

Article 8: Concerning major issues, the president, vice-presidents and general-secretary of the Bishops Conference must meet with the chairman, vice-chairmen and general-secretary of the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association for discussion and decision.

Article 9: The church affairs committees of each province, autonomous region, municipality directly under the Central Government and each diocese have the duty to obey and carry out the resolutions and decisions of this conference.

Article 10: If the standing committee observes certain needs, it may establish special committees or work groups to handle them. The responsible persons are appointed byof the president, vice-presidents and secretary-general, and their term of service coincides with that of the standing committee of this conference.

Article 11: The finances of the Bishops Conference are the responsibility of the standing committee.

Article 12: The Bishops Conference is based in Beijing.

Article 13: The termination of the Bishops Conference, if deemed necessary, must be discussed and decided upon by the Chinese Catholic Representatives' Congress.

Article 14: This constitution has been approved by the Chinese Catholic Representatives' Congress and hereby takes effect.

Constitution of the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association

Article 1: The official name of this organization is the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association.

Article 2: This association is a mass organization made up of Chinese Catholic clergy and laity of the Catholic Church in China who love the country and religion. Its purpose, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the People's government, is to:

--unite the clergy and Catholics of the whole country to manifest a patriotic spirit, to support the Socialist system, to observe China's Constitution, laws, regulations and policies, to actively participate in establishing Socialism's two civilizations;

--assist the government in implementing its policy of freedom of religious belief;

--assist the church in implementing the principles of independence, self government and self management;

--help the clergy and Catholics to heighten their sense of patriotism and their knowledge of Socialism;

--uphold the legal rights and interests of the church;

--develop social services,

--initiate self-support projects and projects beneficial to society;

develop friendly relationships with Catholics abroad;

--promote national unity;

--oppose hegemonism;

--safeguard world peace.

Article 3: This organization's highest authoritative body is the Chinese Catholic Representatives' Congress. The Congress meets once every five years, but if necessary, the time can be advanced or postponed. The duties of the Congress are to:

--formulate and amend the constitution of the Patriotic Association,

--evaluate the work report of the Patriotic Association's standing committee,

--deliberate on and pass important decisions and resolutions,

--to elect the chairperson, vice-chairpersons, secretary-general and standing committee members who together form the commission of this association. The convoking of the Representatives Congress, the number of delegates to it and the manner of holding it will be decided by the standing committee of this association in conjunction with the standing committee of the Chinese Catholic Bishops Conference.

Article 4: After the close of the Chinese Catholic Representatives Congress, the commission of this association is responsible for carrying out the decisions and for promoting the business of the congress.

Article 5: The commission of the association elects a certain

number of persons from among their own members to form a standing committee, which will be responsible for carrying out the decisions of the commission meetings and handling commission affairs.

Article 6: This association has a chairperson and several vice-chairpersons, who are responsible for leadership work. The association also has one secretary-general and several assistant secretary-generals to assist the chairperson and vice-chairpersons to handle routine affairs. The chairperson, vice-chairpersons and secretary-general are all elected by the Representatives Congress, and their term of service lasts until the next Representatives Congress. Office holders are eligible for re-election.. The commission can appoint as many advisers as it wishes.

Article 7: If the commission of this association deems it necessary, it can set up any required work units.

Article 8: The commission of this association meets once every two years. The standing committee meets once a year. These meetings are called by the chairperson and vice-chairperson. If necessary the times of the meetings can be advanced or postponed.

Article 9: Regarding major issues, a joint meeting of the chairperson, vice-chairpersons and secretary-general of this association must meet and hold discussions with the president, vice-presidents and secretary-general of the Chinese Catholic Bishops Conference.

Article 10: The standing committee is responsible for raising the funds for the association.

Article 11: The association is located in Beijing.

Article 12: The termination of this association, if deemed necessary, must be discussed and decided by the Catholic Representatives' Congress.

Article 13: This constitution has been approved by the Chinese

Catholic Representatives' Congress and hereby takes effect.

Bishops' Conference Selects Committee Members

(cp., with September 1992 list in *Tripod* #71 pp. 58-59.)

The first joint working meeting of the Chinese Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association took place in Beijing from February 20 to 22, 1993. The meeting decided on three important tasks for the Bishops' Conference to accomplish in 1993:

- 1) Speed up action on liturgical reform, plan for church leaders throughout the country to promote Mass in Chinese.
- 2) Edit and print a uniform set of materials and a teaching syllabus for the seminaries.
- 3) Jointly work out conditions for selecting bishops in dioceses where pastoral organization is deficient.

The meeting also selected members for the six committees under the Bishops' Conference, as follows:

- 1) Church Administrative Committee
 Chairman: Zong Huaide
 Vice-chairmen: Yu Chengcai, Jiang Taoran, Liu Bainian, and Zhao Jingrong
 Members: Jiang Weilin, Lin Bingliang, Li Zhigang, Zhao Jianzhang and Guo Shumin
 Secretary: Chu Hanyu
- 2) Liturgical Committee
 Chairman: Cai Tiyuan
 Vice-chairman: Li Du'an
 Members: Xing Wenzhi, Huo Cheng, Shu Zhigeng, Ke Wei, and Chen Gong'ao
 Secretary: Liu Guozhi
- 3) Seminary Education Committee
 Chairman: Jin Luxian
 Vice-chairman: Guo Yin'gong
 Members: Liu Yuanren, Sun Shangen, Xia Zhenyu, Yu Xifeng, Yu Baowei, and Wang Boren
 Secretary: Ni Guoxiang
- 4) International Relations Committee
 Chairman: Fu Tieshan
 Vice-chairman: Liu Bainian
 Members: Shen Baozhi, Shi Yukun, Wang Hao, Lu Guocun, Wang Yudong, Yan Taijun, Zhang Shijiang, Zhu Shichang, Li Boyi, and Liu Guofang
 Secretary: Li Gupliang