

China in the Midst of High-Tide of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution

A high-tide of the great proletarian cultural revolution has been unfolding vigorously throughout China for several months, in response to the great call of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung. This is a great revolutionary movement aimed at consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat and advancing the cause of socialism.

Hundreds of millions of workers, peasants and soldiers, revolutionary cadres and revolutionary intellectuals, armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, have been writing articles, holding discussions and putting up posters written in big characters to sweep away the monsters of all kinds entrenched in ideological and cultural positions, and to foster proletarian ideology and liquidate bourgeois ideology with great vigour. Those who echo the imperialists and the reactionary bourgeois "specialists," "scholars" and "authorities" have been routed, one group after another, with every bit of their prestige swept into the dust. The reactionary strongholds controlled by members of the sinister anti-Party and anti-socialist gangs have been breached, one after another. The magnitude, impact, intensity and strength of this great proletarian cultural revolution are without precedent in history. The whole of China is a vast scene of seething revolution.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung has all along taught the Chinese people that the socialist revolution on the economic and political fronts alone is not enough. It is necessary to carry out thoroughgoing socialist revolution on the ideological and cultural fronts as well. Chairman Mao has pointed out that, with the deepening of China's socialist revolution, the issue of the proletarian cultural revolution would inevitably come to the forefront. The proletarian revolution demands the complete destruction of the old decadent culture of the capitalist and feudal classes and the creation of a brand new socialist culture which serves proletarian politics and the workers, peasants and soldiers. The overthrown capitalist class and other exploiting classes, however, are stubbornly entrenched in ideological and cultural positions and spread the cultural viruses of capitalism and feudalism so as to serve bourgeois politics, pave the way for the restoration of capitalism and prepare public opinion for subversion of the proletarian state power. As a result, class struggle in the ideological and cultural fields between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie has become inevitable, and at times is even very sharp.

Shortly after the socialist transformation of the ownership of the means of production was basically completed in 1956, the bourgeois Rightists mounted attacks in 1957, and a sharp class struggle took place.

These attacks were repulsed by the Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party.

Between 1959 and 1962, anti-China waves were stirred up by the imperialists and modern revisionists who took advantage of the temporary difficulties resulting from sabotage by the Khrushchov revisionists and serious natural calamities in China. In co-ordination with the imperialists and modern revisionists, the reactionary bourgeois forces within the country availed themselves of this opportunity to unleash another series of frantic attacks against the proletariat. The representatives of the bourgeoisie entrenched in academic, educational, journalistic, literary and art, publishing and other cultural fields unleashed frenzied attacks on the dictatorship of the proletariat, the socialist system, and leadership by the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

These anti-Party and anti-socialist criminal activities of the bourgeoisie aroused strong indignation among the masses of workers, peasants and soldiers, revolutionary cadres and revolutionary intellectuals. The revolutionary masses have waged uninterrupted struggle against them. The signal for the counter-offensive in full force by the proletariat against the reactionary bourgeoisie was given by Yao Wen-yuan's article "On the New Historical Drama *Hai Jui Dismissed from Office*" carried by the Shanghai *Wen Hui Daily* on November 10 last year, which raised the curtain on the current upsurge of the great cultural revolution.

Between publication of Yao Wen-yuan's article last November and April of this year, the revolution revolved mainly around criticism and exposure of Wu Han's anti-Party and anti-socialist crimes. Wu Han served U.S. imperialism as a cultural servant. He was personally groomed by the reactionary politician Hu Shih and consistently worshipped the U.S. and was pro-Chiang Kai-shek and anti-Communist. He wormed his way into the revolutionary ranks on the eve of the country's liberation and later became Vice-Mayor of Peking. Posing as a revolutionary cadre while engaged in counter-revolutionary dealings, Wu Han is in fact a lackey of U.S. imperialism.

Starting in 1959, Wu Han wrote a series of reactionary articles and drama to attack the Communist Party, the socialist system and the dictatorship of the proletariat. In his drama and his articles on Hai Jui, he used the story of the dismissal from office 400 years ago in the Ming Dynasty of this Chinese feudal bureaucrat to distort history, satirize the present and complain about the "injustice" done to the anti-Party and anti-socialist Right opportunists who were "dismissed" from office by the Chinese people in 1959, and to encourage them to stage a come-back.

