



“THE ABCS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA” SERIES

# **THE MECHANISMS AND PRACTICE OF THE PARTY’S CONTACTS WITH THE MASSES**



# Introduction



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The Communist Party  
of China (CPC) is  
the vanguard of the  
Chinese working class  
and also the vanguard  
of the Chinese people  
and the Chinese nation.  
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From its founding in 1921, the CPC has taken serving the people wholeheartedly as its fundamental purpose. A prominent difference between the CPC and other political parties is that it always maintains intimate contacts with the overwhelming majority of the people and takes the interests of the masses to be the highest interests. It is because it had the backing and support of the masses that the CPC was able to progress from being small to being large and from being weak to being strong, constantly develop its prowess, and finally seize political control of the whole country (The Chinese mainland, excluding Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan.) and become the ruling party.



When the CPC was fighting to seize political power, millions of people sprang into action to support the frontline troops.

After the CPC took power in 1949,<sup>1</sup> it has always adhered to its mass line and upheld the fine tradition of maintaining close ties with the masses in the course of leading the people in carrying out the causes of socialist revolution, construction, and reform and opening up. It takes the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people as its starting point and objective of all its policy decisions and actions, while adroitly harmonizing everyone's interests.

**It adheres to the governance philosophy of the Party serving the public interests and governing for the benefit of the people and of putting people first.**

The Party believes that its greatest political strength is its intimate contacts with the masses and that the greatest danger it faces since taking power lies in becoming divorced from the masses. It places great emphasis on strengthening Party building and teaching Party members and cadres that they cannot become divorced from the masses; constantly reminds all Party members that they always need to put the people's interests first; does all it can to create harmonious relations between the Party and the masses; and strives mightily to lead the people and rely on them in building a modern socialist country that is prosperous, democratic, civilized and harmonious.

It can be said that maintaining close ties with the people is the basic reason why the CPC has constantly met with success in carrying out its cause, and this is also the source of the energy that has enabled it to always maintain its vigor and vitality throughout the 90 years since its founding.



The message "Serve the People" on Xinhua (New China) Gate, the main entrance to Zhongnanhai, the Party and government headquarters compound, as a constant reminder of the fundamental purpose of the CPC.

# 1

Party Members Should Always Live Among the Masses Like Fish Live in the Sea-The Main Systems and Methods of the Party's Relations with the Masses

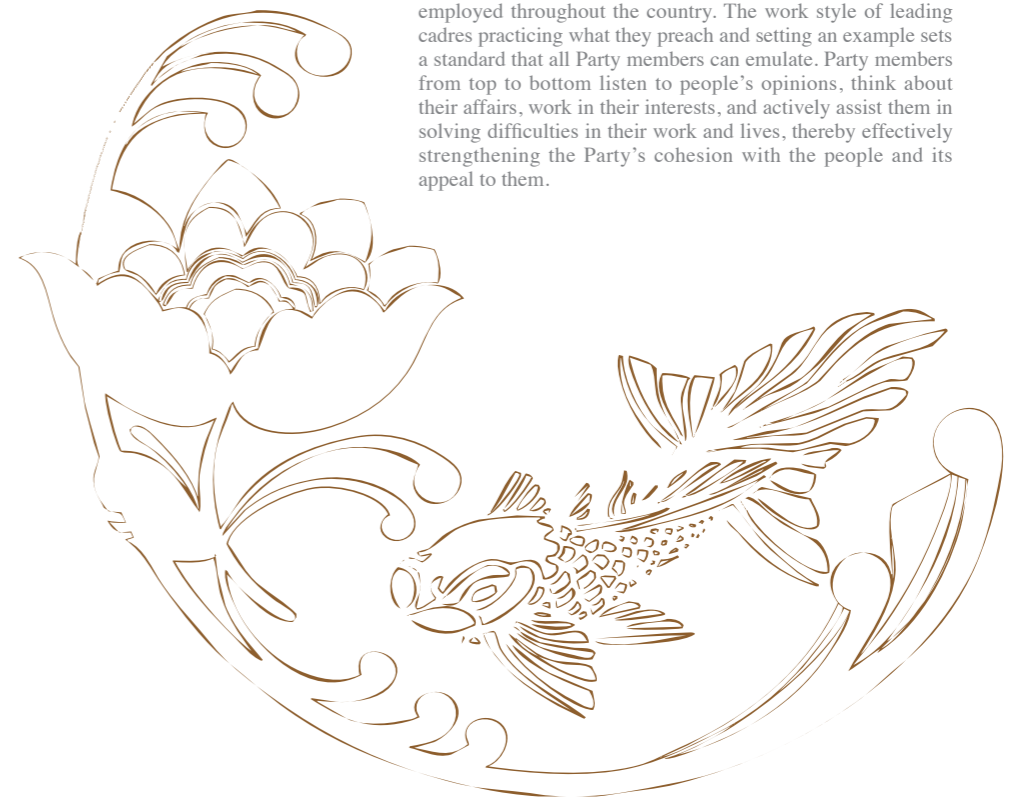
The mass line of doing everything in the interests of the masses and relying on the masses in everything the Party does, and “from the masses, to the masses” is the crystallization of the CPC’s experience in revolution and construction over a long period of time and is the basic line of the Party’s work. In the course of exercising state power, the CPC adopted a wide variety of systems and methods to maintain close ties with the overwhelming majority of the people and win the sincere backing and powerful support of the masses, thereby strengthening the social foundation and mass foundation for the Party’s rule.

## 1. Party organization and the intimate ties of Party members and cadres with the people

1) The system of contact points at which leading bodies and leading cadres keep in touch with the masses

Hu Jintao, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, president of China and chairman of the Central Military Commission went to Anji County, Shaanxi Province, from October 29 to 31, 2008, where he inspected and directed the Party’s rural work, and he joined farmers in picking apples in the village of Fangta and shared with them the joys of a bountiful harvest.

