

RED FLAG



MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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

VOL. 14 #5 APRIL 19 TO MAY 10, 2023



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FOR A
COMMUNIST
INTERNATIONAL
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COMMUNIST REVOLUTION WILL END IMPERIALIST BLOODBATHS

April 17— War in Syria is intensifying. US imperialism has stepped up shelling Iranian forces there. Iranian and Syrian forces answered by shelling US bases, killing a US contractor and injuring soldiers. They aim to force the US to withdraw.

In Sudan, western-backed forces are fighting the Russian-backed ruler. Russian warships regularly dock there, and Russia plans to build a naval base.

We live in dangerous times. Capitalism is in a severe worldwide crisis. The capitalists-imperialists are rapidly moving to war on a worldwide scale over profits and empires.

Russian, Ukrainian, and Syrian workers pay with their lives with bullets. Workers in Africa and elsewhere pay with their lives through starvation. Others pay for the rulers' weapons with high oil prices, inflation, cutbacks, mass unemployment, and crushing poverty. The fascist rulers try to drown in blood our ever-growing rebellions against these vicious attacks.

Our class has shown unity, determination, and heroism in massive rebellions against these attacks: France, Ecuador, China, India, Sri Lanka, South Africa, and more. This shows our revolutionary potential and opportunity.

In this period, communist revolution is necessary and possible—if we win these masses to fight for communism. That requires a massive International Communist Workers' Party worldwide. The growing ICWP collectives in India, El Salvador, and South Africa show the way forward.

As the crisis intensifies, millions more will rebel. Millions more will be drafted to fight for the imperialists. This is the opportunity to turn the imperialists' crisis and war into a revolution for communism.

Capitalism's competition for maximum profit makes imperialist wars inevitable. Peace marches or peace coalitions—no matter how big—can't stop war. Only communist revolution will end capitalism's deadly competition and wars for profit. Only worldwide communism can bring us peace.

Starting in liberated areas, together we'll build a society based on communist relations of cooperation and collectivity. We'll share all resources to meet the needs of all workers. As revolution spreads, we'll build a communist world without borders, nations, wage slavery or money. Without racism, sexism, or xenophobia.

No Good Imperialists

Two imperialist blocs compete for world domination: US and its western allies versus



US soldiers mutinied in Vietnam

China-Russia-Iran, which have banded closer amidst the crisis.

Many who justifiably hate US/western imperialism think Russia and China are better. But they, too, are capitalist-imperialist. All capitalists and imperialists are mortal enemies of workers everywhere. None are "lesser evils." Each is out for profit at the cost of workers' lives. Our task is to bury them all.

Shifting Imperialist World Order Intensifies Dangers and Opportunities

US imperialists hoped to weaken their rivals' bloc by dismantling Russia. They pushed NATO to Russia's doorstep. Russian imperialists invaded Ukraine to stop NATO's advance and restore Russia's former empire.

Drastic western economic sanctions failed to isolate Russia politically or economically. Instead, they have isolated and weakened the US. The petrodollar, cornerstone of US world economic domination since 1973, is under attack.

Russia's influence has grown dramatically in Africa and the strategic Persian Gulf region. For example, many rulers there, including the Saudis, are aligning with Syria's Russia-supported Assad.

The UAE recently sold gas owned by France's Totalfina to China in yuan—the first Persian Gulf energy sold in something other than dollars. This, while France's Macron visited President Xi in Beijing.

This will expand as China's influence in Saudi Arabia increases. The Saudis already sell most of their oil to China. Thus, Xi could convince Saudi Arabia to end its dispute with Iran.

Saudi Arabia has applied for membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, led by China and Russia. This is the world's biggest regional political, economic and defense organization. When Saudi oil is sold in Chinese yuan, it will signal the end of the petrodollar era.

US Imperialism: Only Resort is War

The US rulers' isolation makes the world more dangerous. War becomes their only option to defend their empire and the dollar dominance. Likewise, only by war can the Chinese and Russian imperialists replace the US at the top.

The US Director of National Intelligence reported in March that the US faces a "critical few years" for decisive action to contain China.

China openly plans to take over Taiwan. Biden says the US is ready for war to stop this. Xi recently repeated his call for the Chinese military to "prepare for active combat." China just passed a law to draft veterans and students.

All the imperialists are willing to murder millions for their profits in World War III. Only communist revolution, not voting or reform, can end this.

We must spread *Red Flag* and build ICWP collectives worldwide. Especially key is sending communist youth into the facto-

ries and armies to win industrial workers and soldiers to embrace and fight for communism.

Soldiers have rebelled and mutinied before, from the Indian Sepoys to US troops in Vietnam. During the first world war, Russian soldiers and sailors joined workers for revolution. But they built socialism, not communism, and an imperialist Russia rose again.

This time we must fight directly for communism to end wage slavery, money, and markets for good! Building communist relations worldwide, we have a communist world to win!

PETRODOLLARS: KEY TO U.S. EMPIRE

At the end of World War II, all the imperialist economies (except the US) were devastated. US goods flooded markets worldwide, capturing over half of the market share.

The US had planned a new global financial system earlier in the war, but its allies didn't agree to it. Only in 1946, after the US had dropped two atom bombs on Japan, did they fall in line. With the Bretton Woods agreement, US imperialists imposed the dollar as the main currency of the world on weakened England and other Western imperialist powers. The dollar, pegged to the gold standard, reigned supreme.

