Powerfull Communist Slogans of China which Established The Nation as Super Power.

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Communist Party Centenary Celebrations in China in July’21 amid Pandemic & Other Geo- Political Turmoils coined a very interesting question of Transformation of a Nation carrying legacy and forgetting Humiliations. The same issues are discussed in China with the steadfastness of the Communist Party - how has the party maintained its strength in such a long journey and during this journey the possibility of democratic system coming and the fears of the complete collapse of communism behind it left it.

For nearly two thousand years, the philosophy of Confucius continued to influence the life and lifestyle of the Chinese people. Confucius had laid such an outline of a society based on morality in which people knew about their place in society. This system was based on status, in which the elders had a sense of altruism for the younger and it was considered a matter of responsibility to take care of the weaker ones. The Confucian way of life remained an integral part of Chinese society during the reign of the imperial dynasties of China until the Revolution of 1911. But as soon as the last emperor of China was ousted from power in this revolution, feelings against Confucius and his legacy also started to emerge. In this apart from the radical forces, people of the new Communist Party were involved. Mao Zedong was also one of these communists. During his tenure (from 1949 to 1976), Mao remained vocal in his opposition to the traditional philosophy of China.

Mao Zedong, the party's tallest leader and founder of the communist regime in China, turned political sloganeering into an art. In the meantime, China's leaders after Mao have changed many of their fanatical principles. But, even today, there are many such slogans, which Mao's political heirs have been repeating again and again. Let's have deep dive into impact & influence of Power Slogans that Helped China to rise and shine against all odds.

1) Let 100 Flowers Bloom (1956):

Rhetoric is an inseparable part of everyday speech in China. In China, it is believed that if something is said in coffee or in rhyme, then it seems absolutely correct. Such sentences are completed by means of four letters of the Chinese language. For the last two thousand years, Chinese leaders have been using such rhyming words. Mao Zedong often used to explain his point to the public by manipulating such old words of China. 'Let a hundred flowers bloom; Let there be a competition among a hundred thoughts.' This slogan was taken by Mao from the era of 'conflict of provinces' of China that ended 221 years before Christ.

Mao kept hinting that criticism of the Communist Party would be allowed. But, when people actually started condemning, it turned into a very widespread and poisonous contest. Huge posters were put up criticizing the authorities; Students and teachers openly started rejecting the policies of the party. So, a year after the start of a hundred flowers in China, Mao put an end to it. In a speech, Mao said, 'What should be our policy towards non-Marxist ideas? As for the opponents of the cause of revolution and socialism, the answer to this question is very simple. We will deprive them of their freedom of speech. A special campaign was launched against those demanding rights. Intellectuals were boycotted. They were put in jail or sent to work in villages. The detractors are still debating this campaign today; Was this a sincere attempt to bring about openness? Or was it a clever tactic to instigate the opponents of the revolution to take off their veils? But Nothing Clear came out.
2) Courage to Think, Power to Take Action (1958)

Mao gave this very important slogan under his 'Great Leap Forward' campaign. The 'Great Leap Forward' was a two-year campaign in which Mao encouraged farmers to unite for collective farming. Show courage to think, muster courage to speak. Show the power to walk' was given by Mao so that the farmers should follow the path shown by him. But, during this time the agricultural produce in China was ruined. Due to natural disasters and Mao's policies, about 30 million people died in China. Despite being associated with the 'Great Leap Forward' catastrophe, Mao's supporters continued to use this slogan for many years afterwards.

3) Break the four old traditions (1966)

If there is one jumla that accurately portrays the atrocities committed by Mao in the name of Cultural Revolution, it is this one. Through this, Mao Zedong encouraged the young workers of the party to sabotage everything that was old. By old, he meant old ideas, customs, habits and culture. China's Cultural Revolution seemed to have triggered a long series of slogans, including the phrase, 'Revolution is worth it'. This slogan is said to be the true companion of the slogan 'destroy the old traditions'. For a permanent revolution, Mao had given permission to attack almost every institution and system in the country. In fact, he wanted to restore his image through the Cultural Revolution, which had been damaged by the 'Great Leap Forward'.