Not only Hu Jintao, but also other leaders of the Central Committee and the heads of local Party committees at all levels all have their own primary-level contact points, and they regularly go there to sympathetically observe the conditions in which the people live, understand the mood of the people and direct work. The system of contact points for leading cadres is an important means by which the CPC strengthens its contacts with the masses, and it is widely employed throughout the country. The work style of leading cadres practicing what they preach and setting an example sets a standard that all Party members can emulate. Party members from top to bottom listen to people’s opinions, think about their affairs, work in their interests, and actively assist them in solving difficulties in their work and lives, thereby effectively strengthening the Party’s cohesion with the people and its appeal to them.



## 2) The system of Party members and leading cadres carrying out investigations and study

Documents of the CPC clearly stipulate that all ministerial- and provincial-level leading cadres need to spend at least a month and all municipal- and county-level cadres need to spend at least two months every year carrying out primary-level investigations and study in order to gain an understanding of the actual situation and get a grasp of first-hand materials. They especially need to go to localities that are backward and where life is hard to listen to people's opinions and suggestions concerning the Party and help the people learn development strategies and overcome obstacles to development. The main leading cadres of the Party and government must get personally involved, personally write reports on their investigations and study that analyze and interpret the situation so as to guide practical work.



On August 11, 2009, He Xinxing, member of the standing committee of the CPC Liuzhou Committee and head of its organization department, braves a broiling sun to carry out investigation and study in the Rongshui Miao Autonomous County.

In addition, the CPC also has a large number of specialized agencies devoted to investigation, study and policy consultation, whose function is to go down to the primary level, interview ordinary people, and report back on the masses' opinions and suggestions. Like Party policy research bodies, Party building research bodies and Party schools at all levels, they play an important role in maintaining close contacts between the Party and the masses.

## 3) The reception day system. On reception day, leaders of Party and government bodies receive visitors and listen to their suggestions and complaints.

Bodies of the CPC and government at all levels not only regularly go down to the primary level to communicate with the masses, but they generally also periodically set aside reception days at which time Party members and leading cadres meet with ordinary people to listen to opinions and suggestions related to their areas of responsibility. Leading cadres of city-level Party committees and governments generally set aside one day every quarter as reception day; county Party committee secretaries and heads of county governments generally set aside



On March 20, 2008, Zhang Zulin, deputy secretary of the Kunming Municipal Party Committee and mayor of Kunming, and other leading cadres of the city meet face to face with citizens of Kunming to listen to the voice of the people in the government reception hall.

one day a month to meet with the masses, and leading cadres of towns, townships and urban communities meet with the masses as the occasion demands. If a visitor has a problem that can be resolved, it should be resolved promptly, and if it cannot be resolved for the time being due to objective limitations, the situation should be explained to the visitor and relevant departments should be coordinated to create conditions so that it can be resolved in the future.



## 4) Broadening the avenues for reporting on the mood of society and public opinion

The CPC also uses other systems and methods to constantly broaden the avenues for reporting on the mood of society and public opinion. For example, it maintains and constantly improves the system of letters and visits under which the masses can report on events, express opinions, make suggestions or register complaints to bodies of the Party and government at all levels by means of letters, email, fax, telephone or personal visits. In 1995, the State Council promulgated the Regulations on Letters and Visits, and revised them in 2005. On January 1, 2009, the State Office for Handling Complaints formally went into operation to listen to the opinions of the masses concerning agriculture, farmers and rural areas, and also social security. Beijing, Shandong and Hunan instituted a program under which anyone in their territory who wrote a letter reporting a problem could have it delivered without paying postage. Hangzhou, Zhejiang, and Nanning, Guangxi, set up telephone hotlines. The Party set up a nationwide telephone service line, 12345, to take calls from the public. In recent years, the CPC has explored a system of making political inquiries via the Internet. From the CPC Central Committee and State Council all the way down to primary-level Party organizations, leaders at all levels can use the Internet to maintain contacts with the people and listen to the voice of the people. This makes communication between them faster and more reciprocal.



Political inquiries via the Internet

## 2. Recruiting advanced members of all social strata into the Party

In order to further expand the mass base of the Party and make its ties with the masses more intimate, the Sixteenth National People's Congress in 2002 took the position that while focusing on pressing ahead with the Party's work related to laborers, farmers, intellectuals, military personnel and cadres, to also recruit into the Party advanced members of other social strata who assent to the Party's program and constitution, are willing to work for the Party's line and program, and who prove themselves suitable for Party membership through a long examination period. Under the guidance of this policy, Party member work in the nonpublic sector of the economy and social organizations has progressed rapidly. In 2008, 126,000 people working in the nonpublic sector joined the Party, 47,000 blue-collar workers and 79,000 managers, professionals and technical experts. In 2009, the number of Party members working the nonpublic sector of the economy and social organizations increased by 259,000 over the previous year. This has further expanded the coverage of the Party's work, increased the vitality of the cohort of Party members, and effectively increased the Party's influence and cohesion throughout society.

## 3. Actively making full use of the role of people's organizations and all the parties that participate in the government

The system of multi-party cooperation and political consultation under the leadership of the CPC is a basic political system of the People's Republic of China, and is a political system with Chinese characteristics. People's political consultative congresses are organizations under the leadership of the CPC that embrace the democratic parties, numerous groups, all the ethnic groups, all social strata, and people from all walks of life united together. They are important bridges linking the government with the masses and uniting all sectors of society. By adhering to and improving this system, the CPC further strengthens its ties with the masses, solicits opinions and suggestions from a broader spectrum of society, and ensures all ethnic groups have their voices heard. According to statistics, in 2009 the Chinese

People's Political Consultative Congress (CPPCC) carried out 53 investigations and studies on special topics, organized 13 inspection teams composed of members of the CPPCC and its standing committee, placed 1800 documents in the records, and energetically offered suggestions on how to cope with the international financial crisis and maintain stable and relatively rapid economic growth.

