

XI JINPING'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST CORRUPTION

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EAI Background Brief No. 839

Date of Publication: 7 August 2013

Executive Summary

1. After Xi Jinping became China's top leader, the new leadership has embarked on a crusade against government and military corruption with a string of high-level and high-stakes cases exposed.
2. A long list of highly placed officials, including Depute Party Secretary of Sichuan Province Li Chuncheng and Deputy Director of National Development and Reform Commission Liu Tienan, has been investigated.
3. Xi's anti-corruption movement relies heavily on Wang Qishan, a banking veteran who now heads the Party's Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.
4. Xi has also taken on corruption in the armed forces with the investigation of Gu Junshan, former deputy commander of the General Logistics Department. Wang has ordered thorough investigation of bond fraud in the banking sector.
5. Xi and Wang have dispatched ten inspection teams (*xunshizu*) not unlike ancient China's imperial envoys to corruption-prone places. The contact information of the teams has been publicized to seek public tip-offs.
6. The role of public and social media in monitoring corruption has been confirmed by state media. Both high fliers and rank and file have been brought down by online exposure.
7. Anti-corruption campaigns have long been used to conceal political struggles, and such intra-Party struggles are getting fiercer. Xi's anti-corruption drive is likely to cool off when the leadership needs bureaucrats to implement other policies.

8. China ranked 80 among the 174 countries listed in the Corruption Perceptions Index compiled by Transparency International in 2012, ahead of Russia and India but behind Brazil and South Africa in the BRICS club.
9. The ratio of China's position to the total number of countries surveyed by Transparency International rose from 40% in 2008 to 46% in 2012, showing a deteriorating corruption situation in China in the past five years.
10. Runaway corruption was spurred by the government-directed stimulus package aimed at funding infrastructure projects and subsidizing industries. A motley collection of organizations are participating in anti-graft crackdown, stifling efficiency and exacerbated by poor coordination.