Yao Wen-yuan's article of last November and "The Reactionary Nature of 'Hai Jui Scolds the Emperor' and *Hai Jui Dismissed from Office*" written by Chi Pen-yu and "Hai Jui Scolds the Emperor and *Hai Jui Dismissed from Office* Are Two Big Poisonous Weeds Against the Party and Socialism" by Kuan Feng and Lin Chieh,

both published early in April this year, exposed Wu Han's reactionary political character, thus bringing the struggle in criticizing Wu Han to the key issue of the class struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie and between the road of socialism and the road of capitalism. Numerous articles were also published by most newspapers and periodicals in the country, unfolding further criticism of Wu Han. The history of Wu Han's anti-Communist and anti-popular true colours as a servant of U.S. imperialism has thus been more clearly revealed.

The secrets of the Three-Family Village were unmasked more fully from the beginning to the end of May this year. The Three-Family Village represents an anti-Party and anti-socialist clique which includes Teng To, Wu Han and Liao Mo-sha. Teng To is a renegade who insinuated himself into the Party once again and is a Rightist who was not caught but slipped through in 1957. Over the last few years, he usurped the post of member of the Secretariat of the Peking Municipal Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. Liao Mo-sha is a bourgeois representative who wormed his way into the Party and usurped the post of Director of the United Front Department of the Municipal Party Committee over the last few years. Using as their instruments the fortnightly *Frontline*, the *Peking Daily* and the *Peking Evening News*, sponsored by the Municipal Party Committee, Teng To, Wu Han and Liao Mo-sha wrote large numbers of miscellaneous articles starting in 1959, releasing a whole series of anti-Party and anti-socialist poisonous arrows to prepare public opinion for the restoration of capitalism.

On May 8 this year, the *Liberation Army Daily* published "Open Fire at the Black Anti-Party and Anti-Socialist Line!" by Kao Chu and the *Kwangming Daily* brought out "Heighten Our Vigilance and Distinguish the True from the False" by Ho Ming, exposing the plot of *Frontline* and the *Peking Daily* to make a bogus criticism of Teng To's anti-Party and anti-socialist crimes while in fact covering them up and to wage a bogus struggle against him while in fact shielding him. At the same time, the two papers mentioned above published material under the title "Teng To's *Evening Chats at Yenshan Is Anti-Party and Anti-Socialist Double-Talk.*"

The *Liberation Daily* and the *Wen Hui Daily* in Shanghai on May 10 published "On 'Three-Family Village'" by Yao Wen-yuan (see *Peking Review*, No. 22 — P.R. Ed.), which made a systematic and comprehensive exposure and criticism of the sinister Three-Family Village gang, dealing it vital blows. The article pointed out: "The course of events from the criticism of *Hai Jui Dismissed from Office* to that of Three-Family Village has been one of stirring class struggle. It is a great revolution in the political, ideological and cultural fields. Faced with so arduous and militant a task, we must dare to make revolution." It said: "All those who oppose Mao Tse-tung's thought, obstruct the advance of the socialist revolution, or are hostile to the interests

of the revolutionary people of China and the world should be exposed, criticized and knocked down, whether they are 'masters' or 'authorities,' a Three-Family or a Four-Family Village, and no matter how famous they are, what influential positions they hold, by whom they are directed or supported, or how numerous their flatterers are."

On May 11, the magazine *Hongqi* (Red Flag) printed the article "On the Bourgeois Stand of *Frontline* and the *Peking Daily*" by Chi Pen-yu, which revealed that these two publications and the *Peking Evening News* themselves for a long time had been instruments of Teng To, Wu Han and Liao Mo-sha in their frantic attacks on the Party and socialism.

Renmin Ribao (People's Daily) on May 14 printed "Expose Teng To's Anti-Party and Anti-Socialist Features" by Lin Chieh; it pointed out that Teng To and company had followed a black anti-Party and anti-socialist line and actively worked for the restoration of capitalism.

When the Three-Family Village gangster inn was exposed, the masses of workers, peasants and soldiers, revolutionary cadres and revolutionary intellectuals began holding discussions and writing articles indignantly condemning the criminal activities of the handful of anti-Party and anti-socialist elements.

