

LABOR MUST STAND ON THE FRONT RANKS OF GREAT PROLETARIAN  
CULTURAL REVOLUTION

[Following is a translation of an article by Li P'ing (0500  
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With a mountain-moving, sea-upturning force, our country's great proletarian cultural revolution is spreading to town and countryside all over the nation. Revolutionary workers, peasants, students, intellectuals, and office cadres are uniting together for a general counter-offensive on the bourgeois reactionary line.

The workers and the peasants are the mainstay forces for the great proletarian cultural revolution. The model persons on the industrial front, the agricultural front, and the finance and trade front should stand on the front ranks of the great proletarian cultural revolution.

Chairman Mao said: MODEL PERSONS HAVE THREE GOOD POINTS AND PLAY THREE USEFUL ROLES: THE ROLE OF A PIONEER, THE ROLE OF A HARD CORE, AND THE ROLE OF A BRIDGE.

In the past, in class struggle, production struggle, and scientific experiment -- the three great revolutionary movements, the model persons on the industrial front, the agricultural front, and the finance and trade front listened to Chairman Mao's words, gave prominence to politics, and made tremendous contributions.

Since the springing up of the great proletarian cultural revolution, many pioneers who dare to carry out revolution and revolt have emerged from among the model persons. They firmly side with the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao, break through successive difficulties, refuse to be won over by the other side, refuse to succumb to the temptation of benefit, defy lies and slanders, defy threats and persecution, struggle firmly against the small handful of intra-Party power holders who

follow the capitalist road, and pour heavy fire on the bourgeois reactionary line. At the same time, in the attitude of masters, in an attitude of high degree responsibility to the Party and the state, they sweep all difficulties away and lead the masses to stick to their productive posts and carry out productive tasks very successfully. They are pioneers and hard cores in "attending to revolution, promoting production." They have won the praises of the revolutionary masses. They deserve to be called models nursed by the thought of Mao Tse-tung.

"You may take the lead in a thousand or even ten thousand things. What is the most important is that you take the lead in revolution." The great proletarian cultural revolution must be carried out well before it can be insured that our country will not change its color, before the iron and steel, petroleum, cloth, grain, and cotton which we produce can belong to the people and serve them. Otherwise, with a revisionist, counter-revolutionary comeback, the laboring people will suffer for a second time. Then, even though there may be plenty of iron and steel and even though the cloth may be good, what good will they do to the laboring people? For this reason, we must positively respond to Chairman Mao's great appeal: "YOU MUST SHOW CONCERN OVER MAJOR AFFAIRS OF STATE AND CARRY THE GREAT PROLETARIAN CULTURAL REVOLUTION TO THE END!" and actively plunge ourselves into the struggle; we must not become completely absorbed with production and "attend to grain, cotton, and oil without caring who are our enemies, who are our men, and who are our friends."

Model persons are representatives of the masses and advanced banners. They have prestige and influence with the masses. Their rising up in revolt has been warmly welcomed by the broad revolutionary masses and is a great encouragement and impetus for the revolutionary struggles of the masses.

Precisely for this reason, the small handful of intra-Party power holders who follow the capitalist road and the very small number die-hards who adhere to the bourgeois reactionary line are very afraid that the model persons will rise up in revolt against them. They are trying their best to win over the model persons to their side so that they may take advantage of their prestige and influence with the masses for purposes of hoodwinking the masses and suppressing the revolution.

Some power holders who follow the capitalist road take credit for things they themselves have not done. They accredit to themselves what has been accredited to the model persons, and they try to protect themselves with the infinite love which the model persons have for the Party and Chairman Mao. The proletarian model persons have emerged from mass struggles, and they have grown up while creatively studying and applying Chairman Mao's writings. In the final analysis, they are the fruits nursed by the thought of Mao Tse-tung. They have not been "fostered" or "raised" by any responsible person. Precisely because they infinitely love the Party and Chairman Mao, our model persons must struggle all the more firmly against and overthrow the small handful of intra-Party power holders who follow the capitalist road, and thoroughly criticize the bourgeois reactionary line.

The small handful of intra-Party power holders who follow the capitalist road, and the very few die-hards who adhere to the bourgeois reactionary line, also use the honor of a labor model as a means of threat and persuasion. If labor models have selfish and impure ideas about the question of honor and do not correct them, they will become hesitant, will be tricked, or will even embark on the wrong road in the great proletarian cultural revolution.

To carry the great proletarian cultural revolution to the end and let our country retain its color of brilliant red forever is the greatest honor of the entire Party and all the people in the nation. Proletarian model persons should consider the interests of the revolution as the important thing, and serve the revolution. They should never consider personal losses or gains. One labor model has put it well, "If we are afraid that we may cease to be labor models, and if consequently we dare not rise up in struggle, then we don't deserve to be labor models."

The small handful of intra-Party power holders who follow the capitalist road and the very few die-hards who cling to the bourgeois reactionary line, also make use of the words "You must consider your station" as a means of stopping the revolutionary actions of model persons, in a vain attempt to make them maintain so-called neutrality and refrain from making statements and showing their attitudes. Actually, the station of the proletarian model persons lies in their being examples for the masses and takers of the lead in revolution. They should observe a clear standard of right or wrong and show a strong love or hatred. In intense class struggle, there is no room for such a thing as neutrality. Fence-sitting won't do. Impartiality is false. Some advanced persons have put it well, "Neutrality in itself means protection." Despite one's subjective wish, "neutrality" objectively has the effect of protecting the small handful of intra-Party power holders who follow the capitalist road and protecting the bourgeois reactionary line. Only standing on the front ranks of the great proletarian cultural revolution is the most suited to the "station" of the model persons. Thus, they will keep their traits as revolutionaries.

Some labor models are afraid of mistakes and afraid of losing their honor. For this reason, they appear hesitant and desirous to wait and see in the storm of the great proletarian cultural revolution, and lack the determination and courage needed for revolutionary rebellion. Actually, not daring to carry out revolution or revolt is a mistake in itself already. Proletarian model persons must not make such a mistake. They should resolutely plunge themselves into the furnace of the great proletarian cultural revolution and subject themselves to tempering.

Some labor models, hoodwinked and made use of by the small handful of intra-Party power holders who follow the capitalist road and the very few die-hards who cling to the bourgeois reactionary line, have done some wrong things. These people are still good comrades if they admit and

correct their mistakes, come over and side with the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao, and actively take part in revolutionary struggle. As for the very few false labor models fostered or bought by the intra-Party power holders who follow the capitalist road, they are bound to have their ugly features as scabs exposed and themselves rejected and spat upon by the masses in the great cultural revolution. Ridding the ranks of labor models of such persons is a very good thing.

To every person, the great proletarian cultural revolution is a big test. In this great revolution, labor models must subject themselves to test and improve themselves. Chairman Mao has called upon us to "attend to revolution, promote revolution." Labor models must take up these two burdens -- revolution and production. They must be pace-setters on the production front and pioneers in the great cultural revolution. Only thus can they deserve to be called labor models of the Mao Tse-tung era.

"GREAT MEN ARE TO BE FOUND TODAY." Proletarian labor models should exert effort to study and apply Chairman Mao's writings creatively, follow Chairman Mao closely and carry out revolution, advance courageously in the big tempest of class struggle, and make greater contributions to the Party and the people.

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