

The Pioneering History and Significant Role of the Editing of Party Documents (Postprint)

Authors: Wan Jianwu

Date: 2025-08-14T00:00:00+00:00

Abstract

[Purpose/Significance] By reviewing the history of Mao Zedong's leadership in initiating the Party's document editing work, we can profoundly recognize that this work constitutes an important component of the Party's ideological and theoretical construction, and further enhance our sense of responsibility and mission for performing document and archival work effectively. [Method/Process] This study examines the Party's history during the Yan'an period, consults archival materials of document collections such as "Since the Sixth National Congress" edited by Mao Zedong, particularly the memoirs of Hu Qiaomu, and analyzes and summarizes the main functions, editing principles, and great significance of the Party's document work. [Result/Conclusion] The Party's documents and archives faithfully record the Party's history, centrally reflect the Party's experience, and scientifically expound the Party's thought, possessing special historical, political, and theoretical functions, and playing an irreplaceable important role in the development of the Party and state endeavors.

Full Text

The Initiating History and Important Role of the Party's Literature Editing Work

WAN Jianwu

(Institute of Chinese History, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing 100101, China)

Email: wanjw@cass.org.cn

Abstract:

[Purpose/Significance] By reviewing the history of the Party's literature work led by Mao Zedong, this paper aims to deeply understand that this work constitutes an important component of the Party's ideological and theoretical construction, and to further enhance the sense of responsibility and mission in archival and

documentary work.

[Method/Process] This study examines the Party' s history during the Yan' an period, consults archival materials on Mao Zedong' s compilation of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* and other document collections, particularly Hu Qiaomu' s memoirs, and analyzes and summarizes the main functions, editing principles, and great significance of the Party' s literature work.

[Result/Conclusion] The Party' s documents and archives truly record the Party' s history, reflect the Party' s experiences, and scientifically explain the Party' s thought, thus possessing special historical, political, and theoretical functions. They play an irreplaceable role in the development of the Party and the state.

Keywords: Mao Zedong; Party literature; Literature editing; *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*

Classification Number: D239

DOI: 10.31193/SSAP.J.ISSN.2096-6695.2021.03.01

Editing, researching, and publicizing the Party' s literature is an important foundational task for strengthening the Party' s ideological and theoretical construction. General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out: "The Party' s literature records the Party' s history." "In the great practice of China' s revolution, construction, and reform, our Party has led the people to create a glorious history and accumulated rich experiences. This course of struggle requires detailed, rich, coherent, and systematic document collections to record and reflect." [1] In carrying out Party history learning and education activities, deeply studying and understanding General Secretary Xi Jinping' s important speech at the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China, and using history as a mirror to create the future, the Party' s literature work plays an irreplaceable role. Studying the history of Mao Zedong' s leadership in pioneering the Party' s literature work allows us to more profoundly understand the important mission undertaken by archival and documentary work in the development of the Party and the state from this special perspective.

1 Why Did Mao Zedong Edit *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*?

Editing the Party' s literature is not simply collecting and sorting documents and archives, but rather concentrating and systematically compiling relevant documents according to certain themes for study, research, and use. The Communist Party of China began to organize and systematically carry out the editing of Party literature, and closely integrated this work with the Party' s ideological and political education, starting from Mao Zedong' s organization of the compilation of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress—Internal Secret Documents of the Party* and other document collections during the Yan' an period.

As can be seen from the title *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, the main content of this document collection includes various archival and documentary materials that record and reflect the central line, principles, and policies since

the Sixth National Congress of the Party. The Sixth National Congress of the Communist Party of China held in 1928 took place under circumstances where the Great Revolution had failed and the struggle was extremely brutal. The fact that this congress was held in Moscow outside China demonstrates how severe the revolutionary situation was at the time. *A Brief History of the Communist Party of China* shows that the Sixth Congress criticized both the “rightist” Chen Duxiu-ism and the “leftist” putschism, leading to a noticeable improvement in China’s revolutionary situation. However, because the Sixth Congress did not fundamentally eliminate the “leftist” ideology that had emerged since the August 7th Conference, this ideology later developed one-sidedly and expanded to extremes. Li Lisan’s “leftist” adventurist errors and the “leftist” dogmatism represented mainly by Wang Ming successively gained dominant positions in the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Within the Party, the correct line represented by Mao Zedong was completely opposed to the “leftist” line and waged resolute and arduous struggles against it. The Zunyi Conference held in January 1935 successfully ended the rule of the “leftist” line in the Central Committee and saved the Party at the most critical moment. In October of the same year, Mao Zedong led the First Front Red Army to northern Shaanxi, where they successfully joined forces with the Shaanxi Red Army. In October 1936, the Second and Fourth Front Red Armies arrived in the Huining area of Gansu Province, joining forces with the First Front Red Army. The 25,000-li Long March ended victoriously, and the Chinese revolution was saved from peril.

