**J. STALIN**

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY J. V. STALIN**

**AT A MEETING OF VOTERS OF THE**

**STALIN ELECTORAL DISTRICT, MOSCOW**

**DECEMBER 11, 1937**

**IN THE BOLSHOI THEATRE**

From the Pamphlet Collection, J. Stalin,  
*Speeches Delivered at Meetings of Voters  
of the Stalin Electoral District*, *Moscow*,  
Foreign Languages Publishing House,  
Moscow, 1950.

(…) For my part, I would like to assure you, comrades, that you may safely rely on Comrade Stalin. (*Loud and sustained cheers. A voice:"And we all follow Comrade Stalin*!") You may take it for granted that Comrade Stalin will be able to discharge his duty to the people (*applause*), to the working class (*applause*), to the peasantry (*applause*) and to the intelligentsia. (*Applause.*)

Further, comrades, I would like to congratulate you on the occasion of the forthcoming national holiday, the day of the elections to the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union. (*Loud applause.*) The forthcoming elections are not merely elections, comrades, they are really a national holiday of our workers, our peasants and our intelligentsia. (*Loud applause.*)

Never in the history of the world have there been such really free and really democratic elections -- never! History knows no other example like it. (*Applause.*) The point is not that our elections will be universal, equal, secret and direct, although that fact in itself is of great importance. The point is that our universal elections will be carried out as the freest elections and the most democratic compared with elections in any other country in the world.

Universal elections exist and are also held in some capitalist countries, so-called democratic countries. But in what atmosphere are elections held there? In an atmosphere of class conflicts, in an atmosphere of class enmity, in an atmosphere of pressure brought to bear on the electors by the capitalists, landlords, bankers and other capitalist sharks. Such elections, even if they are universal, equal, secret and direct, cannot be called altogether free and altogether democratic elections.

Here, in our country, on the contrary, elections are held in an entirely different atmosphere. Here there are no capitalists and no landlords and, consequently, no pressure is exerted by propertied classes on non-propertied classes. Here elections are held in an atmosphere of collaboration between the workers, the peasants and the intelligentsia, in an atmosphere of mutual confidence between them, in an atmosphere, I would, say, of mutual friendship; because there are no capitalists in our country, no landlords, no exploitation, and nobody, in fact, to bring pressure to bear on people in order to distort their will.

That is why our elections are the only really free and really democratic elections in the whole world. (*Loud applause.*) Such free and really democratic elections could arise only on the basis of the triumph of the socialist system, only on the basis of the fact that in our country Socialism is not merely being built, but has already become part of the life, of the daily life of the people. Some ten years ago the question might still have been disputed as to whether Socialism could be built in our country or not. Today this is no longer a debatable question. Today it is a matter of facts, a matter of real life, a matter of habits that permeate the whole life of the people. Our mills and factories are being run without capitalists. The work is directed by men and women of the people. That is what we call Socialism in practice. In our fields the tillers of the land work without landlords and without kulaks. The work is directed by men and women of the people. That is what we call Socialism in daily life, that is what we call a free, socialist life.

It is on this basis that our new, really free and really democratic elections have arisen, elections which have no precedent in the history of mankind (…)

Kilde: <http://www.marx2mao.com/Stalin/SS37.html>

Oppgaver

1. Hvordan omtaler Stalin seg selv?

Han omtaler seg selv som en man kan stole på. En som gjennomfører det han lover, setter seg selv som en kamerat til arbeiderne, altså likeverdig til arbeiderne

1. Hvilke samfunnsgrupper støtter han seg på?

Han støtter seg på arbeidsgruppen som har blitt undertrykt sultet og hatt veldig dårlige levekår og bøndene. Også de med utdannelse

1. Hvordan hyller han Sovjetunionen som en sosialistisk stat?

Ved at de har fått gjennomført sosialismen i praksis og at det ikke er noen kapitalister i fabrikkene og andre arbeidsplasser

1. Hvordan kritiserer han vestlige land?

Han kritiserer dem ved å si at de egentlig ikke har ordentlig demokratiske valg på grunn av at det er et stort press i valgene ved fiendeskap mellom klassene. Stort press som velgerne må bære ved å velge riktig.

1. Hvorfor bør man være kritisk til kilden?

Man bør være kritisk til kilden fordi det er Stalin som taler. Han var kjent for å drive med mye propaganda, hvor mye av det som blir sagt ikke nødvendigvis er sant.