

## Talking about the new victory of mass struggle "1.9 Anlong Incident"

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Summary of the incident: The government sold graveyards and sent special police into the Miao village to rob the ashes, and they were all captured and their police cars were smashed by the strong counter-attack of the Miao people.

### I. Background

Donggualing in Lime Kiln Village, Xinglong Town, Anlong County, Qianxinan Prefecture, Guizhou Province, is a Miao village. Not long ago, an old man in the village passed away due to illness, and his family brought his cremated body back to the village with the intention of burying him there, as they could not afford the tens of thousands of yuan in cemetery fees. However, the local government forbade them to do so, claiming that all the deceased must be buried in the cemetery designated by the government, or else it would be an offence. It turns out that this is a policy enforced by the local government in order to increase revenue. Data from the Guizhou Provincial Department of Finance shows that as of the end of 2022, the debt balance of Guizhou province was 124,711,000,000 yuan, and the 2022 GDP was compared to Guizhou's debt ratio of 61.8%, the second highest in the country, which is not a rigorous calculation, and if you include the interest-bearing liabilities of municipal investment and the revenues of general public budgets and governmental funds, Guizhou's debt ratio will be as high as 532.67%. In 2022, Guizhou Province's general public budget revenue will be 58.24 billion yuan, while its total debt is 21.4 times its fiscal revenue.

On 12 April 2023, the Development Research Centre of the Guizhou Provincial Government issued a document stating that a special survey on the situation of resolving local debt in Guiyang, Guian, Zunyi, Bijie and Liupanshui had found that, due to the limited level of financial resources, the work of resolving the debts was extremely difficult and could not be resolved by itself. These four areas are the most economically advanced regions in Guizhou province, and if they are still in an "exceptionally difficult" situation, the financial situation of remote townships and villages in Qianxi'nan Prefecture can be imagined. The reason for the debt predicament is that the bureaucratic class under China's capitalist social system pursues its own personal interests, and in the past, during the period of relaxed local debt, it borrowed frantically and blindly without planning to invest in the construction of inefficient and ineffective projects, and unnecessarily invested in unnecessary infrastructure for people's livelihoods that could not bring in any revenue; these officials squandered and exploited the financial funds obtained from the people in the projects to enrich themselves while at the same time obtaining outstanding political achievements for their advancement, leaving huge local debts, and creating a huge financial burden for local governments and caused great suffering to the people. However, the problem of local debts has become so big that it cannot be concealed by the bureaucrats and they have to find ways to deal with it. However, they do not really want to solve the problem at root, but rather, if they do not deal with it, they will not be able to safeguard their own interests and enrich themselves as smoothly as they did in the past. Therefore, their response to this problem is to step up their exploitation of the people, racking their brains to invent new ways to squeeze the people's money and wealth, thus giving rise to the absurd scene in which the Government forces villagers to buy government-designated cemeteries for all their relatives and friends who have passed away.

In the early hours of 9 January 2024, the local government used a team of hundreds of special police officers and civil servants, armed with shields, pitchforks and other weapons, to force their way into the village in an attempt to take away the ashes of the old man. They thought that, like all the

missions they had carried out in the past, it was just a mere formality and then they would go back to celebrate their success, because the nail households<sup>1</sup> and visitors they had encountered before had not caused them too much trouble. Even if there were a few who dared to resist, they were no match for them. As usual, the SWAT team used violence against the disobedient villagers, which was the most effective means for them. However, this time was different. The violent behaviour of the SWAT team did not make the villagers yield, but rather fuelled their anger, and they pelted the SWAT team members with stones, bricks, sticks and whatever else they could use. The SWAT team had never seen such a scene, and were soon scared out of their wits and fled. However, in the Miao village, which was hidden in the mountains, they had no way to escape, not to mention that the village was surrounded by angry villagers. The villagers blocked all the exits of the village and smashed all the police cars and official vehicles driven into the village by the SWAT team. The SWAT officers were forced to surrender their shields, forks and other weapons, and became prisoners of the villagers.