Fighting against Wang Ming’s “leftist” erroneous line was an important challenge Mao Zedong faced after arriving in Yan’ an. During the Agrarian Revolutionary War period, the failures caused by Wang Ming’s “leftist” errors inflicted tremendous losses on revolutionary base areas and revolutionary forces in white areas. This had been proven by bloody facts. Nevertheless, unified opinions on the nature of his errors had not yet formed within the Party, and some comrades even disagreed with characterizing the errors of the later Soviet period as line errors[2]. Wang Ming, who had already been criticized in Yan’ an, still posed as a Party theoretician, reprinting his pamphlet *Struggle for the Further Bolshevization of the Communist Party of China* to further disseminate his “leftist” erroneous views. In the preface to the third edition of this book, he wrote: “The facts recorded in this book constitute a fairly important stage in the development history of the Communist Party of China. Therefore, many people demand to understand these historical facts, especially when studying Party construction and the history of the Communist Party of China in various schools in Yan’ an, where materials of this kind are particularly needed.” [3] Wang Ming’s book created a very negative influence within the Party. Hu Qiaomu recalled: “As a result, what kind of person Wang Ming was and whether what he did was right or wrong became a question. This required settling historical accounts to clarify.” [4]

How should we study and evaluate the Party’s history? How should we view the right and wrong of historical lines within the Party? What constitutes the correct line and policies, and what constitutes erroneous lines and policies?

These sharp questions had been urgently placed before the entire Party. In response, Mao Zedong did a great deal of theoretical work, aiming to establish a correct attitude toward Marxism-Leninism, uphold seeking truth from facts, and oppose subjectivism and dogmatism. Facts speak louder than words. Using the Party's history and each individual's own revolutionary path to study, analyze, and judge what was correct and what was erroneous would be most persuasive. Based on this, Mao Zedong proposed to deeply study the history of the Communist Party of China, systematically collect historical materials of the Party, and first carry out study among senior Party cadres to raise their awareness of the line and then unify the understanding of the entire Party. This proposal was approved by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee. Starting from the second half of 1940, Mao Zedong personally organized the collection, editing, and research of important historical documents since the Party's Sixth National Congress. After more than a year of effort, *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* was officially published in December 1941, becoming an important teaching material for intra-Party study.

After the publication of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, Mao Zedong's leadership in editing Party literature did not stop but continued to advance and deepen according to the needs of the Party's political and theoretical study. He subsequently edited two important document collections: *Before the Sixth CPC National Congress* and *Two Lines*.

Before the Sixth CPC National Congress mainly included important Party documents from the founding of the Party in 1921 to before the Sixth National Congress. This document collection, together with *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, could more comprehensively reflect the Party's history since its founding. After the publication of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, a wave of studying and researching Party history swept across the entire Party. Many comrades proposed that the Central Committee should compile a document collection of the period before the Sixth Congress, starting from the Party's First National Congress, just as it had done with *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*. To meet everyone's study needs, Mao Zedong began organizing the editing of *Before the Sixth CPC National Congress* in early 1942[5].

Because there were very few intra-Party documents from this period, the collection mainly compiled signed articles by the Party's early leaders. *Before the Sixth CPC National Congress* included 184 documents, arranged in chronological order, divided into two volumes: the first volume contained 121 documents, the second volume contained 63 documents, and there were also 4 documents in the "appendix" [5]. This document collection was published in Yan' an in October 1942.

