

ON THE RESUMPTION OF CLASSES  
(25 October 1967)

√Full text of an editorial entitled "Universities, Middle and Primary Schools Should All Resume Classes to Make Revolution."√

Resuming classes to make revolution is urgently needed in the current phase of the great proletarian cultural revolution and is the common aspiration of the broad masses of revolutionary teachers and students and the broad revolutionary masses. The 16-point decision of the CCP Central Committee concerning the great proletarian cultural revolution, which was personally formulated by Chairman Mao, points out that reforming the old educational system and the old teaching guideline and methods is an extremely important task in the current great proletarian cultural revolution.

In his programmatic instruction issued on 7 May 1966, Chairman Mao pointed out the fundamental orientation for the revolution in education: "Students should also do likewise. While their main task is to study, they should also learn other things. They should not only study literature, but also industry, agriculture, and military affairs, and criticize the bourgeoisie. The period of schooling must be shortened and education must

be revolutionized. The atmosphere in which the bourgeois intellectuals control our schools must not be allowed to continue any longer."

At present, the great proletarian cultural revolution has won a decisive victory. Through one year and more of the great proletarian cultural revolution, a handful of counterrevolutionary revisionists on the educational front have been dragged out and the revisionist educational line represented by China's Khrushchev has been criticized and repudiated en masse. This has paved the way for reforming the old educational system and old teaching guidelines and methods.

Under such circumstances, it is completely possible and necessary for all schools to change from suspending classes to make revolution to resuming classes to make revolution. The broad masses of revolutionary teachers and students must concentrate their efforts toward carrying out the "struggle-criticism-transformation" campaign in their own schools and completing teaching reforms are arduous tasks. It is necessary to believe in, rely on, and motivate the masses with a free hand, develop the enthusiasm and initiative of the broad masses of revolutionary teachers and students, hold aloft the revolutionary red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, do some thinking, and devise methods.

To reform teaching, it is necessary to integrate with practice in teaching. We must engage in teaching while conducting reforms. If we departed from practice in teaching, we would not know how to reform. Chairman Mao taught us: "You must have knowledge in order to be able to take part in the real practice in building the country. You must take a bite of the pear in order to know the taste of the fruit." Only in the course of practice in teaching and through mass discussions, criticism, revolution, and creation can we thoroughly implement Chairman Mao's thought on revolution in education, recognize the law of revolution in education under the socialist system, and gradually put forward revolutionary plans for an educational system and program.

Resuming classes to make revolution and doing a good job on "struggle-criticism-transformation" in the schools is the struggle between two classes, two roads, and two lines, and the struggle between two kinds of world outlook. The various schools must conscientiously implement Chairman Mao's great instructions concerning "struggle-criticism-transformation," educate every revolutionary teacher or student to vigorously combat self-interest in his mind, with a great sense of proletarian revolutionary responsibility, thoroughly criticize and repudiate the revisionist educational line represented by China's Khrushchev, and vigorously foster Chairman Mao's proletarian educational line. All revolutionary comrades must maintain vigilance against the disruptive activities of the class enemy.

In order to take a firm hold of the basic question of "combating self-interest and repudiating revisionism," it is necessary to tightly grasp the political-ideological work of revolutionary teachers and students and

take a firm hold of the penetrating criticism and repudiation of the revisionist educational line. In this way, the resumption of classes to make revolution can be carried out properly and the revolution in education can be made successfully.

In the course of resuming classes to make revolution, the mass organizations and revolutionary Red Guards in various schools must comply with Chairman Mao's 7 March instructions, learn the experience of the Yen-an Middle School in Tientsin, realize the revolutionary great alliance on the basis of grades and departments under the revolutionary principle, and help the revolutionary cadres and teachers in stepping forward and establishing leading groups of the revolutionary three-way alliance.

In the course of resuming classes to make revolution, revolutionary teachers and revolutionary cadres must constantly keep in mind that the undertakings in which they are engaged involve the major undertaking of cultivating successors to the proletarian revolution. They must have the courage and determination to thoroughly criticize the old educational system and completely break away from their bourgeois world outlook. They must be aware that they are educators and, at the same time, persons being educated. In many cases, the students are more competent. They must go among the students, mingle with them, and establish socialist new-style teacher-student relations.

The principle of relying on one's own efforts and of being diligent and frugal must also be implemented in resuming classes to make revolution. Advocate the easy and simple way. Everyone must lend a hand to solve the problems in teaching materials and equipment. We must educate the students to love and protect state property. The parents must also cooperate with the schools and strengthen their children's political-ideological education.

Fulfilling the task of the proletarian revolution in education is a magnanimous and great cause. We must use Chairman Mao's thought on revolution in education as a weapon and become brave fore runners of the revolution in education, be daring, be undaunted, have courage and plans, be tough, dare to smash the old stereotypes of the bourgeoisie which oppose Mao Tse-tung's thought, and dare to put forward the new socialist educational systems, new teaching programs, and new teaching methods which are in line with Mao Tse-tung's thought.

Practice, recognize; again practice, and again recognize. In the course of repeating revolutionary practices, continuously sum up experiences and establish a red proletarian educational system flashing the luster of Mao Tse-tung's thought.