

ON SOME TASKS OF IDEOLOGICAL EDUCATION OF THE PARTY

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At present it is very important to intensify ideological education among Party members and other working people.

Only then, can we arouse them to revolution and construction by firmly arming them with the revolutionary ideology of our Party, and check the ideological and cultural infiltration of the imperialists by giving no room for the enemy to set foot in our ranks. Intensifying ideological education is all the more urgent as the generation who have not experienced the trials of the revolution are appearing as the commanding personnel of our revolution. In the days immediately after liberation the revolutionaries who had taken part in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle led by the great leader were the backbone in building the Party, the country and the army. However, time has passed and their hair has turned grey; and the generation who have not experienced the trials of the revolution make up the main force of the revolutionary ranks. They do not know well how our Party, people's power and revolutionary armed forces were built under the complicated circumstances immediately after liberation and how the soldiers of our Korean People's Army and people fought to defend the fatherland, shedding their blood, during the Fatherland Liberation War. In these circumstances, we must organize ideological education to suit the characteristics of Party members and working people in order to prepare them politically and ideologically.

The present ideological education does not properly conform with the characteristics of those it deals with. The Propaganda Department confines ideological work to drawing up and circulating texts for study sessions and public lectures and to compiling statistics of the number of study sessions and public lectures conducted. Many of the public lectures do not have the content to prepare Party members and working people politically and ideologically.

The principle of ideological education is not clear, either. Ideological education must be conducted with a clear principle in conformity with the revolutionary task, fighting goal and the social and political environment of the period concerned. Our Party established a clear-cut principle of ideological education in keeping with the revolutionary task, fighting goal and the social and political environment soon after liberation, during the Fatherland Liberation War and in the postwar period, and efficiently educated its members and other working people. Thus, it could build a new country from scratch, win a brilliant victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, reconstruct the devastated economy in a short span of time after the war and bring about a great upsurge of Chollima. However, the principle of the present ideological education is not clear. Even though we have a good ideology, a good system and good people, undesirable consequences will result if we conduct ideological education in a perfunctory manner.

The Propaganda Department must decisively eliminate formalism in ideological education and

conduct substantial ideological education among Party members and other working people.

Party members and working people must be given a clear understanding of the superiority of our socialist system.

At present, in giving an understanding of the superiority of the socialist system, it is important to educate the people in socialism based on collectivism in comparison with capitalism based on individualism, and what is all the more important is to bring them to see clearly the essential characteristics and genuine superiority of our socialist system compared to the socialism of other countries.

Our socialism is an original socialism of our own style distinguishable from the socialism of other countries in its guiding ideology, guiding theory, guiding method, and in the peculiar course of its construction. It can also be distinguished by the width and depth of independence it aims to realize and its stability.

Our socialism is distinguishable from the socialism of other countries in its guiding ideology. Of course, it can be said that the objective of building socialism is identical in many countries. However, the guiding ideology, guiding theory and guiding method maintained in building socialism are different from each other. Ours is a style of socialism based on the Juche idea. Our Party is building socialism guided by the Juche idea, a man-centred ideology. It also solves all problems arising in socialist construction from the Juche-orientated stand, by relying on the strength of our people in accordance with the demands of our people and the actual conditions of our country.

Our socialism is not a gift from the others nor has it been built by others. It is our own style of socialism which we selected ourselves and have built by our own strength, reflecting the aspirations and demands of our people. Immediately after liberation our people established the people's democratic system inheriting the brilliant traditions of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. They fought in the trials of the grave Fatherland Liberation War, even dedicating their lives to defending their new system which they built themselves. Inheriting and developing the people's democratic system, they established the socialist system in the challenging postwar reconstruction period and are developing it further through the arduous struggle of socialist construction.

Our socialism is the most superior form of socialism in that it fully realizes the independence of the popular masses. In our country the working masses are the genuine masters of the country and all social benefits are extended to them. This can be clearly seen in the supply of food alone, for instance. The people in other countries buy rice, but our people are supplied with rice for next to nothing, so no one has any worry about food. This is a popular policy enforced only in our country, a country which regards the welfare of man as the most important task. There is no other country in the world that extends maximum social benefits to the people as we do.

