

On the Threshold of a Great Leap

—From the Indian Marxist-Leninist Journal, Mass Line

The Joint Communiqué signed by thirteen Marxist-Leninist parties and organisations addressed to the tasks of uniting genuine Marxist-Leninists all over the world is undoubtedly a major achievement in the international communist movement. Events in the latter half of this century leading to restoration of capitalism in Russia greatly undermined the unity of communists internationally as well as nationally. Even though the Communist International ceased to function back from 1943, it was the ideological surrender and capitulation to bourgeoisie by the great party of Lenin and other parties that led to the setback of the international communist movement. But there were no years of silence, as the Chinese Communist Party and the Party of Labour of Albania came forward to take up the task of defending revolution and Marxism. The Great Debate helped salvage the revolutionary essence of Marxism and the world saw the result in increasing revolutionary struggles. Revisionism was repudiated in the open and Marxist-Leninists rebelled against their revisionist leadership. Marxism-Leninism found its further development in Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. When the revisionists failed to grasp the meaning of class struggle in a socialist society, Mao Tsetung led the great proletarian cultural revolution to ferret out bourgeoisie inside the party itself. Cultural revolution marked a historic stage where it became part of the world revolution and where no revolutionary struggle can develop divorcing itself from cultural revolution and not being part of it.

But the revisionist coup in China in 1976 again brought to the fore disrupting elements. International communist movement immediately set out to answer the questions posed by these new developments. Parties and groups independently came out to denounce the new revisionist world leaders Teng Hsiaoping and Co. on the one hand and Enver Hoxha on the other. The Party of Labour of Albania had taken a neo-Trotskyite stand. In the face of the new challenges, parties and groups conducting revolutionary struggles in various capitalist, semi colonial and colonial countries of the world rose to build a revolutionary unity of communist organisations. That is why the communiqué marks a historic victory for the revolutionary forces. It could be possible only if a principled struggle on defending Mao Tsetung Thought emerged victorious over still existing Albanian revisionism, camouflaged or open. This struggle will continue, and unity depends on the struggle itself.

It can be looked upon as a major event also as it is intended to break the silence in the organisational sphere in the international communist movement after the Third International. The parties and organisations are determined "to deepen the study so as to make an evaluation of the theoretical and practical activity of the communists during the period of the Third International, the

Second World War and especially the causes of the coming to power of the revisionists in the countries in which the proletariat held power, particularly in the USSR and in China." It indicates that an international platform has been felt necessary for the Marxist-Leninists to further develop the struggle against revisionism. For that, the communiqué has rightly stressed and clearly expressed the view that "Marxism-Leninism, the science of the revolutionary proletariat, has always been forged and tempered in the furnace of class struggle. Today we must rise to meet the challenges before us." This is a solemn proclamation of the maturity of the world proletariat and revolutionary forces. It is revisionism that divides and disintegrates communist movement, and Marxism is the unifying force. So stress on ideology is a clear guarantee for unity of communists. "Unite, don't split" that is the call of Marxism.

Today, when the imperialist-social imperialist powers are running amuck for hegemony and control of the whole world, it has become necessary for the revolutionary forces to unify and consolidate their ranks. Both the imperialists are trying hard to smash them with gun and through infiltration into their ranks. Only a concerted ideological and political struggle can achieve such a unity. That is why the correct view on unity expressed by Lenin is underlined in the document.

In the analysis of the current situation, the signatories candidly admit that though "the objective conditions for revolution are ripening throughout the world and in some countries are already mature, subjective conditions, especially the development of the Marxist-Leninist movement, are lagging seriously behind." This brings us to the most urgent task of building Marxist-Leninist movements, and in our country it would mean accelerating the reorganisation of the party.

Revisionists have not only sabotaged armed struggle but have on many occasions come out openly on the side of the ruling classes in their bid to crush the party. While opposing revisionism and upholding the principle of armed struggle, errors of mechanically applying this principle have been committed. The correct formulation in the document that "the armed struggle must be carried out as a war of the masses and through it the masses must be prepared ideologically, politically and organisationally to exercise political power" would no doubt serve as a guide in the future course of our movement.

The unity gained through intense ideological and political struggle definitely marks the development of the world communist movement into a higher plane. This is a great leap forward to the establishment of a common platform for Marxist-Leninist movements at the international level.