

**ELECTION OBSERVATION REPORT**

**SICHUAN  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

**IRI**

**International Republican Institute**

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**November 1998**

**PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**  
**Election Observation Report**  
**Sichuan Province**  
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## **Mission Statement**

From November 1-7, 1998, a delegation from the International Republican Institute (IRI) traveled to Sichuan province in southwestern China to observe village committee elections in Jiulong and Zhangjin villages in Dachuan City, and Zhuyuan and Tiansheng villages in Dazhu County. The delegation was led by IRI President *Lorne Craner* and consisted of *Elizabeth Dugan*, IRI's Southeast Asia Representative, *Paul Grove*, IRI's Regional Director for Asia and the Middle East, and *Susan Tillou*, Research Associate and Coordinator of Asia Studies Programming at the Council on Foreign Relations.

The purpose of the delegation's trip was to observe and assess village committee elections in Sichuan province. The findings of this report will serve as benchmarks from which progress on future elections in that province can be measured. In addition to general observations, the delegation has included specific recommendations which they believe might further improve the administration and conduct of village committee elections.

Since 1994, IRI has observed dozens of elections throughout China. Suggestions and recommendations contained in this report reflect upon those election practices and procedures utilized successfully in other Chinese provinces.

## **Introduction**

Sichuan is one of China's largest and most densely populated provinces, home to an estimated 80 million people. Located in southwestern China and roughly the size of France, Sichuan is rich in natural resources and agricultural products. Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan, was founded in 500-400 B.C. and first fortified in 311 B.C. by General Zhang Yi in the Qin dynasty. Since its creation, the city has been the political, economic, cultural, and military center of southwestern China.

Like many provinces in China, Sichuan is on its fourth round of village committee elections. According to provincial election officials, there are 54,849 villages in the province, the majority of which will hold elections from November to December 1998. Several hundred villages representing all counties in Sichuan held elections for village committees in late October and early November to provide practical experience to county and township officials.

Village committee members are elected for three-year terms of office. The committees usually consist of three to seven members, with one chairman, zero to two vice-chairmen, and one to six members. Although there is variation from province to province and county to county, village committees generally oversee all administrative matters of a village including tax collection, budget management, public utility management, dispute resolution, public safety matters, social security, public health and education matters, and local business management.

## **Background**

### **I. Regulations and Guidelines**

The laws and regulations governing the fourth round of elections in Sichuan province include the *Organic Law of Village Committees (For Trial Implementation)*, the *Provincial Methods for Implementing the Organic Law of Village Committees (For Trial Implementation)*, promulgated by the Provincial People's Congress in May 1991, and the *Village Committee Election Handbook*, compiled by Sichuan's Bureau of Civil Affairs in 1995 and amended in 1998. The National People's Congress recently amended and passed a new village committee law which will require a further amendment of Sichuan rules and regulations.

Sichuan's current election rules and procedures are comprehensive and include sections pertaining to civic education, voter registration, candidate nomination, polling, ballot tabulation, and dispute resolution. Several provisions in the regulations make clear the intent and seriousness with which provincial officials view the elections. Section 4.2 of the *Election Handbook* states that "if voters cannot exercise the right of nomination, they do not enjoy the full right to elect. The nomination of candidates is the first exercise of the right to elect and the first exercise of the voters' will."

The IRI delegation believes that while the regulations are comprehensive, they should be further clarified to strengthen and unify election practices and procedures throughout the province. Several provisions allow procedures to be interpreted loosely by township and village election officials, which may result in less than direct elections. For example, Section 7.1.3 (A) of the *Election Handbook* states that 'direct elections' can mean either the participation of all eligible voters in the election or only the heads of households (in remote areas). Chapter III, Article 16 of the *Provincial Methods* states that "the election is generally to be secret. Those villages that have difficulty to hold the secret election can use other methods able to reflect the wishes of the villagers." The IRI delegation believes that an essential and critical element of all democratic elections is the secrecy of the vote.

