

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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

MARCH 8: INTERNATIONAL WORKING WOMEN'S DAY



International Working Women's Day invites us to struggle to mobilize the masses for a communist society. The end of wage slavery and class distinctions will destroy the material base for sexism in all its forms. ICWP will use communist workers' power to broaden the struggle that we carry out today against sexist ideas and practices. Communism and only communism can end the oppression of women!

Capitalists Can't Control Their Own System

WORKERS MUST DESTROY CAPITALISM WITH COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

LOS ANGELES (USA), February 14—"My co-workers are worried the value of the dollar is falling," said A, an industrial worker, during a meeting of the ICWP garment collective that was studying inflation. "And that means there are preparations for war."

Comrade B said, "It is useless for wages to increase, if the prices of what we consume have already gone up."

Comrade C added, "Due to this crisis, many garment workshops in downtown Los Angeles have closed because they do not want to pay \$15/hour. They prefer to have their clothes made in Mexico."

"This crisis is not just here, it is global," said D. "In other countries it is even worse. But I don't see people protesting in the streets."

Prices of things that workers must buy, like food and gasoline, have gone up sharply. In South Africa, Europe and elsewhere, they are around 6% higher than a year ago (7.5% in the

US). A rise in prices for many products all at once is called inflation. Its effect on workers is mainly bad since wages don't necessarily go up too.

During the pandemic, many factories were shut down or reduced production because workers were sick or because they could not sell their products. Recently people have been returning to work and spending more. Now demand for many products is greater than the industries can make and transport to stores.

When demand is greater than supply, prices go up. This is a law of motion of capitalism. That is, it happens whether people want it to happen or not.

Higher prices don't mean that things increase in value. Value is determined by the amount of human labor that it takes to make something, and that does not increase just because things cost more. Inflation means that money itself (dollars,

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India:

WORKING-CLASS STUDENTS FIGHT CAPITALIST SCHOOLING

We are a group of students in a fierce battle against the repressive government in Bihar. Many of us are in an unending queue for years to get our exams certified by the state authorities. We have taken out enormous amounts of loans to pay for our education and we feel it was a complete waste. Our parents are from extremely poor working-class families, and they were hoping we would take care of them in their old age. However, our mounting debt is killing us all. Suicide among unemployed youth is rampant.

We are absolutely fed up with the system. Three weeks ago, hundreds of thousands of youths organized demonstrations demanding jobs. The authorities brutally attacked us. Police entered dormitory halls with guns and teargas, and injured students brutally. Many of these students begged to be spared while sadistic police broke their bones with metal rods.

These events infuriated us. Our mass demonstrations turned into counterattacks on the police and the railway authorities. Many railway stations were engulfed, scores of trains were destroyed by massive fires and many railway tracks were uprooted by angry students. The situation escalated and the state government declared a curfew in several cities.

We were very encouraged to read copies of Red Flag. It described the conditions of autoworkers and their plight of instability and lack of jobs. We also feel that we have so much in

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ICWP BUILDS INTERNATIONAL STRUGGLE WITH NEW ANTI-RACISM PAMPHLET

February 6—“I am Dalit, I have experienced first-hand the poverty brought by casteism,” a comrade in India declared. “I am organizing six young Dalits in a nearby mining area. I am determined to help produce a new communist pamphlet about racism.”

From the struggles against casteism and communalism (religious prejudice) that started in India to the Black Lives Matter protests that started in the US, the ICWP has grown amidst anti-fascist protests. Millions have joined these uprisings worldwide. Most have learned to hate capitalism.

From these experiences, we are learning even more about how the capitalists divide us in order to intensify exploitation and maintain their control. As fascist attacks have sharpened, so has our understanding of the many aspects of racism. This is happening through struggles against the fascists and work among comrades and friends internationally, who know that only armed communist revolution can end the racist capitalist system.

The growth of the party in India, South Africa, Central America, the U.S. and elsewhere has broadened our understanding of the communist struggle to end all the deadly ploys the bosses use to divide the working class. This increased knowledge and growth make a new Party anti-racism pamphlet essential to invigorate our international anti-racist communist work.

“I want to help,” said a comrade who is rejoining the fight after decades.

“This is important; I want to be on the committee,” said another younger comrade, despite working more than one job to make ends meet.

Dozens more comrades and friends are eager to work on this new anti-racism pamphlet, discussed at a recent International Committee meeting of our party. Old friends and new friends; new comrades, and veteran comrades. The enthusiasm was unmistakable.

A South African comrade—part of a new generation of communist leaders—stepped up to lead the international collective tasked with writing the initial drafts of this pamphlet and creating social media content.

He opened the discussion by reminding us that the party’s concept of racism has expanded with the intensification of racism, in all its forms, around the world. Comrades suggested incorporating the fights against xenophobia, Islamophobia, and the rise of nationalism. Several explained how sexism intersects with the anti-racist battle. Another said that casteism is as important as racism in this worldwide fight.

The ICWP is one international party. The members of the anti-racism pamphlet collective reflect the global growth of the party. They see themselves as international comrades, rather than “national representatives.” Each will also work with local collectives.

Different pamphlet sections will explain specific aspects of the worldwide communist fight against racism in which Party members are active. With the help of comrades all over the

world, the pamphlet will make the case for global communist revolution and how communism can end all these bosses’ divisions.

How do we change the world?

The collective is tasked with leading this communist work by example and struggle. We must form the communist relations necessary to help those who have learned to hate capitalism become communist organizers. We must take this fight from the streets to the factories, barracks, schools, and more.

In this era of capitalist crisis and civil strife, racist ideologies fuel fascist movements. Even as comrades met to discuss the new pamphlet, neo-fascists organized the racist Canadian trucker convoys. These fascist mobilizations are now spreading around the world.

The international working class must be prepared to answer fascist violence with armed communist revolution. The battle will be hard, long, and filled with racist attacks. This collective of new leaders is an essential part of the preparation.