In 1973, after spending huge sums on the Vietnam war, the US no longer had enough gold reserves to back up the dollar.

But US imperialists controlled the most valuable and plentiful oil in the world, in Saudi Arabia. In 1973, they convinced the Saudis to sell oil only in dollars in exchange for security guarantees. Other oil-producing countries followed suit. This marked the birth of the petrodollar.

This gave the US imperialists a huge advantage. They could buy goods and attract investments from all over the world, and just print dollars in return. Other capitalists were forced to invest in the US economy and to buy dollars with which to purchase oil. The oil-producing capitalists were forced to invest their surplus dollars in the US economy, buying weapons, other goods, and the US debt.

This advantage is now evaporating.



Bolshevik sailors led a mutiny on the Battleship Potemkin during the 1905 Revolution against the czar.

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COMMUNISM WILL FREE WORKERS FROM CAPITALIST WAGE SLAVERY

EL SALVADOR, April 17—“It’s time to fight for a just society for the working class,” said a young worker, when invited to participate in the May Day march.

“That is, Communist society,” added another worker.

The International Communist Workers’ Party is mobilizing industrial workers, students, farmworkers, health workers, and teachers to march for Communism on the day of the working class, May 1. We will distribute our *Red Flag* newspaper and wave the red flags of the communist revolution, of the working class.

The working class needs a society without classes, without money, without racism, without sexism. We need a system that ends the relationship of selling labor power as a commodity, for a measly wage, in order to survive. We need Communism, where production is based on humanity’s needs, not for profit.

“Millions of workers work in factories all over the world, and the wages are not enough to cover a family’s basic expenses,” said one worker. The capitalists rob us, they cheat us, they owe us, this has to end, and it will be achieved by the working class organized in the ICWP, fighting for Communism.

The bosses have allies in government ministries and unions who give demagogic speeches to make us believe that they are going to solve workers’

problems. This is a political trap into which we must not fall. Under the table, they already have agreements that go against the working class, which we have experienced lately in a factory when workers demanded payment for work done the previous year and not yet compensated.

The ICWP fights to free our class from this prison disguised as freedom that is the rotten capitalist system.

We meet in various collectives in the factories and the countryside to discuss the only way to end wage slavery. We are inviting a great mobilization for May Day and reaffirming our commitment to fight for the working class by organizing more industrial workers who are key to the communist revolution.

Our collective of farmworker fighters for communism is also inviting *Red Flag* readers from their community to the march.

We have seen how thousands of workers carry out mass protests in various parts of the world. Capitalism is in crisis, inequality increases every day, and we face waves of layoffs that have generated uprisings. This shows that the masses seek a different society, but it also shows the need for a party that leads these struggles. This is an opportunity to organize for the ICWP.



In this march we will massively distribute Party literature. The masses need to know about Communism, to escape the traditional struggle for reforms that prolongs wage slavery and that starves millions while a few enjoy the profits generated by the workers.

The Communist system will end the hunger and exploitation of humanity because we will live and work collectively. We have a historic task: to break the chains of wage slavery.

The International Communist Workers’ Party is actively organizing to end exploitation and erase national borders and everything that divides the workers. We are building a mass party, establishing communist political relations internationally.

Join the ICWP and march for communism this May Day!

MAY DAY 2023: COMMUNIST REVOLUTION, NOT TRADE UNION REFORMISM

MEXICO, April 19—May Day celebrates INTERNATIONAL UNITY of the working class against the capitalist class worldwide.

Governments everywhere serve the capitalist bosses. They will do so until our class organizes itself as the International Communist Workers’ Party, building in struggle the communist relations and solidarity needed for our classless society while organizing the revolution.

ICWP organizes massively for Communism. Workers produce, with our hands and brains, everything of life-giving value. In communism, we will only produce and share this value—without money, wage slavery, or bosses!

Today, as US-China rivalry intensifies, with ever-increasing danger of World War III, US capitalists are moving factories to Mexico. War requires critical production closer to the US market. The super-exploitation of one of the lowest-paid sources of labor power is crucial too. This is the real meaning of “nearshoring.”

President Obrador’s labor reform, derived from NAFTA (now TMEC) claims to promote “union democracy” by eliminating the bosses’ union leaders and “Protection Contracts.” But this is not in workers’ interest. Government-legalized union contracts have left the old bosses’ leadership of Telmex, Mining, Pemex, CFE in office.

Mexican trade unionism, since the 1910 revolution, was always controlled by the current capital-

ist government. Capitalism has so little to offer the Mexican working class that these old forms have returned under Andrés Manuel and MORENA.

Union reforms can’t liberate us from wage slavery. Over two centuries of struggle have shown the need to reconstitute ourselves as ICWP for independent, forceful, revolutionary action. Conditions are ripe!

The value workers produce increases with technological advances. The big capitalists doubled their wealth in two years during the pandemic. Now they are hiring more workers and have almost reached pre-pandemic levels — at lower wages.

The proportion of the wealth we produce that comes to us through wages is constantly shrinking. Workers in manufacturing produce their daily wage in 24.67 minutes. In the remaining 455.33 minutes of the day, they produce profits that the capitalists steal for themselves.

Technology does not produce value. Only workers’ labor power can! More investment in expensive machinery means a falling rate of profit for millionaires, and thus more intense competition, leading to wars.

