



Charhar Newsletter

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On Nov.30th, *Strengthening Understanding Through Dialogue---A Peacebuilding Approach to the Korean Peninsula Conflict* Report Launch was witnessed by a group of Chinese and Cambodian experts on North Korea. **Zhang Guobin**, secretary-general of the Charhar Institute, was the host. **Yu Hongjun**, member of the International Advisory Committee, pointed out that North Korea has already taken the pulses of great powers, and has found the Achilles' heel of great powers. **Jia Qingguo**, professor and dean of School of International Relations of Peking University, argued that all plans should be put on the table and North Korea should reconsider the choice the international society had given it. **Emma Lesley**, an Australia-born who was in Pyongyang and director of Cambodia-based think-tank, Center for Peace & Conflict Studies, believed that outsiders underestimated North Korea and its people's love for the country.



On Nov.28th, 3rd International Seminar on Human Rights and Museology was held in Nanjing. The seminar was cosponsored by China Foundation for Human Rights Development, Chinese Museums Association, and Jiangsu International Culture Association. **Wang Guoqing**, member of International Advisory Committee and chairperson of International Communication Committee, and **Zhang Guobin** gave remarks at the seminar.



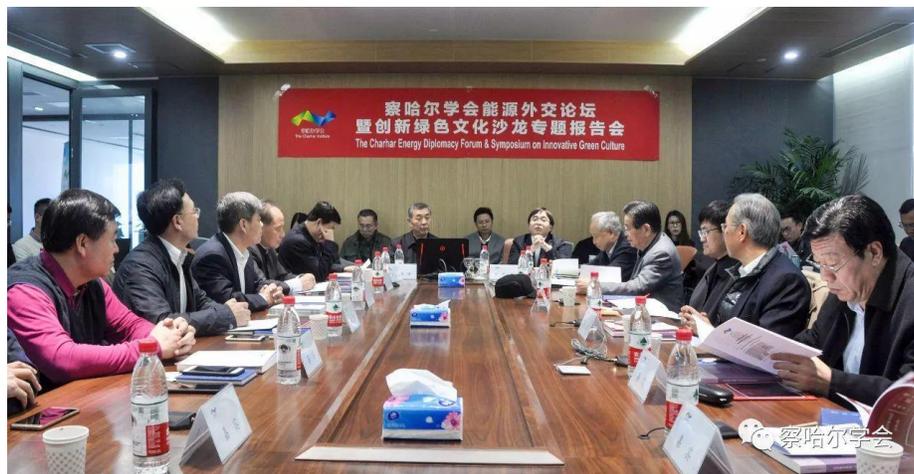
On Nov.27th, **Dr Han Fangming**, chairman of the Charhar Institute and vice chairperson of Committee of Foreign Affairs of the CPPCC National Committee, was declared an honorary citizen of the Incheon Metropolitan City, in the presence of **Yoo Jung-bok**, mayor of the Incheon Metropolitan City, and **Qiu Guohong**, Chinese ambassador to South Korea.



On Nov.27th, 10th National International Relations and International Politics Ph.D Student Scholarship Forum, a two-day forum jointly organized by the Charhar Institute, Peking University College of International Relations, and *Journal of International Politics*, was held in Peking University. The topic of this forum was “International Relations Theory: Cutting-edge Problems and New Ways”. **Wang Yizhou**, vice dean of School of International Relations of Peking University, and **Long Xingchun**, secretary-general of Himalaya Regional Research Center, spoke on the opening ceremony. Scholars and Ph.D students in the field from Peking University, Renmin University of China, Fudan University and other universities attended the forum. **Cai Jing**, director of journalism and public affairs at the Charhar Institute mentioned that in the future there will be more cooperation in sharing talents between the Institute and universities.



On Nov.26th, **Han Fangming** remarked at the 2017 Future Consensus Forum held in Incheon, South Korea. A Japanese representative said: “China’s hegemony will be a new problem. It is a threat to Northeast Asia.” Dr Han retorted by arguing that China’s emergence is a peaceful emergence. He recommended that China and South Korea remain true to their original aspiration, build the sense of community of common destiny, and lock a common and shared security target.



On Nov.26th, jointly organized by the Charhar Institute and Innovative Green and Learning Culture Salon, the Charhar Energy Diplomacy Forum & Symposium on Innovative Green Culture took place at the Charhar Institute’s BIT office. **Li Junfeng** lectured on China-US Relations and the structure of energy. **Wu Sike**, secretary-general of Energy Diplomacy Research Center, former Chinese ambassador to Saudi Arabia and former Chinese envoy on Middle East affairs, pointed out that energy is the foundation of a nation and the cornerstone of economic development. Founder of Innovative Green and Learning Culture Salon said that we are experiencing a new industrial revolution and it is important to deploy energy diplomacy. **Lv Fengding**, co-chairman of International Advisory Committee concluded the symposium.



