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CHINA INSIDER

Chinese leader Xi Jinping addresses the UN General Assembly in New York on Sept. 28, 2015.

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OPINION

The 'China Miracle' Is Over

The Beijing Model has been exposed in Hong Kong and in the shifting global supply chains for the lie that it is

JAMES GORRIE

After almost six months of major disruptions in the China-ruled financial hub of Hong Kong, why hasn't the Chinese regime crushed the ongoing protests? The People's Liberation Army (PLA) is garrisoned in Hong Kong and the People's Armed Police, a paramilitary force, has been positioned in nearby Shenzhen for weeks. Are their so-called "military drills" still in process?

How should one interpret the reticence of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to treat Hong Kong like Tiananmen Square?

Violence a Fitting Tribute on 70th Anniversary

Some view the imminence of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on Oct. 1 as a tempering factor. Perhaps it is. But there is more to China's patience with the protesters than simply the anniversary of the PRC. And although violently dispatching the Hong Kong protesters would certainly be an embarrassment to the CCP, on the other hand, it would also be, in a tragic way, a fitting portrayal of what the CCP is all about.

US Fueling the 'Foreign Influence' Threat

What about the resurgence of U.S. naval operations in the South China Sea, the recent war games with South Korea and Japan, or its recurring presence in the Taiwan Strait? Is America's higher profile in the region making China harbor

second thoughts about quelling the Hong Kong protests?

That seems less likely, given China's significant ability to field high numbers of troops, their advanced anti-warship weapons, and President Donald Trump's disdain for getting the United States entangled in more foreign conflicts. America's greater presence in the region and Trump's warning on Hong Kong, does however, add fuel to the CCP's decades-old domestic narrative of "foreign influences" being one of the gravest threats to Chinese sovereignty.

Trade War Unwinds China Economy

What about Trump's threats to link the resolution of the trade war with how China treats the protesters? Is that threat giving the CCP pause? It's certainly a possibility. Chinese leader Xi Jinping and the Party will soon realize, if they haven't already, just how damaging the trade war will be going forward.

In fact, its impact is already being felt in many parts of the country. For the first time in thirty years, global manufacturing supply chains are moving away from China. Factories in the southeastern coastal regions are laying off workers and closing. The Chinese GDP growth rate has slowed to a 27-year low, and that will likely worsen.

This radical new development will have huge negative effects on China's economy for the foreseeable future. With factories leaving for other countries, unemployment is rising in China. Not surprisingly, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang has made reducing unemployment his top economic priority.

Every Party member knows that they owe much of their wealth to their position in the Communist Party and its ability to obtain financial assistance from the West.

Hong Kong Is at the Center of CCP Worries

Make no mistake about it, it's not just the trade war that is causing the CCP pain. Hong Kong is at the center of the CCP's deepest anxieties. There are several reasons for this.

For example, if Hong Kong is "militarily conquered" by the Chinese army, it will drive foreign financial business away to safer locales, just as the trade war is driving manufacturing away. In response, the United States and other Western nations would likely strip Hong Kong of its special economic status, and therefore, the financial hub of Asia would lose all of the advantages on which China so desperately relies.

In doing so, the CCP will have destroyed China's financial gateway to the world, one whose stock market exceeds even London's. It would also destroy tremendous amounts of wealth, as real estate prices would crash, while financial services and other highly lucrative businesses would abandon Hong Kong. The CCP must realize that although China's brand may have survived the massacre at Tiananmen Square in 1989, that was before Western economies had been hollowed out by China. In the event of a massacre in Hong Kong today, China's trade relations with the West would likely suffer much more than they already are.

The Myth of the Beijing Model Shattered

China's big plan has been to convince the world that China and its Beijing Model is a better alternative to American global leadership. The

Beijing Model of economic development was to be the blueprint for the 21st century. Western-style republican democracies would be outclassed by state-directed economies and one-party rule. That's what Beijing has been selling the world for the past two decades.

In fact, the globalization of the Beijing Model is what's behind China's One Belt, One Road and Made In China 2025 initiatives. Never mind that the former is designed to steal natural resources from developing countries and the latter is intended to steal technology from developed nations. The CCP intends China to be the next and singular—global hegemon.

But Hong Kong's protests against China's extradition bill have shattered the myth of the Beijing Model. As an agent of Western capitalism, Hongkongers realize that they are the key to China's wealth going forward, not the Beijing Model. If the CCP attacks the protesters, the mirage of the Beijing Model will disappear faster than it already is.

