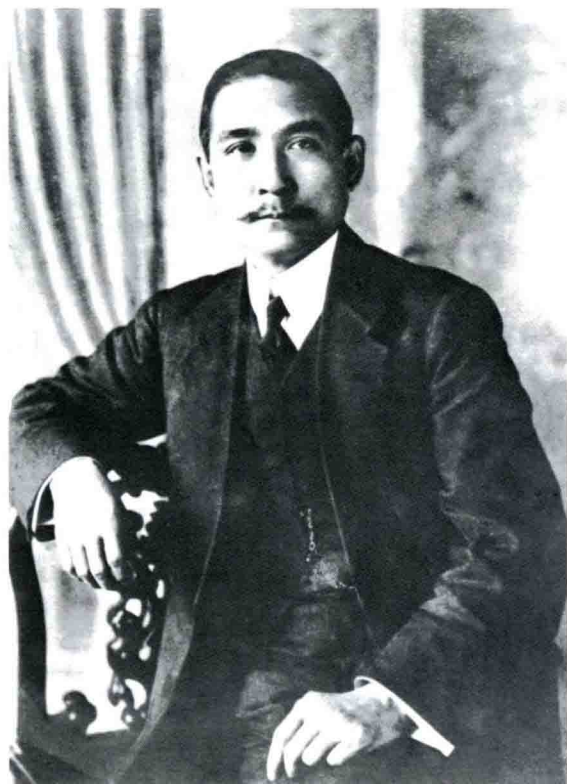
# 時局圖



Picture shows the Map of the Current Political Situation reflecting the situation at that time. The "Bear" is the symbol of Tsarist Russia, with "tiger" for Britain, "frog" for France, "eagle" for the USA, "sun" for Japan, and "intestine" for Germany.

## China Carved up by the Big Powers

After the First Sino-Japanese War in 1894, European powers such as Britain, Tsarist Russia, Germany and France were encouraged by the quick gains made by the Japanese to step up their own seizure of Chinese territory. They extorted leasing agreements from the Qing Government and marked off their spheres of influence. The first tide of carving up China in modern history of China started, posing a serious crisis for the nation.



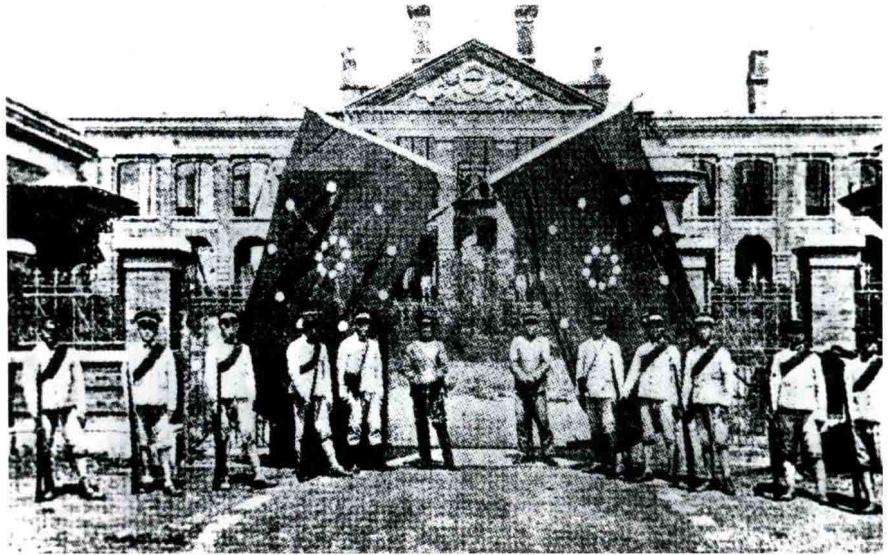
Sun Yat-sen.

## Sun Yat-sen First to Propose the Slogan "Rejuvenating the Chinese Nation"

People with lofty ideals realized the necessity of overthrowing the corrupt Qing Dynasty and achieving independence and self-reliance to save the nation, and make it prosperous and strong. In November 1894, Sun Yat-sen sponsored a meeting to found the Revive China Society by mobilizing overseas Chinese in Honolulu. In the draft charter, he stated clearly: "This society is founded especially to rejuvenate China and maintain the State system." He contributed to the great cause of "rejuvenating the Chinese nation" during his lifetime.

## Qing Government's Autocratic Rule Overthrown

In 1911, the Hubei New Army launched an armed uprising as a climax to an accumulation of all kinds of contradictions and struggles, gaining control of Wuchang and establishing the Hubei Military Government. Other areas responded actively, and 14 of 24 provinces gained independence successively. This uprising caused the Revolution of 1911, which eventually overthrew the Qing Government and ended the feudal autocratic monarchy that had lasted more than 2,000 years.



:: Picture shows the Military Government hanging the 18-star army flag symbolizing the unity of 18 provinces, after the revolutionary army occupied Wuchang.

