

Education is one of the fundamental questions decisive of the issue of the revolution and the fate of the nation. Without educational work, there can be neither social progress nor national prosperity, no matter when and what nationality. The question of education acquires still greater importance in those countries which have cast off the colonial yoke of imperialism and newly won independence.

Since the first day of its leadership of the revolution and construction, our Party has paid close attention to educational work. At every stage of the revolution our Party mapped out a correct educational policy and carried it out thoroughly, the whole Party and state bending every effort on educational work.

Thanks to our Party's correct educational policy and wise leadership, the remnants of colonial slave education have been completely eliminated in a short period of time and an advanced socialist system of education established in our country. And brilliant successes have been achieved in public education and in the training of native cadres. In our country today compulsory 11-year education is universal, with all members of the rising generation studying to the best of their abilities at state expense. An army of intellectuals numbering one million have grown up and are managing the state, economic and cultural institutions with credit. Our working people, once left far behind modern civilization, are all working as masters for socialist construction with the cultural and technical level of middle school graduates or above. A new era of socialist culture has opened in this land where once prevailed ignorance and darkness.

Today we are confronted with the momentous task of further developing the educational work of socialism in conformity with the demands of the revolution. The realities of today when the three revolutions—ideological, technical and cultural—are deepening generally, demand urgently that socialist education be further developed. By accelerating the ideological and cultural revolutions and stepping up the technical revolution actively through the development of socialist educational work, we must move up the victory of the cause of socialism and communism.

Fundamental Principle of Socialist Pedagogy

Socialist education is a work of fostering each person to be an independent and creative social being.

Men and women can be independent and creative social beings only when they possess the consciousness of independence and creative ability. Their independent consciousness and creative ability are not born. No one possesses ideology and knowledge from birth. Through education men and women acquire an independent ideology and the knowledge of nature and society, and cultivate the creative ability to recognize and alter the world.

The aim of socialist education is to rear men and women into communist revolutionary cadres who are independent and creative. Socialist education should serve in the interests of the socialist system and the revolutionary cause of the working class by bringing up men and women to be communist revolutionaries who wage a devoted struggle for society and the people, for socialism and communism.

For socialist education to fulfil its aim and mission, the fundamental principle of socialist pedagogy should be thoroughly applied to educational work.

The fundamental principle of socialist pedagogy consists in revolutionizing, working-classing and communizing men and