

China

April 13 - 23, 2012



Dear Team Member,

Welcome to the wonderful world of Short Term Missions! You are about to embark on an amazing journey that will, if you allow the Holy Spirit to have his way in your life, change you forever. **Thanks for considering being part of our April 13th - 23rd , 2012 Mission Trip to China.** We've put together this packet for you, and it is important that you review all of the information carefully. **If you have any questions, please contact Cari Arnold at 309/732-0026 or email Cari.Arnold@heritageqc.com.**

Purpose of this trip:

Continue construction and rebuilding at the seminary and children's home.
Encouraging the seminary students and orphans

Trip Requirements:

Team members are needed with medical experience and/or willing to minister to the elderly and children who are unwanted.

Team Leader

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Dale Howard has a B.S. in Religion from Liberty University and an MBA from Ambrose University. He is currently on staff at Heritage Church. Dale has been to China 4 previous times. Dale's mission trip experience includes: India, Nepal, Haiti and Zambia. He is married to Marie, with two daughters. Dale loves to go to

Passport

other countries, meet people and be of service to them.

A passport is required. Contact your local Post Office or Passport Facility. You will need to make an appointment to obtain a passport for the first time.

For information: http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_830.html

Trip Expenses

The trip expenses are estimated to be **\$2200 - \$2500** and will include your airfare, visas (if needed), exit fees (if needed), ground transportation, lodging, meals, overseas health insurance, and miscellaneous. You will need to bring your own spending money for personal gifts/items.

Travel Guidance

Details on what to bring such as clothing, personal property and specific travel guidelines will be provided in the team training meetings prior to your trip. Team leaders will gather information from previous teams, local conditions in **China** and consultation with the Consular in the US Department of State to provide detailed travel instructions to team members.

US Consular Information Sheet: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1089.html

Checklist

Requirements Checklist

Approximate Trip Cost: **\$2200 - \$2500**

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|---|----------------------------------|
| ___ Apply for Passport | Immediately |
| ___ *\$100 Non-Refundable Deposit (check payable to Heritage Church) | (Due by 1/13/12with application) |
| ___ Application Form | 1/13/12 |
| ___ Disclaimer | With application |
| ___ Release of Liability | With application |
| ___ Immunization Agreement | With application |
| ___ Team Member Covenant | With application |
| ___ 2 copies of passport (photos & signature page) | With application |
| ___ 1st Payment: \$1000 (check/s payable to Heritage Church) | 3/13/12 |
| ___ 2nd Payment: \$1100-\$1400 (approx.) (check/s payable to Heritage Church) | 4/3/12 |

Please return completed applications and check for deposit to:

Cari Arnold, Outreach Department

Heritage Church

4801 44th St.

Rock Island, IL 61201

*(deposit will be refunded if applicant is not chosen to be part of the team)

Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name on Passport _____
(as it appears on passport/full legal name)

Social Security _____ Date of Birth _____

Passport Number _____ Place of Issue _____

Date of Expiration _____ Country of Citizenship _____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name/Relationship _____

Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Email Address _____

TRIP FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING

Date April 13th -April 23rd, 2012 Location China

Primary means by which you plan to finance the trip: ___ Personal ___ Raise Support

Past Mission Trip Experience

| Year | Location |
|-------|----------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Other Ministry Experience: _____

Have you given to Faith Promise at Heritage this year? ___ Yes ___ No

Are you a member of Heritage Church? ___ Yes ___ No

Are you a regular attender at Heritage Church? ___ Yes ___ No

How often do you attend? _____

Why do you want to participate on this trip? _____

How would you like to grow personally from this trip? _____

SPIRITUAL GROWTH ASSESSMENT

Briefly describe how you came to know Jesus Christ as your Savior? _____

How have you grown in your relationship with Christ in the past year? _____

What are your Spiritual Gifts? _____

I understand that by completing and turning in this application that I am applying to be a member for the above stated mission trip. Completion of this application does not guarantee my acceptance as a member of the mission team for which I am applying. I further understand that I may be required to go through a personal interview with the mission trip leader(s) as part of the application process.

