

Telegram Regarding the Issue of Democratic Individuals Visiting Land Reform (March 18, 1951)

Comrades Shushi, Zihui, Xiaoping, Zhongxun [1]:

Democratic individuals and university professors who are willing to see the land reform should be allowed to do so freely, without prior arrangement. Let them go as they please, and don't just show them the good aspects, but also let them see some of the bad, to educate them in this way. Wu Jingchao, Zhu Guangqian [2], and others went to see the land reform near Xi'an, and the impact was very good. We should use such examples to educate our cadres and break the mindset of closed-doorism.

Mao Zedong

Footnotes:

[1] Shushi refers to Rao Shushi, who was then the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in East China. Zihui refers to Deng Zihui, who was then the Third Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in Central South. Xiaoping refers to Deng Xiaoping, who was then the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in Southwest. Zhongxun refers to Xi Zhongxun, who was then the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in Northwest.

[2] Wu Jingchao was a professor in the Department of Sociology at Tsinghua University at that time. Zhu Guangqian was a professor in the Department of Western Language and Literature at Peking University.