This further impoverishes the working class. To keep their wage-slaves alive, the capitalist government establishes “social programs” including subsidies to the elderly, students, single mothers. This “charity” also maintains the demand for goods

which are produced in greater quantities than we workers can afford to buy.

Not satisfied with exploiting our labor power in factories, the capitalists abuse us more every day. The merchant and the landlord rob our miserable wages.

We are not free: the bosses dictate how we live and die. Buying and selling commodities is NOT the freest, least violent way to organize society. Social programs (paid from the public treasury), demagoguery against the “conservative oligarchy” and “neoliberalism,” and myths about heroes do not attack wage slavery. They are part of the system’s need to deceive us.

We need the ICWP: There are massive and violent demonstrations from Asia to Europe, from Africa to America. The capitalist world order is undergoing convulsions. However, the working class needs conscious action led by our communist party. ICWP’s historic task is to massively mobilize the working class to build our party and win communism.

Capital daily subjects millions of people to the horrific effects of its contradictions. Hunger, criminal violence, racism and sexism and war are the consistent reproduction of a system that produces for profit.

This May Day, we reaffirm that the solution to capitalist horror is communist revolution.

Money Is a Social Relationship of Exploitation

I am an industrial worker in South Africa, working for Transnet, a South African railway. I read *Red Flag* online as I live far from Port Elizabeth.

I read an article on the Silicon Valley Bank crisis. It says that money is a relationship of exploitation. I started thinking more about it. Transnet got a \$5 billion loan from China Development Bank. In 15 years, the CDB will organize to transfer billions of dollars from the super-exploitation of South African workers.

In South Africa, many people dream about buying an Apple iPhone. It is very expensive. Most people buy a cheaper cell phone, almost all made in China. When

workers buy a cell phone, they think about the features, colours, styles etc. But nobody thinks of long hours of work, stressful conditions at work, and prison-like conditions in China. Similarly, when South African diamonds, gold, platinum, or soybeans are sold in other countries, people don’t think about the plight and suffering of South African workers.

We relate to cell phones or minerals in terms of exchange, not seeing the exploitative nature of working for the capitalists. The article makes it clear that we don’t need money and banks, it is the source of exploitation. When I talk to my co-workers, they agree. I plan to distribute more *Red Flags* to my co-workers.

—Comrade industrial worker in South Africa



From the Philippines to the USA:

WHAT IS THE COMMUNIST ROLE IN SHARPENING CAPITALIST CRISIS?

SEATTLE (US), April 16— “What news do you bring today?” a young teacher asked a comrade distributing *Red Flag*.

“There’s a surge in workers’ strikes and rebellions around the world,” our comrade began.

“I noticed,” she cut off the comrade. “Give me extra papers to bring to my classroom.”

Comrades followed up this exchange when our collective met.

First, we discussed the huge Jeepney strike in the Philippines. Filipino-American activists had just returned from a visit to the Philippines. For three days, every major city there came to a standstill when 100,000 Jeepney drivers and mechanics struck. Since 2017, when the Duterte regime proposed eliminating Jeepney transportation, drivers and mechanics have been demonstrating and striking.

After World War II, the US army left small buses in the Philippines. Innovative workers turned them into colorful Jeepneys. The average driver makes \$6.00/day (US), while the average ride costs 22 cents.

Billionaires who run the largest bank in the Philippines, allied with the government, are destroying this means of transportation, essential for low-wage Filipino workers. The billionaire bankers will make great fortunes at the expense of the drivers, mechanics, and riders. By December, drivers and mechanics will have to submit to super-exploitive wage slavery, while low-wage workers will face exorbitant transportation costs.

If anything illustrates the anger of the working class and the futility of trying to reform capitalism, it is this strike. Despite five years of massive, militant strikes, the Filipino ruling class’s plans remain intact.

In communism, the working class will collectively assure we have the free transportation necessary for work and leisure. Profits, banks, and ruling class fortunes won’t play a part. Communist revolution will eliminate all that along with the ruling class itself.

Coming Home To Communism

After the report from the Philippines, comrades reflected on their own political work. Everyone agreed that workers were on the move.

“But what is my role?” asked J, a US-based comrade. “That’s what I’m most concerned about.”

Over decades of political struggle, J had built an extensive network of anti-racist activists. “But I haven’t promoted communism,” he concluded.

Comrade D had built a similar network of industrial workers. Over the years, he had gradually put the struggle to develop communist organizers on the back burner. To correct this error, he had already taken the initiative to brush up on communist ideology. He promised to continue the struggle with his comrades in local and International Committee meetings—and in his network.

Recent conversations in our last few meetings about how to recruit more communists built on the strengths of these networks. Reformist cam-

work inspires comrades and potential comrades.

Obstacles and...

Communists don’t emerge out of the clear blue sky. Even millions in revolt won’t guarantee the growth of the Party necessary for communist revolution. Being aware of the capitalist crisis around us is not enough.

For centuries, the ruling classes have built institutions—and ideologies such as racism, sexism, and nationalism—to divert our class from the fight for communism. Among garment workers, evangelical religions hold back some friends. Some religions promote passivity. Others—like Hindu nationalism—promote the slaughter of Muslims.

Many workers, as in the Philippines, are attracted to trade union militancy. These strikers and the millions more around the world who are bravely fighting capitalist exploitation (and many of their supporters) do not intend to preserve the capitalist system.

