

China's Gift to Mankind

“Right now, the Chinese space program is the greatest impulse to improve the power of mankind on the planet and beyond, in the universe,” declared Helga Zepp-LaRouche in her recent interview with Chinese Radio International. Coming to an understanding of why this is true, is crucial for all nations, in understanding the tasks before our species today.

China's space program is defined primarily by its lunar program, which is aimed at eventually mining helium-3 on the Moon, to provide fuel for nuclear fusion here on Earth. This objective has been eloquently expressed by the father of the Chinese lunar program, Ouyang Ziyuan, chief scientist for the China Lunar Exploration Project (CLEP), called the Chang'e Project.

Ouyang has explained that “the Moon has huge reserves of metals such as iron,” and that “helium-3, an isotope of the element helium, is an ideal fuel for nuclear fusion power, the next generation of nuclear power. It is estimated that reserves of helium-3 across Earth amount to just 15 tons, while 100 tons of helium-3 will be needed each year if nuclear fusion technology is applied to meet global energy demands. The Moon, on the other hand, has reserves estimated at between 1 and 5 million tons.”

In addition, Ouyang stated in a BBC interview of Nov. 29, 2013, that “The Moon is full of resources. . . . There are so many potential developments—it's beautiful—so we hope we can fully utilize the Moon to support sustainable development for humans and society.”

Ouyang identified three motivations for going to the Moon: “First, to develop our technology, because lunar exploration requires many types of technology, including communications, computers, all kinds of IT skills, and the use of different

kinds of materials. Second, in terms of the science, besides Earth, we also need to know our brothers and sisters like the Moon, its origin and evolution, and then from that, we can know about our Earth. Third, in terms of the talents, China needs its own intellectual team who can explore the whole lunar and solar system—that is also our main purpose.”

It is from this standpoint that the Chinese have taken up the task which no other nation but the United States had undertaken before—last December's landing of Chang'e 3 on the Moon, and the systematic preparations for a future manned landing. A crucial step for the latter was the successful mission of the Chang'e 5 test vehicle this Fall, which tested some of the challenging technologies that will be required for Chang'e 5—to place a lander on the surface, collect samples of lunar soil, put them in a sealed capsule, launch the capsule from the Moon to a circling orbiter, head back to Earth, and deliver the sample capsule safely to scientists.

China's progress is a giant step toward defining a new identity for man as a citizen of the Solar System, the sense of identity which will allow us to lift this world out of the paradigm of war and poverty, and into cooperation for the greater good. It represents a tremendous opportunity for the progress of all peoples, and can inspire humanity move to a new platform of development that will bring about a new era of peace and prosperity.

In the face of such a vision, the anti-Chinese rhetoric of the warmongers in Washington, London, and Brussels discredits itself. What sane person would not choose a future of scientific exploration, of human creativity, and uplifting others, rather than a war of each against all?

Don't turn down China's gift.