

Profile of China's Xi Jinping- the Most Powerful man in the World.

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Xi Jinping was born in 1953. Great Leap forward: 1958 to 1962, Xi was 5 to 9 years old. Cultural Revolution: 1966 to 1976, Xi was 11-24 years old. Father was purged during the Cultural Revolution. Xi's mother was forced to testify against her husband in public. When the students broke into their home and destroyed their property, his step sister committed suicide. Xi spent 7 years living in a cave during the Cultural Revolution.

Profile of Xi: a) Kevin Rudd- author of "The Avoidable War" and has known Xi since 1986. His assessment: Xi is impressive, natural leader, speaks his mind and very direct and forceful. He is very firm in his positions, highly intelligent, knowledgeable and personally engaging. b) Susan Shirk: student, author-educator, State Dept. Official. Her assessment: Xi is dictatorial, autocratic, aggressive, inflexible, very ambitious and impulsive. c) Multiple Sources: astute, risk taker, insecure and brutal, seeks power and control with excellent political skills and deceptive. Identifies vacuums and fills them, he has thin skin and does not accept criticism. He is stubborn, micro manager with inferiority complex and has fear of appearing weak.

To date: he is not a Tyrant and he is not a Killer.

Names: great, core and peoples leader. He is the new emperor, a man of the people and man of destiny. He is the chief warrior and the enforcer.

Title he has not achieved and is unlikely to achieve- CHAIRMAN.

Quotes by Xi: America promotes war- China promotes peace. China promotes trade- US promotes sanctions. The East is rising while the West is in decline. China is invincible and no force can stop China. You have to be a dictator in China to get things done. Asian people will determine Asia's future- not the US and America is the world's bully.

Xi's goals and objectives: remain in power, maintain a strong Chinese Communist party and control China's sphere of influence in the Indo-Pacific and Western Pacific region. He wants to ensure that socialism prevails over Capitalism, change or replace the global world order and develop a military capability that can challenge the US. To remain the world's largest trading and investment partner, dominate global technology and increase Chinese influence in global institutions, e.g. UN. To expand the power of Chinese controlled institutions, e.g. BRICS, and Shanghai Cooperation Organization and to replace the dollar as the leading global currency for trade and finance.

Benchmarks for reading goals and objectives: 2025- made in China, competitive advantage in key global industries, e.g. Autos; 2027- end Taiwan's independence; 2030- Nuclear deterrence capability and global technology leadership; 2035- Increase military capability that exceeds the US in the Pacific; 2045- the leader in space and 2049- world power that matches or exceeds the US.

Xi Fears: internal dissent that will break national unity, a free Taiwan as a symbol of freedom. He fears collapse of China like the Soviet Union and the dominance of Western freedom with the success of capitalism and the power of the dollar.

Challenges: economic growth over the next 20 years will be more difficult than the last 20 years. Aging population, debt level from BRI and Real Estate crisis and increasing economic competition from Asian nations. Pollution due to heavy reliance on fossil fuel; backlash for aggressive behavior with Russia that is becoming weak. Dealing with the power of the US dollar and sanction, and countering the US alliance system.

Xi's lessons from history: He put in place a security to deal with protest, and avoid a split in the leadership. He keeps the military on the side of the state and the party. Maintain strong economy and ensure domestic tranquility.

Attempts to create a "police state," control internet, destroy all foreign symbols of Christianity and Muslims and strict laws for violating laws on speech.

New Initiatives: a) global civilization- alternative to the western model of democracy-multicultural. b) global security- UN principles. c) global development- grants for the global south.

What to watch?

Arctic and Antarctic- China will secure using the same patience- incremental model they used to control the South China Sea. In the Middle East, China will use the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to build a foundation that over time will include Saudi Arabia-UAE, Turkey and Egypt. Iran, India 4 of the 5 Central Asian countries will move from economics to security.

Wrap up: Xi is approaching 70. He could rule another 20 years if his policies are successful. In the words of Kevin Rudd, "He is a true believer in Marx, Lenin and Mao."