

Document 14.1: Excerpts from “One Hundred Items for Destroying the Old and Establishing the New,” created by Red Guards at the #26 Middle School, Beijing, August 1966

Students at Beijing No. 26 Middle School created a list of 100 instructions for how the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution should be carried out. They also renamed their school The Maoism School.

The onrushing tide of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution is just now crashing down on the remnant strength of the bourgeoisie with the might of a thunderbolt, washing the old ideology, the old culture, the old customs, and the old habits of the bourgeoisie down the stream. Chairman Mao tells us: “In the last analysis, all the truths of Marxism can be summed up in one sentence. ‘To rebel is justified.’” The present Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution must overthrow the old ideology, the old customs, and the old habits; to rebel all out against the bourgeoisie is to completely smash the bourgeoisie, to establish the proletariat on a grand scale, to make the radiance of great Mao Zedong Thought illuminate the entire capital, the entire nation, the entire world. Armed with great Mao Zedong Thought we are the most militant troops, the mortal enemy of the “four olds”; we are the destroyers of the old world; we are the creators of the new world. We must raise high the great red banner of Mao Zedong Thought, open savage fire on the “four olds,” smash to bits imperialist, revisionist, and bourgeois gods and all things not in accord with Chairman Mao’s thought. We must thoroughly clear the books of the utterly illogical capitalist system. We must make great Mao Zedong Thought shine out over the whole world; we must make our great fatherland revolutionary, militant, and radiant with Mao Zedong Thought; we must make a brand-new China appear in the world.

1. Under the charge of residential committees, every street must set up a quotation plaque; every household must have on its walls a picture of the Chairman plus quotations by Chairman Mao.

2. More quotations by Chairman Mao must be put up in the parks. Ticket takers on buses and conductors on trains should make the propagation of Mao Zedong Thought and the reading of Chairman Mao's quotations their primary task.
3. The management bureaus of publishing enterprises must mainly print Chairman Mao's works, and most of the sales of New China bookstores must make the radiance of Mao Zedong Thought shine in every corner of the whole country.
4. Printing companies must print quotations by the Chairman in large numbers; they must be sold in every bookstore until there is a copy of the *Quotations from Chairman Mao* in the hands of everyone in the whole country.
5. With a copy of the *Quotations from Chairman Mao* in the hands of everyone, each must carry it with him, constantly study it, and do everything in accord with it.
6. Fine art publishing companies must print large batches of stock quotations by the Chairman. Especially on anniversary occasions, they must sell great quantities of quotations and revolutionary couplets – enough to satisfy the needs of the people.
7. Plaques of quotations by the Chairman must be hung on all available bicycles and pedicabs; pictures of the Chairman must be hung and Chairman Mao's sayings painted on motor vehicles and trains.
8. The relevant departments must manufacture bicycle and pedicab quotation plaques on a scale large enough to meet the needs of the people.
9. Newly manufactured products such as bicycles, motor vehicles, trains, airplanes, etc., must uniformly bear quotation plaques. This procedure must be increased, not decreased.
10. Neighborhood work must put Mao Zedong Thought in first place, must set up small groups for the study of Chairman Mao's works, and must revolutionize housewives.

11. Every school and every unit must set up highest directive propaganda teams so that everyone can hear at any time the repeated instructions of the Chairman.
12. Broadcasting units must be set up in every park and at every major intersection, and, under the organizational responsibility of such organs as the Red Guards, propagate Mao Zedong Thought and current international and national events.
13. The old national anthem absolutely must be reformed by the workers, peasants, and soldiers into a eulogy to the Party and Chairman Mao; this big poisonous weed of Tian Han must be rooted out.
14. Neighborhood residential committees must put up several newspaper display cases so that everyone can take an interest in major national and world events.
15. From now on every newspaper must put Mao Zedong Thought in first place. Editorials must be few and to the point, and there must be more good articles dealing with the living study and loving application of the Chairman's works by the workers, peasants, and soldiers.
16. Letters and stamps must never have bourgeois things printed on them (such as cats, dogs, or other artistic things). Politics must be predominant. A quotation by Chairman Mao or a militant utterance by a hero must be printed on every envelope.
17. When members of companies celebrate brigade days, they are not permitted to visit parks. They must strengthen their class education and their education in Mao Zedong Thought.
18. Hereafter on the national day, everyone must carry a copy of the Chairman's quotations and a bouquet, and the bouquets must be arranged in slogans.

19. Shop windows cannot be dominated by displays of scents and perfumes. They must be decorated with simplicity and dignity and must put Mao Zedong Thought first.

20. Theaters must have a strong political atmosphere. Before the movie starts, quotations from Chairman Mao must be shown. Don't let the bourgeoisie rule our stages. Cut the superfluous hooligan scenes, and reduce the price of tickets on behalf of the workers, peasants, and soldiers.