Nonetheless, reliance on capitalist reforms sidetracks our class (including potential communist recruits) from the need to build for communist revolution. Communism is the only way to end capitalist exploitation. Comrades bring this message to every battle, most successfully when we develop close relationships with those who are fighting.

Opportunity

Our role in these tumultuous times is to counter these diversions. Mobilizing the masses for communism requires rock-solid political and social relationships. We can nurture these relationships on the picket line, in the streets, at collective meetings, at social/political events, and in classrooms, barracks, and worksites. The more active the working class, the more we must invite these workers into our homes and lives. That’s how the Party will grow.

As we build the party, these relationships will form the basis of a communist society. Collective social relations will replace capitalist exploitive relations like those between employer and employees.

ICWP serves the masses. We do that by building communist relationships now to grow the party and provide a firm footing for our future communist society.



paigns were not working, so these two comrades decided to focus on developing relationships that advance communist recruitment. They will continue to document this journey in *Red Flag*.

The struggle in party collectives to bring communist solutions to class battles whenever possible is indispensable. ICWP’s communist

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South Africa: Need More Communist Political Education

The political work of studying dialectics and political economy helped us advance in recruiting new ICWP members. When I first joined the movement, I was a member of a Pan-Africanist movement. The only material I was familiar with was literature from Pan-African writers.

In studying dialectical materialism and other things, I saw that my Pan-Africanism ideology was a narrow view. I thought there should be African solutions to African problems. I wasn’t viewing the problems in terms of the whole world—that there are many people suffering. Lots of people—white, Black, Asian, Indian—experience exploitation daily.

Exploitation or capitalism has no colour. As long as capitalists can extract profits, they will exploit you, no matter what colour you are. I used to have the notion that when we’re talking about capitalism, we are talking about white people.

Today, also, when we talk about the bosses here, the first thing that goes through our minds

is white people. There are Black capitalists who also exploit Black workers. It helped me change my outlook to an international outlook.

Having that communist outlook helps, whether we are organizing or just chatting socially. We should keep in mind that these are people I need to win over to communism. I think that has been lacking, and it has a relationship with the lack of studying dialectical materialism.

We can use the study of dialectical materialism, history, and economics to recruit young people. I’ve talked to lots of young people. Whether you go to a meeting of ANC or EFF or whatever, most of the young people there complain about the need for political education. The only response they get from the leaders is “you should read the constitution of the EFF” and other useless things.

It becomes a problem for them and an opportunity for us because we have a superior line. We shouldn’t shy away from engaging with whomever, whether in the EFF or ANC. We should have confidence in the line.

Lack of confidence in the line is directly related to lack of study of dialectical materialism. The less struggle around dialectical materialism, the less confidence you will have in the line.

To recruit more students, we must put more emphasis on political education. The youth want it, and we know our line is better than any alternative the bosses can put out there.

The letter in this issue from an EFF member shows the political work that remains to be done. The writer joined the EFF, not because she agreed with them, but because she saw no other alternative for radical changes needed in our society. What they are proposing is not new—socialism is over 100 years old.

We as a party need to show more confidence in the line to engage more young people around dialectical materialism, to struggle with them, whether they agree with us or not. We should re-evaluate things including recruitment of students. We can and must do this work.

—Comrade in South Africa

Revolution will end capitalism and its murderous border policy

WE WILL HAVE A COMMUNIST WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS

April 17— A fire broke out in the Ciudad Juárez detention center in northern Mexico on March 27, leaving 40 dead and others in critical condition. "It's all Biden's fault," said a worker whose relative was among the victims. As the fire raged and the men inside kicked, struggled, and cried out for help, officials walked away.

Mexican officials, from the head of the immigration Agency to the guards, face charges in these deaths. But the entire capitalist system is guilty. Biden, like Trump, has continued a border policy that has trapped an estimated 40,000 people along the US-Mexico border (according to the UN).

World capitalist crisis makes it impossible for the masses to survive.

Around the world, imperialist super-exploitation, joblessness, fascist war and surveillance, gang violence, and climate change have combined to make it impossible for more and more people to survive at home.

By the end of 2021, there were an estimated total of 27.1 million refugees and 4.6 million asylum seekers fleeing violence or persecution worldwide. Two-thirds of the refugees came from just five countries: South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, Myanmar, and Afghanistan. Millions more have left Iraq, Ukraine, Yemen, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. This doesn't even begin to count those who fled starvation, homelessness, unemployment or natural disasters.

As migration increases, governments unite to

repress our class siblings. The US, Panamanian, and Colombian rulers announced a 60-day campaign to stop migration through the Darien jungle. This flow of migrants from South America, Africa, and Asia almost doubled last year and is expected to double again this year.

Mexican rulers are guilty of aiding the US in its murderous policy.

Since 2008, US funds have supported detention centers and encouraged immigration officials to harass migrants and prevent them from reaching the US-Mexico border. In 2020, the Mexican government took \$4 million earmarked for economic development and spent it on surveillance and immigration detention.

The results: 520,000 Central American migrants detained in Mexico between 2015 and 2018. Another 70,000 migrants disappeared in Mexico between 2006 and 2016.

We don't have to live, and die, this way.

The world is increasingly unstable. Some argue that a third world war has already begun. The working masses are not condemned to die as victims of capitalist exploitation and war. We can take our destiny into our own hands and fight to end capitalist misery with communist revolution. We can build a new world without exploitation, racism, nationalism, xenophobia, and war.

