

**Cleveland Council on
WORLD AFFAIRS**



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Position Papers for:

CRISIS Cultural Revolution

Delegation: Chen Boda

Represented by: Strongsville High School

Position Paper for the Chinese Communist Revolution

As secretary to Mao Zedong and an influential leader to the Cultural Revolution, I understand there to be a monstrous task at hand. The leaders of the revolution and myself, must combat the unforeseen outcomes from our admirable policies brought about by well sculpted Marxism-Leninism ideas. Such issues must be addressed: the increase of deaths/suicides, the expansion of displaced persons, the faltering educational system and the persecution of ethnic minorities.

Predating my current status of political secretary to Mao Zedong, I served as a secret underground agent for the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in order to properly educate the youth with propagandist methods. In addition, I also wrote several books and articles depicting the glorious nature of communistic ideals, in specific those attributed to Marx, Lennin, and Mao Zedong. Once gaining political credibility, I began working with Mao Zedong more and more until I finally became his political secretary and had the pleasure of articulating Zedong's glorious epitomes.

The policies enacted by Zedong were constructed to reassert control from the radical Communists and manifest the true nature of the unjust communist heirarchy. Furthermore, Mao Zedong worked hard to show how western society has solely poisoned our remarkable culture and traditions in order to strip us of our strengths: strengths rooted in a rich and brilliant history. One policy enacted during the Cultural Revolution was to completely flush China of all western influence, thus the "Four Folds" policy was created. This policy brought back old ideas, old customs, old culture and old habits. These policy showed how the communist party was allowing for western nations to assimilate our chinese people into nothing more than western individuals. Under Zedong, those elite who were solely focused on personal benefit versus that of the Chinese people were purged. The educational system was also recontsstructured to incorporate the four folds, unfotunetly several profosors had to be removed due to their intolerant communistic views. Several protests broke out due to an inability for communist loyalists to understand the graveness of how much China has fallen.

Unfortnuetly not all of the policies brought about greatness. Millions had died and even more had become displaced due to a strict, yet necessary regime. This involved jailing, occasional tourcher, and physical punshiments. The level of education had also fallen due to the fact that many teachers were communist loyalist, so they either did not teach in order to educate but rather to manipulate with propoganda. Changes to this retaliation must be made because China cannot propser in a changing world without unity. Something that might be able to help the situation, is if more civilians were to become enriched Marixian theories or even those proclaimed by Mao Zedong. For these entail a rich culture rooted in thousands of years of history: something western

nations do not have. Educators must understand that the government exists in order to improve the lives of the populous, meaning they must give us the power to do so. Also, ethnic minorities may exist within China if they succumb to the four folds. Problems only arise when the people chose to follow in teachings that steer us people in the path of upression. Also, by increasing the amount of jobs available in sectors such as sewing, agriculture and the food industry the people will be able to spend there time making money and buidling our country's economy. Also, by spending time on activities, people will have more to do and less ways to become depressed over the same mundane routine: by decreasing the amount of communistic reign over China, people will be more movtivated to strive for bigger and better rather than dealing with unjust "equality". The Four Folds policy was created in order to build up a once glorious and brawny country, through the denounment of western ideals and the expansion of culture.

Delegation From: People's Republic of China
Represented By: North Olmsted High School

Position Paper for the Chinese Cultural Revolution

I. Dealing with the Effects of the Chinese Cultural Revolution Through the Perspective of Gao Xingjian

Throughout China, I am known as a pioneer of absurdist drama due to my European theatrical influences and reputation as an avant-garde writer. I have produced many theatrical works over the course of my life, some of which openly criticized the Chinese Communist Party's state policies. I was born on January 4, 1940, in the city of Ganzhou located in the Jiangxi province of China. I enjoyed painting, writing and theatre as a young boy. I studied various different art forms during my time in middle school and also began to read Western literature during this time. I graduated from high school in 1957 and, at my mother's suggestion, attended Beijing Foreign Studies University despite my apparent artistic talents. I graduated from BFSU in 1962 with a degree in French and immediately went to work for the Chinese International Bookstore as a French translator. Four year later, the Cultural Revolution began.