## II. Voter Registration and Candidate Nomination

Village election leadership groups are responsible for the overall conduct of elections in each village, including civic education, voter registration, candidate nomination, balloting, and vote tabulation. The group receives support and guidance from township election leadership groups, that set the date of the election and are responsible for training members of village election groups on election practices and procedures. Members of village election leadership groups are nominated by the village representative assembly<sup>1</sup> and approved by the township election leadership group.

Voter registration must occur at least 20 days prior to the election. According to Section 3.2.1 of the *Election Handbook*, the village election leadership group appoints two or three registrars from the electorate to conduct the actual registration of voters. The registrars, who must be educated, law abiding villagers, receive training from township election groups. Registration can be conducted on a household-by-household basis or through registration stations.

Section 3.2.2 of the *Election Handbook* lists four requirements that villagers must meet in order to be eligible to vote: residency in the village; 18 years of age or older; full possession of political rights; and, an ability to "express will." Villagers who are mentally disturbed or retarded are not registered, nor are non-residents who work in village enterprises or other economic organizations. Individuals who married a village resident and moved to the village at least 30 days before the election can vote.

A voter list must be written in brush on red paper in order of villagers' groups<sup>2</sup> and publicly

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<sup>1</sup>The village representative assembly is a local body generally comprised of village leaders, elders, and heads of households, which serves as a guidance body for the village committee on major policy decisions (e.g. major infrastructure or agricultural projects).

<sup>2</sup>Villagers' groups are small organizational units in Chinese villages. Villagers' groups replaced production teams.

displayed 20 days before the election. Voters can challenge lists through a timely appeal to the village election leadership group. Eligible voters receive voting cards, which they must display on election day to receive ballots (see Attachment A).

The first step in the nomination of candidates is informing villagers of the role and responsibilities of village committee members. While each village can develop requirements for candidates, Section 4.1 of the *Election Handbook* states the qualified candidates should: faithfully implement the Party's line, State laws and regulations; be open minded and creative; be able to "lead villagers to become rich through labor;" enjoy a good relationship within the village; be educated; possess good organizational and leadership skills; and, be healthy.

All eligible voters have the right to nominate candidates. Interference in the nomination process by factions or clans is prohibited, but the Party is allowed to conduct opinion polls to assist in the selection of qualified individuals. While there are no restrictions on the number of candidates nominated, the number of candidates should be at least one-third greater than the total number of offices. Nominations can be made in block or separately for each contested position, but must be accompanied by the signatures of at least ten voters (see Attachment B).

At least three days before the election, a closed primary is held in which the village representative assembly votes by secret ballot to select final candidates (see Attachment C). According to election regulations, the number of final candidates for chairman or vice chairman should exceed the positions by one, and those for members by one or two. Candidates for the chairman's position are allowed to address the heads of village groups prior to primary balloting.

It should be noted that the IRI delegation did not observe the nomination process or closed primary election in any of the villages they visited.

### **III. Election Day**

On a typical election day in Sichuan, villagers gather according to their respective villagers' groups in school yards or other large meeting places. The chairman of the village election leadership group officially opens the election and presides over the polling, which includes distributing ballots and explaining voting procedures. Election workers from each villagers' group (varying from six to eight groups in those villages the delegation visited) first count the total number of villagers present and proxy ballot requests, which have been approved by the village leadership group prior to the election (see Attachment D). The chairman then instructs election officials to ensure that ballot boxes are empty by showing the open boxes to villagers, and then orders them to secure the boxes by lock and key or paper seals. He also oversees the distribution of ballots to each election worker, who in turn hands the ballots to voters in their respective villagers' groups, and reviews the general rules and procedures for the casting ballots. While regulations allow for the use of multi-ballot voting (i.e. separate ballots for each position contested), the use of single ballots is encouraged by provincial election officials. Candidates' names appeared on the ballot under the contested positions, and spaces were available for write-

in candidates (see Attachment E).

