

On the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution

JRCL appeals to the working people all over the world

Workers and people all over the world!

We, the Japan Revolutionary Communist League (Revolutionary Marxist Faction), had a public political meeting in Tokyo on November 12th to mark the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. More than 1500 revolutionary, militant workers and students rallied from across the country. Through this meeting, we renewed our resolve to fight for the self-liberation of the working class in the 21st century.



It is a hundred years since the first proletarian revolution in history was achieved by Russian workers, peasants and soldiers under the leadership of Lenin and Trotsky. The revolution was realized with the Marxist vision of accomplishing a world revolution with the workers' state of Russia as its basis; however, the world working class today is still kept on the chains of capital and groaning in the midst of wars, poverty and oppression. This is the humiliating reality of the 21st-century world after the collapse of the USSR, where 'de-ideologization' has spread among the toiling masses with conventional Marxist ideas losing influence.

Revolutionary Russia was bureaucratically degenerated by Stalin who fabricated the myth of 'socialism in one country' and his descendants. Class struggles in other countries were betrayed and destroyed one after another. And in the end, the Stalinist USSR itself underwent self-destruction. In 1991, revolutionary Russia was finally buried and obliterated by the very hand of the then General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, in the form of thoroughly negating the historic significance of the Russian Revolution together with Marxism.

This grand reversal of the century must definitely be reversed again. We the JRCL are striving to do this. We are fighting to open a *second century of revolution*. Our banner for this is *against imperialism, against Stalinism*. Workers and people all over the world! We call on you to fight together with us to fundamentally eradicate wars, poverty and all the miseries of the 21st-century world!

Based on proletarian internationalism, let us fight to stave off a nuclear war!

Today, the world is faced with a serious crisis. A nuclear war may break out at any moment, anywhere. In fury at the Kim Jong-un regime of North Korea bent on developing nuclear missiles, which is in itself against the working class interests, the US imperialist administration led by Donald Trump is threatening to launch a pre-emptive attack on this country by showing off its overwhelming nuclear capabilities. The Japanese imperialist government led by Shinzo Abe, who is unashamedly clinging to Trump, is moving to participate in a war of aggression against North Korea. On the other hand, the Xi Jinping-led Chinese government, which has adopted the state strategy of ‘building a contemporarized, strong socialist country by 2049’, is taking advantage of the economic and political decline of US imperialism and increasing the wealth and military strength of the state under the banner, ‘Overtake America and pass it over’. The Trump-led US administration attended by the Abe-led Japanese government and the Xi-led Chinese government allied with the Putin-led Russian government are competing with each other in a nuclear arms race, while unreservedly showing their respective national interests and intending to push them to the utmost.

In the Middle East, US imperialism and Russia have been indiscriminately murdering Syrian and Iraqi people, each using the pretext of ‘eradicating the Islamic State’. This is not all. Confrontation between the Sunnite power of Saudi Arabia and Shiite Iran is escalating. Coupled with intervention by Russia and Western imperialist powers, the flames of war are raging and spreading over the region. In Europe, military tension is mounting more than ever between NATO and Russia over the Ukrainian issue.

Thus, in East Asia, in the Middle East and in Europe, a crisis that can spark off a Third World War is impending.

We the JRCL are struggling with all our strength to stop a nuclear Korean war. We are calling on the toiling masses in Japan and the USA, and in North and South Koreas, to rise in a united fight, beyond national borders, to overthrow the belligerent rulers of each country who are causing the crisis of a nuclear war. We are promoting this fight on the basis of proletarian internationalism, in the form of applying Lenin’s position of ‘revolutionary defeatism’ to our present policy against the impending war.

Comrades all over the world! Stand up together with us! Rise in a fight against wars and against your belligerent governments to radically break the crisis of a nuclear war!



Awake to the anti-Marxist nature of Stalinism!

In every country and region, toiling people are suffering from unemployment and harsh labour at low wages, with their rights denied. In this 21st century, they are groaning with misery comparable to the ‘classical misery’ of the times of Marx. Only a handful of capitalists and wealthy people are being enriched further, thus the gap between rich and poor widening extraordinarily. In this situation, Trump is fanning hatred against Muslims and immigrants. In Europe, far-right forces are emerging, chanting chauvinistic, ultra-nationalist slogans. This must be seen as a distorted form of the eruption of contradictions rooted in the class division and other disparities between social strata, which are becoming more and more serious.