On Nov.21st, by invitation, **Zhang Guobin** and **Zhao Xinli** took part in 1st Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network Forum. At the forum, **Song Tao**, minister of the International Department of Central Committee of CPC, read President Xi Jinping's congratulation letter to the audience. **Antonio Guterres**, secretary -general of the United Nations, also sent a congratulation letter. Former prime minister of Egypt and former prime minister of Romania gave out speeches, addressing the importance of the Belt and Road Initiative.



On Nov. 21st, **Zhang Guobin** lectured at Peking University. The title of his lecture was "Big Country Diplomacy and International Etiquette under the Belt and Road Initiative". A diplomat who spent decades in France, Mr Zhang said the key factor of big country diplomacy was confidence, and China needed to show humbleness. To summarize, Mr Zhang said a big part of diplomacy was wisdom often displayed in humor.



On Nov.21st, president of the Republic of Panama **Juan Carlos Varela**, met with **Yu Xi**, senior fellow at the Charhar Institute, in Shanghai. Yu Xi gave President Varela his new books *A Date with Panama* and *Hello Panama*. President Varela praised Mr Yu for his contribution to China-Panama relations, and regarded Mr Yu's works as a surprise in his trip to China.



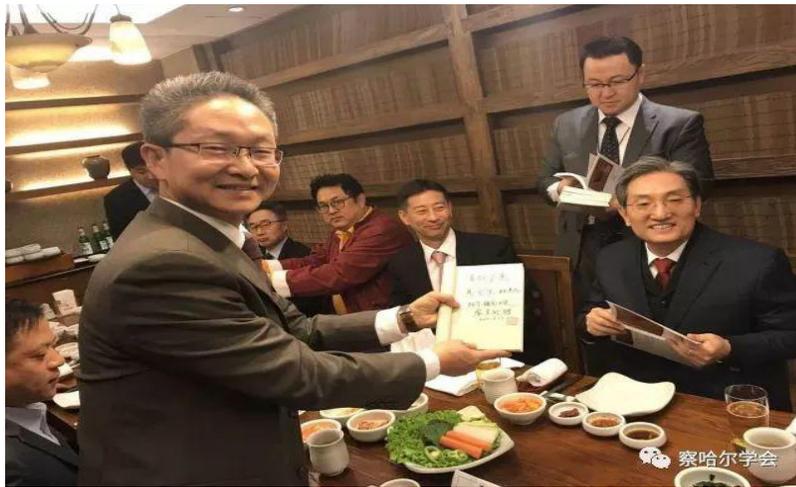
On Nov.21st, representatives from Consulate General of the United States in Shanghai visited the Charhar Institute's Shanghai office, and exchanged opinions on China-U.S relations under Trump administration and new development of Asia-Pacific international relations with research fellows at the Charhar Institute. Consul **Nancy Leou** expressed her wish to seek cooperation.



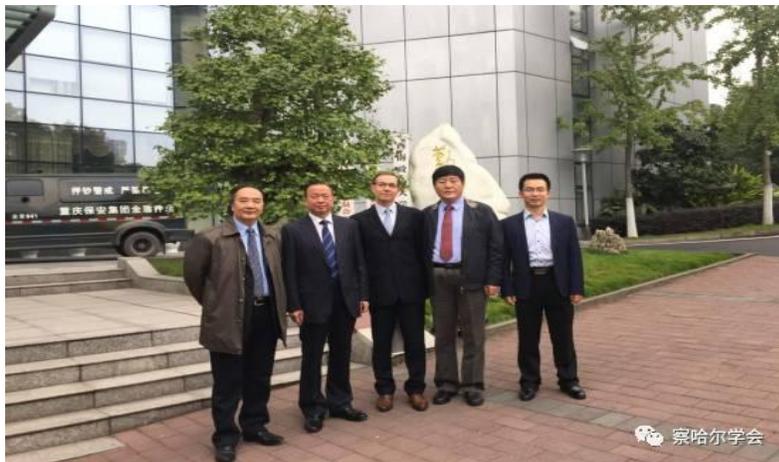
On Nov. 19th, the Charhar Institute's Shanghai Public Diplomacy Salon "China's Opportunity in India's Reform and Economic Development" was held in Shanghai. **Zhang Guobin**, secretary general of the Charhar Institute gave opening remarks followed by **Long Xingchun's** lecture. Mr Zhang reviewed the Charhar Institute's commitment in recent years in the field of international relation. Mr Long believed that India faced the problems of land reform, corruption, and cost problem of infrastructure construction. Business executive **Shi Lei** reckoned that India will finally become an industrialized country.