Signature of Participant

Date

*******Disclaimer*******

- _____1) Submission of application does not guarantee you will be going on a trip.
- _____2) I understand I am expected to attend **all** team meetings.
- _____3) A copy of my support letter must be submitted to the team leader no less than four weeks before departure (six weeks is preferable).
- _____4) All funds submitted are at the discretion of the Global Outreach Department of Heritage Church. According to IRS tax laws, no funds may be designated for a particular individual. In the event that your fund raising efforts have exceeded your portion of the trip cost or you decide to cancel going on the trip, there are two options:
- a) Funds will be designated for another short-term volunteer going on the same mission trip that still needs assistance to raise their portion. In the event that every person has fulfilled their portion, funds will go to the particular ministry that the current trip is assisting. No funds will carry over to another trip and cannot be designated for another short term volunteer going on a different trip.
 - b) Funds will be reallocated to the general Faith Promise fund.
- _____5) Any requests for financial assistance must be submitted in writing, using the form available in the Global Outreach Department, no later than three days before trip departure.
- _____6) I understand I am responsible to pay for the full amount of the individual's portion (airplane ticket and any other expenses that Heritage Church invested) of the trip **prior** to the trip departure. Failure to do so will result in denial of participation in future trips.

By initialing each box above, I indicate that I understand and agree to adhere to all requirements of the Heritage Global Outreach Department.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Release of Liability

I. MINORS (To be filled out by the parent or legal guardian of individuals under the age of 18)

I, _____ the parent/legal guardian of _____, (here after referred to as "minor") a minor, hereby acknowledge that said minor is presently under my care and custody. I hereby give said minor permission to go to and participate in activities with Heritage Church, Rock Island, Illinois (here after referred to as "church").

In the event of an emergency, necessitating medical or surgical attention, I hereby consent and give my permission to the church, its' representatives, or trip leaders to make decisions to perform such medical treatments and/or surgery upon said minor which may in their sole discretion be necessary and proper under the circumstances.

I, the undersigned parent/legal guardian of said minor do release, acquit, discharge, and covenant to hold harmless the church, its' representatives, or trip leaders from any and all actions, damages, and/or liabilities arising out of any accident or sickness, or treatment thereof, incurred by said minor during activities with the church.

Signature of Participant

Date

II. ADULTS (To be completed by those 18 years of age and older).

I, the undersigned, am 18 years of age or older. I have read the above waiver of minors and do agree to the same terms and conditions as stated. I do hereby release, acquit, discharge, and covenant to hold harmless Heritage Church, Rock Island, Illinois, its' representatives, or trip leaders from any and all actions, damages, and or liabilities arising out of any accident or sickness, or treatment thereof, incurred by me while involved in activities with the church.

Signature of Participant

Date

Immunization Agreement

In the interest of providing adequate information to all volunteers, Heritage Church strongly encourages you to consult with your physician or Passport Health at least 3 months prior to your planned travel.

TETANUS: Booster at 10 years or injury.

TYPHOID: Every 3 years intradermally.

ORAL POLIO: Every 10 years.

HEPATITIS A: 2 shot series, 6-12 months apart.

HEPATITIS B: 3 shot series—get first shot, one month later get 2nd, 6-18 months later get 3rd.

MALARIA: Consult your medical provider.

I have reviewed the recommended immunizations above, have consulted with my physician or Passport Health concerning the necessary precautions, have complied with the recommendations of my physician or Passport Health and agree to assume all risks regarding immunizations.

Signature of Participant

Date

Additional information: Some of the immunizations require a series of shots that can take several months for full protection. Recommended travel medical specialists:

- Passport Health @ 309-757-1252, 515 Valley View Drive, Suite 103, Moline, IL 61265
- More detailed information can be found at the Centers for Disease Control:
<http://www.cdc.gov/travel>

Team Member Covenant

Name _____ Country of Service China
Date of Trip April 13th – April 23rd, 2012 Trip Leader Dale Howard

As a volunteer with Heritage Church, I agree to pay all costs related to my trip such as immunizations, travel, food, lodging and miscellaneous costs, and to serve without payment.