I remember it all so clearly. Mao Zedong declared that all intellectuals were enemies of the CCP and needed to be removed by any means necessary. So many of us were murdered, driven to suicide, or forced into manual labor. A few years later in the early 1970's, the Chinese Communist Party decided to implement their "Down to the Countryside Movement" and I was forced to work as a farm laborer in the countryside of the Anhui Province. Thankfully, I was allowed to return to Beijing in 1975 where I worked as the lead French translator for a popular magazine called *China Reconstructs*. I was appointed to the Committee of Foreign Relationships in 1977 and visited France for the first time two years later in 1979 with a group of Chinese writers from the Chinese Association of Writers. In the following year, I became the resident screenwriter and playwright for the Beijing People's Art Theatre, and it was during this time that I produced many of my most famous theatrical works. I retained this position until 1987 when I decided to relocate to the city of Bagnolet near Paris, France. The Tiananmen Square Protest occurred two year later in 1989, and I was outraged by what happened. I wrote and published the political drama *Fugitives* that made reference to the events that occurred during the Tiananmen Square Protest, which resulted in all of my theatrical works being banned in China.

To understand the Cultural Revolution, one must consider the CCP's rise to power. The origins of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) can be traced back to 1921 while the Qing Dynasty was still the ruling power in China. The CCP was nearly wiped out in the late 1920's and early 1930's, but the threat of Japanese invasion allowed the CCP to quietly rebuild its ranks. The Nationalist Party lost a significant amount of influence in China during early 1940's, while the CCP gained influence and support from the people living in rural communities. The Nationalist Party and the CCP resumed fighting after the end of the second World War and continued fighting through 1949 when the Communists emerged victorious and drove the Nationalists from mainland China, which set the stage for the Cultural Revolution. The Chinese Cultural Revolution, formally known as the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, began in August of 1966. Mao Zedong had risen to power by this time, and he had become convinced that the Communist Revolution had gone astray and needed to be rectified. Mao enacted the Cultural Revolution as a means to right the wrongs of the Communist Revolution and reshape Chinese

policy to more closely match his own ideology. The first few months of the Cultural Revolution were the most brutal and bloody. He shut down all of the schools in China and called for the young people of China to aid him in purging the nation of intellectuals and anyone who was opposed to the ideals of the Communist Party. Many of China's youths formed groups called the Red Guard that strove to enforce the ideals put in place by Mao and the Communist Party, resulting in thousands of people across China being arrested, forced to do manual labor on farms, killed, or driven to commit suicide. The rise of the Red Guard only added to the intense political turmoil within China, and after seeing that this new revolutionary movement had not succeeded, Mao once again attempted to reinstate order, this time by re-establishing the education system and restoring many former Chinese officials to power. However, it was not enough to save Communist China. Extreme radicals had risen against Mao, most notably the Gang of Four, and China continued to exist in a state of constant turmoil. The death of Mao Zedong and the arrest of the Gang of Four in 1976 officially marked the end of the Cultural Revolution.

The effects of the Cultural Revolution are so severe that they still impact China to the present day. One of the most controversial issues with the Cultural Revolution is the national purge of intellectuals that occurred during the mid-to-late 1960's. The Cultural Revolution is often known for its excessive bloodshed and the vehement support of radical ideals. It is clear that China greatly suffered from a temporary shutdown of the entire education system and the purge of intellectuals, and this is an issue that needs to be addressed. Many people like me needlessly suffered under the CCP's reign. If this event can be prevented or altered, China will be able to recover from the Cultural Revolution more quickly and will most definitely be better off as a nation.

Delegate: Hua Guofeng

Represented by: Gilmour Academy

Crisis 1: Chinese Cultural Revolution

The Chinese Communist party was founded in 1921 after decades of weakness, financial insecurity, and political unrest following the devastating loss of the Sino-Japanese war. A massive overhaul of China's policies and governmental system was needed, and the Chinese Communist Party provides that. During the cultural revolution, the party is headed by Mao Zedong, and we have heroically risen to power. Every part of the lives of average Chinese citizens will be governed by the party, and it became all-encompassing. Our methods might be seen by reactionary elements as abusive and brutal, especially when targeting intellectuals, the elderly, and students.

Hua Guofeng strongly supports Chairman Mao's actions. He strongly believes in the ideals of the Chinese communist party, and denies any wrongdoing on the part of Mao Zedong and his associates. As the head of the party apparatus in Xingtian, Hua Guofeng doesn't believe that the measures taken by Mao's party are too drastic, and thinks that in the long run they will make China a better place. Although there is social unrest at the time of the cultural revolution, Hua Guofeng believes that it's necessary for a functioning society in the future. As a loyal supporter of chairman Mao and a local party leader, Guofeng will do whatever it takes to implement party values on a large scale.