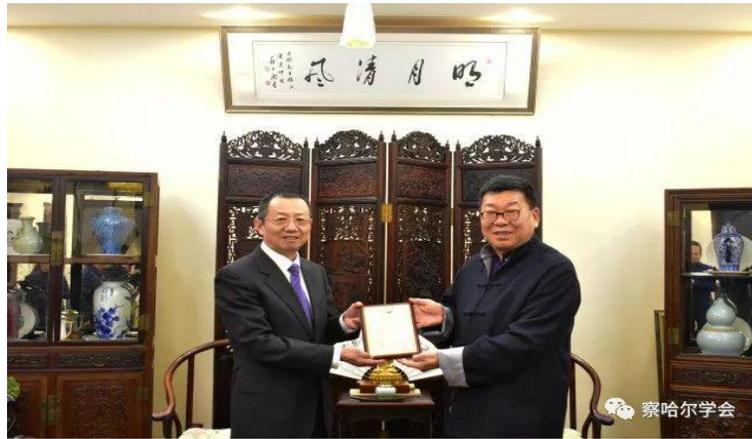
On Nov.18th, General **Han Gi-ho**, president of Korea Youth Association and former member of the National Assembly of South Korea, became member of International Advisory Committee of the Charhar Institute.



On Nov.17th, **H.E.Noh Young-min**, South Korean ambassador to China, had lunch with members of Power Bloggers who visited South Korea. Mr Noh said that, he would like to see similar events in the future that help spread South Korea's national image that was appropriate to the normalization of China-South Korea relations to Chinese people. **Ma Wensheng**, deputy secretary-general of the Charhar Institute, gave remarks.



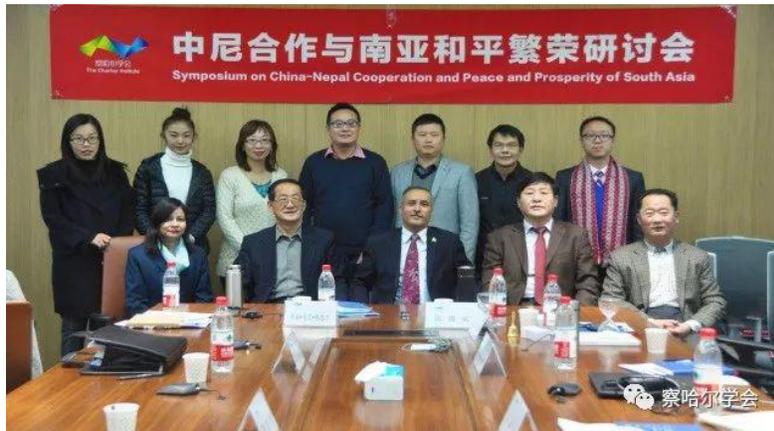
On Nov.17th, **Zhang Guobin** and **Prof. Christian Mestre**, senior fellow at the Charhar Institute and honorary dean of University of Strasbourg law school, were hired as adjunct professors by Southwest University of Political Science & Law's Institute for Human Rights. Mr Zhang talked about the Belt and Road Initiative and public diplomacy in his first lecture.



On Nov. 16th, **Jiang Weiqiang**, former director of the international department of the State Council of Information, became member of the International Communication Committee of the Charhar Institute.



On Nov. 15th, invited by Minzhi International Research Institute, a think-tank with members from Tsinghua University and China National Democratic Construction Association, **Dr Han Fangming** and **Zhang Guobin** met with leaders of the organization and scholars, and formed a consensus on practicing public diplomacy together. Dr Han hoped to make a contribution to push forward bilateral relations between China and US by deploying public diplomacy together with Minzhi. **Jean C. Oi**, a professor of political science at Stanford University, highlighted the importance of maintenance of US-China good relations in preserving world's healthy development. **Qi Ye**, director of Tsinghua-Brookings Center and **Peng Kaiping**, dean of school of social sciences of Tsinghua University, also attended the meeting.