I will be responsive to the counsel and suggestions of the Mission Team Leader(s) and abide by the standards of conduct and ethics of the above named field and the policies of Heritage Church.

I will abstain from any form of conduct unbecoming to a Christ-like example. I agree to abstain from the use of any form of tobacco, alcohol or drugs.

I will not hold Heritage Church and any of their departments, segments, officers, agents and employees responsible for any accident, injury, or illness resulting from my visit to the field nor for the loss of or damage to personal property while on this assignment and will indemnify and hold harmless Heritage Church from and against any and all liability occasioned by my service.

I affirm that Heritage Church has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds, and reserves the right to redirect funds designated for my ministry in the event that my ministry is over-funded to assist other team members or the trip in general. I understand, and will explain to potential donors at the point of solicitation of funds, that surplus funds will not be returned to the donor or me.

In addition, I agree to comply with any specific regulations and rules of conduct pertaining to the field where I will be serving.

I realize that these guidelines have been created for my safety and in accordance with the policies of Heritage Church and the field in question. I understand that any violation of this agreement may result in the termination of my service and that I will be personally responsible for any expenses related to my return to my home and related financial commitments.

Signature of Participant

Date

Approval

Date

China Profile

GEOGRAPHY

Area: 9,596,961 sq. km. (about 3.7 million sq. mi.).

Cities: *Capital*--Beijing. *Other major cities*--Shanghai, Tianjin, Shenyang, Wuhan, Guangzhou, Chongqing, Harbin, Chengdu.

Terrain: Plains, deltas, and hills in east; mountains, high plateaus, deserts in west.

Climate: Tropical in south to subarctic in north.



PEOPLE

Nationality: *Noun and adjective*--Chinese (singular and plural).

Population (July 2010 est.): 1,330,141,295.

Population growth rate (2010 est.): 0.494%.

Health (2010 est.): *Infant mortality rate*--16.51 deaths/1,000 live births. *Life expectancy*--74.51 years (overall); 72.54 years for males, 76.77 years for females.

Ethnic groups (2000 census): Han Chinese 91.5%; Zhuang, Manchu, Hui, Miao, Uyghur, Tujia, Yi, Mongol, Tibetan, Buyi, Dong, Yao, Korean, and other nationalities 8.5%.

Religions: Officially atheist; Daoist (Taoist), Buddhist, Christian 3%-4%, Muslim 1%-2%.

Language: Mandarin (Putonghua), plus many local dialects.

Education: *Years compulsory*--9. *Literacy*--93%.

Labor force (2009 est.): 812.7 million. Labor force by occupation (2008 est.): *Agriculture and forestry*--39.5%, *industry*--27.2%, *services*--33.2%.

GOVERNMENT

Type: Communist party-led state.

Constitution: December 4, 1982; revised several times, most recently in 2004.

Independence: Unification under the Qin (Ch'in) Dynasty 221 BC; Qing (Ch'ing or Manchu) Dynasty replaced by a republic on February 12, 1912; People's Republic established October 1, 1949.

Branches: *Executive*--president, vice president, State Council, premier. *Legislative*--unicameral National People's Congress. *Judicial*--Supreme People's Court.

Administrative divisions: 23 provinces (the P.R.C. considers Taiwan to be its 23rd province); 5 autonomous regions, including Tibet; 5 municipalities directly under the State Council.

Political parties: Chinese Communist Party, 76 million members; 8 minor parties under Communist Party supervision.

ECONOMY

GDP (2009): \$4.814 trillion (exchange rate-based).

Per capita GDP (2009): \$3,678 (exchange rate-based).

GDP real growth rate (2009): 8.7%.

Natural resources: Coal, iron ore, petroleum, natural gas, mercury, tin, tungsten, antimony, manganese, molybdenum, vanadium, magnetite, aluminum, lead, zinc, uranium, hydropower potential (world's largest).

Agriculture: Products—Among the world's largest producers of rice, wheat, potatoes, corn, peanuts, tea, millet, barley; commercial crops include cotton, other fibers, apples, oilseeds, pork and fish; produces variety of livestock products.

