

COMMUNIST VIEW

SRI LANKA

Way Forward Towards Socialism



COMMUNIST VIEW



“

To belittle the socialist ideology in anyway, to turn aside from it in the slightest degree means to strengthen bourgeois ideology.

- Lenin -

”

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Editorial

Revolutionary greetings to the readers of the First Issue of the very First Volume of the “Communist View - Sri Lanka”, published with the intention to be supportive for providing ideological strengthening towards the National and International revolutions in realizing socialism.

World economic crisis has intensified due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the crisis of capitalist ideology has exposed more than ever. While socialist countries pursue people welfare oriented methods to defeat pandemic, most capitalist and reactionary governments neglect to consider the predictions and demands of the intellectuals and specialists knowing the intensification of the situation will be tragic and destructive on the regular working people. When consider the situation of Asia and Pacific Region India has reported third most deaths due to COVID 19 pandemic. Deaths occur not entirely because they not curable. Deaths occur as this capitalist system has not given adequate priority to health services and welfare services for the underprivileged people to survive a pandemic. If any government is people

oriented health, education and people welfare come to priority. However capitalist governments inherently profit oriented and welfare of the people is secondary. Still in India infections are rising daily. In Sri Lanka experiencing the third wave of the pandemic and infected are rising daily due to the negligence of the capitalist government. While people are being suffered capitalist government of Sri Lanka has been busy with passing legislations that are beneficial for them and alienating national assets.

While encouraging profit making entities most governments has started to limit the personal liberties and democratic rights of people. Rights such as freedom of expression and freedom of movement are the rights that the capitalist rulers are keen on getting their hands on. Also use the opportunity to limit

and amend the laws and regulations which are there for the welfare of the working people which they have obtained after sacrifices and struggles. These measures taken by the governments using pandemic as a cover serves no ordinary men and women but clear path for profit making monopolies. Though the pandemic has exposed the crisis of capitalism more than ever, prolonged continuance of the pandemic will not serve the proletariat also.

This is a challenging time that we must take responsibilities to strengthen the Marxist - Leninist ideology against the capitalist ideology. It is very much in the interest of the proletariat class that they are conscious of the rights and freedoms they are deprived of within this pandemic period and must develop the capability to voice up and stand up and gain freedom and liberties sooner than later. It has become essential while following safety precautions we soon gain our liberties back as well as strengthen the class consciousness as much as possible defeating petty bourgeois thinking.

In present more than ever we witness that the capitalist system has caused numerous environmental catastrophes. It has made us witness and suffer global warming, climate change, sea level rising, deforestation, wild fires, landslides, droughts and major pollution of water, soil and air. Inherent profit oriented, unplanned and unorganized development and growth of the capitalist

system has denied the necessity to sustain the environment for the generations yet to be born. Most recent example in Sri Lanka that the negligence of the capitalist government led to environmental catastrophe was the case of container vessel of X-Press pearl declared total loss in the outer harbor of the Colombo Port of Sri Lanka. After being burnt for about 12 days vessel sunk on the 2nd of June. The chemical spill of this ship caused worst damage to the Sri Lankan marine ecology. Vessel contained 1486 containers with Nitric acid, other chemicals, cosmetics and polyethylene pellets. This vessel entered Sri Lankan marine zone on 19th while having an on board Nitric Acid leak from 11th of May. Sri Lankan government allowed this ship to enter Sri Lankan territorial waters knowing about the leak and without special preparation to handle the hazardous situation. Plastic resin pellets from the ship has washed up beaches from 27th May and have been taken by the current along Sri Lanka coast and towards pacific region as well. Coastal areas could be seen filled up with dirt and massive acid leaked to the ocean has caused severe damage to the marine ecology including coral reefs, fish species, algae, sea turtles and other species. Floating plastic pellets are being consumed by fish and sea turtles causing fatalities. Due to the intoxication people of Sri Lanka were temporarily prohibited from fishing and fishing communities suffered severe loss. Water and air contamination may cause long term health issues. The government

could let the vessel float in deep waters or let it go to a port especially capable of handling this kind of situation. However, they knew that they can get a compensation if vessel enter Sri Lankan territorial waters. This how capitalist governments are ignorant towards environment and lives.