Two Lines was a thematic document collection edited on the basis of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* and *Before the Sixth CPC National Congress*, concentrating on central documents and leaders' speeches and articles concerning the two-line struggle in various historical periods of the Party. *Two Lines* was divided into two volumes, including 131 documents, and was published in

October 1943[6]. After its publication, the book was distributed widely, with virtually all senior cadres in Yan' an and leading comrades in various base areas receiving copies. It effectively replaced *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* as the main material for senior cadres' line study and played an important role in the later stage of the Yan' an Rectification Movement[7].

Reviewing this history shows that the most basic starting point for editing Party literature is to present the Party' s history more clearly and completely through documents, providing a historical basis for summarizing experiences. This is precisely what General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized in his "July 1st" important speech about playing the role of "using history as a mirror to create the future."

2 How Did Mao Zedong Lead the Editing of Party Literature?

Editing Party literature requires not only strong political commitment but also professional competence. Faced with a vast sea of documents and archives, this work is extremely difficult, requiring high political sensitivity, profound theoretical thinking, and rigorous and meticulous editing ability. Generally speaking, two basic problems must be solved: "what to edit" and "how to edit."

First is "what to edit," which means clarifying the theme of the document collection and what problems it aims to solve. This is the most significant difference between Party literature editing work and archival collection work.

The theme of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* focused on the "two-line struggle." Through historical review and comparison, it aimed to recognize the essence and crux of the erroneous line represented by Wang Ming, strengthen confidence in the correct line represented by Mao Zedong, summarize the experiences and lessons of the Chinese revolution, and ensure the correct direction of the Chinese revolution. Hu Qiaomu, who participated in editing *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* and experienced the Yan' an Rectification period, explained this issue very thoroughly and clearly. He said: "At that time, no one had proposed that there was a 'leftist' line in the Central Committee after the Fourth Plenary Session. Now, compiling these documents provides reliable evidence that some central leaders at that time had subjectivism and dogmatism. Some people were then speechless. How Mao Zedong fought against the 'leftist' line—comparing the two types of leadership makes it clear that Mao Zedong indeed represented the correct line, thereby further consolidating his leadership position in the Party. From *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, the Rectification Movement' s study of Party history and the drafting of the resolution on Party history were initiated. *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* became the basic weapon for Party rectification." [8]

After solving the problem of "what to edit," the next step is "how to edit," which can be roughly divided into three steps.

The first step is to organize specialized institutions responsible for editing. Editing Party literature is a major political task, not something that any individual or department can do at will, much less edit however they wish. According to Hu Qiaomu' s recollection, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China decided to compile and print *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* at a Central Committee meeting in August-September 1941. "Mao Zedong suggested compiling the historical documents since the Sixth Congress that he was reviewing for the Seventh Congress into a volume for senior cadres to study and research Party history. The meeting agreed with Mao Zedong' s suggestion." [8] According to the division of labor by the Central Committee, this work was initially the responsibility of Ren Bishi, but the collection of documents did not proceed smoothly. Later, the Political Bureau meeting decided that Chen Yun, Wang Ming, Wang Jiaxiang, Zhang Wentian, Deng Fa, and others would be responsible for collecting relevant documents separately. As members of the Political Bureau, they were very busy and actually could not attend to this work. Therefore, the Central Committee decided to transfer the work of collecting documents to the Central Secretariat, with Mao Zedong responsible for supervision and review. Thus, Mao Zedong began to personally lead the editing work of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*.

It was from that time that our Party made it clear that editing important Party literature, especially the works of the Party' s main leaders, must be approved by the Central Committee and assigned to specialized institutions. After the founding of the People' s Republic of China, the Central Committee decided to establish the "Editorial and Publishing Committee for Chairman Mao Zedong' s Works of the CPC Central Committee," specifically responsible for editing and publishing *Selected Works of Mao Zedong*. After the reform and opening up, the Central Committee decided to establish the "CPC Central Committee Literature Editing Committee" and its daily working organ, the "Central Literature Research Office," to ensure high-quality completion of Party literature editing work. On March 21, 2018, the CPC Central Committee issued the *Plan for Deepening the Reform of Party and State Institutions*, which included an important reform measure: integrating the responsibilities of the Central Party History Research Office, the Central Literature Research Office, and the Central Compilation and Translation Bureau to form the Central Institute of Party History and Literature, with editing and publishing important Party literature as one of its important responsibilities.

