

### [3 整风运动 《延安颂》 .mp4](#)

#### **A Eulogy to Yan'an 《延安颂》**

##### **Introduction:**

A *Eulogy to Yan'an* 《延安颂》 is a historical drama that opens in October 1935, when the Chinese Community Party's Red Army arrives in northern Shaanxi following their Long March retreat from the Nationalist government's military advancement. The drama shows how the Communist Party expanded during their Yan'an period, and how Mao took the helm and led the party to its powerful resurgence. The drama ends with the 7<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Chinese Community Party in 1945, which endorsed the first-generation leadership of the Party with Mao as its *core leader* (核心领导人).

The scene featured in the video clip takes place during the Forum for the Reform of Liberation Daily (解放日报改版座谈会) in March 1942. This Forum marked the start of formal media involvement to support Mao's Rectification Campaign (整风运动 1941-1945). The eminent writer Ding Ling (丁玲), who was editor-in-chief of the literature and art column of Liberation Daily, is seen here being condemned for the articles that she included in the column earlier which critiqued party members and their practices in Yan'an. These included Ding Ling's own satirical piece *Thoughts on March 8* 《三八节有感》.

Discussions of this type at the Forum for the Reform of Liberation Daily were soon followed by the widely acclaimed Talks at the Yan'an Forum on Literature and Art in May 1942 《毛泽东在延安文艺座谈会上的讲话》, in which Mao set out his guiding cultural policy: literature and art must reflect the life of the working class and serve the Party and politics.

##### **Translation of selected words:**

| to 50'' |   | from 50'' |   |
|---------|---|-----------|---|
| 方针      | lit. direction pointer;<br>guiding principle  | 挂帅        | lit. in charge of the<br>seal of the<br>commander; in<br>command, in<br>leadership  |
| 郑重地     | solemnly, formally,<br>seriously  | 小资产阶级     | petty bourgeoisie   |
| 根据地     | the base areas, meaning<br>the communists-controlled<br>areas in the 1930s and<br>1940s, for which the full<br>forms are often 革命根据地<br>the revolution base、抗日根据地<br>the base of<br>resistance against Japanese<br>aggression | 贺龙        | He Long (1896-<br>1969), a Chinese<br>communist<br>revolutionary and<br>commander during<br>both the War of<br>Resistance against<br>Japanese<br>Aggression and the<br>Chinese Civil War,<br>who was one of the<br>ten recognised |

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|     |  |     | marshals (十大元帅) of the People's Liberation Army; he later went on to hold top-tier positions in the CCP government   |
| 八路军 | the Eighth Route Army, rebranched from the Red Army in 1937 to serve at the united front of the Communists and Nationalists during the Second Sino-Japanese War, known in China as the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression (抗日战争). The Eighth Route Army was renamed as the People's Liberation Army in 1947.  | 外行话 | [rhetoric] a mere dabbler's opinion  |
| 新四军 | The New Fourth Army, established in 1937, another major force of the Communist party along with the Eighth Route Army during the war against Japanese invasion.  | 抗战  | War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, Second Sino-Japanese War  |
| 边区  | Originally a word for Special Administrative Regions under the Republic of China (1912-1949), later for the Communist-controlled areas such as the Shaan-Gan-Ning region (陕甘宁边区 in parts of Shaanxi 陕西, Gansu 甘肃, Ningxia 宁夏), the Jin-Sui region (晋绥边区 in parts of Shanxi 山西, Suiyuan 绥远[southwestern area of modern-day Inner Mongolia 今内蒙古西南部]), the Jin-Cha-Ji Region (晋察冀边区 in parts of Shanxi 山西, Chahar 察哈尔[modern-day Hebei, Beijing, and parts of Inner Mongolia 今河北, 北京, 内 | 王震  | Wang Zhen (1908-1993), an important military general of the Chinese Communist Party and a high-level political figure who was appointed to lead the Rectification Campaign against the Yan'an writers in 1942. |

|        |  |      |                               |
|--------|--|------|-------------------------------|
|        | 蒙古部分地区], 河北), and among others. These areas are also called the base areas 根据地 or the liberated regions 解放区  |      |                               |
| 整风     | lit. to rectify the style; 整风运动 the Rectification Campaign was a political movement spearheaded by Mao in 1941-1945 which instituted Marxist-Leninism and Maoism as the guiding principles of the Chinese Communist Party.   | 生机勃勃 | vibrant, exuberant            |
| 连篇累牍   | (of writing) long and repetitious; 累 lěi means to accumulate, to repeat, while 牍 means the wood strips used for writing in ancient times   | 歌声朗朗 | loud and happy singing        |
| 《野百合花》 | Wild Lily, written by the intellectual Wang Shiwei 王实味 (1906-1947), criticised the behaviour of party seniors in Yan'an  | 大惊小怪 | to fuss, a storm in a tea cup |
| 副刊     | supplements in newspapers, columns in addition to news reporting and commentaries  | 泄气   | deflated, demoralised         |
| 博古     | Bo Gu (1907-1946), one of the senior members in the early era of the Chinese Communist Party, who had Comintern background. He was once a member of the politburo and became the General Secretary of the Party (总负责人), then later was appointed as the head of Liberation Daily 《解放日报》 and Xinhua News Agency (新华社) in 1941 |      |                               |

