

## *Original Paper*

# Study on the Realization of the “Ten No” in Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Area during the Anti-Japanese War

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Received: February 9, 2023      Accepted: February 23, 2023      Online Published: February 26, 2023  
doi:10.22158/sss.v4n1p115      URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.22158/sss.v4n1p115>

### **Abstract**

*In reviewing the century-long history of the China, the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area during the Anti-Japanese War was in a difficult war period in terms of time and in a very backward northwestern interior in terms of space, but the government built the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area into a society of “ten no” and became a democratic anti-Japanese base area. Its valuable experience is an important inspiration for socialist modernization under the rapid development and changes in the world.*

### **Keywords**

*Ten no, Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region, Anti-Japanese War*

## **1. Introduction**

The “ten no” are Mao Zedong’s summary of the state of development in the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area. The “ten no” are the concrete manifestation of the great success of the government in political, economic and social construction, the successful practice has an important inspiration for the current socialist modernization construction in China and the modernization of governance ability.

## **2. Background of the Realization of the “Ten No”**

### *2.1 The Social Background of the “Ten No”*

In October 1938, the war against Japan entered a phase of strategic stalemate. The Japanese invaders adjusted their policy toward China, with the Eighth Route Army and the New Fourth Army becoming the main targets, while the Kuomintang and its government were mainly induced to surrender. In December 1939, Wang Jingwei went so far as to sign the “Outline for the New Adjustment of Japan-China Relations” with Japan, which betrayed the sovereignty of the country’s territory, and intended to establish a pseudo regime, which dealt a severe blow to the morale of the Chinese

resistance.

At the same time, the Japanese invaders made every effort to destroy the united front. After the outbreak of the anti-Japanese war in full swing, the Anti-Japanese National United Front was established in order to fight against the barbaric aggression of the Japanese imperialists. However, the key to whether the anti-Japanese united front could defeat the Japanese invaders was whether it could truly unite and resolutely fight the Japanese imperialist aggression, so Japan and Wang made every effort to destroy the united front. In this difficult period, in order to boost the morale of the anti-Japanese resistance, expose the conspiracy of the Japanese and the stubborn faction within the Kuomintang, and show people the determination and ability of the anti-Japanese resistance, and make people confident in the anti-Japanese resistance, he used “ten no” in his speech “Uniting all anti-Japanese forces against the anti-Communist stubborn faction” to show a progressive, united and hopeful Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border. In his speech “Unite all anti-Japanese forces and oppose the stubborn faction”, he used “ten no” to show a progressive, united and hopeful Shanxi-Gansu- Ningxia border area.

### *2.2 The Essence of “Ten No”*

The “ten no” are Mao Zedong’s generalization of the social conditions in the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area during the Anti-Japanese War. The “ten no” reflected the CPC’s insistence on democratic anti-Japanese ideology. The “ten no” demonstrated the ruling power of the CPC.. “One, there are no corrupt officials, which shows that those in power do not use their power for personal gain and are not corrupt, reflecting that the leaders and the government of the border areas are honest in their administration, faithful in their duties, and dedicated to public service; two to six, there are no landlords, no gamblers, no prostitutes, no little wives, and no callers, which shows that these backward phenomena were eliminated at that time, reflecting This shows that these backward phenomena were eliminated, reflecting a good social atmosphere and promoting the healthy and harmonious development of society; seven, there were no gangsters, nine, no one ate rubbish rice, and ten, no one made national disaster money, showing that no one from government workers and ordinary people made personal gains in an improper way; eight, there was no sluggishness, showing the positive and hopeful spirit of the people.

## **3. The Experience of Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Area Becoming a Society of “Ten No” during the Anti-Japanese War**

### *3.1 Putting the People at the Center and Realizing the Broadest Democracy*

Since the establishment of the shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area government, the government advocated building the border area into a national model of anti-Japanese democracy. in May 1937, the first election convention began under the organization of the border area government, which promulgated the “Regulations on Elections in the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border Area”. The regulations stated that all people over 16 years of age who lived in the Shanxi-Gan-Ningxia border region had the

right to vote and to be elected, with the exception of traitors, those who were deprived of their civil rights by court judgments, and those who suffered from neuroses. Therefore, the border area adopts direct, secret, and flexible and diverse voting methods to vote. From the promulgation of the regulations to the flexible and diversified implementation measures, it is to ensure that the people's right to vote is practically implemented.

### *3.2 Implement Timely Economic Development Policies*

Economic development is the material basis for stable social development and the guarantee for achieving the "ten no". The attached great importance to economic development during its rule in the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area, and was able to adopt correct economic development policies in a timely manner in response to changes in the environment.

Before the war against Japan entered the phase of stalemate, the economic policy of securing foreign aid and recuperating was implemented. Such a policy gave the people a chance to recover. In agriculture, the main purpose was to supervise agricultural production and strengthen daily management. In industry, vigorous development was called for to supply the needs of the war effort. In commerce, a policy of encouragement was adopted to prosper the economy and to meet the needs of the government and the people of the border area. Under such a policy, the economy of the border area recovered and developed rapidly.