Industry: Types—mining and ore processing, iron, steel, aluminum, and other metals, coal; machine building; armaments; textiles and apparel; petroleum; cement; chemicals; fertilizers; consumer products, including footwear, toys, and electronics; food processing; transportation equipment, including automobiles, rail cars and locomotives, ships, and aircraft; telecommunications equipment, commercial space launch vehicles, satellites.

Trade: Exports (2009)--\$1.194 trillion: electrical and other machinery, including data processing equipment, apparel, textiles, iron and steel, optical and medical equipment. *Main partners (2008)*--United States 17.7%, Hong Kong 13.3%, Japan 8.1%, South Korea 5.2%, Germany 4.1%. *Imports (2009)*--\$921.5 billion: electrical and other machinery, oil and mineral fuels, optical and medical equipment, metal ores, plastics, organic chemicals. *Main partners (2008)*--Japan 13.3%, South Korea 9.9%, Taiwan 9.2%, U.S. 7.2%, Germany 4.9%.

HISTORY

Dynastic Period

China is the oldest continuous major world civilization, with records dating back about 3,500 years. Successive dynasties developed a system of bureaucratic control that gave the agrarian-based Chinese an advantage over neighboring nomadic and hill cultures. Chinese civilization was further strengthened by the development of a Confucian state ideology and a common written language that bridged the gaps among the country's many local languages and dialects. Whenever China was conquered by nomadic tribes, as it was by the Mongols in the 13th century, the conquerors sooner or later adopted the ways of the "higher" Chinese civilization and staffed the bureaucracy with Chinese.

The last dynasty was established in 1644, when the Manchus overthrew the native Ming dynasty and established the Qing (Ch'ing) dynasty with Beijing as its capital. At great expense in blood and treasure, the Manchus over the next half century gained control of many border areas, including Xinjiang, Yunnan, Tibet, Mongolia, and Taiwan. The success of the early Qing period was based on the combination of Manchu martial prowess and traditional Chinese bureaucratic skills.

During the 19th century, Qing control weakened, and prosperity diminished. China suffered massive social strife, economic stagnation, explosive population growth, and Western penetration and influence. The Taiping and Nian rebellions, along with a Russian-supported Muslim separatist movement in Xinjiang, drained Chinese resources and almost toppled the dynasty. Britain's desire to continue its illegal opium trade with China collided with imperial edicts prohibiting the addictive drug, and the First Opium War erupted in 1840. China lost the war; subsequently, Britain and other Western powers, including the United States, forcibly occupied "concessions" and gained special commercial privileges. Hong Kong was ceded to Britain in 1842 under the Treaty of Nanking, and in 1898, when the Opium Wars finally ended, Britain executed a 99-year lease of the New Territories, significantly expanding the size of the Hong Kong colony.

As time went on, the Western powers, wielding superior military technology, gained more economic and political privileges. Reformist Chinese officials argued for the adoption of Western technology to strengthen the dynasty and counter Western advances, but the Qing court played down both the Western threat and the benefits of Western technology.

Early 20th Century China

Frustrated by the Qing court's resistance to reform, young officials, military officers, and students--inspired by the revolutionary ideas of Sun Yat-sen--began to advocate the overthrow of the Qing dynasty and creation of a republic. A revolutionary military uprising on October 10, 1911, led to the abdication of the last Qing monarch. As part of a compromise to overthrow the dynasty without a civil war, the revolutionaries and reformers allowed high Qing officials to retain prominent positions in the new republic. One of these figures, Gen. Yuan Shikai, was chosen as the republic's first president. Before his death in 1916, Yuan unsuccessfully attempted to name himself emperor. His death left the republican government all but shattered, ushering in the era of the "warlords" during which China was ruled and ravaged by shifting coalitions of competing provincial military leaders.

