

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST WORKERS' PARTY * WWW.ICWPREDFLAG.ORG



INDIA: FARMERS MASSIVELY FIGHT CAPITALIST-FASCIST TERROR NEED REVOLUTION FOR COMMUNIST WORKERS' POWER!

September 7 —Over half a million farmers, farmworkers and their supporters are taking to the streets in Uttar Pradesh (UP), the largest state in India. They are demanding the repeal of agricultural laws that will take away their land and livelihoods.

They have organized over 500 Langars (community kitchens) as thousands of buses, trucks, and trollies are descending on Muzaffarnagar, UP.

Police fired water cannons, tear gas, and rubber bullets at the marchers. Marchers fought back, overthrowing barricades and blocking free-

ways.

Towns and cities in the neighboring state of Haryana are calling the masses to Mahapanchayat (village gatherings) that are attracting thousands. The District Magistrate had asked police to 'break heads' of protesters, resulting in deadly violence. Masses are calling for the death sentence for him.

The fascist rulers have cut off the Internet and deployed more troops and paramilitary forces. Comrades and friends of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) are there, mobilizing for communism among the masses. We

will hear more from them as communication is re-established.

Muzaffarnagar: From Race War to Class War

An unprecedented half a million people, Hindu and Muslim workers, have gathered in Muzaffarnagar to support the farmers.

Back in 2013, the fascist BJP (which now rules India) had taken over this city and turned it into a racist war zone, dividing Hindu and Muslim workers. It was described as "the worst violence in Uttar Pradesh (UP) in recent history." Most of

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COMMUNIST PHILOSOPHY: WEAPON OF THE WORKING CLASS



EL SALVADOR— "We need to discuss communist philosophy, dialectical materialism," said an ICWP worker leader. "It is necessary to understand that the working class can sharpen contradictions and carry forward changes towards the communist system. It will help practical work in the factory or wherever we are," she concluded.

Another worker leader added: "All of this will help us to better understand reality. Sometimes we are overwhelmed with stress and the bosses' nightmares, and we believe and say that this will never change. But reality is not like that. So, let's take advantage of this moment and ask any questions or raise concerns that we have. That's why we are here: to discuss a little about dialectical materialism that helps us in the struggle for communism.

"I know that we are a little tired after having worked in the factory, but this will encourage us a lot," he concluded.

Ten comrades from the International Communist Workers' Party participated in the meeting. Seven of them are workers in a maquiladora factory.

In the past, communist parties did not trust the

masses and believed that philosophy could only be understood by intellectuals. But our party considers that the laws of dialectics are an indispensable weapon that the masses have in the struggle for Communism. We have to use it to know how capitalism works and what Communism will be like, to be able to overcome our weak points.

A comrade gave an example: "The ICWP started with five men and women workers in the factory. The commitment of the comrades to carrying out communist work has allowed us to

grow. There have been contradictions and we have managed to overcome them among the comrades and now we are dozens, and we aspire to achieve that hundreds, thousands and millions of workers organize themselves in the ICWP."

We need to understand and to take advantage of the contradictions of capitalism to be able to advance in mobilizing for communist revolution. To understand that this system is not eternal. Capitalist philosophy claims that its system will last

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A COMMUNIST WORLD WITHOUT MONEY: INDIA FARMERS' PROTEST INSPIRES GARMENT WORKERS

BENGALURU (India), September 12—Many garment workers have gathered in an area that was once frequented by a small tea-shop owner. He used to sell hot tea to hundreds of garment workers before they started their early morning shift. The shop owner is gone because most workers have no job. As much as 50% of garment workers are without employment. Most of them are gone as well.

These workers have come to the meeting because several members of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) have been going to the neighborhood. They are talking about communist revolution. Many workers are reading *Red Flag*. We are also massively distributing a short version of *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*.

What has attracted a larger number of workers is the recent news of the farmers' struggle in North India. We see videos of thousands of farmers, farmworkers, students confronting heavily armed police. Many of our ICWP comrades are participating in these agitations.

An ICWP comrade opened the meeting. She said that every day millions of people are losing jobs, food and petrol prices are rising, many workers are forced to go back to the villages with no jobs.

We in ICWP must take the initiative to mobilize the masses to destroy the capitalist system.

We must lead the masses to show that capitalism has no future. Only communism can create a society without the bosses, money, or banks.

Several workers were eager to talk now. Anu

said impatiently, "I agree that we don't need banks and money lenders. They rob us every day. But how can we live without money?"

Ranjana agreed with her and said, "Every month I struggle to have money. We are struggling because people like us don't have enough money." By now more and more workers had joined the conversation, and they were puzzled by a society without money.

Nisha has been working in a garment factory for over ten years. She joined ICWP last year. She said, "In my workshop, we women make very little money even after twenty years. Then we have supervisors who make lots of money after six months. Many of them are men." This opened a discussion about why women workers generally earn low wages, while they have to work at home and take care of the children.

