

# Xi's Art of Leadership Driving China's Development

## Letter to the Editor

By Asad Khalil

The revitalization of China differs from that of other countries in that it represents the rejuvenation of one-fifth of the global population. At the same time, the leadership of China is not the leadership of an ordinary country as it is the leadership of one of the most ancient civilizations in the world.

With its fast-growing economy, largest population, enhanced innovation capacity and public security and stability, China has transformed itself into a new era, and this era's most significant feature is the Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Xi's method of governing is the art of leadership based on a systematic process of knowledge and wisdom, inspired by creativity and foresight.

Combining an eminent personality, innovative spirit, insightful vision, broad horizons and openness have helped Xi to lead China to become a global power, and resulted in people's ultimate trust in the Communist Party of China (CPC) through a series of reforms, including combating corruption and the eradication of poverty.

Xi succeeded in motivating Chinese people to believe in themselves and have faith in their abilities to stand in the center of the world stage in the twenty-first century. In order to meet all the needs of the Chinese people by providing decent living conditions, social needs, and advanced services, at the 20th CPC National Congress, Xi emphasized that China will continue to deepen reform and opening up persistently.

As a result, China strengthened its position as an economic center and became a global platform for development and innovation. The experience demonstrates that the opportunities to develop are in China since it is the gateway for the future, and nations should join hands with China toward their goals in

# China's Optimized Measures Against COVID-19

## Service Info

By Staff Reporters

The Joint Prevention and Control Mechanism of the State Council has issued twenty measures aimed at optimizing disease control measures.

Lei Haichao, deputy director of the National Health Commission (NHC), stated on November 12 that strict epidemic prevention and control must be combined with optimized measures. The implementation of twenty measures to optimize responses to COVID-19 is a decision based on scientific evidence and does not imply a loosening of prevention and control against the virus, a lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, or "lying flat" in the fight against the epidemic.

The circuit-breaker system, which bans flight routes of inbound international flights carrying COVID-19 infected cases, will be eliminated in accordance with the upgraded measures. Inbound travelers will only need to provide one, rather than two, negative nucleic acid testing results taken in 48 hours before boarding.

At the same time, international travelers will undergo five days of centralized quarantine plus three days of home-based isolation, compared with the current rule of seven days of centralized isolation plus three days of health monitoring at home. It further specifies

development and glory.

The success of China under Xi's leadership inspires developing countries and those who are striving for development by learning from the Chinese experience and taking China as a role model. Only those countries who want to monopolize the leadership of the world and impose their ideas and concepts are anxious about the success of Chinese development.

It is worth mentioning that China's true strength does not rely solely on its military, economy or social affairs, but rather the intellectual and moral norms. These norms, along with strategic planning, are demonstrated in the concepts and ideologies adopted by China and applied as a method and a way of life for the state and the people, and it is for the sake of the whole world.

What China is achieving today is not a coincidence, but a cumulative result of decades of diligent pursuit of the CPC seeking more success to enhance the main goals of social and economic development, and to clarify and deepen the concept of socialism with Chinese characteristics in all government tasks and work.

Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era is the CPC's key to unity and improvement, fostering the Chinese nation's development on all levels, from the phenomenal achievements on a domestic level, to taking the diplomacy, external relations, trade and governance policy to the next level.

For the sake of "the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation," it can be seen that China's dream does not benefit the Chinese people alone, but instead benefits the peoples of the world. This is done through its development and strategy of openness, calling for mutual benefit and enhancing China's responsibility towards the better future for humanity.

Asad Khalil is a professor at Southwest University of Political Science and Law.

# Collaboration With China for Improving Human Health

By BI Weizi

Charles Mackay, who received his PhD from the University of Melbourne, Australia in 1987 and is now an Adjunct Professor at Monash University, was elected as a member of the Australian Academy of Sciences in 2009, and was appointed as the Distinguished Chief Expert of Qilu University of Technology (Shandong Academy of Sciences) in 2017.

Mackay is accomplished in the fields of inflammation, GPCR biology, immune cell migration and cytokine, actively advocating a new hypothesis to explain many "Western lifestyle" diseases that are caused by diet, gut microbes and their metabolites. He's been committed to a new diet approach for the prevention and treatment of many human diseases.

## Talent hub

In 2016, under the invitation of Shandong Academy of Sciences, Mackay came to China. "I found China to be on a [fast] speed of development, so many things are happening [such as] new airports, new high-speed trains," he said, adding that science is also developing fast in China and an increasing number of Chinese scientists are publishing more papers in top journals.

"They're smart and work hard, which are basic elements for good research. They've come from a position behind to now suddenly be in position of strength. World-renowned results have



Adjunct Professor Charles Mackay. (COURTESY PHOTO)

been achieved here," he said about his research team in Shandong Academy of Sciences, noting that he is very optimistic about science in China.