Prior to the casting of ballots, candidates for the chairman's position are given an opportunity to address assembled villagers followed by a brief question-and-answer period. After campaign speeches, balloting occurs. Each villagers' group is assigned a specific polling location (usually a classroom in the school) where they mark their ballots. Election officials are on hand to maintain order and to offer assistance to illiterate voters.

Once all ballots are cast, election officials open the boxes and count the votes. Several chalkboards are erected (usually equal to the number of ballot boxes) and three election officials conduct the count at each board. One official reads out each ballot, the second marks the count on the chalkboard, and the third provides oversight. The counting of ballots is done on the spot in full and open view of assembled villagers.

Should a candidate be nominated for both the chairman and vice-chairman's position (or should the chairman candidate's name be written in for vice-chairman) and that candidate does not receive enough votes to win the chairman's race, then the votes the candidate received for the chairman's position are added to the total votes received in the vice-chairman's race. According to provincial election officials, this "drop down" method of counting ensures that the most popular and qualified candidates are elected to the village committee. In order for an election to be considered valid, 50 percent plus one of all eligible voters must participate. Winning candidates must receive 50 percent plus one of all ballots cast. Run-off elections are required in instances where no one candidate receives more than half the votes.

Following the final count, the winners are announced. Certificates are prepared and given to each newly elected official: the transfer of power is immediate. The chairman-elect makes a brief speech to the villagers, and the chairman of the village election leadership group announces the end of the election. The entire election process takes approximately four to five hours, depending on the number of ballots to be counted.

The *Election Handbook* outlines the dispute resolution framework for controversial elections. As the Ministry of Civil Affairs is responsible for the oversight of village committee elections, complaints are lodged with county and provincial-level Bureaus of Civil Affairs. Investigations into complaints are conducted by the County Bureau of Civil Affairs, in cooperation with township governments. Section 7.1.3 outlines five guidelines for determining the validity of an election: direct, multi-candidate election utilizing secret ballots; total number of ballots must not exceed the total number of registered voters or no fewer than half of registered voters; sound candidate nomination process; lawful polling; and proper ballot reconciliation and counting. If irregularities or vote fraud are determined, county election officials can order elections to be held again, or can request elections for only those contested positions in dispute. Any registered voter may lodge complaints with their respective provincial Bureau of Civil Affairs. Chapter III, Article 18 of the *Provincial Methods* provides that one-fifth of all eligible voters may request the removal of village committee members, pending agreement by village representative assemblies.

## **Delegation Observations**

Generally, the delegation was impressed by the efforts of election officials on election day to educate voters on the proper way to fill out ballots, secure ballot boxes, provide numerous voting locations, and archive election materials. Although the electoral process was similar in the four villages IRI visited, slight variations were observed. These variations did not detract from the overall enthusiasm of voters for the elections, the ability of the electorate to write-in candidates, the opportunity for villagers to listen to and question candidates for chairman, or the transparent counting process. In all four villages, the transfer of power immediately followed the announcement of the results of the election.

IRI also noted several instances where regulations appeared not to be followed or issues of secrecy may have been overlooked. The delegation does not believe these instances were in any way deliberate or malicious attempts to subvert the electoral process. Clarification of election regulations and additional training of election officials should resolve these shortfalls.

### **I. Campaign Speeches**

Only Zhuyuan village determined the order the chairman candidates would speak by drawing lots. In the three other villages, the incumbent chairman was given priority in speaking and answering villagers' questions first. IRI believes that favoritism toward incumbents places rival candidates at a disadvantage.

In general, election day campaign speeches by both incumbent village committee chairmen and challengers were similar in content. Promises to improve local economies and village infrastructures, increase transparency in accounting, and promote technology were made by virtually every chairman candidate. The most competitive election the delegation observed was in Zhuyuan village where a father and son competed against each other for the chairman's position. The son was a college graduate who had traveled extensively throughout China and only recently returned to the village. He promised to make villagers wealthy by attracting outside technology and investment, while at the same time protecting the environment and improving social welfare. He placed heavy emphasis on educating village children and improving infrastructures, including repairing the village's closed circuit television network. The father, the incumbent chairman, also ran on an economic development platform, promising to regain the financial losses incurred at the village's bamboo factory. The father won the election with 56 percent of the vote, while the son received 33 percent and encouragement to run against his father in the next round of election.

