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Mao Zedong

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As the daily life that we live in this complex world, no matter we woke up to be salesman in a low payment apartment and have a dollar plate for lunch with tiny dust of freedom in life, or woke up in the other part of the world to be a young successful CEO in big good old fashion house surrounded by fresh air of prosperous life, we were built up on historical. The word Built up can be meaning of result or lesson. Low life quality of North Korean is the result of their tragic history. Prosperity of China today is the lesson from Mao Zedong's administration. This complex world is the results of history humankind used to face. Fall down of Berlin wall makes freedom to East Germany people. Invention of light bulb makes Menlo Park, New Jersey light in the night and also around the world later on. Above-mentioned histories are contributed to mankind result as in a good way. Also there are some negative contributions to mankind such as Nazi holocaust. For an Asia, millions of death in China result by Mao Zedong administration throughout policies and campaigns is one of the most disastrous contributions to mankind. Economic and political system in China is not the main cause of millions of death, but the man who sits behind the wheel is.

Before the rise of Mao Zedong, China was divided into pieces, ruled by weak and defraud dynasty with corruptions behind. At that period of time, China has Feudalism system, a system that feudal lords held power in their hands by owning

lands, and peasant have to work hard for their protection and land possession.¹ It is not a pleasing system for normal people by the cause that they usually got oppressed by landlords and result as lots of conflicts between classes.² Mao Zedong like any other man started life as the working class. He sees joining Communist Party of China (CPC) as the path way to eliminate the decadence in this country. Later on, Mao Zedong became the leader of Communist Party of China and The People's Republic of China was established throughout the ideas of Socialism and Communism.

Not for a long time after numbers of policies were established by Mao Zedong, the tragedy came. Millions of people die either from starvation or beaten to death, many escape the country but some still stand for their belief. Regulations which eliminate the counter of Mao Zedong as the Land Reforms regulation encourages the peasant whoever wants to be a part of classless revolution to kill landlords who had oppressed them. Mao Zedong claimed that people who help in terms of killing is equal to helping in revolution. About three millions landlords and members of their family were executed.³ Many campaigns were trying to follow Mao Zedong's classless philosophy, but also fail to capture morality like Campaign to Suppress Counter-revolutionaries. The point of this campaign is to assassinate the counter-revolutionaries like KMT official. It was successfully done, but consequence is that many of the innocent people were accused to be counter-revolutionaries because of political argument and many local bureaucrats used this campaign to be a ladder for

¹ Wikipedia contributors. " Examples of feudalism." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 7 Feb. 2012. < http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Examples_of_feudalism>

² Roger Howard. *Mao Tse-tung and the Chinese People*. 1977. p.20-21

³ Short, Philip. *Mao: A Life*. 2001. p. 436–437

political rivals.⁴ It shows that this campaign still makes people use difference in social class as a tool to gain benefit while Mao Zedong try to eliminate person who prefer old ideas of social class like KMT official. During Three-Anti/Five-Anti Campaign, many people faced a climate of raw terror. Wealthy capitalist was intimidated and terrified by the cause that they were the representative of corruptions. Mao Zedong wiped out his hindrance using psychological method, not by killing, but drives until they commit suicide. The campaign was result in hundred of thousand people death.⁵

On the other hand, Mao Zedong also focused on developing the nation. Hundred Flowers Campaign was introduced by great vision of Mao Zedong that tried to make the nation more democratic by listening to the idea of people of how China should be governed and giving freedom to speech. In contrast, Mao Zedong received radical idea and condemnation of his work. He became more socialist ideal violent and labeled many innocent people as rightist such as student, artists, and columnist. Anti-rightist movement is directly consequence from Hundred Flowers campaign which led to destruction in freedom of labeled people, death of many citizens. Many people were accused to be rightist and shot to death.⁶ He also continued the violent socialist movement shown as the Cultural Revolution. Mao Zedong used psychological movement as the way to regained popularity by making people praised him. Also persuaded people to destroy the traditional culture that oppose Socialism which including Capitalism, Cultural art that tends to help in separating social class. Results are mass destruction of China's cultural edifice. Temples were demolished, books

⁴ Wikipedia contributors. " Campaign to Suppress Counterrevolutionaries." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 9 Feb. 2012. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campaign_to_Suppress_Counterrevolutionaries>

⁵ Wikipedia contributors. " Three-anti and Five-anti Campaigns." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 9 Feb. 2012. < http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three-anti/five-anti_campaigns>

⁶ Jeffrey Hays. "HUNDRED FLOWERS AND THE ANTI-RIGHTIST CAMPAIGN" *facts and details*. 9 Feb 2012. <<http://factsanddetails.com/china.php?itemid=1153&catid=2>>

were destroyed, and arts were burnt etc.⁷ He imprinted people with his ideology strongly. Even children were taken from parents by officer to raise and educated to be Mao Zedong's Cultural Revolution army or called Red Guard. Millions of people life has been threatened; even monk and nun or people who are in opposition to this revolution ideas were punished or beat to death. Some of them could not bare the situation and resolve the problems by suicide which was what Mao Zedong initial intention.⁸

Great Chinese Famine is one of the remarkable tragic resulted from Mao Zedong administration. He wanted China to have boosted economic growth just like Soviet and United Kingdom which focus on industrial. He then ruled out with alternative model of industrial focusing instead of agriculture like before and issued Great Leap Forward campaign. Under this campaign, Mao Zedong used people's communes to make large unproved scientific agriculture technique and separated division of labor to produce steel and iron. Predictably, the result was massive drop down in agriculture production, but the head official lied Mao Zedong about number of nonproductive output in order to favor Mao Zedong. Based on this false production data received, more industrialization and exporting of grain production took place. Later on, no foods were left for people and millions were starve to death in Great Chinese Famine. Mao Zedong still not be responsible for the crisis and showed the inhumanity by notify that letting people die and having more food for survive one is better than everybody starve to death.⁹

⁷ Wikipedia contributors. " Cultural Revolution." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 9 Feb. 2012.
< http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cultural_Revolution>

⁸ Toby Welch. "Writings of Dictators." *World Literatures*. 9 Feb 2012.
<<http://tobywelch.suite101.com/writings-of-dictators-a279811>>

⁹ Wikipedia contributors. " Great Leap Forward." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 10 Feb. 2012.
< http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Leap_Forward>

Mao Zedong is honest person, never do for himself, but always for the country. China escapes from corruption and class division, peasant get away from landlord oppressing because of Mao Zedong's goodwill. But his will for the country made millions of death throughout bad policies and recklessness. He wanted China more productive as in developed countries which leads to launched industrialize policy. Without carefully test the policy, he rule out for whole country and outcome is unexported low quality of iron and low grain production. In conclusion, millions of people starve to death. Even scientists have to test the experiment to look at the possible outcome, but not for Mao Zedong which he instantly done to whole nation. Based on fact, many of his philosophies are not welcome the division of social class, but still can see that division from Great Leap Forward campaign. Head official want more praise and respect by lying the grain productive number which means they want to step up higher social class. Many of his campaign make intellectually old headed people who do not like Mao Zedong's philosophy escape the country and left China with uneducated people and poor quality of nation production as seen as unusable melted iron and useless infrastructure projects that use much labor force to their death without trained engineers.¹⁰ Many of Mao Zedong's policies and campaigns left much gap between ideology to develop nation and reality of people's death. People may think that industrial powerful nation like China today which initially introduced by Mao Zedong is the most contribution to mankind from him. But if we look at the cost, millions of people lives are a lot worth than that.

¹⁰ Roger Howard. *Mao Tse-tung and the Chinese People*. 1977. p.160-161