

RED FLAG

MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

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



COMMUNIST WOMEN ON THE BARRICADES: “EACH ONE TEACH ONE”



Patna, Bihar (India), July 25: Women and men protest police brutality and corruption in examinations.

NEW DELHI (India), September 12— “I was 24 years old in September 2020,” said Smita. “ICWP members encouraged me to join a huge protest after a young Dalit woman was raped, murdered, and police secretly cremated her body to hide the evidence.

“I decided to join the communist movement led by ICWP,” Smita continued. “When all the political parties were calling for ‘justice’ to apprehend the criminals, ICWP was calling for a communist revolution. This capitalist system creates sexism. It creates laws and enforces the police. They are all part of the same system.

“Now, six years later, in the New Delhi protest, I was leading many

women and men in an ICWP contingent that faced tear gas and rubber bullets,” Smita concluded. “We were determined to create new communists. Over six years of ICWP’s mass struggle, I learned that we need to be clear about the main contradiction in the mass movement. In the last month, we have devoted time in many meetings to understand this.”

Smita and other leading comrades were speaking to our new friends, who are now reading *Red Flag* regularly.

Class Struggle versus Class Collaboration

Leaders of the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), which called the Delhi protest, showed signs of class

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COMMUNISTS IN TEL AVIV LEARN MASS APPROACH FROM NEW DELHI COMRADES

TEL AVIV (Occupied Palestine), September 15 — “Many of my progressive friends thought that the Iranian masses were under such a heavy yoke of Islamic fundamen-

talists that it would be impossible to change it.

“What I read in the *Red Flag* showed that communist ideas and struggle can change society under

the most adverse conditions,” said a comrade.

“I never knew the pivotal role the oil workers played in Iran before, during, and after the fall of the Shah of Iran,” said another.

“The main article in *Red Flag*, about the youth protests in India, jumped out at me. For the Zionists in Israel, Modi is their hero. This shattered the invincibility of Modi. It also showed the leading role that communists can play, as we saw in New Delhi.”

These were among the com-

ments of a dozen friends and members of the International Communist Workers’ Party (ICWP) meeting in Tel Aviv.

We have been taking turns in organizing our weekly meetings in different comrades’ apartments. This gives us maximum exposure to the neighbors in their area. New friends join us at each meeting. When we get a new issue of the *Red Flag*, comrades immediately look for articles and letters relating to Palestine. Communist analysis gives us the confidence to recruit and distribute our literature.

Israeli society is at a critical stage. Daily news of continuing genocide in Gaza and the West Bank, ever-expanding wars in Syria and Lebanon, and tension in Turkey have left the masses numb and depressed. But that is also galvanizing the masses into numerous daily rallies, protests, and demon-

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PALESTINE: NEVER FORGET THE WORKING CLASS

LOS ANGELES (USA), September 12— “If another future is possible [in Palestine],” wrote Andrew Ross in 2019, “then perhaps its seedlings can be found in the work of labor advocates and organizers.” This impressed our reading group while discussing his book *Stone Men: The Palestinians Who Built Israel*.

“The people we know fighting the Zionist genocide and ethnic cleansing in Palestine rarely mention Palestinian workers,” said one member. “Olive farmers, herders, physicians, merchants who sell crafts, but not workers.”

That’s a big omission. For example, Ross mentions that the first (1987) intifada “was launched by a call for a general strike, to be backed up by commercial boycotts and tax refusals.”

We had read Ghassan Kanafani’s important 1972 book *The Revolution of 1936-1939 in Palestine*. It has a critical chapter on “the workers.” What happened to them?

The working class in Palestine arose in the 1920s. By 1926 it included 25,000 agricultural laborers and 17,000 construction workers. Two thousand railway workers played a key role in a new trade-union movement. Only about 1,000 Palestinians worked in industry.

The early 1930s saw increased migration from the countryside to the cities. Many new proletarians got construction work from the British imperialists. They built roads and railways. They enlarged and improved the Haifa port. This undercut the Arab-controlled port of Jaffa.

Meanwhile, the Zionist Histadut labor union colluded with Zionist capitalists. They wanted “exclusively Jewish labor” to replace lower-paid Arab workers. Histadut even called racist strikes to enforce this.

Ross describes this process, and the rise of Arab workers’ unions to confront it. By the 1936 rebellion, almost no Arab worker in Jaffa, Palestine’s largest city, earned anything near a living wage. Many, jobless, had to return to families in the countryside.

The Communist Party of Palestine was mainly composed of Jewish workers. It recognized the need to “Arabize” itself but couldn’t. It refused to break decisively from Zionism. It fragmented and marginalized itself.

World War II spurred war production. Thirty thousand Jewish workers joined the British military. British authorities employed 28,000 Arab workers to build new factories, workshops, and British army bases. Private Arab agencies found jobs for more migrants from the countryside.

War-related trade disruptions spurred job creation in textile, clothing, footwear, timber, food and beverage, tobacco, and metal industries owned by Arab capitalists. Unionization efforts surged.

The “Nakba” (catastrophe) occurred during the post-war period. This ongoing crime permanently altered the homeland of the Palestinian masses. British imperialism and the new United Nations “partitioned” Palestine. This established an Israeli state on over half of Palestine’s territory.