21. Literary and art workers must energetically model in clay heroic images of workers, peasants, and soldiers engaged in living study and living application of Chairman Mao's words. Their works must be pervaded by the one red line of Mao Zedong Thought.

22. All professional literary and art teams must gradually be transformed into Mao Zedong Thought propaganda teams like the *Ulanmuqi* [cultural team] and the "Sea-Borne Cultural Workers' Company"; they must be highly proletarianized, highly militant, and highly ideologized.

23. Our nation has already been established for seventeen years. But those who drank the blood of the people and oppressed the people before the Liberation, those bourgeois bastards, are still collecting fixed interest and interest from stocks and living the lives of parasites. We want you: Immediately desist from collecting fixed interest and interest from stocks; you are only allowed to honestly reform your bastardly ideology – you are not permitted to exploit the people.

24. You landowners who still rode on the people's heads and drank the people's blood after the Liberation, we order you bastards to hurry up and turn over all your private holdings to the state. In a socialist state we absolutely cannot allow you vampires to exist.

25. In a proletarian society, private enterprise cannot be allowed to exist. We propose to take all firms using joint state and private management and change them to state

management and change joint state and private management enterprises into state-owned enterprises.

26. Our socialist society absolutely cannot allow any hoodlums or juvenile delinquents to exist. We order you right this minute to get rid of your blue jeans, shave off your stick hairdos, take off your rocket shoes, and quit your black organizations. Beijing is the heart of world revolution. It is not the big world you squatted on before the Liberation. We warn you: You are not allowed to go on recklessly doing your evil deeds—if you do, you will be responsible for the consequences.

27. All who are in service trades are not permitted to serve the bourgeoisie. Clothing stores are firmly prohibited from making tight pants, Hong Kong-style suits, weird women's outfits, and grotesque men's suits. All revolutionary comrades in service trades must strictly adhere to this.

28. All daily necessities (perfume, snowflake cream, etc.) that do not serve the broad worker, peasant, and soldier masses must be prohibited from sale right away. Merchandise trademark designs must be radically changed.

29. Photography studios must serve the broad worker, peasant, soldier masses and must abolish the taking of profile photos and all kinds of grotesque pictures. Display windows should be arranged with large, simple photos of workers, peasants, and soldiers.

30. Stop producing poker cards, military chess, and all other such things that advertise bourgeois ideology.

31. Trading stores cannot sell secondhand clothes, Western clothes, or any other ridiculous things the bourgeoisie love to see.

32. Laundries must cease washing pants, stockings, and handkerchiefs for those bourgeois wives, misses, and young gentlemen and completely crush their stuck-up airs.

Do not yield to their senseless demands; you should greatly enhance the pride of the proletariat and utterly destroy bourgeois pomp.

33. Public baths must consistently desist from serving those bourgeois sons of bitches. Don't give them massage baths, footrubs, backrubs; don't let them bow our heads again, or abuse and ride roughshod over us.

34. Bookstores for classical books must this minute stop doing business. Children's bookstores must immediately destroy all pornographic children's books, and all bookstores and libraries must be internally purified and must clear away all poisonous weeds; do not permit these goods of the bourgeois ideology to be poured into our youth ever again.

35. All the landlords, rich-peasants, counter-revolutionaries, hooligans, Rightists, and other members of the Bourgeois class are not permitted to collect pornographic books and decadent records. Whoever violated this rule will, when discovered, be treated as guilty of attempting to restore the old order, and his collections will be destroyed.

36. Children must sing revolutionary songs. Those rotten tunes of the cat and dog variety must never again waft in the air of our socialist state. In this great socialist state of ours, absolutely no one is allowed to play games of chance.

37. The bastards of the bourgeoisie are not allowed to hire governesses. In whoever dares to violate or resist this rule and thus continues to ride on the heads of the laboring people will be severely punished.

38. All service industries must turn their faces toward the workers, peasants, and soldiers. They must bear a class nature; they cannot produce anything for the service of the bourgeoisie.

39. Every hospital must turn its face toward the workers, peasants, and soldiers. They must reform the old system and abolish the registration system.

40. Peddlers who make little toys to deceive and, in a disguised form, poison children, we order you to stop business right away. Not the least consideration will be shown toward those who violate this order. In addition, we order toy shops immediately to stop selling small toys such as watches, etc., that advertise bourgeois ideology.

41. Heads of families are not allowed to educate their children with bourgeois ideology. The feudal family-head system will be abolished. No more beating or scolding of children will be tolerated. If the child is not of one's own begetting, no mistreatment is allowed. Children will be consistently educated in Mao Zedong Thought....

Source: Reprinted in Schoenhals, Michael, ed. *China's Cultural Revolution, 1966–1976: Not a Dinner Party*. Armonk, New York: M.E. Sharpe, 1996. 212–217.