"Women workers are low paid. But they are also sexually abused in the workplace as well as in the streets. They are fearful of retribution. The situation is worse for Dalit and Muslim workers. And it gets unbearable if they are from Bangladesh," said a worker who came to our meeting for the first time.

Now the ICWP comrade suggested that gender, race, religion, immigration status divide the working class because bosses make super-profits from these wage differences. Workers have to exchange their money for things they need to survive. If we don't have enough money, we cannot buy necessities, no matter how much we need them. Many workers are desperate, and they borrow from banks or loan sharks. That

grinds them to extreme poverty.

On the other hand, capitalists either borrow money or use the money from our own wages to modernize factories, transport, supply chain. This results in fewer jobs and increased production. But now the cost of making a new garment is lower, which means they have to produce a lot more to survive and stay afloat. They have to compete endlessly against other capitalists.

Marx described this phenomenon: "Capital is dead labor, which, vampire-like, lives only by sucking living labor, and lives the more, the more labor it sucks." The retooling, modernizing factories with a machine is dead labor.

For our class enemy, money is a way to make more money. This is the only way they can survive. Money for them is a social relationship of exploitation. During this competition, those capitalists who cannot make more money, cease to exist, causing mass unemployment. Those who make more money, continue to exploit workers by mass production and reduced workers, resulting in layoffs.

Workers must go to the root of this contradiction: workers must seize the means of production and end the rule of class exploitation. Only the working class can resolve this conflict that puts the international working class in a direct confrontation with the bosses.

We had an absorbing exchange of ideas about money. We welcome all to contribute to this discussion. More people want to come to our next meeting. We all took extra copies of *Red Flag*. The struggle continues.

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those killed were Muslim workers.

Several key leaders of the BJP were charged with murder. But – no surprise! – Modi and the current ruling BJP fascists dropped all charges. Meanwhile, thousands of Muslim and Dalit youth have languished in jails for the last eight years, without charges, on "suspicion of creating riots."

The fascist Modi government has tried to use the recent Taliban takeover of Afghanistan to inflame racist hatred again. Instead, 500,000 Hindu and Muslim workers united to support the farmers!

Build International Solidarity by Spreading Communism Everywhere

Only revolution for communist workers' power can defeat fascist capitalism.

Only in communism will land produce food for the masses, not profits for the capitalists. Only communism can guarantee useful collective work for all, producing and sharing everything the masses need without bosses, money or profit.

Only communism can destroy racism, nationalism and communalism at their roots. Only communism can end castes and classes and the oppression of women.

This is the struggle of ICWP comrades in India and everywhere! Let's spread the news of the India farmers' struggle. Let's support it by massively increasing distribution of *Red Flag* and other ICWP literature, and by organizing meetings in our workplaces, schools, neighborhoods and barracks.

Let's recruit many more new members to ICWP. This is the way to support the masses in struggle in India: by building ICWP everywhere in struggle against fascist capitalism, for communist workers' power.



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in Hindi:

<https://icwpredflag.org/wp/wordpress/volume-12-number-11/update-india-farmers-massively-fight-capitalist-fascist-terror/>



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South Africa Rebellions:

MASSES MUST REJECT ALL CAPITALIST POLITICIANS AND ORGANIZE FOR COMMUNISM

SOUTH AFRICA, September 12—*The ruling class here is at war with itself. The capitalists are at war with the citizens. The working class, including nurses, factory workers, soldiers and more, need to unite and join hands to fight our class enemies. We need to fight for a system that meets our needs: a communist system.*

Following the unrest and riots by the majority of the masses in two important provinces of Gauteng and Kwa-Zulu Natal (KZN), the capitalist class that leads the African National Congress (ANC) government has grown even more paranoid. They have deployed soldiers in most parts of these two provinces. The soldiers are even conducting random security checks inside the malls.

The issues that caused the unrest include unemployment, hunger, poverty, and the lack of

healthcare or any plan to deal with vaccinations and safety in the face of the coronavirus.

In trying to deflect from these issues, the president and his cronies have accused their political foes within the governing party of being responsible for the unrest. They have even blamed what they term “ethnic mobilisation” for the unrest. The president went so far as to call the unrest an insurrection without leaders nor face.

The soldiers shout patriotism, which only serves the interests of the capitalist class. A private business, SPAR group, is the one who made sure of the soldiers’ deployment in KZN. This is no surprise. After all, they have close ties to capitalists such as Pravin Gorhan and Ramaphosa. They donated handsomely to Ramaphosa’s presidential campaign.

Since Ramaphosa’s election, the ANC capitalist government has intensified the war against workers. During the pandemic they have frozen the workers’ salaries, particularly workers from the public sector.

The working class has no other option but to intensify our war against capitalism. Working-class liberation will only come when workers organize ourselves to overthrow the capitalist system.

Only when the working class joins and builds the mass communist party, International Com-

munist Workers’ Party (ICWP), can we usher in the new era, the communist era. The intensification of the war against capitalism lies in mobilizing workers, students, soldiers and the general masses to communism.

