

CCP POLICY ON MINORITY NATIONALITIES

Mao Zedong*

Our united front to resist Japan does not only concern parties, groups and classes, but also concerns all the nationalities in the country. In view of the enemy's scheme to split the national minorities in the country which they have put into effect and are now trying to expand further, the eighteenth item of our present task is to unite all nationalities and to fight together with them against the Japanese. For this purpose, attention must be paid to the following points: (1) The Mongols, Moslems, Tibetans, Miaos, Yis and Fans have equal rights with the Hans. In the common struggle against Japan, they shall have the right to handle their own affairs and at the same time to unite with the Hans in building a unified country. (2) In areas where the national minorities and the Han people live together, the regional governments should set up committees composed of the peoples of the national minorities as part of the provincial and county governments to attend to affairs concerning them and to adjust the relationships among the various nationalities. Each of the different nationalities

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shall have a number of posts in the provincial and county governments. (3) The culture, religion and customs of the national minorities shall be respected. They must not be compelled to learn the Han spoken and written language, but shall be helped to develop their culture and education in their own languages. (4) Existing pan-Hanism must be corrected. The Han people, in their contact with national minorities, must be encouraged to regard them as equals, and must gradually attain a closer friendship with them. The Han people are strictly forbidden to insult or show contempt for the national minorities by any word or deed. The above policies can be realized, on the one hand, by united efforts of the national minorities; and on the other hand, the governments should voluntarily put these policies into effect so that relationships among the various nationalities in our country can be improved and unity against foreign aggression will be achieved. The old methods of deception and oppression will no longer work.