4) Destroy the Gang of Four Traitors (1976)

After Mao's death, a struggle for power broke out among the top leadership of the Communist Party of China. Mao's designated successor, Hua Guopeng, had assumed all formal leadership roles. However, Mao's wife Jiang Qing and three of his associates strongly opposed Hua Guopeng. All this was related to the atrocities committed during the Cultural Revolution. So, they were immediately arrested and removed from their posts. At that time, all four were called traitors in the propaganda posters of the Communist Party. The most famous satirical picture among them was the one in which cross marks were made on their faces. The poster read, 'Forever throw out the anti-party gang of Wang-Zhang-Jiang-Yao!' The chair of Hua Guopeng himself was later taken over by Dang Xiaoping, who initiated economic reforms in China. These four leaders, who were called traitors, were tried. It has been called the bloodiest power struggle in the history of modern China.

5) Reform and Open the Doors to the World (1978)

Dang Xiaoping put China on the track of economic reforms very quickly. At first he quietly shrugged off the rhetoric of 'class struggle' and was replaced by the 'four modernizations'. Dang Xiaoping gave the idea of 'socialism with the characteristics of China'. This gave Chinese leaders a lot of flexibility to move away from Mao's principles. Overall, the motto of Dang Xiaoping's plan became 'reform and open the doors to the world' which also included in China's Constitution.

6) Derive Reality out of the Facts (1978)

In one of his 1978 speeches, Dang Xiaoping said, 'If we free our mind, seek truth in facts, deal with reality after all, and adopt hypotheses in our practice, then we can achieve our socialist modernization program. Will be able to run it successfully. This is a broad concept. And, in this it is assumed that there is also an unbiased truth. Whereas the reality is that whoever has the power in his hands, he can change its meaning according to his own.

7) Have Fewer Babies, Keep More Pigs (1979)

Many strange slogans and political rhetoric are associated with China's one child policy. These slogans were not necessarily approved by the Communist Party's central leadership, but enthusiastic local officials had been painting the walls with these slogans for decades. In the overly rhetorical slogans, 'Excite the pain of having children! Have an abortion! Whatever you do, don't produce too many children.' 'If there is more than one child in a family, then the whole village will be sterilized.' And 'One more child means another grave.' Now as China's birth rate has fallen, it has had to make frequent changes in its population policy. In 2016, China allowed the first two children to be born. And, more recently, every married couple has been given the right to have three children.
8) Three Represents (2000)

Jiang Zemin, during his ten years in power in Chinese politics, gave the 'Critical Idea of the Three Representatives', which was also included in the Preamble of the Constitution of China. Chinese leaders liked this slogan, taking some practicality and some logic. However, due to its ambiguity, this slogan also caused a lot of annoyance. Jiang Zemin said that, 'The Communist Party should always represent the development needs of China's advanced productive forces. It should work to promote China’s advanced culture and promote the basic interests of the majority of the Chinese people. Jiang Zemin was more of a technocrat than an inspirational poet and warrior like Mao.


Hu Jintao started his platform deliberately to tackle the inequality that was created by the rapid economic growth of the 1980s and 1990s. He said in a 2005 speech that, 'A harmonious society should have democracy, rule of law, equality, justice, honesty, energy and cooperation'. However, perhaps it was the result of slogan’s success that China's Internet users make fun of the rhetoric of a harmonious society. He uses 'river crabs' for this, which sounds like harmony, but through this he is able to criticize the Chinese government by avoiding the censors.

10) Supreme Three (2007)

It sounds like the name of a music album. But, in Hu Jintao's mind, it was a way of overcoming the reformist judiciary. Top Three were - Honourable Judges, Advocates & Communist Party Comrades. Through Wang Shengjun he ensured that the courts of the country follow the principle of three supreme. Since then, the interests of the party have dominated the other two supreme.

11) One Belt One Road (2013)

This is Xi Jinping's favorite slogan. Xi Jinping became the supreme leader of China in early 2013 and has come a long way since then. He has coined many more such rhetoric and has made himself the most powerful leader of the country. From the point of view of Chinese planners, President Xi's initiative can provide a platform for the harmonious coexistence and solidarity development of various countries and entire civilizations in the very near future, while remaining politically and culturally independent of each other, they will be economically interdependent and share a common desire for harmonious co-development.

