

"Directive on Studying the Experience of Holding People's Representative Conferences in Songjiang County

(October 13, 1949)

Comrades De Huai, Zhong Xun, Lin Biao's son Hui, Bo Cheng, He Long, and others:

According to Comrade Rao Shushi's telegram on October 11th, 'We chose Songjiang County near Shanghai and created the experience of convening a People's Representative Conference for the entire county. This conference was held on September 30th. I rushed to attend and made a report. The results of the conference were good. After enthusiastic discussions and debates among representatives from all walks of life, measures were established for rent and interest reduction, fair burdens, and the resolution of labor disputes. It has significant educational significance for both the party and non-party members. It proves that convening People's Representative Conferences in various counties is not only urgently needed but also entirely possible. The proceedings and experiences of the conference are planned to be published in the Liberation Daily.

Specifically: (1) My report on the conference, concerning issues of rent and interest reduction, fair burdens, and industrial and commercial policies (already published in the Liberation Daily on October 6th). (2) Report on the People's Representative Conference of all walks of life in Songjiang County. (3) An excerpt from the County Party Secretary's report on the work and tasks of Songjiang. (4) Introducing the experience of the People's Representative Conference of all walks of life in Songjiang County (planned to be published as a Liberation Daily editorial).

The above-mentioned documents have been sent to the Central Committee by Xinhua News Agency today. If there is still a need for internal summarization reports, please instruct accordingly. After receiving the above documents, they will be broadcasted by Xinhua General Society, and you can see them in the newspapers. After reviewing the experience of Songjiang County, please immediately order all subordinates to handle this uniformly. This is a significant matter. If a thousand or more counties can organize and conduct county representative assemblies, and do so effectively, it will be of great importance to our party's work in connecting with tens of millions of people and to the education of a vast number of cadres both inside and outside the party. It is hoped that you will handle it uniformly, act promptly, and select a county to attend personally to gain experience and guide the subordinates.

Mao Zedong

October 13th