

Improving Awareness of Revolutionary Ethical Practice for Cadres and Party members according to the spirit of the 13th Party Congress

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Abstract: Revolutionary ethics is the leading important criteria of a communist and a revolutionary party. At the 13th National Congress, our Party determined “to pay special attention to and further promote building and rectifying the Party comprehensively in terms of politics, ideology, ethics, organization and personnel”. Up to now, the resolution of the 13th Party Congress continues to be implemented by the entire Party, people and army from the central to the grassroots levels, including theme on practicing revolutionary ethics. The article focuses on clarifying the raising awareness of revolutionary ethical practice for officials and party members in the spirit of the 13th Party Congress. This is an issue related to the “purity and strength” of the Party, and to the victory of the cause of “building socialism” in our country today.

Key words: cadres, Party members, improving awareness for cadres and Party members, revolutionary ethical practice, the 13th Congress.

1. Revolutionary ethics - the most important standard of communists and revolutionary parties

In the late 1920s, to prepare for the establishment of the Communist Party - a revolutionary organization of the working class and the Vietnamese people, Nguyen Ai Quoc gathered patriots to disseminate Marxism-Leninism. In his teachings on “The Revolutionary Path”, the first lesson was about revolutionary ethics, the revolutionary aptitudes, and revolutionary party. More specifically, he mentioned a standard system of 23 commandments and 3 relationships: with oneself, with others, and with work. He pointed out: one must be frugal, must put the common interest above all, self-sacrifice, have little desire for material things... One should be tolerant with others, be strict in the work, for the common interest and work courageously, decisively but not doing anything rash, and must obey the organization. This expresses a new concept of human life, the revolutionary worldview, consciousness and ideological methods of the working class - the new ideology of the era. This shows that, right from the early days of the revolution, Nguyen Ai Quoc - Ho Chi Minh attached great importance to revolutionary moral education, considering it one of the fundamental principles to build genuine revolutionaries, to move towards

building a genuine revolutionary Party of the Vietnamese working class. With the training and guidance of leader Nguyen Ai Quoc, on February 3, 1930, the Communist Party of Vietnam -- an organization of revolutionaries who were steadfast, indomitable, rich in revolutionary ethics -- was established. In the political, ideological and organizational preparations for the birth of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh used moral standards as one of the two standards (virtue and talent) for revolutionary cadres and Communist Party members. This was a creation, imprinted with Ho Chi Minh's thought and style, and has always been inherited, creatively applied and developed by the Communist Party of Vietnam through different revolutionary periods.

Understanding the importance of revolutionary ethics to each cadre, Party member and Party organizations, the Communist Party of Vietnam has emphasized building and rectifying the Party on all fields, including building revolutionary ethics in many congresses. At the 12th Congress, Party documents defined the Party building on ethics as follows: "pay much attention to the training of revolutionary moral qualities and combat individualism among cadres and party members"⁽¹⁾. At the 13th Congress, our Party determined that in the coming years "we must pay special attention to and further promote building and rectifying the Party comprehensively in terms of politics, ideology, ethics, organization and cadres"⁽²⁾. The Congress emphasized: "focusing on building the Party on ethics" is the "foundation", the "root" that makes the Party clean, strong, and enhances the Party's leadership and ruling capacity. At the same time, it is necessary to "research, supplement and perfect revolutionary moral values in the spirit that "Our Party is moral and civilized" to suit new conditions and the fine cultural traditions of the people... Promote revolutionary ethics education so that each cadre and party member clearly see their duties and responsibilities... Raise the awareness of fostering, training and practicing revolutionary ethics"⁽³⁾.

Imbued with Ho Chi Minh Thought on training and practicing revolutionary ethics, over the past 90 years, the moral values of a revolutionary Party have gradually been cultivated by the Communist Party of Vietnam and become the source of strength for the Party to steer the Vietnamese revolutionary ship to overcome all difficulties and challenges, achieving great victories in the struggle for independence and in building and protecting the socialist Fatherland. Currently, it is urgent in terms of both theory and practice to strengthen the Party's moral rectification aims to improve the Party's leadership capacity and fighting strength in the process of promoting comprehensive and synchronous reform and international integration, bringing the country to rapid and sustainable development.

2. The content of revolutionary ethical practice of cadres, Party members according to the spirit of the 13th Party's Congress

According to the spirit of the Party's 13th Congress, revolutionary ethics have very important values and are considered the core foundation of the Party and people's activities. Therefore, each cadre and Party member must thoroughly perceive the communist's revolutionary ethics, and upgrade awareness of revolutionary ethical practice to deserve the "public servant" of people.

Firstly, each cadre and Party member needs to be properly aware of practicing revolutionary ethics and uphold the spirit of self-awareness, self-cultivating and self-training their own ethics to actively contribute to the development of the country and the people.