Simultaneously, despite of the pandemic we can observe increase in military budgets in many countries which is a clear evidence to the ignorance of the capitalist governments towards welfare of people. In every region imperialist power plans and discussions continue to proceed despite of the suffering of the billions of people due to pandemic. While we in Asia Pacific region experience the imperialist power projections in our region we continue to observe imperialist behavior regarding the regions of Latin America, Middle East and Africa. Most recent example being the imperialist relations with Israel in the aggression against Palestine, which we must vehemently condemn.

Time to time capitalist and imperialists take different anti-communist approaches to keep the attention of masses away from the communist movement and also to break the confidence of masses towards the communist movement. Anti-communism must be challenged and counter attacked to stop the damages it has been causing towards the working class. To fight against the anti - communist capitalist propaganda we must find effective methods to counter it with Marxist - Leninist arguments with the intention of attracting the attention of working masses.



In every capitalist country we observe the intensification of the people's movements. May those be women's rights movements, child rights movements, youth and student movements, environmental conservation movements, movements for sovereignty and freedom and other movements advantageous for the interests of working class, it is the responsibility as communists to integrate those struggles with the movement towards socialism. We must also take the responsibility and challenge to acknowledge and educate working people who take the forefront of such struggles regarding the importance of our struggle towards socialism as well as the importance of Marxism and Leninism against capitalist ideologies.

Capitalism has leveled up to imperialism exceeding territorial limits and has

become a global phenomenon. Leftist organizations, socialist and communist organizations intend to overthrow it must brace up to counter imperialism in an international level. While we maximize the membership, strengthening international inter organization relationships it is very important to achieve ideological integrity regarding important issues. This magazine is intended to provide a platform to reach such integrity in order to defeat capitalism and imperialism in a global level. We intend from this magazine to make a space for the wide dialogue in a time we are lacking dialogues to reach ideological integrity regarding Marxism - Leninism and also regarding the necessity, method and challenges in organizing the working class in national and international level.

This publication is intended to make an influence to strengthen the Marxist - Leninist ideology against capitalist ideologies. Simultaneously, intended to encourage national and international working class to-

wards the socialist revolution which we must succeed in an international level. We would like to state that the content of this publication is open to dialogue. In future Issues we hope incorporate views of other Marxist Leninist organizations as well as activists in order to make this a fruitful platform in reaching ideological integrity. Though the correct path ahead is challenging, rigorous and torturous we ought to take it and pursue without falling in to traps of capitalists, imperialists and opportunists in order to realize the communism on behalf of the younger and yet to be born generations.



1971: 50 years for the first armed struggle in Sri Lanka intended socialism



50 years has completed from the very first struggle in Sri Lankan history in which the objective was socialism. Among numerous struggles took place in the past on behalf of the power hunger of rulers and for reforms, it was the

first people's uprising that oppressed conducted against oppressors. Sri Lankan people were oppressed due to the backward character of the capitalism forcefully imposed in the colonial period and by the neo colonial strategies of imperialists. In 1971 they stood

up against both local capitalist class as well as the imperialist powers. It was the first armed struggle led by People's Liberation Front (JVP) to liberate the people from the chains of inequality, injustice and unfairness that they had been suffered

from their birth.

Since the uprising was defeated by the capitalists many lies, complaints and negative criticisms have been orchestrated by the capitalist class regarding the uprising in 1971. Such insults have strengthened due to the comments distorting the struggle made by the betrayers who had left the struggle as well as the pets of capitalist who pretend to be leftists. In a time so many lies and distortions regarding this uprising have been spread, this article will provide an insight for anyone nationally and internationally seeks for the truth regarding the uprising in 1971 and role of People's Liberation Front (JVP) in it.

