

# RED FLAG



## MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



Los Angeles (USA)  
May 1



Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

## STUDENT ENCAMPMENTS FOR PALESTINE CAN BE SCHOOLS FOR COMMUNISM

DELHI (India), May 7— Students at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) have set up an encampment to protest the Israeli rulers' genocidal massacres in Gaza. Three comrades of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) went to the encampment to support millions of workers and students around the world.

"I joined ICWP and became a communist six years ago as a JNU student when fascist Modi supporters went on a rampage," one said. "We were brutally attacked by the fascist mob. I was a leftist student but when I saw the police attacking Muslim residential areas and bulldozing thousands, I was convinced this capitalist system has to go."

See DELHI, INDIA ENCAMPMENT, page 2

### The students described their visit:

We met several JNU students. They were young, angry, and looking for leadership.

We immediately started distributing *Red Flag* Gaza pamphlets. The students were organized by a revisionist (fake-communist) party. Many students read our pamphlet from the beginning to the end. It is hard to imagine their reaction when we said, "Comrades, we need you to join us. Comrade Hamza is calling on all of us, from the most brutal conditions." Many students were visibly emotional and spent several hours with us.

We were at the encampment to struggle and recruit honest students

LOS ANGELES (USA), May 4— Growing anger at the US-supported Israeli bombardment and starvation of the Gaza masses has exploded into a qualitatively new level of struggle. Students across the US and around the world have organized protest encampments. They have maintained their camps in the face of vicious attacks by uniformed and non-uniformed fascists.

"Look!" a comrade said to H, a new friend, together at a campus protest. "They are organizing food, security, education, health care. No money involved – just cooperating and sharing. It's showing, in a small way, how communism can work."

"I was thinking the same thing," H replied.

See LOS ANGELES, USA ENCAMPMENT, page 3

This lesson has not been lost on the students. "Do you think others here would be interested in communism, too?" B asked O, an encampment leader who had just happily taken *Red Flag* and our Palestine pamphlet.

"I think everyone here is interested in communism," she answered.

At other colleges we find the same thing. Students take and read our communist literature and put extra copies on their library table. Noting the communist aspects of their camp, one said. "I could live like this always."

That scares college administrators and politicians far more than tents or divestment demands.

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## Young Workers in the Front with Communist Ideas

### INDUSTRIAL WORKERS KEY TO SUCCESSFUL MAY DAY MARCH



EL SALVADOR, May 1— “It was a successful day. The truth is, I loved being part of the march. We are fighting for a single goal: the victory of communism,” said a young worker who participated for the first time with the Party.

The march reflected the leadership and effort of many young workers. Discipline, colorful T-shirts, banners, and the struggle for communism. This was the result of months of hard work in many maquila factories here.

Fourteen young people (sons, daughters, friends, and relatives of ICWP comrades) participated for the first time in this working-class march. They took the responsibility of distributing the *Red Flag* newspaper, and providing security to

those who distributed it. They all fulfilled the mission entrusted to them.

“*Red Flag, Red Flag,*” shouted a group of feminists, asking for our newspaper. *Red Flag* was in great demand. Ten comrades distributed eleven hundred newspapers, bringing communist ideas to the working class.

ICWP’s red flags waved through the main streets of the capital. The workers held them with great enthusiasm and joy as they marched to commemorate this historic day for the working class and for communism.

Our banner read “**FROM GAZA TO EL SALVADOR, LET’S FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM.**” It drew attention, because

ICWP’s call to fight for communism makes the difference. The call of the banners of other groups was reformist.

From the beginning to the end of the march we could feel the enthusiasm of the youth, urban and rural workers, students, and healthcare workers.

Organizing the march for May Day, international workers’ day, requires many actions: visits to the communities where comrades live, broader meetings, and meetings of collectives. Mainly talking about the importance of showing the world the need to organize for communism.

Because only communism will put an end to fascist imperialist wars, to wage slavery, racism, sexism, homophobia, and borders.

**The concentration in the maquilas gave results and shows the success of collective work.** These industrial workers were key to the successful turnout. Dozens of communists mobilized from several areas of the country, overcoming obstacles such as police checkpoints imposed by the fascist Bukele government. But with the experience of comrades, it was always possible to reach our destination.

With days of anticipation everything necessary for the march was ready: banners, posters, flags, T-shirts, and our newspaper *Red Flag*.

**Very early on May 1st, comrades began arriving at the place where the march would begin.** Little by little, the ICWP comrades who mobilized from different parts of the country joined in. Some of

them got up early. Others began the journey from the mountains the day before to be on time, to march and wave the flags of communism.

“Are you all from the FMLN?” asked a worker.

“No, we are the International Communist Workers’ Party, and we fight directly for communism,” answered a comrade as she handed him *Red Flag*.

“That is our thing,” affirmed the worker, who turned out to be a former FMLN fighter. “Can I carry a flag?” He joined our group throughout the march. We agreed to meet again soon.

The revolutionary spirit was there from beginning to end, for our task to mobilize the masses and fight for communism.

Even under the attacks of the fascist “regime of exception,” which always tries to intimidate the workers, we do our duty. The conditions of inequality, present today, are manifested in poverty, unemployment, repression, the high cost of living, layoffs, and communities besieged by the forces of repression. These are some of the things that make the workers unwilling to stand idly by. And they have taken up ICWP’s only option: to fight for the communist system that will put an end to all the horrors of capitalism.