Trade unions, the Communist Youth League and women's federations are important social organizations under the leadership of the CPC, important bridges linking the CPC with the masses, and important social pillars of Chinese state power. For many years, trade unions, the Communist Youth League and women's federations, as well as other social groups have rallied around the work of the Party and the government, taken wholeheartedly serving the people as the starting point and objective of all their work, worked to resolve conflicts, and solved the difficulties and problems of the people they are required to serve.



# 2

Upholding the Principle of Serving the Public Interests and Governing for the Benefit of the People – the Systems and Measures by Which the Party Serves the People

On October 22, 2007, at the First Plenary Session of the Seventeenth Central Committee when the newly selected members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee were introduced to the public, Comrade Hu Jintao, representing the comrades who had been elected to the central leading bodies, gave a speech in which he stated we must firmly adhere to the orientation of wholeheartedly serving the people, uphold the principle of serving the public interest and governing for the benefit of the people, do everything possible to solve practical problems that the masses are most concerned about and most directly affect their interests, sincerely do work that brings practical benefits to the people, and strive to promote social equality and justice.

## 1. Giving full expression to the aspirations of the people when formulating policy

When formulating policies and measures, drawing up work plans and deciding important matters, the CPC always follows the mass line, broadly solicits a wide range of opinions, and repeatedly makes comparisons and distinctions and carries out evaluations. It always carries out trials before implementing any major new policy. The draft of the government report at the Seventeenth National Party Congress in October 2007 underwent more than 50 revisions over ten months, and throughout the process, great attention was paid to carrying out investigations and study; gathering facts from the primary level; soliciting a wide range of opinions and suggestions; making an effort to correctly understand the aspirations of the masses; constantly acquiring a better understanding of how to do all aspects of the work well; and paying particular attention to learning from the new experience and successful methods the masses devise in their practical work, which were then summarized, refined and systematized; so that in the end the process of writing the draft was turned into a process of providing ways for people to air their views, drawing on collective wisdom, and reaching a consensus. This report answered a series of important questions about the CPC's ruling the country and running the government, and about China's development and progress in this crucial stage of reform and development, and made comprehensive arrangements for the great projects of continuing to comprehensively build a moderately prosperous society, accelerate socialist modernization, and continuing to carry out Party building now and in the foreseeable future.



People everywhere flocked to bookstores to buy copies of the report of the Seventeenth National Party Congress.

## 2. Party organizations and Party members lead the masses toward prosperity and provide services for their work and lives.

1) In order to make the most of the mentorship role of Party members in leading the masses toward prosperity, Yugan County, Jiangxi, created a “one leading the way, ten getting rich” system for Party members to help the masses achieve prosperity. One Party cadre who has a talent for making money and is a good coordinator hooks up with three Party members who are role models and can take the lead in earning money and helping others do so too. Each of these three hooks up with two ordinary citizens, and the ten of them together form a team that operates on the basis of a support responsibility system to guide the masses toward prosperity. The support responsibility system stipulates the number of participants, goals, measures and timeframe. Throughout the county, there are 973 such teams, more than 1,100 Party members acting as production role models, and nearly 10,000 benefiting from this assistance.

Throughout the country, many localities are carrying out similar programs, but they all have their own specific measures and methods. These steps have significantly raised the standard of living of Party members and the masses in the countryside and their ability to withstand market risks, and so they have been warmly welcomed by the masses.

**Link: In recent years, people’s living standard has constantly risen, and urban and rural incomes have grown rapidly.**

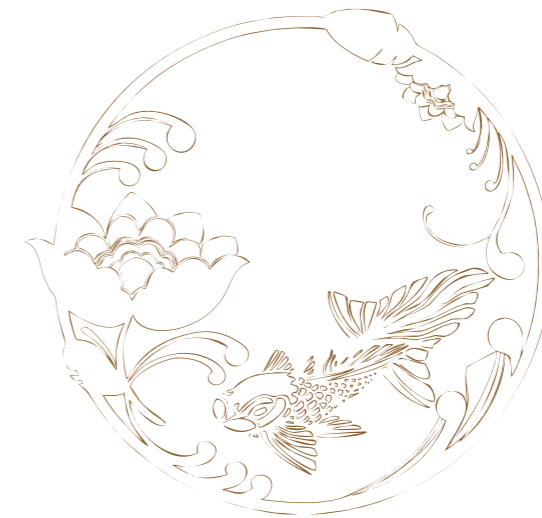
In 2009, the national per capita disposable income of urban residents was 17,175 yuan, an increase of 9.8% over 2008, and 123.0% more than the 2002 figure of 7,703 yuan. The income of rural residents increased steadily and rapidly. In 2009, the per capita net income of rural residents was 5,153 yuan, an increase of 8.5% over 2008, and 108.1% more than the 2002 figure of 2,476 yuan. The consumption patterns of urban residents underwent considerable changes. The Engel’s Coefficient (proportion of income that goes to food) of urban families fell from 37.7% in 2002 to 36.5% in 2009, a drop of 1.2% percentage points. The Engel’s Coefficient for rural families fell from 46.2% in 2002 to 41.0% in 2006, a drop of 5.2 percentage points.

2) In their work and daily lives, the vast number of Party members care about the hardships of the masses, actively assist and serve the people in their communities, and help them solve practical problems in their lives.