The second step is to collect and sort archival documents and materials. This is the foundation of editing Party literature. When editing *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, this work progressed with great difficulty. During the period from the Party' s Sixth Congress to 1941, central organs were transferred multiple times, especially during the Long March when many documents were destroyed or lost, making collection extremely difficult. At that time, there were five main channels for collecting historical materials: first, documents brought from the Central Soviet Area to Yan' an; second, manuscripts preserved by Mao Zedong himself; third, searching in Party newspapers and periodicals at

that time; fourth, transferring a batch of documents from the Central Document Repository established in Shanghai; and fifth, searching in Kuomintang newspapers and books. The first four channels could only collect limited documents and materials. Instead, many documents from the Party's history were discovered in a set of *Collected Red Bandit Reactionary Documents* compiled by the Kuomintang for anti-communist purposes.

Documents collected through various channels, especially important Party resolutions, orders, and instructions, required careful screening and verification. Documents in the *Collected Red Bandit Reactionary Documents* were even more difficult to distinguish between truth and falsehood, requiring individual examination to see if they had been tampered with by the enemy. Mao Zedong personally checked the proofs of every manuscript included in *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, revised titles of some manuscripts, and wrote explanatory notes for others. For example, after the title "Resolution of the Central Committee on the Summary of Opposing the Enemy's Fifth 'Encirclement and Suppression' Campaign," he added in parentheses the words "Zunyi Conference Resolution," making the background and content of the manuscript clear at a glance from the title alone. This work alone took a full seven months.

The third step is to classify and edit documents according to themes. The theme and editing principles of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* were determined by the Central Committee: to collect and sort important documents since the Party's Sixth Congress according to eight topics—political issues, organizational issues, military issues, anti-espionage issues, workers' movement, youth movement, women's movement, and propaganda and education—divided into two volumes. Mao Zedong classified and edited the collected documents using a method combining topics and chronological order, and also compiled a "chronological catalog."

Among the eight topics of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, "political issues" reflect the general line, principles, and policies of the Party during this period, forming the main body of the document collection and constituting the main content of the first volume; other topics reflect the Party's work in different aspects during this period, constituting the main content of the second volume. The "political issues" section includes 333 documents, with the opening piece being the "Resolution of the Sixth National Congress of the Communist Party of China" dated July 9, 1928. Through these documents, it can be clearly seen how the "leftist" erroneous line represented mainly by Wang Ming formed and developed on the basis of successive "leftist" errors and brought serious harm to the Chinese revolution; and how Chinese Communists represented mainly by Mao Zedong, in the struggle against the "leftist" erroneous line, continuously summarized and explored the practical experiences and objective laws of the Chinese revolution, gradually forming a correct line.

Since the Sixth CPC National Congress was published in two versions: a complete collection and a selected collection. The complete collection included 519 Party documents from the Sixth National Congress of the Party to November

1941, totaling about 2.8 million words, including Party meeting minutes, resolutions, announcements, statements, telegrams, instructions, as well as Party newspaper editorials, articles by main leaders, letters, etc.[5] The complete collection was only distributed to major units such as central ministries, central bureaus, the military commission, and military sub-commands, not to individuals. The selected collection was streamlined by Mao Zedong from the complete collection for the convenience of cadre study and research, including 86 documents.[5] The selected collection was distributed to both units and individuals, but individuals were limited to senior Party cadres. The selected collection was only published once in Yan' an and was not reprinted later. The complete collection was revised and reprinted twice in April 1952 and February 1980 by the General Office of the CPC Central Committee and the Central Archives respectively, for internal distribution.

This history fully demonstrates that Mao Zedong was the pioneer of the Party' s literature work. The important work of editing Party literature was first proposed by Mao Zedong and approved by the Central Committee, and was carried out under his personal leadership. Many of the guiding principles, basic requirements, and stylistic norms for Party literature editing work were established by Mao Zedong at that time and continue to be used to this day.

3 The Important Roles Played by Document Collections Such as *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*

After the publication of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, *Before the Sixth CPC National Congress*, and *Two Lines*, they caused great repercussions within the Party and became the main teaching materials for the entire Party' s study during the Yan' an Rectification Movement. In Mao Zedong' s words: “After comrades read them, they suddenly saw the light and were inspired intellectually.” [9] The two phrases “suddenly saw the light” and “inspired intellectually” very vividly, truthfully, and profoundly reflect the important political role these three document collections played at that time.