Hence the party here in SA and around the globe is utilizing the *Red Flag* newspaper and spreading communist ideas. We are organising and forming cells that will lead the party to be a mass party. This has included the student comrades forming a cell in Cape Town and using social networks to make friends, especially within the “leftist spaces”.

Many are open to our ideas. There is an ongoing struggle for such friends to join the ICWP instead of the reform movements that only prolong the working-class exploitation. Fighting directly for a communist society, with no money or exploitation or private property will lead to true liberation. That is the way to end capitalist exploitation.

The masses must refuse to get involved in the faction fight within the ANC. There is no lesser evil capitalist politician. They are all evils who profit from exploitation of the masses, regardless of their own internal contradictions.

The youth collective, guided by our philosophy of dialectical materialism and political line; *Mobilize the Masses for Communism* is committed to play a leading role in the war against capitalism. With dedication and discipline, this is the war we will and must win. Aluta continua.



Join Us and Support Red Flag

I am a worker from a maquila in El Salvador and one more who joins the *Red Flag* ICWP. A comrade invited me. I accepted the invitation. I went and I liked the solidarity that exists among comrades.

How I would like the International Communist Workers Party to spread quickly! And thus, be able to change that capitalist system that hurts us so much as workers, since there is no job without exploitation. We are already tired of reporting so much exploitation to the Ministry of Labor, but they do nothing.

I have been organized in several unions and it is a joke. The unions do nothing, because what the bosses do is buy off the leaders. And that is where the exploitation continues, and gets worse. Because they set us unattainable goals that we have to work more than ten hours to reach and to earn only 69 cents more than the minimum wage.

This is incredible, and only by growing as *Red Flag* can we change it. Given that we are talking with several comrades, we can. We only need to become aware of what we are living through.

So, I invite everyone to join us and support *Red Flag* because only united will we achieve a good way of life for our children.

-A New Comrade of ICWP



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forever, but communist philosophy tells us that everything is constantly changing.

A couple of young workers were asked if they had been taught any philosophy in high school. “I remember this as one more subject, and never in a way that could help us understand reality,” they responded.

A worker said, “They told me not to meet with you, that you were troublemakers, but you all invited me to the meetings and never tired of inviting me, I was able to bring my whole family. I understood that you were right in your ideas against the bosses.”

a reason for the participants to be tortured, murdered or disappeared. The rulers have a huge fear that the masses will understand and take up communist philosophy.

In this meeting, discussion of one of the main laws of dialectical materialism, the unity and struggle of opposites, made this law clear to the workers. A comrade said, “two things are interconnected with each other, but at the same time they interfere with each other. This is called ‘a dialectical contradiction.’”

We must review our internal contradictions. This is important because it can determine the ad-

vance or retreat of the party’s growth. Contradictions make things change.

An example is the unity and struggle between the working class and the bosses. This can lead to the crisis of the capitalist system but also to the triumph of the revolution through the organization of the workers for communism, defeating the class enemies.

Do we make friends, do we talk to our co-workers and friends about communism? Do we write for *Red Flag*? Do we take extra copies of *Red Flag* to share it?

Carrying out these actions can represent the change towards the victory of communism.

COMMUNIST COLLECTIVE LIVES WILL CHANGE HOW MASSES THINK: END SEXISM, RACISM ON THE SHOP FLOOR

SEATTLE (US)—When a white comrade started working at Boeing in the 1970s, small groups of older Black workers, some of whom did not know him, would invite him to join them when they had conversations in the aisles. Eventually, he found out why.

Area managers were on the prowl for any groups of Black or Latinx workers. The bosses would break up these discussions. They even wrote up disciplinary letters accusing these workers of “misusing company time.” Having white workers in these discussions provided a bit of protection.

Despite decades of corporate “diversity” initiatives since then, racism and sexism are worse than ever. A recent Seattle news headline assured us that “Boeing says racism won’t be tolerated.” To divert blame to “human nature” the reporter asked, “But will it be driven off the shop floor?”

The bosses’ racism, sexism, and xenophobia still infect the workforce. To end these evils, we must change the very nature of work. In communism, people will work for the collective benefit of the masses. It will no longer be a matter of getting a wage to survive.

There Is No Workplace Safety When Sexism and Racism Reign Supreme

Boeing has laid off 30,000 workers over the last two years. The company has started to recall a few workers because of attrition. One (E) used to work in a comrade’s area. Mostly women are in her job title: in particular, Asian women.

E, a regular reader of *Red Flag*, distributed the party pamphlet advocating communist revolution as the answer to xenophobia. She was an outspoken member of our group that confronted fascist, racist, sexist and Islamophobic ideology, which was vigorously fought over on the shop floor.

When E first worked at Boeing, her job caused her to need three surgeries for carpal tunnel syn-

drome. She transferred into our area specifically to do a job that would be easier on her wrists.

When E was unfairly dropped from the list of potential recalls, she protested. The company finally relented. But her new assignment was the same kind of job that had injured her before.

“I don’t know why they would put me back in that job unless they want to hurt me again,” E concluded.

This is suspicious to say the least. Soon after party members and friends retired, right-wing managers transferred all fourteen Asians from that work crew.