IRI was informed that chairman candidates addressed the village representative assembly prior to the closed primary in each of the four villages. Additional campaign opportunities which allow greater interaction with the electorate, such as door-to-door campaigning or placing posters in

public areas to increase awareness of each candidate's platform and campaign promises, were not common practice in the villages.

Through questioning of residents of all four villages, it appeared to the delegation that generally people were content with village affairs. However, all villagers were acutely aware of the disparity between their living standards and those in urban areas, and many expressed interest in crop diversification as a means to increase after-tax, personal wealth. One villager complained about the high tax his relative had to pay, even though he was handicapped. Another villager revealed a desire for greater wealth in order to travel throughout China. With the exception of Jiulong village, in which no single candidate received 50 percent plus one of the votes required to win the chairman's race, incumbent chairmen fared well in the elections IRI observed. Provincial regulations require a run-off election in Jiulong village to select a chairman candidate.

The use of proxy voting ensured a high voter turnout.<sup>3</sup> The delegation observed that older voters tended to possess proxy ballot requests, and election officials commented that younger villagers may have been working outside the village on election day. In Jiulong village (98 percent voter turnout) proxies accounted for 30 percent of all ballots cast; in Zhangjin village (99 percent turnout) proxies totaled 29 percent; in Zhuyuan village (80 percent turnout), proxies equaled 24 percent; and, in Tiansheng village (73 percent turnout), proxies accounted for 15 percent of the total vote.

## II. Voter Identification/Registration Lists

In all villages, the electorate received voter identification cards and proxy ballot approval cards shortly before the election. On election day, the identification cards were not checked against voter registration lists prior to the handing out of ballots. Voters received ballots -- as many as four, if approval for the maximum of three proxy ballots was given by the village election leadership group -- while seated in the village groups. In Zhangjin village, there was an initial attempt to check voter registration cards when villagers entered classrooms to vote, but a senior election official terminated the check for unknown reasons. Election officials told IRI that cards were checked against a final voter list prior to the delegation's arrival at the election meeting that morning. When IRI viewed the list, no signatures were present. The delegation believes that the length of time required by identification checks may have contributed to this oversight.

Provincial officials informed IRI that they were encouraging the use of single ballots during the election, rather than multi-balloting. This may be an additional time-saving measure, as voters are required to remain in their respective village groups throughout the entire election.

Section 5.4.5 of the *Election Handbook* states that "the order of issuing the ballots is as follows:

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<sup>3</sup>Villagers unable to participate in elections can authorize another person to vote on their behalf.

the voter hands in the voter identification card to the election workers for inspection and signs the register; the election worker returns the card to the voter, who receives a ballot.” This order was not followed in any of the four villages. Village election officials informed the delegation that identification checks were unnecessary, as all villagers were familiar with each other and knew everyone by name.

### **III. Voting Process**

There were slight variations in the casting of ballots in the four villages the delegation visited. In Zhangjin, Jiulong, and Tiansheng villages, the electorate received ballots while organized by village groups and proceeded to vote in a pre-assigned classroom. Ballots were deposited in a secured box upon exiting the classroom. In some instances, election officials assisted voters in completing ballots, including marking the ballots themselves, and depositing them in the box (as was the case in Jiulong village). The handling of ballots by election officials may be in violation of Section 5.4.7 of the *Election Handbook* which prohibits any other voter or official from handling a ballot once it is marked.

In Zhuyuan village, voters received ballots while seated in their respective village groups and proceeded to vote in specified classrooms. However, the electorate returned to their villagers’ groups with their marked ballot. Once all ballots had been marked and villagers returned to their groups, voters were finally invited to deposit their ballots in sealed boxes.

