

"Just five years ago, most of us were China optimists. We thought that economic freedom would eventually lead to political liberalisation too... China as getting more like us. That all seemed perfectly reasonable then, but looks like wishful thinking now."

Tony Abbot, Weekend Australian, 1 May 2021

WHAT HAS CHANGED ? WHAT IS GOING ON IN CHINA?

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WHAT IS GOING ON IN CHINA?



- * How do the Chinese people think?
- * Foundation of the PRC & the dictatorship of the CPC
- * The legacy of DENG XiaoPing
- * Xi Jinping – the new Emperor of China
- * What happens next?

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How do the Chinese people think ?

"We have different thinking ways"

Please and thank you

I don't care

Appointments & commitments

Everything is dependent on relationships

The Five Relationships (五倫)

father-son, ruler-subject, husband-wife, friend-friend, and elder-younger

Brothers, sisters and Cousins – family comes first

Gift up, not Down

Professor Terry

'One Under Heaven' – Tianxia (天下) (Hero)

China = Zhōng Guó = Middle Kingdom

Centre of the Earth

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QUICK HISTORY OF CHINA

1750 – China limits foreign trade to Canton – they need nothing
 1793 – Lord Macartney refuses to bow to the Emperor – refused audience. China affirms Tianxia philosophy
 1839 – First Opium war – British Government survives by 5 votes
 1856/60 – Second Opium War; 1860 – burning of the Summer Palace
 1851 / 1865 – Taiping Rebellion – between 25 and 70 million died. Qing Dynasty loses the 'mandate of heaven'.
 1861/1908 – Empress Dowager Xianfeng rules China (1893 – Marble Boat)
 1911 – Revolution headed by Sun Yat-sen – Qing Dynasty Falls
 1911 – Sun Yat-sen steps down from the presidency, hoping to avoid civil war – the era of the War Lords begins
 1923 – Sun Yat-sen tries to unite Communists and KMT
 1925 – Sun Yat-sen dies of cancer – Chiang Kai-shek takes over KMT (Young Officers)
 1927 – Chiang Kai-shek splits from Communists – civil war begins

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QUICK HISTORY OF CHINA

1949 – Communists win civil war – PRC Established – KMT Flees to Taiwan
 1965 – Mao's health in decline – power struggle results in 'Cultural Revolution' led by the 'Gang of Four'
 1971 – LIN Biao dies in a 'plane crash' – power struggle continues
 1976 – Mao dies
 1978 – DENG XiaoPing wins the power struggle, becomes General Secretary of CPC, starts economic reforms
 1979 – Sino/Vietnamese War – military reforms instituted
 1989 – TianAnMen massacre (200K troops; 10,000 students)
 1989 – Deng takes charge, installs JIANG ZeMin
 1992 – Deng becomes 'Paramount Leader' – installs HU Jintao
 2010 – Xi Jinping takes over
 2018 – Xi Jinping abolishes term limits on Presidency (1982/2018)

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HOW DOES THE CPC REGIME SURVIVE?

Strong moral/economic legitimacy after the revolution
 Restored national pride after a century of humiliation
 Implemented an 'Iron Ricebowl'
 BUT Disasters with:

The 'Great Leap Forward'

The 'Cultural Revolution'

Death of Zhou Enlai provoked economic backlash

Deng's reforms promised that 'Your Children will have a better life' – 5% growth essential

Then: Tian An Menh

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DENG Xiaoping

Fundamentally a 'rightist'
Purged twice during the Cultural Revolution, son tortured and crippled
Spent 1969-73 in a tractor factory
1976 Purged again after death of ZHOU En Lai
1978 - Became General Secretary of CPC
1989 - TianAnMen massacre - 200K troops kill 10,000 students
Purged again after TianAnMen (1989)
A political genius who outmanoeuvred his opponents in 1989 and became 'Paramount Leader' in 1992
Died 1997



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THE LEGACY OF DENG XIAO PING

It doesn't matter if it is a black cat or a white cat, so long as it catches mice

Instituted a system of term limitations for leadership positions and separation of the positions of CCP General Secretary, President and Military Commander to ensure the peaceful transition of power - a world first for an absolute dictatorship?

Not a democrat - perhaps a traditional Chinese warlord, but also possibly a true patriot

Maybe he and Chiang Kai-shek had a lot in common?

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Xi Jin-ping

Son of a high ranking Party official whose family was purged when he was 10 years old
Sister committed suicide during Cultural Revolution, father spent 12 years in labor camps & prisons
Finally admitted to Tsinghua University and earned degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Doctorate in Law and Marxist theory and ideology
A 'Princeling'
Battled for years to be granted CPC membership
Kept his 'nose clean' by toeing the Party Line and gradually rose through the CPC Ranks



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Xi Jin-ping in Power

Succession to the leadership was threatened by BO Xi-lai until XI had his wife arrested for murder and BO disappeared after allegations of corruption.

Immediately on accession to power as General Secretary of the CPC instituted a massive 'drive against corruption' resulting in 'the biggest purge since the time of Mao'.

Established the *National Supervision Commission*, that is ranked higher than the Supreme Peoples Court, allegedly to wipe out corruption.

'Coincidentally' most of the 400,000 purged for corruption happened to be opponents of Xi Jin-ping
Instituted a cult of personality
Can't stand criticism



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Xi Jin-ping - Policies

Consolidated power over the Party, Government & Military in his hands - the first time since Mao
Reasserted the place of China in the world under the Tanxia philosophy as the 'China Dream'
Instituted the 'Belt and Road' economic initiative in 2013

Rejects the Sovereignty of the World Court, the Haigh Permanent Court of Arbitration or any international supervisory body

Asserts that Taiwan will be absorbed into the PRC, if necessary by force

Adopting a 'salami slicing' policy in dealing with its neighbors

India perceived as the major 'local' threat

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The '9 Dash Line'



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PRC Militarisation of the South China Sea



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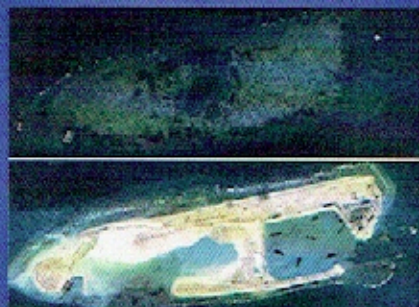
Fiery Cross Reef



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Fiery Cross Reef

2006
High
Tide



2010



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2015

Fiery Cross Reef



2018



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Meanwhile at Whitsun Reef



220 Chinese fishing boats anchored at Whitsun Reef in the second week of March 2021: 'They do not appear to be fishing and are crewed by China's Maritime Militia'

The Guardian, 22 March 2021

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Meanwhile at Whitsun Reef



"When Xi says 'I will fish,' who can prevent him?" Philippines President Duterte said two years ago, referring to Chinese President Xi Jinping.

"If I send my marines to drive away the Chinese fishermen, I guarantee you not one of them will come home alive."

The Guardian, 22 March 2021

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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The CPC is at war with Australia (and the rest of the world)

It aims to ensure that all nations acknowledge its hegemony over Asia and leading role in the World
This war is currently being conducted as an asymmetric conflict using trade, bribery, blackmail, hacking, thuggery and 'salami slicing'

Q: When will the shooting start?

A: When China thinks it can win an armed conflict

Estimated chances of the shooting starting:

By 1 Jan 2022: 25% (up from 20% 6 months ago)

By 1 Jan 2028: 95% (up from 90% 6 months ago)

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DONG SHA ISLAND



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