Red Flag is the seed of that new world. While ICWP is still a small party, the articles written by garment workers in Sri Lanka, sweatshop workers in El Salvador, education workers in Los Angeles, young workers in South Africa, and high school students in Seattle are the beginning of that new world.

Communist workers and youth organized locally but united through ICWP with their working-class comrades around the world are early steps of the revolution that will transform the world.

Let's fight for a communist world without borders!

Nations—and nationalism—are capitalist inventions. They are based on the lie that workers have more in common with their "own" bosses than with workers on the other

CAPITALIST IMMIGRATION POLICY = PREMEDITATED MURDER

Capitalist immigration policy is based on deadly deterrence. If migration is dangerous enough, if enough people die trying, bosses figure that all but the most desperate will stay home. Deliberate policies such as impossibly difficult asylum applications and taller border fences along safer terrain intentionally push people to more desperate and dangerous crossings over mountains, desert, or ocean.

The Mediterranean is the most dangerous route in the world, where 604 people, including 57 children, are known to have died so far this year.

Just two weeks before the Ciudad Juarez deaths, eight migrants died on Black's Beach in northern San Diego County, thirty miles north of the border, when their small boats capsized on a stormy night. These desperate attempts to cross the border by sea have quadrupled since 2019 as a direct result of US border policy.

side of an artificial border.

The communist class struggle teaches us something different: that capitalists and the politicians who work for them are our class enemy. Their riches come from our sweat. Their laws and institutions perpetuate that exploitation.

When the conditions are right, and we have organized a large enough base in the bosses' factories and armies, we will fight to liberate the working class. That won't happen all at once.

But once we have liberated an area, we will build a communist society there. We will produce the necessities and share what we produce among all of us. Party collectives will organize this work and recruit everyone who shares these goals.

In a communist society, labor will not be a commodity bought and sold by a boss. Without borders or money, neither workers nor their families will have to move from their place of origin because they cannot find a job.

We will welcome workers everywhere, no matter where they come from. Refugees and immigrants, because of their experiences with the worst capitalist oppression, will give key leadership as they do today in our party. Together we will build the new communist society and we will continue to fight until capitalism is destroyed all over the world.



March 13—Approximately 2,000 migrants, hearing a rumor that asylum seekers with children would be admitted to the US, stormed the Paso del Norte Bridge border crossing between Ciudad Juárez, Mexico and the US. People fleeing persecution in their own country and seeking asylum in the US are desperate, due to a new mobile application for making asylum appointments and a Biden administration rule that requires that they first seek protection in a country through which they passed.



Read our pamphlet:

THE COMMUNIST FIGHT AGAINST SEXISM

available at
icwpredflag.org/sxse.pdf

EL SALVADOR, March 8— On International Working Women's Day, thousands of working women in El Salvador held a massive march struggling for and demanding an end to gender violence. That includes arbitrary captures, femicides, and sexual violence, which have increased despite the current emergency law. Working women, let's give leadership and unite the masses with ICWP! To fight for a change from the capitalist system to a communist society free of sexism, racism, and xenophobia! Long live the Communist Revolution!

Climate Crisis Isn't Coming.... It's Here!

LET'S DESTROY CAPITALISM SO WORKERS CAN BUILD SOLUTIONS

April 13— Monsoon floods drowned one third of Pakistan's land last year. Lake Tulare in California (USA) re-emerged to swamp thousands of agricultural acres. Floods in Peru caused deadly landslides. Record floods inundated Petropolis (Brazil), South Africa, Serbia, Indonesia.

People and animals drowned. Homes washed away. Massive crop destruction and famine. Epidemics of water-borne illnesses. Forced migration. Even more child brides in Pakistan as desperate families marry off young girls.

The flip side is drought. In China, the critical Yangtze River fell to record lows. Hydropower reservoirs in Sichuan dropped so low that they threatened the electric supply. Scorching heat in south Asia melted glaciers, leading to the disastrous floods. Record heat and drought there and in the USA brought devastating wildfires.

All of this from capitalist-caused global climate change.

Scientists recently confirmed that “the frequency and intensity of rainfall and droughts are increasing due to burning fossil fuels and other human activity that releases greenhouse gases...The strong link between these climate extremes and rising global average temperatures means continued global warming will mean more drought and rainstorms that are more frequent, more severe, longer and larger.”

But it's not “human” activity. Humans lived on Earth for nearly 200 million years before the capitalist industrial revolution began spewing carbon. Since then, it's been capitalist activity: fighting over maximum profits. In 2022, five major oil and gas corporations raked



in profits of almost US\$200 billion but couldn't seem to spare US\$16 billion for Pakistani flood damage mitigation.

The problem isn't just climate change deniers. It's the capitalist think-tanks, commissions, politicians, and media that declare that “we” must drastically cut carbon emissions— but conceal mountains of evidence that capitalism can't do that.

Candidate Biden promised to ban “new oil and gas permitting on public lands and waters.” But President Biden just opened Willow (Alaska) to oil drilling expected to pump almost 300 million metric tons of carbon into Earth's air. Two weeks later, he auctioned oil and gas leases in an Italy-sized stretch of the Gulf of Mexico.

Why? Because carbon-based energy reserves are key to US imperialist power in Europe and beyond. To their effort (increasingly unsuccessful) to compete globally with Chinese imperialism and Russian capitalism to the point of all-out war. To wringing maximum profits from workers' labor.