### **IV. Ballot Secrecy/Private Voting Booths**

Confusion may exist over methods of ensuring ballot secrecy such as the use of private voting booths. In all four villages, the electorate marked ballots on the tops of school desks or other tables -- sometimes in groups -- which allowed everyone, including election officials, to know how each individual voter cast their ballot. No private voting booths were used in any of the villages, although some voters were able to fill out ballots individually by walking to another side of the room.

### **V. Counting Process**

The delegation was very impressed with the transparent counting process observed in all four villages. However, the entertainment provided to the electorate during the count in Zhangjin village distracted voters’ attention from the process and made the calling out of ballots more difficult to hear.

## **1998 Recommendations**

### **Issue 1: Improve Ballot Secrecy and Security**

Greater emphasis should be placed on ensuring the secrecy of ballots, including mandatory use of private voting booths. The use of mobile ballot boxes and proxy voting should be abolished, and a system of absentee balloting should be developed to allow the elderly, sick, and villagers working outside the village to participate in primary and final elections.

IRI believes that ballot secrecy should be the top priority of Sichuan election officials.

In other village committee elections IRI has observed in China, ballot secrecy is mandated by provincial laws and regulations. Local election officials in Jilin, Hebei, Fujian, and other provinces utilize private voting booths, inexpensively constructed in the villages. In some cases, private voting booths are made by hammering two nails into adjacent walls of a room, attaching string to the nails, and hanging a sheet over the string.

In Fujian and Jilin provinces, where voting is permitted at several polling stations located throughout a village, election officials provided the electorate with both private voting booths and rooms. Only one voter at a time should be allowed into a private voting room if no private booths are utilized.

IRI also recommends that the use of mobile ballot boxes and proxy voting be replaced by a system of absentee balloting. Mobile ballot boxes and proxy voting may be convenient to some villagers, but it opens the process to fraud and potential misrepresentation. The principle of one person, one vote should be strictly enforced. Fujian and Jilin provinces are experimenting with absentee balloting in lieu of mobile ballot boxes and proxy voting.

### **Issue 2: Amend Provincial Regulations**

Provincial regulations should be amended to clarify, unify, and improve the conduct of village committee elections throughout the province.

The promulgation of a new village committee law affords Sichuan officials with an opportunity to amend and update their current laws and regulations governing village committee elections. The intent of amending these laws and regulations should be to ensure conformity with the national law and to provide clarification and uniformity for election practices and procedures.

Amendments should be included to: guarantee the complete secrecy of the ballot; require the mandatory use of private voting booths; clarify changes in the candidate nomination process; require the use of an open primary election to determine candidates; encourage the use of polling

stations so the electorate can vote throughout the day; abolish the use of proxy voting; abolish the use of mobile ballot boxes in favor of absentee balloting; and, require the use of direct, democratic elections in all villages throughout Sichuan province.

### **Issue 3: Open Primary Elections**

Villagers should be afforded an opportunity to both nominate and vote for candidates who stand in the final election. The “drop down” method of voting should be prohibited, and at least two candidates should compete for every position on the committee.

IRI has offered this recommendation to election officials from several provinces, including Fujian and Hebei. While many provinces have made improvements in nominating procedures, such as prohibiting civic organizations and the Communist Party from submitting nominations, the final candidate selection process remains closed. It is unclear to IRI how village representative assemblies are formed, and their ability to select final candidates is troubling. In some instances, it appears that the assemblies are elected by secret ballot, while in other cases they are appointed. The assembly’s selection of final candidates deprives villagers of full and complete participation in the electoral process.

The delegation recommends that the “drop down” method of voting be abolished in favor of single ballot voting in one election. This would ensure that all candidates are treated equally. Further, single balloting would streamline election procedures throughout Sichuan province. In Tiansheng village for example, the unsuccessful chairman candidate was able to “drop down” 388 votes from that race to the vice-chairman’s contest in which he received 429 votes.

IRI also suggests that there be at least two formal candidates for each open village committee seat. For example, three-person committees would have at least six candidates, while an election for a five-member committee would have at least ten candidates.