By 1949, the new Zionist state had grabbed more than three-quarters of Palestine. The Hagana (precursor to the Israeli military) completely destroyed Jaffa and 530 villages and towns. The evidence was quickly buried by new Israeli settlements and forests of European-style evergreen trees.

Seven hundred fifty thousand Palestinians, including most of the workers, became refugees. Over 15,000 Palestinians were slaughtered.

Israel expelled 400,000 more in 1967, after annexing the West Bank, Gaza, Sinai, and the Golan Heights. The Nakba continues today with genocide in Gaza and ethnic cleansing in the West Bank. With bombing and occupation of southern Lebanon and the ongoing war with Iran.



First Arab Workers’ Congress in Palestine, Jaffa, 1930

Most remaining Palestinian workers became migrants in their own land. “Households that could not survive on subsistence farming or were newly landless had no choice but to hire out their male youth for day labor in Jewish workplaces” at low wages, reports Ross.

Some were allowed expensive travel permits to leave their villages for work. Often these came through black market “fixers” and extra-legal back channels.

Others risked arrest by going without permits. Israeli authorities usually overlooked this due to Israeli builders’ demands for cheap labor. “Many were adolescents, sleeping rough on construction

sites or under trees” and only returning home on weekends.

This continues today.

Palestinian workers are key to making “another future possible.” A secular, multi-ethnic liberated zone free from exploitation. A communist future. Not just in Palestine, but everywhere. Its “seedlings” are not labor unions or “advocates” but the small actions we can take every day to spread communist ideas through *Red Flag* and the International Communist Workers’ Party.

A second article will say more about Palestinian workers today. And about the sharpening contradictions they expose in Israeli capitalism.

Below: November, 2023: Comrades in South Africa march in solidarity with people of Gaza



ON THE WEB:

This article is on the website only this issue:
Why is US imperialism fighting to control Iran?

Read our pamphlet:
**Genocide in Palestine Demands
Communist Revolution**
Available at the QR code TO THE RIGHT



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CONSISTENT STRUGGLE ON THE ROAD TO COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

SEATTLE (USA), August 13 — “Boeing workers should think about what global blue-collar workers need,” said a Boeing worker who regularly attends a growing blue-collar industrial worker collective. These workers organized three events in August. Two were social get-togethers. The last was filled with geopolitics.

The first two meetups started to include communist ideas. Concrete communist practice helped expand our party. For instance, when the International Association of Machinists (IAM) union rep went to Washington to lobby for more weapons defense spending, these workers were furious! Our new comrades raised how class consciousness around the

globe can create international solidarity actions.

At the last meeting, a dozen activists debated geopolitics and communism. Everybody got a chance to make their point. One younger Boeing worker wanted to know more about the history of the US war on Vietnam. They are now reading a history of the many soldier rebellions that happened in the USA and in Vietnam.

Another worker had been transferred to the Boeing plant in South Carolina. He is in touch with several people who attended a recent potluck at the home of some ICWP comrades. He told them that he is sharing these ideas with the workers he is friends with there.

During the potluck, a comrade explained that because of the need for many more

skilled blue-collar workers at Boeing, vocational training courses in the high schools have become a necessity. Especially when the capitalists are at war.

We are also reaching out to these younger workers and students in the schools as well as the teachers and staff with regular distributions of *Red Flag*.

No matter where the industrial workers come from, ICWP’s international industrial work is strategic to build a revolution.

The arms that Boeing and others around the world produce today to kill the working class, one day will be used to end the capitalist system with a communist revolution.

As our message spreads, more industrial workers understand their connection to worldwide war. More friends and comrades have begun to see the necessity of building essential communist bases to prepare for revolution and end all capitalist wage slavery. This kind of meeting, and *Red Flag* distribution at the Boeing factory gates, are consistent steps on the road to communist revolution.



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Good Food, Great Company, and Political Struggle

It was a privilege for me, an out-of-town guest, to enjoy a Sunday afternoon potluck with almost a dozen comrades and friends in Seattle (USA). Half a dozen others were unable, at the last minute, to attend, mainly for health reasons.

The conversations were frank and lively, covering many political topics.

Two younger Boeing workers described their strategy of building a left-wing caucus in their union local. They hope to unite with similar caucuses at other Boeing plants. And in other industries. Eventually they would like to be able to take control of the unions’ fat bank accounts and use the funds to spread revolutionary

working class ideas. That is, to build revolutionary trade unions.

Comrades pushed back. Our past experiences, and history, have shown us that organizing for reforms doesn’t bring people closer to revolution. A “revolutionary trade union” is a contradiction in terms. Trade unions negotiate the terms of wage slavery but don’t challenge its basis. The capitalist rulers and their “labor lieutenants” would break their own laws and rules to stop us from transforming them into their opposite.

That led to a conversation about talking with industrial workers on the job about broader political issues. Everyone agreed that this is a “must” especially with those who work in war industries like Boeing. But how?

We described how a retired

Boeing comrade’s entire shop floor had stopped work to debate and fight over the first Trump administration’s vicious immigrant family-separation policy. This happened because the comrade had been raising communist politics consistently with many co-workers.

One guest explained her work with an environmental organization. She understands that this, too, is a fight against capitalism. Not just an educational project.