First, clarifying the Party' s history and becoming important teaching materials for Party history study. Attaching great importance to studying Party history was an important task Mao Zedong put forward to the entire Party during the Yan' an period. He profoundly pointed out that the road was walked step by step, and when taking each step, one must consider how yesterday was walked and how tomorrow should be walked. “If we do not clarify the Party' s history and the road the Party has traveled historically, we cannot do things better.” “If we do not study the development of the Communist Party of China' s history, the Party' s ideological struggles and political struggles, our research will not yield results.” “We must study which were past successes and victories, and which were failures, learning from past mistakes to avoid future ones.” “This is necessary for studying today' s line and policies, strengthening intra-Party education, and advancing work in all areas.” [9] Mao Zedong believed that *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* played this important role well after its publication. The

entire Party, especially senior cadres, began to study seriously. “This is a good thing, and we are beginning to see good results today.” The entire Party set off an upsurge of studying Party history.

Second, clarifying the Party’ s correct political line and playing the role of setting things right and returning to the original source. Speaking politics clearly and unequivocally is a distinctive feature of Marxist political parties and a prominent characteristic and advantage of the Communist Party of China. After the Communist Party of China arrived in Yan’ an, it faced many theoretical confusions and practical challenges on the issue of political direction, needing to find answers from historical review. Mao Zedong profoundly pointed out: “How should we build our Party today? How can we build a ‘nationwide, mass-based, and fully consolidated Bolshevik Communist Party of China in terms of ideology, politics, and organization’ ?” “Solving this problem cannot be separated from our Party’ s history and the Party’ s eighteen-year history of struggle.” [10] However, the reality was that the Communist Party of China had not yet conducted systematic and thorough research on its own history. After the publication of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress, Before the Sixth CPC National Congress*, and *Two Lines*, they provided conditions for the entire Party, especially senior cadres, to deeply consider this issue. From a political and historical height, the entire Party began to systematically review and analyze the “development path of the Chinese revolution and the Communist Party of China” [11], to form correct understandings of various erroneous viewpoints inside and outside the Party, and to profoundly summarize the experiences and laws of the Communist Party of China’ s leadership in revolution, promoting the Communist Party of China to rapidly mature from its infancy.

Third, establishing a scientific attitude toward Marxism and establishing the ideological line of seeking truth from facts. Marxism is the fundamental guiding ideology upon which the Communist Party of China was founded and the country was built, and it is the soul and banner of the Communist Party of China. General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out in his “July 1st” important speech: “Using history as a mirror to create the future, we must continue to advance the sinicization of Marxism.” The key is to establish a scientific attitude toward Marxism, adhere to combining the basic principles of Marxism with China’ s specific realities and with China’ s excellent traditional culture, and continuously advance the sinicization and modernization of Marxism. Fundamentally speaking, Mao Zedong edited *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* and other document collections, hoping that by summarizing the lessons of this period of the Chinese revolution, he could see the dogmatic essence of Wang Ming’ s “leftist” erroneous line and help the entire Party form a correct attitude toward Marxism-Leninism. At the Sixth Plenary Session of the Sixth Central Committee, Mao Zedong solemnly put forward to the entire Party the theoretical task of “making Marxism concrete in China,” emphasizing that the theories of Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin should not be regarded as dogmas but as guides to action, and that we should learn their positions and methods for observing and solving problems. He had already anticipated that this understanding might

not be widely accepted within the Party, so he particularly emphasized in his speech that this was a “major problem that urgently needed to be solved and required focused effort to solve.” The method to solve this ideological problem was to study Party history. He pointed out: “I hope that after this plenary session of the Central Committee, there will be a study competition throughout the Party to see who has truly learned something, who has learned more, and who has learned better.” “If our Party has 100 to 200 comrades who have systematically rather than fragmentarily, and practically rather than emptily, learned Marxism-Leninism, it will greatly enhance our Party’ s combat effectiveness.” [12]

Through studying *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress, Before the Sixth CPC National Congress*, and *Two Lines*, and on the basis of in-depth research into Party history, the Party gradually established the ideological line of seeking truth from facts and formed a scientific attitude toward Marxism. With such a cognitive foundation and this scientific spirit, the entire Party’ s thinking broke free from the shackles of dogmatism, used the Marxist standpoint, viewpoint, and method to study and solve China’ s own revolutionary problems, and ultimately achieved the first leap in the sinicization of Marxism, creating Mao Zedong Thought.

