

# Cai Qi 蔡奇

Born 1955



## Current Positions

- Party Secretary of Beijing (2017–present)
- Deputy Director of the Beijing 24th Winter Olympic Games Central Leading Group (2017–present)
- Chairman of the Beijing 24th Winter Olympic Games Organizing Committee (2017–present)

## Personal and Professional Background

Cai Qi was born in December 1955 in Youxi County, Fujian Province. He joined the CCP in 1975. He received an undergraduate education in political education (1975–78), a post-graduate degree in economic law (via part-time studies, 1994–97), and a doctorate in political economy (via part-time studies, 1999–2001) from Fujian Normal University in Fuzhou City, Fujian Province. He also attended a four-month training program for department/prefecture-level cadres at the Central Party School in Beijing (1996).

Cai began his career as a “sent-down youth” in the Xiyang Commune in Yong’an County, Fujian Province (1973–75).<sup>i</sup> After graduating from college, he stayed on as an official in the university’s party committee office (1978–83). In 1983, he was transferred to the Fujian Provincial Party Committee, where he served as a clerk (1983–85), division deputy head (1985–87), *mishu* (personal assistant) with the rank of division head in the General Work Department (1987–91), deputy director of the Office of Political Reform (1991–92), deputy director of the Party Building Department (1992–93), and deputy director of the General Office (1993–96). During this latter post, Cai was primarily a personal secretary to Chen Guangyi, who was then party secretary of Fujian Province. Cai also worked as deputy party secretary of Sanming City, Fujian Province (1994–99) and, concurrently, mayor of Sanming City (1997–99).

In 1999, Cai moved to Zhejiang Province, where he served as deputy party secretary and mayor (1999–2002) and then party secretary (2002–04) of Quzhou City. He next served as party secretary of Taizhou City, Zhejiang Province (2004–07). After that, he was concurrently deputy party secretary and deputy mayor and then concurrently party secretary and mayor of Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province (2007–10). He next served as director of the Organization Department of the Zhejiang Provincial Party Committee (2010–13) and executive vice-governor of Zhejiang (2013–14). In March 2014, Cai was transferred to Beijing, where he served as deputy director (2014–15) and executive deputy director (2015–16) of the newly established General Office of the National Security Commission. Most recently, he served as mayor and deputy party secretary of Beijing (2016–17).

*Compiled by Cheng Li and the staff of the John L. Thornton China Center at Brookings*

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## Notes:

<sup>i</sup> “Sent-down youth” (插队知青) refers to young, educated urbanites who left their home cities to serve as manual laborers in the countryside during the Cultural Revolution.