The solidity of our socialism rests on the single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party and the masses, the socio-political organism. In our country, the popular masses, the motive force of history, are rallied rock-firm around the Party with the leader at the centre. Herein lie the solidity of our socialism and its essential features, distinguishable from the socialism of other countries.

Many foreigners are united in their praise of the superiority of our socialism. The great leader said to a member of the Japanese House of Representatives who was on a visit to our country that

we are waging the revolution and construction independently and creatively guided by the Juche idea, an idea in which one regards the masses as his teacher and conducts the revolution and construction by relying on their strength, and that as our Party keeps up the Juche idea as its guiding ideology and applies it to the revolution and construction, it faithfully incorporates the demands and interests of the masses in its policies. He continued that our Party cannot be accused of bureaucracy because we are following the man-centred policy. Moved by his words, the Japanese held a press interview in a country on his way back to Japan and said that as the Workers' Party of Korea is executing the man-centred policy with the Juche idea as its guiding ideology, it is free from bureaucracy and that Korea would not collapse like the East European socialist countries. He stressed that socialism in Korea has special features. He pinpointed the difference between our socialism and the socialism in the East European countries. A foreign ambassador in our country said that he would make an effort to study the Juche idea, praising the advantages of our form of socialism, which has embodied this idea.

We have done nothing wrong in building socialism and have nothing to reform. With the pride and national dignity which comes from living and working in the most advantageous socialist society established by the leader, we must make Party members and working people fully understand that there is no other system which is better. Unless we give publicity to our socialist system which is best in the world when we are living there, the people will not know its advantages fully. If for example our people are asked how our socialism is different from others', a great number of them would not be able to answer clearly.

We must bring them to see clearly that the socialism we are building is fundamentally different from the socialism of other countries, that our Party began to build socialism based on the Juche idea, a man-centred idea, and is solving all problems arising in socialist construction by relying on the strength of our people and in conformity with the interests and requirements of our people and that our socialism is characteristic socialism of our own style which has embodied the Juche idea. In this way we must ensure that Party members and working people endeavour to brighten the socialist system with a clear understanding of its advantages.

While making our Party members and working people fully understand the advantages of our socialist system, we must also efficiently explain them to foreigners. If foreigners ask about the advantages, we should not only explain them but advise them to come to our country to see with their own eyes.

We must also give our Party members and working people a correct understanding of the reform and restructuring enforced in other socialist countries in combination with the advantages of our socialist system. We must explain to them in easy terms that reform and restructuring literally mean dissembling and overthrowing that which has been done; that there is no benefit if socialism is abandoned now to introduce capitalism. There is no need to introduce capitalism as the socialist system established in our country is the best in the world and we have nothing to put right because we have done nothing wrong.

We must also make them understand clearly that human rights are fully guaranteed in our country. In their attack against the socialist countries the US and other forces of imperialism are

now making a fuss that these countries are infringing upon human rights; they might also pick a quarrel with our country over this issue. On her first visit to our country, a German writer Luise Rinser was also doubtful about the problem of human rights, but after several visits she became convinced that human rights are fully guaranteed in our country.

In spite of the US imperialist criticism of socialist countries on the issue of human rights, it is the United States where human rights are violated most severely. In the United States the unemployed number tens of millions and a large number of people have no homes. Many sick people do not receive medical treatment for they do not have enough money, some school-aged children cannot go to school for they have no money and drug addicts and illiterates are increasing daily—this is the real picture of the United States. Even elementary human rights are sometimes violated there. However, everyone in our country learns free of charge to his heart's content and receives free medical care. Our people do not know what unemployment is and they live happily free from worries about food, clothing and housing.

We must also give a proper explanation about religion to the people. Freedom of religious belief is being guaranteed in our country. Our Constitution stipulates freedom of religious belief. We have never rejected religion so far. Explaining how religious forces in our country have been weakened, the great leader said that it was because the US imperialists bombed churches and killed religious men during the Fatherland Liberation War. Since our people are guaranteed the freedom of religious belief by the Constitution, they can go to church if they want to, but they do not do so for they have nothing to worry about and they seldom have any crime to atone for.