Since early June this year, it has been further revealed that the sinister Three-Family Village gang had its roots in the former Peking Municipal Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

Starting on June 1, the *People's Daily* published a series of editorials entitled "Sweep Away All Monsters." "A Great Revolution That Touches the People to Their Very Souls," "Capture the Positions in the Field of Historical Studies Seized by the Bourgeoisie," "Tear Aside the Bourgeois Mask of 'Liberty, Equality and Fraternity,'" "To Be Proletarian Revolutionaries or Bourgeois Royalists?" (see *Peking Review*, Nos. 22-25 — P.R. Ed.) and others. These editorials analysed the current situation in the great cultural revolution, refuted the absurd views of the reactionary bourgeoisie to resist the proletarian cultural revolution and put forward the fighting tasks of developing the great cultural revolution even more profoundly.

The editorial entitled "Sweep Away All Monsters" pointed out that this great proletarian cultural revolution is aimed at exposing thoroughly the black anti-Party and anti-socialist line that runs through all Three-Family Villages, big and small, and at "demolishing all the old ideology and culture and all the old customs and habits, which, fostered by the exploiting classes, have poisoned the minds of the people for thousands of years, and creating and fostering among the masses an entirely new ideology and culture and entirely new customs and habits — those of the proletariat."

A poster in big characters written by Nieh Yuan-tzu and 6 others at Peking University was broadcast on

June 1, exposing the plot of members of the sinister Three-Family Village gang who tried to put up a last-ditch fight through their control at the university.

In a commentator's article entitled "Hail the Big-Character Poster at Peking University," the *People's Daily* on June 2 called on the proletarian revolutionaries to rise up in a thoroughgoing revolution and crush all the sinister anti-Party and anti-socialist gangs and organizations and their discipline completely.

Waving the black flag of "liberty, equality and fraternity," members of the sinister anti-Party and anti-socialist gangs are countering the line for the proletarian cultural revolution of the Central Committee of the Party headed by Chairman Mao Tse-tung. In the editorial entitled "Tear Aside the Bourgeois Mask of 'Liberty, Equality and Fraternity,'" the *People's Daily* made a systematic criticism of the deceptive, hypocritical and reactionary nature of this bourgeois slogan and revealed the real purpose of these elements of the sinister gangs which is to oppose the dictatorship of the proletariat and to carry out the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie.

Two items of news were released on June 3: the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party decided to reorganize the Peking Municipal Committee of the Party and appointed new secretaries; and the new Peking Municipal Committee decided to reorganize the Party Committee of Peking University. In its editorial the following day entitled "New Victory for Mao Tse-tung's Thought" (see *Peking Review*, No. 24 — P.R. Ed.), the *People's Daily* pointed out that the roots of the counter-revolutionary Three-Family Village clique were in the former Peking Municipal Committee of the Party. Shot through with a black anti-Party and anti-socialist line, it was not an instrument of the proletariat to exercise dictatorship over the bourgeoisie but an instrument of the bourgeoisie to exercise dictatorship over the proletariat. The decision of the Central Committee of the Party to reorganize the Peking Municipal Committee was an historic victory in China's great proletarian cultural revolution, a new victory for the great thought of Mao Tse-tung.

The masses of workers, peasants and soldiers, revolutionary cadres and revolutionary intellectuals in Peking and all other parts of the country, full of revolutionary enthusiasm, joy and inspiration, have warmly supported the decision of the Central Committee of the Party to reorganize the Peking Municipal Committee and warmly hailed this new victory.

At present, this great proletarian cultural revolution is, with the power of a thunderbolt, becoming ever more profound, and it is developing with the momentum of an avalanche, pounding with great power to smash all the decadent ideological and cultural positions still in the hands of the bourgeoisie and the feudal remnant forces and sweeping away the reactionary ideological and decadent cultural influences of imperialism.

This great proletarian cultural revolution is taking place under the direct leadership of the Central Committee of the Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung. Four brilliant works of Chairman Mao — "On New Democracy," "Talks at the Yen-an Forum on Literature and Art," "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People" and "Speech at the Chinese Communist Party's National Conference on Propaganda Work" — are an important part of the great Mao Tse-tung's thought, which represents the summit of the contemporary Marxist-Leninist world outlook and theories of literature and art and is the supreme guide for China's great cultural revolution.