On Nov.14th, 58th Charhar Roundtable “Symposium on China-Nepal Cooperation and Peace and Prosperity of South Asia” took place at the Charhar Institute’s BIT office. The symposium was the first event since the establishment of Himalayas Regional Research Center. Ambassador of Nepal to the People's Republic of China **H.E.Leela Mani Paudyal**, who gave a keynote speech, underscored the geographical advantage of Nepal in China-South Asia trade and the importance of Trans-Himalayas trade to Nepal’s economy. He insisted China and Nepal should create direct dialogues, without India’s intervention. He said that the Belt and Road Initiative called for more global talents, which China was short of. Speakers talked about Nepal’s relationship with India and security and law-enforcement cooperation between China and Nepal. **Zhang Guobin** attended the symposium and **Long Xingchun**, secretary-general of Himalyas Regional Research Center of the Charhar Institute, was the moderator.



On Nov.11th, **Dr Han Fangming** remarked at “2017 Charhar Culture·Ulanqab Forum”. He believed that Charhar culture should be widely spread both domestically and internationally. Experts and historians from China, Mongolia, Russia and Japan participated in the forum.



On Nov.10th, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences launched *China Think-Tank Complex Review AMI Research Report*. As a social think-tank, the Charhar Institute entered the list of core think-tanks.



From Nov.7th to 8th, chairman **Han Fangming** visited South Korean universities to give remarks on guiding principles from the 19th National Congress of the CPC. He introduced the 19th National Congress of the CPC and Xi Jinping's thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics to South Korean students. He also talked to Chinese students studied in these universities, and hoped that they would become ambassadors of friendship between China and the South Korea.



From Nov.6th to 11th, cosponsored by the Charhar Institute, Embassy of the Republic of Korea in China, and Korea Foundation, “Power Bloggers”, a Chinese delegation composed of influential media scholars and microbloggers, visited South Korea. The delegation had fruitful conversations with the Foreign Ministry of South Korea, CJ Corporation, Samsung Corporation, and member of the National Assembly of South Korea. With an aim to ameliorate China-South Korea relations through non-governmental exchanges, the delegation showed their friendliness to South Koreans and built mutual understanding.



On Nov.3rd, 17th China-South Korea Famous People Forum was held at Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing. Guests included **Li Zhaoxing**, China’s former foreign minister, **Wu Hailong**, chairman of the Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs, **Han Fangming**, chairman of the Charhar Institute, **Zhang Tingyan**, China’s first ambassador to South Korea, **Lee Soo-Sung**, former prime minister of South Korea, **Kim Han-gyu**, chairman of 21st century South Korea-China Exchange Association, and **Lee Tae-Sik**, former South Korean ambassador to US.



On Nov.3rd, **Zhang Guobin** shared his ideas on human rights protection in the new era and construction of think-tank on human rights with scholars and practitioners in human rights from the Supreme People's Court of the P.R.C., the United Nations, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China University of Political Science and Law, and a local law firm.



On Nov.2nd, **Dr Han Fangming** met with South Korea's National Assembly delegation. Dr Han pointed out that in the future, the Charhar Institute would like to continue its contribution to peace and stability of Northeast Asia. **Chung Dong-Young**, a senior South Korean politician, spoke highly of the Charhar Institute's involvement in Korean peninsula's affairs. **Zhang Guobin** also attended the meeting.



On Nov.1st, A *New Guide to International Etiquette for Officials* book launch was attended by a group of senior diplomats including **Zhao Jinjun**, former Chinese Ambassador to France, **Song Yunfu**, former WHO official, and **Zhang Guobin**, former Chinese Counsel General in Strasbourg. With a foreword by **Li Zhaoxing**, former Chinese foreign minister, the book, a page-turner, is readable, interesting, and original for those who are interested in the topic. It provides all the essential guidelines and information about international etiquette supported by real-world experience.



On Nov.1st, the China Society for Human Rights Studies held a symposium on putting guiding principles from 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China into action. The theme of this symposium was: deeply study and put guiding principles from 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China into action, discuss and study the substance of human rights in Xi Jinping’s thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. The symposium was hosted by **Cui Yuying**, vice minister of Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China. **Zhang Guobin**, executive trustee, the China Society for Human Rights Studies, attended the symposium and exchanged opinions with others.

China, America can be great together

Zhao Minghao



Illustration: Liu Rui/GT

US President Donald Trump will start his official visit to China on November 8, just days after the Communist Party of China (CPC) concluded its 19th National Congress. In his report to the Congress, Xi Jinping announced that his government will build a "great modern socialist country" by the middle of the 21st century while Trump is making efforts to "Make America Great Again." At the moment, the relationship between China and the US needs to be redefined to make the two countries become great together.

Apparently, the whole world is witnessing a different US. With "America First" in his mind, Trump wants to dramatically adjust immigration and tax policies and has showed a tendency of withdrawing from global issues. Over the past few months, the US has withdrawn from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, Paris climate agreement and the UNESCO. Trump even threatened to trash the Iran

nuclear deal.

