

**SPEECH AT A MEETING COMMEMORATING
THE CENTENARY OF THE REVOLUTION OF 1911**

October 9, 2011

Zhou Tienong

**Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the
National People's Congress
and Chairman of the Central Committee of
the Revolutionary Committee of the
Chinese Kuomintang**

**SPEECH AT A MEETING COMMEMORATING
THE CENTENARY OF THE REVOLUTION OF 1911**

October 9, 2011

Zhou Tienong

Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's
Congress
and Chairman of the Central Committee of
the Revolutionary Committee of the Chinese Kuomintang

Comrades and Friends,

We are meeting here today to solemnly commemorate the centenary of the Revolution of 1911, recall the outstanding exploits of our revolutionary forebears, carry forward Dr. Sun Yat-sen's great spirit of struggling unremittingly to revitalize China, and reaffirm the common aspiration of all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation to achieve its great rejuvenation. On this occasion, on behalf of the Revolutionary Committee of the Chinese Kuomintang, China Democratic League, China Democratic National Construction Association, China Association for Promoting Democracy, Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party, China Zhi Gong Party, Jiusan Society, Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League and All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, I wish to pay high tribute to the pioneers of the Revolution of 1911 represented by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, and extend sincere gratitude and greetings to the descendants present here of the revolutionaries who participated in the Revolution of 1911 and to all our Chinese and foreign friends who have been invited to participate in our commemorative activities.

The great tide of the Revolution of 1911 was released by the sound of gunfire of the Wuchang Uprising. Under the leadership of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the great forebear of democratic revolution, the revolution overthrew the decadent and incompetent reign of the Qing Dynasty, ending the system of absolute monarchy that had ruled China for more than 2,000 years, and opened the floodgate for China's progress. The Revolution of 1911 marked the beginning of a truly national democratic revolution in modern China, helped free the minds of the Chinese people, brought about the first historic change of China in the 20th century and became a great milestone in the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. After the Revolution of 1911, a revolutionary torrent of opposition to feudalism, imperialism and the warlord rule surged forward; the New Culture Movement advocating democracy and science arose; and Marxism rapidly spread in China. In July 1921, the Communist Party of China (CPC) was founded, which heralded the dawn of and created hope for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

After its founding, the CPC steadfastly drew upon and carried forward the revolutionary spirit of Dr. Sun Yat-sen and viewed its cause as a

continuation and advance of the Revolution of 1911. The CPC united with and led the people of all China's ethnic groups in waging an arduous struggle and winning victory in the new-democratic revolution, thereby achieving independence of the Chinese nation and liberation of the Chinese people, a historic mission that countless Chinese patriots had craved throughout modern Chinese history. The Party also united with and led the people of all ethnic groups in establishing the People's Republic of China, and ushering in a new era of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. After the founding of New China, Chinese Communists continued to carry forward the tradition of our forebears who participated in the Revolution of 1911, led the people of all ethnic groups in completing the transition from new democracy to socialism, and achieved the most extensive and profound social transformation in China's history. After that, the CPC pioneered the cause of reform, opening up and socialist modernization on the basis of painstaking explorations and successfully embarked on the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Today, a strong socialist China in which the people are masters of their country and generally enjoy moderate prosperity, overall national strength has increased enormously, and the country's international standing and influence are increasing steadily stands firm in the East. Dr. Sun Yat-sen's lofty vision of revitalizing China is becoming a reality.

History fully proves that Chinese Communists are the staunchest supporters, closest cooperators and most loyal inheritors of the revolutionary cause of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. It shows that the Party represents the need to develop advanced productive forces in China, the orientation of developing an advanced culture, and the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people; and that the Party is the core force leading the Chinese people in achieving the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

In order to fulfill Dr. Sun Yat-sen's wish to revitalize China and complete the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, over the past century the democratic parties in China have, under the CPC's leadership, stood together with the CPC through thick and thin, and cooperated and united with it in a common endeavor to further China's revolution, construction and reform. We have come to realize that without the CPC, there would have been no socialist New China, and that without the leadership of the CPC, it would be impossible

to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. We are participating parties in the system of multiparty cooperation and political consultation under the leadership of the CPC, and we are democratic parties that follow Dr. Sun Yat-sen's patriotic and revolutionary spirit of constantly making progress. In commemorating the Revolution of 1911, we should learn from and carry on the revolutionary spirit of the participants in that revolution who were dedicated to revitalizing China. We should learn from and carry on the fine tradition of the older generation of members of our democratic parties in following the leadership of the CPC. We will always be of one heart and one mind with the CPC in our thinking, goals and action. And we will hold high the banner of patriotism and socialism, unswervingly pursue the path of building a socialist political system with Chinese characteristics, and contribute our wisdom and strength to achieving the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and building a prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and modern socialist country.

Today, as we cherish the memory of the revolutionary martyrs and forebears, we are more eager than ever to see the early and complete reunification of the motherland. Dr. Sun Yat-sen dedicated his whole life to opposing China's disunion and upholding its unity, and these were also the unwavering goals of our forebears of the Revolution of 1911. Thanks to the joint efforts made by compatriots on both sides of the Taiwan Straits in recent years, significant achievements have been made in the peaceful development of cross-Straits relations to the benefit of the people on both sides. We sincerely hope that our compatriots on both sides put the interests of the Chinese nation first, cherish the hard-won historic opportunities we now have, adhere to the theme of peaceful development of cross-Straits relations, and work together to safeguard and consolidate our two sides' common political foundation of opposing Taiwan independence and upholding the 1992 Consensus. We should continue to give impetus to and deepen economic and cultural exchanges and cooperation, pursue common development, share prosperity, advance hand in hand, and strive to achieve Dr. Sun Yat-sen's unfulfilled dream of national unity as soon as possible. By doing so, we will write a new and glorious chapter in the long and splendid history of the Chinese nation.

Revitalizing China and rejuvenating the nation are a firm commitment and tireless pursuit of all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation at home and abroad. We firmly believe that as long as all Chinese people at home and abroad continue to work hard together under the leadership of the CPC, we will certainly create a brighter future for the Chinese nation, achieve its great rejuvenation, and make greater contributions to world peace and development and to the progress of human civilization.