

Central Committee's Remarks on Issuing Instructions for Implementing the Marriage Law (November 26, 1952)

To all Central Bureaus, Branch Bureaus, forwarding to Party Committees at all levels in provinces, municipalities, and districts, local committees, county committees, all levels of military district party committees, and informing all departments of the Central Government and the Military Commission:

We are sending you the instructions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on implementing the Marriage Law [1]. Please promptly implement them and publish them in party journals.

Notes

[1] The instructions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on implementing the Marriage Law issued on November 26, 1952, emphasized the following points: (1) The primary task of the movement to implement the Marriage Law is to promote the law, educate the masses and cadres, and establish a correct understanding of the Marriage Law among the broad masses of people. It is necessary to clearly distinguish between the feudal marriage system and the new democratic marriage system in ideology.

(2) The reform of the marriage system is a democratic reform against feudalism, but it is different from land reform and other social reforms in rural areas. The reform of the marriage system is purely an internal matter of the people and requires long-term patient work, not a rough and hasty attitude or the methods of class struggle.

(3) March 1953 is proposed as the month for the movement to promote and implement the Marriage Law, aiming to make it widely known and deeply rooted in people's hearts, thus changing the atmosphere and customs. From December 1952, preparations for the movement to implement the Marriage Law should be made in various places.

(4) It is suggested that specialized marriage courts be established by people's courts at all levels to handle marriage cases.

(5) Marriage registration offices should be established by district people's governments under county (city) governments and by city people's governments in areas without districts to correctly handle marriage registration, which is an important task for implementing the Marriage Law and safeguarding marital freedom.