Bad Apples or Capitalism?

Racism is Boeing’s policy. That’s why their so-called diversity initiative ignores or encourages management attacks on all shop floor workers, especially those against women, and Black, Asian and Latinx workers. “Diversity initiatives” do nothing but perpetuate sexism and racism.

In the past year, Black workers were threatened with nooses in South Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Washington factories. The Human Relations (HR) Director even asked a Black HR employee why “Black people get so upset about a noose.”

Boeing, like all capitalists, needs racism and lies about “getting rid of bad apples.” But bad apples can’t be responsible for a century of racist, sexist, and xenophobic practice. The bottom line is that capitalism depends on these systemic evils to divide the working class and produce superprofits.

Communist revolution will eliminate production for profit. In a communist society, our lives will be filled with collective work. All aspects of production, indeed life, will incorporate this cooperative mentality.

For example, work assignments will not be in the hands of vengeful bosses. Indeed, there will

be no more bosses! Pay grades will play no part because there will be no pay grades.

Workers’ tasks will be based on the collective needs of our class. ICWP-led work collectives will figure out how to get things done as safely as possible. Communist collectives will share difficult assignments among many workers to avoid injury.

This cooperative lifestyle will make eliminating racism, sexism, and xenophobia possible. It will support the communist political struggle to end these ideologies.

Communists call cooperative work part of the material basis of the society we are organizing for. The material basis of communist society lays the foundation for the advancement of communist ideas.

After talking with E about her case and how other workers experienced similar attacks, a comrade blurted out, “And people wonder why I’m a communist revolutionary!”

“Yup!” E answered. She can see why our comrade joined the ICWP.

When more workers like E join our party, they will bring with them a world of experience that will help us reach the communist revolution we need. We plan to introduce E to more members of our party collective so she will feel comfortable joining the party and introducing others to communism. Her struggle is our struggle. And every struggle opens the door to communist understanding and ICWP growth.



IMMIGRANTS KEY TO THE FIGHT FOR A WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS

“The bosses let some of us into the United States because they need our labor power to work,” said a garment worker while receiving *Red Flag*.

We were talking about the recent brutal attack by the Mexican police and army on migrants from a caravan that wanted to travel from Tapachula, Mexico to the United States. They are fleeing hunger, misery and an even more uncertain future that capitalism offers them.

I talked to him about the need for a communist world without borders. And the need for workers like him to join our International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP) and organize other garment workers in the factories.

He said, “I am happy to have a job and I am afraid of losing it because of being in the struggle. But it fills me with anger that many treat us as stupid and ignorant ‘Indians.’ I would like a world where we all see each other with respect and as equals.”

We talked a bit about the civil war in Guatemala and how the capitalists massacred hundreds of thousands of indigenous people out of racism. There was not much time to discuss more, but we agreed to continue talking and continue the struggle about how to organize in the factory for communism.

After this conversation, I investigated more about the caravan that was attacked, which included hundreds of people, including children. They were from Haiti, Cuba, Venezuela, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.



Border crossing at Darien

It’s mainly Haitians, Cubans, Venezuelans and North Africans who have to cross from Colombia to Panama through an area known to migrants as the “Hell of Darien.” It is a dense jungle, full of mosquitoes, snakes, jaguars, rivers and swamps. They cross it in seven days of walking. Many die in the attempt.

Those who manage to reach the end of the Darien crossing reach a town called Bajo Chiquito that is inhabited by indigenous people. The indigenous people welcome them with open arms. They share what little they have to eat. There is also a healthcare post run by Doctors Without Borders. There they recover and then continue on their way.

“Everyone is welcome here,” a community

leader said in a recent interview.

For many of these migrants, the road is long and painful. Capitalism and its borders have no mercy on our class. You can die in Darien, be imprisoned in Panama, or be beaten, imprisoned in Mexico and returned to your place of origin, to start over.

This is one more reason to build a new communist society. The international working class has the strength and power to destroy walls and borders and build the communist revolution.

The worker we spoke with, like thousands of other migrants, can join the caravan towards communism by joining the ICWP.

-Worker in Los Angeles, USA

COVID, CAPITALISM AND THE SCHOOLS

LOS ANGELES, September 9—“Every week, teachers as well as students take the Covid test at my school,” said a high school teacher. “Last Tuesday morning I took the test but I didn’t get the positive result until Thursday.”

Although this teacher was vaccinated, he contracted Covid and endangered his students, coworkers, family members and others with whom he was in contact during the first week of school. After eight days without symptoms and a negative test, he went back to work. The government and the entire system of capitalism is responsible for all of this mess!

The accelerated push to open schools after a long virtual school year has been irresponsible and chaotic. Parents have sent their children to schools with great fear that their children will contract Covid.

During the first week of school in Los Angeles, 6500 students had to miss one or more days due to coronavirus. Nearly a thousand school workers missed at least one day from work due to sickness or exposure to an infected person.