CCP Billionaires Fear Losing Their Fortunes

But it won't only be the CCP's big initiatives, or even just Hongkongers and foreigners that will be impacted by the financial destruction of Hong Kong. Keep in mind that the CCP isn't a party of self-made men and women; it's the Party of billionaires.

These Communist Party billionaires have property and families that are living abroad in other parts of Asia, Australia, Europe, the United States, and Canada. It's quite possible that many millions of dollars of Party members'

wealth are at stake in Hong Kong, as well as in Western financial institutions.

How much wealth will they be willing to give up to show loyalty to the Communist Party? How many Party members will be willing to go down with the CCP ship?

Every Party member knows that they owe much of their wealth to their position in the Communist Party and its ability to obtain financial assistance from the West. They also know that much of China's wealth is a mirage. If that were not so, trillions of dollars would remain in China instead of flowing out of the country year after year, and the streets of Hong Kong would be red with the blood of protesters by now.

It's the fear of losing wealth and all that comes with it that has kept the PLA in their barracks thus far. Xi isn't the only one who realizes that the future of the CCP depends on what he decides to do—or not do—in Hong Kong. What's more, the longer the protests go on, the more the Beijing Model's myth of inevitability fades.

It's a vexing dilemma for the CCP and everyone knows it. One of the Hong Kong protesters' mottos puts the high cost facing Xi and the CCP in stark but accurate terms: "If we burn, you burn with us."

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Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

HONG KONG

Falun Gong Practitioners Appeal for World's Attention After Brutal Mob Attack in Hong Kong

EVA FU

NEW YORK—Shock over a bloody mob attack in Hong Kong of a Falun Gong practitioner has rippled to New York City as nations gathered for the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

At the United Nations Plaza on Sept. 25, Falun Gong practitioners held up placards and banners in Chinese and English to speak for their fellow practitioner who was seen bleeding profusely from the head the previous day. They pleaded for a stop to brutality against Falun Gong practitioners by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and for international support.

"My heart aches a great deal. I really want to tell the world's people and to stop this persecution, so that practitioners will no longer experience any bloody incidents like this," New York-based Falun Gong practitioner Chen Biying told The Epoch Times.

Falun Gong, an ancient Buddha-school spiritual practice that came to the public in 1992, involves slow-moving exercises and moral teachings, including three core principles of truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance. Deeming it a challenge to its authority, the anti-theist communist regime in China began a nationwide campaign to wipe out the practice in 1999. The death toll due to beatings, slave labor, and other forms of torture remains unknown due to the difficulty of getting such sensitive information through China's Great Firewall.

"Because of the persecution in the mainland, we had no choice but to escape to here," said Chen, who originally came from China. She said she had tears in her eyes when she saw the footage of the aftermath of the Hong Kong attack.

On Sept. 24, Falun Gong practitioner Liao Qiulan, who organizes local Falun Gong-related events, was attacked by two strangers on Sept. 24 while walking in the Lai Chi Kok neighborhood in Hong Kong. She was applying for a police permit for a demonstration on Oct. 1, marking the 70th anniversary of communist rule in China. The annual event was meant to shed light on regime's ongoing persecution of the spiritual group.



Liao Qiulan speaks with a police officer after being attacked by men using black metal objects in Hong Kong on Sept. 24, 2019.

They hit me with all their might and they just keep hitting

Liao Qiulan, Falun Gong practitioner

The two attackers, whose faces were covered with black cloth, had already hit Liao with one-foot-long black metal objects by the time her two companions rushed over to defend her with their hand bags. The men then rushed into a waiting white car and fled the scene. Liao's friends suspect that the assault was planned, and that the attackers had targeted Liao.

"They hit me with all their might and they just keep hitting," Liao later told NTD Television. "One man hit my hands and another person, my head and feet."

Blood had splashed all over Liao's face, soaked through the chest area of her shirt, before forming a small pool on the ground.

Chen said that practitioners of Falun Gong frequently experience assault from communist front groups such as the Youth Care Association during public events, although an attack of this violence and bloodshed has previously not been seen in Hong Kong.

"Our practitioners braved through a lot of hardships out there ... and they are not doing it for themselves," Chen said, referring to some booths that local practitioners have set up in Hong Kong, where they meditate and hand out some flyers to mainland Chinese tourists to raise awareness about what's happening to their faith in China.