Conception of JVP and its fundamental political activities

When Sri Lanka was reaching 1950s and 60s the objective

Among numerous struggles took place in the past on behalf of the power hunger of rulers and for reforms, it was the first people's uprising that oppressed conducted against oppressors.

conditions for a new revolutionary party had been created as old leftist parties such as Communist Party of Sri Lanka and Lanka Sama Samaja Party had gone into agreements

with capitalist rulers and also as the crisis of capitalism had been intensified. Simultaneously, liberation struggles in other countries in the contemporary period and Sino - Soviet dispute initiated regarding the Soviet Russia and China were also influential as the international factors.

Within this situation founding discussion of People's Liberation Front (JVP) was initiated by Comrade Rohana Wijeweera and several other youth who withdrew from old leftist parties.

On 14th of May 1965 the inaugural discussion to establish JVP took place confidentially at a residence of a comrade in area of Galle in Southern Province. From the beginning JVP was a semi confidential movement due to the contemporary situation in the country as well as due to the experiences of international proletariat movement. Even if this semi confidential nature attracted the attention of youth of the country, capitalist used it as a reason to suppress JVP. Hence, after



Comrade Rohana Wijeweera addressing a propaganda meeting after being released

few years of the conception of JVP capitalist suppression started chasing after it. Also the old leftist parties who were in coalition with capitalists started criticisms against JVP and gave their support to suppress JVP.

Moreover the sectarianisms emerged within Party against the centralization also created more opportunities for the capitalist suppression. Even though, Party attempted to resolve such opportunistic tendencies it was not successful due to the increasing suppression. One such group led by a person named Dharmasekara had to be expelled from Party in 1969 as they were not ready to give up their sectarian behavior. Thereafter, they fed information about JVP to the enemies. The capitalist government and state bodies started to chase leaders of JVP and in 1970 as a special unit of Criminal Investigation Bureau, the 'Che Guevara Bureau' was established. There onwards activists of JVP were arrested calling them Che Guevaras. 12th of May 1970 within the governance of United National Party

through this Unit comrade Rohana Wijeweera was arrested.

With the influence of the massive demonstration and propaganda against arresting of Comrade Rohana Wijeweera, he was released on 09th of July 1970. Thereafter, public political activities were wid-



'We may be killed, but our voice will never die'

- Comrade Rohana Wijeweera -

ened around the country. After few days of his release countrywide political seminar series was held starting from Vidyodaya University on 14th of July and continued countrywide till the massive rally in Colombo on 10th of August 1970. Fear of ruling party regarding the public attraction and growth of our party was reflected through a report of

a main newspaper named 'Ceylon Daily Mirror' on 11th August with the heading "The Police have decided to step up their efforts to counter the Che Guevara Movement here". The then secretary of defense, Arthur Raiakumar Rathnawel issued an announcement on 12th of August 1970 and in it had been said "Che Guevara Movement rising in the country is the enemy of the government. It must be hunt down and completely eliminated". Government initiated the process of making laws for the purpose. In a background that JVP had not committed any illegal act this announcement exposed class desires of the government. Amid all these unfavorable conditions JVP had been politically active with the people of the country while publishing newspapers as 'Rathu Balaya', 'Janatha Vimukthi' and 'Dheshapremi'. As it is always given capitalist government intensified its suppression.

On 20th August heldline of the 'Ceylon Daily News' was "Inspector General of Police on the P.L.F - wider laws to curb insurgents". In an at-

mosphere any insurgent had not occurred, and no sign of arming of civilians, the government and its allies had named JVP activists as “insurgents”. On 5th October of 1970 same newspaper mentioned ‘Police force to be increased by 5000’. It clearly manifested that that all measures had been lined up to sabotage growing leftist youth movement. In the emerging situation JVP also attempt to prevent the suppression of the government within the prevalent legal frameworks. As a result members of parliament named Prince Gunasekara and P.S. De Kularathne spoke in the parliament against the suppression. As a party JVP requested for a discussion the then Prime Minister, but it was ignored. Legal step were also taken against the anti-democracy. Suppression of the government and its intentions were exposed to the General Public. Despite all the measures the suppression continued.