There were more examples of how talking about political disagreements brought us closer personally. One of the hosts invited everyone to join ICWP. Many seemed to take the invitation seriously.

One comrade’s long-time friend told another comrade she “wasn’t a good communist” because she

had trouble imagining communist revolution in the USA. “What if there were already communist revolutions elsewhere, like India or El Salvador?” the comrade asked.

“That makes it easier to imagine,” the friend agreed.

“But national borders are just the bosses’ creations,” the comrade replied. “What if we think about ‘liberated zones’ instead of countries?” Later, the friend agreed to do more to help the Seattle comrades.

These comrades have worked long and hard to build communist relationships. They are finding creative ways to expand their circles, especially among industrial and school workers. I was glad to see some of the results at this event.

—Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)

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strations against genocidal war.

Numerous groups are planning protests on October 7th, the third anniversary of the genocide. We have comrades actively working within these groups with our *Red Flag*, calling for a communist revolution.

Recently, thousands of Israeli citizens marched to the Gaza border, trying to break through to offer food, medicine, and support to the Palestinians. Mainstream newspa-

pers never reported it. We distributed over 200 copies of *Red Flag* to lively, enthusiastic marchers.

One protester took *Red Flag* as he was rushing to the border. The police immediately used violent force to disperse the group. After a few minutes, this guy came back to us. He said he saw a picture of the masses of people in New Delhi who breached the police barricades.

“Give me twenty copies of your

newspaper,” he said. “I will bring my friends to October 7. We need to spread and learn from GenZ.

“Thousands of young people are conscripted,” he continued. “They are no longer willing to comply with what the government is telling them. They are the time bombs. If they understand what your newspaper is saying, they will break the barricades, the borders, and smash all the Zionist pigs.”

We will organize these new comrades with others on Oct 7th. We are aiming to distribute 500

copies of the ICWP pamphlet *Soldiers, Sailors, Marines: Crucial to a Communist Workers’ Revolution* before then. Learning from our comrades in New Delhi, we are already preparing to divide into small groups and send them to different rallies.

We are planning a big meeting on October 10 to learn from these activities. Both Israeli presidential candidates, Bibi and Gadi, are part of the same genocidal system. We need to organize for a communist revolution.

COMRADES IN INDIA INSPIRE WORKER COMRADES IN EL SALVADOR

EL SALVADOR, September 12— “Greetings, comrades in India!” began Comrade P, a worker. He continued: “In the workers’ collectives at the maquiladora [sweatshop] factories here, we have collectively read the article in our newspaper *Red Flag* about the work of the International Communist Workers’ Party in India.”

P said more: “It has been striking to see the combative stance of the Party’s comrades and their participation in the massive student protest, with the aim of spreading communist ideas in the face of capitalist repression. This has encouraged us to continue promoting the

organization of the ICWP here in El Salvador.”

“It is true, as R says, that fear often holds us back. But we believe it should serve as a driving force and not stop us in the struggle for our class. These actions are an example to follow,” stated workers D and M.

“It’s clear that when workers organize en masse and develop contingency plans, the bosses tremble,” said worker K. “The progress made by our comrades in India is inspiring. We admire them for continuing their courageous struggle,” she concluded.

As masses of workers mobilize around the world in the face of

inter-imperialist wars and the horrific genocide being committed in Palestine, we must call on the entire working class to recognize that a communist revolution is urgent. That it is necessary to use revolutionary violence through a Red Army, and to strike back with even greater force against every blow that the criminal bosses attempt to deal.

The organizational work of our comrades in India, and elsewhere in the world, has demonstrated once again that the power to bring about change lies with the masses enraged against the capitalist system. We must place our trust in them.

This struggle has demonstrated

the conviction, discipline, and organization of the International Communist Workers’ Party. The response of the working class in India shows that the Party’s communist ideological line is reaching the minds and hearts of our class.

We do not need a system of worker exploitation or reformist, opportunist struggles. We want and urgently need the armed struggle for communism. And we are working toward this in India, South Africa, Spain, the USA, Mexico, Palestine, Costa Rica, and wherever there are exploited workers.

Write, read, analyze, and share our newspaper, *Red Flag*!

NEW DELHI WOMEN COMRADES from page 1

collaboration when the education minister resigned. They immediately suspended their agitation. And made a fake deal with the administration to exonerate those who were arrested within ninety days.

Students and workers were ready to march to the Parliament building and bring down the entire Modi government. The masses were utterly dissatisfied with CJP’s collaboration. They forced CJP to call for another massive strike on the 5th of September. But CJP called that off, too.

We went on the offensive. We distributed thousands of copies of several leaflets. Each looked at specific events and analysed the main contradiction.

Capitalist Eyes in the Sky versus Workers’ Eyes on the Ground

India’s Modi, the 2026 BRICS president, is hosting the BRICS summit in New Delhi. To show up its main rival, China, India launched a highly sophisticated satellite system. An Indian official claimed, “We have an eye in the sky 24/7. And we can track Chinese and Pakistani troop move-

ments.”

Our leaflet declared that the advanced satellite will never find those who rape women every 15 minutes. It will never find hundreds of bulldozers destroying the mosques and livelihood of hundreds of thousands of Muslims, Dalits, and other workers. It will never find thousands of soldiers in the Himalayas facing China who are dying of high-altitude sickness.