Another practitioner, Michael Yu, said that the assault on Liao was "not an isolated incident," noting the rising pattern of vio-

lent attacks during the recent anti-extradition protests in Hong Kong. A number of pro-democracy activists, journalists, and lawmakers have experienced mob attacks in the past several months. Among them were convener of Civil Human Rights Front Jimmy Sham who has organized several mass rallies, an Apple Daily reporter known for her coverage of the pro-democracy movement, and Democratic Party lawmaker Roy Kwong, who has also been supportive of the protests.

"Falun Gong practitioners can exercise their faith internationally ... including in Hong Kong, but [seeing that] this violence targeting Falun Gong practitioners could happen in Hong Kong, this calls for international attention," Yu said.

"Hong Kong is a free society and highly autonomous, something like this should never happen," he added.

A New York Falun Gong spokesperson condemned the attack on Liao, saying that the CCP was "trampling on Hong Kong citizens' freedom and fundamental human rights," according to a statement obtained by The Epoch Times. She suggested that the Chinese regime is trying to "eliminate any different voices" as it prepares for the Oct. 1 celebration.

Chen said that the violence will not scare Falun Gong practitioners from speaking out about the human rights violations perpetrated by the Chinese regime.

"We know that justice will prevail over the evil," she said.



THE EPOCH TIMES



President Donald Trump addresses the U.N. General Assembly at U.N. headquarters in New York on Sept. 24, 2019.

ANALYSIS

China's Subversion of the United Nations

Contrary to allegations of growing influence under Trump, China has been working at it for decades

ALEX NEWMAN

Beijing's rapidly expanding influence over the United Nations and other organs of "global governance" began long before President Donald Trump took office.

In fact, experts and officials tell The Epoch Times that Trump is the first president in decades to seriously attempt to rein in Beijing's scheming on the world stage.

At this point, though, it's like trying to stop a freight train.

In his speech at the U.N. General Assembly on Sept. 24, Trump took direct aim at China, warning that the administration was closely monitoring the situation in Hong Kong. The president also called for an end to religious persecution—a problem that is rampant in China as Christians, Muslims, Falun Gong practitioners, and others are targeted by the one-party state.

Trump also made clear that regardless of the ambitions of the U.N. and many of its increasingly influential member states, the future doesn't belong to globalists seeking more U.N. control over humanity, but to patriots and independent nations. China has long advocated a stronger U.N. with more powers and money, but Trump is putting the brakes on that agenda.

Nevertheless, there is a strong effort to paint Trump as the chief culprit in the ascendance of China within international organizations. With Communist China accumulating more and more power over the United Nations—already almost one-third of U.N. specialized agencies are led by Chinese agents loyal to Beijing—there is a growing push to blame the Trump administration.

Multiple journalists and analysts have advanced the view that Trump's reluctance to be more active in global institutions is responsible for the trend.

Perhaps nowhere is the developing narrative blaming Trump more clearly spelled out than in Foreign Affairs, the enormously influential magazine of the globalist powerhouse known as the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). Headlined "Coming Soon to the United Nations: Chinese Leadership and Authoritarian Values—As Washington Steps Back, Beijing Will Take Charge," a leading article in Foreign Affairs' latest issue argues that Trump's retreat from various U.N. agencies and agreements left a void for Beijing to fill.

During the Obama administration, the U.N. General Assembly "was a centerpiece of U.S. global leadership," with Obama advancing global initiatives on everything from climate change to migration. But today, thanks to Trump's anti-globalist views, that is no longer the case—or so the emerging narrative goes.

"The United States has let go of the wheel, and Beijing stands poised to

China has used its dominant position in providing volunteers for United Nations peacekeeping missions to help advance its broader power agenda, especially in Africa.

Rick Fisher, senior fellow, International Assessment and Strategy Center

JOHANNES BERGLI/GETTY IMAGES



Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations, Zhang Jun, speaks during a United Nations Security Council meeting at the U.N. headquarters in New York on Aug. 20, 2019.

take hold of it," wrote Kristine Lee, a fellow with the Center for a New American Security, in the CFR's flagship journal. That is because the Trump administration has responded to China's "rising profile in only a piecemeal fashion," she said.

The supposed solution: Trump must quickly scaling back U.S. involvement in the U.N.

