

Profound Mourning for Passing of the Chinese People's Great Leader Chairman Mao Tsetung

Message From Sierra Leonean President Stevens

First Vice-Chairman Hua Kuo-feng
of the Central Committee of the
Communist Party of China,

Peking

Your Excellency:

I have been much afflicted to learn about the demise of the founding father of the People's Republic of China. If the history of a nation is an account of the lives of its great men then that of the People's Republic of China will be incomplete without the life and achievements of the late Chairman Mao Tsetung. By his death the world has been deprived of an illustrious revolutionary, a legendary figure of modern times and a great proletarian, who will be remembered for his outstanding contribution to humanity's struggle for independence and a better life for deprived and underprivileged peoples everywhere. Great and grievous is the loss to the Chinese people but, strengthened by his works and thoughts, they will surely endure the agony with fortitude and continue the march towards prosperity under the guidance of his inspiration. May I personally and in the name of the Government and people of the Republic of Sierra Leone express profound sympathy and sincere condolences to the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese people and the bereaved family of the late Chairman Mao Tsetung.

Siaka Stevens

President

Freetown, September 9, 1976

Message From Yugoslav President Tito

Vice-Chairman Wu Teh of the Standing Committee
of the National People's Congress of the
People's Republic of China,

Peking

I was deeply affected by the news of the sudden death of Chairman of the Central Committee of the

Communist Party of China Mao Tsetung. On behalf of the peoples of Yugoslavia, the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and myself, I am extending to you and through you to the National People's Congress and the friendly people of China the expression of deepest sympathy.

Chairman Mao Tsetung, eminent revolutionary and leader of the Chinese people, founder of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese People's Liberation Army and the People's Republic of China, has dedicated his whole life to the fight for freedom, independence, creation and development of the modern China and has been leading your great country and people for decades.

The passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung has deprived the Chinese people of its most distinguished leader without whom the modern China would be hardly conceivable.

His death is an irreparable loss not only for the people of the People's Republic of China but also for the whole of progressive humanity. His image and his deeds will be kept in everlasting memory.

Josip Broz Tito

Belgrade, September 9, 1976

Message From Malian Head of State Moussa Traore

His Excellency Mr. Hua Kuo-feng,
First Vice-Chairman of the
Central Committee of the
Communist Party of China and
Premier of the State Council of
the People's Republic of China,

Peking

The entire Malian people, the Military Committee of National Liberation and the Government of Mali and I myself learnt with great sorrow of the passing away of Chairman Mao Tsetung, the great founder of New China and guide with genius and prestige. His brilliant thought and consistent action in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism has enabled the great Chinese people to carry out the most

audacious and most fascinating revolution in our epoch. The demise of this illustrious man who won affection of all the peace- and justice-loving people is a great loss. With his passing the Malian people have lost a reliable, firm and intimate friend. In fact, under his wise leadership, the People's Republic of China has pursued in accordance with the noble principles laid down at the Bandung Conference and the principles of proletarian internationalism a policy of peace and genuine friendship with all the third world countries and with all the peoples who identify themselves with her. Chairman Mao has left us but his exploits, principles and statesmanship will sustain the coming generations. Like a giant star Chairman Mao Tsetung will illuminate the whole century with its brilliant light. At this sad moment of his demise, the Malian people share the profound grief of the Chinese people. On behalf of the Malian people, the Military Committee of National Liberation, the Government and myself, I beg you to convey to the Chinese people, their Party and Government, and the wife of the great deceased our deep condolences.

Colonel Moussa Traore

President of the Military Committee
of National Liberation,
Head of State and President
of the Government of Mali

Koulouba, September 9, 1976

Message From Nigerian Head of State Obasanjo

His Excellency Mr. Hua Kuo-feng,
Premier of the State Council of the
People's Republic of China,

Peking

Your Excellency:

We have learnt with great and profound shock of the sad news of the passing away of one of the greatest leaders of this century, Chairman Mao Tsetung, the great leader of the Chinese people. The late Chairman Mao Tsetung was a distinct personality who achieved greatness by his own volition through self-discipline. It is by this discipline of mind and perseverance that his personality and services to humanity are distinguishable from those of others.

