

INSIST ON MODERATION AND FORBID FORCE IN THE STRUGGLE

Following is a translation of an article by the
Commentator of the Chinese-language newspaper
Hung-wei-ping Pao, [Peiping?], No. 15, 22 December
1966, p 4.

Our great leader, Chairman Mao, has taught us to use moderation, and not force, in the great Cultural Revolution. Moderation or force concerns the question as to whether the great Proletarian Cultural Revolution can be carried to the end. To insist on moderation and forbid force is a very important policy in this movement.

The broad masses of revolutionaries, revolutionary faculties and students, and revolutionary Red Guard fighters insist on conducting all business according to Chairman Mao's directives, insist on moderation, and resolutely oppose the instigation resorted to by bad people looking to the use of force by the masses. In launching their unflinching struggle with the bourgeois reactionary line, they have made full use of the "five great" weapons of contention, bloom, wall posters, debate, and coordination, the five great democratic formulas, and demonstrated their great prowess. They have exposed the hideous faces of the enemies and scored one victory after another. They insist that only by exercising moderation can they touch the souls of the people and educate the broad masses of revolutionaries. The moderate form of struggle is doubtless a very excellent one.

Our enemies are never contented with their defeat. It is a moderate struggle that can administer vital blows to them, and so they are most afraid of such a struggle and of the "five great" steps. Therefore, a handful of those in authority

taking the capitalist road and a small minority of die-hards insisting on the bourgeois reactionary line are taking advantage of differences of views among the masses to create incidents and provoke the masses to use force. Their object is to destroy the great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. That is why we must increase our vigilance.

The West-City and East-City Inspection Teams have become gendarme forces and instruments for suppressing the revolutionary masses. Many a time they have led to the use of force in the struggle. This is entirely contrary to the sixteen articles. The bourgeois reactionary line implemented by them must be criticized.

In dealing with the masses with differences of views we must use moderation, and not force, and we must convince people with reason. In the same way we should deal with the demons and monsters and people who have committed mistakes with moderation, and not with force. Precisely as Comrade Lin Biao has pointed out, "Force can only affect flesh and skin, but moderation can affect the soul. Only by the use of moderation in our struggle can we have full exposures and penetrating criticisms, thoroughly lay bare their counterrevolutionary faces and isolate them to the greatest extent, struggle with them till they smell, tumble, and collapse."

The "important notice" of the Peiping municipal party committee has been issued for more than a month, but to date some units and schools have acted against it, in disregard of state laws and party discipline. In Middle School No 6 of Peiping kangaroo courts and detention houses have been established, and those who have been charged with mistakes have been abused and beaten up. This is contrary to state laws and party discipline, and must necessarily receive the sanctions of the law. At present certain revolutionary organizations of the masses have been subjected to abuse and beating, which falls short of the principle of moderation. Only by insisting on a moderate struggle, and not one by force, can we guarantee the normal conduct of the great contention, bloom, wall posters, and debates. Only thus can we guarantee the great democracy under the dictatorship of the proletariat and protect the democratic powers of the masses of the people.

Without the dictatorship of the proletariat, there can be no great democracy for the proletariat. Those who violate the law and discipline, commit violence, and beat up people must be firmly dealt with by the organs of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The people have been greatly pleased with the arrests made by the Bureau of Public Safety. This demonstrates the incomparable strength of our dictatorship of the

proletariat.

We must insist on the conduct of all business according to the directives of Chairman Mao and the full enforcement of the sixteen articles. We must insist on moderation and forbid the use of force. We must carry the great Proletarian Cultural Revolution to the end.

Insist on moderation, and not force!

Long live the dictatorship of the proletariat!

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Important Notice

All plants and mines, schools, organs, and other units are forbidden to establish private detention houses, private courts, and resort to private arrests and torture.

This behavior is contrary to the laws of the state and party discipline.

Anyone guilty of this conduct or its direction behind the scenes must receive the severe penalties of the state law and party discipline.

As from today, anyone continuing to commit any of the above-mentioned offenses shall be dealt with immediately.

Peiping Municipal Committee,
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