The real eyes are not advanced satellites, but the masses of workers, students, farmers, and soldiers. They can focus on the root of the problem: the capitalist/imperialist system of exploitation.

Building Collapse: Only Workers Help Workers

We continued distributing *Red Flag* and leaflets in Shaheen Bagh, a working-class area housing Muslims and Dalits. Our leaflet addressed the callous response of the Delhi police when a five-story building collapsed, crushing and killing many students. It took Delhi police two hours to send an ambulance. They were busy trying to cut internet service to the outside world while badly injured students were pleading for help and

making their last calls to their loved ones.

Thousands of residents rescued the trapped students. In Shaheen Bagh, many buildings could collapse. Workers took to the streets, appealing to everyone to join them and form communist solidarity.

“We have faced bulldozers, bullets, and lathis. They are trying to deport us because many of us are Muslims. Do you think Modi’s government will even come here?” said an angry resident. He loved the idea of communist solidarity.

Capitalist Misogyny versus Communist Women’s Leadership

Another leaflet denounced the RSS chief’s visit to New York City and the BAPS monk’s presence in Paris. Both carry a rapist, misogynistic outlook based on the super-exploitation and subjugation of women.

In contrast, women have found their voice and inspired everyone in the recent Delhi demonstrations. “We were suppressed all our lives. We were taught to be docile and compliant,” said comrade Sheela. “But we women faced the barricades, defied police, and shielded men. We said we need a new system. And communism is that sys-

tem. I have not stopped talking to my comrades Renu and Smita, my communist mentors.”

We need many communist mentors. In the dark days of chattel slavery in the United States, the rulers banned the enslaved from learning to read and write. We live in capitalist wage slavery. Our exploiters enslave us by teaching us to read and write in a way that serves the interests of their wage slavery.

We have to popularize “each one, teach one”. Our recent activities have shown that each one can teach many. In the last month, we have distributed over 2000 copies of *Red Flag* and thousands of leaflets. Let us multiply!

Dalits and India’s Caste System

Caste in India, like “race” and religion elsewhere, is capitalism’s divide-and-conquer policy. Dalits are at the bottom of the caste hierarchy, although a few have been absorbed into the capitalist class.

Hinduism’s ancient and hereditary caste system embodied a social division of labor. It was enforced with ideology and brutality. Brahmins, the highest caste, performed religious duties. Kshatriyas were warriors. Baniyas were traders. Shudras did manual work.

British imperialism adapted this system for capitalist exploitation. India’s 1950 constitution supposedly ended the caste system, but India’s capitalist rulers still use caste and religion to divide the working class. Most Dalits, traditionally assigned the worst manual work, and Adivasis (tribal people) are still super-oppressed.

Our party unites workers and youth across religious and caste lines to mobilize for the communist revolution that will end wage slavery and eradicate the caste system.



Patna, Bihar (India), August 25 - Students confront police to demand jobs and against corruption in examinations.

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Femicide and Gender-Based Violence in South Africa

‘Am I next?’ is the question in the minds of all South African women as we currently face a scourge in gender-based violence and femicide here. You can never know if you might be the next victim.

In a space of two months, eight bodies belonging to eight wonderful women, mothers, sisters, friends, colleagues, members of communities, were found and positively identified by their grieving families. These women were going about their day, not knowing that it

would be the last time they said anything to their children, families, friends. Not knowing that this was one of the last moments they shared with their loved ones.

The amount of crime in South Africa is appalling. And as it stands, the government is doing next to nothing to protect the women of our country. As a communist I stand for what is right for all, equal rights for women and men. Every person has the right to safety and security.

Currently the women of South Africa do not feel safe. We are not safe at home, we are not safe going for a jog, we are not safe driving our own cars. We are not safe at the shopping malls. We are not safe at work.

We have heard it all: condemnations, putting together of task teams, deploying the army. None of this is actually aimed at putting me at ease and making me feel safe as a woman. This is just to show that the government is

‘doing something’ about the situation. But does it prevent the next victim from suffering the same fate?

As a communist I feel that communism is the most effective solution to the never-ending crisis of crime. Criminals would not need to commit all of these heinous crimes if they were not greedy. Greedy for money and power. As a woman and a communist, I do believe that we can end this cycle.

—Comrade in South Africa

More Letters from South Africa Dialectical Materialism Outing Great Day, Comrades!

I am honoured to stand here today as a member of ICWP.

Why me? We are not just a name or an organization. We are a group of people who decided that waiting for a change is not enough. We must create it.

First, why we exist. ICWP was built on the belief that women’s voices, workers’ rights, community welfare deserve a real seat at the table. Too long decisions have been made about us, without us. Today we change that.

Second, what we do.

Service: We show up on issues others avoid.

Voice: We speak up on issues others avoid.

Unity: We don’t fight each other. We build each other.

Third, my commitment as a member. I pledge to listen more than I speak, to work more than I complain, and to put the people before politics.

—Comrade Lindani

What a Communist Is

A Communist is a worker who understands that capitalism is a system based on exploitation and fights to end it. We are not just people with ideas. We are organizers. We unite the international working class to destroy capitalism and its wage slavery, borders, racism, and imperialist wars, and to build a communist society.

