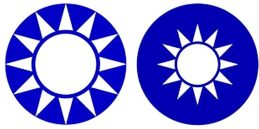


## Report suggests changing KMT emblem

Written by Taipei Times  
Saturday, 10 April 2021 07:05 -

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The Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) emblem, left, and the Republic of China national emblem are pictured in an undated photograph.

**Photo: Chen Yu-fu, Taipei Times**

Changing the national emblem should not be taken lightly, as it embodies the nation's collective sentiment, but political party symbols can and should change with the times, the Ministry of the Interior said on Thursday in a report on the issues stemming from similarities between the national and Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) emblems.

The ministry issued the report in response to a motion raised by the New Power Party caucus and passed on Jan. 29 requesting an evaluation within two months.

Since its installment in 1928, the national emblem has been broadly applied on the national and military flags, medals, uniforms, certificates, foreign embassies and other places, it said.

Changing the emblem would involve difficult legal amendments and considerable expense to redesign all of the aforementioned applications, it said.

The ideological strife it would exacerbate is also a concern, potentially spilling over into the nation's international dealings, the report added.

The nation went through a long period of authoritarian rule that erased the lines between party and state, but has been lauded the world over for its transition to democracy, earning it the moniker "the beacon of democracy in Asia," it said.

Although the similarity between the national and KMT emblems is based in history, the national emblem is a symbol of the nation and changing it should not be considered lightly, the ministry said.

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On the other hand, the symbols of political parties can and should change to reflect current sentiment, it said.

The party-state era is over and the political arena has become diversified, so political symbols should change to respect the national emblem, it added.

In response, KMT Chairman Johnny Chiang (蔣經國) wrote on Facebook that the suggestion was a deliberate attempt by the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) to shift the public's focus from the deadly train accident in Hualien County on Friday last week, claiming the lives of 50 people and injuring more than 200 others.

Taking up the issue is a scheme on the DPP's part to shift the public's attention from the tragedy and to dodge its responsibility, which is a disgrace to those who perished in the accident and their families, Chiang said.

He also questioned the DPP's loyalty to the nation, its flag and the national emblem.

"If the DPP fully identifies with the Republic of China, the KMT will be happy to see it incorporate elements of the national flag and national emblem into its party emblem," he said.

Deputy Minister of the Interior Chen Tsung-yen (陳宗男) yesterday said the report only offers an analysis of the current situation and is not a demand for any political party to change their party emblem.

Source: [Taipei Times - 2021/04/10](#)