Excited by their participation in this historic May Day march, the workers went on to close the activity with pupusas, chocolate, fish, and tortillas, an action that strengthens the relations of communist comradeship. We have a world to win!

## DELHI, INDIA ENCAMPMENT, from page 1

to ICWP. We had no intention of engaging with the revisionist organizers.

Many students said that if we can pressure the Israeli government to stop arming, it would stop the killing of innocent civilians. They thought that the US was behind the Israeli support and that Palestine would be free if millions were liberated from US imperialism.

This is when one student took the ICWP pamphlet and pointed out the two articles from Bengaluru and Shaheen Bagh. He said, “Nationalism is another word for fascism. There is no such thing as good nationalism. Garment workers in

Bengaluru understand that. We have to learn from them. I will seriously consider joining ICWP.”

We realized, “From Columbia to JNU the students are crying for a new direction. That new direction cannot be anything but communism.” We signed up many of these eager students to join our ICWP forces on May Day. They eagerly took several *Red Flags* and pamphlets.

We will never stop organizing the masses for communism! The humiliation and atrocities faced by the population in Gaza for over 75 years are turning the whole world upside down. As comrade Hamza

said, “Communism is the future.” We are prepared to do everything

to make it happen.



NEW DELHI (India), April 29— Over 100 students at Jawaharlal Nehru University rallied to protest a talk by US Ambassador Eric Garcetti. University officials had to cancel it. Students called out US complicity in the genocide the Israeli government is committing in Gaza. Over 40,000 Palestinians are dead and almost all the living face starvation.

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[www.icwpredflag.org](http://www.icwpredflag.org) — Twitter @RedFlagBandera  
 E-mail: [icwp@nym.hush.com](mailto:icwp@nym.hush.com)  
 Instagram: @icwprf Facebook: icwpredflag  
 Phone: (323) 315-8884  
 Write to: P.M.B. 362  
 3006 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007, USA

## ICWP Doesn't Work Within the System

### OUR GOAL: TO USHER IN A NEW COMMUNIST SOCIETY

GQEBERHA (South Africa), May 1—We successfully celebrated May Day in a community hall. On a busy day, comrades took time to come learn about communism.

“We are gathered to celebrate Workers’ Day,” a comrade began. “This day is important. It is celebrated by workers everywhere. It marks the workers’ struggle against capitalist exploitation and brutality.

“It honours the heroic struggle of US workers against capitalists that resulted in the 8-hour working day.

“Our struggle continues,” the comrade went on. “Working eight hours a day in a capitalist system is not liberation. It doesn’t stop the misery that workers face. And it doesn’t stop the exploitation they are subjected to every day and every hour.

“Our task is to continue the struggle but not to reform capitalism or make it ‘humane.’ It is not reformable. We can only change the system by destroying it and ushering in a new society, a communist society. We can only do that through a revolutionary change led by a revolutionary party, ICWP. The question is: how do we do that?”

#### Need ICWP to Confront Capitalism’s Unemployment and Alienation

A long-time party comrade who had not participated for a few years spoke up. “I have had my own personal struggles,” she said. “I developed an addiction, but I got myself clean and I remembered home.

“I take personal responsibility for some things. However, even addiction and gender-based violence are results of the system. We are told that ‘education is the key to success.’ But we went to school for years and have nothing to show for it. This drives people to depression. They are unemployed, not knowing what to feed their children. This gives them anxiety, which they attempt to escape through alcohol and other substances.

“Unfortunately,” she continued, “I tried to escape through alcohol. But I dusted myself off and took the decision to get clean and fight back. And I remembered that I can only do that by going back to the party (ICWP). I’m not afraid to die. I have been questioned before. They were saying I’m a terrorist, I want to topple the government.

“We must fight the system head

on,” she concluded, “and be united wherever we are, whether we are working or not.”

#### Need Unity to Fight to End Capitalist Wage Slavery

“Indeed, we must be united,” responded a new comrade. “I work as an operator for a German engineering company. A factory next to ours burnt down, affecting the one we worked in. Our clothes, cell phones, and other belongings were burnt; we were left with just our working clothes. The company claimed with insurance for their machines although they were minimally damaged. They didn’t do anything for us. When we wanted compensation for our belongings, they called us troublemakers.

“There was fire residue and chemicals all around,” he continued, “but we were made to work in those conditions. We complained that these conditions make us sick, and called health inspectors. Even they worked for these bosses. The company was not punished. They just painted the building.

“They prevented us from forming a union. They threatened to fire those who were vocal. People were afraid to speak out, and even the

CCMA [arbitration commission] did not help workers. The labour court is too expensive for an individual worker. So, I agree that these people will divide us to prevent us from winning,” he concluded.

#### How ICWP Differs from Other Parties

“What differentiates ICWP from other parties?” a comrade asked. “And how can we win and change people’s lives?”

“People have two fundamental questions,” another comrade replied. “‘What can you help me with since I don’t have a job?’ And ‘How can you help me with these terrible work conditions?’”

“Unlike the ANC, we will not lie to people that ‘we will create two million jobs, therefore, vote for me.’ ICWP isn’t a union. Better working conditions are not our ultimate or primary goal. We don’t operate within the system. Our goal is to destroy the capitalist system that creates unbearable working conditions and unemployment. And to usher in a new society.”