How would a society with no money, no wages, and no markets actually work, day by day? Who decides what gets produced?

What is ICWP’s view on elections and working within capitalist governments?

How would communism address climate change differently than capitalism?

—Comrade Bathandwa

How Can we Attract People?

The goal of attracting people is to win workers and youth to the line that only communist revolution can end war, exploitation, and crisis.

What is uniting people right now: wages not keeping up with rent,

layoffs, unsafe work, war, sending their kids overseas, schools underfunded.

You produce the food, but you can’t afford groceries. That is capitalism.

—Comrade Luthando

How to Make People Join ICWP

Start with trust. Show up with issues that people are already struggling with.

Invite. Don’t pressure.

Make it useful. Offer free stuff that matters. People stay when the ground is useful.

Make joining easy—numbers.

—Comrade Anathi

The “Regular People” Versus the Ruling Class

“Should we kill the Zionist Jews?” a transit worker asked a comrade distributing Red Flag outside his workplace.

The comrade didn’t know what he meant. She replied cautiously, “The Zionists are the most dangerous enemies of Jewish people.”

Turns out that the worker is

angry at the influence the Israeli rulers have over the United States. He knew that the Los Angeles police (and many others) are trained by Israeli soldiers. That Section 291 of the new US National Defense Authorization Act establishes a US-Israel Defense Technology Cooperation Initiative that will strengthen the two countries’ military ties.

He doesn’t like any of that. He “feels bad about the Palestinians.”

The worker took Red Flag. Then he confided to the comrade, “I used to be MAGA.” What changed his mind? “Everything,” he said. Inflation. War on Iran. Corruption. Lies.

As the conversation continued, the worker raised the possibility of a civil war in the US.

“It shouldn’t be ‘red’ versus ‘blue,’” said the comrade. “It has to be class war: workers versus the capitalist rulers.”

“Yeah, the regular people,” agreed the worker, as he headed back to his car.

—Comrade in Los Angeles (USA)

USA LABOR DAY MARCHERS WELCOME RED FLAG

LOS ANGELES (USA), September 7— Thousands of people, mainly union members, their families, and high school students, marched in the 47th Annual Labor Day Parade in the Wilmington neighborhood of Los Angeles. Nine comrades of the International Communist Workers’ Party were there.

Some were posted with revolutionary communist signs and red flags at an intersection where the parade passed by. Many marchers raised their fists in support. Others snapped pictures. One colorfully-dressed woman loudly insisted that her friend take her picture with the group. Our signs contrasted sharply with the parade’s official reformism:

“Thank the unions!”

We distributed *Red Flag* to contingents as they marched by. And to people riding in trucks and cars. Many came to us asking for copies.

Before the march started, other comrades went to the assembly point to start distributing *Red Flag*. A young man told a comrade, “I’m from Nicaragua, and I’m a communist!” He took the paper and ex-

changed contact information.

A retired teacher comrade was distributing the paper with a sign on his back that read (in Spanish) “Fascism Attacks Us All; Let’s End It With Communism!” He felt a tap on his shoulder. It turned out to be his former student, Sam. Sam and his sister were very active in the Party while in high school.

“They had moved away and I lost contact,” said the comrade. “Now Sam is a welder and wants to be part of the union that he marched with. He’s a brand-new father and he lives in my neighborhood. I will surely follow up with him and get him active again.”

“It was a great day!” commented another comrade. We distributed over 600 *Red Flags* and more than 50 Palestine pamphlets. Many were grateful for the paper and glad that we were there.



HISTORY IS THE BASIS FOR ORGANIZING THE FUTURE

EL SALVADOR, August 2—“When I read the article on communism and anarchism, a reflection came to me. I understand the historical differences, but what do the Paris Commune, the October Revolution, or the Chinese Revolution have to do with us today?”

“At first I also thought that they were distant events,” D continued, “but today I see that their lessons are still fully current. Capitalism has changed, but its essence remains the same,”

“Today, millions of workers collectively produce everything that sustains society: food, hospitals, transportation, technology and communications,” said A. “No capitalist produces on his own. All wealth is the result of collective work. However, that wealth continues to be concentrated in the hands of a small capitalist class. This contradiction shows that the problem is not only who governs, but who owns and controls the means of production. That is the material basis on which communism is built.”

A clear example is the garment sweatshops (maquilas). Thousands of workers participate producing a single garment. Some cut the fabric, others sew the pieces, others place zippers and buttons, while others iron, pack, and distribute it. Who really made that shirt or those pants? No one person does all the work; it was the collective effort of hundreds or thousands of

workers.

However, when the garment reaches the store, the profits end up in the hands of the owners of the maquilas and the big international brands, not in the hands that produced it. Here the contradiction of capitalism is seen clearly: production is collective, but wealth is still appropriated by a minority. That is the contradiction that communism seeks to overcome by transforming the social relations of production.

“Many say that the problem is simply the state, that it is enough to abolish it for a free society to exist,” said D.

However, this idea ignores the fundamental problem. The State does not exist by itself. It arises because society is divided into classes. As long as there are exploiters and exploited, there will be a State that will defend the interests of the powerful. The decisive question is not only the State, but also the transformation of the social relations of production. If private property, the market, and competition continue to organize the economy, inequalities and new exploiting classes will re-emerge.

