



CONTEMPORARY  
CHINA

# THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA AND CONTEMPORARY CHINA

By Yang Deshan & Zhao Shumei



China Intercontinental Press

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图书在版编目 (C I P) 数据

中国共产党与当代中国: 英文 / 杨德山, 赵淑梅著; 朱建廷, 肖颖译. -- 北京: 五洲传播出版社, 2014.6 (当代中国系列 / 武力主编)

ISBN 978-7-5085-2788-8

I. ①中… II. ①杨… ②赵… ③朱… ④肖… III. ①中国共产党—党的建设—英文 ②社会发展—中国—英文 IV. ① D26 ② D668

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2014) 第 124442 号

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### 当代中国系列丛书

主 编: 武 力  
出 版 人: 荆孝敏  
统 筹: 付 平

### 中国共产党与当代中国

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责任编辑: 王 峰

图片提供: 中新社 CFP 东方 IC FOTOE

装帧设计: 丰饶文化传播有限责任公司

出版发行: 五洲传播出版社

地 址: 北京市海淀区北三环中路 31 号生产力大楼 B 座 7 层

邮 编: 100088

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网 址: [www.cicc.org.cn](http://www.cicc.org.cn)

承 印 者: 中煤涿州制图印刷厂北京分厂

版 次: 2014 年 6 月第 1 版第 1 次印刷

开 本: 787×1092mm 1/16

印 张: 13.25

字 数: 180 千字

定 价: 108.00 元

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# Preface

As a Marxist political party in China, the Communist Party of China has experienced extraordinary courses for more than 90 years since its establishment in 1921. Along with its rapid enhancement in the national strength and the growing international influence, the People's Republic of China is attracting more and more attention from the international community. It has even become a dazzling rising star among the family of nations. As such, the governing Communist Party of China has naturally become a target to be known by more and more people. This book hopes to shoulder such a responsibility and uses a popular and easy-to-understand language to give a relatively complete introduction to the contemporary Communist Party of China to the readers.

First of all, we will get back to the process of contemporary China and summarize the scientific judgments of the Communist Party of China on the world and domestic conditions at different times. In this way, we will show the historical vision of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation towards which the Communist Party leads the whole nation to strive forward, and inspect the



Party's key role in pressing ahead the progress of various sectors of economy, politics, culture, society and ecology in China.

Next, we cast our focus to the Communist Party of China itself and try to understand its organizational structure and answer the following questions. As the world's No.1 political Party with more than 80 million members, how does the Communist Party of China admit new members and choose and promote its cadres? How many levels is the organizational system of the Communist Party of China divided? What are the relations between each level? By which organizational principle does the Communist Party of China operate? Compared with other political parties and organizations, what features does the organization of the Communist Party of China have?

Once again, we will place the Communist Party of China in the capacity of a ruling party to inspect its interactive situations with various elements of politics and society of China, learn how it leads its legislative organizations, government, patriotic united front and social communities to mobilize various social resources to serve governance goal at different times. At the same time, we will introduce the core of governance philosophy of the Communist Party of China and its continuous scientific ways of governance.

In the end, the Communist Party of China is not a changeless, ossified and stubborn political party. It has always been paying attention to its own construction ever since its establishment, particularly after it became a ruling Party, so as to continuously adapt to the new requirements set by the new situation at home and abroad. This is the important reason why the Communist Party of China is able to be in power for long terms and gain outstanding governing achievements. We will introduce the readers the main contents and core measures of the self-construction of the Communist Party of China and its results and future development.

In the length of between 70,000 and 80,000 words, it is not easy to introduce the Communist Party of China in an objective, justified, dimensional and dynamic way. Adding to the limitations of the knowledge and time, this book should have many unsatisfied elements. Besides, this book aims to serve as a modest spur to induce more valuable opinions. Generous criticisms from readers are welcome.



# The Communist Party of China and Contemporary China

In the course of China's recent political evolution since 1840, advanced personages from different classes and strata had striven to explore ways to realize China's independence and prosperity, but ended with failure due to various reasons. China hadn't showed a brand new look until Chinese proletariat and the CPC ascended the arena of history. In 1949, the CPC replaced the Kuomintang and became the ruling party of China. Since then, the CPC's long-term ruling in China has been an important part and embodiment of the political system with Chinese characteristics. The economic development, political progress, cultural flourish, social prosperity, ecological improvement and all achievements of modern China are all closely tied with the efforts of CPC.



## Make Scientific Judgment on World Situation and National Conditions, Strive for National Rejuvenation

In his opening address at the 1<sup>st</sup> Plenary Meeting of the CPPCC held in 1949, Mao Zedong affectionately uttered the now famous words: “Dear delegates, we all have the common feeling, that is, our work will be recorded in human being’s history and indicate that the Chinese who account for one-fourth the world’s humanity have stood up.” During the 60 years after that, the CPC has been engaged in leading all Chinese people to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and exploring effective ways to realize the noble ambition under changing domestic and international situation.



On September 21, 1949, Mao Zedong delivers an opening speech at the 1<sup>st</sup> Plenary Session of the CPPCC.



To respond to the Cold War, on one hand, the CPC has insisted on Peaceful Diplomacy to make friends worldwide and unremitting efforts in boosting world peace and humankind progress. On the other hand, the CPC has struggled with and won victories over powerful enemies to safeguard the territorial sovereignty and national core benefits, and improved its international reputation. From then on, Chinese people have started to independently explore the road toward national prosperity. However, for a rather long period, some leaders of the CPC had believed that the World War III would take place sooner or later and the socialism would gain new development after the war based on historical experience. Thus, a great deal of human and material resources was invested to cope with the possible war threat, which restricted the country's development and national rejuvenation to a great degree.

With the change of world situation, especially the fundamental adjustment of relationships between China and the U.S., and between China and Japan, the CPC had gradually changed the previous views and strived to delay the occurrence of a world war for more time in economic development. Then, the CPC made the following judgment: "Peace and development are the two outstanding issues in the world today." In March 1985, in his conversation with a foreign friend, Deng Xiaoping said the Party and government's new views to global situation, "although there is still the danger of war, the forces that can deter it are growing, and we find that encouraging." "The two really great issues confronting the world today, issues of global strategic significance, are: first, peace, and second, economic development. The first involves East-West relations, while the second involves North-South relations. In short, countries in the East, West, North and South are all involved, but the North-South relations are the key question." When the Cold War ended, the CPC still insists on Deng's judgment on world situation in 1980s. In September 1997, in the 15<sup>th</sup> CPC Congress, Jiang Zemin emphasized, "international situation moves toward relaxation in general, and peace and development are the two outstanding issues in the world today." After entering the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the CPC continued the view. In November





2012, at the 18<sup>th</sup> CPC Congress, Hu Jintao pointed out once again, “the world is experiencing profound and complicated changes, but peace and development are still the themes of the times.” Of course, over the past thirty years, the CPC has never desolated precaution against forces jeopardizing world peace and believed that the more prosperous China is, the more peaceful the world will be. The judgment or recognition to the world situation offers basis for carving the road toward and defining the steps for the rejuvenation of Chinese nation at the new period.

While making scientific judgment to international situation, the CPC’s recognition to the fundamental realities of the country to realize national



In April 1974, Deng Xiaoping led the Delegation of China to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Special Session of the UN General Assembly. In the picture Deng is elaborating the principles of China on foreign relations.