Regarding the relationship between talent and virtue qualities inside a revolutionary person, President Ho Chi Minh highlighted that "a talented man without virtue is useless, a virtuous man without talent will find it difficult to do anything". This means He put the two qualities in the dialectical relationship. However, ethics in general and revolutionary ethics in particular are not something innate that you are born with, but are step by step formulated and forged through the life reality and the revolutionary struggle. Therefore, President Ho Chi Minh said: Good or bad virtue is not innate but mostly due to education. Thus, to have noble revolutionary qualities, each cadre and Party member must always self-practice every hour, every day, at any time, any place to overcome self-interest and overwhelming indulgence, particularly in the current socialist-oriented market economy and international integration. To oneself, one should be strict and regularly conduct self-judgement, self-correction, self-esteem; must be "ashamed", "tormented" by the guilt of what he did and regularly self-criticize, take responsibility, self-train and practice the ethics of cadres and Party members⁽⁴⁾. At work, one must be dedicated and responsible, self-cultivate and self-train, self-adjust his behavior in daily work, and fulfill his responsibility to set a leading example for others, "must self-adjust the behavior in daily work to suit the assigned political tasks"⁽⁵⁾.

Secondly, practicing revolutionary ethics is not simply personal ethics but also includes social ethics, the ethics of the community and people in the process of fighting for national independence, building and protect the Socialist Fatherland.

For each cadre and Party member, practicing revolutionary ethics requires them not only to have high moral qualities, but also always be connected to the people, to have team spirit, proactiveness, creativity and determination in carrying out political responsibilities towards the path of "national

independence associated with socialism” that President Ho Chi Minh, the Communist Party and the people have chosen.

The first and the most important qualities of cadres and Party members in any different period of time is the loyalty to the Fatherland, the people, the Party’s course of struggle for “national independence and socialism”. For the Party, it must be resolutely loyal to its people’s struggle, to the ideological foundation of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought; whole-heartedly and with all strength serve the Fatherland and the people, “steadfastly and creatively applying Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought; persistent to the goal of national independence and socialism, the Party’s innovation policy and the principles of Party building to firmly build and defend the socialist Fatherland”⁽⁶⁾. Therefore, “promoting revolutionary moral education associated with the implementation of political tasks”⁽⁷⁾ is important requirements for each cadre and Party member; one important criteria of the revolutionary ethics of cadres and Party members.

Thirdly, revolutionary ethical practice goes in line with strictly handling ethical and lifestyle violations, at the same time, praising good examples of revolutionary ethics.

Currently, the conditions of one-Party ruling, socialist-oriented market economy, globalization and international integration, rapid development of information, science and technology have facilitated the country’s innovation in general, and the process of building and developing high-quality human resources for the Party and State in particular. However, there remains a large portion of cadres and Party members who degrade their political ideology, ethics, and lifestyle, “self-evolution”, and “self-transformation” that cause bureaucracy, corruption, wastefulness, violate the people’s mastery right, adversely affect the stability and development of the country, the prestige of the Party and State, and threaten the survival of the regime. Therefore, our Party has always attached great importance on Party building in general and Party’s ethical building for cadres and party member in particular to resolve satisfactorily the relationship between “building” and “fighting”. These two processes have an organic relationship with each other. On one hand, we “build” in order to prevent early signs of violations of ethics and lifestyle. On the other hand, we “fight” to build and rectify the Party, to make it clean and strong. Reality in recent years requires us to overcome the following shortcomings: “Some grassroots Party organizations, a part of cadres, Party members, civil servants, and public employees are not exemplary. ... A part of cadres and Party members have faded ideology and faith, scare of difficulties and suffering, degraded political ideology, ethics, and lifestyle, “self-evolution”,

“self-transformation”⁽⁸⁾. Besides, we need praise good examples, good people, and good deeds.

Fourthly, revolutionary ethics and the practice of revolutionary ethics by cadres and Party members are precious values and the source of strength of the Party and the nation, must be properly recognized, preserved and promoted in the current international process.

In the theme of the 13th Party Congress, the element “Strengthening the building and rectification of the Party and a clean and strong political system...” was introduced for the first time. This demonstrates that the issue of building and rectifying a clean and strong Party is no longer the Party’s own issue but has become the matter of the entire political system, the task of the entire Party, the entire army and the entire people. The improvement of morality in the Party with bright moral examples of cadres and party members has a profound and broad influence on the moral values of the entire society and the nation. During his lifetime, President Ho Chi Minh wished the Vietnamese people to be a civilized, wise, and moral people. Today, generations of cadres, party members and the Communist Party of Vietnam always remember and follow his teaching: “Our Party is moral and civilized”. The revolutionary moral values of cadres and party members in particular and the compassionate values of the Vietnamese people in general become good symbols in the international friends’ hearts. This shows the superiority of the nature of socialism that we are aiming for.