Under Chairman Mao Tsetung's wise leadership, China has been transformed into one of the most modern developed countries in the world. His revolutionary spirit refuses to yield but holds valiantly on against myriad forces and refuses to become crabbed or embittered by adversity but rises triumphantly over every disaster. The passing away of this reverend and unique leader of our time is a loss not only to the people of your great country but the world at large. However, I must assure you that his vision and idea that inspired

the people of the world will remain an indelible mark not only in China but the world at large.

On behalf of the Supreme Military Council, the Federal Military Government, the entire people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and on my own behalf, I convey to Your Excellency, the entire people of China and the family of the late great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung our sympathy and condolences.

Lieutenant-General
(Signed) Olusegun Obasanjo

Head of the Federal
Military Government of Nigeria and
Commander-in-Chief of the
Nigerian Armed Forces

Message From Ugandan President Amin

His Excellency Hua Kuo-feng,
Premier of the People's Republic
of China,

Peking

Your Excellency:

I have learnt with profound shock and anguish of the untimely death of the late Chairman Mao Tsetung and I would like on behalf of the Government, the entire people of the Republic of Uganda and on my own behalf, to extend to Your Excellency and through you to the Government and the people of the People's Republic of China and to the bereaved family in particular our sincere sympathy and condolences at this moment of great loss.

The death of Chairman Mao is indeed a great loss to your country, a country to whose development he untiringly devoted all his efforts. His loss will therefore be felt by the People's Republic of China for many years to come. Chairman Mao was not only the leader of the People's Republic of China but was also a symbol of unity and he was indeed a father of the nation.

His revolutionary ideas will remain his lasting gift not only to the people of the People's Republic of China, but the whole world. Uganda joins the rest of the world in mourning the late Mao Tsetung as a great statesman and a philosopher, whose ideas and thoughts have a meaning throughout the world and will remain with the international community, particularly nations struggling to overcome a status of underdevelopment. To the freedom fighters the world over and to those in Africa in particular, the late Mao Tsetung will always be remembered as a symbol of great inspiration to them in their struggle against the forces of imperialism and colonialism, not to mention his untiring support to them both morally and materially.

The late Mao Tsetung's dedication and devotion to duty should serve as a guiding example to all of us in the developing world.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Field Marshal Idi Amin

Life President of the Republic of
Uganda

Message From Chadian Head of State Malloum

His Excellency Wu Teh,
Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee
of the National People's Congress of
the People's Republic of China,

Peking

With extremely profound sorrow, we learnt of the unfortunate passing away of Chairman Mao Tsetung. The great and friendly Chinese people have lost a national leader and the founder of the revolution. It is also a loss to the whole world. The freedom-loving peoples will always bear in mind the contribution of his revolutionary activities to peaceful coexistence. The Chadian people share with the great and friendly Chinese people the sorrow they feel. The Supreme Military Council, the Provisional Government and I myself express our deepest condolences to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, to you and the family of the deceased.

With highest consideration,

General Felix Malloum
Ngakoutou Beyndi

President of the Supreme Military
Council and Head of State of Chad

N'Djamena, September 9, 1976

Message From Tunisian President Bourguiba

His Excellency Mr. Hua Kuo-feng,
Premier of the State Council of
the People's Republic of China,