Capitalists say mitigating the damage their system has caused would be too costly and inefficient. It would not be “competitive” especially for industrial powers deeply invested in carbon-based technologies.

Capitalism's fundamental nature stands in the way of doing what needs to be done.

Does this make you angry enough (or scared enough) to want to do more than composting kitchen waste and giving up plastic straws? More

than begging capitalist rulers to “please change” and then voting for them as the “lesser evil” even when they don't?

We can't turn back the clock to a time before ruling classes decided to dominate nature and justify it with religious cant. Or even back to 150 years ago, when the working class first tried to overthrow capitalism before it got us to this point.

But we can look ahead to the world we, the working masses, can create after we finally win a revolution to overthrow capitalism. A communist world will end the wage-slavery that produces profits at terrible costs to us individually, to our class, and to the environment. We will organize production instead to meet our long-term as well as short-term needs.

Throwing off the shackles of the money system will enable us to deploy technologies that are now unattainable ideals. To reorganize society so we don't waste time and energy (carbon and our own) producing and transporting stuff we don't need or fighting wars over it.

To unleash the creativity of the masses, whose ideas and initiative are now squashed and squandered. To mobilize our collective labor to reimagine, repair, restore, and rebuild. And our collective intelligence to make all decisions that affect our lives and Planet Earth.

The “more” we can do is mobilize ourselves, our friends, and eventually masses to fight for and build a communist world.

To join and build, today, the International Communist Workers' Party.

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INDIA ELECTIONS: REJECT ALL CAPITALIST PARTIES, JOIN ICWP

“They come every five years with small crumbs and go away everyday with truckload of wealth”, said an ICWP comrade. This is a popular saying in the local language. She was referring to the intense campaign for the May Karnataka state elections. Both the ultra-racist BJP and the opposition Congress Party are showering workers with cash, cell phones, tablets, welfare schemes.

ICWP comrades in Bengaluru held a large meeting about our plans for expanding our communist recruitment drive. New comrades attended the meeting because the high-pitched election campaigns are affecting everyone. The Congress Party appears to offer an alternative to the BJP's vile racist campaign. To many peo-

ple, the Congress plan of higher unemployment benefits and low-income housing is more attractive than the BJP, associated with corruption, poor infrastructure, air pollution, and above all, skyrocketing unemployment.

“I have a neighbour whose son has been unemployed for the last six years. He lives in a very crowded small unit with his parents. The father is the only wage-earner in a family of five. The son is despondent because he can't find any job. Last month he got a day job to put up BJP posters in our neighbourhood. He makes Rs.100 (US\$1.25) a day. “

Another friend at the meeting reviewed the plight of unemployed youth. “In the past, they took care of their elderly parents. Now they are a burden.”

She knows another young unemployed IT graduate. After years of unemployment, he got

a “volunteer” position in BJP's IT Cell. It is a well-organized unit that promotes BJP's fascist ideology in social media. The Karnataka BJP IT Cell has a volunteer army of about 125,000 who make less than \$100 a month. They are involved in vicious trolling, fake media news, and mass surveillance.

Some in our meeting have turned their attention to the Congress Party as a solution. Two comrades have volunteered as Congress Party door-to-door campaigners. They get to know many workers living in extremely poor neighbourhoods. They are doing this because they think the Congress Party is better than BJP in reaching out to the workers. But they are not completely convinced. They see that the Congress Party, once in power, is no different.

—Comrade in India

ONLY COMMUNISM WILL END RACISM

USA, April 12— A dark-skinned comrade from South Asia was riding his bike to his college class when police stopped him. They demanded papers showing that he was legally in the USA. Unsatisfied with what he showed them, they called for backup. White students began to gather around. Although they didn't know the comrade, they knew racist xenophobia when they saw it. They yelled at the cops to leave him alone. After some tense moments, the cops retreated in the face of multiracial unity.

Racist incidents, often much worse, happen in the US and worldwide daily. Capitalism is the source of these horrific conditions. They will only end when capitalism and the capitalist rulers are in their graves.

Capitalism needs racism so it can extract super profits and divide the working class. The history of the capitalist USA teems with racism, including genocide, slavery, and other violence.

Capitalism has created the material conditions to perpetuate divisions within the working class, as well as to super-exploit workers of color. The capitalist bosses, via their media and schools, lie to us to create distrust and fear among workers based on color, ethnicity, birth country, etc.

We must eliminate the material basis of racism with communist revolution. This will not immediately end racism, but it will allow us to wage the long fight against the racist remnants of capitalism.

Communist society will abolish money, wages, and the labor market. Workers will no longer be wage-slaves, forced to compete for jobs to survive. Production will be organized around solidarity and cooperation. We will work collectively to produce for need, not profit. Segregation, racist schooling, the criminal justice system, and lack

of access to health care will all be gone.

Anti-racism based on a communist understanding of class society requires multiracial action and solidarity. We must organize against racist discipline in schools, police murders of workers of color, and the daily impacts of inflation and layoffs.

In doing so, we must address the root causes of racism that harm people of color and divide the working class. We must fight the blaming and scapegoating that teaches white workers to fear their neighbors of color. We must push back against segregation in our communities and on the job with a revolutionary focus. We cannot allow capitalism to alienate and divide us.