Fourth, achieving a high degree of ideological unity throughout the Party and promoting the establishment of Mao Zedong’ s core leadership position in the entire Party. Document collections such as *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* played the role of a “basic weapon” in the rectification movement, enabling the entire Party to reach consensus on the major political issue of the two-line struggle. If this problem could not be fundamentally solved and it was unclear which line was correct and which was erroneous, achieving ideological unity within the Party would become empty talk. After studying and researching Party history, the entire Party, especially senior cadres, formed a comprehensive evaluation of Mao Zedong, recognizing that Mao Zedong represented the correct line within the Party and also recognizing the true nature of various erroneous lines.

This cognitive formation underwent a transformation process and continuously advanced with the successive publication of the three document collections. After the publication of *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, the understanding of senior Party cadres began to change. Mao Zedong said: “In May 1941, I gave the report ‘Reform Our Study,’ which had no influence. After June, the Party book (referring to *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*—author’ s note) was compiled. Once the Party book came out, many comrades were disarmed, so it was possible to hold the September Conference.” [13] The “September Conference” refers to the enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee held from September 10 to October 22, 1941. This was an extremely important meeting of the Communist Party of China during its preparation for the Rectification Movement. The Central Committee distributed *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress*, edited under Mao Zedong’ s supervision, to the comrades attending the meeting, asking them to read it carefully and conduct

comparison and analysis in combination with reality to see what was right and what was wrong. This meeting enabled the Party's leadership to reach a general consensus on the fundamental issue of opposing subjectivism and sectarianism. Mao Zedong once commented, "The September Conference was crucial; otherwise, I would not have dared to go to the Party School to report on rectification, nor could my books such as *Rural Investigation* have been published," and "rectification would not have been possible." [14]

After two years of study, especially after the publication of *Two Lines*, the cognitive tendency of the entire Party underwent fundamental changes. Particularly among senior Party cadres, they thoroughly saw the essence and harm of Wang Ming's erroneous line from its ideological roots and strengthened their political trust and support for Mao Zedong. At the "September Conference" of 1943, the Party's senior leadership basically solved this cognitive problem. *The Chronicle of Zhu De* records Zhu De's speech on October 6, mainly discussing his study experience[15]. He pointed out incisively that the essence of Wang Ming's erroneous line was dogmatism, which seriously divorced from China's reality. He pointed out: "Through study, looking at those documents objectively, some problems are also easy to understand. Wang Ming's dogmatism is now very obvious. They only know foreign countries and don't know the Central Committee. We also need foreign countries and China. Starting from reality is correct; starting from dogma is wrong. Empiricists understand little theory and naturally become captives of dogmatism." In his speech, he clearly expressed his support for Mao Zedong, believing that "Mao Zedong works in a down-to-earth manner, has courage and ability, and can always come up with solutions when encountering difficulties. He can also insist on acting according to actual conditions when others oppose him. At the same time, he reads no fewer books than others, but he can understand them and integrate theory with practice. Practice has proven that with Mao Zedong's leadership, all aspects have developed. Following Mao Zedong's methods, the Chinese revolution is certain to succeed. In this study, each of us should learn a set of skills, mainly learning Mao Zedong's skills in handling affairs."

Lin Boqu, who had high prestige in the Communist Party of China and was honored as one of the "Five Elders of the Party," said in his speech that Wang Ming was an "overseas Communist," quoting many words of Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin to bully us many "native Communists"; he was an "overseas imperial commissioner," rigidly applying foreign experience to guide the Chinese revolution, which was a tactic of neo-Chen Duxiu-ism[16].

Zhou Enlai, who participated in and presided over the work of the CPC Central Committee since the Sixth Congress, profoundly pointed out in his speech the extreme harm of Wang Ming's line errors, and at the same time, combining his own experience, strongly expressed his trust and support for Mao Zedong. He said: "The Party's 22-year history proves that only Comrade Zedong's opinions run through the entire historical period and have developed into a line of Marxism-Leninism sinicized, that is, the line of Chinese communism.

