

## NEW BOOK INFORMATION

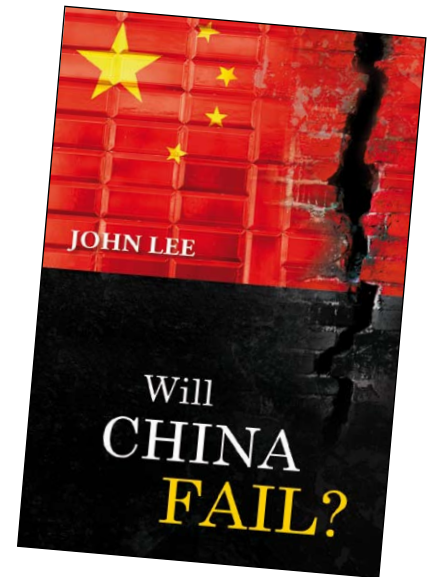
# WILL CHINA FAIL?

**JOHN LEE**

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### ABOUT THE BOOK

China's rise has been a significant driver of growth for the global economy. But is the excitement and optimism about China's rise justified? Urging us to look beyond the hype, John Lee takes a sober look at what is actually occurring within the world's most populous country – what is really keeping Chinese leaders awake at night. In his new book, Dr Lee says that China's impressive year on year growth figures hide some frightening truths. China's economy – in which the most important sectors are still controlled by the regime – is sick and failing. The regime is doing what it takes to preserve their hold on power – but at enormous cost to the country and its people.



In *Will China Fail?*, Dr Lee looks at the profound and mounting contradictions, tensions, and dysfunctions within Chinese economy and society – including between the regime, the military, and people - and why it is *getting worse* despite China's impressive growth statistics. He argues that political reform needed to limit the role of the Party and government is unlikely in the foreseeable future. Dr Lee examines the Party's capacity, determination, and desperation to remain in power – despite being in deep trouble with its own people. Far from a 'successful dictatorship', he presents evidence showing why essential reforms are stalling, and how the regime is in fact in a holding pattern and only just managing to stay half a step ahead of political and economic disaster. The book also challenges the logic of China's 'peaceful rise' and looks at the emergence of a 'chauvinistic nationalism' in Chinese politics and society – why the regime is encouraging it and why it is potentially destabilising for the region.

*Will China Fail?* serves as a timely warning against our well-intentioned 'China blindness' and offers a compelling case for the likelihood of turmoil and turbulent times ahead for the Chinese people



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr John Lee is a Visiting fellow at the Centre for Independent Studies and also a co-founder and Managing Director of Sydney based research organisation L21 Pty Ltd. His recent research has looked at foreign and security policy in the Asia-Pacific region, with an emphasis on China, ASEAN, and the U.S. His recent research has been published by institutes such as ASPI and the Strategic & Defence Studies Centre both in Canberra, and also in publications such as the *Australian Journal of Politics & History*, and *The National Interest* based in Washington.

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