This change starts with winning the ideological struggle. These capitalists have waged a war of indoctrination against the workers. We must have working-class consciousness. We start by reading the *Red Flag*, distributing it, contributing to it, and spreading it to all our colleagues. We recruit them, including family and friends.

Today that began. It will continue in meetings and *Red Flag* distributions. In that way we will win thousands of workers. When we are united in one revolutionary party, nothing can stop us from destroying capitalists and their system.



## LOS ANGELES, USA ENCAMPMENT, from page 1

That’s why they whine about “outside agitators.” It’s why many call in cops to break up the camps, often brutally. And why others (like Brown and Northwestern) agree to consider some students’ demands.

The specter of communism is again haunting capitalists in Europe, the USA, and worldwide.

#### “They Tried to Bury Us – They Didn’t Know We Are Seeds”

University of Southern California administrators called in LA cops to rough up and arrest over ninety students and allies on the first night of their encampment. The next afternoon, the students returned with a “die-in” and stayed throughout that night. “Our camp has lived to see another day!” O rejoiced.

The UCLA administration didn’t call the cops as quickly. But around midnight on April 30, a masked Zionist paramilitary group assaulted the pro-Palestine tent camp with clubs, tossing firecrackers at

the students. The students fought back, successfully defending their barricades – while campus cops hid. Finally a California Highway Patrol detachment showed up – then watched for over an hour while the fascist attack continued.

Many were shocked: “The police didn’t do anything!” A comrade replied, “If they’d done anything it would have been to attack the students. We can’t rely on police to protect us.”

Thousands of supporters surrounded the camp the next day. Sure enough, the cops showed up in force that night and “cleared the camp” with mass arrests.

Some friends believe (as older communist movements did, and as some of us once did) that demands are necessary to “expose” college administrators. Some even think it’s necessary to win demands to keep the movement alive. We continue to discuss this and will write more about it.

The real-life lessons of the “stop Gaza genocide” camps have a far greater impact than liberal boycott and divestment demands.

#### What Students Are Learning in Struggle

Capitalism is in essence fascist. The iron fist hides in a threadbare velvet glove. The attacks on the Gaza masses, then on anti-war dissidents in Israel, have come home.

Universities are not ivory towers. A college education doesn’t guarantee a decent job – in the US or India or anywhere. But it is guaranteed to promote illusions that we can improve capitalism by working within the system. To promote elitist and racist lies that serve imperialism. Some students at Emory University, where cops viciously attacked anti-racist protesters, singling out students of color most sharply, now say they don’t even want their degrees.

Most important is that lesson about communism. Students and

workers can organize ourselves to work collectively, without buying, selling, or bartering. We can meet our needs and defend our interests. We can and must rely on one another. We build relationships of trust and political struggle.

But to make communism a permanent way of life will require armed revolution. We need to be there with the students to show them why that means communist mass organizing now, especially among the industrial workers and working-class soldiers who are key. Students alone can’t bring down the imperialist system that destroys the lives of masses in Palestine and around the world. That will take a mass International Communist Workers’ Party.

We are inviting our friends – old friends and new friends we are meeting in this struggle – to join ICWP. Their participation will strengthen our Party politically as well as in numbers. We, too, have much to learn from them.

## High School Educators Face Fascist Attacks:

### EDUCATORS' & STUDENTS' FUTURE DEPENDS ON COMMUNIST COUNTERATTACK

SEATTLE (USA), April 27 – “What are schools for?” demanded a friend at our pre-May Day potluck discussion. She was commenting on the escalating assaults on educators and high school students.

A teacher who was attacked introduced the discussion. He described how he has been doxed by the far right for months: his private information was published widely online and on a truck around his school. He was put on leave from his job. The school board will not let him talk to his students or fellow teachers during its “investigation.”

Educators and students in the Seattle public schools and all around the US have been threatened because they are standing up to the attacks of US capitalism/imperialism in its death throes. The school board and courts have targeted the teacher comrade and other school employees. At a school board meeting, protestors fought the potential firing of two activists for participating in a demonstration which closed a major freeway for hours. This was an early protest and the pressure was strong enough that the school employees kept their jobs.

But as the resistance against the Gaza genocide has spread, fascists have counterattacked. Billionaire fascists, including New York hedge fund managers and Republican and Democratic Party hacks and their followers, have flooded the school district with emails, accusations of antisemitism, and other threats and harassment. The congressional committee that previously attacked university students now berates

high school activists as well.

Some at the potluck warned that even if comrades got their jobs back, the school board would demand, under pressure from fascists, that educators no longer teach about the deadly history of imperialism, let alone the communist answer.

The capitalist schools exist to promote capitalism and to push the rulers’ racist and nationalist ideology. More of our friends are coming to this conclusion and discussing this with their neighbors, co-workers and friends.

Communist education is for now and the future. It means combining lifelong work and study, theory and practice. Everyone will learn and work their entire lives.

Our response to the fascist attacks will reinforce communist relationships and pave the way to advance communist learning through practical struggle.

#### What to Do?

Participants, including retired and current high school employees, gave suggestions for answering these attacks. Some advocated going to the union. Others wanted to address this issue with the city council. Some talked about how they had dealt with such attacks before. This included saving students from suspension through political activities, pushing for the firing of a racist high school principal, and fighting to make the union more responsive to the workers.

