

RESOLUTELY SURGE FORWARD TO CARRY OUT PRESIDENT HO'S WILL
BY ALL MEANS

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Recently, the party Central Committee Political Bureau issued an instruction on the "all party members, people, and military men study and comply with President Ho's testament" political activity drive aimed at helping everyone realize more clearly President Ho's great services and works for our party and people and the world revolution as well as President Ho's noble and bright qualities, thus strengthening his pride, enthusiasm, confidence, and determination to advance and pursue President Ho's revolutionary works and implement President Ho's testament by all means.

This instruction of the Political Bureau fully responds to the eager aspirations and fundamental interests of our entire party and all our people.

Respected and beloved President Ho's death is a great loss for our entire party and population as well as for all progressive mankind. Our people throughout the country grieve over the death of President Ho -- the great leader of the Vietnamese working class and nation, the respected and beloved teacher of the Vietnamese revolution, and the stanch and experienced combatant of the international communist and workers movement and the national liberation movement. World peoples, too, grieve at President Ho's death, regarding him as the symbol of the task of struggling for the independence and freedom of various nations and the symbol of the best qualities of this era.

With boundless sorrow, all of us will remember President Ho's great services and works forever and pledge to follow, throughout our lives, the path he laid down. Our entire party

and all our people more clearly realize that our responsibility consists of doing our best to make up for this great loss: "Closely unite ourselves around the party Central Committee; resolutely implement President Ho's testament; resolutely step up the anti-U.S. national salvation resistance in order to liberate the south, defend the north, and advance toward achieving national unification; and emulate in intensifying socialist construction in the north, thus contributing to the revolutionary work of the world working class and peoples."¹

President Ho's services and revolutionary works were truly great. President Ho's revolutionary ethics were very bright.

President Ho was the talented leader of our party and people, an outstanding leader of the international communist movement, and the representative of the movement for the liberation of the oppressed the world over.

Inspired by intense patriotism, the noble communist ideal, and bright international feelings, President Ho dedicated his entire life to the task of liberating the working class, our nation, and all of mankind and struggling for the independence and freedom of our fatherland, for the happiness of our people, for socialism, and for communism.

As a great patriot and great Marxist, President Ho creatively applied Marxism-Leninism to the concrete situation of our country and laid down the correct line to follow to lead the Vietnamese revolution in advancing from victory to victory.

President Ho founded the Marxist-Leninist party of the Vietnamese working class, the United National Front, the Vietnamese People's Armed Forces, and the DRV.

President Ho was the leader of two revolutions in our country, the people's national democratic revolution and the socialist revolution, and two protracted resistances of our people against the French colonialists in the past and against the U.S. imperialists at present.

These great achievements by President Ho in Vietnam were also his important contributions to the world revolution. Led by President Ho and our party, the August Revolution brought about the founding of the DRV, the first people's democratic state in Southeast Asia. The successful carrying out of the socialist revolution in the northern part of our country under the leadership of President Ho and our party demonstrated that after being liberated from the imperialist yoke, the working class and people of a backward colonial country -- if they are

guided by a correct line, are determined to advance on the path of social progress, to develop their self-reliance spirit, and are assisted by socialist countries -- are fully capable of constructing socialism without passing through the capitalist development phase.

Along with the August Revolution, our people's resistance against the French colonialists breached, for the first time, one of the weakest links in the colonial system of world imperialism, thus creating favorable conditions for the oppressed to struggle for their own liberation. And nowadays, the Vietnamese people's anti-U.S. national salvation resistance, led by President Ho and our party, had dealt and is dealing deadly blows at the U.S. imperialists' aggressive policy achieved through neocolonialism. As a consequence, it exerted a stimulating effect upon the world people's struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

Throughout his revolutionary life, President Ho directly participated in the revolutionary movements in many countries. President Ho's views on the close association between the national liberation movement and the socialist revolutionary movement -- two main revolutionary currents of the present era -- became living realities during his great life as well as in the revolutionary development in our country. Staunch and very loyal, President Ho incessantly struggled for the strengthening of the international solidarity of the working class, the oppressed, and the forces of peace and progress the world over. President Ho's revolutionary activities during more than 60 years proved eloquently that President Ho was a great patriot, a great communist combatant, and a great international combatant. In President Ho, intense patriotism was closely associated with noble proletarian internationalism.

President Ho's revolutionary qualities were very noble. He was the symbol of the association between the best age-old traditions of our Vietnamese nation and the thoroughly revolutionary ideology of our era -- the Marxist-Leninist ideology.

President Ho's bright qualities were the summit of the revolutionary ethics of the Vietnamese working class.

President Ho totally dedicated his mind, energy, views and talents to the revolutionary works of our people and world peoples. He regarded serving the revolution, our people, and our fatherland devotedly and loyally as his happiness and his *raison d'etre*.