### **Issue 4: Standardize Ballot Distribution**

The system for ballot distribution should be standardized to prevent irregularities, and should involve greater supervision by representatives of different village groups. Ballots from all boxes should be mixed and randomly distributed to each counting group.

In other provinces, the system of ballot distribution is uniform and election officials fully understand the importance of checking voter identification cards against registration lists to prevent fraud and irregularities. IRI observed elections most recently in Jilin province, where each voter’s card was checked against a list. This process, which is currently prescribed in Sichuan’s regulations, may lengthen the time of the election day process. IRI suggests that if this is a concern to election officials, the use of polling stations should be permitted to allow voters to

cast ballots throughout the day. In Fujian, villages can use a number of polling stations and the count is conducted at a central counting center.

Finally, to further ensure the secrecy of votes the delegation suggests that ballots from all boxes be mixed together and randomly distributed to each counting group.

#### **Issue 5: Standardize Election Official Training**

Polling place procedures should be standardized, and election officers should be trained according to their specific function. Provincial officials should develop a simple training manual divided into sections that emphasize the most important rules for each different type of election officer. The manuals should be present at polling places on election day.

Several provinces utilize easy-to-use manuals for election officials that outline their roles and responsibilities and election procedures. When IRI observed elections in Fujian province in May 1997, these manuals were visible at several polling stations and were used as reference materials by officials during the election.

Amendments to provincial laws and regulations, election official training, and use of the manuals will contribute to the standardization of elections throughout the province. IRI is pleased to have sponsored one election official training seminar in Sichuan and recognizes and appreciates the challenging task provincial officials face in providing manuals and training to tens of thousands of village level election officials.

#### **Issue 6: Improve Campaign Activities**

Candidates should be given more opportunities to campaign and should be given public venues for announcing their platforms before primary and final elections. Photographs of candidates, platforms, and biographical information should be publicly displayed in or near polling stations on election day.

IRI recommends that provincial laws and regulations be amended to sanction and encourage campaign activities during the primary and final election periods. The use of campaign materials -- including posters, pamphlets, and fliers -- should be permitted, as well as door-to-door campaigning. Campaign expenses should be the responsibility of individual candidates. Vote buying should be expressly prohibited.

On election day, village election officials should display photographs of each candidate, along with a brief biography or platform summary, outside polling areas. Each candidate should be responsible for preparing his or her own biographical and platform summary. In addition to providing information to the electorate, it may assist illiterate voters in completing their ballots. IRI observed this practice in Fujian province.

The length of the campaign period (i.e. the time between the primary and final election) should be long enough to permit adequate opportunities for campaigning. Election officials should provide a public forum for candidates, and certain campaign activities on election day should be considered as long as they do not interfere with the voting process at polling stations (e.g. campaign areas are established outside polling stations).

### **Issue 7: Increase Civic Education**

Civic education activities should be conducted on an on-going and regular basis. Target groups should include registered voters as well as primary and secondary students. Civic education materials, including posters, videos and pamphlets, should be developed and distributed. Election officials should send sample ballots to voters prior to primary and final elections.

Civic education is central to the success of village committee elections throughout China. Programs and activities to inform the electorate of their roles and responsibilities in elections and the proper way to mark ballots should be an on-going effort. A more educated electorate would increase support for village elections and allow for more efficient and timely balloting on election day.

IRI recommends that provincial authorities develop standardized written and visual civic education materials targeted to a broad audience, including women and youth. Content should include: the rights and responsibilities of citizens in elections (such as the right to a secret ballot and freedom of choice); comprehensive instruction on the election process (including nomination procedure); and information on voting procedures (such as the proper way to mark ballots). Whenever possible, visual aids should be used. IRI recommends that Sichuan officials utilize the how-to-vote posters developed by the Ministry of Civil Affairs (see Attachment F).

Finally, sample ballots should be distributed to the electorate prior to primary and final elections. The sample should include the times polls open and close, the location of polling stations, and instructions on voting procedures, and should be clearly marked “sample” or color coded to avoid confusion with the actual ballot form.