In the 1920s, Sun Yat-sen established a revolutionary base in south China and set out to unite the fragmented nation. With Soviet assistance, he organized the Kuomintang (KMT or "Chinese Nationalist People's Party"), and entered into an alliance with the fledgling Chinese Communist Party (CCP). After Sun's death in 1925, one of his proteges, Chiang Kai-shek, seized control of the KMT and succeeded in bringing most of south and central China under its rule. In 1927, Chiang turned on the CCP and executed many of its leaders. The remnants fled into the mountains of eastern China. In 1934, driven out of their mountain bases, the CCP's forces embarked on a "Long March" across some of China's most desolate terrain to the northwestern province of Shaanxi, where they established a guerrilla base at Yan'an.

During the "Long March," the communists reorganized under a new leader, Mao Zedong (Mao Tse-tung). The bitter struggle between the KMT and the CCP continued openly or clandestinely through the 14-year long Japanese invasion (1931-45), even though the two parties nominally formed a united front to oppose the Japanese invaders in 1937. The war between the two parties resumed after the Japanese defeat in 1945. By 1949, the CCP occupied most of the country.

Chiang Kai-shek fled with the remnants of his KMT government and military forces to Taiwan, where he proclaimed Taipei to be China's "provisional capital" and vowed to re-conquer the Chinese mainland. Taiwan still calls itself the "Republic of China."

The People's Republic of China

In Beijing, on October 1, 1949, Mao Zedong proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China (P.R.C.). The new government assumed control of a people exhausted by two generations of war and social conflict, and an economy ravaged by high inflation and disrupted transportation links. A new political and economic order modeled on the Soviet example was quickly installed.

In the early 1950s, China undertook a massive economic and social reconstruction program. The new leaders gained popular support by curbing inflation, restoring the economy, and rebuilding many war-damaged industrial plants. The CCP's authority reached into almost every aspect of Chinese life. Party control was assured by large, politically loyal security and military forces; a government apparatus responsive to party direction; and the placement of party members into leadership positions in labor, women's, and other mass organizations.

The "Great Leap Forward" and the Sino-Soviet Split

In 1958, Mao broke with the Soviet model and announced a new economic program, the "Great Leap Forward," aimed at rapidly raising industrial and agricultural production. Giant cooperatives (communes) were formed, and "backyard factories" dotted the Chinese landscape. The results were disastrous. Normal market mechanisms were disrupted, agricultural production fell behind, and China's people exhausted themselves producing what turned out to be shoddy, unsalable goods. Within a year, starvation appeared even in fertile agricultural areas. From 1960 to 1961, the combination of poor planning during the Great Leap Forward and bad weather resulted in one of the deadliest famines in human history.

The already strained Sino-Soviet relationship deteriorated sharply in 1959, when the Soviets started to restrict the flow of scientific and technological information to China. The dispute escalated, and the Soviets withdrew all of their personnel from China in August 1960. In 1960, the Soviets and the Chinese began to have disputes openly in international forums.

The Cultural Revolution

In the early 1960s, State President Liu Shaoqi and his protege, Party General Secretary Deng Xiaoping, took over direction of the party and adopted pragmatic economic policies at odds with Mao's revolutionary vision. Dissatisfied with China's new direction and his own reduced authority, Party Chairman Mao launched a massive political attack on Liu, Deng, and other pragmatists in the spring of 1966. The new movement, the "Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution," was unprecedented in communist history. For the first time, a section of the Chinese communist leadership sought to rally popular opposition against another leadership group. China was set on a course of political and social anarchy that lasted the better part of a decade.

In the early stages of the Cultural Revolution, Mao and his "closest comrade in arms," National Defense Minister Lin Biao, charged Liu, Deng, and other top party leaders with dragging China back toward capitalism. Radical youth organizations, called Red Guards, attacked party and state organizations at all levels, seeking out leaders who would not bend to the radical wind. In reaction to this turmoil, some local People's Liberation Army (PLA) commanders and other officials maneuvered to outwardly back Mao and the radicals while actually taking steps to rein in local radical activity.

Gradually, Red Guard and other radical activity subsided, and the Chinese political situation stabilized along complex factional lines. The leadership conflict came to a head in September 1971, when Party Vice Chairman and Defense Minister Lin Biao reportedly tried to stage a coup against Mao; Lin Biao allegedly later died in a plane crash in Mongolia.