“Is that the main difference between communism and anarchism?” asked C.

Yes. Communism is not only about destroying the old state, but also about transforming the economic base of

society. Production must be organized collectively, and the large means of production must become the property of all to meet the needs of the working class and not the profits of a minority.

Strikes, protests, and rebellions are indispensable. But history shows that, on their own, they are not enough. The Paris Commune, the October Revolution, and other revolutionary experiences teach that, without political organization, revolutionary leadership, and a communist program, struggles can be defeated, diverted, or absorbed by capitalism. Spontaneity can open the way, but it cannot replace the conscious organization of the working class.

That is why we study history: because it contains lessons for the struggles of the present. Our task is not only to know the past, but to build the future. That means organizing in every workplace, school, and community. Strengthen the International Communist Workers’ Party, distribute *Red Flag*, and turn every political discussion into an opportunity to develop class consciousness.

Revolutionary ideas only change the world when they become the organization, discipline, and conscious action of millions of workers. That is the main lesson that history and the task ahead leaves us.



Guatemala City, Guatemala, September 8, 2026- Indigenous people and transit workers protest the high cost of living. “EVERYTHING IS GOING UP BUT WAGES! FOOD! ELECTRICITY! FUEL! LIVING LIKE THIS IS A NIGHTMARE!”

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Capitalist Greed Caused Deadly Nepal Floods

A two thousand foot wide chunk of glacier fell off the Nepal border in August. It dropped vertically 4,000 feet from an elevation of 17,000 feet into the valley. The enormous weight and force triggered a magnitude 5.2 earthquake and tsunami size waves in rivers. More than 1400 people are dead. Over 6000 are missing and presumed dead. Tens of thousands are buried in mud, ruined cities, and villages.

This was no accident. Capitalist greed and mismanagement caused it. Glacial melting is accelerating, driven by global warming largely caused by fossil fuels. Violent storms, flooding, and hurricanes are occurring at an alarming rate.

The Himalayas are a seismologically fragile mountain range. Nepal’s capitalist government has built thousands of hydroelectric plants with help from rival India. The electricity these projects generate feeds power-hungry data centers. Many of these serve Huawei and Xiaomi.

Only a communist revolution can turn the tide of global warming and enormous death and destruction caused by endless wars for profit. Last year, massive protests by Nepal’s youth completely paralyzed the rulers. Similar uprisings occurred in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka and recently students led massive demonstrations in India. ICWP comrades led many in New Delhi to organize for communist revolution. Communist power of the masses can put an end to imperialist wars, and capitalist greed for profit. We will begin to reverse the process of global warming and build a new world on the wreckage of the old.

—Comrade in the USA

Governments’ Bank Debt Means Death for the Working Class

Many countries are bracing for internal civil wars. The United States tops the list. The capitalist crisis has led to unemployment, hunger, and a lack of social services. Capitalists will do whatever it takes to protect their wealth and political control.

It is a mistake to say that this

comes from “the Right.” It comes from capitalism. Why have most South American countries shifted to the right? The reason is that capitalists are concentrating their power, cutting social services, and expanding the armed forces, since the capitalist crisis has created economies based on debt, not growth.

Ecuador has steadily increased its debt to \$85 billion—76% of GDP—since the Correa administration. Rafael Correa borrowed from China because oil prices could not sustain the government’s budget. Every successive president has taken out loans. Recently, the government took on another \$500 billion in debt from the International Development Bank to promote further capitalist growth. Note that it all began with Correa (wanted by the Ecuadorian government for corruption), then Moreno (five years under house arrest for corruption), followed by Lasso, and now Noboa.

What is all that debt being used for? Not for social services, because Ecuador has the worst healthcare system in the world: no medications, limited surgeries, no

dialysis machines, and four thousand people dying due to lack of medical care. The situation is so dire that doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers are protesting in the streets outside hospitals, pleading for resources so they can do their jobs.

This is a global phenomenon. The US debt stands at \$40,000,000,000,000. Europe, Japan, South Korea, and Australia are printing money. The global political economy is in crisis.

Bank loans that generate debt are the lifeblood of the capitalist system. Banks call it liquidity. We call it the blood of the workers. Money is used to generate profits, not to ensure a dignified life for the masses. The capitalist system depends on this debt-based money to survive, and it does so at the expense of workers, who must pay off the public debt without receiving anything in return.

If we have to work to live, why do we need capitalism? We could live in a large community where we all share and collaborate. That’s called communism.

—Comrade in South America

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Escalating War in Yemen Is Dispute Among Capitalists

Some teachers who know us are enthusiastic about the US government’s military failure in Iran. And now, too, about Ansar Allah (“the Houthis”) taking control of the strategic port of Al-Maka (Mocha). It now controls Yemen’s entire Red Sea coastline and nearby islands.

Al-Maka is very close to the narrow Bab al-Mandeb Strait. This controls a critical route for crude oil and fuel travelling from the Gulf to the Mediterranean via the Suez Canal. It’s also critical for Asian commodities and Russian oil.

Ansar Allah moved very quickly, following the withdrawal of National Resistance Forces of the recognized government. That government is supported by Saudi

Arabia. Ansar Allah is allied with Iran.

