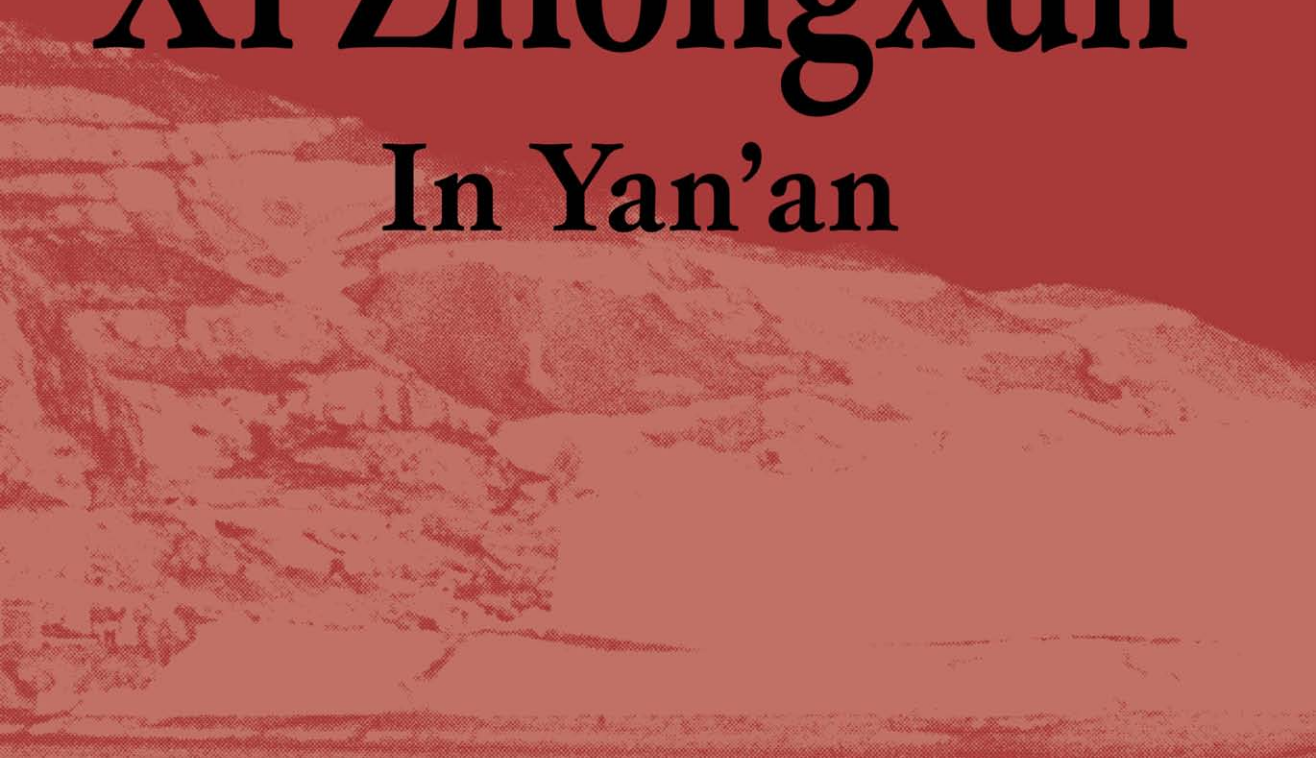




Xi Zhongxun

In Yan'an



New Classic Press

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Published by New Classic Press (UK) * New Classic Press (UK),
5th Floor, 99 Mansell Street, London, E1 8AX, UK,
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Translated by Dr. James T. Quinlan
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ISBN 978-1-907003-48-6

Printed in the People's Republic of China

DESIGNED BY BLW

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Xi Zhongxun

A leader from the masses in Yan'an

A leader from the masses

Xi Zhongxun (1913-2002), born in Fuping County, Shaanxi Province, joined the Communist Youth League of China (CYLC) in May 1926 and the Communist Party of China (CPC) in 1928. At the beginning of 1930, he was appointed as the Secretary of Battalion Party Committee of CPC by the Party to stage the soldier uprising in Yang Hucheng's Army, Northwest Kuomintang Army. In April 1932, he organized and launched the "Liangdang Mutiny" in Gansu Province and moved to Weibei Region and Sanyuan County to do the revolutionary work after the mutiny was suppressed.