President Ho's life -- full of hardships and sacrifices, but also of glories -- was a brilliant example of Vietnamese revolutionary heroism. Symbolized by President Ho, the courage, stanchness, and unsubmitiveness of the Vietnamese working class and people is forever a source of encouragement for our people's revolutionary struggle.

Modesty, simplicity, diligence, economy, integrity, honesty and impartiality were the prominent features of President Ho's revolutionary ethics. Throughout his life, he selflessly struggled for our people's happiness. But he was very modest and simple! These qualities made him greater.

President Ho's deep hatred for the imperialists, feudalists, and other reactionaries was closely associated with his boundless love for his comrades, compatriots, and the masses. It was President Ho's immense love for our people which prompted him to struggle uncompromisingly against all the enemies of our class and nation. Respected and beloved Uncle Ho was the intimate friend of all the oppressed and progressives the world over.

To creatively apply Marxism-Leninism to the concrete situation of our country, to be farsighted, to have a correct strategic ideology, to cleverly apply a revolutionary strategem, to have great ability in organizing and promoting the masses, to have crystal-clear revolutionary ethics, to constantly hold aloft the militant solidarity spirit, and so forth, are the striking characteristics of leader Ho Chi Minh, the soul of the Vietnamese revolution.

We are very proud of our great leader Ho Chi Minh. The more we are proud of him, the more we are proud of our great party, and our heroic, diligent, intelligent and valiant people. Our party, headed by venerated President Ho Chi Minh, is the instigator and organizer of all victories of our revolution. "Our nation, our people, and our mountains and rivers have given birth to Ho Chi Minh, the great national hero, who, in turn, has covered them with glory."²

We are very enthused, confident, and determined to advance to carry out his ideal and aspirations, because we realize that "Thanks to the leadership of President Ho and our party, the revolutionary forces of our country have now become great and have unceasingly developed. Our party possesses a correct, independent, self-governing, and creative line. Our cadres and party members are singlemindedly united and have undergone intensive training and trials. Our people are united and very confident in the party and possess a fair political consciousness. Our state has become stronger and our armed forces are

very heroic. Our party, our state, and our people have acquired an enormous international prestige.

"Our people's revolution has yielded fruit in the past several scores of years because it has been led by our party headed by President Ho, because President Ho and our party have followed a correct line, because our party members have remained singlemindedly united, and because our people have struggled singlemindedly and enthusiastically under the leadership of President Ho and our party. Beside President Ho is the party Central Committee which is united, clearsighted, and loyal and devoted to the people's revolutionary undertaking.

"Under present conditions, if all of us resolutely exert every effort to serve the revolution and the people, we will surely be able to create a new development and new quality in the organization of our party and state and will stimulate our entire people to vigorously advance the revolutionary movement and to gloriously continue President Ho's revolutionary work."³

President Ho has passed away but he left us an extremely valuable legacy. "This is the Ho Chi Minh epoch, the most brilliant epoch in our nation's glorious history. This is the era of our fatherland's independence and freedom, the socialist era in our country."⁴ In this epoch, the basic factors which insure the complete success of the Vietnamese revolution have been created. President Ho's thoughts, ethics, and behavior have been a headlight guiding the Vietnamese communists and revolution to move forward. President Ho's great work will surely be continued and completed successfully.

President Ho left to all our party and people an historic will which clearly outlines the strategic tasks of the Vietnamese revolution and points out the key problems to be grasped by our party and people so as to insure the completion of their revolutionary undertaking. From the contents of the testament have emerged the scientific world concept of Marxism-Leninism, the philosophy of life of communism, the lofty ethics of a revolutionary, and President Ho's deep sentiments toward, and firm confidence in, our generation and in future generations. This testament has most concentratedly reflected the thoughts and ethics of President Ho, whose loyalty to the people, heroic bearing, thoroughly revolutionary spirit, lofty humanitarianism, ardent patriotism, modesty and simplicity, revolutionary optimism, firm confidence in the masses' intelligence and strength and in the final victory of the revolution, and so forth, will be forever a brilliant example for everyone to follow.