It wasn't the first time writers in Foreign Affairs made the argument, but it was perhaps the most clearly articulated. In addition to Foreign Affairs, the journal Foreign Policy has been peddling a similar narrative regarding Trump, China, and the U.N. in various articles and analyses. In some circles, the hypothesis is almost accepted as true at this point.

Ironically, though, the reality is almost exactly the opposite, experts say. Indeed, Beijing's growing clout on the international stage actually has its genesis in U.S. foreign-policy decisions going back many generations, most of which were made by members or allies of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Among the key events that led to the present situation: The U.S. decision to betray Chiang Kai-shek; President Richard Nixon and then-national security adviser Henry Kissinger's infamous decision to "open up" China in the early 1970s; the replacing of Taiwan with the People's Republic of China on the U.N. Security Council; President Bill Clinton's transfer of sensitive U.S. military technology and welcoming Beijing into the World Trade Organization; and other similar policies.

The U.S.—China Joint Announcement on Climate Change in 2014, meanwhile, "sent a clear signal to China of Obama's State Department implicit or tacit acceptance of China's increased power and role in the U.N.," the former senior official said, adding that the Obama administration poured billions into U.N. efforts in its final year, much of which was intended to be used to promote Chinese interests.

Upon taking office, Trump promptly reversed that decision, having previously argued that climate alarmism was a "hoax" to benefit Beijing. "Clearly and objectively speaking, the Obama administration—especially the Obama State Department—is to blame for China's rise in U.N.," the former senior official continued, adding that many of the Obama-era officials remain entrenched at the State Department to this day.

It's undeniably true that Communist China plays a leading role in the U.N. today. Its agents run four of 15 specialized U.N. agencies and a U.N. department: the International Telecommunications Union, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the Industrial Development Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the U.N. Department of Economic and So-

cial Affairs. By comparison, just one American holds the top post in a U.N. specialized agency.

Most of those leadership positions for Communist Chinese agents, though, were secured on Obama's watch. Numerous other top spots for Chinese agents also occurred during the previous administration: Xue Hanqin's selection for the International Court of Justice, Tao Zhang's appointment as deputy chief of the International Monetary Fund in August 2016, and Yi Xiaozhun's 2013 appointment as deputy leader of the World Trade Organization, among many others.

U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights was caught handing over names of Chinese human rights activists to the Chinese government, so the Chinese police and security agencies could go and intimidate their relatives in China, all to ensure that nobody spoke out against China being elected to the Human Rights Council.

Peter Gallo, Former U.N. investigator-turned-whistleblower

Unlike individuals from most nations, and contrary to U.N. employment policies, Chinese officials openly retain their loyalty to the Communist Party above all else. For example, when the regime arrested then-interpol chief Meng Hongwei in 2018, it publicly accused him of failing to support Communist Party orders, among other supposed crimes.

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has a long-range plan that very much includes the U.N. In recent years, the regime even opened up a "School of Global Governance" at the Beijing Foreign Studies University to train armies of future diplomats and spies to work in international organizations. Just last year, Chinese leader Xi Jinping said Beijing would take "an active part in leading the reform of the global governance system."

Trump has been actively working to counter that. Since he's been in office, the U.S. government withdrew from the Chinese-influenced U.N. Human Rights Council, defunded the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, withdrew from UNESCO, reduced U.S. contributions to the U.N., implemented a strategy to actively deal with Chinese influence within international organizations, and much more. It has also objected to all references to U.N. "international law" in deference to U.S. sovereignty, ensuring that Chinese-influenced U.N. policies have less of an impact

on Americans.

When reached by The Epoch Times, Lee, the writer at Foreign Affairs who implied that the current administration's policies were to blame for China's rise in the U.N., argued that it's really not about "blaming specific presidents." Instead, she suggested that "it's part of broader trendlines that can largely be attributed to Xi Jinping's growing consolidation of power."

"The CCP is moving quickly to expand its influence, and the United States is largely playing defense and is still in the early stages of formulating a response," she told The Epoch Times in an email. "I agree that the Trump administration's foreign policy establishment—certainly at the working level—is acutely attuned to the CCP's influence efforts abroad. But the U.S. government's work has only just begun."

There are different visions for how to rein in Communist China. At the CFR, the view is that the U.S. government should further empower the U.N. and work to counter Chinese influence within it by handing over more U.S. tax money.