In Nanchenzan Village, Zaoqiang County, Hebei, a Party member by the name of Lin Xiuzhen is called the village daughter by the people because she has taken it upon herself to bring meals to six solitary old people every day. People who know about her selfless service say, “Thirty years! No one knows the sacrifices she has made, the difficulties she has endured, how much of her own money she spent, or how tired she must have gotten.” She also paid school tuition for 14 children from poor families, and she hired eight disabled persons to work in her factory and helped them solve many problems in their lives. Everyone in the village is immensely proud of her.



Party member daughter Lin Xiuzhen (left) feeding Zhu Shuchang, one of the people she regularly feeds.



## 3. Creating a sound network for all Party members to connect with and serve the masses

The CPC vigorously urges primary-level Party organizations to create sound networks for connecting with and serving the masses. Neighborhood (town and township) and community (village) Party organization can set up Party member service stations, and farmers’ markets and residential and commercial buildings can set up Party member service stands. Party member service stations (stands) provide services to both local and transient Party members, thereby actively expanding the work of serving the masses.

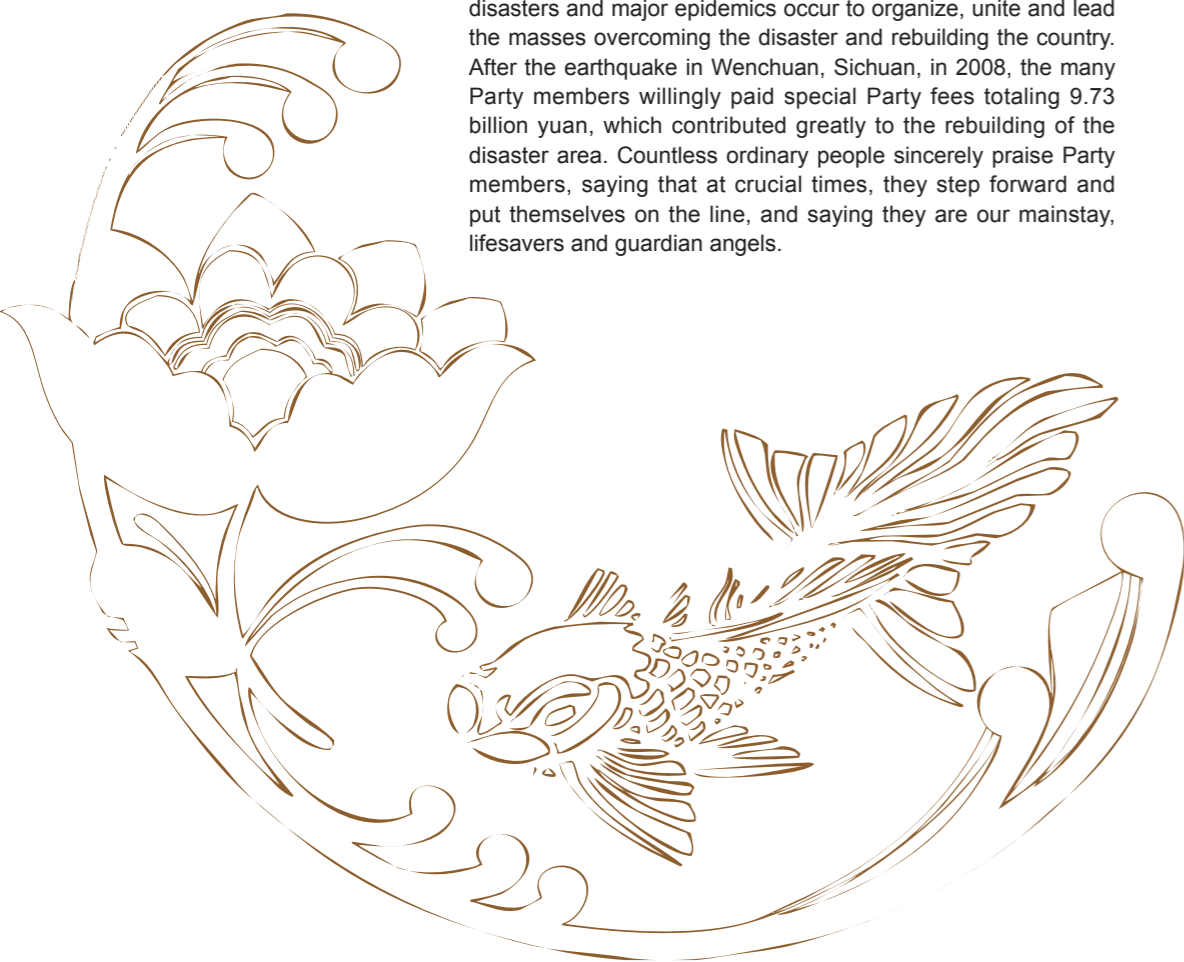
For example, Enshi Prefecture, Hubei in the course of energetically seeking effective ways in which Party members can maintain contacts with and serve the masses, established an excellent network of Party members to serve the masses. Party members have launched more than 200 demonstration projects for serving the masses and created more than 500 rural associations of people engaged in the same line of work that have brought many practical benefits to the people.

Zhoushan, Zhejiang, explored ways to create a model for network management and team services, taking households as its basic building blocks. Each network consists of 100-150 households, and the Party members from those households make up a team that integrates all available forces into a joint force to serve the people, expand the system for Party members to maintain contacts with and serve the masses, and further strengthen the ability of primary-level organizations to provide social administration and public services, all of which strengthens the CPC’s primary-level foundation for exercising power.



