

***LET US THOROUGHLY TRANSFORM CADRES INTO
REVOLUTIONARIES BY INTENSIFYING PARTY LIFE***

Talk to the Officials of the Organizational Leadership Department
and the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the Central
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Today one of the important tasks facing Party organizations is to thoroughly transform cadres into revolutionaries so that they all fulfil their responsibility and role as leadership personnel in the revolution.

The Fifth Congress of our Party set forth a very important task of further consolidating and developing the socialist system and accelerating the complete victory of socialism by drawing on the success that has already been achieved in socialist construction. For the complete victory of socialism to be hastened, a new revolutionary upsurge should be effected on all fronts of socialist construction, including economic construction and the development of culture. Whether or not a revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction is brought about by forcefully organizing and mobilizing Party members and working people for the implementation of the decision of the Fifth Party Congress depends on whether or not the cadres work with a revolutionary fighting and working spirit. Cadres are the hard core of our Party force and lead the revolution. Party leadership of the revolution and construction is realized through cadres. It is only when the cadres are fully conscious of the importance of their duties and fight devotedly by displaying burning enthusiasm, a strong will and a high sense of loyalty to the Party and leader, that they will be able to vigorously mobilize the masses for the revolutionary struggle and for the work of construction, and successfully carry out the difficult and complicated tasks of the socialist construction incumbent upon us.

The great leader, in his report to the Fifth Party Congress, set a task of pushing ahead a forceful struggle for the revolutionization of all members of society and their assimilation to the working class. In building socialism and communism it is important to occupy the material fortress by efficient economic construction, but what is more important is to occupy the ideological fortress by transforming people into revolutionaries and assimilating them to the working class. Only when the revolutionary transformation of all the working people and their assimilation to the working class are stepped up forcefully is it possible to succeed in occupying not only the ideological fortress but also the material fortress of communism. In order to transform the entire society on revolutionary and working-class patterns, the cadres should be transformed into revolutionaries before anyone else. We have formed the cadre ranks with officials who are able and

intensely loyal to the Party and revolution. This is, however, only an initial success and does not mean that Party organizations need not channel their efforts into the revolutionary transformation of cadres. Even though the cadre ranks are made up of the best persons, cadres may become degenerate and lag behind ideologically unless they are educated constantly to become revolutionaries. Just as iron becomes rusty and useless if left outside unattended, so even an excellent man of hard-working habits may be badly affected by unsound ideas, such as capitalism, revisionism and subservience to great powers, if he is not given revolutionary education and training. Today there are many instances of officials acting for the sake of expediency instead of putting their shoulders to the wheel to implement Party policy, wavering before small difficulties and being bureaucratic while putting on unnecessary airs. These are all shortcomings resulting from the failure to transform themselves along revolutionary lines. If a vigorous struggle is not launched to make the cadres revolutionaries, officials may continually reveal various shortcomings in and out of work, which may degrade cadres and ultimately hinder socialist construction.

Next year we will launch a new campaign to carry out the Six-Year Plan, upholding the decision of the Fifth Party Congress. The political enthusiasm and spirits of the Party members and working people are now very high. In order to forcefully organize and mobilize the masses for the struggle to attain the high goals of the Six-Year Plan, which is important in hastening the complete victory of socialism, and thus bring about new innovations in all branches of the national economy, it is necessary to make a change in the senior officials' working spirit and work attitudes.

Party organizations must understand clearly the importance and significance of the revolutionary transformation of cadres and put a great effort into the work of educating and training officials in a revolutionary way.

The first task in the revolutionary transformation of cadres is to instill loyalty to the Party and revolution in them as a part of their own conviction.

Revolutionary conviction is an ideological source of an unbreakable fighting spirit to brave any difficulty and trials that may stand in one's way in the revolutionary struggle. A man with firm convictions carries out his revolutionary task by unwaveringly overcoming hardships in any kind of difficult, complicated situation. But a man who is not firm in his convictions will hesitate and waver before even a small difficulty, scared of it, and in the long run cannot uphold his honour as a revolutionary.

Loyalty to the Party and the leader is the very heart of the revolutionary spirit of a communist revolutionary. Only those who cherish loyalty to the Party and the leader as a firm conviction and sincerely uphold the leadership of the Party and the leader, can be true revolutionaries. Currently officials are talking much about loyalty, but their practical work shows that their loyalty to the Party and the leader is not a true conviction. Some officials do not think or

act solely according to the instructions of the great leader and Party policies; using one excuse or other, they fail to implement thoroughly the revolutionary tasks entrusted by the Party. This indicates that their loyalty to the Party and the leader has not become their conviction.