Both Trump's inaugural speech and his address to the UN in September showed a propensity to counter globalization with economic nationalism. His performance was described as "bellicose isolationism" by reviewer Philip Stephens of the Financial Times.

Meanwhile, China is undergoing massive changes as well. The speed of China's economic development has slowed and there are major challenges in building an innovative economy, promoting financial reforms and dealing with an aging population. In politics, "CPC leadership" is being strengthened and the liberalization expected by the West will not happen in China in the foreseeable future. China has pushed forward military reforms to build a world-class army. China has been more proactive in diplomacy. It has defended its territorial sovereignty and emphasized that it won't compromise its core interests. China has led international development and global governance to build a community of common destiny through initiating the Belt and Road initiative and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Xi reaffirmed these policies in his report at the opening of the 19th CPC National Congress.

Changes in the development of both countries led to a new transformation of Sino-US relations. In 2012, Xi proposed to build a new model of major-country relations between China and the US, which aims to avoid strategic confrontation between Beijing and Washington. But there are enormous challenges in the way. For instance, the US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Joseph Dunford, bluntly said in September that China will be the biggest threat to the US by 2025. Managing the relationship of competitive coexistence between China and the US could be becoming more difficult, but bilateral relations have been more stable since Trump took office. Xi and Trump have maintained effective communications. The four high-level dialogue mechanisms established by them in April have functioned well. The leaders hope to avoid a trade war and prevent tensions on

the Korean Peninsula from spiraling out of control.

However, for enduring peace the two sides need to expand cooperation. The rich middle-class in China wants to buy American products and services while the US can use Chinese companies to burnish its infrastructure. The two countries also have a prospective future in energy cooperation, including liquefied natural gas, clean coal and nuclear power.

The Belt and Road initiative can boost Sino-US relations and better Asia-Pacific infrastructure will generate more space for trade. Asia will need up to \$26 trillion for infrastructure in the next 15 years - a lucrative market for US companies such as Bechtel Corporation, Halliburton and Caterpillar Inc..

General Electric has signed agreements with several Chinese companies to build power stations in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. It has also signed deals with China's Silk Road Fund on financing in power grid, new energy and oil and gas sector development, which will create more jobs for US workers.

Besides, China and the US can strengthen cooperation on Afghanistan. In August, Trump announced a new strategy for the Afghanistan war. Afghanistan needs to build a sustainable economy to prevent young Afghans from becoming militants. China has given economic aid to Afghanistan and offered to train its population in agriculture, water conservation and healthcare. Despite Trump's "America First," China and the US have sufficient scope for cooperation and their relationship can't just be defined by the North Korean issue. The future of the two countries is not like a seesaw. Both need to contemplate on sharing power with responsibility.

The author is a senior fellow at the Charhar Institute

Source: Global Times, October 29, 2017

Syrian peace talks: Hopeful but still anxious

Wang Peng

A new round of Syrian peace talks is starting on Tuesday in Geneva. For the first time, after talks in Riyadh last week, a unified 36-member Syrian opposition delegation is to attend the talks.

Also last week, leaders of Iran, Turkey and Russia met in Sochi, where they supported a comprehensive dialogue on Syria. Russian President Vladimir Putin said that the meeting in Sochi would be a “stimulus” for the UN peace talks in Geneva, adding that there is a “real chance” to end Syria’s war, which monitors say has killed more than 330,000 people. So how likely is a breakthrough now after so many rounds of peace talks have failed in the past?

Reconciliation need mutual concessions

Syrian opposition parties – from the Turkey-based coalition and mainstream Free Syrian Army factions as well as independents – met in Riyadh last week to unify their positions ahead of the UN-backed peace talks. Several rounds of UN talks in Geneva between the Damascus government and the opposition have made little progress since the Syria conflict erupted in 2011.

The opposition refrained from saying their participation in the upcoming U.N.-based negotiations would be conditional upon the departure of President Bashar Assad from office, signaling a degree of flexibility. The issue has always been the main sticking point in previous rounds of talks. Whether it is possible for them to allow Assad to exert a nominal control across the Syrian political landscape is a question. What is more, it could be argued that since the Syrian government and its allies have made significant military gains in the course of these talks (while the opposition has lost ground), it is clear that the Syrian state is in the driving seat and has little incentive to make

significant concessions. This is also another problem in front of both the opposition and the Syrian Government.