Comrades’ enthusiasm for the pamphlet project is right on time. This collective will make sure that all contributions will advance the communist struggle to end racism once and for all.

All comrades and friends can help by joining these struggles, discussing these issues with friends, family and co-workers, and writing for and distributing *Red Flag*. This is how the Party grows, how our theory improves, and how we will become strong enough to change the world.

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euros, yen, pounds, etc.) is worth less than it used to be.

Capitalists don’t want inflation, but for different reasons than workers. It makes it hard for capitalists to plan and it usually leads workers to demand higher wages. Bankers especially don’t like inflation because when money is worth less, debts can be paid off with “cheaper” money.

So capitalist government banks like the US Federal Reserve System try to keep inflation low by raising interest rates. This makes it more expensive to borrow money. Workers’ credit card bills go up, even for things they have already bought.

Higher interest rates have contradictory results for capitalists. They may limit inflation, but they make it more expensive for capitalists to expand. But the banks’ tools for controlling inflation are not very effective.

Inflation shows that even the capitalists can’t control their system to make it do what they want. Inflation, and much more serious things, like economic crises, are built into capitalism. **Because of the contradictions within capitalism, trying to reform it (to fix one bad thing) usually creates other serious problems.**

“What does communism offer to end inflation?” asked E, a transit worker who attended the garment collective meeting.

“We cannot solve that,” comrade F replied. “It results from the internal laws of capitalism.”

“We still have individual and family dreams that we are going to be able to eat or pay the rent,” said G, a retired transit comrade. “But dialectical materialism teaches us that situations change, not for the better but for the worse, as long as the exploitative system exists.”

The communist philosophy of materialism recognizes that there are natural and social facts and laws of motion about material things and processes. These laws and facts don’t depend on human choices. They last as long as the things and processes continue to exist.

“We must give the vision to other workers, through *Red Flag*,” F urged, “of a communist world without markets and without money” (and so without inflation). “And we must show the



February 4—Workers for Trendyol, a huge Turkish e-commerce outfit, got a 38% pay increase following a strike—but the inflation rate is close to 50%. Protests spread to other e-commerce companies, to factory workers and to journalists.

need to create more communist collectives to destroy the capitalist system, and how communism will produce to satisfy the masses’ needs in a collective way.”

“We can use this crisis to mobilize our co-workers, friends and family to fight for communism,” concluded comrade H. “Also, we can organize workplace and street-corner protests against inflation and for the revolution.”



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NEW MAQUILA WORKERS' COLLECTIVE MAKES PLANS TO ADVANCE COMMUNIST WORK

EL SALVADOR, February 14—“I have spent all my youth working in that factory,” said a comrade. “My labor power has stayed there. Together with the other workers, I have lived through injustice, labor exploitation and the bosses’ abuses.

“We work and produce dozens of clothes every day; with our work the boss increases his profits,” she continued. “The need to survive exposes us to this situation. My daughter also recently started working in the factory, and she will be one more comrade for the Party.”

A new workers’ collective of three women and three men met this week. It is the product of the ICWP international conference last December. Some members have been active for years but were not part of a cell. Others are new to the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP).

This collective is key to the organizational

work and expansion of communist ideas in the factory. The ideas of the party mobilize the working class directly for communism, not for higher wages. It is necessary to organize ourselves.

We discussed three points: the need to recruit more workers, the distribution of *Red Flag*, and May Day 2022.

We need to recruit more workers to the ranks of the ICWP since they are key for communist revolution. “Each member of the party must take this task seriously. We are the ones who produce everything, and our leadership is essential to defeat capitalism,” said a comrade. “We have readers who still do not meet with us. We have to investigate why.”

“How do we move forward with them?” asked a comrade.

We plan to involve them in all the activities

that we carry out, be it politics, birthday celebrations, or just sharing a coffee. The point is to strengthen relations with them. We must know what they think about communist ideas, if they believe that change is possible and how we can be part of this change.

On the second point: we look for the most effective way to distribute our *Red Flag* newspaper. We consider that the members must take more copies than they take today so that communist ideas reach the working class. In addition to that, we talk about the content, to provoke them to read *Red Flag*.

Finally, we discussed what we want to do for May Day, to elaborate the slogans of struggle, to invite more workers and organize all the aspects of marching that day. We concluded by assigning tasks for this great activity of the working class.

New Reader Shares *Red Flag* with a Co-worker

Through the constant struggle against the capitalist system to which we are subjected, we try to win more new comrades every day who know our ideology to mobilize the masses and fight for the communist society that we so desire.

We must not stop. We must continue fighting. That is why I continue to follow up with friends and family with whom I share our *Red Flag*

newspaper.

We held a face-to-face meeting after they read our newspaper. They were very motivated to see that their opinions were reflected in a letter in the previous edition. “It made me feel that we were taken into account and that other people internationally would learn about us through the newspaper,” said one.

Another friend told me, “I did not want to just keep the newspaper for myself. I shared it with a co-worker. We will continue reading it and shar-

ing *Red Flag*.” This makes me very happy because we are fulfilling our commitment to mobilize the masses for our communist struggle and increasing the number of our readers.

We will continue with our meetings to discuss our newspaper and the ideology of our ICWP to keep strengthening relations, since they are highly motivated to learn more about the international struggle that is taking place.

Comrade in El Salvador

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common with these workers and if we can organize strikes by workers and students, it would have a tremendous impact.

To successfully organize such strikes, we need to be united as workers. The government is trying to divide us by religion and caste which is deadly. We are workers, all of us. We want to read more about *Red Flag* because from our reading, you are the only organization that puts forward the necessity of uniting and fighting directly for communism.

Our time has come. No more fascist system, no more caste violence, it is a time for revolution.

We have learned that the education the bosses provided us was only for their limited use. Now is time to learn the real education in the streets and battlefields.

— Fighting and learning, student supporters of *Red Flag*.

Bihar, India, February 2022: “I was a teacher. Now I am with the protesters learning from them.”