In the aftermath of the Lin Biao incident, many officials criticized and dismissed during 1966-69 were reinstated. Chief among these was Deng Xiaoping, who reemerged in 1973 and was confirmed in 1975 in the concurrent posts of Party Vice Chairman, Politburo Standing Committee member, PLA Chief of Staff, and Vice Premier.

The ideological struggle between more pragmatic, veteran party officials and the radicals re-emerged with a vengeance in late 1975. Mao's wife, Jiang Qing, and three close Cultural Revolution associates (later dubbed the "Gang of Four") launched a media campaign against Deng. In January 1976, Premier Zhou Enlai, a popular political figure, died of cancer. On April 5, Beijing citizens staged a spontaneous demonstration in Tiananmen Square in Zhou's memory, with strong political overtones of support for Deng. The authorities forcibly suppressed the demonstration. Deng was blamed for the disorder and stripped of all official positions, although he retained his party membership.

The Post-Mao Era

Mao's death in September 1976 removed a towering figure from Chinese politics and set off a scramble for succession. Former Minister of Public Security Hua Guofeng was quickly confirmed as Party Chairman and Premier. A month after Mao's death, Hua, backed by the PLA, arrested Jiang Qing and other members of the "Gang of Four." After extensive deliberations, the Chinese Communist Party leadership reinstated Deng Xiaoping to all of his previous posts at the 11th Party Congress in August 1977. Deng then led the effort to place government control in the hands of veteran party officials opposed to the radical excesses of the previous two decades.

The new, pragmatic leadership emphasized economic development and renounced mass political movements. At the pivotal December 1978 Third Plenum (of the 11th Party Congress Central Committee), the leadership adopted economic reform policies aimed at expanding rural income and incentives, encouraging experiments in enterprise autonomy, reducing central planning, and attracting foreign direct investment into China. The plenum also decided to accelerate the pace of legal reform, culminating in the passage of several new legal codes by the National People's Congress in June 1979.

After 1979, the Chinese leadership moved toward more pragmatic positions in almost all fields. The party encouraged artists, writers, and journalists to adopt more critical approaches, although open attacks on party authority were not permitted. In late 1980, Mao's Cultural Revolution was officially proclaimed a catastrophe. Hua Guofeng, a protege of Mao, was replaced as premier in 1980 by reformist Sichuan party chief Zhao Ziyang and as party General Secretary in 1981 by the even more reformist Communist Youth League chairman Hu Yaobang.

Reform policies brought great improvements in the standard of living, especially for urban workers and for farmers who took advantage of opportunities to diversify crops and establish village industries. Controls on literature and the arts were relaxed, and Chinese intellectuals established extensive links with scholars in other countries.

At the same time, however, political dissent as well as social problems such as inflation, urban migration, and prostitution emerged. Although students and intellectuals urged greater reforms, some party elders increasingly questioned the pace and the ultimate goals of the reform program. In December 1986, student demonstrators, taking advantage of the loosening political atmosphere, staged protests against the slow pace of reform, confirming party elders' fear that the current reform program was leading to social instability. Hu Yaobang, a protege of Deng and a leading advocate of reform, was blamed for the protests and forced to resign as CCP General Secretary in January 1987. Premier Zhao Ziyang was made General Secretary and Li Peng, former Vice Premier and Minister of Electric Power and Water Conservancy, was made Premier.

1989 Student Movement and Tiananmen Square

After Zhao became the party General Secretary, the economic and political reforms he had championed, especially far-reaching political reforms enacted at the 13th Party Congress in the fall of 1987 and subsequent price reforms, came under increasing attack. His proposal in May 1988 to accelerate price reform led to widespread popular complaints about rampant inflation and gave opponents of rapid reform the opening to call for greater centralization of economic controls and stricter prohibitions against Western influence. This precipitated a political debate, which grew more heated through the winter of 1988-89.

The death of Hu Yaobang on April 15, 1989, coupled with growing economic hardship caused by high inflation, provided the backdrop for a large-scale protest movement by students, intellectuals, and other parts of a disaffected urban population. University students and other citizens camped out in Beijing's Tiananmen Square to mourn Hu's death and to protest against those who would slow reform. Their protests, which grew despite government efforts to contain them, called for an end to official corruption, a greater degree of democracy, and for defense of freedoms guaranteed by the Chinese constitution. Protests also spread to many other cities, including Shanghai, Chengdu, and Guangzhou.