Hua Guofeng proposes that the solution to the bloodshed and unrest of the cultural revolution is to double down on preventative measures, no matter how brutal they may seem. They are necessary to make China the utopia it has the potential to be. Guofeng hopes his fellow delegates will have the intelligence and clarity to see that communism is the right path for China, and that Chairman Mao should be supported no matter what.

Delegation: Jiang Qing

Represented by: Beachwood High School

Mao's plan for the cultural revolution is intended to purge the bourgeoisie who have infiltrated the ranks of our great nation. As the wife of Mao Zedong and a devout servant to my nation it is essential that the plans of the revolution succeed. For too long have the capitalist and elitist laid dormant in the midst of our nation and we need to purge them from the shadows. By eliminating the four olds: old ideas, old customs, old culture, and old habits we can rid this great communist nation of its dark past. China has been the puppet of western states many times in the past. From the first and second opium wars to very recently when Chiang Kei-shek ruled as the puppet of capitalists interests, China has continuously been influenced by capitalists and westerners.

With Mao as our strong leader, China can finally be free of these influences, but Mao will need assistance in order to achieve this goal. As Mao's wife and as a large influencer in the theatrical community, due to my history in the acting business, I may be able to assist in the eradication of the old ways. In order for China to start from scratch, the nation must create a new identity for itself. With my influence and expertise in the arts I can create a new culture for the people with communism at the center. In the past I have led many theatrical movements that criticized the intellectuals and capitalist that seek to ruin China and hope to achieve similar goals now. In addition to my connections in the theatrical community I also have a large influence with the Red Guard. The Red Guard will be essential for Mao's plan to succeed as these young students are the future of our nation. With the Red Guard supporting the communist party and Mao the revolution will succeed.

The first route of action we must take is to reveal any elitest that still remain hidden in the midst of our government as they will stop at nothing to see the failure of the revolution. Investigation into the lives of all members of the communist party must be conducted to expel anyone against the cause. With a clean slate of officials the revolution may commence. Pro revolution propaganda should be posted around cities and universities in China targeted at university students advertising the Red Guard. Additionally official communist party divisions should be created for the Red Guard to conveniently join and rise to action when called upon. These students will be essential when we will need to destroy the culture of the past. It is not enough for just the university students to join the cause, we must start teaching the youth the correct ideas. Teachings of Mao should be mandatory in all elementary schools preaching the word of Mao and disputing the ideas of capitalism. In this quest to revive China I will be essential in the destruction of the old ways with my connections and leadership within the Red Guard, and the creation of our new culture with my inside knowledge of communism and how it relates to the theatrical community.

Delegation: Kang Shang
Represented by: Solon High School

Chinese Cultural Revolution (无产阶级文化大革命)

As members of the Chinese Communist Party, it is our job to continue this new Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution led by the Great Chairman Mao and ensure that a new China is born where the hard working laborer shall thrive. In this crisis, we must focus on overcoming all obstacles and opposition from opposing political parties and the Western World to ensure that this Revolution happens successfully.

Kang Sheng

Kang Shang was a CCP member who is highly educated, coming from a family of Confucian scholars, completing secondary education at a German school and attending Shanghai University. During his time at university, he became a member of Communist Party Youth League and officially joined the Party soon after. After finishing his undergraduate studies, Kang became a Labor Organizer for the CCP, leading many protests.

Kang gradually moved up the ranks of the CCP, becoming governor of his home province of Shandong and later became a close member of Comintern or the Third International, an international organization advocating for global communism. His work in Comintern allowed him to gain inside access to the Soviet Communist model and develop a close relationship with Mao Zedong, as they both began to criticize the Soviet Communist model. Kang's loyalty to Mao allowed him to become a prominent party leader as he became the Head of the CCP Department of Social Affairs from 1939-1945 and simultaneously served as the head of the Intelligence Department from 1942-1945. He became a member of the CCP Politburo from 1945-1977. As a member of the Politburo, he was an expert in Chinese foreign relations due to his Comintern experience and also in charge of handling Intelligence relations.

Problems that May Arise during the Cultural Revolution and Potential Solutions

The Cultural Revolution officially began in May 1966, when Chairman Mao declared war against the bourgeoisie ruining Chinese society. The aim of this Revolution is to purge the impure bourgeoisie elements of Chinese society. The first step in this Revolution was to shut down all schools in China, spread awareness in Chinese universities of the corruption of CCP leaders and mobilize the youth to remain loyal to Mao and many CCP leaders such as President Liu Shaquai were removed from power.