We must explain these points to Party members and working people so that they can fight those imperialists who pick a quarrel with us on the issue of human rights.

We must educate Party members and working people on the Korean-nation-first spirit.

This education must not be conducted only by emphasizing that the Korean nation is the best in the world, or imposing this excellence upon the people. We must explain to the people in a theoretical way and in plain words what the Korean-nation-first spirit means, why they should acquire the spirit and what they should do to acquire the spirit, so that they can fully understand it theoretically.

The excellence of the Korean nation is neither a biological concept nor a geographical concept nor an economic concept; it is a political and ideological concept. Koreans are not big-built; the territory of our country is not large and its economy has not reached a high stage of development. However, our nation has an ideology, traditions and history superior to others'. The excellence of the Korean nation does not mean that our nation is a superior race; it means it is best in its ideology, traditions and history.

In order to convince the people of the excellence of our nation, the national character of our people must be expounded by means of the ideology, traditions and history.

Our people are mostly sagacious, industrious, soft yet strong; they are a homogeneous nation who have lived in one territory with one culture and language from ancient times. They have a time-honoured history spanning 5,000 years, a brilliant national culture, excellent national traditions and a great ideology. These national characteristics are the base of the

Korean-nation-first spirit.

Every nation has its peculiar national character formed and consolidated over a long historical period and the level of its character depends on the ideology, traditions and history of the nation concerned. The national character of our people is, we believe, stronger than that of any other nation.

Our national character is strong because our people accept the Juche idea as the soul of the nation. We must make the national character of our people stronger by means of the Juche idea. From the first day of its foundation up to now our Party has consistently adhered to the Juche idea in its revolutionary struggle and construction work. Having created the Juche idea, the great leader built the Party and the state as required by its principles and has led the revolutionary struggle and construction work to victory. We can be fully proud of the fact that our people, who accept the Juche idea as the soul of the nation, are the best in the world.

We must explain the excellence of our nation by means of the national traditions and history of our people. During the protracted course of the revolutionary struggle, our people built the people's power and the socialist system with their own hands. Our Republic is the result of revolutionary gains our Party and people won at the cost of blood. We must explain in depth to our people how the people's power and the socialist system were built in our country. The national traditions can be explained in relation to the issue of obligation. For our people it has been peculiar national tradition to be faithful in carrying out obligations.

We must explain to Party members and other working people the Korean-nation-first spirit on the basis of our ideology, traditions and history so that they have a clear understanding of the excellence of our leader, our Party, the guiding ideology of our Party and our socialist system. It will help them to appreciate their own things and strive to add lustre to them, with a high sense of national pride and dignity.

We must further intensify education in revolutionary traditions among Party members and working people.

Only then can they overcome all manner of difficulties and trials with an indomitable fighting spirit and the spirit of revolutionary optimism by learning after the lofty revolutionary spirit of the anti-Japanese fighters and perform the revolutionary struggle and construction work with success. The present circumstances and conditions in which we are building socialism are different from those of the days when the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters fought to defeat the Japanese imperialists and restore the fatherland, but the revolutionary spirit they displayed is a value which our people must learn and carry forward. Moreover, the younger generation do not know well how arduously the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners fought as they have lived happily under the socialist system without experiencing hardships. They do not know well the content of "One Bowl of Parched-rice Flour", the reminiscences of an anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter.

What is important in the education in the revolutionary traditions is to educate the people to learn the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude displayed by the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters. As they displayed the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude they could arm themselves by their own efforts, defeat the brigandish Japanese imperialists and liberate

the fatherland even though they did not enjoy the support from the state or regular army. We must ensure that all Party members and working people acquire the revolutionary spirit and bring about an upsurge in socialist construction by overcoming the hardships and difficulties confronted.