Peking

I learn with the deepest grief of the death of Chairman Mao Tsetung. The immense loss suffered by the Chinese people is undoubtedly shared by the Tunisian people. It is measured by the work accomplished by this most illustrious of the Chinese. The life of Mao Tsetung marked the destiny of the Chinese nation. Possessing the vitality and honesty of a fighter, he also has the courage and wisdom of a political leader. He succeeded in leading the Chinese nation to win the most marvellous victories and in restoring to it its legitimate position in the world. The name of Chairman Mao Tsetung will go down in history linked with the accomplishment of great actions which seem impossible: the Long March across China in spite of the distance, bad

weather and natural obstacles; the advancement of the masses of the Chinese people whom he had freed from poverty, famine and social evils; the construction of a new Chinese society orientated towards effort, progress and justice. Chairman Mao Tsetung restored to China the will to be itself which thousands of years of civilization has made and which is perfect as demanded by the modern times. The China of Mao Tsetung will go down in history as an example of a nation which has overcome underdevelopment by discipline, labour and resources characteristic of its national genius. This is a new humanism which was created by Chairman Mao Tsetung with the help of his comrades-in-arms. To the fore among them is the most loyal Chou En-lai to whose memory one must pay tribute. I am sure that the Chinese people, loyal to the thought of the founder and teacher of New China, will continue in harmony and peace the work for the development and international co-operation started thirty years ago.

On my own behalf and in the name of the Tunisian people, I extend to you and the friendly Chinese people my sad condolences and profound sympathy.

Habib Bourguiba

President of the Republic of Tunisia

Tunis, September 9, 1976

Message From Tunisian Prime Minister Nouria

His Excellency Mr. Hua Kuo-feng,
Premier of the State Council of
the People's Republic of China,

Peking

Mr. Premier:

I learnt with profound emotion and great sadness of the news of the passing away of Chairman Mao Tsetung.

In him, China lost one of her most illustrious sons and the exceptional leader, who, after the founding of the People's Republic, continued till his last breath the long march for his country's development and prosperity in dignity and independence.

I express to you and to the Chinese people my deepest condolences on the death of this eminent statesman, who was one of the greatest men of our times and whose thought and action in service of peace will remain indissolubly linked with the history of China and the world.

While assuring you that the Tunisian people share the mourning and immense sorrow with the Chinese people, Mr. Premier, please accept my highest consideration and profound sympathy.

Hedi Nouria

September 9, 1976

Message From Bangladesh President Sayem

His Excellency Mr. Hua Kuo-feng,
Premier of the State Council of
the People's Republic of China,

Peking

It is with a profound sense of sorrow that the people and the Government of Bangladesh and I personally have received the sad news of the passing away of Chairman Mao Tsetung. He occupies a permanent position of respect and reverence in the hearts of the people of Bangladesh. As one of the outstanding revolutionary leaders in history, a champion of the cause of the oppressed and the downtrodden and as an organizer of men he has few equals. By his ideas and achievements he has carved for himself a unique place in history and his example will continue to inspire and encourage people all around the world in their struggle against the forces of domination and exploitation. His philosophy of self-reliance and service to the people will for ever serve as a beacon to the people of Bangladesh as indeed to those elsewhere.

Abu Sadat Mohammed Sayem
President of the People's Republic of
Bangladesh

September 9, 1976

Message From President Khama Of Botswana

His Excellency Hua Kuo-feng,
Premier of the People's Republic of China,

Peking;

The People's Republic of China

It is with deep sorrow and grief that we learn of the sudden passing of your great leader, Chairman Mao Tsetung. Chairman Mao was not only a great leader and statesman, while he lived he represented the greatest hope for all the downtrodden masses of the world; he was not only the greatest revolutionary of our times but he was also a man of peace in a world in which tyranny and injustice are the order of the day. His passing is a great loss for all the freedom- and peace-loving peoples of the world.

Our condolences go to his great nation, to his family and to all those of his remaining comrades who will assume the leadership of your great country in these trying times. Like all great men, Chairman Mao's name and teachings will remain indelible in the pages of history, for while he lies down to rest his spirit will continue to inspire us all.

Seretse M. Khama
President of the Republic of Botswana
September 9, 1976

(To be continued.)