The masses of workers, peasants and soldiers and revolutionary cadres, who are armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, have become the main force in storming and shattering the old bourgeois culture. Large numbers of excellent articles written by workers, peasants, students and cadres have appeared in the press in all parts of the country. In this struggle, the masses of workers, peasants and soldiers have displayed to the full their talent and wisdom and a younger generation of Marxist-Leninists is growing up. Gone for ever is the historical period in which culture was monopolized by bourgeois "scholars," "specialists" and "authorities."

Revolutionary proletarian culture is growing rapidly in the struggle to overthrow bourgeois culture. China's ancient Peking opera, the most stubborn of strongholds, was taken by storm in the past few years with the emergence of Peking operas on contemporary revolutionary themes like *Red Lantern*, *Shachiapang*, *Taking the Bandits' Stronghold* and *Raid on the White Tiger Regiment*. Foreign classical art forms like the ballet, symphonic music and sculpture have undergone a revolutionary transformation with the emergence of the ballet *Red Detachment of Women*, the symphony *Shachiapang* and the sculptures *Rent Collection Courtyard*, etc. These fine works of art have been approved by the masses of workers, peasants and soldiers, and enthusiastically acclaimed by Chinese and foreign audiences. With the development in depth of the great proletarian cultural revolution, all departments in the cultural field of our country will inevitably appear in an entirely new light, bringing forth an increasing number of works that are excellent both in ideological content and artistic form, and an increasing number of highly scientific and revolutionary theses.

The great proletarian cultural revolution is in essence aimed at safeguarding the dictatorship of the proletariat. Imperialism and modern revisionism seek to subvert the political power of the proletariat both by force of arms and by cultural infiltration and ideological poisoning. Every counter-revolutionary restoration starts in the realm of ideology so as to mould public opinion. This is what happened in the usurpation of the leadership of the Soviet Party and state by the Khrushchov revisionist group and in the 1956 Hungarian counter-revolutionary riots. The great victory of our great cultural revolution is also a great victory in

chopping off the claws of imperialism, digging out the roots of revisionism and preventing a capitalist restoration.

All the revolutionary peoples of the world are watching with great attention and warmly acclaiming the great victory of our great cultural revolution. However, a small handful of terror-stricken imperialists, modern revisionists and reactionaries of various countries are babbling about it.

Some reactionaries gloatingly take a malicious delight in this, as if the rule of the proletariat in China had hit some snag and they could profit by it. The illusions of these "lord-masters" are soon smashed to smithereens by facts. By sweeping away monsters of all kinds, we are digging out the social foundation of imperialism and modern revisionism within our country. The political power of the proletariat is now firmer than ever.

Some reactionaries slanderously allege that we are "destroying culture." Well, we want not only to destroy but to eradicate the decadent culture of imperialism and modern revisionism. Only by destroying and eradicating such things is it possible really to draw benefit from the fine culture created in the course of history and to develop the new culture of the proletariat to the full.

Some reactionaries vilify us by saying that the spearhead of our struggle is "directed against all intellectuals." This is sheer nonsense. The spearhead of our great proletarian cultural revolution is directed against a small handful of anti-Communist villains who have donned the cloak of communism and a small handful of anti-Party, anti-socialist and counter-revolutionary bourgeois intellectuals. The policy of the Communist Party towards the mass of intellectuals coming from the old society is one of uniting with, educating and remoulding them. The ranks of the proletarian intellectuals are growing with each passing day in the great cultural revolution.

An excellent situation prevails throughout China, with an all-round rise in the national economy and a steady, healthy development of the upsurge in economic construction. Through the great cultural revolution, Mao Tse-tung's thought has taken deeper root in people's minds, the revolutionary spirit of the masses of the people has been brought into full play and the leadership of the Party and the dictatorship of the proletariat have been consolidated and strengthened. This great cultural revolution will ensure the triumphant advance of the Chinese people along the road of socialism and communism.

The unprecedented great revolutionary change now taking place in China, which accounts for a quarter of the world's population, will inevitably have an immeasurably profound world-wide bearing on the history of mankind.

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