Interventions from extra-regional great powers

The reconciliation and peacemaking matters more participants than Syria. For example, these Geneva talks are taking place just days after the leaders of Iran, Turkey and Russia met in Sochi, where they supported a comprehensive dialogue on Syria. And as international observers have noticed that the opposition groups agreed on unifying a delegation to the talks, which marks the first time for the political opposition groups to unify a delegation.

It is reported that Russia may provide guarantees that Iran and Hezbollah would exit Syria, and hence a deal could be made for all military groups to exit the country. How likely is Russia to give such security promise; and how likely will other parties to response positively? In fact, whether Russia has enough motive and strength to provide such security promise is still questionable.

In addition, influences from extra-regional great powers are NOT always positive.

After the Sochi talks, Putin said “It is obvious that the reform process will not be simple, it will require compromise and concessions from all parties, including obviously the Syrian government.” Will Syrian government follow Russian’s guide? Will Putin’s proposal bring new obstacles among different factions (e.g. pigeon vs. hawkish) within the Syrian government, as well as the oppositions? So this conduct may increase uncertainties of this issue.

Russia claims credit for more or less ending the military conflict through its intervention and past negotiations sponsored by Russia, Iran and Turkey that brought together government and opposition representatives led to the creation of four “de-escalation zones” that produced a drop in violence. Russia seems to have taken on a major role in the Middle East now as a so-called honest broker. But how much of this is driven by Russia’s desire to have regimes friendly to it in the region?

Additionally, the U.S. has been conspicuously absent in the recent peace process, leaving Russia to make most of the running. Will this situation actually help the peace process? I don’t think so. I am afraid that this round of peace-making talk will become a new victim of the game of great powers between Moscow and Washington.

Wang Peng is a research fellow at the Charhar Institute and China Institute of Fudan University.

Source: APD News

The Essence of Chinese Experience

He Wenping

When meeting with the then President of Tanzania Julius Kambarage Nyerere in August 1985, Deng Xiaoping, chief architect of China's reform and opening-up, remarked that the reform was not simply an experiment for China, but also for the world. Its success may provide valuable experience to under-developed countries and help advance the cause of socialism.

Since the launch of the reform and opening-up policy in the late 1970s, China has made outstanding economic achievements. Most impressive is the lifting of more than 700 million of its people out of poverty. Meantime, the country has become the world's second largest economy after the United States.



The anti-graft TV series [In the Name of the People](#) makes waves in China. The TV drama is based on a bestselling fiction.

How has China achieved so much? And how has the Communist Party of China (CPC) strengthened its governing capacity and won such wide support from its people through reform and development?

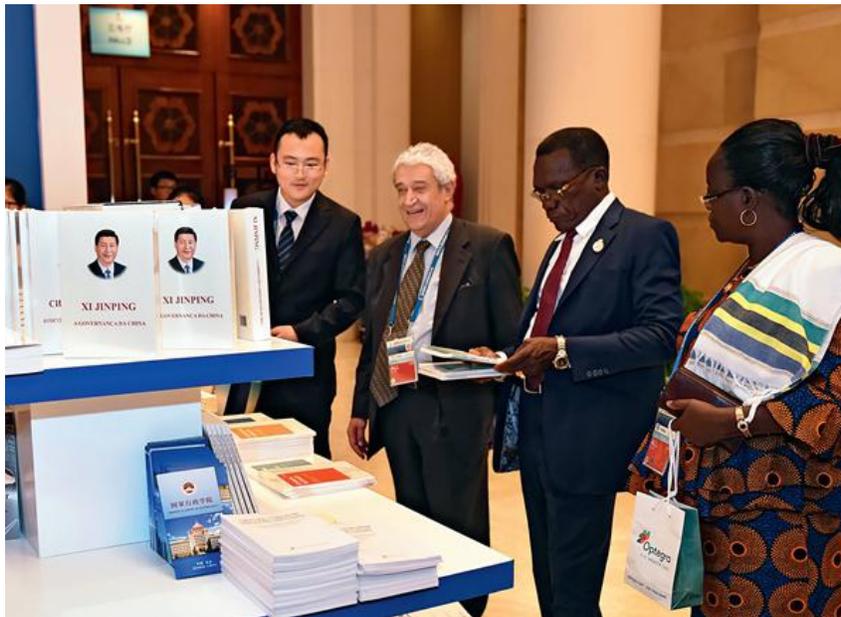
Economic Progress and Political Governance

The experience China has gleaned from its decades of reform and opening-up undertakings covers a wide range of sectors, including agriculture, industry, foreign trade, poverty reduction, culture and education, human resource development, and governance capacity building. Its economic progress has won applause from the international community, Western countries included. On the other hand, China has provided other developing countries with practical knowledge relating to the main tasks of poverty reduction and economic growth.