In a conversation between another comrade and her friend at a barbecue last week the comrade said, “They want to open the schools so parents will go back to work. The capitalists can’t make profits off people sitting at home with their kids on Zoom.”

Her friend, a preschool teacher, responded: “The public schools were invented to do what the capitalists needed in the first place. In the US it was to teach farmers’ children the discipline to be factory workers. I want to facilitate the develop-

ment of children as whole, healthy, creative human beings. It’s a conflict I feel every day, working in an institution that wasn’t set up for that.”

Capitalism needs a school system that trains and indoctrinates young people. It also needs a workforce to produce and distribute goods for the capitalists’ profit.

Covid and the pandemic have threatened all that. Reopening the economy has been the urgent priority for the U.S. government and especially the Democratic Party. Reopening the schools was part of forcing parents—especially mothers—back to work.

Parents who had been able to stay home were forced to return to work after vaccines became available in different ways: (1) Federal financial assistance for unemployed workers ended. (2) Rental assistance ended. (3) Housing evictions (prohibited during the first part of the pandemic) are now allowed.

In the US, mothers are an integral part of the paid workforce. Many US families are made up of single mothers or just a couple and their children. Most families don’t have childcare unless the elementary schools are open. The capitalists are saying, “The schools are open, now you go to work!”

This is not true everywhere. In El Salvador, for example, there is more often an extended family network that supervises children who stay at home and do school remotely. So, the government was able open the economy before they opened the schools.

But one thing is universal in capitalism. Every school in every country is an institution that does what the capitalists and their government needs done. And schools in every country are arenas for struggle to mobilize the masses for communism.

The teacher who tested positive is back in the classroom. He and the ICWP schools collective in Los Angeles are distributing *Red Flag* and talking to students, parents and guardians, teachers and other school workers to make that potential a reality. Students, soldiers and workers with communist ideas can be part of the revolutionary force that can overthrow capitalism and build the communist world we need.

The virus is a product of the unsafe world economy in which human need is totally subordinated to the capitalist demand for profit. We fight for communism, where all production will be in the hands of the masses. The masses will eliminate money and markets and produce what they need—not for the profit of some boss.

So communism will be able to prioritize safety and health and eliminate or minimize deadly viruses. And the distribution of these goods will be guided by the principle of need and not by who can buy it.

Education in communist society will be to reproduce the communist system, not the capitalist system. Its goal will be the development of children as whole, healthy, creative human beings in a world free of exploitation. Older workers and young people will work and study side by side to build that new world where we receive

everything possible to live a full and healthy life.

To read more about our analysis of capitalist education and how education can serve the interests of the working class masses, read our pamphlet

COMMUNIST EDUCATION FOR A CLASSLESS SOCIETY

available at
icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf:



PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS TO
ICWPREDFLAG@NYM.HUSH.COM

Building Connections to Communism Through Relationships and Social Media

Growing up, I can vividly remember conversing with my family on topics ranging from sports to politics to religion, etc. These “debates” were always healthy conversations. I often found myself leaving the conversation more educated than when it had started.

I feel fortunate because although I was young, I was in a family atmosphere that made me feel comfortable enough to open up and give my opinions. This atmosphere also allowed me to comprehend things better than I normally would. Because I connected on a deep level with my family, they understood me, and I understood them. I am a big believer in the theory that we comprehend things we connect with, much better than things we may not connect with.

Interestingly enough, one of my family members is part of the communist party (ICWP). I can remember on May Day going and marching, handing out newspapers, and speaking as

a family on the values of communism and specifically what a world under communism would look like.

As I stated before, I was a lucky one. It was quite easy for me to comprehend these values and ideas of communism, because my family presented it in a way that I could understand and in a way I enjoyed learning.

Unfortunately, today, I have doubts whether the younger generations are able to get the message of the ICWP. I think a big factor in this is the platforms that these messages are being shared on.

As a kid born in 1993, I represent the last generation of humans that know what it is like to grow up without social media. I feel I play a role as a middleman between the older generations and the newer generations.

From what I have seen the main sources of spreading messages for the party are through newspapers and Facebook. Personally I believe these platforms are completely irrelevant to the younger generations that the party may be trying to target. Today, these generations

are using the likes of Twitter, Instagram and TikTok much more than Facebook or the newspaper. This brings me to the question; how can the party use these “younger generation platforms” to spread their message faster and more effectively?

-Millennial Friend

Red Flag responds: Using social media effectively requires having or building social networks. We would welcome your help as a “middleman” in building social networks for ICWP and making better use of our Twitter and Instagram accounts. But your remarks on comprehending things better when we connect with people (like family) are really key. We all need to work harder and more effectively to build these connections and use them to help our friends and family understand communism.



FIGHT FASCIST VIGILANTES BY MOBILIZING FOR COMMUNISM

September 7—The capitalist rulers of Texas (USA) have intensified their fascist attack on the working class with some deadly new laws.

One allows any random person to sue anyone who helps someone get an abortion. This kicks in at six weeks, when an embryo isn't even a fetus yet. The aim is to bankrupt women's health clinics so that desperate pregnant people are once again driven to dangerous bloody back-alley abortions.