EDUCATION IS MORE THAN SCHOOLING

OAKLAND (USA), February 15—Education is more than schooling. Students, parents, and teachers here have been getting some powerful lessons. First we saw strikes, led by students and supported by teachers and parents, for Covid-safe schools. Now we are amidst a massive movement opposing the bosses’ sudden attempt to close eight schools this year (now just one, the others are reprieved until next year). These schools all serve working class families.

And exactly what are we collectively learning? That a huge section of our community cares deeply about students. And that, acting in unity, our power is impressive. Now we are also learning that other sectors, like the Longshore workers (Oakland is a port city) are fighting a similar battle against privatization and so also support our battle.

It’s a powerful lesson and allows us communist teachers to offer the question:

If Longshoremen know they can run the docks better than profit-grabbing Port Commissioners, and teachers, parents and students realize they can run education better than the stooges for real estate interests on the School Board, what is stopping us?

Workers united across all lines the bosses use to divide us – “race” and “nationality,” gender and the kind of work we do – can run this world. That is what the fight for communism is about. Join us!

PUERTO RICO: MASS TEACHERS’ PROTESTS

PUERTO RICO, February 16— Thousands of teachers have led other government workers for weeks in island-wide strikes and protests. They are rejecting pension cuts and demanding pay raises to partly offset runaway inflation. A US federal judge provoked them by approving an imperialist debt restructuring plan. This guarantees loan repayments to banks and bondholders and promises growing profits for industrial capitalists – all at the expense of the working class.

A general strike is planned for February 18. Many strikers have little hope that any meager concessions from the governor—even if approved by the imperialist oversight board—would make a difference in the long run.

The long-run solution is not more militant trade-unionism, statehood, or independence. Everywhere in the world, it’s armed revolution for a communist society without money or nations. In communism, the masses will make all decisions based on providing for the needs of all. We’ll contribute our work as we’re able, and study and teach, throughout our lives.



HOW RACIST CAPITALISM LIES ABOUT PREHISTORY... AND WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM IT

LOS ANGELES (USA), February 13—“Maintaining a society of people who are free, equal and autonomous takes a lot of work!” Eleanor, an anthropologist, was leading our second discussion of *The Dawn of Everything*.

This book is packed with data that upend what we’ve been taught. “Tens of thousands of years ago, people were not just grunting bodies – they had philosophy, culture and art. That goes counter to prevailing popular culture,” remarked Luz.

Eighteenth-century European intellectuals debated what it meant to be “civilized.” They contrasted themselves to people they racistly called “savages” living in places that European capitalism sought to dominate.

Hobbes claimed that “human nature” was to be selfish, ruthless, and generally sinful. He advocated authoritarian government as the only way to control these urges and organize a complex society.

In contrast, Rousseau imagined “noble savages” supposedly living in small egalitarian bands until agriculture led people rushing into the chains of modern society.

This dualism has framed most social theory ever since. “I believed the Rousseau myth,” said Ernie. “I drew hope from the !Kung and Hansa people. Why not go back to an egalitarian foraging way of life like theirs? But agriculture seemed to make that impossible. This book broke open the possibility of egalitarian society for me in a new way.”

“The people who actually worked with the !Kung knew that the story was more complex,” Eleanor responded. “They did not idealize them or imagine they were some ‘primordial’ forms of human society.”

Linda reported that the European debate was a response to the “Indigenous Critique.” French missionaries and traders met indigenous people in the northeastern American woodlands with

very different ideas and ways of living.

And they wrote about them. An impoverished French nobleman known as Lahontan recorded his debates with the Wendat indigenous statesman and philosopher Kandiaronk, who had visited France.

Kandiaronk blasted French capitalist society. The French did not take care of each other. In contrast, no Wendat would let people starve and die in the streets.

The French believed outlandish things on faith. They could not debate matters rationally as Wendat people all did. Incredibly, French people were willing to take orders from others and subject themselves to laws and punishments.

After reflecting on European society for six years, Kandiaronk said, “I still can’t think of a single way they act that’s not inhuman.” He traced that to their “distinctions of ‘mine’ and ‘thine’” and affirmed that “what you call money is the devil of devils, the source of all evils.”

The European ruling class had to respond to this powerful critique. Turgot provided one in the 1750s with his ideology, now familiar, of “stages” of history. Turgot argued that the freedom and equality of Wendat life were signs of their “inferiority.” Every household, he conjectured incorrectly, must have been self-sufficient and very poor. He claimed that technological advances drove social reorganization ever upward, from hunting to pastoralism to farming to commercial life (capitalism).

“When I was young, I watched Bronowski’s ‘Ascent of Man’ on public TV,” declared Nina. “What ‘ascent’? More warfare, more greed.”

Turgot’s racist technological determinism framed most anthropology for a long time. That included the 19th century US scholar Lewis Henry Morgan. His studies of indigenous Americans provided the

main material for Engels’ Marxist classic *The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State*.

But the evidence now available to us – and there is much in *The Dawn of Everything* – proves this wrong.

Briefly: Archaeologists are literally unearthing large cities around the globe with no traces of inequality. On the other hand, some foragers (hunter-gatherer-fishers) lived in distinctly inegalitarian ways.

People who knew about and practiced some agriculture often continued to forage for most of their food. Within the same society, people would often live as free equals for part of each year but under authoritarian constraints for the rest.

The authors use this evidence selectively and sometimes in doubtful ways to make what is essentially a case for anarchism (against communism). Eleanor noted important material that they ignored entirely. We’ll write more about this later.

But we’re finding in the book a liberatory narrative of human possibilities for social organization. As our discussions continue, we’ll have more to say about ICWP’s vision and plans for communism.



Indigenous forager people built huge earthworks at Poverty Point (USA) some 3500 years ago. Similar prehistoric urban centers also existed in Japan and elsewhere.