### **Issue 8: Encourage Transparency and Accountability**

Demonstration villages and counties should be selected to serve as models of efficient and effective elections.

Newly elected candidates should receive specialized training on good governance practices and procedures, including financial management and accountability.

IRI encourages Sichuan officials to identify demonstration villages and counties that conduct sound village committee elections and recommends that provincial, county, and local election

officials meet regularly to discuss the experience of elections in the province and to exchange information on voting procedures and civic education activities.

IRI recommends that newly elected candidates receive specialized training on good governance practices and procedures to ensure social and economic development at the village level. Special emphasis should be given to financial accountability and transparency. IRI notes that Hebei province is initiating a training manual and seminars for newly elected chairmen.

## **Conclusion**

IRI expresses its gratitude to the people of Juilong, Zhangjin, Zhuyuan, and Tiansheng villages for allowing the delegation to observe elections, and commends all villagers for their enthusiasm for the elections. The delegation was generally impressed with the commitment of Sichuan's election officials in implementing village committee elections. All officials, including those at the village level, demonstrated in-depth knowledge of election rules and regulations. IRI believes that the success of village committee elections throughout China lies with those directly responsible for conducting and overseeing the elections process.

IRI recommends that provincial laws and regulations for the conduct of village committee elections be updated and improved, as is currently required by the recent passage of the new village committee law by the National People's Congress. Amendments to existing laws and regulations should ensure that elections in Sichuan continue to be competitive and transparent. IRI believes that greater emphasis should be placed on guaranteeing the secrecy of ballots through the use of private voting booths. Local officials should proceed with the development of private voting booths, drawing upon the experiences of other provinces in this matter.

The training of election officials will continue to improve elections in Sichuan. Election officials at all levels should understand clearly their roles and responsibilities in holding elections. Officials should define more clearly the fine line between assisting the electorate and interfering in the voting process. Village election officials should receive detailed training manuals which can be used as reference materials on election day. The delegation encourages the greater use of civic education materials to inform the public of elections and proper voting procedures, including the Ministry of Civil Affairs' step-by-step poster on elections.

Finally, IRI is committed to assisting Sichuan election officials to strengthen and improve their elections through technical assistance and the sharing of election experiences with other Chinese provinces. IRI staff will continue to discuss specific training needs with provincial election officials. In addition, IRI recognizes village committee elections as a first step toward improving local governance and offers its support for programs that train newly elected village committee members on transparent and accountable governance.

天生村第四届村委会选举

### 选民证

姓名 蒋玉合

性别 男 年龄 65 岁

投票时间 98. 11. 6

投票地点 天生小学

注意事项 1、凭证领取选票  
2、只准本人使用  
3、未经盖章无效

发证日期：1998年 月 日

# 村第四届村委会选举村提候选人 提名表

ATTACHMENT B

天生村 / 村民小组:

1998年10月21日

候选人姓名	性别	民族	出生年月日	文化程度	是否党员	推荐职务	主要理由	提名选民签名
李维立	男	汉	46.12.22	高中	党员	委员		朱进才
李中华	男	汉	55.2.4	初中	党员	主任		朱占且
黄敏	男	汉	64.4.12	初中	党员	委员		朱进才
<del>李中华</del>								李进才
李进才	男	汉	46.2.28	初中	党员	主任		李进才
李进才	男	汉	55.10.3	小学	党员	委员		刘申凤
李进才	男	汉	7.1.17	初中	党员	委员		吴国志
李进才	男	汉	57.8.20	高中	党员	委员		罗子友
								刘进才

说

- 主任应选人数1人，副主任应选人数 人，委员应选人数 人
- 提名的候选人不得超过于应选人数，多于应选人数的提名无效
- 选民10人以上的联名提名有效，少于10人提名无效。
- 提名截止日期为 年 月，超过截止日期无效。