When we are firmly convinced that victory is always assured as long as we are under the wise leadership of the great leader and as long as we act according to his instructions, we can feel stronger and more encouraged in our work, and carry out any difficult task at one go. This is eloquently proved by the historical experience of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. They were convinced that by holding the great leader in high esteem and championing and implementing his Juche-oriented revolutionary lines they could liberate the fatherland and emerge victorious in the Korean revolution. Because of this conviction and because of their sole belief in him, the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters were able to travel without vacillation the arduous revolutionary road under his leadership and unhesitatingly dedicate their youth and life to carrying out the revolutionary tasks set by him, even under the most difficult conditions requiring them to risk their lives. Our officials must follow the example of the loyalty which the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters kept as their conviction. They must work and live with one thought—to live every minute of their lives only for the leader and to always please the leader wherever they are and whatever they do. To a revolutionary, one worthwhile day spent with a warm heart devoted to the Party and the leader and the revolution is more valuable and ennobling than one hundred or one thousand days spent worthlessly.

Carrying out their revolutionary tasks responsibly with the attitude of masters is the revolutionary working spirit required from senior officials.

In our society, in which the people are the masters of the state and society, all the work the officials do is the revolutionary work for the happiness of the people and for the prosperity of the country. Therefore, the officials of the Party bodies, state organs and economic and cultural institutions must know that they are all revolutionaries serving the people, and carry out their revolutionary tasks responsibly with devotion, whether they are seen to do so by anyone or not. Many officials, however, are not implementing their revolutionary tasks in a responsible manner as masters; they are working from expediency, reading people's faces. Some of the senior administrative and economic officials, if defects are found in their work, attempt to lay the blame at somebody else's door instead of finding the cause in themselves and trying to rectify these defects as soon as possible; they do not give definite answers to the questions raised by their subordinates, delaying their solution, or merely telling them to deal with the problem their own way, and acting in a dubious way. These are expressions of sheer self-protection. Self-protection is taboo for the revolutionaries who have taken to the road of struggle with a determination to devote their all to the Party and the

revolution. Whether you boldly organize work and push ahead with it on your own responsibility, or whether you work lethargically from expediency only for your self-protection, these are not merely matters related to your working style, but matters of standpoint in deciding whether you are ready to sacrifice yourselves for the revolution or not. A man who works from expediency, placing self-protection above his duty, cannot be called a revolutionary.

One may reveal shortcomings in one's work, or fail temporarily. Officials must commit themselves to work with an unwavering determination to carry out the revolutionary tasks entrusted to them by the Party without fail, even though they may be criticized or called to account for mistakes they might make in the course of work. A man who reads others' faces and is tricky with his work only for his self-protection, afraid of taking responsibility for his work under such peaceful conditions as today, is likely to betray the revolution when faced with difficulty and trial in the future. Party organizations must not wink at the tendencies of self-protection and expediency evident among officials, regarding them as tolerable; they must take issue with them in time so as to overcome them thoroughly.

It is an important trait in a revolutionary to carry out his revolutionary tasks without fail by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, fortitude and strong will.

Some officials are attempting to do work in a most easy-going manner and live a comfortable life, always complaining of conditions, instead of racking their brains to find ways to break through the difficulties and hardships arising in the course of their work. This tendency is shown by the fact that officials of some units asked for the adjustment of the campaign plan and the objective of struggle they themselves had formulated on the excuse that materials were in short supply and for various other reasons. They did this at a time when the whole country was bubbling over with eagerness to overfulfil the Seven-Year Plan and the plan of this year before the Fifth Party Congress.

To flinch from problems instead of facing them is defeatism. If officials are steeped in defeatism and waver and fall back in the face of difficulties, they cannot carry out the revolution. A revolution is a difficult and complex undertaking which requires an arduous struggle, and various problems and trials are always incidental to the revolutionary struggle. In order for the senior officials to be genuine revolutionaries they must acquire the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and indefatigable fortitude with which to push their way through obstacles for themselves, never flinching or breaking down along the way.

The cadres must possess the knack of educating and leading the masses with their own personal example. An example set by senior officials is more influential and appealing than hundreds of words, and thus encourages the masses to great exploits and innovations. If they take the lead in doing difficult work and commit themselves to finding solutions to knotty problems in order to implement Party policy, officials can carry out all difficult revolutionary tasks

successfully. Experience shows that where senior officials stand in the vanguard of the masses and set an example, innovations take place, and that otherwise their work stagnates and they simply mark time.

In the past the commanders of the anti-Japanese guerrilla army used to stand in the forefront when attacking the enemy, and bring up the rear when retreating, and were the first to plunge into danger. Following the example set by their commanders, the anti-Japanese guerrillas displayed unparalleled courage and a self-sacrificing spirit and always emerged victorious in every battle. The place of the past commanders of the anti-Japanese guerrilla army must be taken by our senior officials in socialist construction today. The senior officials must go out to factories, farm villages and construction sites to direct the production campaign, mix with the masses and find problems and solve them, rather than merely issuing instructions and calling for the display of the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude while they themselves are ensconced in their offices.