South Africa:

CITIZEN AND IMMIGRANT WORKERS, UNITE TO SMASH CAPITALISM’S DIVISIONS

SOUTH AFRICA, February 12—Since the start of the pandemic, xenophobic attacks against foreign-born workers have skyrocketed at the hands of police and politicians alike. Workers worldwide have the same interests: to fight for a communist world that meets the needs of all workers, where we produce for need, not profit. The capitalist rulers fear that we will learn and act on this. That’s why they push xenophobia to divide us.

Julius Malema, leader of the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), made rounds on a mall last week to inspect the employee lists of various restaurants and shops. He apparently intended to assess the ratio of foreign-born workers to local-born workers.

On paper the opportunistic and self-serving EFF says they support African immigrants and condemn xenophobia. But this is only on paper. Their racist actions are a frontal assault on the whole working class.

Both the EFF and the Black Land First movement are responsible for some of the vile acts of violence committed against our class brothers and sisters. In recent weeks the African National Congress (ANC) has also joined in.

Just last month in Soweto, one of the largest townships in South Africa, an ANC councillor led a band of racist thugs against “spaza” shops

owned by people from other countries, burning them and looking for goods. One shop owner was killed. Several others were sent to the hospital.

As more and more working-class families continue to suffer because of Covid, because of exploitation and greed by the bosses and corruption by politicians, the rulers spread the lie that the reason for the lack of jobs is because of immigrants.

But the real reason is the crisis of capitalism, with its falling rate of profit and rising unemployment. Politicians like Malema are collaborating with the bosses’ playbook of dividing the workers, with the help of some of the union bosses like Irvin Jim of NUMSA.

To fight for higher profits, the bosses are attacking the workers harder. They are laying off local workers and hiring lower-paid workers, decreasing wages. Along with this are direct attacks by the police.

The bosses push xenophobia to blame immigrants for the crisis caused by the same capitalist system that forces workers to immigrate to look for work. This is happening

because of the bosses’ need for profit and their need to try to keep angry workers divided. They fear losing control of the workers.

We can see in past miners’ strikes and in mass protests against xenophobia in South Africa the real possibility of a united fight against capitalism. Our international party fights for the eradication of this racist system through revolution to establish a communist world without borders, exploitation, racism, or unemployment.

For us to liberate the working-class worldwide, we must build ICWP everywhere and take on the bosses’ racism with communist solutions.



Johannesburg, South Africa, 2015

WORKING-CLASS HISTORY: IRISH REBELS SHOWED THAT WORKERS CAN OVERCOME DIVISIONS AND RUN SOCIETY

This past January marked the 50th anniversary of what is known in Britain as “Bloody Sunday.” On January 30, 1972, fifteen thousand people marched unarmed for civil rights in Derry, Northern Ireland. It ended in a massacre by British troops.

Workers in Derry had taken over part of the city, with self-defence, a radio, and mutual aid. This self-rule is a small example of how workers can run society without the capitalist bosses. These moments terrify the ruling class and can inspire us to mobilize the working masses for communism. For this we can and must break the bonds of nationalism and sectarianism.

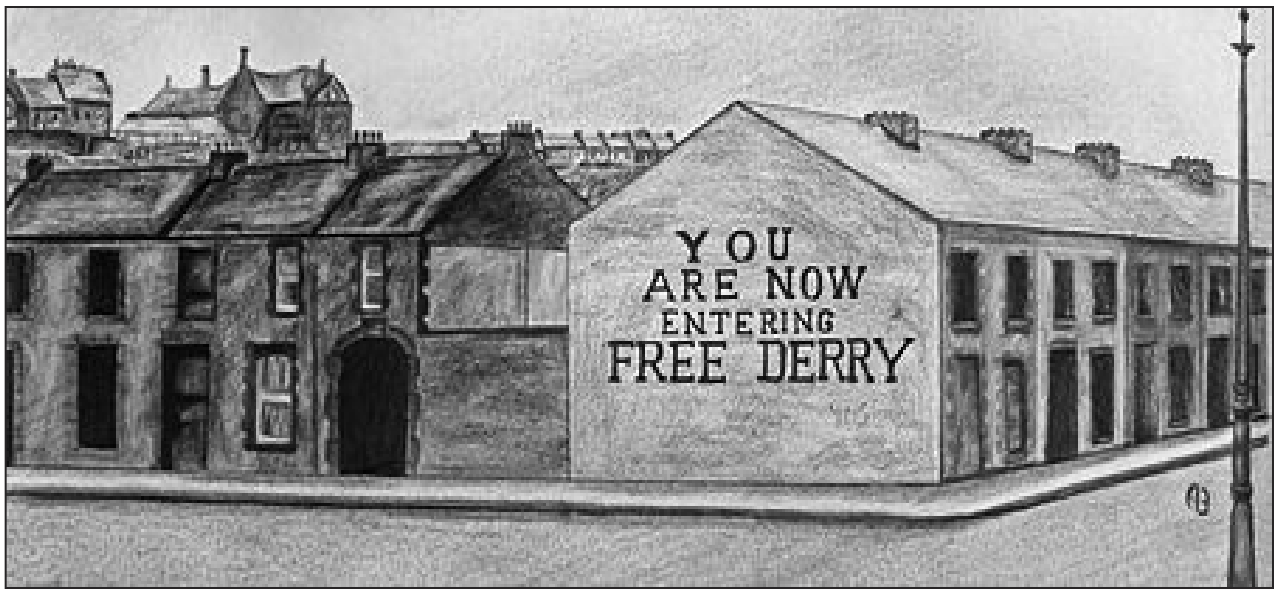
The north of Ireland was, and is still, under British colonial occupation. In 1972 its rigged political system favoured this occupation. The 1972 marchers were predominantly of Catholic background. They were persecuted by the “State of Northern Ireland” which was controlled by the secretive Protestant Orange order.

Protestant “loyalists” supported British rule and Catholic “nationalists” sought to unify Northern Ireland with the Republic of Ireland. These nationalist aims were pitted against each other to divide the working class.

