Central regulations on hanging portraits of leaders

Date: October 7, 1949

Regarding the issue of hanging portraits of leaders in public places, conference venues, auditoriums and offices, the Central Committee has made the following special provisions. We hope that party committees at all levels will immediately notify all relevant organs, groups, newspapers and party organizations and party branches in schools to comply with the regulations.

(1) In all organs of the Party, portraits of Comrades Marx, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Zedong may be hung facing right to left.

(2) All government agencies, mass organizations and general mass conferences may hang portraits of Sun Yat-sen and Mao Zedong in a row from right to left in the center of the venue. However, some mass groups and mass conferences may also only hang portraits of Mao Zedong and not Sun Yat-sen. In some places, if there are local leaders and other leaders respected by the people, their portraits can be hung on both sides of the venue. Images of horses, En, Le, and Si can be hung on both sides of the New Democratic Youth League and trade union venues.

(3) In the hall of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association, portraits of Mao Zedong, Sun Yat-sen, Lenin and Stalin can be hung from left to right.

(4) In the center of the People's Liberation Army's organs and venues, portraits of Mao Zedong and Zhu De may be hung facing right to left.

(5) In the private residences of all Party members, they may freely hang any portrait they wish.

(6) All leader portraits hung in public places, and the way they are hung, must be inspected and must not be crudely made or hung arbitrarily in an inappropriate format, which may lead to criticism (several locations in Northeast China have hung portraits inappropriately, which has caused criticism from democrats, and such criticism is justified).