**Script:**

*The words highlighted in blue are listed in the above Translations of Selected Words and the sentences highlighted in green are explained in the section Some Points.*

毛泽东：刚才，我讲了《解放日报》在办报方针方面存在的严重问题。我必须郑重地指出，在根据地办报，就应该以宣传党的政策，宣传八路军、新四军、边区和根据地为主，这样才能区别于国民党的报纸嘛。全党整风开始以后，你们未作应有的报道，反而连篇累牍地登了《野百合花》，还有你这位副刊部主编丁玲同志，写的《三八节有感》等文章。请问博古同志，你这位社长，这是马克思主义挂帅办报吗？

博古：这！

毛泽东：从你们这些文章可以看出，近来颇有一些人，他们要求绝对平均，这只是幻想，是不可能实现的。应该告诉这些人，小资产阶级的绝对平均主义应该拒绝，这是革命队伍中的“左派幼稚病”。

贺龙：我说几句外行话，最近，我也看了《解放日报》刊登的文章。说心里话，心里很不是滋味，我贺龙就不想和毛主席总司令搞什么绝对平等，我希望我们的主席总司令吃得好一点，身体再健康一点，好领导我们抗战。

王震：还有一些文章那就更不像话了。认为我们延安的生活枯燥、单调、没有趣味，可是我王震为什么就觉得我们延安到处都是生机勃勃、歌声朗朗的景象呢？

贺龙：丁玲啊，你这位湖南妹子，怎么能写出这样的文章呢？你说，这跳跳舞有什么关系呀，值得你们这么大惊小怪？

同志：主席，这有关文艺上的问题是不是另找个机会再谈啊？

毛泽东：不，请贺老总把话说完。

贺龙：我们的战士在前方打仗，流血牺牲是为了什么？是为了抗战，是为了保卫党中央、保卫延安。可是你们在后方说泄气的话。如果真像你们说的那样，我贺龙就带着队伍回延安。

### **Some points:**

1. 从你们这些文章可以看出，近来颇有一些人，他们要求绝对平均，这只是幻想，是不可能实现的。应该告诉这些人，小资产阶级的绝对平均主义应该拒绝，这是革命队伍中的“左派幼稚病”。

Lit. *From you these articles (we) can see, recently fairly there are some people, they demand absolute average, this only is a fantasy, is not possible to realise. (We) should tell these people, petite bourgeoisie's absolute egalitarianism should refuse, this is revolution team middle's 'leftists' naïve disease. /From these articles of yours, it is clear that recently there are quite a few people who demand absolute equality. It is nothing but a delusion, impossible to achieve. We must tell these people that the absolute egalitarianism of the petite bourgeoisie ought to be rejected. It is essentially the infantile disorder of the left-wing hidden in our revolutionary force.*

颇 as an adverb has the meaning of *fairly, rather, very*, thus 颇有 here would be *there are quite some/a few*.

左派幼稚病 comes from Lenin's book '*Left-Wing' Communism: an Infantile Disorder*, published in 1920. Here it is being used to refer to perceived idealism and unrealistic requests in political appeals. The word 幼稚 basically means *naive, immature, childish*.

2. 说心里话，心里很不是滋味，我贺龙就不想和毛主席总司令搞什么绝对平等，我希望我们的主席总司令吃得好一点，身体再健康一点，好领导我们抗战。

Lit. *Speaking heart inside words, heart inside very not is flavour, I He Long just don't want to with Chairman Mao general commander do what absolute equality, I hope our chairman general commander eat (to the extent of being) good a bit, body more healthy a bit, good (to) lead us resist the war. /To be honest, I am feeling quite disturbed. Absolute equality with Chairman Mao, our commander-in-chief? Why? I am happier if our chairman, our commander-in-chief, eats better, stays even healthier, so he can focus on the more important task of leading us and fighting the Japanese.*

心里很不是滋味 is an idiomatic phrase meaning *feeling bad, disturbed*.

搞 is a colloquial expression that carries several meanings such as: 1) showing disapproval, especially when alongside 什么 like in the sentence above, or 搞得一塌糊涂 *to have caused a complete mess*; 2) indicating challenges involved or effort needed, e.g., 搞事业 *to concentrate on career*; and 3) insinuating manipulation and scheming, e.g., 搞事情 *to stir up things*. The meaning of 搞 is context-based, but its general sense aligns with *to do, make and cause*, such as in 把这件事儿搞好 *to do it well*, or 搞得他很生气 *to have made him very angry*.

好在 connect with a verb conveys the meaning of *to make it easy to, so as to, so that*.

3. 还有一些文章那就更不像话了。认为我们延安的生活枯燥、单调、没有趣味，可是我王震为什么就觉得我们延安到处都是生机勃勃、歌声朗朗的景象呢？

Lit. *Also there are some articles that just even more not resemble words. (They) think our Yan'an's life is dull, monotonous, not has interests, but I Wang Zhen why just feel our Yan'an everywhere all are vibrant, loud singing scenes? /There were some other articles that were even more outrageous. They suggested that life in Yan'an was dull, tedious, and lacking in fun. That's not what I have witnessed. Here in Yan'an, we see vibrant scenes with singing and activities everywhere.*

不像话 is an idiomatic phrase that can mean *unreasonable and ridiculous* in the sense of something not resembling what it should, or *disgraceful and outrageous* in the sense of something being beyond words, too bad to describe.