In contrast to China's economic achievements, however, it is taking the international community longer to appreciate the country's political governance concept. Some have asserted that this revamp was confined to the economic sector, and that political reforms stagnated. Others believe economic reforms have been too rapid for the political system to keep pace. American political scientist Francis Fukuyama's declaration of "the end of history" sparked debates and predictions among Western countries in the late 1980s and early 1990s, towards the time of the dissolution of the Soviet Union and consequent end of the Cold War, on whether or not China would eventually collapse. Although the country has been progressing stably and cohesively, negative attitudes have been constantly apparent among global opinions dominated by Western countries, presumably due to their biased understanding of China and the so-called Cold War mentality.

It was not until the turn of the millennium, against the backdrop of the evolution of globalization and economic and political turbulence around the globe, that these attitudes began to shift. Having

withstood global challenges, such as the financial crisis in 2008 and the changed situation in the Arab world as of the end of 2010, China – led by the CPC – has neither been defeated by the financial crisis, nor challenged by political upheavals, as certain Western observers predicted. Instead, it has showcased the advantage inherent in its system of firm resistance to pressures and impacts. Consequently, China’s experience in political governance has begun to draw world interest in recent years.



Foreign guests at the BRICS Seminar on Governance in Quanzhou City, Fujian Province, visit an exhibition stand showcasing books such as Xi Jinping: The Governance of China on August 17, 2017.

Yu Xiangjun

Xi Jinping: The Governance of China published in September 2014, in Chinese, English, French, Russian, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Japanese, and several other languages, has sold over six million copies in more than 100 countries and regions. Amazed at China’s outstanding achievements, increasingly more governments and parties around the globe are seeking wisdom from Chinese leaders and the Communist Party of China. Developing countries in particular hope to learn

from China's example in a bid to find a fit path for their survival and prosperity in an era where non-Western nations are making rapid and diversified progress. To some extent, the value of Chinese experience has also been weighed on a political level.

Moreover, the international community has witnessed China's efforts towards Party building and anti-corruption since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012. It is clear that the Chinese model welcomes inter-party exchanges and dialogues between China and other developing countries.

Incremental Reforms

Launching reform in progressive steps is another strand of the essence of Chinese wisdom. It means balancing the relationships among reform, development, and stability, guided by an outlook on development that keeps pace with the trend of the times.

In a developing country embracing transformation, any reform is bound to have impact on the existing social structure and stability. Nevertheless, stability is a prerequisite for reforms targeting development. China adheres to giving top priority to stability when implementing its reform and opening-up policy, a principle to which Deng always firmly held. A stable society constitutes a solid foundation for pursuing progress, while the outcomes that reform and development produce can reinforce social cohesion.



The International Department of the CPC Central Committee hosts a thematic briefing on the Party's endeavor toward innovative development on August 31, 2017.

Radical economic reform is risky and often prone to failure, because it may cause oscillations in national economy. Taking this into account, the Chinese government has adopted a soft landing – that of trial and error. Easier issues have been addressed ahead of difficult ones, and progress has been made on a step-by-step basis. What's more, pioneering policies are first carried out on a trial basis and later scaled up in wider areas, depending on their actual effects.

In the past decades, reforms have been introduced in such sectors as employment, social security, income distribution, and household registration. They include the household contract responsibility system and township enterprises run by farmers in rural areas, and revamps of state-owned enterprises and financial areas. Not least is the transitioning from a planned economy to a socialist market economy and the mitigation of the effect of this change on disadvantaged groups, and fending off potential risks imbued in reforms.

Meantime, reforms at the political level have been promoted on the premise of stability. Working

towards political equality, efforts have been made to realize greater political participation and to facilitate democracy in elections at the grassroots level and intra-party democracy from the bottom up.

Progressive and orderly steps have deepened each round of reform, and ensured that this social and economic transition on such grand scale has been more or less completed in a relatively short time period, in a harmonious and stable social environment. In addition, Chinese leaders have adopted a development outlook that keeps pace with the trend and requirements of the times. Development is integral to promoting reform, and is the solution to the problems that come with reform.



The

Intermediate People's Court of Qinhuangdao City, Hebei Province, organizes an open day activity where children visit the court to understand how it operates, and help them enhance their awareness of law abidance.