To see the possibility of ending racism with communism, we must win masses to the International Communist Workers' Party. We can't have a successful revolution without it. It prepares the working class for the struggle to smash racism while fighting for communism. We need a base with experience in building communist relationships and fighting capitalism in all its forms, with all its terrors – racism, sexism, xenophobia, K, casteism, and more.

Fighting Racist Incarceration

An anti-racist movement in Oregon addressed “disproportionate minority confinement” (racist jailing) in the juvenile justice system. Youth of



Kansas City, USA, April 16—Protestors demand justice for Ralph Yarl, a Black teenager shot by a racist when he knocked on his door by mistake.

color, especially Black males, were arrested and incarcerated two to three times more frequently than their white counterparts.

A comrade asked questions about the origins of racism and why so many Black men are incarcerated in the US. The connection to profits became clear. Friends observed that capitalism

caused this racist injustice. Many agreed that some form of revolution was needed. But they did not understand the mistakes of the Russian and Chinese revolutions and were not convinced of the need for an international communist party.

Some reforms emerged from this movement, but the struggle to win participants to communism was not sustained. Even the reforms were not sustained. Today there are even more violent police attacks and arrests directed at people of color.

Communist Revolution, Not Reform

We must collectively challenge and dismantle the racist conditions that are a key part of capitalism. Only communism will do this. Actions that do not address capitalism as the root of racism can never end it. Actions that do not show the need for communist revolution are never sustainable. Reforms, however hard-won, will be reversed.

We need solidarity that emerges from a revolutionary communist approach to racism. Not just to defeat capitalism, but also for the relationships and trust that can create the conditions for an anti-racist, classless society.

We must live our lives being the change that communism will bring. We must engage in communist relationships that are rooted in friendship, struggle, and solidarity. We must show up with and for each other in struggle against racist capitalism.

These real relationships, built in struggle, become a solid foundation to counter the racist lies, divisions, and fears that have separated us. Thus we lay the groundwork for our classless, communist society.



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ORGANIZING INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Hi Comrades,

My name is T. I'm a member of the EFF (Economic Freedom Fighters). But I was recently invited to a meeting of ICWP by a friend.

I've been involved in politics almost all my youth, first with the ANC (African National Congress) youth league, then now with the EFF. My reasons have remained unchanged: there should be a radical change in society.

First, I thought the ANC would bring about this change. When the change I hoped for proved futile in the ANC, I recently joined the EFF as I believed they were a better alternative. I just wanted to make that clear.

The topic of the ICWP meeting was how we effectively mobilise industrial work. The purpose of the meeting was mainly to answer

three questions. First, why is this important? Second, who must carry out this work? Lastly, how do we make a deeper analysis of our industrial mobilisation to better understand what works and what does not work?

This was new to me. Never in my life have I thought about working this way. Even during the election cycle, no political party even bothers to go where the workers are working. So, this grabbed my attention because our work in the EFF always focused on the community work and rallies in Community Halls or Stadiums.

What the ICWP comrade proposed was new to me. And this meeting helped me change my outlook to look at society not in a racial context but on a class basis. Whatever I do or say, it must reflect my communist outlook.

My one criticism is that I left with the impres-

sion that the main focus is industrial workers, not other workers like, say, construction workers and paint workers, who I believe are the most exploited workers in South Africa. Maybe because this was my first meeting, these things will become clear with time, as I intend to join the Comrades in the next meeting and mobilisation.

Let me conclude by saying that I agree with mostly what ICWP is prescribing, that communism is the solution to capitalism. But I'll be honest and say also that some of the solutions are unorthodox, like the need to get rid of money. I'm not convinced on that point. But all in all, it was a good meeting, very eye opening for me. Looking forward to the next one.

—Enthusiastic Friend

COMMUNISM IN INDIA: LEARNING FROM HISTORY

INDIA April 13th, 1919, marked the beginning of a communist movement in South Asia. Thousands of restive unemployed workers and youth had assembled in Amritsar (Punjab) as food prices skyrocketed and high inflation left many destitute and hungry. The British Brigadier General Dyer was asked to take a 'tough stand.'

The imperialist war in Europe had ended. Over 400,000 Punjabi soldiers, recruited by the British Army to defend British imperialism, were returning. They had joined the army because villages could not sustain small farms. Now they added to the already high unemployment.

Many unemployed were forced to find work in East and South Africa, the West Coast of California, Canada, and Latin America. Some expatriate Indians saw the need to overthrow British rule. They faced racist segregation in California and Canada had passed 'exclusion' laws banning people from India.

The Ghadar ("Revolt") Movement had started in San Francisco and Oregon in 1914 following the outbreak of World War. Its leaders incited the Indian army to rebel against colonial rule and smuggled arms to India. They carried out 42 unsuccessful mutinies, but Punjab became a revolutionary hotbed. Communist and socialist circles sought alternatives to British rule.

General Dyer, known for his brutality, arrived in Amritsar on April 13, 1919. Some 15,000 to 20,000 people had assembled in a huge courtyard, Jallianwala, surrounded by narrow lanes

and only one gate. They were protesting the beginning of the Spring harvest season because most of the grain was transported to England.

General Dyer ordered 40 of his troops to shoot at the crowd. The massacre lasted for 10 minutes, until no bullets were left. With every exit guarded, 1000 or more died. Hundreds fell to their death in a well to escape bullets.

The aftermath of the Jallianwala saw an unprecedented revolutionary outpouring. The Indian National Congress (led by Gandhi) offered reform, religion, and pacifism. The masses wanted a complete change, no religion, and an armed struggle. "No Pundits, No Mullahs," the masses cried. Marx's works, especially The Communist Manifesto, began wide circulation.