A problem that will rise with the removal of leadership is deciding the replacement of these leaders with qualified candidates who will abide to the principles of the Party. Our cabinet will happily accept any candidate selected by Chairman Mao because this candidate will inevitably be the best choice. It is also important for the members of this cabinet to ensure that Chinese schools immediately open and all teachers who working in both government and private schools fully abide to the principles of the Party and properly instruct the students, the future members of the Chinese Communist Party to become successful future party members who lead China to become a true haven for the proletariat. Another problem which may arrive during this crisis are corrupt citizens who refuse to act in the best interest of the Party and the bourgeoisie. Those who refuse to be loyal to the Party should be re-educated and taught to embrace the ways of the party so they act in the best interest of the proletariat.

Regardless of what confusion and splintering may occur due to disagreement among cabinet members to solve the crises which may arrive, it is necessary for us to stay together and unite under the leadership of our Chairman Mao who knows what is best for our great nation.

Lin Fengmian was a Chinese artist who was educated in Paris and Berlin during the early 1920's. Due to his education in the west, Fengmian pioneered a new style that blended traditional Chinese art styles with modern European styles. When he later moved back to China and was the director of the National Art Academy, Fengmian was unfortunately caught in the crossfire of the Chinese Cultural Revolution. During this time, art was used as a propaganda machine for the government. Fengmian paintings, although artistically expressive and experimental, were viewed as dangerous by the government because they did not fit into the box that the government insisted upon. He was eventually forced to destroy most of his paintings and was still prosecuted and jailed. When a government attempts to craft such an intense presence of propaganda that it must punish any art that steps outside the set boundaries, it defeats the very essence of art. Art is meant to express one's individuality; art is meant to evolve and change. If one is to be convinced that the government was pursuing a cultural revolution, it is simply illogical that the art within said culture should be limited to only one preferred style. Therefore, in order to truly prove that this revolution is to change a culture, art must be allowed to exist freely in whatever form it decides to take. No official, no committee, and no government should be allowed to determine if art is suitable for the public. Art is an integral part of a nation's culture; thus, art must belong to the people.

Delegate: Lin Ligu

Represented by: St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

Position Paper for the Chinese Cultural Revolution

As director of the Office of Air Force command, I, Lin Ligu, do grant my service to the committee on the Chinese Cultural Revolution. I am firstly devoted to the party and its stance before anything else in my life. I respect my father and devoted party leader, Lin Biao, and owe my allegiance to party chairman Mao Zedong.

I would first like to outline my personal distaste for those within the party with western sympathies, nationalist party ties, and self-proclaimed intellectual characteristics. I believe the existence of such individuals is dangerous to the platform of the party and the greater cultural revolution as a whole. In the past, I have risen through the ranks of the People's Liberation Army Air Force not by grace of nepotism as my wicked peers may state, but through my own achievement and prowess in the glory of combat. With the end of World War Two and the expulsion of Japanese soldiers from our historic lands, I am exceptionally proud to be a citizen of the People's Republic of China and leader of its mighty air force.

My father and I believe all is to be good in the government according to our vision. As both leaders in our own right we have a supreme capability to understand the wants and needs of this glorious country. I hope to see a truly unified stance within the party for divided, we fall. I wish to see the youth of this country - filled with energy and spunk - to be ignited by the fires of the cultural revolution and set a path for party dominance. I also hope to see a streamlining of civilian support of the military. The expanse of new industry will spur the mass militarization effort and stimulate socialist principles in economics. All over the country, old traditions and outside interests weigh down the revolutionary fervor that exists within the overall culture. We must remove these outside interests through the use of furthered propaganda and parades showcasing new cultural spirit. Our greatest enemy in the cultural revolution is western influence and its impact on our social, economic, and political order. Those who do not agree with the goals of the revolution must pay the ultimate price by the hands of the Red Army. Long live Mao Zedong. Long live the cultural revolution!

Delegate: Qi Benyu

Represented by: Laurel School

Position Paper for Crisis Committee Cultural Revolution

The cultural revolution has helped China become a great nation. The great Mao has got the respect he deserved which really helped the nation. I and my three other comrades started the group called the Gang four which announces propaganda to help the cause of communism. Students rebelled and break loose of their teachers and finally rising to the occasion. Even though Mao only respected communist views he still pitied the nationalists and stepped in to help them by becoming a dictator and with my help we steered China in the correct direction. Mao did nothing for himself and was a true symbol for communism as a whole. The cultural revolution just showed how much the community wants communism and no one should step in the way.