For the revolutionary transformation of the cadres it is essential for Party organizations to decisively intensify their guidance of the cadres' Party life.

Various methods can be applied to the revolutionary education and training of people. Labouring life, too, makes an important contribution to the revolutionary transformation of people. Officials can go out to factories or construction sites and work and live among the working class, thus learning the revolutionary spirit and organization of the working class and fostering a strong will to overcome hardships. The life of labour, however, cannot be the major way of revolutionary transformation for officials. The work of revolutionary transformation of people is a work of ideological transformation aimed at completely eliminating the remnants of old society in the sphere of ideological consciousness and equipping the people with the communist revolutionary spirit. The remnants of outmoded ideology are too conservative to be rooted out completely by labouring for some time. Moreover, cadres cannot be sent to labour at the production sites too often. The best way to transform cadres into revolutionaries is to educate and train them regularly through revolutionary organizational life. Organizational life is a mode of political life which agrees with the intrinsic nature of collectivism; it is a school for revolutionary training. Cadres all belong to a Party organization, lead a regular political life and are educated ideologically and trained politically through their life in the organization. The intensification of Party life for cadres is a sure guarantee of their steady revolutionary transformation.

What is most important in stepping up the Party life of cadres is to encourage them to be a part of it voluntarily with a correct viewpoint of Party organizations. The Party organization is a political protector that ensures political integrity for the Party members and leads them to develop this integrity to the fullest. No one can maintain one's political integrity or grow into a revolutionary separated from the organization. All cadres must be stimulated to value most dearly the

Party organization as the parent body of their political integrity, work in strict reliance on it and participate in Party life sincerely and willingly.

In order to make cadres revolutionaries, ideological education and ideological struggle must be launched in a correct combination. Ideological consciousness of people cannot be reformed by administrative orders or coercive methods. To attempt to reform ideological consciousness in an administrative way is about as effective as firing a gun at a cloud. The work of transforming a man into a revolutionary by means of remoulding his ideological consciousness can be successful only through ideological education and struggle to eliminate the remnants of outmoded ideas and equip him with a new, communist revolutionary spirit.

We must tighten study discipline and establish a revolutionary spirit of learning among cadres. From the earliest period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle on, the leader has instructed that study is the first and foremost task of a revolutionary. A revolutionary must always regard it as his or her foremost duty to study and must do it regularly. Today, senior officials of ministries and central organs and many other cadres are not studying hard on this or that excuse. But unless they study they cannot acquire a clear revolutionary outlook on the world or a sharp political insight, nor can they remain loyal to the revolution. No matter how determined they might be to be loyal to the Party, officials will not be able to champion and implement Party lines and policies if they are not equipped with its revolutionary ideas and theories or do not understand its policies. In the past no small number of officials failed to see through the undesirable elements who were spreading bourgeois, revisionist and feudal-Confucian ideas. They followed these false prophets blindly, committing a gross mistake because they were not armed with the revolutionary ideas of the great leader and were not clearly informed of the Party lines and policies.

Everyone must study, no matter who they are—senior or junior officials, graduates or non-graduates from cadre-training courses or universities. Being cadres, they cannot claim that they have a clear revolutionary outlook on the world and are versed in Party policy. As our revolution continues to advance, officials may lag behind the developing reality and become stragglers in the revolution unless they study hard. Party organizations must make stronger study demands on cadres and ensure that all officials follow the revolutionary ideas and theories of the leader with conviction, as well as firmly acquiring the communist revolutionary spirit.

The ideological struggle must be launched vigorously, along with ideological education. A powerful ideological struggle among the cadres will enable them to increase their political awareness, harden themselves and perfect their ideological and spiritual qualities as revolutionaries. To launch an ideological struggle by means of criticism and to train people in the furnace of ideological struggle is a policy consistently maintained by our Party in the revolutionary transformation of people. Without a strong ideological struggle by

means of criticism, it is impossible to eliminate the remnants of obsolete ideas and rectify the defects the moment they are revealed in life and work. In a quiet place where there is no criticism and ideological struggle, people may become ideologically lax; because of this, all sorts of negative elements may grow. People are improved and trained ideologically through their participation in organizational life, criticizing themselves and others, being criticized by others, or seeing others being criticized. For cadres and Party members, criticism is a specially effective medicine for curing their ideological malaise and enabling them to strengthen their political integrity.

At present a considerable number of cadres lack a correct critical viewpoint, and Party organizations are not dealing with criticism among cadres along Party principles either. Some Party organizations still refrain from criticizing cadres while there is still time to influence them, reading their faces and giving too much consideration to their reputation. They take issue with them about their shortcomings only when the defects have become serious. Therefore, some officials shun or are afraid of criticism. They are not willing to plunge into the furnace of ideological struggle for their training and revolutionary transformation.