In the United States and Europe as well as in Japan, contemporary capitalism is exhibiting signs of decay. The reason why it is allowed to stay in existence lies in that the working-class struggle for its liberation is now obliged to suffer disarray and stagnation owing to the grave crime committed by Gorbachev and his cronies who dismantled the Stalinist USSR by their own hands and finally obliterated revolutionary Russia, and besides, to the total ideological conversion of the self-styled ‘communist’ (in fact, Stalinist) parties all over the world. It is absolutely imperative for us, and all revolutionary fighters, to build up a worldwide struggle for the self-liberation of the working class by truly succeeding the achievements of the Russian Revolution.

The collapse of the USSR is not proof of the ‘bankruptcy of Marxism’ or the ‘failure of socialism’, as propagandized by the bourgeoisie. It means the inevitable failure of Stalinism because of its anti-Marxist, anti-Leninist nature. Even though the Soviet Union disappeared from the stage of history, the world-historical significance of the Russian Revolution, a glorious step forward towards the self-liberation of the world proletariat, can never be obliterated. The true value of Marxism-Leninism that supported it shall never be shaken. On the contrary, the collapse of the ‘USSR-type socialism’ is, for us revolutionary Marxists, actual proof of the revolutionary nature of Marx’s thought. Marx’s thought lives beyond ages; it is shining ever more radiantly today. The road to overthrow this dark 21st-century world will be opened when the world working class awakens to the anti-Marxist nature of Stalinism and arises in an international fight.

Rally under the banner of *anti-imperialism, anti-Stalinism!*

In October, 1956, when Hungarian workers rose up and when the Soviet bureaucracy trampled them down by tanks, Kan’ichi Kuroda, the founder of the JRCL, faced up to this event by remaining true to his ‘Subjectivity as a communist’ and actually realizing it. Thus he took a step towards the foundation of an anti-Stalinist, revolutionary communist movement in Japan.

By inheriting the late Comrade Kuroda's revolutionary spirit and the whole of his assiduous theoretical, philosophical efforts, we are striving to actualize our strategy for world revolution: Down with imperialism! Down with Stalinism!

We call on workers and people all over the world! Let us fight together to reverse the 'grand reversal of the century', the obliteration of revolutionary Russia perpetrated by Stalinists.

We call on Chinese working people who are enduring all kinds of hardships under the bureaucratic state with a fake signboard of 'socialism'. Awake to the anti-working class nature of your 'country of market socialism'! Create organized forces for overthrowing the autocratic ruling system under the neo-Stalinist bureaucracy!

We call on the working people of the former USSR constituent republics, including the people in Russia who are suffering under the authoritarian rule of Putin, a present-day Ivan the Terrible. Awake to the criminal nature of Stalinists, who bureaucratically deteriorated and finally obliterated revolutionary Russia. Now is the time to rise up, aiming to overthrow the Putin-led authoritarian ruling system and Russian-type state capitalism!

Today, in Japan, leaders of the self-proclaimed Japanese Communist Party, in fact converted Stalinists, are heaping abuses on Marx's *Communist Manifesto* and Lenin's *State and Revolution*, saying that they are 'advocacy of violent revolution' and based on 'premature ideas'. By so doing, they are justifying their ideological conversion, their total abandonment of Marxism. In the middle of the critical situation where the neo-fascist Abe government is moving to Japan's participation in an aggressive war on North Korea, they are adopting a position of 'defending the homeland', exactly like the one that the Second International leaders adopted and was severely condemned by Lenin. Denouncing this crime of the JCP leadership, we the JRCL are fighting to encourage conscientious JCP members to break with converted Stalinism.

We call on you, workers and people of the world who are persistently fighting against the coercion of war, poverty and oppression! Rally under the banner of *anti-imperialism*, *anti-Stalinism*! Now is the time to revive the spirit of the Russian Revolution and fight together to turn the dark 21st-century into a *second century of proletarian revolution*!

(November, 2017)



(Left) Zengakuren students and Antiwar Youths marching against Trump's visit, Tokyo, Oct. 29th.
(Right) Workers and students attending the JRCL public meeting, Tokyo, Nov 12th.