

14 February LIBERATION DAILY

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[LIBERATION DAILY 14 February editorial: "Factionalism and Anarchism"]

[Text] LIBERATION DAILY's 14 February editorial states: The reactionary bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalism and reactionary anarchism are two big poisonous snakes from the same nest with the words "self-interest" clearly marked on their heads. These two poisonous snakes are often tangled together.

The time when leaders at higher levels are influenced by factionalism is the time when anarchism runs rampant at lower levels. Some comrades have made a very accurate and incisive assessment by saying that, with the leaders overwhelmed by factionalism, anarchism is bound to prevail among the subordinates, and anarchism is the punishment for factionalism.

The editorial says that, at present, bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalism and anarchism have already become the prime enemies obstructing the triumphant advance of the great proletarian cultural revolution and the all-round implementation of Chairman Mao's latest instruction.

Facing these prime enemies, all true proletarian revolutionaries and revolutionary masses must launch a massive attack and make a joint effort to wipe them out. Otherwise, they would be committing a crime against revolution and would be disloyal to Chairman Mao. Since the existence of factionalism among the leaders is the main cause of rising anarchism at many places, the key link in overcoming anarchism should be the strengthening of party spirit by the leaders.

To those leaders who have not yet rid themselves completely of factionalism and who are at a loss how to deal with the flood of anarchism, we solemnly recommend an important passage from Lenin's book: "The Infantile Disease of 'Leftism' in Communism." Lenin said: "On what should we depend to maintain, examine, and strengthen the discipline of a revolutionary party of the proletariat? First, we depend on the consciousness of the proletarian vanguards, their loyalty to revolution, their tenacity, their self-sacrificing spirit, and their courage. Second, we depend on their capability in forging close links with, approaching, or, to a certain degree, even identifying themselves with, the broad working masses--primarily with the proletarian working masses but also with the nonproletarian working masses. Third, we must depend on the correctness of the political leadership, strategy, and tactics of the vanguards; what is more, we must also have this correctness verified by the broad masses according to their own experience."

Please note: "To maintain discipline," mentioned by Lenin, means to overcome the anarchic phenomenon or a phenomenon in which discipline is nonexistent. What must we depend on? We must depend on the consciousness of the proletarian vanguards and the like, and not be like some of our leaders who reply on factionalism, rely on loyalty to small mountain-stronghold mentality, and courageously fight for the interests of their own factions. We must depend on our close links with the broad revolutionary masses, and not be like some of our leaders who confine themselves to small mountain-stronghold mentality and regard the revolutionary masses outside their own factions as their irreconcilable enemies. We must depend on the correctness of political leadership and the correctness of strategy and tactics, and not be like some of our leaders who put factionalism above everything else and rely on the development of strategy and tactics for fighting "civil wars."

Are not the three factors pointed out emphatically by Lenin the party spirit which we proletarian revolutionaries need? Only by strengthening party spirit and overcoming factionalism in accordance with Lenin's teaching may we maintain the revolutionary discipline of the proletariat and effectively curb the flood of anarchic thinking.

Revolution is undoubtedly the most authoritative thing in the world. In order to establish their own revolutionary authority, members of the new revolutionary leading groups must eliminate factionalism, strengthen the unity of the leading cores, vigorously grasp class struggle, and take the initiative in fighting an offensive war. As the revolutionary struggle develops in greater depth and the objectives of the struggle are clearly in sight, the revolutionary spirit of the masses will certainly be further aroused and the trend of anarchic thinking will certainly be resisted.

The LIBERATION DAILY editorial concludes by saying that ideological work must be carried out among the masses influenced by the trend of anarchic thinking. We must strengthen positive education in accordance with Chairman Mao's teaching that "we must be good at guiding people with petty-bourgeois thinking in our ranks onto the path of the proletarian revolution."

It has been proved by the experience of many units that the run Mao Tse-tung's thought study classes well is a good method for organizing the masses for the creative study and application of Mao Tse-tung's thought, to help the masses educate themselves, and to overcome anarchism. In units where a good job has been done in running Mao Tse-tung's thought study classes, righteousness prevails while evil wanes. As Mao Tse-tung's thought is grasped by the masses, anarchism has become like a rat running across the street.