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# AN OBSERVATION OF CHE GUEVERA'S OPINION ON SOCIALIST AND THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

Ch.Bikshapathi, Associate Professor in Political Science. Government Degree College, Serilingampally, R.R.Dist. Hyderabad.

# **Abstract**

Following the success of the '26th July Movement,' Guevara served as the president of the National Bank of Cuba and later as the minister of industry from 1959 to 1961. His tenure involved significant economic reforms, including land redistribution and nationalisation of industries. Despite these efforts, challenges such as American trade sanctions strained the Cuban economy. Guevara's departure in 1965 marked a shift in his pursuits, leading to ventures in Africa and Bolivia.

Keywords: industrialisation, third world, communism, colonialism, socialism, imperialists.

# Introduction

Ernesto Guevara de la Serna, better known by his nickname Che Guevara, emerges as a revolutionary symbol whose life was characterised by an unrelenting devotion to the pursuit of justice and equality. Che was born in Rosario, Argentina, on June 14, 1928. His life story took place in the context of a continent characterised by injustice and poverty. He was a medical student who became a guerrilla leader. As he travelled around South and Central America, his experiences solidified into a strong conviction that armed revolution was the only way to address the region's enduring problems. His life's most significant event occurred in Cuba, where he was instrumental in Fidel Castro's "26th July Movement," which resulted in the fall of Fulgencio Batista, the island nation's ruler, in 1959.

This was the start of a turbulent but significant time in Guevara's life. He went on to hold important posts in the Cuban administration. He held the portfolios of Minister of Finance and President of the National Bank. He made many revolutionary reforms and took brave steps as Finance Minister.

#### Industrialisation

Che Guevara saw early in 1964 that the four-year plan he had started in 1961 to industrialise Cuba was having serious problems. The plan was to turn Cuba's mostly agrarian economy which was centred on the production and export of sugar into an industrialised one. There were many obstacles in the way of Che's Herculean efforts as minister of industry and head of the national bank. The U.S. economic blockade was partially to blame for these, along with organisational shortcomings, a lack of technology and technical skills, a shortage of replacement parts, and a shortage of trained personnel. These hindrances prevented Cuba from developing its manufacturing sector and increasing its agricultural output.

Reluctantly, Che came to the conclusion that Cuba would have to revert to its historical means of subsistence, which was the export of sugar, in light of the obstacles the industrialization plan faced. Che, however, was unwilling to heed the counsel of Cuba's advisors from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, who recommended giving up on the goal of industrialization completely. Che maintained that Cuba should have different economic relations with socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, than it should with capitalist nations, even though sugar production must resume.

Rather than treating Cuba primarily as a sugar supplier for the socialist bloc, he felt that more developed socialist countries had a duty to assist Cuba in its industrialization efforts if its underdeveloped economy and neocolonial legacy prevented it from doing so on its own.

Ideological and tactical differences were the basis of Che Guevara's conflicts with the Soviet Union and some groups within the Cuban Communist Party.

# **Soviet Union**

Che was a critic of the state capitalist economic system of the Soviet Union. He thought that the Soviet Union's reliance on material rewards and a dispersed financial management system in staterun industries prevented the emergence of a true socialist economy. Che promoted communist moral incentives and organisational strategies.

Che disagreed with Cuba's Soviet advisors' emphasis on maintaining the nation's focus on sugar production. He maintained that this strategy ran counter to the revolutionary government in Cuba's resolve to industrialise the economy quickly and replace capitalist organisational techniques with socialist ones.

Che believed that there was a tacit agreement between the US and the USSR to respect each other's international spheres of influence. Moscow was said to have agreed as a condition of this purported deal to prevent Havana from inciting revolution in the Americas and the Caribbean. Che's misgivings about the Soviet strategy for a worldwide revolution were exacerbated by his suspicions.

A key component of Che Guevara's revolutionary strategy and ideological position were his extensive travels around the world and his dedication to creating an anti-imperialist front. Che set out on a lengthy state visit to China, Africa, and back in early 1965. He travelled through several African nations on this trip, including Algeria, Mali, Guinea, Congo-Brazzaville, Ghana, Dahomey (Benin), Tanzania, and Egypt. Among his contacts were meetings with prominent Arab and African figures.

Che addressed the escalating international conflict between the Soviet Union and China during his visit to the People's Republic of China. Che expressed opinions more in line with the Chinese leadership than the Soviet Union did, despite the tensions. In order to free the Third World from Western imperialism, he promoted the creation of an anti-imperialist front. Che believed that Cuba ought to stand firmly in solidarity with newly independent Third World countries in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. His goal was to support socialist revolutions and national liberation movements in the Third World countries that were still under colonial rule.

At the Organization of Afro-Asian Solidarity's second conference in Algeria, Che launched a personal crusade. During his speech, he called for socialist nations to support popular revolutions in Third World neo-colonial and colonial countries, denouncing them as "accomplices of imperialist exploitation".

Che made on a personal level sacrifices are detailed in the text, including his split from his wife Aleida March and their five children. Che felt that his mission was important and that the sacrifices necessary to realise his revolutionary ideals were worth it, even in the face of pain and longing. Che conveyed a sense of melancholy through his self-awareness of the little time he spent with his family and his admission of missing important family moments during the holidays. He wrote poems and letters to Aleida that were filled with duty and intense affection. Industrialization difficulties, ideological differences with the Soviet Union, and Che's steadfast devotion to a revolutionary, antiimperialist vision all played a role in his decision to resign. His self-imposed hardships, such as being away from his family, demonstrated how deeply idealistic and committed he was to the socialist cause.

# Conclusion

He left the country to support revolutionary movements across the world. Che travelled far and wide in his pursuit of justice, from Africa to Bolivia, which finally led to his arrest and execution in 1967. Che Guevara left an enduring impact in the annals of history, symbolising revolutionary passion and intellectual devotion long after his death. Che Guevara's journey took an unexpected turn in 1965 when Fidel Castro declared Che's departure from Cuba, despite his ardent pursuit of revolutionary principles. Guevara set out on an expedition that would become a pivotal point in his turbulent life story, motivated by an unshakable ambition to spread the revolution's fires to other parts of the developing globe. Guevara travelled to Africa, more specifically the Congo, and spent months teaching rebel forces how to use guerrilla warfare methods. But his efforts faced insurmountable obstacles, leading him to secretly return to Cuba in 1966. Relentlessly overcoming obstacles, Guevara directed his attention towards Bolivia, intending to spearhead an army opposing René Barrientos Ortuño's administration. The sad Bolivian chapter of Che Guevara's revolutionary odyssey ended with U.S. help enabling the Bolivian army to apprehend Guevara and his shrinking group of soldiers. Guevara was executed on October 9, 1967, in the isolated Bolivian community of La Higuera; the location of his last resting place remains unknown. But he remained as the face of the revolution.

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