English occupation of Ireland goes back centuries. So does the use of Protestant settlers from Scotland and England to divide and conquer. A nationalist movement among Irish Catholics led to a civil war from 1919 to 1921. It ended in the division of Ireland between an independent Irish state and Northern Ireland, an enclave of British rule.

Communists throughout Ireland responded to the attacks of the Great Depression of the 1930s by organizing the Revolutionary Workers’ Groups (RWG). In Northern Ireland these organized the Outdoor Relief Workers Committee in July 1932, to oppose a work-for-welfare scheme. When police and “special constabulary” attacked striking unemployed workers in Belfast, Protestant and Catholic workers from throughout the city fought side by side in a full-scale riot that lasted several days.

This unity remained solid. The RWGs mobi-



lized actions on both sides of the border, ending in the 1933-34 Ulster railway strike that involved both Catholic and Protestant workers. But by 1935, the ruling class had regrouped. It was again able to whip up Protestant workers into communalist (sectarian) violence, driving Catholics from their homes and streets.

These events would be repeated 30 years later. A civil rights movement emerged in the north of Ireland. It was inspired by the US Civil Rights movement and the struggle of Vietnamese workers and peasants against US imperialism.

Anti-Catholic violence continued throughout 1969 and Catholic working-class communities began to fight back. British troops were deployed, ostensibly to “protect” the Catholics but in fact to protect the Orange state against the rising militancy of working-class youth.

By 1972 the “Troubles” between Protestants and Catholics had become civil war. There was massive opposition to British occupation. Working-class communities began to resist British imperialists and their Orange state in a variety of ways, particularly on the council estates (working class housing) of Creggan, Bogside and Turf Lodge.

From ‘69 -’72, part of Derry became an autonomous area, resisting patrols by the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC), the police force and British troops. For one week in ‘69 and later in ‘71 it was a no-go area for the RUC and military.

The working class organised their own forms of defence, including “Radio Free Derry,” mutual aid, barricades, bomb factories, first aid posts and citizen volunteers who dealt with crime and punished offenders.

That an urban working class could develop such self-rule was a remarkable achievement. It’s a key reason we should commemorate Bloody Sunday. And it was a dangerous precedent the armed forces of British imperialism could not accept.

A peaceful demonstration that Sunday was to leave Creggan and march to downtown Derry. The military had unannounced plans to create a confrontation as the marchers left the estate and use the confusion to retake the area. Secretly they replaced their regular troops with a crack paratrooper unit. Their plan worked. Within ten minutes, thirteen lay dead and fifteen were seriously wounded. Armoured vehicles raced into Creggan.

The British ruling class and the so-called independent media have lied through their teeth about this for generations. We remember Bloody Sunday to honour our working-class heroes and to salute the tremendous achievements of the working-class families in those estates. Their ability to create such sophisticated no-go zones, under such repression, demolished the corrosive notion that ordinary workers can’t run society. We can, and communism can work!

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

The Joy of Communism

Healthcare was a big issue even before Coronavirus. The real question is: why are so many people so sick? The answer is that capitalism makes workers sick in so many ways. Under communism people will be much less sick, less often.

Life under capitalism is extremely stressful for workers. Never enough money to pay the rent or mortgage, to buy food or gas or clothes. Worrying about losing a job or getting sick. Bosses driving them crazy, kids getting into trouble. For many, racist/sexist attacks.

Stress aggravates most illnesses, from diabetes to depression. Under communism, the abolition of money and unemployment, sexism, racism, and xenophobia, will mean a life of joy rather than stress.

Reducing stress will practically eliminate the harmful addictions that workers contract. No more (street) drugs, smoking, alcoholism, or eating disorders.

Work will become joyful because we will be working together to satisfy peoples’ needs. No economic competition and therefore no speedup or short staffing. Workers will do different activi-

ties in a day. No wearing out body parts doing repetitive motions.

Learning will be joyful and mixed with work. Students will learn by doing, not sitting silently cooped up in classrooms.

Replacing stress by joy will make a huge difference in health.

People won’t be lonely. You can choose to be alone, but most activities will be communal. Loneliness is a health risk factor – as harmful as smoking or obesity.

Good food is vital to health. But for capitalism, what’s vital is cheap food, so bosses can pay low wages. Cheap processed foods and junk foods are slow poisons. Communism will guarantee we eat well. Nutrition-based diseases like diabetes will practically disappear.

Under communism, we’ll breathe healthier air. We’ll eliminate all the poisons that choke us daily, like fine particle pollution. How? Mainly by using vastly less fossil fuel and fewer private automobiles, this pollution’s main source. Instead: clean, safe, public transportation – buses and trains – eliminating most traffic accidents, which currently kill or injure ten million people annually.

People will walk more, or ride bicycles, or run.

Engage in physical activity, including participatory sports. An estimated 25% of US adults are not active enough to preserve their health.

Good housing, including sewage and clean drinking water, is also vital. Capitalism figures that good housing does not make workers more productive – they can live in squalor and still produce big profits.

Life under communism, once capitalism is finally gone, will above all be peaceful. No more nations, no more bloody wars. Without private property, no more crime. People will have their disagreements, but normally no one will raise a hand against a fellow worker.

Communism will have great medicine, health-care workers, and hospitals for those who need them. Basic medical knowledge will be widespread, not confined to experts. Media will not spread disinformation about vaccination, diet, etc. If pandemics or new diseases emerge, we’ll mobilize the masses to snuff them out.

But thanks to the communist lifestyle, workers won’t experience illness on the scale they do under capitalism.

—Comrade in Canada

ONLY COMMUNISM CAN DESTROY WORLDWIDE FASCIST MOVEMENT

February 15—When Canadian trucker convoys started last month, the bosses' media described them as anti-mandate demonstrators exercising their democratic rights. Some media outlets even labeled them a movement of "working class" protesters fighting remote, affluent elites. But it soon became clear that the convoys were part of a worldwide fascist movement fueled by racism and billionaires.

The racist, fascist Canada Unity movement launched the so-called Freedom Convoy. Two years ago, its leader facilitated another convoy called United We Roll. It threatened to dismantle a picket line of striking truckers and run over workers.