The broader aim is to mobilize a mass fascist movement that can work hand-in-hand with the capitalist state.

Another piece of the strategy is a new voting law that encourage "partisan poll watchers" to threaten and intimidate BIPOC voters. This in a state that just legalized carrying handguns with no training or licensing requirements.

"It's vigilantism," said a Texas friend. "They're the US Taliban," commented another friend. "This is like the Fugitive Slave Act, where they deputized any white person to kidnap any Black person and turn them in for a bounty," said another.

The anti-abortion law is racist. Indigenous,

Latina and Black women already have the least access to health care of any kind, including reproductive health. It mainly attacks working-class women who don't have the means to get an abortion out of state or to support a larger family. It treats women as little more than a means to produce wage-slaves and cannon-fodder for the capitalist class.

Many are denouncing the Texas law, marching angrily, or trying to take down anti-abortion vigilante websites. They know that a society that truly values human life would provide health care and everything else that babies, children and adults need to live.

Such a society will have to be communist, not a "kinder and gentler" capitalism. It will have to replace wages, money, and markets with voluntary work to produce and share what everyone needs. Communism will finally end class society and, with it, the foundations of sexism and racism.

In communism, kids will be raised in community, not in isolation. The work and joy will be shared. Nobody will be prevented from bearing a child or forced to bear an unwanted one.

We expect that reproductive decisions, like all others, will be made with the help of a collective.

Communism will have no state institutions (like cops and jails) to repress the masses. Instead, the Party will organize everyone we can into a unified network of communist collectives. That's how we'll make decisions and solve social problems. We will support our neighbors and comrades, not snitch on them.

This is the message we need to bring to those mobilizing against fascism, to industrial workers and to soldiers: Mobilize masses for communism!

It's what we need to share with those who rely on the US Supreme Court to declare the "citizen enforcement" part of the Texas law unconstitutional. Or on Biden and the Democratic Party to "save abortion rights" with a federal law. They are not on the side of the working class! The enemy of your enemy isn't always your friend.

Liberals bemoan the rise of fascist vigilantes like the Texas anti-abortionists and the so-called "Proud Boys." But too many wait vainly and suicidally for the capitalists' politicians, laws and courts to stop them.

We need to learn from the long history of collusion between the capitalist state and civilian fascists.

Our friend mentioned the bounty hunters unleashed on fugitives from slavery. After slavery, police would arrest Black people and hold them in jail while alerting the Ku Klux Klan to organize lynch mobs. Death squads in Central America, Indonesia and many other places were/are civilian fascists (often trained by US imperialism) doing the dirty work of the state.

The Texas capitalists' law was written precisely to mobilize civilian fascists. The purpose was to prevent lawsuits against the state government and its official agents.

The capitalists and their state are the main enemies of the working-class masses. They use free-lance fascist vigilantes when it serves their purpose.

Our class must prepare to take on all of them with communist revolution.



2015 protests against Death Squads in Honduras

Red Flag thanks readers who have written with criticisms, comments, and stories.

We encourage more to take part in the ongoing struggle to develop our communist political line.

Criticism of Slogan on ICWP El Salvador May Day Banner.

Just a comment or a criticism about the picture on the front page of *Red Flag's* last edition, which reads: "Construyendo La Revolución Proletaria Mundial (Building the Proletarian Revolution Worldwide)."

This was the main banner in the ICWP May Day march in El Salvador in 2021.

Red Flag has used the picture of this banner several times.

We think that it doesn't really express what

our goal is. ICWP is building together with the proletarian masses a COMMUNIST revolution, not a PROLETARIAN revolution.

The proletariat is the agent of the revolution, but the goal is not a proletarian society or state. That was the slogan of the old communist movement. They fought for a proletarian revolution to establish the dictatorship of the proletariat.

In the communist revolution that ICWP is mobilizing the masses for, the proletariat ceases to be the proletariat after taking state power – no

longer wage slaves.

We fight for communist workers' power that will usher in and build a classless world, without wage slavery, borders or nations, racism, sexism, and all other anti-working-class ideologies created by class society.

Our new communist slogan should be: "The communist working masses will be the human race."

-Some Comrades



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CRITICISM WITH IDEAS AND WEAPONS: MATERIALISM AND REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE FOR COMMUNISM

The last article described how Marx and Engels modified the old traditional materialism. They developed a new social, historical, and dialectical materialism. The differences between the new materialism and the old are crucial for organizing communist revolution.

The old materialism simply said that everything that is real is made of matter. It saw material reality as completely independent of human thinking. In contrast, the new materialism recognizes that social structures can be material. Thus, it must acknowledge that ideas and ideologies can have real effects on what is material.

Ideas are products of material systems: that is, of human brains and social structures. But ideas are not material. They only exist as long as some material structure sustains them. The myths, religions and natural knowledge of ancient societies, for example, are gone forever unless they were written down or depicted in pictures and carvings.

