

Interview: Dr. An-di Sun



'An independent Taiwan could cause a disaster'

Leni Rubinstein interviewed Dr. An-di Sun in Taipei on May 23. Dr. Sun is a member of the Kuomintang (KMT) Central Committee, vice secretary for the Chin Tung Meng Hui, assistant professor of nutrition at the Catholic University Fujen, and doctor at the Dental Department of Taiwan Hospital. The interview is abridged.

EIR: Dr. Sun, you are a medical doctor and also a member of the KMT's Central Committee. What are your goals?

Dr. Sun: I am politically involved because Taiwan's future looks very dangerous, and I am aware of that. We have a very unstable situation politically. The authority and power cannot keep things under control—it is so huge and there is a lack of rules. The most dangerous thing is that in two years, the President will be elected directly by the people. Lee Tung-hui might be in that post again. Mr. Lin Yang-gang will not withdraw from the campaign.

We found that the KMT lacks rules for the election of the President. That is very dangerous and critical. Therefore, it is important that I present what I think. I am not part of the center of the KMT. My ideas differ from those at the center of the KMT.

EIR: So how could you be elected to the KMT's Central Committee?

Dr. Sun: I was elected at the KMT conference by the members of the KMT, and not through any special relation or selection. Six years ago I got involved in political affairs for the first time. I had graduated from the National Taiwan University. I had been elected as a delegate when I was in the university to the 13th national conference of the KMT—it's held once every four years. I was re-elected last year as a delegate to the 14th conference, and then became a member of the Central Committee. I got involved because I have a very strong sense that the situation is very dangerous.

EIR: Are you also a member of the Chin Tung Meng Hui?

Dr. Sun: Yes, I am the vice secretary, because I can give my ideas and strive for the future of Taiwan according to the rules and the commitment of the Chin Tung Meng Hui. I can give my contribution, knowledge, and vision. At the center of Chin Tung Meng Hui is Dr. Sun Yat-sen. We follow the ideas and goals of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. Dr. Sun Yat-sen is the

father of modern China. He is respected by both people in Taiwan and in Mainland China as well.

EIR: You are a frequent visitor to Mainland China. Could you give your evaluation of the situation there?

Dr. Sun: The economic situation is much better than it was 15 years ago, but there are many bad things, too—extreme poverty and corruption. I give you some money, you do something for me. It is very popular. It stems from a lack of efficient rule and qualified people. The income of people in Mainland China changes very much. For instance, a few years ago most people got the equivalent of about \$250 a year, but now many people get \$600 a year. In some big cities, people even get \$1,000 a year. It has been increasing drastically year by year.

The cost of goods also increases every year, but many people get the money from "under the table" and handle the price increases in this way.

Look at China from a political view. Russia is weak. It used to be in the second position after the United States, and China was number three. Now, China is getting closer to the second position. The leaders now are from the second or third generation, where Deng Xiaoping is first generation. They are concentrating on the economy and consider it very important. They also feel that they are getting stronger, now that China is getting stronger. They want to attract capital into China. Mainland China has many people who can work and want to improve their status, from lower, to middle, to higher level—just improve year by year.

Shanghai is a very important city. It has a new program for the development of "Chin Pudong" [a new industrial area just outside of Shanghai]. It mainly processes goods for foreign trade. It has only 3.6 square kilometers and is much smaller than Shanghai. The final construction is scheduled to be completed in 2011, about 17 years from now. Then the national income of Shanghai, I mean the tax which the country gets from all the local governments, will rise from one-sixth of the country to one-third when this project is completed! So the impact in both politics and economy will be greater than that of Beijing. The program started about five years ago.

EIR: What about the inland provinces such as Xinjiang?

Dr. Sun: There are very big differences in Mainland China. The gap between the big cities and the small villages is huge, concerning thinking, economy, traffic—everything. Beijing and Shanghai are very important cities in the country. They take the lead in the country in many aspects.

EIR: What about education?