## The Republic of China Is Founded, and the Concept of Democracy and Republicanism Enjoys Popular Support

On January 1, 1912, Sun Yat-sen declared the founding of the Republic of China (1912-1949), with himself as provisional president in Nanjing. The first democratic republic in Asia, was founded with establishment of the Nanjing Provisional Government. It marked the beginning of the move of Asia in general and China in particular towards democracy and republicanism, and played an immeasurable role in promoting China's social progress and the ideological emancipation of its people.



:: Picture shows the provisional government's first cabinet meeting on January 4, 1912.

# 新青年

LA JEUNESSE

中華民國十年九月五日出版

3047

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列在 內	

原 名 青 年 雜 志

第 六 卷 第 五 號

上 海 群 益 書 社 印 行



∴ The cover of *La Jeunesse*.

∴ Portrait of Li Dazhao, one of the founding members.

## New Culture Movement Provides Ideological Enlightenment

On September 15, 1915, the progressive periodical *La Jeunesse*, chiefly edited by Chen Duxiu, was founded in Shanghai, marking the rise of the New Culture Movement. *La Jeunesse* publicized articles on democracy and science, and advocated new literature and vernacular Chinese while opposing old literature and classical Chinese. Later, it began to publicize Marxism, and played a role of modern ideological enlightenment.

## Marxism Spreads in China

Li Dazhao was one of the main founders of the CPC. After the victory of the Russian October Revolution, he published articles including *Common People's Victory* and *My Outlook on Marxism*, expounding the significance of the October Revolution. He became one of the first men to spread Marxist ideas in China. He and Chen Duxiu made preparation for the founding of the CPC. On April 28, 1927, he was killed by the warlord Zhang Zuolin.



## China's New Democratic Revolution Starts with the May 4th Movement of 1919

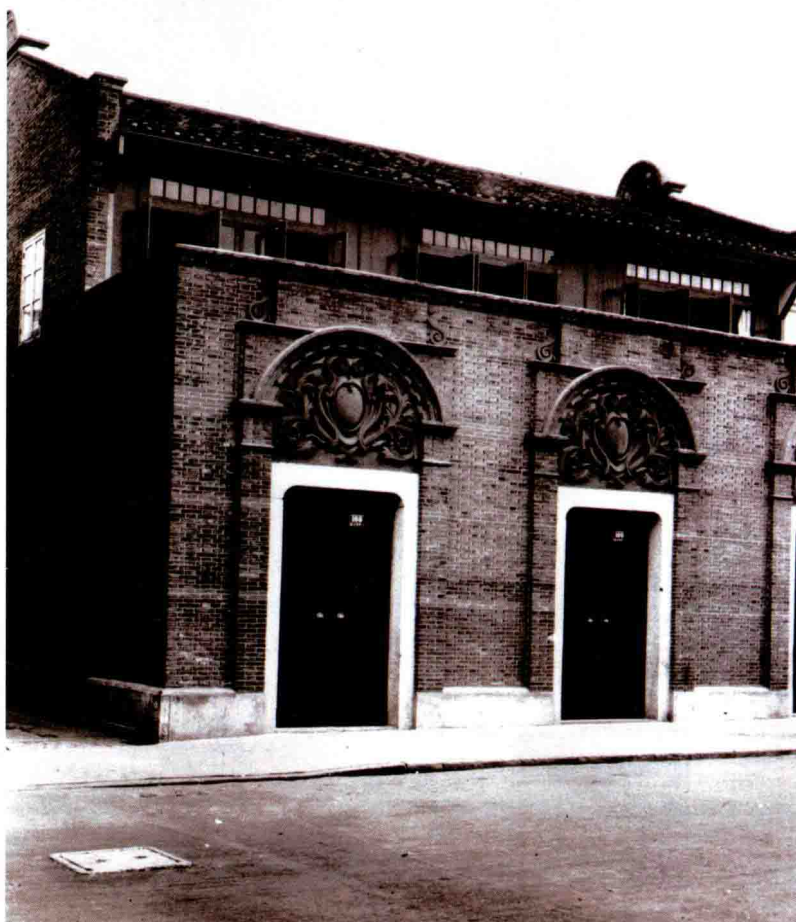
On May 4, 1919, thousands of young students gathered and demonstrated in Beijing, protesting over the German privileges in Shandong being transferred to Japan at the Versailles Peace Conference. Like a prairie fire, the movement spread nationwide, which forced the Beiyang Government to refuse to sign the Peace Treaty of Versailles. It is known as the May 4th Movement of 1919, marking the beginning of China's new democratic revolution.



Picture shows demonstrating students from 13 universities including Peking University.

## Founding of the CPC

On July 23, 1921, the First CPC National Congress was held at No.106 Wangzhi Road (now No. 76 Xingye Road), in the French concession in Shanghai. A total of 13 representatives from different places attended the congress and the CPC was officially founded. On the evening of July 30, the congress was suspended due to suspected enemy spy activity and delegates moved to a pleasure boat on Nanhu Lake in Jiaxing, Zhejiang Province, where the last day of meeting was held. Under the leadership of the CPC, the Chinese people embarked on the path of striving for national independence and liberation.



External view of the site of the First National Congress of the CPC in Shanghai.