It’s natural and helpful to recall history, but how we previously dealt with these threats must be adjusted to our time.



“The situation is not like it was when some of us were demonstrating in the late 60’s and early 70’s,” added a comrade. US imperialism is in decline and the potential for world war is greater. It opens many avenues for struggle over communist ideas. Everyone in the multi-generational, multi-racial group at the potluck seemed to agree.

#### Finding The Communist Path

One tactic is the “legal” path, involving unions and lawyers.

But our long-term strategy concentrates on winning students, school employees, and their families to the need for Communist revolution as the only way to end the fascist attacks on all workers. We will mobilize students, educators, and others associated with three local high schools where we distribute *Red Flag*.

“Of course we want to get our comrade’s job back,” said a comrade, summing up a long exchange of ideas. “We will work hard for that and will encourage many others to join us. But what is most important is to win more workers and students to become communist fighters with the ICWP. This is how we will measure the success of our campaign.”

The discussions continued via phone and text the next day. Comments included, “It was great that everyone got to talk.” Many praised both the discussion and the end result. A teacher phoned to ask how retired teachers can join the fight.

We have to work quickly, as we want this campaign to begin before the middle of June, when school ends here. High school students from the multi-racial working class and immigrant families in the local schools will someday fill the industrial factories and soldiers’ barracks. They will be a key force for the communist revolution we need.

The expanding relationships our party is building among educators, students, and their families must be aimed at building ICWP’s base and membership. We are not in this for a brief fight, but to change the world.

Read our pamphlet:

**COMMUNIST  
EDUCATION FOR A  
CLASSLESS SOCIETY**

available at:  
[icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf](http://icwpredflag.org/epe.pdf)

### MARCHING FOR COMMUNISM: A GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE

LOS ANGELES (USA), May Day 2024—ICWP convened on the streets of Hollywood to march in solidarity with the working class to commemorate International Workers’ Day. Although we came to march with the other workers’ organizations, like unions and community organizations, our main goal was rooted in mobilizing the masses for communism.

Our contingent made a strong impact in our red T-shirts. Some from other groups asked if they could have one, some wore them proudly as they marched with their contingent. The T-shirts said “Mobilize the masses for communism” in five languages.

Comrades marched with bright red banners while others distributed *Red Flag*, which workers in the march and those who watched gladly took. Other comrades held megaphones shouting at the top of their lungs, “Long live, long live communism!” “Capitalism you can’t hide! We charge you with genocide!” These were among the many roaring cries we gave as we

marched on.

We carried two banners. One read “Mobilize the Masses for Communism to End Capitalist Genocide, Exploitation and Imperialist Wars” (in English and Spanish). The other read “Palestinian, Israeli, and all Workers, Let’s Unite for Communism!” (in five languages). We were able to distribute well over 800 newspapers and over 450 Gaza pamphlets.

“As a new member of the party and being my first time participating in an international march, I liked it. I didn’t expect this many people, I was impressed,” said a comrade. He was also impressed with the reception to communist ideas. During the march, workers were grabbing Gaza pamphlets out of our hands.

One weakness that we face is that in our contingent there were few people new to the

party. For this day we need to make a bigger effort to bring more people. A comrade suggested we should each commit to bringing at least two other people.

We also need to improve on chants and songs. These should be decided on and practiced beforehand to have the entire contingent sound as one.

Before the march ended our contingent set up on a corner and sang the revolutionary songs *Venceremos*

(We Will Win) and *Bella Ciao* (Fond Farewell).

In Los Angeles, this May Day was a great learning experience as we created a collective of newer leaders to plan and lead the march. And this is a great step forward for our party to get more people involved and take a more active role in our activities. Not only in planning, but also in the political growth of each one of us.





SEATTLE (USA), May 1— Comrades have built many new relationships with anti-capitalist fighters over the last year. These activists literally welcomed ICWP with open arms this May Day. We distributed nearly 900 pieces of our communist literature to eager readers leading up to the march, at the march itself, and afterward at the University of Washington's encampment. New friends took close to 100 *Red Flags* and other literature. They aim to expand the distribution to those they know and those they will meet at future events.



SPAIN, May 1— Comrades distributed 250 *Red Flags* in two trade union marches on May Day. They talked with two agricultural workers from Senegal, among others. "Agricultural work should be collective. The fruits of that labor should be for the workers themselves," a comrade said. "That's what communism is." At first, these workers had their doubts about whether communism would be possible. But they agreed that things should be that way and took the comrade's phone number.

A comrade wrote this poem and recited it at a party dinner shortly before May Day this year.

### The day had awakened with fire

The day had awakened with fire  
the contingents of protesters  
prepare themselves with the warmth of the  
bright sun...

their signs erect like stars  
their combatant banners like red soldiers  
their flags held high like rifles...

the day had awakened with fire  
with it the proletarian masses rise up  
like a sea roaring against walls...

May 1st workers day  
we tear down imposed bloody borders  
we destroy imperialist capitalist wars

the day had awakened with fire  
the destruction of wage slavery  
the construction of equalities in love...

the International Communist Workers Party  
mass mobilization for communism  
liberation through armed revolutions...

the day had awakened with fire  
we create opulent worlds without chains  
we achieve happiness and smiles...