#### 4. Vigorously coming to the aid of the masses at times of natural disasters and major epidemics

The sudden occurrence of major natural disasters and the outbreaks of major epidemics directly threaten the security of the masses' lives and property. The CPC takes these incidents very seriously, immediately makes arrangements to cope with the emergency, and convenes a high-level meeting to discuss what policy measures should be taken. In all such emergencies, such as the severe flooding in 1998, the SARS outbreak in 2003, the snow disaster in South China in 2008, and the Yushu earthquake in Qinghai in 2010, the CPC Central Committee and the State Council immediately set up emergency command centers, and quickly made arrangements for disaster reduction and relief work. The many primary-level Party organizations and members not only play the role of leaders and pillars of economic and social development, but also win high praise from the masses of the people for surging to the frontlines without regard to difficulties and danger when natural disasters and major epidemics occur to organize, unite and lead the masses overcoming the disaster and rebuilding the country. After the earthquake in Wenchuan, Sichuan, in 2008, the many Party members willingly paid special Party fees totaling 9.73 billion yuan, which contributed greatly to the rebuilding of the disaster area. Countless ordinary people sincerely praise Party members, saying that at crucial times, they step forward and put themselves on the line, and saying they are our mainstay, lifesavers and guardian angels.



On May 19, 2008, the Henan firefighting and earthquake disaster relief shock brigade composed of CPC members participated in disaster relief work in Yinghua, Shifang, Sichuan. Twenty soldiers became CPC members in a simple yet moving ceremony.



On March 30, 2010, a Party shock brigade began spring plowing in the drought-afflicted region of Guangxi in Pojie Village, Tian'e County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

# 3

## Effectively Safeguarding and Achieving Equality and Justice: Properly Balancing Various Interests

On the morning of August 20, 2009, Ma Zhongxiao and other residents of Shahe Village, Guazhou County, Gansu, went to the village government office to receive their subsistence allowances.

In China, most provinces and municipalities have already instituted a minimum subsistence guarantee system. No matter whether a family lives in the countryside or the city, as long as its household per capita income is below the minimum standard of living for rural residents in that area, it has the right to receive basic material assistance from the government.



Ma Zhongxiao receiving her subsistence allowance in Shahe Village, Shahe Township, Guazhou County, Gansu.

## 1. Equality and justice are the decisive factor in building a harmonious socialist society.

In instituting the reform and opening up policy, the CPC has eliminated egalitarianism and mobilized the initiative of the masses of the people to participate in socialist modernization. China has experienced rapid economic and social development for 30 years; however, during this time disparities have increased between regions, between urban and rural areas, and between individuals, and inequalities in income distribution have appeared in some areas. In order to effectively deal with such social problems as excessive disparities, the CPC, in timely fashion, adopted the strategic policy of creating a harmonious socialist society, and stressed that safeguarding and achieving equality and justice are a key link in creating a harmonious society. In recent years, when formulating policies and launching projects, the Party and government has taken the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people as its starting point and objective; integrated the common interests of the vast majority of the people with the specific interests of different strata of society; given full consideration to the interests of different regions, economic sectors, social strata and groups; carefully considered the resilience of different sectors of society; fully considered and balanced the legitimate rights and interests of different groups; and resolutely opposed and corrected all kinds of activities that infringe on the interests of the masses. After a great amount of difficult meticulous work, the Party and government succeeded in properly balancing the interests of all sectors of society, correctly handling conflicts among the people and other social conflicts, and effectively safeguarding and achieving social equality and justice.

### Link: Harmonious socialist society

A harmonious socialist society is a strategic objective for social development the CPC has pursued in recent years. Such a society is a social state in which everyone makes their maximum contribution and is properly compensated, and everyone lives in harmony. On September 19, 2004, the Fourth Plenary Session of the Sixteenth Central Committee formally stated the important objective of creating a harmonious socialist society, thus extending the overall plan for China's socialist modernization from the three objectives of developing the socialist market economy, socialist democratic politics and an advanced socialist culture to the four objectives that include the one of creating a harmonious socialist society. "Democracy and the rule of law, equality and justice, sincerity and fraternity, enthusiasm and vitality, stability and order, harmony between man and nature" are the basic features of a harmonious socialist society and also the orientation of the work of constructing such a society.

## 2. Concrete measures for improving and ensuring people's livelihood

Accelerating social development with the focus on improving people's livelihoods is an important aspect of the CPC's building a harmonious socialist society. In recent years, the Party and government have constantly intensified their work in the areas of employment, education, income distribution, social security and social stability, bringing noticeable benefits to the masses of the people.

For example, from 2004 to 2006, not only were agricultural taxes gradually reduced, but in addition, the policies of providing seed grain subsidies and general subsidies for agricultural production supplies were instituted, bringing tangible benefits to farmers. The system of social assurances was constantly improved. In cities, a comprehensive system of social insurance, encompassing old-age, medical, unemployment, workman's compensation, and maternity insurance was basically instituted, and the system of subsistence guarantees was comprehensively implemented. In the countryside, the system of subsistence guarantees is in the process of being implemented, vigorous explorations on how to implement a system of old-age insurance are being carried out, and trials of a new kind of medical cooperatives are accelerating. The promulgation and implementation of the Regulations on Workman's Compensation Insurance, Regulations on Labor Security Oversight, Labor Contract Law, Employment Stimulus Law, Social Security Law, and Labor Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Law have gradually created a system of laws and regulations for safeguarding workers' rights and interests. When the 2008 financial crisis occurred, the CPC Central Committee and the central government resolutely adopted a four trillion yuan stimulus plan, equivalent to about 16% of the 2007 GDP. The outlays were directed mainly toward development of low-income housing projects, projects to improve farmers' livelihoods, railroad and road construction, and ecosystem improvements that directly benefit people's lives, as well as reconstruction in earthquake-hit areas.

