

***ON IMPROVING THE WORK OF THE RADIO AND TELEVISION
BROADCASTING COMMITTEE***

Talk to the Chairman of the Radio and Television Broadcasting
Committee of the DPRK
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For our broadcasting system to fulfil its honourable mission to the Party and revolution with credit, the work of the Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee should be improved in accordance with the requirements of revolutionary development. To this end it is necessary, first of all, to rationalize its structure. A structure should be improved constantly as the revolution and construction develop in depth and the situation changes. Unless a structure is improved to suit the developing revolution and the increasingly diversified tasks, officials will make no progress in their work, shackled as they are to the old machinery. When a structure does not suit the actual conditions and is not conducive to the development of work, it should be boldly reformed. You should not hinder work by keeping the old machinery intact.

The staff of the Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee is larger than before, the scope of the work it does has broadened and the content of this work has become more profound. Therefore, the structure of the broadcasting committee should be reformed to accord with the new situation in order to improve broadcasting in general. I have studied the plan for reforming the structure worked out and submitted by the committee, and I find it reasonable. The structure should be reformed according to this plan.

While the structure of the committee is being rationalized, the role of its officials should be enhanced and a high sense of responsibility developed among them.

The main aspect of improving broadcasting in a revolutionary way is to increase the role and feeling of responsibility of the officials working for the broadcasting committee. The Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee should build up the ranks of broadcasting workers, establish the monolithic ideological system of the Party firmly among them and induce them to carry out with credit the tasks assigned to them by the Party.

You should work particularly well with journalists and announcers. The power of broadcasting depends on how the journalists write and how the announcers speak. Only when journalists and announcers work efficiently will broadcasts demonstrate their power.

Unfailing loyalty to the Party and the leader is the most important trait that must be displayed by broadcasting workers, who stand at the outposts of our Party's ideological front. It is only when journalists and announcers are pure and steadfast in ideology that our broadcasts can become our Party's authentic voice, breathe the same air as our

Party and reflect its true intentions.

As for the serious shortcomings revealed in broadcasting work before the 15th Plenary Meeting of the Fourth Party Central Committee, they show clearly how important it is to equip journalists, announcers and other broadcasting workers fully with the monolithic ideology of the Party. At that time, quite a few broadcasting workers had failed to arm themselves fully with this monolithic ideology and blindly followed directions given by iniquitous people who had wormed their way into the Party, with the result that they were drawn into a whirlpool of bourgeois and revisionist ideas. The broadcasting committee should never forget the serious lessons of the past and should work hard at all times to establish the monolithic ideological system of the Party firmly among journalists and announcers. This is the way for the committee to prepare all broadcasting workers to be staunch revolutionary fighters unfailingly loyal to the Party and the leader.

It is also necessary to raise the standard of journalists and announcers. Whenever I listen to a broadcast, I realize at once that their standard is low. At present low-grade programmes, devoid of any substance, are broadcast over the radio. Only high-grade articles and compilations that attain a depth of ideology should be broadcast. In this way you can ensure the authority of radio and television broadcasts, which serve as the mouthpieces of our Party and state. In order to raise the standard of radio broadcasts, the qualifications of radio journalists must be decisively improved.

In our country journalists serve the Party and the revolution through their writing. Those who do not or cannot write are not journalists. When they say that they will repay the trust of the Party with loyalty, yet fail to produce much good writing, it is empty talk. The trust and expectations the Party places on broadcasting journalists are very high. They should repay such trust and expectations by producing good writing. Those working for the Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee must be prepared to write immediately any type of article required by the Party. The committee should strengthen the ranks of journalists and ensure that they make efforts to acquire sharp political judgement and great writing ability so as to write well in various styles.

The standard of announcers should also be raised.

At present their speech is generally at a low level. Their expression should be firm and animated, yet, with a few exceptions, their delivery is devoid of spirit, featureless and weak in appeal and militancy. Announcers are failing to match their delivery to the content and form of the broadcast. When issuing a report, reading a general news item, extolling the virtues of the great leader, or giving an account of south Korean and international affairs, their manner of speaking should vary. At present, however, there is no difference.

In future you should see to it that journalists and announcers get into the habit of constantly improving their writing and speech.

In order to improve these, it is imperative to enhance the level and role of the senior officials of the broadcasting committee. It is only

when the officials in charge of compiling broadcasts have better political judgement and deal with writing better than journalists that they can direct them properly and exercise authority over them. The senior officials of the Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee should provide good working conditions for journalists and announcers and show proper appreciation for journalists who produce fine writing and announcers who are talented in their work. Broadcasters should display their loyalty to the Party and the leader in their broadcasts.

The Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee should take care of and appreciate those who write and broadcast well. Creative enthusiasm is now running high in the field of art and literature because excellent creative and artistic workers are duly appreciated and highly valued, and the work of revolutionizing artists and writers and assimilating them to the working class is being intensified. The broadcasting committee should also make strong demands on journalists and announcers and, at the same time, warmly encourage and inspire them to produce a large number of good programmes that contribute to the Party and revolution.

Next, I would like to speak about some problems on which you should concentrate in conducting propaganda through broadcasts. You should conduct effective propaganda on the revolutionary ideas of the great leader in your broadcasts.

The revolutionary ideas of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung are the correct guiding ideology of our times and a scientific, revolutionary ideology representing the future of communism. The profound truth and invincible vitality of his revolutionary ideas win the hearts of the world's revolutionary people, to say nothing of our own people.

Today the number of people who boundlessly revere the great leader and believe in his revolutionary ideas is increasing day by day. This is a basic trend of our times. Broadcasting, a powerful propaganda medium for our Party, should be an agent that guides and vigorously promotes this basic trend of our age. The Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee should regard its primary task to be the wide dissemination of the leader's great revolutionary ideas at home and abroad, and carry out this work more positively.

Our broadcasts should increase their authority by giving wide publicity to the revolutionary ideas of the great leader, the wisdom of his leadership and his noble virtues. They must not try to gain popularity by indulging the vulgar tastes of the people.

The Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee should organize effective work so that its broadcasts strongly inspire Party members and the working people to join the struggle to implement the Party's line and policies at every stage. Only when broadcasts respond to and propagate the Party's policies promptly can the whole country exhibit enthusiasm for carrying them out. Our broadcasts should always concentrate their power of propaganda on the problems that the Party tackles and tries to solve. You should stimulate propaganda and agitation for increased production and faster construction, doing

it in close connection with political propaganda so that your broadcasts help bring about successes in socialist economic construction.

Revolutionary and class education through broadcasting should be stepped up as well.

Intensifying such education among Party members and the working people is an important aspect of the ideological work of our Party.

Therefore, you should pay constant and close attention to such education when putting together programmes.

It is the steadfast will of our Party to reunify the country and win ultimate victory in our revolution under the banner of the Juche idea.

But the struggle to accomplish the noble cause of securing the victory of the Juche idea cannot always proceed smoothly. We

should wage a serious ideological struggle against every manner of reactionary ideological trend that checks our advance, and steadily deepen and strengthen the revolutionary education of the people.

With the progress of the revolution and the development of society

the role of broadcasts is enhanced and the demand of the popular masses for improved programming increases. The Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee should further improve and strengthen broadcasting work in accordance with the requirements of revolutionary development and the demand of the popular masses.

As the great leader has said, you should not spread your efforts over too many projects, but lay stress on improving editing and the quality of programming. You should also ensure that every broadcaster, deeply conscious of his important duty, works and lives in a militant manner, remaining alert and prepared at all times.

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