The Trump administration, however, appears to view neutralizing the U.N.'s efforts to expand its power and influence as a more viable strategy, thereby minimizing the value of the U.N. to Beijing and other authoritarian regimes in gaining more and more power in the global institutions.

Former U.N. investigator-turned-whistleblower Peter Gallo, who has decades of experience in Asia, told The Epoch Times that the U.N. process for selecting and promoting officials is "rigged," and that corruption—especially involving China—runs rampant. That means the U.N.'s senior leaders would do everything possible to avoid appointing a Trump pick anyway, since he or she may seek to increase accountability and cut the budget.

The U.N. also bends over backward to avoid embarrassing China, Gallo said.

"Possibly the best example of that involves how the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights was caught handing over names of Chinese human rights activists to the Chinese government so the Chinese police and security agencies could go and intimidate their relatives in China, all to ensure that nobody spoke out against China being elected to the Human Rights Council," he said, adding that the highest levels of the U.N.'s leadership intervened to block accountability.

Neither the U.S. State Department nor U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres's spokesman responded to a request for comment by press time.

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ORGAN HARVESTING

Experts Call on UN to Investigate China's Killing of Religious Dissidents for Their Organs

CATHY HE & FRANK FANG

NEW YORK—The United Nations, during events in Geneva and New York this week, is being urged to investigate the Chinese regime for killing prisoners of conscience for their organs.

Addressing the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva on Sept. 24, London-based lawyer Hamid Sabi presented findings from a report released in June by the China Tribunal, an international panel of lawyers and experts convened to investigate claims that the Chinese regime has been forcibly extracting prisoners' organs for transplant.

After a yearlong inquiry, the independent tribunal chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice QC concluded beyond a reasonable doubt that forced organ harvesting has taken place in China "for a substantial period of time involving a very substantial number of victims." Nice previously led the prosecution of former Yugoslavian President Slobodan Milosevic at the International Criminal Tribunal.

Sabi said that given the evidence, the council and U.N. member states now have a "legal obligation" to address China's "criminal conduct."

"Forced organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience ... has been committed for years throughout China on a significant scale, and it continues today," said Sabi, who was special counsel to the China Tribunal.

The harvesting has involved "hundreds of thousands of victims," mainly Falun Gong adherents, he said, adding that Uyghur Muslims are also targeted.

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is a spiritual discipline with meditative exercises and moral teachings. It enjoyed significant popularity in China in the 1990s, with around 70 million to 100 million people practicing by the end of that decade, according to official estimates cited by media at the time. Deeming Falun Gong to be a threat to its control, the Chinese Communist Party banned the practice in July 1999, unleashing the entire state apparatus to persecute its adherents.

At any one time, hundreds of thousands of adherents are held in prisons, labor camps, and brainwashing centers, where many have been tortured in an effort to force them to renounce their faith, according to estimates by the Falun Dafa Information Center.

"Victim for victim and death for death, cutting out the hearts and other organs from living, blameless, harmless, peaceable people constitutes one of the worst mass atrocities of this century," Sabi said.

Witness Account

At an event held at the Harvard Club in New York on Sept. 25, on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly, two women accused the Chinese regime of killing their fathers, who were both Falun

Victim for victim and death for death, cutting out the hearts and other organs from living, blameless, harmless, peaceable people constitutes one of the worst mass atrocities of this century.

Hamid Sabi, lawyer



Han Yu at a Falun Gong rally at the United Nations Plaza on Sept. 24.

Gong practitioners, for their organs. Both men died suddenly while incarcerated at Chinese detention facilities for their beliefs.

Han Yu, of New York, described how her father, Han Junqing, died at a detention center near Beijing in 2004, only two months after he entered the facility. She said her father was very healthy before his detention.

After Han Junqing's death, the police didn't allow Han Yu and her family to see his body, and conducted an autopsy without the family's consent. The report claimed that Junqing died of a heart attack.

More than a month after her father's death, police finally allowed Han Yu and her family to see the body.

"When I saw my father's body, I still couldn't believe that it was real. My father was lying there with countless scars," she said.

She noticed an incision along his throat that extended into the area inside his shirt. When she proceeded to open the top buttons of his shirt to take a closer look, she was stopped by police, who immediately forced her out of the room.

But her uncle, who examined the body after her, managed to open up his clothes when police weren't looking.

