

UNDER THE BANNER OF STALIN

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When only a few months ago appeared the 'Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR', a classic of Marxism-Leninism arming the world revolutionary movement with new powerful weapons, when a few days after, Comrade Stalin made his historic speech at the Nineteenth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union – in those days none could dream that the end was so near, none could anticipate the cruel blow that was to fall and so suddenly and so soon depriving the working people of the world of their greatest and most beloved leader.

Even now one finds it hard to believe that Comrade Stalin is no more in our midst, that his warm heart has ceased to beat, that his voice which roused millions of people all over the world to deeds of unparalleled valour has been stilled for ever.

Words cannot describe what Comrade Stalin did for the working people, for human liberation during his 73 years of eventful life. Symbolising the revolutionary movement of over half a century, his life will ever stand out as a mighty source of inspiration to all peoples of all lands.

One's mind, inevitably goes back to the sombre 21st of January, 1924 when the Great Lenin had passed away, plunging the toiling masses of the whole world into mourning.

- One thinks of the historic vow taken by Comrade Stalin five days later, a vow which was carried out as no vow has ever been carried out in history
- One remembers the tumultuous events of the twenty-nine years since then, years during which the working class movement grew even mightier, years during which vast masses of people liberated themselves from slavery under the inspiring ideas of Comrade Stalin.
- Lenin's Comrade in Arms

Comrade Stalin's life was inextricably linked with the life of Lenin till the latter's death.

Together, they built the Bolshevik Party, the Model Party of the international working class.

Together, they founded the Soviet State, which has always acted as the citadel of world revolution.

Together, they laid the foundation of the international Communist movement, which under leadership of Stalin, achieved victories the like of which the world has never seen.

Together, they gave us Leninism, the science and technique of revolution in the imperialist era, the Lenin-Stalin principles of Party organisation, the Lenin-Stalin style of work.

In all this, Comrade Stalin continued and carried forward the work of Lenin. In all this, he not only applied what Lenin had taught, he also developed Marxism-Leninism still further, raising it to new heights.

A humanist in the noblest sense of the world, Comrade Stalin taught that only the people are immortal, that it is they who make history, that it is close association with the people that makes a Party strong and invincible.

Relentless enemy of the exploiting classes and oppressors, Comrade Stalin unleashed the revolutionary initiative of the masses against them. No wonder he was loved by hundreds of millions and also hated and dreaded by the exploiting few and their lackeys.

With deep solicitude and profound understanding, Comrade Stalin studied the movement of the Indian peoples. He taught the Indian working class that it is they who must lead the struggle against the British imperialists and their allies. He taught them that they must champion the cause of all progressive classes in Indian society. He taught them that they must build their mass Communist Party; that without this, they cannot win the hegemony of the national movement.

Today, guided by the teachings of Comrade Stalin, the Communist Party of India is striving to carry out this task. The Programme it has put forward – a programme permeated by the ideas of Comrade Stalin – has already evoked powerful response among the broad masses and is rallying millions of people under the banner of freedom and democracy.

Under the leadership of Comrade Stalin the toiling peoples of the world marched from triumph to triumph. Today, confronting the old dying world of capitalism stands the growing world of Socialism and democracy; confronting the instigators of a new world war stand the hundreds of millions of partisans of peace; confronting the forces of imperialism and reaction stand the forces of revolution and progress.

Nevertheless, we cannot afford to forget that the cause to which Comrade Stalin dedicated his entire life, though stronger than ever, has yet to achieve full victory.

Two-thirds of humanity is still in shackles; vast countries like India have yet to achieve even full national freedom; the warmongers, though they have not succeeded in unleashing a world war, are far from defeated yet.

New conspiracies are being hatched, new plans are being made to strengthen the shackles of slavery in the capitalist world, to impose slavery on the liberated peoples, to continue the war in Korea, Vietnam and Malaya and extend them. These plans and these conspiracies will grow in intensity as days pass.

The threat to freedom, the threat to democracy, the threat to peace, continue. The cause of human liberation, of Socialism, has yet to achieve full victory.

This has to be done now without Comrade Stalin in our midst, without his wise advice, without his matchless leadership. Hence the responsibility on Communist Parties of all lands has grown immeasurably. They do bear a burden heavier than ever.

They have to frustrate the plans of the enemy who, encouraged by the passing away of the mighty figure that they dreaded and hated, will make renewed efforts to sow dissensions in their ranks, weaken their will to victory, shake confidence in the working class and in the teachings of Marxism.

The enemy hopes that, with the passing away of Comrade Stalin, the unity of Communist Parties will weaken, the unity of the international Communist movement will weaken, the bond of friendship between the Soviet Union and democratic countries and movements will weaken. He hopes that all this will facilitate the carrying out of his nefarious plans.

The enemy is mistaken. His joy will be short-lived.

It is not on the shifting grounds of expediency but on the granite foundation of common principles, common interest and common aim that the unity which they hate and dread has been built. And nothing in the world can weaken it.

With the passing away of Comrade Stalin the Communist movement will grow doubly conscious of its duties and responsibilities, the Communist Parties will draw ever closer and redouble their efforts to strengthen themselves, remove their shortcomings and weaknesses and forge themselves into still more powerful instruments of revolution.

The old order is doomed. History has signed its death warrant. Nothing in the world can save it. Comrade Stalin's death will spur the working class to new efforts to complete what could not be completed in the lifetime of its great leader.

This will happen despite billions of dollars spent on armaments, despite the brandishing of atom bombs, despite the butchery of tens of thousands of innocent workers on false charges, because, as Comrade Stalin stated the ruling classes of the capitalist world have become reactionary, have lost contact with the masses, have thrown overboard the banner of independence and democracy.