*Red Flag* announces the necessary struggles  
the necessary battles of communist armies  
in formation demolishing exploitation and  
misery...

every single living human being in motion  
burying the past and giving life to the future  
the day had awakened with fire.



Los Angeles (USA), May 1



San Salvador, El Salvador, May 1— Distributing *Red Flag* in the march. In total, ten comrades distributed eleven hundred newspapers, bringing communist ideas to the working class.



**Below:** Mexico City, May 1—"Youths bring communist ideas to masses of workers," said a comrade. Then they continued, "The time must come when instead of demanding a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, the workers will demand the elimination of wage slavery through a communist revolution."



## Masses Worldwide Rise Up Against Capitalist Imperialist Genocide

### FASCISM AND WAR—OR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

May 6—The Israeli and US governments' genocide continues in Gaza with the invasion of Rafah. They are deliberately starving the Palestinians who remain alive. As social media has shown the masses worldwide the graphic horrors of capitalism-imperialism, the marches and protests are growing.

In response, the US rulers are attacking protests against genocide everywhere. More teachers have been disciplined, suspended, or fired for speaking out. US Congress lies that those who fight against genocide are “threatening Jews.”

Students at colleges and universities have been attacked for demonstrating against genocide. They are responding with growing solidarity and determination. Encampments are set up, then attacked by the police, then new encampments are built. More see revolution as possible and needed.

**A participant at the UCLA encampment said that the solidarity and collectivity in the face of an impending police attack were “the most beautiful thing I have ever seen!”**

In a communist world, that collectivity and solidarity will be the glue that binds us all together as we build a world to meet our needs.



Paris, France, April 2024—Student protest against genocide in Gaza

#### Only Revolution Against Capitalism-Imperialism, Not Reform, Will End Genocide and Imperialist War.

Students demand that universities divest from Israel and cut ties to arms producers. That won't stop genocide or imperialist war. The universities *exist* to serve the capitalists and imperialists. To push their anti-worker ideology and war research. Not to serve the masses of students and workers!

We have been taught that this is what the US rulers call a democracy, where we all have a say—as long as we don't oppose them! The term has been used by the rulers to cover up their dictatorship. It's now being exposed for what it really is: Fascism.

The rulers are panicked because so many youths see that it's not just one bad policy or politician. They are questioning the whole capitalist-imperialist system and looking for radical solutions. Many are open to communist revolution.

ICWP is mobilizing to build a mass party of millions worldwide to abolish capitalism along with its creations: fascism, genocide, and imperialist war. In their place, masses of worker, student, and soldier leaders will build a world of sharing. Real

communism, where we plan, produce and distribute collectively only to meet the needs of humankind, not for the profit of the capitalists. Where education will only be to meet the needs of the masses.

This period is



Mexico City, May 2024—Student protest against the war in Gaza

not the same as the Vietnam war. After rebellions in the US Army and Navy made them unreliable fighting units, and as the Vietnamese won battle after battle, the US withdrew from Vietnam in 1973. Many activists thought they had “won.” But US imperialism was left intact to continue its murderous wars for empire and control.

#### World War III: Change Dominant Imperialist Power — or Change the System?

Today, US imperialism is losing ground to its rising Russian and Chinese imperialist rivals. World War III is getting closer. The genocide in Gaza and war in Ukraine are initial murderous phases of this war. All these imperialists are willing to kill masses to control profits, markets, workers, and resources.

The only way Palestinian and all workers will be free is by uniting Palestinians, Jews, Arabs, and all workers to destroy the capitalist profit system and build a communist system committed to meet the needs of everyone.

We applaud students' determination, anger, and willingness to stand up against genocide and the universities' racist-fascist complicity in it. We invite you to join us. And to help take this message to workers and sol-

diers here and worldwide. These are two indispensable sectors for successful communist revolution.

Communism – not socialism or national liberation – is our future! Let's dedicate our lives to unite with workers and soldiers to fight for a world without racism, sexism, xenophobia, genocide, and imperialist wars.

We encourage you to take *Red Flag* to the encampments, teach-ins and protests worldwide. This is a big opportunity to reach many youths, who are furious at the genocide, with communist ideas and to build ICWP. Students have started many movements, but it takes a communist party rooted among workers and soldiers to finish them.

**We must dare to struggle, dare to win!** At one encampment, a student whose family is from Lebanon gladly took the Gaza pamphlet, *Red Flag*, and our leaflet. He wants revolution. He said it would win because his generation learns everything quickly from the internet. When a comrade added that both the US-Israel-UK imperialists and the Russia-China-Iran imperialists are enemies of the working class, he disagreed. Nevertheless, he agreed to show the Gaza pamphlet to his family and discuss it with them.

### BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT AND SANCTIONS (BDS): ASKING CAPITALISM TO BE LESS MURDEROUS

Supporters of Palestinian nationalism founded BDS in the early 2000s. It describes itself as “a Palestinian-led movement for freedom, justice, and equality. It opposes Israel's occupying and colonizing Palestinian land, discriminating against Palestinian citizens of Israel, and denying Palestinian refugees the right to return to their homes.”

BDS asks universities, corporations, banks, and churches, to sell off investments they have in Israel or in companies doing business there. It asks for boycotts of companies that refuse.