Another leader said, "There's an endgame, it's called the depopulation of the Caucasian race." A third leader is known for organizing events attacking people who are BIPOC or are in LGBTQ communities, as well as trying to stop immigration.

The convoys have spread to most Canadian cities. They have blockaded bridges between Canada and the U.S., causing layoffs of auto workers in both countries. Upcoming caravans are planned (or have already happened) in the United States and all 27 European countries.

There is only one effective response to the worldwide fascist movement. We must build the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) internationally in preparation for armed communist revolution. Only by fighting racism can we win communism. Only by establishing communism can we end racism for good.

Fascists Backed by Millions...of Dollars!

Early on, GoFundMe raised nearly \$10 million to fund the fascist convoys. When it ran into legal trouble, the far-right Christian GiveSendGo fundraiser took over. It's known for its support of racist, fascist causes, including the violent Proud Boys.

In contrast, the Canadian working class doesn't support these fascists. Obviously, the Freedom Convoy is not on the side of immigrant truckers who now make up over one-third of the Canadian trucking industry. In major cities such as Vancouver and Toronto, South Asians alone make up

more than half the industry's workforce.

"Wage theft is a major issue across the trucking industry," said Arshdeep Singh Kang, a long haul driver born in South Asia, "This is [among] the real issues we should be uniting around."

In fact, most truckers want nothing to do with these fascist caravans, including Canadian-born white truckers.

Democracy is The Last Refuge of the Scoundrel...and the New York Times

Early on, Indigenous organizations protested the racist motivations of the convoys. Others have since exposed the anti-Semitic, Islamophobic and anti-immigrant violence of the caravan organizers. The proliferation of neo-Nazi and Confederate flags makes the picture even clearer.

Mimicking several Canadian papers, the New York Times ran an editorial making a false equivalence between the racist Freedom Convoys and the anti-racist protests in the U.S. and around the world after the murder of George Floyd. Both, it said, are "a necessary form of expression in a democratic society."

The last time we heard such a false comparison was when a young woman was killed at a neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville, VA. Trump said there were good people on both sides. The details were different, but the liberal bourgeoisie are just as capable of lying and just as dangerous as the more obvious fascists. They are just as anti-communist.

The Battle Is Global

Some friends of the ICWP were taken aback by the Canadian fascist mobilizations. They thought Canada (and many European countries) was more "progressive" than the U.S., while some Canadians thought the budding fascist, racist movements were a U.S. phenomenon.

Capitalist media amplified that misconception. At first, they ignored the demonstrations; later they tried to trivialize them. They struggled to shield these enemies of the working class behind calls for democracy until U.S. capitalists started losing too much money from the blockades.

The fact is that the worlds' ruling classes everywhere are increasingly forced to turn to fascism fueled by racism. So-called progressive capitalists and social democrats divert us from the fight with promises of reform.

The battle is global. Building for communist revolution must also be global. This worldwide effort requires one international party: the ICWP.

Communist revolution is the only way to end a century of capitalist fascism. Only communism can end wage slavery. Only by ending the wage system can we open the door to finally ending racism and fascism. Communist collective production will enable the masses, led by the party, to build the long-term mobilization that can finally end these deadly atrocities.



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"Mask Mandate" Protests: Cover-up for Racist Fascism

At the beginning of the truckers' convoy on Ottawa, the capital of Canada, my Latina friend went to support them, because she's against mask mandates. Proudly she put that on her Facebook account.

Another friend said, "Yes, let's support the people."

Immediately her son said, "Please don't support her. Those truckers are racists, they have the Nazi swastika."

There was a political discussion among my friends and family about the purpose of this racist fascist scum. My daughter said, "If those protesters were Blacks, Latinos or indigenous, the police would have used violence, including shooting them. I saw a picture of the police drinking coffee and eating donuts with them. I'm furious."

When the truckers tried to come to Quebec, there were a lot of people protesting against them.

I have talked to a comrade in US about how to bring communist ideas into these discussions and build a strong party collective here in Canada.

Comrade in Montreal, Canada

Canadian Cops Coddle Racist Convoy

How do so-called protestors get away with terrorizing Canada's capital for over three weeks with few repercussions? By being predominantly white, of course!

For three weeks now, some Canadian truckers and their supporters have been disturbing the city of Ottawa demanding the end of all vaccine mandates and the resignation of Justin Trudeau. Vaccine mandates are a provincial issue and not a federal one, but protestors spend their days chanting in front of the parliament building.

The protest was already unpopular when, within a few days, protestors were found waving Nazi flags and harassing homeless shelter volunteers for food. They defaced the grave of the unnamed soldier and a statue of a Canadian national hero. People in Ottawa, especially people of color, feel trapped in their homes. Some have been asked to work from home for their safety.

Amongst all this chaos, where are the police? Unsurprisingly, the police are unwilling and unable to diffuse the situation. Fascist protestors have said the police were "amazing" with them.

Many people criticized the police for being too soft and overly friendly with the protestors. The police responded with a statement that they will ramp up enforcement and end this convoy as soon as possible.

If we have anything to learn from the convoys, it's this: police are perfectly capable of being nonviolent with protestors if they're racist whites.

Black and Indigenous people of color have called out the hypocrisy of the police. They lament how their protests are never met with this sort of nonchalance, but rather with brutal violence.

It's not surprising to see the institution meant to uphold white supremacy do nothing, but it's disappointing, nonetheless. It's hard to not recall the tear gas and violence with which Black Lives Matter protestors were quickly met during the summer of 2020.

Today's "freedom" protestors refuse to acknowledge the tremendous privilege they are being granted as a predominantly racist white group. Too clouded by privilege and ignorance to acknowledge the criticism they are hearing from Canada's minorities.

Comrade C in Canada

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The Illusion of the Vote and the Reality of Communist Revolution

“The illusion of having a socialist or progressive president, in the long run, is as harmful as a fascist,” said a comrade during a discussion about the new Chilean president.