People's thoughts constantly influence how we act. Workers would not go to work without believing they would be paid. Communism will be created when many people think it should be and understand how to fight for it. People learn what communism is and how to fight for it from the practical, material action of workers' revolutionary class struggles, past and present.

We learn from material reality only through "hands on" actions on reality. These actions are the basis for the correct theories that we need to know in order to deliberately and effectively

change reality.

Chinese communist Mao Zedong noted that Marx and Engels could work out their theories mainly because "they personally took part in the practice of the class struggle and the scientific experimentation of their time." He advised, "If you want to know the theory and methods of revolution, you must take part in revolution."

"An idea becomes a material force, once it is grasped by the masses," Marx wrote. Our party can build the movement for communism with ideas learned from practice.

But ideas are not enough to overcome capitalism. Marx also stated correctly that "The weapon of criticism [of capitalism and capitalist ideas] cannot replace criticism by weapons. Material force must be overthrown by material force." Only the organized masses, in a communist revolution led by industrial workers and soldiers, can apply that force.

We need theoretical argument and debate to unite the working class and guide it in the fight for communism. So, communists must conduct class struggle for communist ideas, including communist philosophy.

But ideological struggle is not all it takes to achieve communism. Marx's new materialism concluded that "all forms and products of [capitalist thinking] cannot be dissolved by mental criticism, but only by the practical overthrow of the actual social relations which gave rise to this idealistic humbug."

We must absorb the lesson that "not criticism

but revolution is the driving force of history [and] also of religion, of philosophy and all other kinds of theory."

Why don't the truest ideas become dominant under capitalism? Because of the power of the capitalist state and propaganda machine. "The class which is the ruling material force of society," Marx wrote, "is at the same time the ruling intellectual force."

For example, the capitalist class of every country uses its control of the economy, the schools, mass culture and the state to try to guarantee that divide-and-conquer ideologies dominate people's thinking. That includes racism, sexism, nationalism, xenophobia, religious bigotry and more.

Capitalist ideas are never completely dominant, however. Capitalist efforts to divide us can backfire dramatically. That happened worldwide after the racist murder of George Floyd, exposing the murderous racism of capitalism. It's happening now in India, where Hindu and Muslim workers are uniting in support of farmers.

The material reality is that capitalism does not and cannot meet the masses' needs. This is a foundation for our communist movement. It makes it possible to win a large section of the masses to communism.

But only after destroying capitalism with communist revolution can we bury all the vicious capitalist ideologies. Like the other miseries of capitalism, they are inescapable until we escape from capitalism.

Materialism means that our party needs to prepare for communist revolution. We must discuss revolution, study past successes and failures and engage in practical struggles that can help us and the masses learn how to fight for communism.

We have already made the crucial decision that preparing for revolution includes organizing inside the bosses' militaries. Our aim is to win millions to the fight for communist revolution.

Join us as we prepare to win communism by "criticism with weapons" against the capitalist system.



Comrades in South Africa always emphasize the importance of communist philosophy

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Why Fight for Communism?

Recently I had a conversation with a coworker that was in the Navy. He was very engaging in topics from the current situation in Afghanistan, U.S. politics, and even shared some U.S. history. He wanted to know where I stood with my political views.

We agreed that many things that the media shared with us on Afghan topics were false and were only used to persuade the general public that everything is okay.

We also agreed that the U.S. and other dominant countries are in crisis because of a failing government. He also feels from a militant standpoint that the U.S. is in a vulnerable position for other countries to gain complete control of global trade which may lead to war.

I shared with him that I have become very interested in trying to understand why we are in the mess we are in today, with greed and on the brink of war. Which led me to study history, and current beliefs of others during these times. For example, Capitalism, Socialism,

Communism, and everything else in between the lines have been very interesting learning experiences.

The comment and question that was made by a coworker is: "We all know that Communism is a beautiful system on paper, but it is a failed system. History shows that it has failed and why fight for something that has failed?"

My first instinct was to reply, no true Communism has ever existed. I told him, that is a tough question to answer and it's all in interpretation. For instance, governments for hundreds of years have used the bible to justify their atrocities throughout history. In my opinion religion is a beautiful thing and when practiced correctly many people benefit in a communal manner. I said again, it's all in interpretation of the teachings that one chooses to follow.

After some thought, I do feel that fighting for true Communism is much more worth the struggle rather than an unfair system of Capitalism. To some, Capitalism is all they know and cannot imagine a society where people are

equal, have everything they need to live, and live without being oppressed.

I do not blame the individual for not knowing about Communism because I too was once there. I respect their beliefs and just share my thoughts with those that are willing to converse.

I was thinking of the struggle I had at work with my coworker and shared it with other Comrades. They felt it is worth sharing in *Red Flag*.

Red Flag and international meetings have been a big part of the growth and development of our Collectives here at Los Angeles MTA. To constantly reevaluate our collective to find better ways to grow, and to constantly adjust to our collective needs.

The greatest weapon to contest the broken system of Capitalism is the power of knowledge of Communism.

