

**On the 75th Birthday
of the First Secretary
of the Central Committee
of the Socialist Unity Party
and Chairman of the State Council
of the GDR, Walter Ulbricht**

The articles by Rainer Arlt, "Revolutionary Worker, Statesman, Politician", and by Karl Urban, "The Constitutional Question in Walter Ulbricht's Political Writings", appreciate the merits of Walter Ulbricht in the creative application of Marxism-Leninism in Germany, in the foundation and strengthening of the first German state of peace.

Above all R. Arlt gives a description of Walter Ulbricht's activity in the course of the shaping of the socialist state and its law in the period of the developed system of socialism. Basing on the determination of the class character of the socialist state in the present stage of development as a political organization of the people led by the working class Walter Ulbricht underlines the growing importance and the new tasks of socialist public power. Theoretical basis of its continuous improvement as a type of a state of higher social order as well as for the development of the socialist economics is the knowledge won from the Marxist-Leninist analysis of the social relations that socialism is a relatively independent social entity. The socialist state is no short-term appearance of transition in the social development from capitalism to communism. Thus the tasks of the socialist state and legal order grow with the organization of the developed system of socialism, i. e. with the forming of its own social foundations.

Proceeding from this starting point R. Arlt shows Walter Ulbricht's initiative for the further completion of the operation and structure of the socialist state, for the working out

a model of the entire system of public guidance. He demonstrates the importance attached by Walter Ulbricht to the extension of socialist democracy, by which the majority and finally all citizens shall be enabled consciously to shape social life in all spheres apprehending the nexus of the whole relations and to observe their basic rights and duties consciously of their responsibility. Further the author describes Walter Ulbricht's part in the aimed installation of the socialist legal order and administration of justice which have systematically been completed in the recent years. Nearly all important legal branches have been codified after socialist principles. Walter Ulbricht appropriately characterizes the essence of the socialist law in contrast to the law of the capitalist German order of exploitation as "the realization of human freedom" to which belongs "a genuine justice which is not only an imaginary formula but which meets all spheres of the life". He worked out the close connection between the developed system of socialism and a new legal system resting on it. Finally R. Arlt underlines the close connection of Walter Ulbricht with the Academy for Public Science and Jurisprudence, Potsdam-Babelsberg which was named after him. Its work in the fields of research, training and education has always served the basic aim to educate capable staffs for the socialist public organs. Walter Ulbricht's attention was namely dedicated to the education of a rising generation of Marxist scientists in the fields of political science and jurisprudence. He masterly taught them to analyse and generalize the dynamics of social life, to adjust socialist guidance of the society to the practical necessities.

In his contribution Karl Urban values Walter Ulbricht's constitutional political work from historical right beginning with the preparation of the