«Stalin entered the ranks of the great classics of Marxism-Leninism through his principled stern struggle for the consistent defence and further development of the ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin.»

ENVER HOXHA

THE GREAT STALIN

«ZERI I POPULLIT»


When the fire of the National Liberation War was ablaze in the mountains of Albania, the Albanian communists and partisans loved him and had faith in him, because Party had taught them that he was the symbol of their struggle and resistance. The name of Stalin was linked with that of the great Lenin, with the Bolshevik Party and the October Revolution. It was Stalin who led the Red Army in the environs of Moscow and in Stalingrad, in Belgrade and Budapest, in Warsaw and Prague, and pursued the Hitlerite beast down to its lair in Berlin.

The love and respect of our Party and people for Stalin stemmed from deep-rooted conscious convictions, which grew stronger as they deepened their knowledge of his theoretical work and practical activity. This feeling was based on living history and could not be shaken either by the slanders and attacks of the bourgeoisie and reaction, or by the «secret» reports Khrushchev fabricated. Tito and Togliatti would applaud, the bourgeoisie and imperialism would be enthused about Khrushchev’s calls for «democratization» and «liberalization», but our Party, which always judged things with Marxist-Leninist maturity, would never follow them and would not join the dangerous dance Khrushchev sought to bring it into.

From the «History of the Party of Labour of Albania» and its published documents, and especially from the books of Comrade Enver Hoxha «With Stalin», «The Khrushchevites», it becomes quite clear how the struggle over this important question developed. From the very outset, our Party saw that the question of Stalin was a great problem of principled importance, and the campaign which was launched against Stalin coincided, not by accident, with other «bold initiatives» which were taken at that time by the team in power in the Soviet Union. The Party of Labour of Albania saw the connection between the attack against Stalin and the rapprochement of Khrushchev with Tito, the attempts of the rehabilitation of elements like Kostov, Rajk, and Kogi Xoxe, the opportunist and capitulationist policy towards imperialism. From its study of the historical moment and the development of immediate events, our Party reached the conclusion that the attack on the figure of Stalin was essentially an attack against Marxism-Leninism, the first tribute Khrushchev was willing to pay in return for the counter-revolutionary alliance that was in the making between the Khrushchevites and American imperialism. History proved the correctness of this conclusion.

The defence the Party of Labour and Comrade Enver Hoxha have made of the figure of Stalin is not prompted only by the aim of doing justice to an historic personality. By defending the figure and work of Stalin the Party of Labour and Comrade Enver Hoxha have made of the figure of Stalin is not prompted only by the aim of doing justice to an historic personality. By defending the figure and work of Stalin the Party of Labour of Albania and Comrade Enver Hoxha have defended, first of all, the Marxist-Leninist theory, the ideological and political line Joseph Stalin pursued for 30 years on end, during which he led the Party and the Soviet state. This was a turbulent historical period not only for the Soviet proletarian state, but also for all the world, a period in which Stalin carried out an all-sided political and practical activity that became an inseparable and essential part of the revolutionary doctrine of...
JOSIPH VISSARIONOVICH STALIN
1879-1953
the working class. In his works Stalin analysed and further developed the fundamental principles of dialectical and historical materialism formulated by Marx, Engels and Lenin. This theoretical contribution together with his activity as the main leader of the Soviet Party and state constitute the essence of the figure of J. Stalin. Stalin gave leadership and guidance in the industrialization of the country, in the setting up of its powerful industry which was to play a decisive role in the victory over the nazi-fascists. Stalin worked out and carried out in practice on a broad scale the line and policy for the collectivization of agriculture. Stalin, at the head of the Party, mobilized the masses for the carrying out of the five-year plans, doing snort work of the sabotage activities of the Trotskyites, Zinovievites, Bukharinistes, whom Khrushchev and his associates later were to proclaim as victims of the «personality cult». To Stalin’s solicitude, revolutionary vigilance and determination belongs the strengthening and tempering of the Red Army, the purging of the ranks of the Party of the right and left opportunists, the Trotskyites and Bukharinite group elements. Stalin always strove that the Party acted and fought according to the Marxist-Leninist principles and norms.