What is important next in the education in the revolutionary traditions is to educate the people in the spirit of revolutionary optimism and the spirit of loving future also displayed by the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters. The veterans were imbued with optimism of the future - never pessimistic even on the scaffold. This can be seen clearly in the struggle of Comrade Pak Kil Song who died a heroic death, shouting, "Love the future", before a firing squad. The anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters could fight to the end for victory of the revolution, convinced of victory because they were full of optimism about the future. We must imbue Party members and working people firmly with their revolutionary spirit.

In order to intensify education in the revolutionary traditions, we must publish the reminiscences of the anti-Japanese revolutionary veterans in greater number. Recently they are not being published; they must be published in a large number.

We must further intensify class education among Party members and working people.

Some time ago "Rodong Sinmun" carried "On Further Intensifying Class Education among Party Members", a work the great leader made public in 1955. The leader put forward long ago the policy on intensifying class education and has seen to it that this education was conducted without interruption among Party members and working people. As a result, they are fighting vigorously against the class enemies of every description as they have a correct understanding of the exploiting class and its system. However, we must never rest content with it. Our revolutionary struggle is as ever a struggle against the exploiting class, system and its reactionary ideas. The more the revolution deepens, the fiercer the struggle becomes. We must fully equip Party members and working people with the revolutionary consciousness of the working class by strengthening class education without letup so that they staunchly fight against class enemies.

Ideological education must be conducted to suit the characteristics of the people it deals with and their preparedness.

If we do it in a stereotyped manner without considering these factors we cannot be successful. Ideological education must be conducted effectively in various forms and methods to suit the characteristics of the masses of all strata including workers, peasants and intellectuals.

Ideological education must be intensified particularly among the officials in the fields of scientific research and mass media so as to firmly equip them with our Party's revolutionary ideology. Otherwise, practices lacking in conviction might be revealed among them. We must pay deep attention to intensifying ideological education among the intellectuals in these fields.

Ideological education must also be strengthened among the artists. They are different from foreign artists, because they have been educated under the guidance of the Party and trained in the course of creating revolutionary works of art. They are pure. However, some of them might be lacking in faith, so we must strengthen ideological education among them so that they are firmly equipped with the Juche-oriented outlook on the revolution.

Education through public lectures must be intensified.

The public lecture is an excellent method of educating many people at a time. Bringing Party policies home to Party members and working people can be accomplished in good time when conducted through public lectures.

Public lectures must be given according to plans drawn up to suit the characteristics of the people. Only well drawn-up plans make public lectures interesting. Public lecturers must be well prepared to ensure they are interesting and concise. In future, lecturers must prepare public lecture plans by themselves or make a deep study of the plans sent down in a uniform way so as to give lectures amusingly in their own words. Care should be taken to ensure that secrets are not disclosed through public lectures.

Interviews must be widely introduced in studying. Studies must be conducted not only through lectures and debates but also through interviews. Study through interviews makes it possible for everyone to understand theoretically the Juche idea as suited to his or her characteristics and preparedness. In future, cadres and lecturers must hold these interviews with Party members and working people frequently to equip them more firmly with the Juche idea.

We must compile various educational materials which can serve Party members and working people as political pabulum.

As far as recently compiled educational materials are concerned, they are too long, yet still fail to highlight the main points. They must be logically based on facts with a clear structure and content. Their contents must be neither fabricated nor exaggerated.

Lecture plans for study sessions must be drawn up efficiently to include content that is both theoretical and concrete. The plans must correspond to the people's characteristics and preparedness. The plans for cadres must be developed with profound, theoretical content, while those for Party members and working people must be developed using simple terms in consideration of their characteristics and level of preparedness.

Educational materials such as plans for public lectures and agitation or reference materials must be compiled in a concise and yet simple way. We must compile material in our own way with content that meets the requirements of our revolution. Simple and concise educational material will be acceptable if a deep explanation is given on its basis during study sessions. When explaining the content of educational material, there is no need to expand on for too long on the pretext of enriching it. The content of educational materials must be explained in easy terms to arouse the interest of the listeners, so that they listen to them with the same zest as news items. Only then will the explanation be worth reading and linger long in the listeners' memory. The plans for public lectures, agitation or reference materials must not be as long as lecture plans for study sessions; they must be compiled in a simple way according to content and issues.