After March 1933, Xi Zhongxun, together with Liu Zhidan and other leaders, established the Revolutionary Base in the Shaanxi-Gansu Border Region with Zhaojin as the center. He once held the post of member of the CPC Special Committee of Shaanxi-Gansu Border Region, Secretary of the Military Committee, Political Commissar of Guerrilla Headquarters, Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Revolutionary Committee, etc. In the spring of 1935, the Shaanxi-Gansu Border Region Base connected itself to the Northern Shaanxi Revolutionary Base and thus formed the Northwest Revolutionary Base, which was the "only" red revolutionary base throughout the country endowed with favorable conditions, in the superlative degree of comparison, and became the foothold of the Party Central Committee and the Red Army Long March and a starting point of China's War to Resist Japanese Aggression.

In January 1936, Xi Zhongxun acted as Vice Chairman of the CPC Government and Secretary of the CPC and CYLC in the Guanzhong Plain. In June of the same year, he took part in the Westward Campaign of the Red Army and acted as Secretary of the Quhuan Working Committee and the Huan County Party Committee successively. In August, he was dispatched by the CPC Central Committee to the Guanzhong Plain, where he guarded the south gate of the Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region for as long as 6 years. During this period, he held successive posts as the Secretary of Guanzhong Party Committee, Region Commissioner, Political Commissar of Partition Security Headquarters, member of Executive Committee of CPC Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region Committee, and President of Northwest Party School. In February 1943, he was transferred to be the Secretary of CPC Suide Prefectural Party Committee and Political Commissar of the Garrison Headquarters. In 1945, he attended the 7th National Congress of the CPC from April to June and was elected as a candidate member of the Central Committee. In August of the same year, he took up the post of Deputy Head of Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee.

