

Mao Zedong's Leadership of Communist China



1956	Hundred Flowers Bloom program identifies diverse opinions.
1957	Anti-rightist Campaign suppresses those unlucky enough to have expressed "rightist" views in previous year (some 500 thousand were demoted).
1957	Great Leap Forward , a drive to simultaneously advance agriculture and industry exponentially (est. 10-40 million deaths).
1966	Cultural Revolution destroys Mao's critics in schools and government; thousands killed, schools shut down, untold number sent to work in countryside.
1976	Arrest of the Gang of Four (for putting the Cultural Revolution into effect)
<i>Another 15 to 27 million (estimated) died in prison labor camps throughout Mao's lifetime.</i>	