BDS copies a similar campaign against South African apartheid. Apartheid was an extreme form of government-enforced racial hierarchy. It was opposed by a militant mass movement led by Black workers and students from the 1960s through the 1990s. The UN started

promoting anti-apartheid divestment campaigns in 1962. They took off in the US and Europe.

In the '80s, US banks, led by Chase Manhattan (now JPMorgan Chase) stopped lending to the South African government, and cut back private loans. But that wasn't because of the solidarity divestment movement.

The banks feared the anti-apartheid rebellion in South Africa would cost them money. “Because of the political turmoil in South Africa, lending to businesses there is now considered very risky.” (New York Times 8/1/85) As the big US banks got out, they reduced their risk by transferring loans to other banks. Smaller banks and banks from Japan took up the slack.

Leaders of the anti-apartheid movement compromised with the government to end official apartheid in the 90's. Some of those

leaders became part of another capitalist government of corrupt politicians. They now oversee the oppression of the masses, whose most basic needs—even for water—are not met. The white politicians of the apartheid era have merely been replaced by Black politicians. That is how nationalist movements work.

BDS claims is it “having a major impact and is effectively challenging international support for Israeli apartheid and settler-colonialism.” This is not true. The anti-genocide movement is exposing the nature of imperialism to millions. The BDS movement promotes the dangerous illusion that only buying from “good” capitalists can defeat imperialism.

As long as the US government backs fascist Israel, US companies and banks will follow suit. And the US rulers will continue to back Is-

rael, however much they dislike Netanyahu and the Israeli Right. The Israeli army is key to the US empire's attempt to keep its hold on the Mideast in the face of challenges from Russia, Iran, and China.

US imperialists are trying to prop up their declining power by forming an alliance between Israel and Arab states (the “Abraham Accords”). The massacres by the two criminal gangs of Hamas and the Israeli government are disrupting this plan. So, the US is touting a two capitalist-state “solution” and intervention by the Arab states. Workers need NO capitalist states!

There is no solution to capitalist imperialism and its wars, famines, and mass misery short of destroying capitalism. That means rejecting nationalism and winning an armed revolution to defeat all the fascist butchers and set up communist self-rule of the masses worldwide.

## MAY DAY: FIGHTING FOR COMMUNIST IDEAS AMONG INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN STRUGGLE

BENGALURU (India), May 1—The major freeway here was draped in solid red as thousands of workers started their march on May Day. Garment workers, Electronic Workers Union, State Employees, Aeronautical Union, and Heavy Machinery Union, were joined by Google and Microsoft workers. Two weeks ago, thousands of garment workers staged a violent strike to protest long hours and starvation wages. Members of the International Communist Workers' Party (ICWP) were present in all these activities.

We arrived on buses transporting workers. In one bus, a comrade was able to organize all her neighbors. She has been distributing *Red Flag* in this area for more than two years. On the bus, comrades gave

speeches to organize for communism and not for reforms that can never meet what the workers need.

Everyone on the bus had seen our special edition on the Gaza genocide. One worker said, referring to our comrade Hamza, "What is happening in Gaza shows that in the face of most brutal conditions, the working class can organize ICWP. We can do it here also. We have to convince the working class that reforms will lead to more brutality. We need to destroy the system of exploitation."

On other buses, ICWP members encountered workers who were influenced by their unions. "I have worked in the garment industry for 16 years," said Salma. "I started my job as a helper by pre-stitching and sorting. My salary is Rs. 8000

(\$95) after working 6 days a week for 12 hours. This May Day, we are demanding at least Rs.11000." She said that she could not afford even one room with her salary.

A member of ICWP made a passionate appeal to her and others that we are facing a similar onslaught of the capitalists. "From El Salvador to South Africa, from the US to Gaza, workers like you are never able to catch up with the inflation and unemployment. But if we are united, we can create a communist society where there are no capitalists."

We struggled with Salma and many others. She had never read *Red Flag* before. But this May Day allowed us to be with many workers like her. We spent eight hours with Salma. We were getting to know

her better. She knows hundreds of women from her work in the garment factory. She took extra copies of the *Red Flag* and we made sure we would meet her again.

This May Day was very different for us. We were able to mobilize our comrades in different areas of the industrial working class. Some of our comrades were with the engineering and machinist unit. Others were with the nurse's union. We got very enthusiastic responses from the recently laid-off workers from Microsoft, TCS, and Google.

Today's May Day in Bengaluru was a huge success for us. We distributed hundreds of *Red Flags*. We made very solid commitments to workers who are looking to continue our struggle.

### MAY DAY IN INDIA: ORGANIZING INDUSTRIAL WORKERS TO END WAGE SLAVERY

CHENNAI (India), May 2—Members of the International Communist Workers' Party participated in the 101st anniversary of May Day here. We organized about two dozen auto workers to attend a rally of over 50,000 workers. This event was organized by the political parties opposed to the fascists of the BJP. They want to make Chennai a giant industrial hub to challenge China. The state government has given huge subsidies to Apple to manufacture iPhones here.

ICWP members joined forces with the Apple assembly workers.

These workers make Rs. 16,000/month (\$195). Our May Day leaflet explained how the competition in the auto industry and iPhone is creating a crisis among workers everywhere. The Indian and Chinese capitalists are flooding the auto industry with EVs. Tesla is joining this competition. All these capitalists are trying to reduce workers' wages. Only communism can end this wage slavery.