## Diet approach making a difference

As an eminent immunologist, Mackay is exploring an exciting new concept — that nutrition and the gut microbiome have profound influences on physiology, particularly immune responses. He demonstrated that dietary fibre and its breakdown fermented products, the short chain fatty acids (SCFAs) influence gut homeostasis, the composition of the gut microbiota, immune tolerance and inflammatory responses.

"Nutrition controls biology, particu-

larly immune responses. We know that the metabolites, the small molecules derived from food, can bind receptors like GPCR, which has major effects on immunology and physiology," he said, adding that the connection explains things like diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, which affected millions of people around the world.

Mackay believes in the potential to manipulate immune responses using "medicinal foods." He is developing new diets that release very high amounts of beneficial SCFAs in the gastrointestinal tract, hoping to exert the huge impact on human health. However, it is very challenging to translate academic research into

therapeutic advancement. "As an academic scientist, I understand immune dysregulation is the main cause of many western lifestyle diseases. The main fundamental research was usually done in mice, as mice and humans share same or similar immune receptors and pathway. Then we have to think how to make a therapy for humans," he said. His team has already made some progress for human clinical trials in Australia, but seeking financial support and making materials more suitable for human use still need strenuous efforts.

Having weighed up the pros and cons, Mackay decided to come to Shandong to translate his research findings into real benefits for people. "Firstly, Shandong is absolutely committed to innovative research, which is half the battle [won]. Also China has patience for us, which we don't have in Australia," he said, believing that his team is quite close to developing drugs that can be used on patients.

Mackay expressed his hope for the future, growing the lab, conducting clinical trials in China, making a difference to medicine and helping millions of people. "We're very optimistic. We think we're gonna change medicine, [and] we've got something better than a drug, which is effective and safe for treating diseases," he said.

This article is also contributed by Shandong Analysis and Test Center.

## Expats Activities

# Expats in Guangxi Share Views on China's Development



Expats are gathered to share their views on China's development. (PHOTO: Science and Technology Department of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region)

By DENG Zhuoyuan

Foreign experts from nearly ten countries working in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region shared their thoughts on the recently concluded 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, at a seminar on November 13.

Robert Fitzthum, an Austrian economist, shared his version of "China's Success Story". Based on his years of experience in China, Fitzthum delivered his insights on China's achievements in poverty eradication and environmental protection.

Naing Wynn, from Myanmar, was impressed by China's tremendous development over the past decade in the fields of education and infrastructure boom.

According to Rafiq, a Pakistani expat, this important 20th National Congress attracted widespread attention in his country. "China has shown the world its determination to expand its opening up to the outside world," said Nguyen Thi Hong Rong, a young Vietnamese researcher, believing that a growing number of foreigners will come to China to work and study in the future.

The event was organized by the Science and Technology Department of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. It was held to help foreign professionals obtain a more in-depth understanding on a real, three-dimensional, and comprehensive China.

Source: Science and Technology Department of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region

# Songgu Irrigation Scheme: Time-honored Agricultural Engineering

## Traditional Eastern Wisdom

By BI Weizi

The Songgu Irrigation Scheme, located in the Oujiang River Basin in Songyang county, Zhejiang province, was included in the list of World Heritage Irrigation Structures as "A remarkable irrigation scheme with impeccable engineering that has helped agriculture flourish in the region for over 2,000 years," according to the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage.

Songyang county, which enjoys a long agricultural history, has a subtropical monsoon climate, with rainy season from March to June, hot and sunny season from July to August, and is prone to floods and drought. Since

the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD), the ancestors of the Songyang people had managed water by building a dense network of weirs, dykes, ditches and channels, drawing water from the Songyinxu River. The engineering system of the irrigation area was perfected in the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911). By the end of the Ming and early Qing dynasties, there had been 120 ancient weirs and more than 100 ancient ponds and wells for irrigation, which are still used to irrigate 11,000 hectares of fields till today.

As a typical model of ancient irrigation engineering for small and medium-sized basins, with a rich display of historical weirs, low dams, ponds and wells, Songgu Irrigation Scheme helps maintain harmony between human and nature, support local production, benefit residents' daily lives and prevent natural disasters such as floods and droughts.



A bird's-eye view of Songgu Irrigation Scheme, Songyang county, Zhejiang province. (PHOTO: VCG)

# RCEP Cooperation Concrete

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In addition, with a total value of five billion USD, over 100,000 RCEP certificates of origin were issued by the China Council for the Promotion of In-

ternational Trade (CCPIT) for the first nine months of this year.

Zhang Zheren, deputy director general of Foreign Economic Research Institute, Academy of Macroeconomic Re-

search, noted that RCEP significantly lowered the cost of trade in goods, and effectively promoted the free flow of all types of commodity elements among its members.

According to data from China's General Administration of Customs, the total value of import and export between China and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) hit 4.7 trillion RMB for the first three quarters of this year, growing by 15.2 percent compared with that of last year. This also made ASEAN China's largest trading partner.