明



## 选民委托投票凭证

兹因本人 李院 不能参加投票，特委托

李银 同志代为投票。

委托人, 李远志

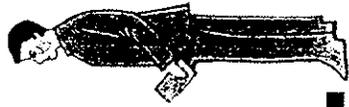
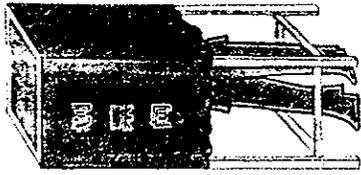
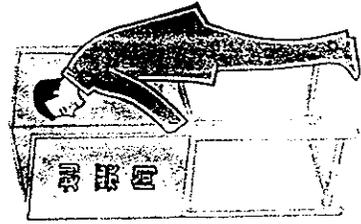
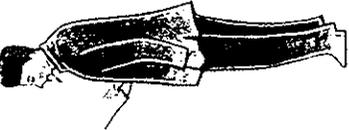
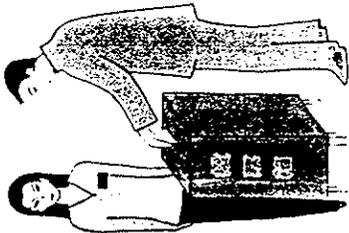
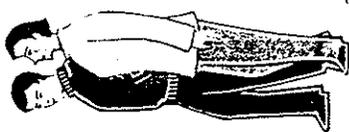
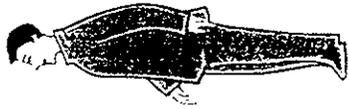
认可单位, 天生 村第四届村委会选举小组 (章)

一九九八年十一月 元 日

## 天生村第四届村委会选举 主任 副主任 委员选票

主任候选人	副主任候选人	委员候选人							
姓 名  李绍华 廖维立	姓 名  李绍华 李安胜	姓 名  李绍华 李安胜	陈祥山	胡帮贵	黄玖敏	黄玖敌	彭明琼	廖维立	谢香贵
符 号									

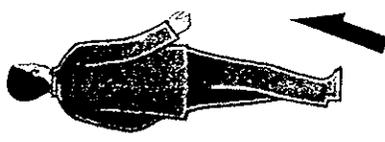
- 说明：
- 1、 候选人姓名以姓氏笔划为顺序；
  - 2、 村委会应选主任 1 名、副主任 1 名、委员 5 名；
  - 3 同意的在候选人姓名下方空格内划“○”，不同意的不划；
  - 4、 如另选其他选民的应在空格内写上另选人的姓名，并在其姓名下方方格内划“○”，未划符号的无效；
  - 5、 划“○”总数不得超过主任、副主任、委员各自应选名额数，超过的选票视为废票。



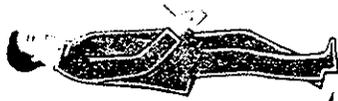
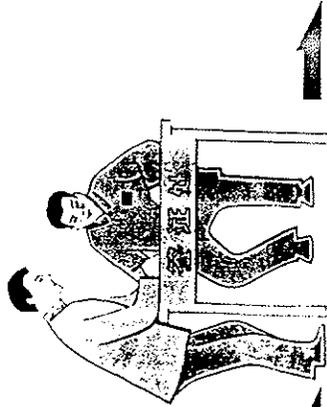
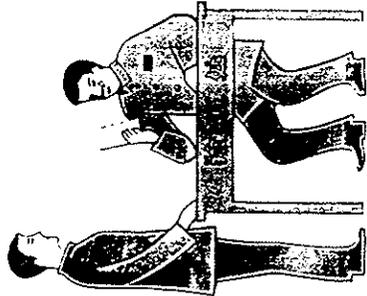
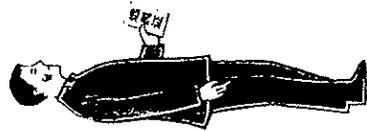
7.按顺序回到原座位上

6.将划好的选票折叠整齐投入票箱

5.按先后顺序逐人进入划票间(处)划票



# 村委会选举投票流程示意图



1.选民将《选民证》交工作人员检验

2.选民在登记册上签名

3.工作人员验证后将选票发给选民

4.选民仔细阅读选票上的说明