Remould World Outlook

—In Commemoration of the 28th Anniversary of the Publication of “Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art”

Editorial by “Renmin Ribao,” “Hongqi” and “Jiefangjun Bao”

In the first red May of the great 70s, the masses of Communist Party members and revolutionary people, tempered in struggle in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, are commemorating with revolutionary pride the 28th anniversary of the publication of our great leader Chairman Mao’s brilliant work Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art.

Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art, born in the fierce struggle between the two lines 28 years ago, is an epoch-making Marxist-Leninist document. It is not only the most comprehensive and masterly generalization of the Marxist-Leninist concept of literature and art, a great programme for the proletarian ideological-cultural revolutionary movement, but also a political manifesto for transforming the world in the image of the proletarian vanguard and a beacon, guiding all Communists and revolutionaries in achieving their ideological revolutionization.

Today, under the guidance of the brilliant thinking of Chairman Mao’s Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art, hundreds of millions of workers, peasants and soldiers, as masters of the country, have mounted the political stage of struggle-criticism-transformation in all spheres of the superstructure. The model revolutionary theatrical works—splendid achievements in implementing Chairman Mao’s proletarian line in literature and art—have been constantly consolidated and perfected in struggle and have been warmly received by the broad masses of workers, peasants and soldiers. A proletarian revolutionary movement in literature and art, with the model revolutionary theatrical works as the hallmark, is forging ahead. The exemplary experience of the “six factories and two universities” in carrying out the tasks of struggle-criticism-transformation, which is a vivid embodiment of Chairman Mao’s various proletarian policies, is blossoming and bearing fruit everywhere in the country. The movement of the revolutionary mass criticism is developing in depth. The masses of Communists and revolutionaries are marching forward in giant strides along the road of ideological revolutionization.

The history of the revolution over the past 28 years proves that this Marxist-Leninist work of genius is a powerful weapon for the revolutionary people to transform both the objective and the subjective world.

Today, as we commemorate the publication of Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art, we should study this work earnestly and strive to remould our own subjective world along the road charted by this brilliant work in the course of carrying out the tasks of struggle-criticism-transformation conscientiously, accomplishing all the fighting tasks put forward by the Ninth Party Congress and deepening the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution.

All Communists and revolutionaries are transformers of the objective world, fighters who unite with the masses of the people and lead them in overthrowing the old world and building the new. We are now engaged in the great cause of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. This is an unprecedentedly extensive and profound struggle for transforming the objective world. In order to wage this struggle successfully and lead it to victory, we must remould our own subjective world. The Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art points out penetratingly: “Without such remoulding, they can do nothing well and will be misfits.”

Chairman Mao teaches us: “This question of ‘for whom?’ is fundamental; it is a question of principle.” This question of “for whom” is also the fundamental question of world outlook. For the workers, peasants and soldiers or for the exploiting classes; for the broad masses of the people or for the individual—this is the dividing line distinguishing the proletarian world outlook from the bourgeois world outlook. The questions of class stand, attitude and feelings repeatedly emphasized in Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art, are all questions of world outlook.

To remould one’s world outlook one must arm oneself with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, destroy the bourgeois world outlook and foster the proletarian world outlook, and shift one’s stand to the side of the proletariat.

To Communist Party members and the revolutionaries who desire to join the Party, the question of remoulding one’s world outlook means solving the question of joining the Party ideologically.
In his *Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art* Chairman Mao points out sharply: "There are many Party members who have joined the Communist Party organizationally but have not yet joined the Party wholly or at all ideologically."

Those who have not yet joined the Party ideologically still carry a great deal of the muck of the exploiting classes in their heads, such as the "me first" mentality, seeking fame and position, bourgeois factionalism, asserting "independence," self-commendation, mutual laudation, contempt for physical labour and aloofness from the masses. All these are manifestations of the bourgeois world outlook.

Members of the Communist Party are vanguard fighters of the proletariat. They must join the Party not only organizationally but also ideologically. Every Communist must remould his own ideology in the storms of class struggle to firmly establish a proletarian world outlook and thoroughly discard the bourgeois world outlook. Only by so doing can he be a Communist worthy of the name and can be play the role of a vanguard fighter in the cause of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

How should all Communists and revolutionaries remould their world outlook? The *Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art* has pointed out to us the fundamental way for remoulding our world outlook, that is, to study Marxism and integrate ourselves with the workers, peasants and soldiers.

Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought is the most powerful weapon for remoulding our world outlook. This weapon is characterized by its class nature and its practicality. Only by studying and applying Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought in a living way in the process of going into the midst of the workers, peasants and soldiers and plunging into the practical struggles can we truly grasp the weapon.

"There is no construction without destruction." In order to foster the proletarian world outlook in our minds, we must, with Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art* as a weapon, conduct sustained and deep-going revolutionary mass criticism, fight self, criticize revisionism, criticize the bourgeois world outlook in all its manifestations and thoroughly eliminate the remaining poisonous influence of Liu Shao-chi's counter-revolutionary revisionist line. Such criticism should be closely linked with the practice of the current revolutionary struggle.

In his *Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art*, Chairman Mao calls on the revolutionary literary and art workers: "They must for a long period of time unreservedly and whole-heartedly go among the masses of workers, peasants and soldiers." Communists and revolutionaries working on other fronts should also act in accordance with this great call. At present, the masses of revolutionary cadres and revolutionary intellectuals are taking the road of integrating themselves with the workers, peasants and soldiers by settling in the countryside as commune members, entering "May 7" cadre schools, going down regularly to factories and villages to take part in physical labour or working in selected basic units to get experience to guide over-all work, and in other ways. Whatever way we take, we must examine ourselves in the light of this call of Chairman Mao's: Are we prepared to do this for a long period of time or just for a short spell? Are we doing this unreservedly or otherwise? Are we doing this wholeheartedly, half-heartedly or hesitantly? We must be resolute, put down airs, do away with bureaucratie, apathetic, arrogant and finicky airs, go into the midst of the workers, peasants and soldiers, throw ourselves into the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment, persist in taking part in productive labour, criticize and repudiate the bourgeoisie and remould our world outlook. We must be modest pupils and accept re-education by the workers, peasants and soldiers and, through a long and even painful process of tempering, completely shift our stand to the side of the proletariat. Communist Party members among the workers, poor and lower-middle peasants and in the People's Liberation Army must also maintain close ties with the masses, take an active part in revolutionary struggle and productive labour, study and apply Mao Tsetung Thought in a living way in the course of struggle and constantly remould their world outlook.

Chairman Mao teaches us: "The proletariat seeks to transform the world according to its own world outlook, and so does the bourgeoisie. In this respect, the question of which will win out, socialism or capitalism, is still not really settled." In the final analysis, the struggle between the two classes, the two roads and the two lines under the dictatorship of the proletariat is a struggle between transforming the world according to the proletarian world outlook and transforming it according to the bourgeois world outlook. The counter-revolutionary revisionist line pushed by the renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi represented the attempt to transform our Party and state according to the bourgeois world outlook. The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution personally initiated and led by our great leader Chairman Mao has shattered Liu Shao-chi's counter-revolutionary revisionist line. However, the struggle between the proletarian and the bourgeois world outlooks will last for a long time. In order to transform the Party and the world in the image of the proletarian vanguard, consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat, prevent the restoration of capitalism, win still greater victory in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and carry this revolution through to the end, all Communists and revolutionaries must enhance their initiative in remoulding their own world outlook, resolutely integrate themselves with the workers, peasants and soldiers, launch a struggle of proletarian ideology against non-proletarian ideology and remould their world outlook completely.

*May 29, 1970*