3. Solutions to improve cadres and Party members’ awareness of revolutionary ethical practice

First, communicate and educate on the importance of cadres and Party members’ revolutionary ethical practice

Party organizations from central to grassroots levels need develop and implement communication and education programs on revolutionary ethics for cadres and Party members through Resolution study sessions, Party organization’s meetings to raise awareness of revolutionary values and the role of revolutionary ethics. Raising awareness will ensure the actions of cadres and Party members are correct and create a positive impact on the country’s development.

Second, renew both content and forms of the ideological and political training on revolutionary ethical practice.

Regularly organize seminars, forums, and Party’s meetings on revolutionary ethics and practicing revolutionary ethics; integrate this content in the theme of learning and following Ho Chi Minh’s thought, ethics, and style. This brings opportunities for Party members to interact, exchange experiences, and

learn revolutionary values from experienced leaders, experts, and comrades. The content must be integrated in a careful, focused, emphatic, clear, and understandable way. Diversify forms of communication and education to make it copious and informative.

Third, disseminate and spread good examples, good people and good deeds on revolutionary ethical practice to create a wide inspiration in the entire society.

Grassroots Party organizations and local governments need to honor the correct actions of cadres and Party members to inspire other Party members and the masses to practice revolutionary ethics. This both shows the Party and State's recognition, respect and encouragement for the positive contributions of Party members and cadres, through "taking the good to suppress the bad", spreading good examples, good deeds in the whole society.

Fourth, theoretical review and reality summary on revolutionary ethical practice.

This is a Party organization's regular work to ensure its timely innovation and perfection on par with the Party's leadership role. Besides, each cadre and Party member can express their views, opinions and aspirations towards the Party and State. At the same time, based on research and reality summarizing of the revolutionary ethical practices, we build and perfect a set of criteria on revolutionary ethics, then guide cadres and Party members to practice good revolutionary ethics in the new context.

Fifth, encourage and strengthen criticism and self-criticism; be resolute and strict to negative manifestations and violations of revolutionary ethics by cadres and Party members.

To do this, Party organizations in grassroots level need to build a mechanism that allow and protect cadres and Party members who dare to criticize and self-criticize to enhance the fighting power in the face of negativity, deterioration of revolutionary morality. In addition, it is necessary to develop a Law on the Party in the political system to enhance the sense of responsibility and deterrence for party members.

Sixth, promote supervision, inspection and handling of wrongdoings that are inconsistent with revolutionary ethics.

The Party needs to strengthen supervision, inspection and handling of wrongdoings and violations of revolutionary ethics by cadres and Party members. In the context of many social challenges, it is required to build the solidarity and consensus among the entire people, building people's trust in cadres, Party members, and Party organizations. This work must be carried out regularly, combining "build" and "fight" to improve the effectiveness of practicing revolutionary ethics for cadres and Party members.

Seventh, organize practical activities, associated with real social issues of the places where cadres and Party members reside.

Grassroots Party organizations need to organize practical activities, attached to real social problems, from very small things in the daily life of each cadre and Party member in residential areas, neighborhoods, to the workplace. Building close relationships between cadres, Party members and the masses; create the people's trust and love for cadres and Party members in particular and the cause of national innovation led by the Party in general.

Eighth, promote the role of mass media and use social platforms in raising awareness and practicing revolutionary ethics for cadres and Party members.

In the context of today's information expansion, mass media such as newspapers, radio, television, publishers... are the most effective information channels contributing to raising awareness of the practice of revolutionary ethics for cadres and Party members. On the one hand, it is necessary to make maximum use of social platforms to orient the revolutionary ethical behavior of individuals and communities, including cadres and Party members. On the other hand, social platforms help timely detect violations of revolutionary ethics by cadres and Party members, and also replicate pioneering examples to boost the revolutionary ethical practice, contribute to spreading good ethical values throughout society.

In summary, during the transition period to socialism in our country today, raising awareness of revolutionary ethical practices for cadres and Party members is a regular, long-term work throughout the revolutionary process. This is not only the Party's work but also a task of the entire political system. During his lifetime, President Ho Chi Minh always says, "to build socialism, we need socialist people"; "cadres are the roots of revolution"; "a sustainable root makes a sustainable tree". Therefore, to build socialism successfully, we need improve awareness of revolutionary ethics practice among each cadre and Party member, so that each of them really becomes public servant of the people. This is a fundamental and decisive factor to the success of the country's innovation, integration and development./.

(1) Communist Party of Vietnam (2016), *Documents of the 12th Congress*, Office of the Party Central Committee, H., p.187.

(2), (3), (4), (6), (7) Communist Party of Vietnam (2021), *Documents of the 13th Congress*, National Political Publishing House, H., Vol. 1, pp. 109, 180, 183, 184.

(5), (8) Communist Party of Vietnam (2021), *Documents of the 13th Congress*, National Political Publishing House, H., Vol. 2, p. 91, 237.