"They [the uncle and other relatives] found that the incision was all the way from the throat to the abdomen," Han Yu said. "When they pressed the abdomen, they found [it] was stuffed with hard ice."

When her uncle questioned the police about that, they were told that it was due to the autopsy.

Torsten Trey, a doctor and director of the advocacy group Doctors Against Forced Organ Harvesting (DAFOH), which co-hosted the event, told The Epoch Times that the Han family's experiences showed that authorities were trying to hide something.

Given that no one in the family had given permission to remove Han Junqing's organs, they must have been illegally extracted, he added.

Genocide

The Hans' story provides but a small piece of evidence that the grisly practice is occurring on an "industrial scale" in China, Trey said.

The extremely short wait times for organ transplants in China—in some cases, as little as two days—was a strong indicator that the Chinese regime has access to a pool of organs outside of its official organ donation program, Torsten said. Beijing has maintained since 2015 that organ transplants have come from voluntary donors.

"An organ donation program doesn't deliver organs on demand, organs with this speed," he said.

Trey says the killing of imprisoned Falun Gong practitioners for their organs amounts to genocide under international law.

"The victims are specifically targeted as an organ source, not just to provide organs, but also to contribute to the eradication of this group of people," he said.

"There is a specific intent to eradicate this group of people."

Trey said Falun Gong practitioners who survived incarceration have reported that authorities have given them blood tests and medical exams, consistent with testing for organ status, while other inmates haven't faced those tests.

While the China Tribunal found that the Chinese regime's actions were "indicative" of genocide, it stopped short of declaring whether the crime had been committed. It did, however, say that the U.N. and international courts have a duty to "test whether genocide has been committed."

Trey called on the U.N. to investigate organ harvesting, as well as the possible genocide being committed by the Chinese regime.

He said 13 years have passed since the practice first came to light, during which it has intensified and become worse, due in part to inaction of the international community.

"There's no time to lose," he said. "Definitive actions from the international community are needed."



The United Nations Council in Geneva on June 18, 2018.



GULSHAN KHAN/AP/GETTY IMAGES

OPINION

China's 20-Year 'Four Asian Tigers' Economic Development Model Is Coming to an End

HONG WEI

In the past 20 years, China's economy has experienced tremendous growth by replicating the success model of the "Four Asian Tigers"—South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore. China's exports to the West grew exponentially at that time.

However, this development model is coming to an end as China's economic growth has slowed due to the tariff war with the United States. Washington has also called on Beijing to reform its unfair trade practices. China's dream of being the world's second largest economy will soon dissipate unless it makes structural economic reform.

The 'Four Asian Tigers' Economic Model

From 1970 to 1990, the United States and other western developed countries began to outsource labor-intensive industries to developing countries. The "Four Asian Tigers," also known as "Asian Dragons," immediately seized this opportunity and took advantage of their cheap labor force to attract foreign capital and technology. By forming a large-scale export processing industry, these four countries—South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore—enjoyed thriving economies. Their

highest annual economic growth rates were close to 10 percent during their prime time.

By 1990, per capita GDPs of these countries were: \$13,486 for Hong Kong; \$12,766 for Singapore; \$8,124 for Taiwan; and \$6,514 for South Korea. As a reference, the world's average per capita GDP at the time was \$4,270. The success of these four countries became a classic case for economic research.

In 1989, the "Four Asian Tigers" were considered emerging developed countries, and thus the United States terminated their Most Favored Nation (MFN) status. This brought an end to their rapid growth, and they transitioned to a normal development stage.

The success of the "Four Asian Tigers" has served as a role model for other Asian countries. When China started its economic reform and opening up of its markets, it attempted to replicate this development model.

The 40-Year Delay in China's Economic Development

When World War II ended in 1945, almost all countries involved in the war immediately entered a post-war reconstruction stage and worked hard on economic development. After the United States helped China win the Sino-Japanese War, China's then-Kuomintang government was also prepar-

ing to rebuild China's economy.

However, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) launched a war against the Kuomintang shortly after Japanese troops surrendered. At that time, the Kuomintang army was exhausted after more than ten years of fighting the Japanese. The CCP, instead of helping drive out the Japanese invaders from China, had reserved its main forces by moving around and hiding, but seldom attacking the enemy. In addition, the CCP gave away railroad and seaport rights, and factory resources to the Soviet Union in exchange for all the weapons the Japanese troops had surrendered to then-Soviet leader Stalin. All of this resulted in the Kuomintang losing the civil war, and being forced to retreat to the island of Taiwan in 1949.