When writing an article or giving a lecture on a certain issue, people try to relate the issue to the complicated situations of other countries; they must not do so. We must educate Party members and working people in our own things and theoretically explain our own practical experiences. The Propaganda Department must ensure that the officials in the field of the mass media write about our own things according to our attitude when they write articles.

The role of the mass media must be enhanced.

Only then can the work of equipping Party members and working people with Party policies and rousing them to their implementation be performed efficiently. However, this sector is not working properly as intended and required by the Party.

The mass media sector is committing mistakes because the leading officials in this sector are working irresponsibly. They are not sensitive to the changing situation and, when a new Party policy is advanced, they do not discuss collectively the methodology required to carry it out. They must be more sensitive to the situation than anyone else and perform the work of the mass media in accordance with Party policy; but this is not the case.

The shortcomings in this sector are also attributable to the fact that the Propaganda Department of the Party Central Committee is not properly controlling and guiding this sector. The sections of the department do not guide the organs they deal with in a Party-oriented, political way. They interfere with what has been edited, ordering to do this or that; they must not do so. If they work in this way with the organs they deal with, they cannot eliminate irresponsibility, expedience and formalism revealed among the officials in these organs and might discourage them from displaying creativity. Unless they eliminate their administrative and bureaucratic work style, officials in the Propaganda Department cannot efficiently control and guide the organs they deal with and fully carry out their tasks. The relevant sections of the department must correct their shortcomings as soon as possible and guide the organs subordinate to them in a Party-oriented, political way.

Efficient guidance must be provided to broadcasting. Broadcasting is very important in motivating people, so we must not neglect it. The Propaganda Department must enhance the sense of responsibility and role among the officials in the broadcasting sector and lead them to work in accordance with the Party's intention and demands.

Newspapers must also be edited well. At present "Rodong Sinmun", "Minju Joson" and "Pyongyang Sinmun" all carry reports on political events; there is no need to do so. In future, "Pyongyang Sinmun" must edit articles that sustain the specific feature of the newspaper of the capital city. It should carry many articles that feature the lives of the Pyongyang citizens. The study of how to edit "Pyongyang Sinmun" must be made and a plan on it drawn up. "Joson Inmingun", as the army's paper, should preserve its characteristics and fill its pages with content aimed at establishing the Party's monolithic ideological system and the Party's leadership system. Recently it has been well edited.

Newspapers and broadcasting must report on foreign affairs properly. For this task, the Korean Central News Agency must carry out unified supervision. In addition, special correspondents dispatched to other countries must work better. Only then can promptness, accuracy and objectivity of the news on foreign affairs be ensured. At the moment these correspondents are not sensitive to the situation and neither do they rack their brains. They must carefully analyze the data obtained in their resident countries before sending reports to their headquarters.

Publications should be distributed properly. Newspapers are now being distributed to households; this practice has advantages as well as disadvantages. Since their circulation is limited, they might not reach the people who have to read them if they are distributed only to households.

As "Rodong Chongnyon" is distributed to households, the primary organizations of the League of Socialist Working Youth which keenly need it have no opportunity to read it. Instead, it reaches only households that have no one who would read it. Such dailies as "Rodong Sinmun" and "Rodong Chongnyon" should be distributed to establishments, not to households. "Rodong Chongnyon" should be distributed in great numbers to the LSWY primary organizations so that it can be used in educating young people. Since all houses have rediffusion sets and a great number of them have TV sets, there is no need to distribute the newspapers to all of them. Then typefaces may be set up for printing a little later than now. Newspapers normally have to set up typefaces early in order to distribute papers to households before people go out for work, so some articles which would be carried that day have to be left over until the next day. Consequently, important news items are not reported promptly, hindering their relay to other countries.

Full preparations should be made for the successful holding of the Eighth April Spring Friendship Art Festival.