After the war against Japan entered the phase of stubbornness, along with military friction and economic blockade, Comrade Mao Zedong put forward the slogan "develop production and be self-reliant", calling on the people of the border areas and all the personnel of the troops, institutions and schools to develop production. 1941-1942 was the most difficult period for the border areas, and the border area government encouraged the border area. The border area government encouraged the army and the people to make more efforts to carry out production campaigns and gradually achieve complete economic self-sufficiency. In conjunction with the Great Production Movement, the "second-rate" people were reformed and rent and interest rates were reduced. In agriculture, the available arable land in the Shanxi-Ganjiang-Ningxia border area gradually increased, the irrigated area of farmland was increasingly expanded, and grain production was greatly increased. In commerce, the government of the border area has set up Guang Hua Shop, Salt Company, Nanchang Company, etc., to export local specialties in exchange for the import of daily necessities to meet the needs of the army and the people, and to stabilize prices in the border area.

### *3.3 Improve the System to Create a Clean Government*

The Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region is a clean government, and government workers at all levels are elected through universal, equal, and fair elections, which bring the best people who are willing to serve the people and who are trusted by the people to all levels of government in the border region. The "three-three" principle enabled personnel to become government workers, with one-third of the Communists and two-thirds of the personnel. The "three-three" system allows the best all members to join the government structure, which facilitates scientific and efficient decision-making and supervision.

A sound legal system provides a scientific and complete basis for building integrity.

### *3.4 Transform Bad Habits and Liberate Productivity*

Before the establishment of the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region regime, it was a closed, naturally harsh and backward region with extremely low status of women. The promulgation of the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region Election Regulations, the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region Policy Program, and the Temporary Regulations on Amending Marriage in the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region safeguarded women's political and marital rights, making it possible for women to obtain the same rights as men to vote, to land, to inherit, to marital autonomy, and to education. Liberated women responded to the call of the border area government and actively engaged in productive labor.

The government of the border area rehabilitated the "dilettantes" and transformed the good and bad people who existed in the border area into hard-working laborers. The transformation of the "dilettantes" in the border areas has achieved considerable results. For example, Liu Shenghai, a hero of labor in the Sanbian, was originally a dilettante, but after being reformed in various ways, he worked hard on farming, planted 28 bases of land, collected more than 6 stones of grain, and improved his life.

By enacting and enforcing anti-smoking and anti-drug measures, the border government has greatly reduced drugs in the border area. In 1938 alone, the border area confiscated more than 7,000 taels of raw opium, and some drug traffickers and saboteurs were arrested and investigated. The anti-drug efforts in the border areas have enabled the limited land in the border areas to be planted with food, expanding the area sown with grain and increasing yields. Smokers in the border area, after quitting their drug addiction, joined the anti-Japanese work and contributed to the victory of the anti-Japanese war.

## **4. The Revelation of Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Area Becoming a Society of "Ten No" during the Anti-Japanese War**

### *4.1 Adhere to the System of People's Congresses and Make Good Use of Consultative Democracy*

Democracy is an important concept that the Chinese people have always insisted on. During the long exploration, the system of people's congresses was established to guarantee the democratic rights of the people to the maximum extent. The government began to explore the forms of realizing the widest democracy during the period when it was in power in the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area. The first parliamentary elections began in July 1937, and the first Senate was convened on January 17, 1939, which shows that the forms of realizing democracy are historical.

Consultative democracy is a democratic political system of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The "three-three" system of government requires to handle relations with other people well. In the Policy Platform of the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region Government, it is stipulated that "they shall cooperate democratically with other members, and shall not be bent on having their own way, and shall not take charge of their own affairs". In the course of their work, they and the personnel of the Border

Region Government constantly strengthen communication, which not only improves the efficiency of decision-making, but also helps bring into play the wisdom of people and mobilize their enthusiasm. So it is necessary to use consultative democracy in order to fully mobilize the enthusiasm of all parties.

#### *4.2 Build a Scientific and Reasonable System of Integrity Construction*

In conditions of war and extreme shortage of materials, the fight against corruption was an important issue for the border area government. To this end, the Border Region government introduced appropriate laws and regulations. Constitutional documentary programs include the “Program of Governance of the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region,” the “Program of Governance of the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region during the War of Resistance,” and the “Ten Programs for Resisting Japan and Saving the Nation,” in which specific regulations were set forth to eradicate corruption and to build a clean government. Specialized laws and regulations include the Interim Regulations on Punishing Corruption of the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region Government and the Regulations on Punishing Corruption of the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region (Draft), which set out detailed regulations on the identification, punishment, and enforcement of corruption crimes, making it possible for society to follow the law. These laws and regulations formed an organic system that was energy-efficient in preventing the creation of corruption and severely punishing it on the one hand, and could create a great deterrent effect to reduce corruption on the other.

#### *4.3 Scientific Economic Policy is the Key to Ensure Economic Development*

The economy is the foundation. Without economic development, it is impossible to have a stable and prosperous society. After the establishment of the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area, the first thing was to implement the policy of rest and recuperation, giving the peasants a chance to recover and breathe, thus enabling agriculture to recover and develop quickly. For industry and commerce, on the one hand, private capital investment was encouraged, and on the other hand, public industry and commerce were started. The main reason why the government’s ruling base in the Shanxi-Gansu-Ningxia border area became more and more solid was the realization of abundant food and clothing, and that the economy entered a healthy development situation, which laid a solid foundation for the subsequent victory in the War of Liberation. Currently in the critical period of socialist modernization, we must seize the key link of economic construction and develop a scientific policy system to achieve high-quality development according to the state of economic development.

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