After the CCP seized power and established the People's Republic of China in 1949, one would think that it would have focused on economic development. However, the CCP insisted on having to participate in the Korean War, causing the deaths and injuries of nearly one million soldiers. In addition, China treated the United Nations Command (UNC)—the multinational military force supporting South Korea—as its enemy. Therefore, China closed its doors to all the UNC member nations after the war was over. The Soviet

Union was China's only friend to offer some assistance, while North Korea looked to China for help to sustain itself.

Domestically, the CCP launched one political movement after another, creating terror in society and eliminating millions of so-called "class enemies," such as the capitalists, landowners and intellectuals.

In addition, Deng Xiaoping launched a war against Vietnam in 1979 for attacking Cambodia, China's ally. With the support of the former Soviet Union, Vietnam launched a large-scale attack on Cambodia on Dec. 25, 1978, overthrowing the Khmer Rouge regime that promoted Maoism in the country.

While China was busy carrying out these violent political movements and waging a war with Vietnam, the "Four Asian Tigers" were in a period of rapid economic development.

The CCP also initiated what looked like economic activities, such as "The People's Communes" and "The Great Leap Forward," but in reality, they were political movements. While carrying out these two movements, the CCP and the Soviet Union clashed over socialist views. As a result, the two countries became hostile towards each other and tense relations led to the Sino-Soviet split (1956-1966).

Chinese leader Xi Jinping attends a meeting during the 10th BRICS summit (meeting of the world's leading emerging economies, Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) in Johannesburg, South Africa, on July 26, 2018.

Because the Soviet Union had a one-million member army and could easily wage a war against China at any time, the CCP leaders were forced to evacuate from Beijing.

At this critical moment, the United States decided to intervene. The Nixon administration threatened to fight a nuclear war against the Soviet Union, and thus helped the CCP avert the crisis.

For more than 40 years—from the end of World War II in 1945 to 1987 when the CCP officially announced it would focus on economic development as its central task—the Chinese economy lagged far behind other countries.

'Four Asian Tigers' Model Becomes the CCP's Lifeline

The CCP decided to focus on economic development because it realized that if China continued its impoverished situation, the Chinese people would demand that the CCP step down from power.

However, having lagged behind for more than 40 years, China had great difficulties making any progress without the support of foreign capital or technology. The United States came to the rescue again in 2001, when the Clinton administration persuaded its Western allies to accept China into the World Trade Organization (WTO). Former president Bill Clinton mistakenly believed that China's economic development would automatically bring about political reforms, and China would move towards democracy and the rule of law.

The United States also granted China MFN status as a developing country, and the world opened its markets to China, injected funds and provided technology, and allowed a 15-year protective transition period. The CCP was overjoyed and immediately pledged to commit to all the terms required by the WTO.

The golden opportunity that was once given to the "Four Asian Ti-

By replicating the 'Four Asian Tigers' model, China's export-oriented economy experienced rapid growth in the past two decades.

The era of pocketing huge sums of U.S. dollars is gone. Supply chains are leaving China. The CCP's "number two superpower" dream is over.

gers" was suddenly bestowed on China. It meant that the CCP was unexpectedly thrown a lifeline by the United States while struggling in the midst of political and economic crises.

The CCP's Head Swells

By replicating the "Four Asian Tigers" model, China's export-oriented economy experienced rapid growth in the past two decades. At the early stage, entrepreneurs from Hong Kong and Taiwan established manufacturing bases in China. Subsequently, the United States and Europe soon followed.

Shortly after the CCP had seized power, it imposed an overly strict household registration system, which prevented the rural population from becoming urban residents. As a result, there was an oversupply of labor in China's countryside, but these peasants were mostly unemployed and impoverished with no way out.

It was completely beyond the CCP's wildest dreams that this discriminatory policy would turn out to provide the main workforce for China's economic development. Since then, migrant peasants have been working hard in foreign-funded companies for very little pay, but still they were happy about these job opportunities, and few people from this group ever challenged the CCP's unfair household registration system.

What made the CCP even more excited was the huge amount of U.S. dollars and euros it collected from exports. The CCP pocketed most of the foreign currency, and printed large quantities of Chinese yuan to be issued to export enterprises.

