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# Decentralized Authoritarianism in China



The Communist Party's  
Control of Local Elites  
in the Post-Mao Era

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Pierre F. Landry

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*Pierre F. Landry*

**Decentralized Authoritarianism in China: The Communist  
Party's Control of Local Elites in the Post-Mao Era**



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China, want many authoritarian regimes, struggles with the tension between the need to foster economic development by empowering community officials and the regime's imperative to control them politically. His analysis shows that the CCP's personnel administration system is a key factor in explaining China's enduring authoritarianism and proves convincingly that decentralization and authoritarianism could work hand in hand. Using unique data collected at the municipal, county, and village level, Landry examines at length how the promotion mechanisms for regional cadres possess allowed the CCP to reward officials for the advancement of their localities without weakening political control. Landry explores the way the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) manages local officials to be able to match these goals and perpetuate an unusually decentralized authoritarian regime.



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