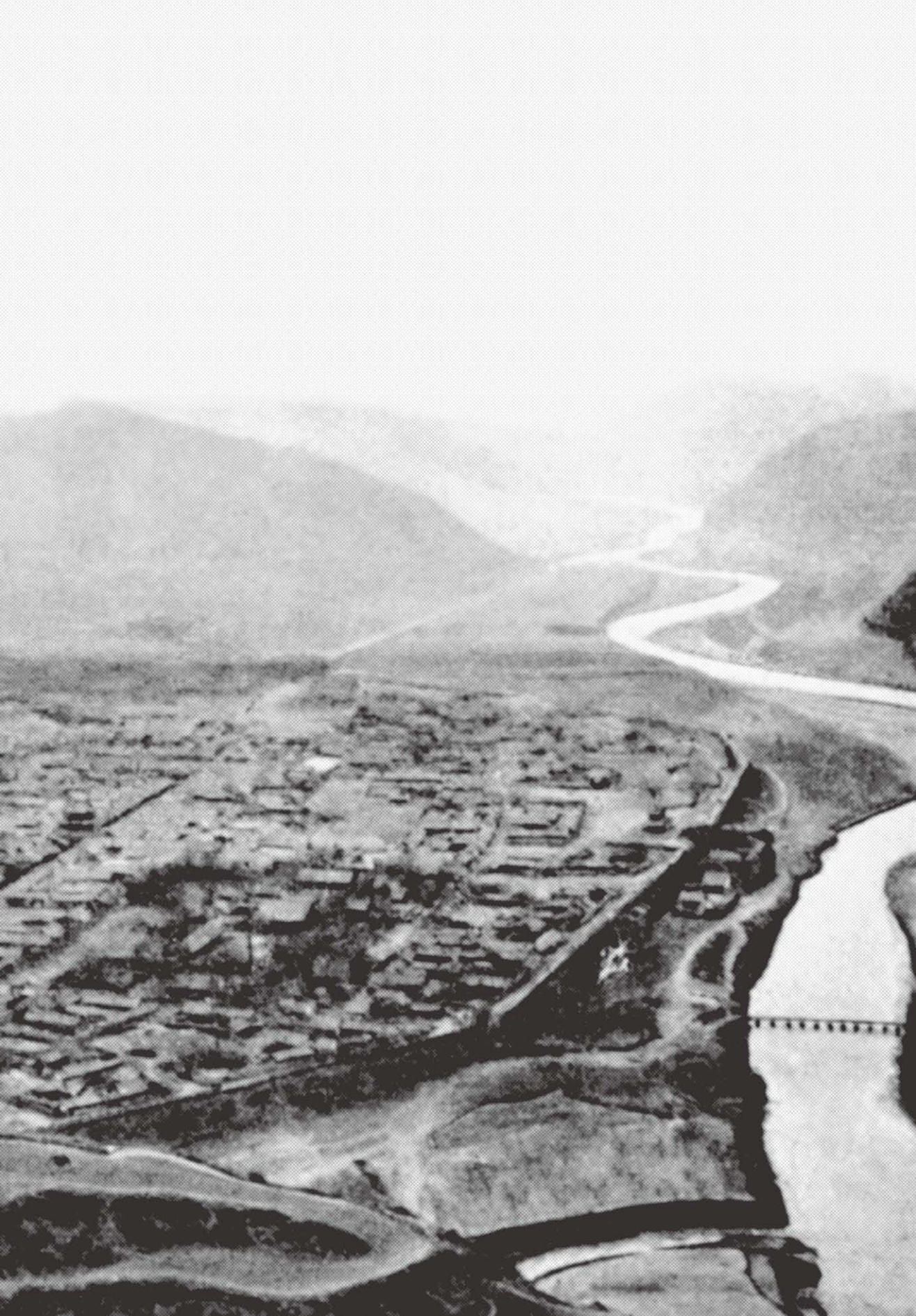


In the meantime, he led the famous Yetai Mountain War of self-defensive counterattack and achieved a big victory in the Anti-Diehards Campaign in the capacity of the Political Commissar in the Temporary Headquarters. After the victory of China's War to Resist Japanese Aggression, he served successively as Secretary of the Northwest Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Political Commissar of Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Field Army and Deputy Political Commissar of Northwest Field Army. During the War of Liberation, he made a great contribution to the liberation of the Northwest China and the whole nation with Peng Dehuai and He Long.

After the founding of New China, he successively acted as member of Central People's Government Committee, member of Chinese People's Revolutionary Military Committee, the Second Secretary of Northwest Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Vice Chairman and Acting Chairman of Northwest Military and Administrative Committee, Political Commissar of the First Field Army and Northwest Military Command, Head of the Propaganda Department of the CPC Central Committee, Secretary General of the State Council, member of the 8th CPC Central Committee, Vice Premier of the State Council, Governor and the First Secretary of Guangdong Province, the First Political Commissar and the First Secretary of the Party Committee in Guangzhou Military Command, Secretary of the Secretariat of the 11th CPC Central Committee, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Secretariat of the 12th CPC Central Committee. He also took up the post of Vice Chairman of the 5th and 7th Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC).

■ Yan'an in the late Qing Dynasty and the early Republic of China





Foreword

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Comrade Xi Zhongxun's birthday, the album of photos entitled *Xi Zhongxun in Yan'an* is to be officially published, which is worthy of being mentioned as a significant event. So I write the foreword to the album.

Comrade Xi Zhongxun was an excellent member of CPC, a great communist fighter, an outstanding proletarian revolutionist, one of the remarkable leaders of the political work of the Chinese Communist Party and the Red Army, and one of the main founders and leaders of the Revolutionary Base in the Shaanxi-Gansu border region. He was devoted to the revolution at the tender age of 13. After the First National Revolution was suppressed in 1927, he applied himself assiduously to the task of organizing the peasant movement and soldier movement, launched the famous "Liangdang Mutiny", fought side by side with Liu Zhidan and other proletarian revolutionists, and established the Revolutionary Base in the Shaanxi-Gansu border region, with Zhaojin and Nanliang as the center, finally connecting itself to the Northern Shaanxi Revolutionary Base and thus forming a consolidated Northwest China Revolutionary Base. In October 1935, this was the "only" red revolutionary base throughout the country, endowed with favorable conditions, in the superlative degree of comparison only, when the Party Central Committee moved and the Central Red Army trekked to Northern Shaanxi during the Long March. For this reason, Yan'an became the foothold of the Red Army Long March. Over the following 13 years, the Party Central Committee, Mao Zedong and other veteran revolutionaries mapped out strategies and gained decisive victories in this "red land" of Yan'an. It was upon this basis that the Party and the army led by the Party became gradually bigger and stronger, achieved a great victory in China's War to Resist Japanese Aggression, which led to a strategic turning point in the War of Liberation, established the guiding role of Mao Zedong Thought in the whole Party, cultivated the Yan'an spirit as bright as the road that lay before them, and ushered in the most splendid and magnificent period in the history of the Chinese revolution. Therefore, Yan'an became the holy land of the Chinese revolution and an eternal spiritual home of Chinese communists.

