

## CRASH DEMOCRACY

Like a computer with a crashed disk, Chinese Communism is actually imploding, dissolving into its elementary particles, leaving in its wake the veneer of political orthodoxy maintained by military force and the reality of a popular revolution on behalf of democratic rights.

So, the irreality of the 40th anniversary of the People's Republic of China celebrated in Tiananmen Square, with the notable absence of the people. As the Chinese Communist leadership learned to its regret, the price for economic modernization is instantaneous appeals for political pluralism. Indeed, in his recent book, *C.B. Macpherson: Dilemmas of Liberalism and Socialism*, William Leiss notes that the key political tendency today is the inevitable movement towards a 'quasi-market society'. Marked in the West by a threefold political compromise among business, government and labour, the quasi-market society is typified in the East by a gradual withdrawal of bureaucratic authority from civil society and the legitimization of marketplace rationality. Parallel to the original dynamic role of the urban bourgeoisie in dissolving the fetters of the feudal mode of production, the Chinese students in their demands for science and democracy invoke cultural pragmatism against historical materialism. Challenged, Chinese Communism immediately reverts to its feudalist reality and reveals itself as the newest form of Red Fascism.

And, of course, like a true spokesperson of Blue Fascism, capitalist style, Richard Nixon hurries to Beijing to deliver the message that political feudalism is just fine from the perspective of the empire of western multinationals. All the while, students and workers are murdered and tortured: faithful representatives of a demand for political liberation which will not die, and which is all the more ennobled by their sacrifice. Today, the only true Chinese Communists are in prison, in hiding, or have been executed on the killing fields.

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