Martial law was declared on May 20, 1989. Late on June 3 and early on the morning of June 4, military units were brought into Beijing. They used armed force to clear demonstrators from the streets. There are no official estimates of deaths in Beijing, but most observers believe that casualties numbered in the hundreds.

After June 4, while foreign governments expressed horror at the brutal suppression of the demonstrators, the central government eliminated remaining sources of organized opposition, detained large numbers of protesters, and required political reeducation not only for students but also for large numbers of party cadre and government officials. Zhao was purged at the fourth plenum of the 13th Central Committee in June and replaced as Party General Secretary by Jiang Zemin. Deng's power was curtailed as more orthodox party leaders, led by Chen Yun, became the dominant group in the leadership.

Following this resurgence of conservatives in the aftermath of June 4, economic reform slowed until given new impetus by Deng Xiaoping's return to political dominance two years later, including a dramatic visit to southern China in early 1992. Deng's renewed push for a market-oriented economy received official sanction at the 14th Party Congress later in the year as a number of younger, reform-minded leaders began their rise to top positions. Hu Jintao was elevated to the Politburo Standing Committee at the Congress. Deng and his supporters argued that managing the economy in a way that increased living standards should be China's primary policy objective, even if "capitalist" measures were adopted. Subsequent to the visit, the Communist Party Politburo publicly issued an endorsement of Deng's policies of economic openness. Though continuing to espouse political reform, China has consistently placed overwhelming priority on the opening of its economy.

Post Deng Leadership

Deng's health deteriorated in the years prior to his death in 1997. During that time, Party General Secretary and P.R.C. President Jiang Zemin and other members of his generation gradually assumed control of the day-to-day functions of government. This "third generation" leadership governed collectively with Jiang at the center.

In the fall of 1987, Jiang was re-elected Party General Secretary at the 15th Party Congress, and in March 1998 he was re-elected President during the 9th National People's Congress. Premier Li Peng was constitutionally required to step down from that post. He was elected to the chairmanship of the National People's Congress. The reform-minded pragmatist Zhu Rongji was selected to replace Li as Premier.

In November 2002, the 16th Communist Party Congress elected Hu Jintao, who in 1992 had been informally designated by Deng Xiaoping as the leading figure in the fourth generation leaders, the new General Secretary. A new Politburo and Politburo Standing Committee was also elected in November.

In March 2003, General Secretary Hu Jintao was elected President at the 10th National People's Congress. Jiang Zemin retained the chairmanship of the Central Military Commission. At the Fourth Party Plenum in September 2004, Jiang Zemin retired from the Central Military Commission, passing the Chairmanship and control of the People's Liberation Army to President Hu Jintao.

China is firmly committed to economic reform and opening to the outside world. The Chinese leadership has identified reform of state industries, the establishment of a social safety net, reduction of the income gap, protection of the environment, and development of clean energy as government priorities. Government strategies for achieving these goals include large-scale privatization of unprofitable state-owned enterprises, development of a pension system for workers, establishment of an effective and affordable health care system, building environmental requirements into cadre promotion criteria, and increasing rural incomes to allow for a greater role for domestic demand in driving economic growth. The leadership has also downsized the government bureaucracy.

The Chinese Communist Party's 17th Party Congress, held in October 2007, saw the elevation of key "fifth generation" leaders to the Politburo and Standing Committee, including Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, Li Yuanchao, and Wang Yang. At the National People's Congress plenary held in March 2008, Xi was elected Vice President of the government, and Li Keqiang was elected Vice Premier.



Additional information on China may be found online at:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| US State | http://www.state.gov/p/eap/ci/ch/r/pa/ei/bgn/18902.htm |
| CIA | https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ch.html |
| BBC Profile | http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/country_profiles/1287798.stm |
| World Hope | https://www.worldhope.org/ |
| China | http://beijing.usembassy-china.org.cn/ |