Gabriel Boric, a young socialist, 36 years old, was elected president of Chile at the end of 2021. His career as a student activist during the 2011 protests and later as a legislator gave him an image of a fighter for social causes. A large majority of young people went out to vote in the elections which gave him the victory.

“I will be president of all Chileans,” Boric said. He is promising to reform the health and pension system, raise the minimum wage and tax the super-rich more.

In his new cabinet of 24 ministers, 14 are women. Including the granddaughter of former socialist president Salvador Allende, assassinated in 1973. He gave her the position of minister of defense.

Legislator Camila Vallejo of the revisionist Communist Party of Chile, who was also a student leader, will be the government’s spokesperson.

The finance minister will be Mario Marcel, who was president of the Central Bank and worked for the World Bank. His nomination was applauded by the big Chilean capitalists.

Boric’s opponent was the fascist José Kast. His father, German by birth, was a soldier in World War II and a member of Hitler’s Nazi Party. Like father like son. Kast is a great admirer of the murderous fascist Augusto Pinochet, who together with the CIA (USA) overthrew and assassinated Salvador Allende and thousands of Chileans.

Kast congratulated Boric on his win. His party has a lot of power in parliament and the senate and will be part of the decisions of the new government.

The masses, especially the youth, are looking for an alternative to the ravages of capitalism. But trying to reform capitalism will not work.

A true communist revolution is needed, one that eliminates money and wage slavery. Boric and his cabinet will maintain the foundation of capitalism.

But the worst thing is that they politically disarm the masses. They take away the revolutionary communist vision of a new world: a communist world without racism, sexism, and exploitation. We will not achieve this by peaceful means.

Votes, ballot boxes and elections only legitimize the capitalist dictatorship. They are the

silken glove of the capitalist democratic dictatorship that hides the iron fist of the capitalist fascist dictatorship, which they bring out when the masses seek more radical changes. This was the Pinochet’s attack in 1973.

Boric is not the first socialist in Latin America to come to power and want to reform capitalism. History has shown us that those experiences only keep the capitalist system alive. For example, Allende in Chile, the FMLN in El Salvador, the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, Maduro in Venezuela, Jose Mujica in Uruguay. In all these places the working masses continue to be wage slaves and suffer the attacks of capitalism.

Changing our lives will not be done by voting and electing governments that fight for us.

We need to make the masses aware of true communist ideas and end capitalism through a communist revolution. For that we need thousands and millions organizing active communist collectives in the factories, schools and barracks.

Let’s start with ones and twos, reading and distributing our communist literature. These will mobilize the masses who will fight for and build the communist world that we so badly need. Building a new society will require the daily and constant action of millions.

Let’s defeat the illusion of a good capitalism, with the reality of building a communist world. Join ICWP

—Comrade in Los Angeles, USA

Anarchist Writer Attacks Communism

“We might call this ‘mythic communism’ or even ‘epic communism’ – a story we like to tell ourselves,” wrote David Graeber. “Since the days of the French revolution, it has inspired millions, but it has also done enormous damage to humanity. ...All of us like communists a good deal of the time. None of us like a communist consistently. ‘Communist society’ – in the sense of a society organized exclusively on that single principle – could never exist. But all social systems, even economic systems like capitalism, have always been built on top of a bedrock of actual existing communism.” (*Debt*, page 95)

As you can see, Graeber attacks communism and communists by embracing it and them. I’m glad a book club has taken the task of reading his latest work. Based on *Debt* and what I have read about *The Dawn of Everything*, I think the thrust of Graeber’s work is to undermine Historical Materialism. Of course, I could be wrong.

I look forward to reading more reports from the collective that is reading the book. Having a collective is already an advance on the way I took on reading *Debt* with just casual conversations with one friend. And reacting to that first report has already resulted in me finding out about a group of radical anthropologists based in London – at least one of whom (Chris Knight) writes informatively about early communism.

—Comrade in USA



IMPERIALIST WAR from page 8

Putin’s waning popularity surged to over 90% after the war, while protests and low popularity were the norm just before it. Now 2.3 million people in Crimea live in chronic water insecurity.

Russia has had to invest hundreds of millions of dollars to keep the water flowing in Crimea both for citizens and for increasing military deployments. As always, the profit and revenue are from the exploitation of the working classes and at the expense of the day-to-day lives of the working classes.

As this latest capitalist crisis unfolds, Biden and US capitalists have wasted no time in ratcheting up the propaganda. They hope to distract attention from the real issues in upcoming midterm elections. Biden’s so-called Build Back Bet-

ter Act has been watered down to a measly 1.2 trillion over 10 years, sabotaged by his own party.

Magically, a \$787 billion dollar “peacetime” annual budget for the Pentagon passed smoothly in December with bipartisan support, \$24 billion more than Biden initially requested. As the working classes face skyrocketing inflation, mounting debt, and increasing interest rates, the capitalists are concerned, as always, about profiteering with violence.

All of this is unnecessary! In a communist world there will be no need or ability to profit from and control food, shelter, healthcare, education, and energy because they will be free, and available to everyone.

With their basic needs met, everyone around

the world will have more time to lead fulfilling lives and indeed to make life better for all. Technology will be used to mitigate the effects of climate change. Not to create and recommend unneeded products for consumption and pay-later schemes to increase indebtedness and the profits of capitalists!

War will become a memory of a horrific and shameful capitalist past. To achieve this world, the working masses will have to struggle internationally, in concert with each other. And to do this, they need a global party like the International Communist Workers’ Party. Join us and fight for a communist world!

WORKERS AND STUDENTS: DEFEAT CAPITALIST RACE AND CASTE DIVISIONS, MOBILIZE FOR COMMUNISM

NEW DELHI (India), February 11—Striking students in Bihar declared, “We are angry, fed up and we want revolution now. We will not go back to our way of life, waiting in long queues to be denied our livelihoods. We found *Red Flag* during our demonstrations. Your article by Chennai autoworkers inspired us.”