On the morning of 9 January, after apologising to the villagers and making promises, the special police and government officials were able to obtain the villagers' consent to leave the village, which they could only do on foot because all the cars they had driven had been smashed up. The journey was not very far, but it was extremely long for them. The villagers standing by the roadside were not here to see them off. These usually arrogant and domineering fighters no longer had their usual imposing faces, and they walked along the road with their heads bowed, as if they were bereaved dogs. The villagers stood on the high ground beside the road and gave the SWAT team members and civil servants all the expletives they had learnt in their lives. They called them bandits and government lackeys and warned them that if they came again, only death would await them.

The masses call these special police officers and civil servants bandits, and some old remnants of the former dynasty may start to get excited again, thinking that the term "communist bandits" was right at the beginning, and that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) of today has degenerated into a bourgeois reactionary faction, so it really deserves to be called "bandits" by the common people. However, we must not forget that the ruler was also called the bandit Chiang Kaishek by the people back then, and his army was also called the bandit army because of its bad behaviour, and the term "bandit" in this context is defined by the people. The bandits here are the bandits defined by the common people. But back then, the CPC was stigmatised as communists by the rulers, and the transformation of the CPC from a bandit in the eyes of the rulers to a bandit in the eyes of the common people has reflected the deterioration of the CPC. At the same time, the rulers back then also described the ordinary people as "bandits", and it is very likely that the villagers of the Miao Village who vandalised a police car today will also be regarded by the police and civil servants of the Government nowadays as behaving like the barbaric acts of the bandits in the mountains.

This phenomenon of calling each other "bandits" is a visual embodiment of class antagonism in Marxist theory. The contradiction between two opposing classes is being expressed through the behaviour of "bandits", and this contradiction is irreconcilable. Although the situation was apparently peaceful before the outbreak of the incident, the contradiction continued to accumulate in the exploitation and oppression provided for by the legal and policy provisions of the class social system, and the accumulation of quantitative changes would eventually lead to the outbreak of qualitative changes, and the Government's forced sale of cemeteries became the trigger for the incident.

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<sup>1</sup> Nail households are residential dwellings whose occupants refuse developers and officials who want the house demolished to make way for new constructions. Like nails, they refuse to be pulled up. For nearly two decades, householders have stubbornly resisted having had these houses demolished -trans.

### III. What the Anlong Incident Teaches Us

The Anlong Incident is a new victory in the struggle of the masses. A similar incident occurred recently: on 16 January 2024, the Qingshuipu Business Department of the Bijie Rural Consumer Cooperative in Guizhou Province was vandalised by the masses because they were unable to withdraw their deposits; on 17 January, the staff of the Qingshuipu Police Station said that they had been informed of the incident and that the masses had come to register their deposits with the police station. These incidents proved once again that the power of the people is the strongest, and that all reactionaries are paper tigers in front of the united people. The task of the revolutionaries is simply to unite the dispersed masses of the people into such a force and to steer this force in a direction that is truly conducive to the fundamental and long-term interests of the masses and to the victory of the revolution.

Unfortunately, there are no revolutionaries involved in this mass struggle, just as there are no real revolutionaries leading, organising or influencing the various large and small mass struggles that take place in China every day, and although these forces of the masses may achieve a certain degree of victory, they usually disperse quickly after achieving a certain short-term goal, and this force is lost and cannot take a step forward towards the revolution. This is the problem that the revolutionaries have to solve. This incident also gave the revolutionaries a lot of experience to learn from. Donggua Ling in Lime Kiln Village, Xinglong Township, Anlong County, is a Miao settlement, and the people here usually live together and share common cultural practices, so when they encounter problems they will naturally help each other face them together and naturally unite to defend their common interests, and they will choose the same ways and means to achieve the same goals because the people here are already sharing the same fate and destiny. The choice of methods and demands are also the same, because the people here share the same fate, and this is what makes this campaign so special and different from the incidents faced by the special police officers, such as those involving nail households and visitors defending their rights, in which the reactionaries were caught in a situation that offended the public, and the oppressed formed a wide range of united and solid solidarity. Therefore, true revolutionaries should learn from the masses and integrate themselves into the masses, becoming a real member of the masses. Only in this way can they unite the masses at critical moments and unite them into a powerful force, and only by being a member of the masses can they truly influence the masses and disseminate revolutionary theories to the masses, so as to improve the movement and lead the struggle onto the path of revolution.