CEO, China: The Rise Of Xi Jinping

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KERRY BROWN

CEO, CHINA

THE RISE OF XI JINPING

"ONE OF OUR MOST PERCEPTIVE AND ACCURATE FOREIGN OBSERVERS OF CHINA" JOHN SIMPSON, BBC

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China has become the powerhouse of the world economy, its incredible boom overseen by the elite members of the secretive and all-powerful communist party. But since the election of Xi Jinping as General Secretary, life at the top in China has changed. Under the guise of a corruption crackdown, which has seen his rivals imprisoned, Xi Jinping has been quietly building one of the most powerful leaderships modern China has ever seen. In CEO China, the noted China expert Kerry Brown reveals the hidden story of the rise of the man dubbed the "Chinese Godfather" ™. Brown investigates his relationship with his revolutionary father, who was expelled by Mao during the Cultural Revolution, his business dealings and allegiances in China’s regional power struggles and his role in the internal battle raging between the old men of the Deng era and the new super-rich "princelings" ™. Xi Jinping’s China is powerful, aggressive and single-minded and this book will become a must-read for the Western world.

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Customer Reviews

China’s political system has little in common with America’s - its CCP is the only available
governance structure. Deng’s military response to the 1989 Tiananmen students, in part, was to block the nightmare of empowered teenage thugs rampaging once again. The CCP has 87 million members, with 3,000 elites of vice-ministerial rank and above. They comprise the National People’s Congress, and meet every five years. Their influence is simply that of voting in the 'real players.' Real power resides higher up - the Central Committee has 200 members and 150 alternatives (attend some of the meetings) and meets annually, while the Politburo has 25 members that meets months, and the Politburo Standing Committee consists of 7 members that meet weekly. The General Secretary sets agendas and runs both the Politburo and its Standing Committee. Within that system, China’s top leaders travel a much different path and stricter screening methodology than do ours. Negative politics cannot work in long-term China. China’s leaders top-most priority is preserving the one-party system because they believe this is their best bet to achieve great-nation status. When Xi (1949) took over, the CCP had relied on economic growth as the core source of legitimacy. Now that message is weaker, and this may explain the shift to more nationalistic messaging to bolster its rule. Author Kerry Brown is a former British diplomat, now professor of Chinese studies at King’s College London.

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