I am hoping to discuss a lot of new ideas for the expanding of the revolution and making sure it was not in vain. I am going to be talking to my friends in the Great Four about new propaganda to spread. I want to regain power with the help of the Great Four and make sure we reach full communism in the country. I hope to become a leader like Mao did and make sure his death was not in vain. I want to spark more propaganda into the country to make sure the people still support us. Recruiting more students to go into the red guard to help support our cause and to carry out the acts we can't. I'm very excited to work with like mind people like me so we can really make a difference for China.

Delegation from: Chardon High School

Representing: Xie Fuzhi/谢富治

Position Paper for the Cultural Revolution Crisis Committee

The Chinese Cultural Revolution began in 1966 when Mao Zedong began his attempt to convert the entirety of China to communism. Communism is a system in which the government owns all the means of production, and nobody owns any of their own possessions or money. This attempt was successful, but was by no means an easy road. Along the way, Mao was met with resistance from many people. He relied heavily on a team of aides to help him survive, including many bodyguards. Mao silenced many of his opponents by either jailing or killing them. While Mao declared the revolution over in 1969, the active phase of the revolution didn't truly end until 1971, when Lin Bao died.

Xie Fuzhi was the Minister of Public security in China from 1959-1972. He was best known for his efficiency in hunting down Mao's enemies. He was very fond of the Red Guard, giving them complete authority to jail or kill Mao's opponents, which was rare of government officials at that time. He remained in office until his sudden and unexpected death in 1972. He was eventually posthumously expelled from the communist party due to his guilt in the excesses of the revolution.

One solution to this issue would be to either kill or imprison all of Mao's enemies. Xie was a proponent of silencing all of Mao's enemies, therefore, hunting them down and persecuting them would be a solution that would be very amicable to Xie. Another possible solution would be to garner enough public support for communism that its critics would not deter the system's progress. Use of the Red Guard is encouraged, as the Red Guard is extremely efficient and helpful in furthering the causes of the revolution.

Position Paper for Chinese Cultural Revolution

Yang Shangkun was a Chinese revolutionary and politician. He studied at Shanghai University and Moscow Sun Yat-sen University, making him one of the most well-educated members of the Chinese communist party, which allowed him to take a leading role in the Communist Party of China (CCP) early in his life when he was just 23 years old. Yang served in Zang Guotao's army until 1935, when Yang swore his alliance to Mao Zedong. Yang proved his alliance to Mao when he fled from Zang's headquarters, stealing documents that were important to the revolutionary force. Yang spent time serving as a high ranking official in Peng Dehuai until Peng was removed from active service in the early 1940s. Yang then served as the Secretary-General of the CPC Central Military Commission from 1945 to 1956. Yang held a senior position in the CCP Central Committee from 1956-1966, when he was accused and purged as a counter-revolutionary. Yang spent his time in jail until Deng Xiaoping rose to power. In 1978 Deng appointed Yang as vice chairman of the Central Military Commission in order to give him the authority to modernize and reform China's army. In 1982 Yang was appointed to the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, where he served until 1988 when he was appointed to the position of president. Yang served as president for five years when he was forced to step down from his position in 1993. Yang later died in 1998 at age 91. His obituary described him as "a great proletarian revolutionary, a statesman, a military strategist, a staunch Marxist, an outstanding leader of the party, the state, and the people's army."

The cultural revolution was one of the most impactful events in Chinese history. It changed how many people lived their lives, in good ways and bad ways. One of the bad ways was the change in the education system. Still to this day, many Chinese children are faced with an education system riddled with propaganda left over from past decades, as well as an intense program meant to separate the wealthy from the poor. One way to fix this problem in the education system would be a complete overhaul of the currently outdated education system. The current education situation shows an increasing gap between wealthy and poor, and the cities and country. The government could fix this issue by increasing funding to the poorer and more rural schools, to allow for the better education of the masses. This would improve China's overall education rate and increase the number of people who successfully graduate college, which then puts better-educated people into jobs in China, making China more successful. An updated curriculum would allow for decreased stress in students lives and less propaganda. By decreasing propaganda it makes China look better as a nation and much of this propaganda is outdated for the modern world. The decreased stress on students will increase productivity and show a decrease in suicide rates. A push for more acceptance of minorities in China will make people become more accepting of these minorities. To this day many minority groups are still being ridiculed in China by its citizens due to lasting effects of the cultural revolution. During the cultural revolution, many of the views of these minorities opposed those of the revolution. This led to intense persecution of these minority groups. To this day, these groups are still persecuted by Chinese citizens and officials who were raised during the revolution. More acceptance of these minorities will lead to a more rich culture and a better, more modern China.