The new friends from the Apple factory we met recently from our effort to organize May Day are taking extra copies of *Red Flag*. We

also are friends with a garment worker in Colombo who organized some workers there with copies of *Red Flag*.

#### Delhi: We Can Defeat Fascist Rulers by Relying on Our Base Among the Masses

In Delhi and surrounding areas, we participated in six different May Day events under very fascist conditions. Thousands of military and police forces, along with openly fascist BJP goons, have infiltrated the masses. However, we have been organizing here for many years with deep roots. We distributed

many hundred copies of *Red Flag* by relying on the masses we trust from our work.

Our May Day has shown that the government and its fascist machinery are violent and ruthless but at the same time, they are vulnerable. The masses everywhere are showing signs of change. We are accepted by the masses because we show the necessity of building communism. Many new industrial workers and students are ready to join us. We will continue this struggle to build new collectives.

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

#### New Job, Same Goal: Build ICWP

Revolutionary greetings to all comrades in ICWP!

I have been a member of the International Communist Workers' Party for some years. Four weeks ago, I changed jobs, aware that the bosses are all the same, exploiting the workers. I wanted to change factories for two important reasons. One is because they don't work on weekends. That helps me because I had no one to take care of my daughter on Saturdays. Where I am now, we work from Monday to Friday.

The second reason is that we have comrades there who are organized in ICWP, and I hope to consolidate a new collective.

Working in another factory does not change my communist ideas. Even though I have only been working there four weeks, I decided to attend the May Day march with my family.

For me it is important to participate on this day because it commemorates a historic act of the Chicago martyrs.

I plan to make friends in order to

recruit new workers for ICWP. I know it is not easy, but as time goes by, I hope to make friends and then tell them about our party. The work environment is different because it is a smaller factory and the organization of the schedules does not allow many opportunities to talk. But I will always look for an opportunity to do the work for communist ideas that we need so much.

It is a difficult challenge, but not impossible. I have all the motivation to be able to achieve it, and I experienced a lot of that encouragement on May Day in the march, seeing that our contingent is growing.

—Red worker in El Salvador

#### Fascist Checkpoints and our Communist May Day

This May Day March was very special even from its initial planning. The comrades I had invited, asked me, with much anticipation, "Are we going to the May Day March?"

I answered, "Of course we will. Everything is ready." Everyone

participated.

On the trip to the departure point for the march, we were stopped by four separate fascist police-military roadblocks along the highway. The question they asked us was, "Are you all going to the march?"

But a comrade was ready, saying, "What march? We are going to a tourist center in San Salvador." This was our answer for the whole route of our journey.

At some of the checkpoints, all the men and young people were taken down from the bus. A soldier told a 14-year-old boy, "Get off so that you can learn what you should not do in this country." In spite of everything, we arrived at our point of the march.

It was very gratifying, when we unfurled our banner saying, "From Gaza to El Salvador, Let's Fight for a Communist Society." This slogan got the attention of the participants and the media. They took many pictures throughout the whole march.

The participation of our comrade men and women workers, together with their children, and with farm-workers and health care workers,

all formed a large marching bloc.

But the most impactful thing for me was distributing *Red Flag*. Several groups of workers called me over saying, "Comrade, share your material with us." And in a very friendly way, I approached them and handed out newspapers.

Others followed me and asked, "Do you sell, or give away, the newspaper?" I told them that I was glad to share it with them. Friends and many others approached me and simply said, "Would you give me one, please?"

The acceptance of our newspaper filled me with joy. A comrade who stayed very close to me (for security) told me, "I liked it very much when the groups called you over and asked for the newspaper. This filled me with satisfaction. We're moving forward."

I felt that we were a point of attention in this march. It was the first time that we have marched in this sector and together with unions in this country.

LONG LIVE MAY DAY! LONG LIVE THE WORKING CLASS!

—Communist Teacher in El Salvador

## From the Middle East, to Europe to Asia-Pacific:

# TURN IMPERIALIST GENOCIDE AND WORLD WAR III INTO COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

May 7, 2024—The fascist Israeli government's Gaza genocide continues unabated, despite worldwide massive demonstrations. Now it has begun its murderous assault on Rafah to terrorize 1.5 million Palestinians taking refuge there. US imperialists tried but failed to force Netanyahu to accept the Qatar-sponsored ceasefire plan accepted by Hamas.

This genocide shows the futility of trying to reform capitalism-imperialism. Only a worldwide revolution for communism will end this system which, for profits and empire, murders untold millions of our working-class family and cold-bloodedly prepares a nuclear World War III (WWIII).

### Russia-China-Iran Bog Down US in the Middle East

US imperialists had planned to forge an Israeli-Saudi rulers' alliance, excluding Iran, Russia and China. *Foreign Affairs* magazine, their main mouthpiece, wrote that the US urgently needs to leave the Middle East to concentrate its weapons, military, and dwindling financial resources on the Black Sea (Ukraine) and the South China Sea (Taiwan).

Hamas' fascist October 7 attack, and Israel's fascist genocide in Gaza ever since, upended this plan. Iran and its "Axis of Resistance" are surrounding Israel and controlling the Red Sea. Saudi Arabia has joined the China-Russia-led BRICS. It is negotiating selling its oil to China in yuans. This heralds the death of the petrodollar, which made the US dollar the world's reserve currency, enabling it to control the world.