The outlook on development has been continuously innovated over past decades, in accordance with the different challenges and tasks facing the country. In the late 1970s and 1980s, reviving the national economy after the “cultural revolution” – a tumultuous decade – was the pressing problem, and realizing modernization of industry, agriculture, national defense, and science and technology was underscored. It was during this period that Deng Xiaoping put forward his well-known philosophies – “development is of overriding importance” and “it doesn’t matter if a cat is black or white, if it catches mice it’s a good cat,” which stimulated the double-digit annual growth rates of China’s economy.

Nevertheless, rapid development was inevitably accompanied by various problems, including an extensive model of growth, environmental pollution, and the widening gap between the rich and the poor. Having perceived these problems, the CPC refined its development concept at the Third Plenary Session of 16th CPC Central Committee in October 2003. Guided by the Scientific Outlook on Development that champions people’s interests and advocates comprehensive, coordinated, and sustainable development, success is now measured not simply according to GDP growth rates. Moreover, this outlook has rectified the excessive stress placed on economic indicators, material achievements, and short-term interests rather than social progress, humanistic values, and long-term wellbeing.

Against the backdrop in recent years of an increasingly complex global economic environment, the CPC Central Committee, with Xi Jinping at the core, has come up with five major development concepts – innovation, coordination, green development, opening up, and sharing benefits. President Xi has pointed out that China has a large but insufficiently strong economy, and its growth has been based on a fast pace rather than on quality. He also noted that spurring economic growth through a model of extensive development which exhausts resources is not a sustainable approach. He urges

the country to optimize its economy according to innovation-driven rather than investment-driven factors.

Viewed as a whole, putting development first and timely adjusting the outlook on development has significantly contributed to China's becoming a representative developmental state.

Effective Government and Appropriate Policies

An effective government devoted to progress, visionary leaders, and appropriate policies also constitutes the essence of Chinese experience. An authoritative government and effective governance in certain periods and fields are critical to a developing country undergoing enormous changes, in order to build consensus among its people and pool the energy necessary to carry out economic, social, and political reforms.

The history of humankind has proven that political democracy in a Western political system is not a mandatory premise on which to achieve economic progress. Numbers of developing countries and regions, the Four Asian Tigers for instance, witnessed a rapid economic rise during the 1960s and 1970s. Western scholars have introduced the concept of the developmental state to explain the remarkable economic development of East Asia's emerging economies, notably China. They pointed out that a characteristic of those developmental states is the government-led development model which is usually distinguished by a potent administration that aspires to economic advancement, and which can mobilize and direct social resources to promote development.

The multi-party cooperation and political consultation under the CPC leadership – the basic political system in China, is usually perceived by Western countries as long-term one-party rule. However, objective analysts have now acknowledged that it is an effective guarantee of policy continuity. Today, China is embracing its 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-2020). Since the first

five-year plan was launched in the early 1950s, progress has been made in such areas as infrastructure, special economic zones, international cooperation on production capacity, and the Belt and Road Initiative, among many others.

On top of that, the CPC strives to build up its cadre teams by abolishing life tenure, adopting a collective leadership system, and selecting talents through job bidding, with the aim of garnering popular support by virtue of satisfactory governance.

Although China's economic progress is a success recognized by all, the international community still shows less than adequate awareness of the fact that the country has simultaneously carried out economic, social, and political reforms. The nation's economic accomplishments must be attributed to decades of efforts towards social and political reforms. They are the step-by-step adjustments focusing on improving the supervisory mechanism to ensure a balance of power. They have ensured economic reform is constantly furthered, and with growing intensity, and that social harmony and stability are maintained amid dramatic social changes.

Various challenges, such as the growing gap between rich and poor and regional development imbalances, are unavoidable amid development. Nonetheless, Chinese people today are enjoying economic, social, and political rights unprecedented in the country's history. This might explain why the Beijing Consensus, with an eye to development, has gained ground in increasingly more developing countries, and now shares the international arena with the Washington Consensus which advocates trade liberalization.

The author is a senior fellow at the Charhar Institute and a research fellow at the Institute of West Asian and African Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Source: *China Today*, November 4, 2017

***America in My Eyes* Book Launch**

Date: January. 16th,2018

Location: 15th Floor, Building No.2, Guofang Kejiyuan, Beijing Institute of Technology

The author, Yoshikazu Kato, is a Japanese who studied in both China and the U.S. He attended Peking University, majoring in international relations. He is an acquaintance of Professor Ezra Feivel Vogel and Professor Francis Fukuyama. In his book, he reveals to the reader his views of them. His footprints in US spanned several cities. Mr Kato is a research fellow at the Charhar Institute.

This book launch will be an opportunity to discuss compelling topics in American politics, higher education, and society. Charhar Newsletter will interview Mr Kato.

Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Please write to liangchenglu@charhar.org.cn to reserve a seat.

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