Our entire party and all of our people are dutybound to resolutely materialize, at all costs, President Ho's testament and the oath of honor, which Comrade Le Duan, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Lao Dong Party, solemnly read at President Ho's memorial services, on behalf of our entire party and all our people. "Let us turn grief into revolutionary acts, bravely advance, continue President Ho's great undertaking, successfully materialize his ideal and aspirations, seriously implement the lines and policies of the party Central Committee and the government, and endeavor to learn from his thoughts, ethics and bearing."⁵

In materializing President Ho's testament, we must heighten the thoroughly revolutionary spirit, resolutely fight the U.S. aggressors until complete victory, liberate the south, protect the north, advance toward reunification of the fatherland, endeavor to build socialism in the north, and materialize the lofty socialist and communist ideals set forth by President Ho, with the purpose of bringing prosperity to the fatherland and happiness to the people. We must strengthen the unity of mind within the party, strengthen the relationship between the party, and the masses, strengthen the party's fighting power, make the party be constantly pure and steady, effectively contribute toward restoring and strengthening the unity of mind in the socialist bloc and the international communist movement on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, positively support the national liberation movement, and positively contribute to the world people's struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism. We must constantly improve our revolutionary ethics, overcome individualism, and endeavor to comprehensively train and improve ourselves so as to most effectively contribute to the revolutionary undertaking of our party and people.

We must materialize, at all costs, President Ho's final desire, which is that "all our party and people must unite and struggle to build a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic, rich, and powerful Vietnam and worthily contribute to the world's revolutionary undertaking."⁶ The key point in all work is to consolidate and develop the party, to strengthen the party's unity and singlemindedness, and to make a very loyal servant of the people in accordance with President Ho's teachings.

The party's unity and singlemindedness must be built on the basis of the party's Marxist-Leninist line and ideological and organizational principles, and on the basis of the correct revolutionary stand, strong revolutionary sentiments, and correct criticism and self-criticism of every cadre and party member. This requires that each of our comrades constantly

improve his revolutionary ethics, achieve broad democracy, seriously carry out criticism and self-criticism, maintain constant and close relations with the masses, and unceasingly increase his knowledge.

The issue of affirming the position of unconditional service to the revolution has a decisive impact on strengthening the party's unity and singlemindedness. Every cadre or party member must consider his unconditional service to the party, fatherland, and people as his *raison d'être* and must manifest comradeship and mutual affection in accordance with President Ho's teachings.

To worthily continue President Ho's great work, first, we must satisfactorily achieve the political activity drive of all the party, people, and armed forces to learn and act upon his will," as indicated by the Political Bureau.

"We must organize all party members and people to learn well President Ho's will and the oration and appeal of the party Central Committee, as well as President Ho's brief biography and the speech delivered by the chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee at the fifth session of the National Assembly, third term, so that everyone can heighten his pride, enthusiasm, confidence, and determination to progress. In the discussion of President Ho's will, everybody must take into account his thoughts and acts and those of his unit, and there must be a concrete resolution on what is to be done to develop the strong points, overcome shortcomings, fulfill all immediate tasks, and carry out the oaths of honor to President Ho.

On the basis of the good results of this political activity drive, it is necessary to satisfactorily organize and lead the patriotic emulation movement and to step up the revolutionary actions of the cadres, party members, and masses. To achieve practical results, every party committee, party group, and so forth, must study and determine concrete actions for each sector, locality, structure, and leading organ so that each unit can concentrate on satisfactorily carrying out a number of immediate central tasks. There must be a common program of action for all the masses in localities, cities, and so forth, and a particular program of action for party chapters, mass organizations, and administrative organs.

"All party committees must carefully study President Ho's will, seek measures to strengthen internal solidarity, develop democracy, strengthen the sense of collectivity, improve the leadership task and working methods, seriously carry out all lines, policies, and systems, and positively

eliminate all shortcomings related to behavior and life."⁷

They must continue to improve their revolutionary ethics so as to be worthy of being President Ho's disciples.

All cadres and work personnel of the state inside or outside the party must carry out practical measures to increase labor output and work efficiency, considering this as the center of their thinking and actions.

On the basis of heightening his stand, thoughts, and revolutionary consciousness through learning President Ho's will and the party's documents, everyone must strive to accelerate the patriotic emulation movement, achieve a higher labor output and work efficiency, make the most effective contributions to the anti-U.S. national salvation undertaking struggle to protect the north and build socialism in the north, and enthusiastically fulfill the great rear's present duties toward the great frontline.

This is the best way to remember and to show deep gratitude to President Ho, the beloved and respected great leader of all our party and people.

Footnotes

1. Directive of the Political Bureau concerning the Political Activity Drive: "All Party Members, People, and Military Men Study and Comply With President Ho's Will."
2. Funeral Oration of the Vietnam Lao Dong Party Central Committee Read at President Ho's Funeral on 9 September 1969.
3. Directive of the Political Bureau Concerning the Political Activity Drive: "All Party Members, People, and Military Men Study and Comply with President Ho's Will."
4. Speech by the Vietnam Lao Dong Party Central Committee Read at the Funeral for President Ho on 9 September 1969.
5. Appeal of the Vietnam Lao Dong Party Central Committee on 3 September 1969.
6. President Ho's Will.
7. Directive of the Political Bureau Concerning the Political Activity Drive: "All Party Members, People, and Military Men Study and Comply with President Ho's Will."