Cadres should be criticized sharply and promptly without hesitation. They can correct their mistakes quickly if they are given immediate, principled and strong criticism as soon as they have made a mistake. Such criticism will have a good effect on other people too. In Party life stronger demands must be made on cadres than on ordinary Party members. They must be criticized more sharply than ordinary Party members for mistakes of the same type. This shows greater trust in and solicitude for cadres.

It is important to intensify criticism from below by fully displaying inner-Party democracy. Official ranks may be higher or lower, but there should be no senior or junior Party members in Party life. Party members are all bound by the same duty, as stipulated by the Rules, and have the right to criticize anyone for their faults. Criticism from below is an effective way of quickly rectifying the faults of cadres by relying on the collective strength of Party members. Party organizations must not tolerate dual discipline in Party life; they must ensure a full display of democracy within the Party, so that cadres correct their mistakes promptly with the comradely help of their fellow Party members.

Cadres must not be dispirited or displeased by criticism, nor attempt to take revenge upon the person who has criticized them. The attitude of one who has been criticized shows whether or not he is refined and seasoned as a revolutionary and how much or little he is determined to correct his mistakes. A man who is dispirited or spiteful against the person who has criticized him, instead of accepting the criticism with an open heart and trying to correct his mistakes, can neither rectify his errors nor make himself a revolutionary. Party organizations must begin with educating all the officials to have a correct attitude towards criticism.

Training through revolutionary practice is an important means of revolutionary transformation for cadres. Through practical struggle to carry out their revolutionary tasks, officials undergo ideological training and acquire the qualifications and qualities of a revolutionary.

In guiding the Party life of cadres and Party members, some Party organizations pay more attention to how these people observe the organizational discipline and how they study than to how they perform their major revolutionary tasks. This is a mistake. The Party life of members is precisely the course of implementing the assignments given by the Party. Therefore, you cannot talk about Party life as being separate from how Party members carry out the major revolutionary tasks entrusted to them by the Party. The aim of intensifying Party life among cadres and members is to ensure that they train themselves politically and ideologically and implement their revolutionary tasks with credit. Party organizations must guide the Party life of cadres by putting stress on encouraging them to carry out their revolutionary tasks properly, and make their practical struggle to implement the revolutionary tasks the process of their revolutionary transformation, the process by which they grow into genuine revolutionaries who fight with total devotion for the Party and revolution.

Revolutionary practice is a good way of ideological transformation; it is also a means of testing people's ideology. How loyal officials are to the Party and how they have been revolutionized must not be judged by what they say, but by how they carry out their revolutionary tasks. These days some people speak vehemently and make resolutions about a good many things at Party meetings and other gatherings, but in practice they do not work hard to carry out their resolutions. They are happy-go-lucky, with no compunctions about failing to live up to their determination. Making a bombastic resolve and doing nothing to put it into effect is a double-dealing act of diplomatic play-acting towards the Party organization and of deceiving the masses with revolutionary phraseology. A man who acts in this manner cannot be regarded as loyal to the Party and the revolution. A man who, though taciturn and simple in airing his determination, acts as intended by the Party, makes every effort to implement Party policy, and carries out his pledge to the Party in any adversity, is indeed a man of strong Party spirit and intense loyalty to the Party and the revolution. Acting on one's words is a noble virtue and the basic quality of a revolutionary.

When judging officials' Party life, they must lay stress on how they have carried out their major revolutionary tasks; when launching criticism and an ideological struggle, too, the main target must be the defects and shortcomings revealed in the process of implementing their major revolutionary tasks.

In order to improve cadres' Party life, we must enhance the functions and role of basic Party organizations. A basic Party organization is the main unit of political life for Party members. Cadres and Party members, with no exception, lead their

organizational and ideological life in cells and primary Party organizations—the basic organizations of our Party—to which they belong. So whether or not cadres are transformed into revolutionaries through Party life depends, in the long run, on how the basic Party organizations guide the Party life of cadres.

Party organizations must give every official assignments regularly, sum up the results immediately and review Party life on a high political and ideological level, so that cadres participate in Party life zealously, as required by the Party Rules. In particular, the Party organizations of ministries and central organs must effectively guide the Party life of cadres. Since the senior officials of the ministries and central organs organize and direct the work of implementing the lines and policies of the Party on a nationwide scale, it is extremely important for these Party organizations to work properly with these officials. The Party organizations of central organs must direct their main effort to improving the guidance of the Party life of the senior officials at their units.

Party organizations must give effective guidance to the Party life of cadres, so as to train all of them into communist revolutionaries thoroughly equipped with a revolutionary outlook on the world, genuine revolutionaries who fight with total devotion for the Party and the leader.

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