All this constituted the target the Khrushchevite mafia had to attack in order to reach its goal for which it had been working in secret when Stalin was still alive. The plotters who were digging the grave for the October Revolution had to liquidate the revolutionary theory and practice, to attack Marxism-Leninism and the dictatorship of the proletariat which Stalin had defended and implemented. In their feverish quest for a means which would do the trick for them without harming them, they concocted the legend of Stalin «crimes» and «despotism», fabricating facts and arguments. This legend, as history would show, was the brain-child of those who had committed those crimes themselves behind the back of Stalin, of those who were to set up their own cult and establish their own savage fascist dictatorship in the Soviet Union, of those who were to reduce the freedom of Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan under the chains of their tanks, to buy and sell countries and peoples, to dispatch their naval units and submarines all over the world, to engage in espionage and terrorism, to turn the country of the Soviets into a gaol of their own people and their state into a gendarme of other countries. Who denigrated Stalin and the epoch of Stalin? Who were those who accused him of dogmatism? It was American imperialism, the enemy of freedom and progress, the bullwork of all bloody cliques and regimes, it was Tito, Ranković and the other Trotskyites who set up their concentration camps to round up the communists, who killed the Albanian people in Yugoslavia or drove them out of their land, who sent in tanks and aircraft against the population and the youth that called for their legitimate rights in peaceful demonstrations. They based their attack against Stalin on the allegations of all those elements whom the dictatorship of the proletariat had condemned.

The development of events from the death of J. V. Stalin to this day has shown in an indisputable manner the correctness of the Marxist-Leninist line and policy Stalin mapped out and implemented. The failures in the economy and the aggressive policy of Soviet social-imperialism, the recent events in Poland, the critical economic, political and national situation in Yugoslavia are proof, not of the failure of socialism, as the spokesmen of the bourgeoisie like to make out, but of the fact that abandonment of the Marxist-Leninist theory inevitably leads to capitalism, to the establishment of the regime of the new bourgeoisie.

The peoples saw in Stalin their friend and defender, the great internationalist leader, a man modest, mature and gentle, whereas the imperialists saw in him their stern, determined and intelligent opponent. It was Khrushchev, Brezhnev and Andropov and Co., who have impugned the dignity of the Soviet Union, which Stalin kept high even in the most difficult moments of the war, rejecting the «demands» of the Anglo-Americans who tried to avail themselves of the situation that the attack of Hitlerite Germany had created. Pressure and blackmail, or dealings over markets and spheres of influence did not work on Stalin.

The correctness of the line of Lenin and Stalin is thoroughly proved by the experience of the revolution and the construction of socialism in our country, by the history of our Party which has always remained loyal to the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin. In the space of nearly four decades the Albanian working masses have changed the aspect of their country because our Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha have consistently applied the teachings of Lenin and Stalin in a creative manner. Only because of this road, the dictatorship of the proletariat in our country has smashed the class enemy, and tempered and strengthened itself, despite all allegations of «dogmatism», «bureaucratic etatism», «isolation», etc. etc. So our people are up and united as one around the Party, ready to cope with anyone who could dare touch their freedom and independence. For all these reasons, the stand towards Stalin has been and remains the line of demarcation between Marxist-Leninists and the renegades from Marxism-Leninism, between revolutionaries and counter-revolutionaries.

«Stalinism» is one of the «gravest» accusations the bourgeois propaganda uses frequently against our Party and socialist state. «Stalinism» in the mouths of the «democratic» prattlers in the pay of the bourgeoisie signifies «despotism», «totalitarianism». They give this word all the foul connotations of the bourgeois and revisionist dictatorship. For the revolutionaries the «Stalinist» is the Marxist-Leninist, the valiant and intrepid fighter for the revolution. In this sense, this attribute goes by right to our heroic Party.

Comrade Enver Hoxha has said, «Our Party and people will continue the road of Karl Marx, Frederick Engels, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin and Joseph Stalin. The coming generations of Albania will loyally pursue the line of their beloved Party.»