-Comrade Transit Worker in Struggle

Twenty Years of US-China Imperialist Rivalry

DEFEAT CAPITALISTS' WAR PLANS BY MOBILIZING WORKERS AND SOLDIERS FOR COMMUNISM

China's astronomical growth over the last twenty years has seriously restricted the ability of US imperialism to expand in a global market. This growth has come on the backs of the Chinese working class. It has both economic and military dimensions, and makes eventual world war inevitable.

In 1999, the US rulers' Brookings Institute reported on "China's Hollow Military." Its realistic assessment was that China was unprepared to significantly challenge US capitalist interests. It called the Chinese army unprofessional, corrupt, and lacking the intention to oppose any US challenges.

Then, the Chinese air force consisted of a few dozen 'fourth generation' fighter aircraft, compared to over three thousand in the US arsenal. The Brookings report cited the Pentagon's recent damning report on "the caliber of China's military manpower." In a US-China conflict over US ally Taiwan, the small island could initially survive a massive Chinese air attack. The surviving Taiwan planes would cause China's "entire amphibious armada to sink in a single sortie."

The Brookings report concluded that "The numerous defects of its military establishment notwithstanding, China is a rising power that could one day significantly challenge the United States and its allies in East Asia. But it will be at least twenty years before China can pose such a threat."

Twenty years have come and gone. Meanwhile, China's military expenditures are now almost 15 times greater while the US military budget grew only about 50%. Nearly a third of the US budget goes to the Veterans' Administration – still paying for past wars. Further, the cost of producing military research and armament in China is only 20% of that in the US.

The Chinese capitalists' Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has 138 countries investing in highways, airports, seaports, hydroelectric power plants, fiber optics, solar, and wind energy. Using this infrastructure, the Chinese bosses can transport goods at lightning speed. The Covid-19 crisis illustrated the efficiency of this highly efficient supply chain.

A 2020 US government agency report explained Beijing's goal of creating a "world-class" (imperialist) military. BRI integrates movement of commodities with Air and Naval power. The US bosses fear that Chinese imperialism is overtaking US imperialism in key areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, core technology, satellites, outer space capabilities, and energy re-



Workers on strike in China

sources.

BRI has integrated almost all energy resources in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). This is setting off alarms in Washington as the Gulf countries' strong link to China leads Iran and Syria to open new embassies. Even Israel has signed a long-term military pact with China.

Contradictions of Imperialism:

Class Struggle in China

The Chinese capitalists' growth and their wealth accumulation come from a tremendous assault on the Chinese working class. Workers typically labor from 9 am to 9 pm, six days a week, often until they collapse. High-rise sweatshops are putting up security nets to prevent workers from committing suicide. This super-exploitation of the masses has created a surplus to be invested in mega-projects around the world. BRI countries add to this super-exploitation as they rip enormous surpluses from long-term contracts.

Accumulation and borrowing work in tandem. China's largest real estate development group, Evergrande, is about to default on a \$300 billion debt. This could cause major financial reverberations around the world. This process of accumulation will not stop until industrial workers and soldiers lead masses to crush capitalism and

build a classless society of communism.

World war is inevitable. Chinese imperialist expansion will have to break the foundation of the post-World War II order. That's when the US imperialists established their financial and military clout through the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and military occupations of Japan, Germany, and much of Europe and the South Pacific.

With the US weakening, China is preparing for the next world war. It's even beginning to penetrate Latin America, which the US has long regarded as its "back yard."

The entire capitalist/imperialist system is based on a very weak foundation. The rulers fear the working class. A US general observed that in Afghanistan, "the Army is there for the next paycheck." That's true of most capitalist militaries! That's why communists regard them as "paper tigers."

We must organize soldiers, sailors and marines with communist ideas so they will no longer fight the bosses' wars "for the next paycheck." Instead, they will fight to emancipate the working class under the banners of the International Communist Workers' Party.

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International Solidarity: Building ICWP in India

Last year in my community there was heavy flooding. Pretty soon we discovered that half of the city was submerged. These unprecedented rains caused the displacement of 1.2 million people. Most of us lost everything as the flood level reached 2 meters and more (over 6 feet).

The flooding caused a shortage of drinking water. Soon it was followed by outbreaks of malaria, typhoid, and cholera. Dead bodies and rotting animal carcasses created life unbearable. The poor working people, Dalits and Muslims, were the real victims of this disaster.

I thanked the kind comrades of ICWP for

helping us in this very dire condition. It was a tremendous gesture of international support. Today I want to renew my gratitude of the ICWP comrades as I heard in our news channel the devastation caused by flooding in NY City. Capitalism has claimed more lives of the poor people, just as it did in my home city last year. My heart goes out to them.

What I can do to alleviate their pain is to set my goal to destroy this profit hungry system. In India and many places around the world the system of profiteers shows no regard for impending climate change. Only the communism can and will put an end to this.

I am located halfway between Chennai and

Bengaluru. I am in communication with the comrades there. In our next meeting with the comrades there, I am planning to bring some of my neighbors who are interested in fighting for communist revolution.

Thanks, in gratitude and international solidarity.

-Comrade in India

