

China Exploits Vatican Weakness on Bishop Nominations

ROME — The Vatican announced this weekend that it will accept China's autonomous appointment of a Catholic bishop without Church approval.

Flouting its 2018 accord with the Vatican over the nomination of bishops in the country, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) announced this past April that it had installed Bishop Joseph Shen Bin as the new bishop of Shanghai.

The former (Vatican-named) bishop of Shanghai, Bishop Ma Daqin has been under house arrest since 2012 in Sheshan Seminary in punishment for his resignation from the state-run Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association.

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