Comrade Mao Zedong' s direction is the direction of the Communist Party of China." "The line that Comrade Mao Zedong' s thought runs through is the line of Chinese Bolshevism." [17]

The high evaluation and firm support for Mao Zedong and the correct line he represented by senior Party cadres such as Zhou Enlai and Zhu De represented the voice of the vast majority within the Party. This cognitive transformation was crucial and very important, representing an important achievement of the Yan' an Rectification Movement. This fully demonstrates that after the struggle against the "leftist" erroneous line, the entire Party' s thinking finally achieved unity. This laid a solid political foundation for the subsequent adoption of the *Resolution on Certain Questions in the History of Our Party* by the Seventh Plenary Session of the Sixth Central Committee, the correct evaluation and analysis of Party history, the formal establishment of Mao Zedong Thought as the guiding ideology at the Seventh National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the clarification of Mao Zedong' s core leadership position in the Party, and the formation of core consciousness.

In the Yan' an Rectification Movement, the successful experience of editing, researching, and using document collections such as *Since the Sixth CPC National Congress* shows that Party literature work has special historical, political, and theoretical functions and plays an irreplaceable role in Party construction, especially in ideological and theoretical construction.

History serves as a mirror for a thousand years, and literature preserves truth for ten thousand generations. The Party' s literature editing work is historically and inevitably linked to studying and researching Party history, summarizing Party experiences, advancing the sinicization and modernization of Marxism, and strengthening the Party' s self-construction. The Communist Party of China' s century-long history of unremitting struggle, sacrifice, theoretical exploration, benefiting the people, and self-construction is all condensed and fixed in the Party' s literature. The Communist Party of China' s scientific understanding and experience summary of the laws of Communist Party governance, socialist construction, and human social development are all condensed and contained in the Party' s literature. The Communist Party of China' s original aspiration and mission, spiritual genealogy, and basic theories, basic lines, and basic strategies are all concentrated and reflected in the Party' s literature. Along with the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era and facing the new journey toward achieving the second centenary goal, Party literature work will continue to play an irreplaceable role in writing history, enlightening the present, and indicating the future.

References

- [1] XI Jinping. Speech at the Symposium on the Publication of *Selected Important Documents Since the Founding of the Party (1921-1949)* (June 16, 2011) [J]. *Party Literature*, 2011(5): 3.

- [2] JIN Chongji. *Mao Zedong Biography (1893-1949)* [M]. Beijing: Central Party Literature Press, 2004: 128.
- [3] CHEN Shaoyu. *Struggle for the Further Bolshevization of the Communist Party of China* [M]. Beijing: Reproduced by the Chinese Revolutionary History Teaching and Research Office of Peking University, 1957: 1.
- [4] HU Qiaomu. *Hu Qiaomu's Recollections of Mao Zedong* [M]. Beijing: People's Publishing House, 1994: 45.
- [5] Hu Qiaomu Biography Writing Group. *Biography of Hu Qiaomu: Volume I* [M]. Beijing: People's Publishing House, 2015: 60.
- [6] Ibid., 61.
- [7] PANG Xianzhi. *Chronicle of Mao Zedong (1893-1949): Volume II* [M]. Beijing: Central Party Literature Press, 2013: 478.
- [8] Same as [4], 48.
- [9] MAO Zedong. *Selected Works of Mao Zedong: Volume II* [M]. Beijing: People's Publishing House, 1993: 399.
- [10] MAO Zedong. *Selected Works of Mao Zedong: Volume II* [M]. Beijing: People's Publishing House, 1991: 603.
- [11] Ibid., 604.
- [12] Ibid., 533.
- [13] Same as [2], 655.
- [14] Same as [2], 659.
- [15] Central Party Literature Research Office. *Chronicle of Zhu De (1886-1976)* [M]. New edition. Beijing: Central Party Literature Press, 2006: 1142-1143.
- [16] Same as [4], 284-285.
- [17] Central Party Literature Research Office. *Chronicle of Zhou Enlai (1898-1949)* [M]. Revised edition. Beijing: Central Party Literature Press, 1998: 572-573.

(Edited by: WEI Jin)

Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.

Source: ChinaXiv – Machine translation. Verify with original.