This marks a sudden and sharp escalation of a bitter regional war that has split Yemen since 2014. Hundreds of thousands of Yemeni people have died, mainly civilians, many from starvation.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman reportedly called US President Donald Trump twice, unsuccessfully requesting US strikes on the Houthis.

There is still anti-US imperialist sentiment among a segment of the population in Mexico and elsewhere. But many fail to see that this is a dispute among capitalists. As the working class, we do not gain anything by supporting the exploitative forces that are displacing US hegemony.

Here is what I wrote for all the



WhatsApp groups I’m in:

We need the ICWP.

We need the World Association of Workers as promoted by Marx—a party of the International Working Class (ICWP).

We need the defeat of the US capitalists worldwide. However, if the working class itself does not achieve this, we will remain under the control of the rising exploiters and oppressors.

—Comrade Teacher in Mexico City

BRICS Summit in New Delhi:
IMPERIALISTS CAN’T RESOLVE THEIR CONTRADICTIONS

September 14— A 3-meter-tall sheet of white and blue fabric covered the poor working-class area of New Delhi as thousands of affluent diplomats, financiers, and high-ranking officials gathered for the BRICS2026 summit. The contradiction could not be starker.

The fabric barrier had a striking resemblance to the Israeli flag. The highways it covered were strangely named “Coolie Colony” and “Nelson Mandela Road.” BRICS2026 participants each spent over \$2000 a night in ultra-luxury hotels.

Meanwhile, a heavy downpour left hundreds of thousands of New Delhi residents stranded in waterlogged streets. In nearby cities, filthy hospitals were so crowded that three patients had to share a single bed. Waterborne diseases killed thirty newborns.

BRICS originally comprised Brazil, Russia, India, and China. South Africa joined, then Egypt,

Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates. Ten other nations hold “partner” status.

Trump has declared BRICS ‘dead’. He has threatened to raise tariffs by 100%. BRICS, however, is relevant only because of China’s massive Belt and Road Initiative. BRICS members have started trading in their own currencies, bypassing dollar domination.

The New Delhi summit declaration, without naming the US, criticized imperialist control. Chinese and Russian capitalists were the main forces that helped India’s Modi overcome his opposition to the BRICS currency.

Neither the BRICS countries nor the G7-led NATO, can resolve the sharpening

contradiction as China emerges as a dominant force challenging US imperialism.

The workers have nothing to gain from these butchers and their last-ditch efforts to save capitalism. Modi saw that rebelling masses with a communist outlook can change the face of the earth. He de-

rided the growing anger of the masses as ‘dimagi naxals.’ This was a clear reference to communists armed with dialectical materialism.

ICWP comrades in New Delhi will report in the next issue of *Red Flag* on the revolutionary significance of the BRICS2026 conference.



Barcelona, Spain, September 10. Thousands confront a handful of far-right anti-immigrant fascists of the Núcleo Nacional who hid behind police. Banner reads (in Catalan): "Antifascist Barcelona Don't Let the Núcleo Nacional Win." Only communist revolution can defeat fascism.

MIDEAST WAR from page 8

protesting the conditions and telling relatives about them.

This severely restricts the US Navy in the war against Iran. Also, Iran’s new supersonic missiles can attack US planes quickly, making them vulnerable, rendering the US Air Force nearly useless.

Therefore, the choices facing the US rulers are dire: send in ground troops, strangle Iran financially, use tactical nuclear weapons, or retreat. They are not going to retreat from the battle for world domination.

Some predict it would take two million troops to invade Iran. Workers and soldiers would rebel. They could see that it’s not worth

risking the life of any working-class person anywhere, and killing class brothers and sisters, so the US capitalists-imperialists or the Iranian-Chinese capitalists-imperialists control the world’s oil, shipping lanes, and currency.

Workers, soldiers, sailors, and youth have everything in common with each other and nothing in common with any capitalist-imperialist rulers. Their outlook is the main thing that will determine the future. Our enemy is capitalism-imperialism—not other workers. Many are open to joining the fight for communist revolution to end the rule of the capitalists-imperialists over the world’s masses.

Desperate US Imperialist Rulers Have New Nuclear Strategy

The Pentagon has drafted a new Nuclear Strategy emphasizing the use of Tactical Nuclear Weapons. The very fact that the Pentagon is considering using tactical nuclear weapons against Iran, and Putin against NATO, should be a wake-up call to workers, soldiers, and youth everywhere.

The capitalist system is deadly for our whole working class. These bloodthirsty imperialists will fight to the last workers possible for their empire and profit. We need to bury them along with their system.

In its place, we’ll build a Communist world where the working class collectively produces only to meet the needs of our international working class, not for the profit of any capitalist or imperialist. This is the fight of our lives, which depend on getting rid of this deadly system.

This war is spreading. Let’s fight for communist workers’ power. Let’s spread *Red Flag* and build the International Communist Workers’ Party to end this deadly system and build the communist world we need and deserve.