Based on calculations of the Ministry of Agriculture	
<input type="checkbox"/>	After completely eliminating the agricultural tax throughout the country in 2006, the burden on farmers was about 140 yuan per capita less than in 1999 before the reform of taxes and fees.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The reform of taxes and fees eliminated 33.6 billion yuan in agricultural tax contributions.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eliminating the "three deductions" [for public reserve funds, public welfare funds and management fees] and the "five charges" [charges for rural education, family planning, militia training, rural road construction and subsidies to entitled groups] and eliminating miscellaneous education fees in the countryside saved rural residents more than 70 billion yuan.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Various other unreasonable fees were also eliminated.
2006	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Direct grain subsidies totaled 14.2 billion yuan, ten times more than in 2005.
<input type="checkbox"/>	New direct subsidies for agricultural production materials totaled 12.5 billion yuan.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subsidies for seed grain reached 4.07 billion yuan nationwide.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subsidies for farm machinery by governments at all levels totaled 1.06 billion yuan.

After completely eliminating the agricultural tax, the burden on farmers was reduced by 140 yuan.

## 3. Mechanisms and methods for resolving conflicts among the people

A system of people's mediation committees has been established in communities throughout China. The work of these committees is supervised by primary-level Party committees, governments and courts. They use mediation methods to resolve ordinary disputes between citizens and minor criminal offenses. Parties to mediation who willingly reach an agreement should abide by its terms. If people are unwilling to enter into mediation, cannot come to an agreement or renege on their promises, one or both parties can bring suit in people's court. People's arbitration committees are not state judicial organs or government administrative bodies. Their activities and the outcomes they arrive at do not have legal or administrative force, but nevertheless, they play a positive role in solving ordinary disputes between citizens.

Because China has been in a transition period in recent years, a complicated pattern of interlocking interest relations and conflicts has emerged, which has led to the sudden occurrence of mass incidents that affect social order and stability. When the CPC deals with suddenly occurring mass incidents, it adheres firmly to a basic principle: to firmly keep in mind the orientation of wholeheartedly serving the people, trust the masses, rely on the masses, consider issues from the perspective of the masses, solve problems raised by the masses any way possible, and effectively safeguard the basic interests of the masses.



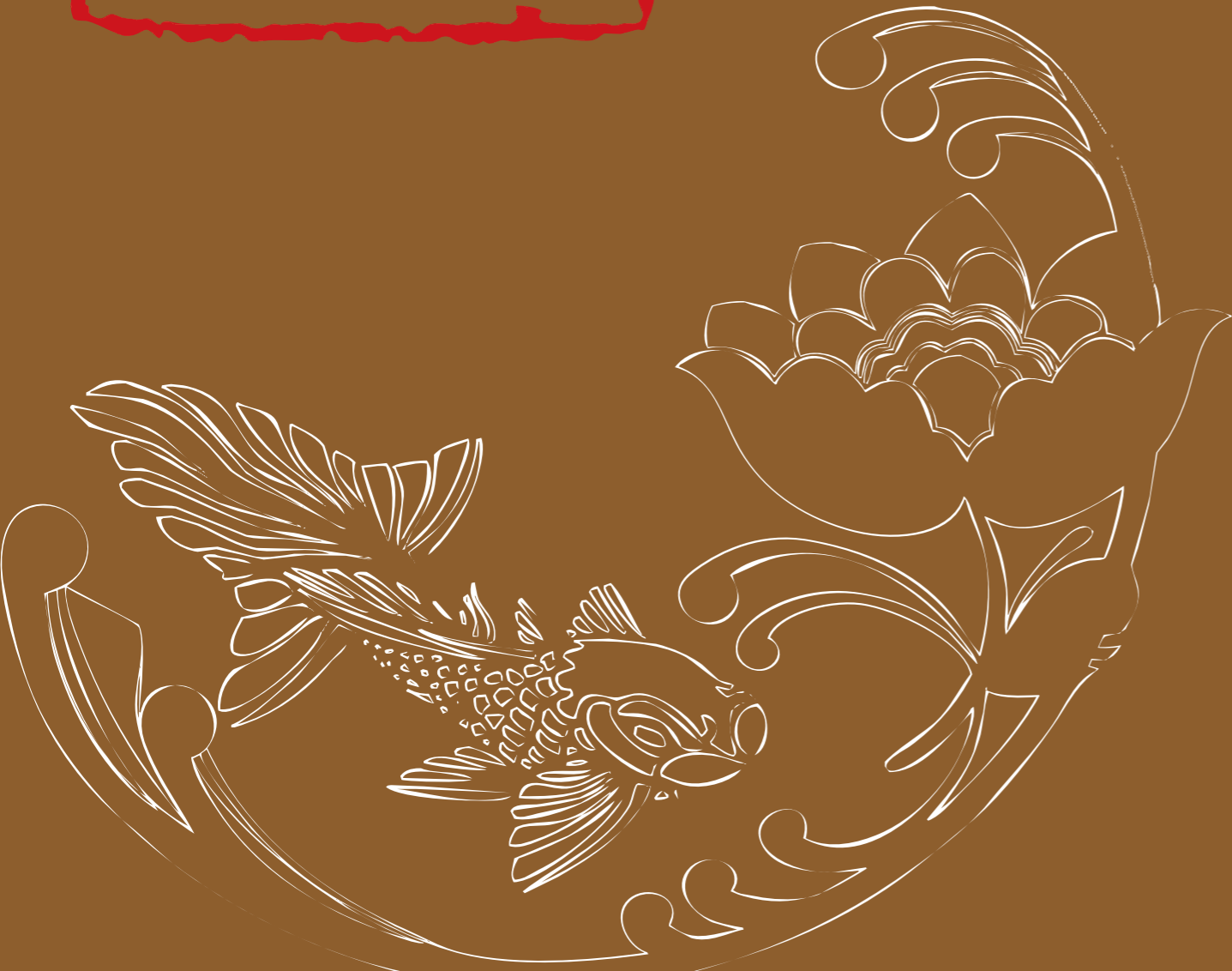
The Donghu Neighborhood Mediation Committee, Chaoyang District, Beijing, is mediating a labor dispute.