Comrades in New Delhi responded with a call for a big collective meeting. More than ten comrades attended, including a new Muslim student with relatives in Bihar. As we prepared for our meeting, we received news of escalating fascist violence in Bengaluru. Some Muslim students wearing hijab were kept out of schools by sexist, fascist goons encouraged by the ruling BJP and their paramilitaries. We tried to call our Bengaluru comrades, who are organizing against growing fascism there, which has spread throughout India.

The Bihar students’ families all live in extreme poverty. They know first-hand the stench of untreated sewers in every working-class area. Having experienced the spirit of fighting back against the system in Bihar has opened their eyes.

“Why can we not organize 28000 autoworkers with students to organize a new communist way of living?” they wanted to know. “We will immediately get rid of money and organize work according to need and ability.”

The task of cleaning toilets was always as-

signed to Dalits in a racist/casteist system. In communism it will be done by the most committed communist masses. Their commitment will inspire others to do the same.

The masses will build homes, roads, recreation centers that are neglected now because of the profit system. Communist classes will create new theatre, drama, and music.

Our communist classes will explain and deepen our understanding of dialectical and historical materialism – the science and philosophy of change. In communism there will be no distinctions between students and workers, “mental” and “manual” labor.

To achieve this communist society, we must work and organize masses to join ICWP now to prepare for armed communist revolution. To win, we need a deeper understanding of the racist/caste system that keeps us divided by religion and caste.

Caste, Race, and Religion in India

The caste system in India dates back over 2000 years. Division of labor was organized to extract maximum wealth by forcing people who worked in agriculture and enslaving people from defeated kingdoms and empires. Religion played a key role, brainwashing oppressed people into thinking that their suffering will be rewarded in the next life.

Later, the people who preached religion were called Brahmins. Those who worked in agriculture eventually became the lower castes of Shudras. The ancient book of Manusmriti became the foundation of the caste system that condemned Shudras to perform the same task generation after generation. They were ancestors of the Dalits.

Persian, Turkish, and Mughal emperors ruled India from 1100 to 1700 CE, when Great Britain started its colonial campaign. They successfully extracted more surplus by creating fiefdoms that put

tremendous burdens on the oppressed class. They introduced Islam, and Mughals became the new rulers. Hinduism was not an organized religion and there were peasant rebellions against the Hindu and Muslim kings.

When Britain consolidated the East India Company (EIC) in the 16th century, they introduced a wage system. Masses of peasants were becoming the new working class. EIC wanted to break the Mughal feudal relations by giving tax collection rights to the British crown. This created enormous changes in agricultural, mining, spices, and gold production.

In 1857, a combined force organized by Hindu and Muslim rulers attempted unsuccessfully to crush the British. The triumphant British rulers dissolved EIC and imposed direct rule on Greater India.

The wage system required an ideological justification of divide and rule. The British colonialists saw a golden opportunity to portray Muslims as the villains. They sought the help of the Brahmins (High Caste Hindus) and brought them into British elite schools.

This is how the British converted Hinduism and Islam into racialized identities. They considered non-Muslims (including Sikhs, Parsis and others) to be “racially” Hindu. Hindus (and in some places Muslims) were then further divided by castes and sub-castes. These racist divisions are the basis of today’s fascist movement. It continues to maximize profits by maintaining racial divisions.

It is vitally important for us communists to reject racist divisions, including the caste system, as a tool of the capitalist bosses. Millions of people in south Asia have been killed in these capitalist conflicts.

We need to fight for communism, the only solution to end all the backward elements that wage slavery has introduced. We are ready to face these challenges by recruiting more and more of our working class. Future articles will describe specific issues in schools and factories we are using to spread communism and reject racist/casteist divisions.



Karnataka, India, Feb 9 -- Students and teachers protest exclusion of women wearing hijab from educational institutions

Imperialist War Over Ukraine Inevitable Under Capitalism

COMMUNISM WILL MAKE FIGHTS OVER LAND, WATER, ENERGY UNNECESSARY

Our planet is ravaged by capitalism-caused climate change, food insecurity, water insecurity, increasing species extinction, and increasingly frequent financial crises and epidemics. Violent conflict between capitalist states is inevitable as sources of profit dwindle and the rate of profit keeps falling.

Russia has been supplying natural gas to Western Europe since the Soviet Union agreed to deliver natural gas to Austria by pipeline in 1968. Today, Russia supplies approximately 35%-40% of Western Europe’s natural gas. A large portion of it travels through pipelines through Ukraine.

Even as capitalist states pay lip service to emissions reductions, they still need their energy supplies. The Nordstream 2 pipeline, which is awaiting regulatory approval, supplies gas di-

rectly from Russia to Northern Germany. Russia derives 6% of its tax revenue from natural gas exports. The Russian energy giant Gazprom derives 75% of its revenue from these exports.

So, it is unlikely that Russia or Western Europe want to disrupt these energy supplies, especially as energy prices spiral upwards. Russian capitalists can benefit from increasing prices since Gazprom relies on Western European revenues to subsidize energy for Russians. Putin can possibly benefit politically from a well-timed crisis, but the working classes in Russia, Ukraine, and Western Europe pay the price.

Arable land is increasingly scarce. But Ukraine has a lot of it – 42 million hectares of fertile, arable land. Ukraine has always been Europe’s “breadbasket.” Today, agricultural products are 40% of its export revenues. Ukraine’s

“reforms” have been aimed towards deregulating land markets and financial instruments for agriculture.

Ultimately there will be a referendum on whether to allow foreign investment in agriculture. And so political and economic control over Ukraine, by violence if necessary, is fair game for the capitalist NATO states and for capitalist Russia. It is always the working classes that suffer and are sent to their deaths to fight for the capitalists’ profits.

Water is also at the heart of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Agriculture in Crimea has been reduced to practically nothing because Ukraine’s rulers dammed the Crimean canal in 2014 in response to Putin’s annexation of Crimea.

[See IMPERIALIST WAR, page 7](#)