War Escalates and Spreads Worldwide

OPPORTUNITY TO MOBILIZE THE MASSES FOR COMMUNISM

September 13— “Iranians are suffering from very high inflation and being terrorized by bombings. Some say that it doesn’t matter whether the US or China gets Iranian oil cheaply,” a friend explained. This is a potentially revolutionary situation. Only communist revolution will free the masses from imperialist war and exploitation. In communism, oil and all other resources will be used solely to meet the needs of the working class—not for any imperialist’s profit! “Both the US imperialists and the Iranian fascist government are

the workers’ enemies,” said another Iranian friend. “But it’s too much for Iranians to fight them both at once. First kick out the US, then take on the Iranian government.” “I disagree. The working class is powerful, and capable of taking on both enemies at the same time. The fight must be to get rid of all the capitalists-imperialists, including China,” responded a comrade. This is the same two-stage argument made in 1979: “First kick out the Shah, then we’ll fight Khomeini.” Khomeini attacked and killed

many activists. He was another capitalist murderer. This time, the fight must be for communist workers’ power. There are no “lesser evil” capitalists or imperialists. “But Iran would be attacked,” the friend countered. “Yes, the imperialists will attack, but the workers of the world would support communist revolution and be inspired to do the same. Workers worldwide will spread the revolution,” the comrade said. “And we will win.”

US Goal: Iranian Regime Change

In December 2025, the US colluded with United Arab Emirates (UAE) banks to lend Iran money to collapse the value of the Iranian rial. Inflation soared. The Iranian masses couldn’t buy food. Companies stopped paying workers’ wages. Bazaars (markets) shut down. Iranian masses took to the streets demanding food, wages, relief from inflation. This crisis was engineered by operatives of the CIA (US) and Mossad (Israel). They instigated demonstrators on the ground. The capitalist Islamic Republic govern-

ment attacked demonstrators, killing over 3000. There was no pro-US coup. There was fascist murder by the Iranian Republican Guard, the CIA, and Mossad. When this coup failed, the US imperialists and the Israelis bombed Iranian schools, a desalination plant, and much more, killing tens of thousands. They hoped to put a pro-Western government in power to replace the pro-Chinese, pro-Russian Iranian government. They have failed spectacularly. The US imperialists are trying to fight a 21st century war with 20th century weapons that cause damage but that cannot control Iran. Their aircraft carrier USS Gerald Ford had to return to port after an electrical problem caused a fire. The day the US started bombing, Iran destroyed the US base in nearby Bahrain, forcing the US navy to move its repair and re-supply operation to its base on Diego Garcia. The resulting resupply problem on the USS Abraham Lincoln became a huge scandal. It’s possible that sailors on both ships were

See MIDEAST WAR, page 7



ANSWER IMPERIALIST WAR WITH COMMUNIST REVOLUTION!

San Salvador, El Salvador, May 1, 2026

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Why should we kill and die for the rulers who are attacking us?

“Can you believe what’s happening, mister?” a high school student asked me. We had been reading an article in class about Juan, a USS Lincoln sailor who found out that his father was detained by ICE agents. ICE raids and war. That’s what’s on the news, and my students are paying attention. They are trying to make sense out of the times we are currently living. “Yes, I believe it,” I responded. “It’s apparent that they are attacking immigrants on the street, but it’s the sons and daughters that sign up for the military.” These students know that I am a veteran who was deployed during the Iraq war. “I can also be detained by ICE even while carrying my veteran ID and my US Passport,” I added showing them the IDs. **What is more wrong about the situation** is that the capitalist system sends the sons and daughters of the working class to go and kill their brothers and sisters in other countries to serve the interests of the capitalist rulers who are attacking their own families. We discussed why this was happening. The article reported that sailors on the destroyer USS Lincoln were not getting sufficient

food or medical care while out at sea. For six months, sailors reported they lacked drinking water and sanitary supplies. The US destroyed desalination plants providing fresh water to Iranians, but they can’t provide fresh water to US sailors. The sailors on the USS Lincoln are caught up in the US war with Iran. When the US started bombing Iran, starting with killing school girls in Minab, the Iranian government used drones to destroy a US base in Bahrain. And this is where ships were stocked. The Navy had to move its supply station out of range of Iranian missiles, to the US base on the island of Diego Garcia, 2200 miles from the Persian Gulf. After 268 days at sea, the sailors finally got shore leave in Thailand. When imperialist wars are fought overseas, the direct connection between attacks on immigrants, mistreatment of sailors, and the deaths of our class siblings in Iran is apparent. The experience of Juan and his father makes it clear for both workers and soldiers that capitalist and imperialists do not care for any of us. They want to divide workers with racist attacks while at the

same time using and abusing the sons of those same workers in their imperialist wars. This is their strategy—and their fatal weakness. That’s how we know we can win soldiers to turn the guns around for communist revolution. And this is why I joined the Army many years ago to organize for communist revolution because it was the same case during the Iraq war as it is now during the Iran war. Many young people who will en-

list in the military will come from high school classrooms similar to mine. We encourage them to join the military to organize for the needs of our class and not the racist or imperialist needs of the bosses. Soldiers, sailors, and Marines in all countries must turn the guns around to join workers in an international communist revolution. Can you believe that can happen? I definitely can! —Red Veteran Soldier



Read our pamphlet: **Soldiers, Sailors, Marines: Crucial to a Communist Workers’ Revolution** at icwpredflag.org/mpe.pdf