## 4. Raising the proportion of representatives of the masses in organs of state power

The CPC is a ruling party, and when it deals with the relation between the Party and state power, it attaches great importance to getting people's congresses to fully play their role. The Party exercises its leadership primarily in the areas of politics, ideology and organization, and the will of the Party becomes the will of the country by passing through people's congresses. Deputies to people's congresses are selected through democratic elections. People's congresses at all levels have the responsibility of examining and approving the economic and social development plan, budget and government report of their respective administrative region. They have the right to discuss and decide major issues in their region concerning politics, the economy, education, science and technology, culture, public health, protection of the environment and resources, civil administration and ethnic groups. In recent years as the result of reform of election procedures for people's congresses and optimization of their composition, the proportion of deputies representing the masses has constantly increased, thereby better ensuring that the decisions made by people's congresses are more closely in accord with the basic interests of the masses.

# 4

## Preventing Public Servants from Becoming Overlords: the System of Education and Supervision of Party Members and Cadres



The CPC is a ruling party, and it attaches great importance to strengthening the work of educating and supervising Party members and cadres. It uses a wide variety of measures and methods to maintain the Party's advanced nature, maintain the Party's intimate relations with the masses, and prevent Party members and cadres from degenerating from being public servants to becoming overlords divorced from the masses.



A group of new Party members take the oath of membership and express their loyalty to the Party and the people in front of the site of the Second Plenary Session of the Seventh CPC Central Committee in Xibaipo, Pingshan County, Hebei.

## 1. Strengthening education of Party members and cadres

Emphasizing ideological and political work is a superiority of the CPC that it has had for a long time. Party organizations at all levels place great emphasis on strengthening ideological education of Party members and cadres, especially on heightening their awareness of the Party's purpose, and it requires Party members and cadres to constantly increase their willingness to take the initiative to serve the masses. This education mainly takes two forms: regular education and focused education.

**1) Regular education:** The basic forms of regular education are training classes, classes for new Party members and meetings to study important reports. These study sessions are organized for Party members and cadres to collectively study according to a general plan. At the same time that theoretical study takes place, practical training methods are used, on the basis of which Party members and cadres are organized to work directly with ordinary people, and they are sometimes given hardship postings in areas where life is difficult to toughen themselves. This not only makes them better able to do practical work, but also strengthens their ties to the masses.



Cadres go into the fields to help the farmers prepare for spring plowing and protect seedlings from drought in Changshun County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

**2) Focused education:** A fine tradition of the CPC is that at the same time it carries out regular education, it also organizes focused education activities to constantly educate all Party members in Marxism. These activities are focused on the Party's central tasks and the actual condition of the cohort of Party members in different periods of history.

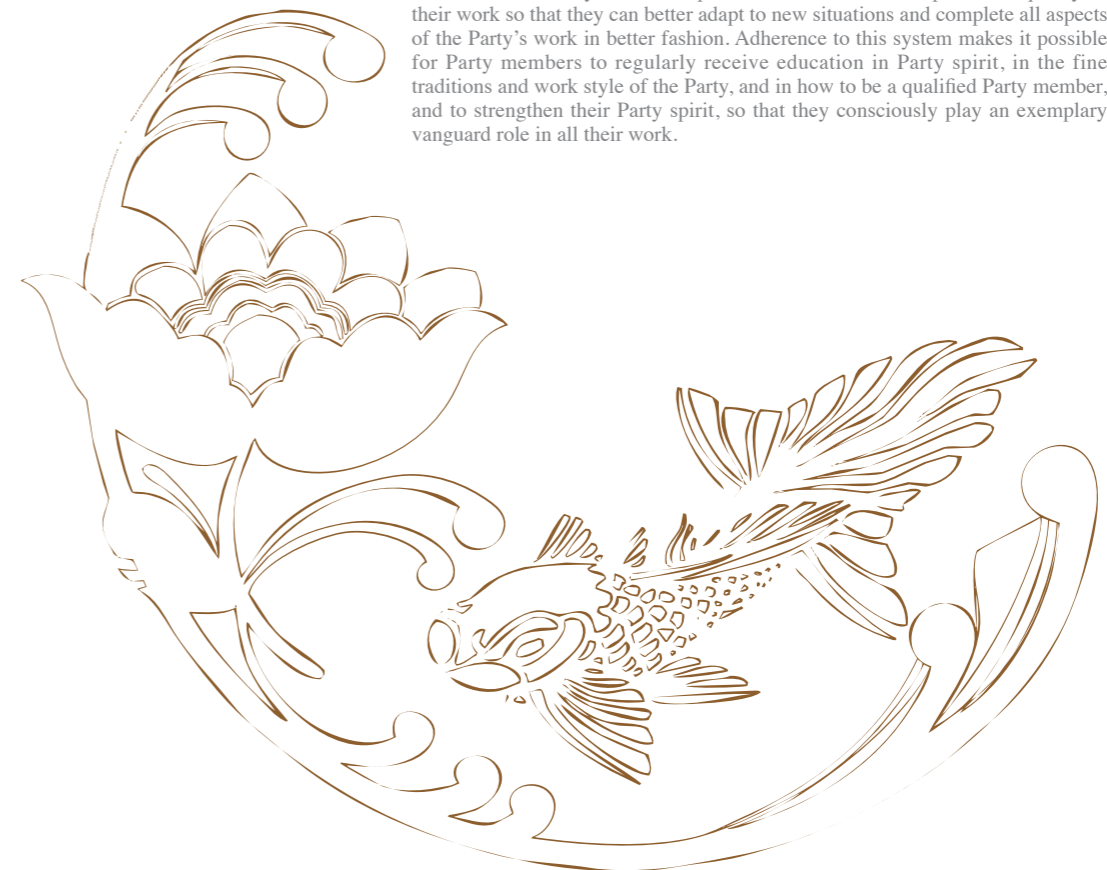
For example, from January 1, 2005 through June 2006, education activities were carried out throughout the Party to maintain the advanced nature of Party members, with the purpose of raising Party members' quality, strengthening primary-level organizations, serving the masses and spurring all aspects of the Party's work. From September 2009 through March 2010, education activities were carried out throughout the Party to study the scientific outlook on development and put it into practice, in which more than 3.7 million primary-level Party organizations and 75 million Party members participated. Their purpose was to raise the level of education and scientific development of Party members and cadres and bring real benefits to the masses. Both of these activities had very good results and received the backing and support of the masses.

