

EDITORIAL ON REFORM OF INTELLECTUALS  
Peiping, Kuang-min Jih-pao, 1 January 1967

Full text of an editorial entitled: "Intellectuals Should Integrate Themselves with the Worker-Peasant Masses to Carry the Great Cultural Revolution Through to the End."

The year 1967 comes amid the singing of the song of triumph of the great proletarian cultural revolution.

The great proletarian cultural revolution personally initiated and led by Chairman Mao has carried China's socialist revolution forward to a new stage. Under the guidance of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, the revolutionary masses have, within a short time and with an irresistible force, dragged out a handful of power holders in the party who are taking the capitalist road, criticized those reactionary bourgeois academic "authorities" and recaptured the positions in which these people had entrenched themselves for a long time.

Illuminated by the brilliance of the thought of Mao Tse-tung, the political life, the state of society and the thinking of the people are undergoing profound changes, and brilliant achievements have been made in industrial and agricultural production, science and technology, and all other work.

At present, the great proletarian cultural revolution is growing deeper and broader. The workers and peasants, who make up 90 percent of China's population, have plunged into the torrents of the great proletarian cultural revolution. Revolutionary teachers and students have gone from

their classrooms to factories and the countryside where they have begun to integrate themselves with the masses of workers and peasants. The extension of the great cultural revolution from the schools and offices to the factories and the countryside marks the upsurge of the revolutionary mass movement on a still bigger scale.

Chinese History since the "May 4" Movement shows that revolutionary mass movements often start from students' movements which spread to the worker-peasant masses, forming a big-scale revolutionary movement among the workers and peasants. Today, in order to carry the great proletarian cultural revolution through to the end and to win an all-round victory, the broad masses of revolutionary students and revolutionary intellectuals must take the only road in history and go in a planned and organized manner to the factories and the countryside to join the workers and peasants in making revolution.

Chairman Mao teaches us: "The intellectuals will accomplish nothing if they fail to integrate themselves with the workers and peasants. In the final analysis, the dividing line between revolutionary intellectuals and non-revolutionary or counterrevolutionary intellectuals is whether or not they are willing to integrate themselves with the workers and peasants and do so in practice."

The workers and peasants are the main force in the great cultural revolution. The masses of revolutionary students and revolutionary intellectuals must integrate themselves with the workers and peasants and be in one with them to form a mighty great army in the cultural revolution and wage a nationwide people's war in the cultural revolution. Only in this way can they eradicate completely all the vestiges of the exploiting classes in every corner of society, struggle against and overthrow the handful of power holders in the party who are taking the capitalist road, and carry the great proletarian cultural revolution through to the end. Only by carrying the great proletarian cultural revolution well in society will it be possible to accomplish thoroughly and consolidate the great cultural revolution in schools and in the cultural sphere.

Only by integrating themselves with the workers and peasants, can the masses of revolutionary students and revolutionary intellectuals thoroughly smash the bourgeois reactionary line and eliminate its evil influence. A very small number of people stubbornly adhering to the bourgeois reactionary line vainly attempt to restore capitalism, shelter those in power taking the capitalist road, and do not hesitate to suppress the masses, beat the revolution and instigate some of the masses to struggle against others. Uniting themselves under the banner of the great thought of Mao Tse-tung to implement firmly the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao, the worker-peasant masses, the revolutionary students and the revolutionary intellectuals can isolate completely and defeat thoroughly the very small number of die-hards clinging to the bourgeois reactionary line and win a final victory of the great proletarian cultural revolution.

Integrating themselves with the workers and peasants, the broad masses of revolutionary students and revolutionary intellectuals can propagate still more widely the thought of Mao Tse-tung, the lines and policies of the party, and the 16 Points in the cultural revolution. Together with the workers and peasants, they can study and apply Chairman Mao's works more creatively in the course of struggle and make the thought of Mao Tse-tung spread more extensively, impress more deeply the hearts of all and quicken the revolutionization of people's thinking. They can also use the thought of Mao Tse-tung to occupy all fronts. In this way, they can run the whole country as a big school for the thought of Mao Tse-tung.

"The masses are the real heroes, while we ourselves are often childish and ignorant, and without this understanding it is impossible to acquire even the most rudimentary knowledge." The masses of revolutionary students and revolutionary intellectuals must discard their lofty airs, take the workers and peasants as their teachers and be their willing pupils.

They must learn from the worker-peasant masses their profound class feeling of infinite love for Chairman Mao and infinite adoration of the thought of Mao Tse-tung, their firm stand of drawing a clear demarcation between what to love and what to hate, their lofty quality of whole-hearted devotion to the public interest, and their fine traditions of warm love for labor and of plain living and hard work. They must truly be one with the worker-peasant masses, eat, live and work with them, unite with them, and fight at their side.

They must keep doing so perseveringly and stand tests. They must exemplarily execute the party's policies and observe the Three Main Rules of Discipline and the Eight Points for Attention. They must learn to make investigations, must not hold that what they do are always right, and must not exercise dictatorship. They must discuss with the worker-peasant masses to solve the problems encountered in the great cultural revolution.

Chairman Mao calls on us to do this: Students must lay emphasis on their studies while learning other things, learn not only literature, but also engineering, agriculture and military science, and criticize the bourgeoisie. Effort must also be made to shorten the school system, revolutionize education, and terminate the phenomenon of domination by bourgeois intellectuals in our schools.

We must carry through Chairman Mao's great call, crush thoroughly everything capitalist, revisionist and feudalism in the realm of ideology, and create a proletarian new culture that corresponds to the socialist economic base. We must cultivate ourselves as reliable successors of the revolution who are culturally and militarily proficient and are capable of industrial and agricultural work. In order to fulfill this great call issued by Chairman Mao, we must integrate ourselves with the workers and peasants,

participate in real struggle, listen to the opinions of the workers and peasants and understand their demands. Only in this way can we thoroughly conduct struggle, criticism and rectification in schools and reform teaching.

In the course of integrating themselves with the workers and peasants, the masses of revolutionary students and revolutionary intellectuals must actively respond to Comrade Lin Piao's call of studying and applying Chairman Mao's works creatively in the spirit of "seizing the day, seizing the hour." They must study the "three good old articles" as a permanent reminder, and study and apply them at a new level. They must recklessly struggle against selfish and impure thoughts and vigorously develop their "public" concept. They must firmly oppose all sorts of bourgeois ideas. They should discard personal fame and gain, defy hardship and death, work wholeheartedly for the revolution, and serve the people completely and thoroughly. They must remold their thought and establish the proletarian world outlook with the greatest consciousness and at the highest standard.

Chairman Mao has said: "All decadent modes of thought and other unsuitable parts of the superstructure are daily crumbling. It will still take time to clear this refuse away completely, but there can be no doubt that these things will disintegrate."

Cast your eyes at China and the world and you can see an infinitely favorable situation. Under the great leadership of our great leader Chairman Mao, the 700 million Chinese people, in buoyant spirits and high morale, are engaged in a cause never undertaken by their forefathers and are creating a proletarian new world illuminated by the brilliance of the thought of Mao Tse-tung.

History has placed an exceedingly great and glorious mission upon the Chinese people. Let us "be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory!"

The future is ours!