One revolutionary, the landless laborer Udham Singh, struggled to find work after the war. When he was seven, his father had collapsed and died of hunger. Singh spent his youth in an orphanage and got radicalized. He joined the British Army in Basra, Iraq. He was trained in the use of ammunition and maintenance, considered the lowest-status job. He joined the Ghadar movement and eventually, Indian Workers Association. Aided by fellow revolutionaries in London, he assassinated the commander who reported to Brigadier Dyer.

Assassinations aren't revolutions, but Udham Singh is a household name in Punjab. Inspired by the Bolshevik revolution, young Indian revolutionaries matured in their ideas. The 1920s saw

huge rebellions of workers, soldiers, and peasants against British rule. Six revolutionaries formed the Communist Party of India in 1925.

The Communist University of the Toilers of the East (KUTV), formed in Moscow in 1921, trained young revolutionaries in dialectical materialism, history, and communism. Many KUTV students, including the CPI founders, helped to spread communism around the world.

Lessons for Today

Twentieth-century communists fought for socialism, thinking it was a path to communism. But, as we elaborated in *Mobilize the Masses for Communism*, socialism inevitably led instead to full-blown capitalist wage slavery in Russia, China, and elsewhere.

Still, past revolutionaries give us guidelines for our future. Their exemplary sacrifice, resilience, and reliance on the masses force us to see that only communism can end the capitalist system of endless brutality. A communist society without money is the answer to capitalist profit and murder.

We also learn that a small party, with the correct outlook, can mobilize the masses for communism. Rising unemployment today puts millions of youths worldwide into the bosses' armies. It gives us an opportunity to use their weapons to destroy our class enemy.

This is the message we bring on May Day: To organize, recruit, read, and write for *Red Flag!*

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INDIA: ORGANIZING FOR COMMUNISM IN THE MILITARY

Today's intensifying military conflicts make me think about communist revolution as the only solution for the international working class. I am an ex-soldier in the Indian military. I work in the auto industry in Chennai.

It appears impossible to even think about building communism in the military. There is intense nationalism. Every day the rulers push anti-Pakistan and anti-China rhetoric. Muslims are killed for every possible excuse.

I was very young and politically unaware when I enlisted. Almost everybody was like me. We joined because in the villages there were no jobs. My father lost his piece of land.

The military told us that they will be defending India against Pakistan and China. There were patriotic songs, music, and slogans. I only knew that we would be facing an enemy very soon.

We were all recruited from Tamil Nadu in south India. The only language I speak is Tamil. We were sent to the northern state of Chhattisgarh. They speak different languages. We could not understand a word of it. Our officers said we were there to combat militants who attacked police stations and blew up power stations.

I saw that the people who had taken up arms were a rag-tag army. I was astonished to see women combatants, unheard of in the Indian army. I spent six months there, combing the villages and blowing up homes of people I did not know. When there was news of dead enemy combatants, our superiors rewarded us.

Seeing comrades getting killed or severely injured, I started to question who we were fighting for. I saw that the so-called combatants were people just like me. They lived in poverty. I also discovered that they were among the tribal people called the Adivasis. They lived in

the jungles because their land was uprooted for mines and minerals owned by people who did not set foot in the jungles. We were supposed to defend the rich and fight the poor.

Exploding Indian Army's Divisive Lies

I was not the only one asking questions. I found that the Indian military is based on casteism, racism, and language differences. They sent us to the north because we did not speak the same language and had a different caste.

Other army units were sent to the northern Himalayan border areas because we did not speak the language and looked different. The local people, Gurkhas, are recruited and sent to suppress industrial strikes in areas where they don't speak the language. When people speak a different language, they look different, it is easier to fight them. But these lies explode as the soldiers discover that they are fighting to defend the rich capitalists.

Comrades stationed in the Himalayas discovered that it was like a different planet. They were camped at an altitude of 20,000 feet. They faced severe cold of -20°C (-4°F), snow, ice, and avalanches. Almost 30% of them died due to extreme weather. More died when they were sent to lower elevations due to sudden changes in blood pressure. They were told they would fight the Chinese army but they did not see a single Chinese soldier.

Change ICWP to Take on the Capitalist Enemy

The capitalists will only sacrifice more of us in the pursuit of profit. They might appear invincible but war and combat change everything. The most patriotic people question everything. That is our opportunity. We can do it now. We don't have to wait for war or where there are already wars.

The capitalists are gearing up for more wars because capitalist competition leads to world war. They are also exposing their extreme weakness and instability. They rely on the workers and soldiers to save them. Our job is to do the opposite.

I can contribute to the formation of an ICWP military collective. We will think about how to implement our ideas to recruit red soldiers in service of the international working class.

—Comrade in India



In February of 1946, a group of Hindu and Muslim naval ratings (enlisted sailors) decided to go on a strike due to lack of food. For the first time there was a unity of the Hindu and Muslim naval ratings. It spread from one ship to another. The British ruthlessly suppressed the mutiny. But there was overwhelming support from the masses in Bombay (now Mumbai). The workers collected food and provided first aid to the wounded. The mutiny spread quickly from Karachi to Iran and as far away as Indonesia. The Congress Party and the Muslim League condemned the mutiny. Only the Communist Party of India supported it.