

Call for Papers for the Book of Xi Jinping and China in the Eyes of African Students

I. Background

Over the past century since the founding of the Communist Party of China, China and Africa have established and cultivated a new China-Africa strategic cooperative partnership. The deep friendship was built up during the long-term collaboration and cooperation between China and Africa. President Xi Jinping has attached great importance to Africa. Since assuming the presidency, he has set foot on the African continent many times. He received and met with African leaders with cordial conversations on plenty of domestic and international occasions. On Africa issues including China-Africa exchanges, President Xi delivered many important speeches and published several signed articles and correspondences. Through the head-of-state diplomacy, he is leading a new era of diplomacy with Africa as well as a new major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics. President Xi proposed new diplomatic ideas in the principle of “sincerity, practical results, affinity and good faith” towards Africa, which stands for the concept of justice and common interests with a shared future for China and Africa as well as demonstrates the global vision and responsibility as a leader of a big country.

With the increasing cultural exchanges between China and Africa, more and more African students choose to study in China, which is becoming an important non-governmental bridge for cultural exchanges between China and Africa. According to the recent data from the Ministry of Education, the number of African students studying in China reached 87,409, accounting for 17% of the total number of international students coming into China since 2019. African students studying and staying in China have the vivid and physical experience on Chinese society and culture, and thus have a relatively deeper understanding on China and President Xi Jinping. It will be interesting to know how they see President Xi Jinping as a new-generation leader of China, how they interpret China’s reform and opening-up and Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era, how they view the “China’s Governance” under the leadership of President Xi, how they understand President Xi Jinping's diplomatic thought such as the principle of

“sincerity, practical results, affinity and good faith” towards Africa and how they perceive the Chinese society where they stay. All the above topics are to be attractive and seductive parts of the book of *Xi Jinping and China in the Eyes of African Students*. African students who are studying in China or ever studied in China, are kindly invited to write papers to present their impressions of President Xi, the Communist Party of China, China and China-Africa relations in the new era from their perspectives.

The paper could be drafted on the image, diplomatic style and charm of President Xi Jinping in the eyes of African Students from the perspective of an international student based on your own study experience in China. As you may be aware, President Xi Jinping cares a lot about young Africans and attached high expectation on young Chinese and Africans. In his keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, he pointed out African young people in the China-Africa Eight Major Initiatives, including facilitating them on their dreams, providing them with more job opportunities and expanding more space for their future development. The following topics and highlights are listed for your reference. The paper could be focused on the following topics or the topic you choose on your own to extend and share your understanding of China as a whole, including the observation and evaluation of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese government and the Chinese society.

II. Proposed Topics

1. President Xi Jinping's Contact with Africa

- President Xi Jinping’s state visits to Africa, his reception of African heads of state visiting China, his official meeting with African leaders on international occasions and his reception of African ambassadors to China;
- President Xi Jinping’s ideas of diplomacy with Africa such as the principle of “sincerity, practical results, affinity and good faith”, the correct concept of justice and interests and the "five nos" principle;
- President Xi Jinping's keynote speeches at the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, the Extraordinary China-Africa Summit on Solidarity Against COVID-19 and other conferences, and the moves such as the Ten Major Cooperation Projects, the Eight Major Initiatives and China-Africa anti-epidemic cooperation;
- President Xi Jinping’s demeanor as a new-generation leader of a big country;

- President Xi Jinping's expectation for young people in Africa, his exchange of letters with students of the Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development, etc.
2. President Xi Jinping Thought on State Governance
 - President Xi Jinping's views and thoughts on China's political system, political party system, political party building, punishment of corruption, rule of law, the expressions of the situations and influences of China-Africa political party exchanges and governance experience exchanges, etc.
 3. China's Reform and Opening-up and Xi Jinping Thought on Socialist Economy with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era
 - President Xi Jinping's views and thoughts on the reform and opening-up, new development concepts and so on;
 - The experience and achievements of China's economic construction and its inspiration and implication for Africa;
 - The achievements of China-Africa economic and trade cooperation, China's investment and infrastructure construction in Africa;
 - Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization, the "Two Mountains" theory, etc.
 4. China's Poverty Alleviation and the All-round Development of Chinese Society
 - President Xi Jinping's views on poverty alleviation, the experience and achievements of China's poverty alleviation and its inspiration and implication for Africa;
 - President Xi Jinping's people-centered development thoughts;
 - The experiences and impressions of China's social governance, priority development of education, promotion of employment and protection of people's livelihood, and the inspiration and implication of China's experience for Africa;
 - The towns you ever visited in China, such as Xinjiang Autonomous Region, Tibet Autonomous Region and other ethnic minority areas, the most impressive places you have visited and your views on those local social conditions and customs.
 5. China-Africa's Joint Construction of the "Belt and Road" and Xi Jinping Thought on Foreign Affairs
 - President Xi Jinping's views on the "Belt and Road" initiative and

- China-Africa's joint construction of the “Belt and Road”;
 - President Xi Jinping's views on building a community with a shared future for mankind and for China and Africa;
 - China and her role in international exchanges and global governance under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, etc.
6. Cultural Self-confidence and Mutual-learning between Chinese and African Cultures
- President Xi Jinping's views on Chinese traditional culture, Chinese culture’s contributions to the world, China-Africa cultural dialogues and cultural mutual learning;
 - President Xi Jinping's views on cultural self-confidence and building-up of the country with cultural influence;
 - The effects of the establishment of the China-Africa Institute on the promotion of China-Africa academic cooperation, cultural exchanges and cultural mutual learning;
 - President Xi Jinping's views on the strategy for building China's strength in science and technology, his evaluations of China’s achievements in scientific and technological development and their inspiration and implication for Africa, etc.

III. Writing requirements

We are *calling for the papers* related to any of the above 6 proposed topics with ***no less than 3,000 words*** by ***COB, 30 September 2021***. The papers could start with a small cutting point from a specific personal experience and/or thoughts, to the bigger picture with the background of China-Africa Cooperation with President Xi Jinping. The selected papers will be compiled into the book of *Xi Jinping and China in the Eyes of African Students* to be published in English, French and Chinese languages by the China-Africa Institute. Remuneration will be paid for the authors of the selected papers, who also have the opportunities to be invited to present their papers in the related international academic seminars after the book publication. Please enclose your *CV (less than 150 words)* and a *photo* with your paper ***by email of XXX@cass.org.cn***. Thank you for your kind attention!