Over 13 years in Yan'an, Comrade Xi Zhongxun made indelible and outstanding contributions to the Chinese revolution. When the Party Central Committee had just moved to Northern Shaanxi, together with the central Red Army, Xi Zhongxun actively supported the reorganization of the Central Red Army and the Northern Shaanxi Red Army, extensively mobilized the masses in border areas to join the army, spared no efforts to guarantee the logistical supplies for the Red Army in the Eastward Campaign, and personally took part in the Westward Campaign. On the verge of the outbreak of China's War to Resist Japanese Aggression, he was entrusted with a mission at the most critical juncture, to be dispatched to the Central Shaanxi Plain, and then he guarded the south gate of the Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia

Border Region for as long as 6 years. He launched the anti-diehards campaign and reinforced the rear positions effectively, making outstanding contributions to the further progress and development of Party and army. After the victory in the War, Comrade Xi Zhongxun held the post of Secretary in the Northwest Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPC. He exerted his utmost efforts in the construction of the Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region, creatively put forward the idea of distinguishing different situations of the liberated areas, old and new and even half-new, formulated practical land reform policies, and resolutely corrected the “Left-Leaning” errors. Fortunately, however, these ideas were highly appreciated by the Party Central Committee and Chairman Mao and approved for communication to all liberated areas in the whole nation. As a result, the Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region became an experimental demonstration area under the leadership of the Party based on local rule, which accumulated valuable experience for the construction of the New China. Chairman Mao praised Comrade Xi Zhongxun highly as “a leader from the masses”. During the War of Liberation, Xi Zhongxun, Deputy Political Commissar of the Northwest Field Army, together with Comrade Peng Dehuai, commanded “Three Victorious Battles” (namely the Qinghuabian Battle, Yangmahe Battle and Panlong Battle) and also achieved victory in other battles, such as Longdong, Sanbian, Shajiadian, and Yiwa Battle, etc., defending the Party Central Committee, Chairman Mao and Yan’an and even liberating the Great Northwest. His glorious revolutionary life, noble sentiment of revolution and loyal revolutionary spirit will be remembered by the people of Yan’an forever. Nothing whatsoever on this land will fail to provide, for a while in all events, a striking demonstration of what can be described as his immortal revolutionary feats!

In order to cherish the memory of the great achievements of Comrade Xi Zhongxun, record and express their endless thoughts of love and esteem, the Municipal Party Committee of the CPC and the People’s Government of Yan’an organized specialists and scholars to pay extensive visits, look up and collect miscellaneous historical facts and pictures, and elaborately compile the album of photos, *Xi Zhongxun in Yan’an*, which lead us to those glorious years of Comrade Xi Zhongxun, to the spectacular moments of the Northwest revolutionary war. Each picture in the album is branded with unforgettable red marks; each passage relates the legendary heroic deeds. The compilation and publication of the album provides instructive teaching material for carrying out the education of patriotism, revolutionary tradition and Yan’an spirit. We sincerely hope that this album could reasonably remind us of the red memory of Yan’an and encourage us to inherit and follow the fine traditions of revolutionary predecessors, further boost our self-confidence in the path, theories and system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, advance courageously and unswervingly toward the goal of “Two Centuries”, and strive continually to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation!

Yao Yinliang

member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Shaanxi Provincial Party
Committee and Secretary of Yan’an Municipal Party Committee

August 1, 2013



Preface



I. Devotion to the Revolution



II. Establishing the Northwest Revolutionary Base



III. In the Guanzhong Plain



IV. In the Suide Region



V. Taking Office in the Northwest Bureau of the CPC
Central Committee



VI. Moving to Northern Shaanxi Province and
Recovering Yan'an



VII. Galloping across the Northwest China for Victory



■ Yan'an during China's War to Resist Japanese Aggression



