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Mao Zedong (1893-1976)

Our great president Mao died yesterday at the age of 81 from Motor Neuron Disease. Mao's life was spent as China's ruler and one of the most powerful people in the world. Mao controlled China's artistic, intellectual, military, industrial and agricultural planning and policies. China changed when Mao became the leader in 1949 because he made China a tight society which means he made everyone come together.

Also, Mao led The Long March, fought in World War 2 and he told everyone that China would be better, faster, and cheaper under communism. We think Mao will always be extremely important. But, sadly, Mao is gone, and we are all very devastated.

Mao's childhood was spent working on a family farm but Mao developed a passion for learning. Mao was only 17 years old when the Revolution of 1911 was going on, that means he was still in school! Mao supported The Red Army through some six thousand miles of rivers, swamps, forests, and mountains to reach its new base in the city of Yan'an in Shaanxi province. This was known as "The Long March," it made Mao even more powerful. Mao became very interested in writing journals and books and in 1920 Mao opened a small private bookstore but he still continued to write things.

China changed with Mao in charge because, Mao wanted China to become a leading industrial power and to accomplish his goals he executed people who did not agree with the pace of radical change. People did not like this very much. But since Mao was the all powerful leader everyone had to do what he wanted.

Mao made one of his last and boldest moves-he invited president Richard Nixon of the United States to visit China. That was one of the last things Mao Zedong was able to do.



Mao in August 1949.

Sources:

Mao introductory on leadership Author: M. Schlesinger, J.R.

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