The Communist party's effort has been to capitalize on its revolutionary legacy to maintain people's confidence in the communist regime. The party's glorious past and sacrifice can be seen everywhere in China's state media. Chinese President Xi Jinping, who launched a campaign to know the party's history in February, has told party workers present at all levels that they were asked to take knowledge from the party's past. Boosting nationalist fervor, Xi Jinping and his allies have begun projecting China as a global hub. In this context, the East is rising and the West is setting, or China's dominance is increasing and America's is decreasing, as narratives are being coined. It is also being publicized that foreign enemy forces are trying to control China. Xi Jinping’s China does not support the idea in which some external force shows his eye and escapes just like that.

CMP noted the release by the Central Office of the CCP of a propaganda blueprint for the promotion of the 100th anniversary of the Party. The “Notice,” which was reported on the front page of the People’s Daily, defines the key propaganda themes that will likely dominate the Chinese media in 2021-22.

Along with the CCP notice, propaganda authorities released a list of 80 propaganda slogans to be used in this year's campaign. Such a top-down national release of propaganda slogans was unprecedented in the reform era before 2019, when a list of 70 propaganda slogans was issued for the 70th anniversary of the PRC. There were a total of 80 entries, each ending with an exclamation point. The slogans toward the end of the list appear to intensify in terms of emotional charge.

But Only 4 of the 80 slogans mention Xi Jinping. Those phrases are:

“Adhering to Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important idea of the “Three Represents,” the Scientific View of Development and Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism With Chinese Characteristics for the New Era as the guide!”

“Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism With Chinese Characteristics for the New Era is the guide of action in the struggle toward realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese people!”
“Strengthening the ‘Four Consciousnesses,’ remaining firm in the ‘Four Confidences,’ and achieving the ‘Two Protections!’”

“Uniting closely around the Central Committee of the CCP with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core, seizing new victories in the comprehensive building of a modern socialist nation!”

The first two phrases above include Xi Jinping’s so-called “banner term”, the phrase that is meant to encompass his ideas and legacy. But there are a number of other slogans attributed to Xi and closely associated with him, including these two phrases about sustainable development:

“Not relaxing in our insistence on the green mountains, placing our feet solidly on the ground and working hard!”

“Green waters and green mountains are gold mountains and silver mountains”

The “spirit” of the Chinese Communist Party is one of the main focuses in propaganda for the centennial of the Party, and related slogans include: 1) “Promoting the great spirit of fighting the Epidemic” ; 2) “Promoting the great spirit of the war on Poverty” ; 3) “the spirit of reform and innovation” ; 4) “the China spirit”.

Additionally there is one phrase along these lines that seems to have been chosen because the 100th anniversary of the CCP falls in the Year of the Ox: “carrying forward the spirit of serving the people as the ox calf, of innovation and development as the pioneering ox, and ardent struggle as the old yellow ox”.

The propaganda slogans include a number of references to the international situation, with indirect reference to the United States. For example:

“Making overall strategic planning for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and great changes such as the world has not seen in a century!”

“No person and no force can stop the march of the Chinese people toward better lives!”

Interestingly, there are no references among the slogans to “Belt and Road” or to a “community of common destiny for mankind,” both key aspects of so-called “Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy” (not mentioned either). However, there is mention of a “Chinese national community”, which appears in the phrase: “Firmly casting a consciousness of the Chinese national community, promoting the common unity and struggle of all ethnic groups, and common prosperity and development!”.

The three phrases at the tail end of the propaganda slogan list are a shout-out to 14 categories of people. They include: workers, farmers, intellectuals, the People’s Liberation Army, the compatriots from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, and people from various countries who are friendly with the Chinese people. For example, the following slogans:

“We offer tribute to the vast workers, farmers, intellectuals, various democratic parties, various people’s groups, patriots from all walks of life, to the commanders of the People’s Liberation Army, to the officers and soldiers of the People’s Armed Police, to public security officers!”

“To our compatriots in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Macao Special Administrative Region and Taiwan, as well as to our overseas Chinese compatriots, we send our sincere greetings!”

“To all the people and friends of all countries who live in friendship with the Chinese people and care for and support the cause of Chinese revolution, construction and reform, we extend our heartfelt gratitude!”