The "Four Asian Tigers" model has become the CCP's golden goose. Communist Chinese officials from all levels accepted bribes from the entrepreneurs in the export sector, thus making them very rich.

The profits from exports, combined with foreign investments,

resulted in an over-issuance of currency in China. Subsequently, money was first injected into infrastructure projects, followed by the stock market, the real estate market, and presently into a highly deformed capital market as well as the IT industry. At each turn, opportunities kept arising for massive corruption. The CCP's "red families" have all become billionaires.

The economic development model copied from the "Four Asian Tigers" has proven to be really effective. The CCP has also launched huge export subsidies, expanded production capacity and boosted exports by dumping, hoping for a continuous flow of U.S. dollars into their pockets.

In 2018, China's total import and export volume reached \$4.5 trillion, accounting for one-third of its GDP. Meanwhile, the trade surplus was at \$419.2 billion with the United States and 184 billion euros with the EU. It made the CCP's head swell, and it thought the "Four Asian Tigers" economic model could be sustained for a long time.

The CCP's 'Number Two Superpower' Dream

With huge amounts of U.S. dollars coming into the country, the CCP started to dream about being the "number two superpower" in the world.

It began to heavily invest in military weapons. If a weapon could be bought, the CCP would buy it. If no country was willing to sell a certain weapon or equipment, the CCP would try to steal the technology. It began to copy the U.S. military model, attempting to become the number one military power in Asia first, and later a world military giant, hoping to one day be able to defeat the United States.

Politically, the CCP continues to spend money to win votes from developing countries in the United Nations. At the same time, it infiltrates the United States and European countries through its large-scale overseas propaganda and spy networks, and tries to seduce Western politicians with money

and various types of benefits.

Economically, the CCP launched its high-profile "One Belt, One Road" initiative which in essence is the CCP's ambition to create a new type of colonialism, and a solution to its overcapacity problem. In addition, the CCP upholds the banner of globalization, hoping to maintain its export-oriented economy.

In the field of technology, the CCP launched the "Made in 2025" plan, deploying every type of trade theft tactic in various industries. Chinese tech giants ZTE and Huawei, both disguised as private enterprises, attempt to defeat competitors through super low prices. And they are able to do so because they receive huge subsidies from the Chinese regime every year. Their goal is to become the leaders in the international market, and in turn, take further control of the telecommunications industry in Western countries.

Just when the CCP was immersed in its "number two superpower" dream, the United States gave it a sudden blow by waging a tariff war. Both U.S. politicians and citizens have started to realize that granting China MFN status and allowing it to reproduce the economic success of the "Four Asian Tigers" did not help bring about a change toward democracy and human rights.

On the contrary, the CCP made a huge fortune from its MFN status, but refused to fulfill any of the promises it made when joining the WTO. For instance, when China opens its market to a developed country, it should not be on the condition of handing over technology. Furthermore, under WTO terms, China is required to stop intellectual property infringement, reduce export subsidies, reduce the market share of state-owned enterprises, and open its telecommunications market.

To put it plainly, Western countries have been utterly fooled by the CCP.

The United States started to correct its mistakes in March 2018. The Trump administration hoped to rectify the trade imbalance with China through negotiations. The CCP, of course, ignored the requests for structural reform. As a result, a tariff war has broken out and has become more and more intense. China's economy is taking a hit.

It was only at this point that the CCP realized that its path of replicating the "Four Asian Tigers" economic model had come to an end. The era of pocketing huge sums of U.S. dollars is gone. Supply chains are leaving China. The CCP's "number two superpower" dream is over.

Now the Chinese people have discovered that the economic achievements of the "Reform and Opening Up" era were merely that the CCP had imitated the "Four Asian Tigers" model. The four Asian countries, after the rapid growth stage, gradually got out of the export-oriented development model, and achieved industrial upgrading, which helped them to become more competitive in the international market. They are now in a new development stage by being a responsible member in the international community.

Is the CCP willing to integrate into the international economic order? Obviously not. Structural economic reform is the only solution for China's future development, and it has become a pressing issue. But the CCP, afraid of losing power, only hopes to continue on, and shows no respect for the principles of economic development and ignores ethical standards in international trade. On such a course, not only will the CCP lose the opportunity to become the "number two superpower," but it is also ruining the opportunity for China to continue its growth by implementing economic reform. Will the Chinese people put up with it?

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