Dr. Sun: There are only 1.9 university graduates per 1,000 population, but there are 25 per 1,000 in Taiwan, and that might rise to 35 per 1,000 in the year 2000. There are 1,979 universities on Mainland China; 36 of them are highly qualified. Among them, six are the most important—such as Beijing University, Qinghua University, Jiaotong University, Fudan University, Beijing Medical University, and Science and Technology University of China in Hebei.

In Taiwan, our first priority was the development of the economy; second, education; and third, the political system. A good economic system encourages people to think individually, to get a higher education and to specialize, and that is very important as a basis for political development. But in Mainland China some of the high officials of the Communist Party are afraid of economic development and argue strongly against it, because they worry that it will destroy their communist theory and theses. They are worried that the breakdown in Russia will appear in China. Therefore, they think that the most important thing is first to make sure that people have enough food to eat, so that they will not struggle and argue too strongly. (You know that in Russia a lot of people now do not get enough to eat.)

Some of the leaders in Mainland China look at the experience of Taiwan. Because we are all Chinese, the thinking, the route, the process, and the method are very similar. In comparison with America, the people of Mainland China and of Taiwan have much more in common. It is very difficult to accommodate the American model or the Japanese model in Mainland China. Therefore, Taiwan has an important role to play.

EIR: Therefore, what has been achieved in Taiwan must not be destroyed.

Dr. Sun: This is very important to have in mind in this period. Taiwan is very small. The population is only about 6% of that of the Mainland, but we have the same culture and language. For example, I can affect many Chinese people, but not Americans. For instance, I have many relatives and many good friends in Mainland China. Although Taiwan is very small, the mainlanders pay much attention to us because of our success with economic development. So, we can much more easily influence the mainlanders than can foreigners.

For Chinese, heritage and the environment are very important factors. For Mainland China and Taiwan, the heritage is the same, but there are differences in the environment. These differences are becoming less and less with the increased contact. So, I believe their leaders will change too. It takes time.

EIR: In the Schiller Institute's draft program for the economic development of China, we propose a 100-year perspective.

Dr. Sun: Yes. It might require 100 years to develop such a big country, especially with the communist system as a base. And that could also only take place if we have peace and no struggles, no wars.

EIR: That is the reason that it is very important to push ahead with great infrastructure development for all of Eurasia. You remember what Dr. Sun Yat-sen said, that economic development is the basis for peace.

Dr. Sun: I agree. The problem we are facing is that the communist theory says that the political struggle is the most important task, and not economic development. Second, I am very worried about political developments in Taiwan. I am worried about the situation on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, which might destroy all the great possibilities.

EIR: You also have to worry about outside forces that do not want a strong Asia, a strong China.

Dr. Sun: We have the duty to maintain peace and political stability in both Taiwan and Mainland China for the future of our country and the world as well. You must depend on Chinese people to create a new future for China. It is very important for mainland China and the Communist Party to be changed peacefully and quietly, as it is such a big country and has one-fourth of the world's population. It is very dangerous if China gets into a situation like that of Russia. I am also worried that the tendency for an independent Taiwan will cause disaster, not only for both sides of the Taiwan Strait, but also for the world. If we lose the development tendency in Taiwan, we might lose the hope for all of China and for the world. Peaceful cooperation is more important. We need to keep in touch with the good people, such as the professors in Mainland China, to work for better understanding.

EIR: China has to collaborate with people in the West who wish to help to build a strong Asia, a strong China, for the sake of everybody, for the sake of peace.

Dr. Sun: Not many people think like you, who want to see a strong and prosperous China, but they want to see China break down, so they can control us. They do not want the Chinese people to unite.

EIR: Dr. Sun Yat-sen knew that, too. That is why he proposed great development projects for China and emphasized what China could be for good for the rest of the world, to unite people around what is in their common interest, namely, development and peace.

Dr. Sun: I think that Taiwan, Hongkong, and Singapore can get together much easier with Mainland China than with foreign countries.