## 2. Supervising Party members and cadres well

The CPC has always maintained that the Party should supervise itself and run the Party strictly. Running the Party strictly means making strict demands on cadres, educating them strictly, and supervising and overseeing them strictly. The system for strengthening supervision of Party members and cadres consists primarily in the system of regular activities of Party organizations, the system of meetings on the democratic meetings of leading cadres, the system of three meetings and one class, the system of regularly analyzing Party spirit, and the system of democratic appraisal of Party members. The regular supervision of Party members and cadres consists mainly in heart-to-heart talks, democratic appraisal through discussion, appraisal of work reports, and making inquiries. Earnestly carrying out these activities stimulates Party members and cadres to better enhance their awareness of the Party's purpose of serving the people wholeheartedly, abide by the Party constitution and internal Party rules and regulations, make the most of their own strengths, overcome personal defects and shortcomings, and serve as a model for the masses.

### Link: System of regular meetings of members of Party branches, branch committees, branch committees and Party groups and Party lectures

The system of regular meetings of members of Party branches, branch committees and Party groups and Party lectures is an important system for improving the regular activities of Party organizations, strictly supervising Party members and strengthening the education of Party members, and it plays an important role in strengthening Party building in Party branches and increasing the militancy of primary-level Party organizations. In adhering to this system, Party branches regularly organize study sessions for Party members to study principles and policies, current affairs and politics, and scientific and cultural matters to constantly raise their political awareness and improve the quality of their work so that they can better adapt to new situations and complete all aspects of the Party's work in better fashion. Adherence to this system makes it possible for Party members to regularly receive education in Party spirit, in the fine traditions and work style of the Party, and in how to be a qualified Party member, and to strengthen their Party spirit, so that they consciously play an exemplary vanguard role in all their work.



In the course of exercising political power, the CPC calls on all Party members and cadres to carry forward the Party's fine traditions, promote the spirit of maintaining intimate relations with the masses, humbly learn from the masses, enthusiastically serve the masses, sincerely accept oversight from the masses, always be modest and prudent, adhere to the lifestyle of hard work and plain living, and share weal and woe with the masses.

The CPC has always emphasized supervision and oversight of how Party members and cadres carry out their duties. It adopted a series of regulations-Intra-Party Oversight Regulations of the CPC (for trial implementation), Interim Provisions on the Accountability of Party and Government Leading Cadres, and Some Standards for CPC Members and Cadres to Practice Clean Governance – that are strictly enforced to discipline Party members and cadres whose work style is deficient, and who divorce themselves from the masses, are irresponsible, are derelict in their duty, have become corrupt, accept bribes, or violate the law and Party discipline.

### Link: The CPC's anti-corruption efforts

Combating corruption is an important measure a ruling party takes to strengthen party building and respect the will of the people. In recent years, this work has focused on investigating and dealing with cases of leading cadres abusing their power, accepting bribes, becoming degenerate, and being derelict in their duty; cases of seeking personal benefits through the exercise of their human resources decision-making power, examination and approval authority, and administrative law enforcement authority; and cases of collusion between officials and businessmen, providing protection to underworld elements, and seriously harming the interests of the masses. In cases where crimes are suspected, the matter is immediately referred to judicial authorities. Between December 2002 and June 2007, discipline inspection bodies investigated 679,846 cases nationwide and meted out Party discipline to 518,484 individuals. Within the Party, only a very small number of high-level cadres seriously have violated Party discipline, and they were all dealt with severely in accordance with the law and discipline. This shows that the Central Committee takes a clear stand in firmly and resolutely opposing corruption.

In summary, adhering to the Party's mass line and always maintaining intimate relations between the Party and the masses is the Party's source of power, the basic guarantee for its victory in the revolution, and its success in construction and development and reform. The CPC faces many new challenges in its relations with the masses. For example, some CPC members and cadres engage in influence peddling, fail to do their jobs or do them irresponsibly, compete with the people for benefits and infringe upon their interests. All this presents new challenges to the Party's governance. As long as the Party firmly keeps in mind its purpose of wholeheartedly serving the people, fully fosters the fine tradition of maintaining intimate contacts with the people, correctly handles the interlocking and complex interest relations of the new period, effectively safeguards and realizes the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people, and willingly accepts the criticism and oversight of the masses, it can constantly strengthen its foundation for exercising political power, strengthen its political position and achieve prolonged political stability.



Working together to eliminate corruption.



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