Leaving the Middle East now would further accelerate US decline, benefiting its imperialist rivals Russia, China, and Iran. Thus,

US imperialism is fighting for its survival. European imperialists are siding with the US, holding onto centuries of Western imperialism's world domination. Israel's role is crucial to both.

This is leading to WWIII. To fight it, European imperialists need more oil and gas. Israeli control of the vast Palestinian and eastern Mediterranean deposits is critical. It's also critical to control the whole Mediterranean Sea to deliver that fuel safely to Europe during war time.

Northern Africa also has huge deposits of these important resources, making control of the Mediterranean even more crucial. Especially since Russian imperialism is replacing the US military in Niger and Burkina Faso, and is actively fighting in Mali, Chad, and Sudan. If Russia controls this swath of Africa, stretching from the Atlantic to the Red Sea, no pipelines will carry Nigerian or sub-Saharan oil or gas to Europe for war.

### War in Ukraine at a Critical Point

Russia is winning the war. This forces US imperialists to openly call for European troops on Ukrainian ground. France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Canada have hundreds of military "advisers and trainers" stationed there. France recently sent 500 troops from its Foreign Legion to Ukraine to fight Russia.

But Macron and Biden want more boots on the ground. The European imperialists are also demanding more US military personnel involvement. The Russians are racing to defeat Ukraine before the US-Europe get their ducks in a row. Whether they succeed or not, one thing is clear: the imperialists are heading for WWIII.



### US Imperialists Desperate to Stop Chinese Imperialists

US rulers criticize Biden for not stepping up confrontation with China in "No Substitute for Victory: America's Competition with China Must be Won, Not Managed" (*Foreign Affairs*).

The US has already placed special forces on Taiwan's farthest island, six miles from mainland China. They will now be permanently stationed there on a "rotating basis." China recently attacked Philippine ships in the South China Sea with water cannons, while the US, Australia, Japan, and the Philippines were conducting a huge maritime exercise nearby.

### Build ICWP!

In Asia Pacific a declining US imperialism and its NATO allies also face the rising China-Russia-Iran axis. A military clash is inevitable. None of these imperialists care how many workers are killed for their profits and empire. Soldiers and sailors in all imperialists' armies, including those of Russia, China, and Iran, can and must side

with the international working class to fight for communism, not for any imperialist murderers.

ICWP is mobilizing to turn the imperialists' bloodbath for profit into a revolution to destroy capitalism and imperialism once and for all. We need to grow internationally. We call on *Red Flag* readers to build collectives of friends, co-workers, classmates, and fellow soldiers to read *Red Flag* and act with the masses against the imperialists' slaughter while bringing them the only solution: communist revolution.

Party collectives should organize, where possible, workers in meetings, work stoppages and strikes against the genocide in Gaza and for communism.

Only communism will put an end to wage slavery, profits, and competition for market share that inevitably lead to wars and world war. We will collectively produce and share everything without competition, nations, borders, nationalism, xenophobia, sexism, or racism. Join us! Help build ICWP!

PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS, RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS TO [ICWPREDFLAG@NYM.HUSH.COM](mailto:ICWPREDFLAG@NYM.HUSH.COM)

### The Iranian Regime Is Not a True Friend of the Palestinians

The class struggle in Iran has pulled many workers, retirees, and students into the city streets to protest their current situations.

In its propaganda, the Islamic Republic authorities call the USA a Great Satan and make their men walk on the US flag. But the real and immediate enemy of the Iranian people is the Islamist government itself. Inflation is skyrocketing and unemployment is higher than it has ever been in the 46-year history of the Islamist regime.

At the same time, the minority elites of the state enjoy the luxurious lifestyle in their mansions while driving luxury cars in front of the people who are challenged to have a very simple basic life. The

hypocritical behavior of the government is so obvious that the supporters of the government are becoming fewer and fewer.

On top of the class struggle, the forcing of Islamic Hijab law on women has caused another wave of protests all over the country, this time from women of different social classes.

Students, nurses, doctors, teachers, social workers, actors, and artists have shown actively their unhappiness with this new law and decided to take their hijab off. Some well-known actresses, like Taraneh Alidoosti, have been arrested.

Those who follow Iran's politics ask why, when inflation is sky high, when President Ebrahim Raisi's government is unable to show any remedy for these problems, and

when there is a military crisis with Israel, does the Islamist regime create a new crisis to create even more dissatisfaction?

This week, the Islamic Republic went even further by sentencing the well-known popular rapper Toomaj Salehi to death for the supposedly provocative content of his songs. They said his songs undermine the stability and security of the regime. Some of his songs include lyrics against the Hijab law.

According to regime strategists, the women's movement against the Hijab law is an action intending to overthrow the regime and should be faced with the same reaction as military engagements.

Is the Islamist regime able to fight against workers, retirees, women, and foreign enemies at the same time? Sooner or later,

the people on top will make an arrangement to deal with foreign enemies in order to focus on their suppression of working people, women and minorities.

If we really feel for the Palestinian people under brutal Israeli occupation and genocide, we should join the worldwide movement for a ceasefire and an end to genocide. But at the same time, we should not ignore the atrocities of the Islamist regime against the Iranian people.

Down with Islamist regime!

Down with Israeli occupation!

For a ceasefire in Gaza for an end to Genocide!

Long live the solidarity of the working people of the world!

—A friend