Comrade Stalin taught the working class and the Communist Parties that it is they who have to uphold the cause of peace national freedom and democracy and it is they who have to act as the most patriotic parties of their people. It is they who have to become the guiding force of their nation.

Heavy Responsibilities

This was the message with which he roused the Communists and other democrats the world over in October last. He told us, in what has become the last will and testament left by him for his disciples, that, if only they unflinchingly hold aloft the banner of freedom and democratic liberties the banner which the bourgeoisie has given up, there is no force on earth which can arrest the onward march of the forces of peace, national freedom and democracy.

Like other Communist Parties the world over, the Communist Party of India is conscious of the heavy responsibilities that this terrible loss has laid on its shoulders. It is conscious of the fact that its own action in carrying out the tasks laid down by the leader who is no more will be the decisive factor in the course of development of the struggles of the Indian people for real freedom, full national sovereignty and lasting peace.

The Communist Party of India realises its responsibilities of rousing the Indian people, of successfully carrying out the first major task facing them – the task of wiping out every trace of British domination in our economy, administration and cultural life.

We realise that not only are the old chains of British imperialism being kept intact, but new chains are sought to be forged in various forms; the British imperialists hope through these chains – old and new – to deprive India of even those few traces of independence and sovereignty which they were forced to grant us five and a half years ago.

The Communist Party of India is also conscious of its responsibility to rouse the Indian people against the American imperialists who are trying more and more to penetrate into our country and make us their tools in the diabolical plan which they are hatching to unleash a third world war.

We have to explain again and again to the Indian people that the slightest weakening on our part in the matter of stout opposition to the American plans of continuing the present wars and unleashing new ones will lead to our being dragged inevitably into the camp of war.

This has now become quite evident from the manner in which India's acceptance of the 'principle of voluntary repatriation' of prisoners-of-war was cleverly utilised by the American imperialists to form the background of their new policy of making 'Asians fight Asians'.

We have to make our people realise that unless a firm and consistent opposition is organised against the so-called 'aids' and 'grants' given by the American imperialists. India faces the danger of becoming a satellite of the enemy of world peace.

The Communist Party realises its responsibility of rousing the people against the British imperialists who are deeply entrenched in our administration in our economy, administration and cultural life, as well as against the American imperialists who are trying in various ways to get a foothold in our country.

Failure to discharge this responsibility would be a criminal betrayal of the cause for which the leader of the world peoples fought his whole life, the cause which he advised us to uphold in the last will and testament left by him.

The Communist Party of India knows that it is not alone in shouldering this responsibility. Communist Parties in other countries, genuine patriots and democrats the world over, have been infused with the same spirit of irreconcilable struggle against warmongers, the spirit of uncompromising struggle for national freedom and full democracy.

The Indian Communists will join hands with these democratic and patriotic elements the world over in counteracting the enemies of the State and the Party which Stalin built up.

The Communist Party realises that, in order to discharge these responsibilities, it has to forge into a powerful mass Party.

We realise that the ideological and organisational basis on which the Model Party of the working class was built by Lenin and Stalin is our most valuable inheritance; we will go again and again to the lessons taught by the great Lenin and Stalin in building our own Party.

We are fortified with the thought that, though the great builders of the Model Party of the world are no more with us, they lived long enough to forge such a Party which, under the leadership of its Central Committee headed by such tried and tested leaders as Comrades Malenkov, Beria and Molotov, will continue to carry forward the glorious traditions of Lenin and Stalin.

The Communist Party recalls that the Party which Lenin and Stalin built looks upon the unity of the Party as of incalculable importance. We realise that the slightest degree of disunity in our ranks will be taken full advantage of by the enemies of the working class and of the Party to launch ferocious attacks on the whole working class and its allies.

It will, therefore, be our endeavour to safeguard the unity of the Party as the apple of our eye, as Comrade Stalin continually exhorted us to do.

We realise, furthermore, that one of the most powerful weapons in our hands to forge unity in our ranks is the weapon of criticism and self-criticism, particularly criticism from below. We realise that it is only by wielding this powerful weapon of Bolshevik struggle against the ideologies, forms of struggle and habits of the alien classes that we can preserve and strengthen the unity of our Party and of the working class.

Irreconcilability in principles, merciless exposure of wrong tendencies and shortcomings, the application of the sharp weapon of criticism against every member of the Party including the topmost – such is the basis on which we continuously rid ourselves of our shortcomings and weaknesses.

It is only by overcoming these shortcomings and weaknesses that we will be able to forge the complete unity of the Party.

The Communist Party realises that it cannot discharge these responsibilities unless it takes upon itself the key task of rearing Bolshevik cadres, cadres built in the true image of Stalin. We have to recall how Comrade Stalin looked upon cadres as the gold reserve of the Party, how he took deep personal interest in the development of cadres.

It was this continuous attention bestowed by him on the rearing of Bolshevik cadres which have given us such world renowned leaders as are today heading the Communist Parties of the Soviet Union, China, People's Democracies, Italy, France, Britain, America, etc.

It is the personal attention paid by Comrade Stalin that helped the creation of such Heroes of Socialist Labour as the Stakhanovites and such Heroes of War as the Red Armymen and guerrillas of the Soviet Union; it was again this that made such epoch-making developments as the Chinese National Liberation War and other struggles that are today taking place all over the world.

We realise that the Central leadership of our party should pay utmost attention to the task of so improving its own work as to be worthy of the leadership of a Party which seeks to build itself on the model of the Lenin-Stalin Party.

It will be the endeavour of every single member of our Central leadership to improve his own work in such a way as to earn him the right and privilege of calling himself a true and loyal disciple of Stalin a cadre built in the image of Comrade Stalin.

We realise that it is only to the extent to which we succeed in doing this that we will be able to build the Party on the model of the Party of Lenin and Stalin.