Reaching 1971 while the capitalist suppression intensified, sectarianisms within party and anti-revolutionary activities and betrayals of

the Dharmasekara group also grew. Dharmasekara group exploded a bomb in front of American Embassy on 06th of March 1971 and stabbed and killed a police man nearby. This provided a good opportunity for capitalist government to impose emergency regulations and expedite suppressing JVP.

April Uprising and the Struggle

Uprising took place in 1971 was not a result of coincidence or a result of a stubbornness of a person or a conspiracy to grab power. It was the rational consequent of all the political conditions that had been growing in Sri Lanka. Comrade Rohana Wijeweera in his written submission for the case of Criminal Justice Commission inflicted on him and others re-

garding the uprising of 1971 stated that **when exploitative ruling class had offered proletariats a choice only between slavery and life scari-fying liberation, proletariats will choose the path of life scarifying armed struggle towards liberation. That path is not voluntarily chosen by proletariat, but imposed on them by the exploiting class.** Comrade Rohana Wijeweera’s submissions before Criminal Justice Commission has later been published by the Party as a book named ‘We may be killed, but our voice will never die’.

Using the attack done by Dharmasekara group police arrested comrade Rohan Wijeweera on 13th March



1971 while he was going for a party activity in Ampara. Then he was detained in the Prison in Jaffna without even finding single illegal possession on him. Pursuing further government proclaimed a law on 16th of March to bury corpses without an investigation. By this government implied their intention of massacring revolutionaries.

Situation became serious with the detention of Comrade Rohana. Sectarian tendencies so far could not be defeated started to become more active within party. Even though comrade Rohana Wijeweera had sent messages while in detention advising party members to expose the suppression and to safeguard party and members, the group led by 'Loku Athula' ignored it and misled the party to use the situation as an opportunity to start an armed uprising. Accordingly the group led by Loku Athula had decided at the end of March to start attacks at the dawn of 5th of April. In order to get the approval of the party for this plan they said to the membership at a meeting on 2nd of April that

comrade Rohana had sent a message approving the plan. However, this was a lie. At this meeting decision was made to conduct attacks at night on 05th of April. The message to attack at night had been delivered to respective districts except Monaragala. Consequent to this fault Wellawaya police station in Monaragala District was attacked at the dawn.

This decision to attack was a one imposed on party by the group led by Loku Athula and not a decision reached collectively. That was how the uprising emerged. However, imposing this decision on party was not difficult as there was the urge to attack the suppression continuously intensified by the government. No matter how the uprising was initiated it had been instigated by the prevalent social, economic and political factors. Nobody can instigate an armed struggle according to their own will without having objective conditions matured for the same purpose. Even if within the then Sri Lankan society there was intensified crisis of capitalism, conditions for a revolution were not matured enough. Nevertheless, the activists of JVP who were much hopeful

to salvage proletariats from the crisis of capitalism and to realize socialist revolution and socialism struggled sacrificing their valuable lives.

Indomitable heroism

Whenever we speak of uprising in 1971 we can never forget the humanitarianism of it. **Exploiters in a class society are to be considered as enemies of entire mankind. Having born as human beings they lead privileged lives while oppressing and exploiting fellow human beings. Truthful and effective humanitarianism in this era is life sacrificing struggle to salvage oppressed human kind from the capital grip of the imperialism which has been exploiting their labor.** Therefore, comrades who struggled in 1971 intended to lift humanitarianism again by creating a just country, equitable society and an independent person against the suffering caused by the class system. It was to gain a life in a society in where collective happiness

exist. Sacrifices of revolutionaries were done for this purpose and they did not expect any other benefits.

Therefore, they chose the death as free persons on behalf of their class objective instead of kneeling down and surrendering. In his submission before Criminal Justice Commission comrade Wijeweera stated as follows:

“ There is a limitation to the capacity of human nervous system. Capitalist class entrap its victims in dark abyss of disappointment, insult and indignity leaving choices such as death, total collapsing of future hopes and giving up. In such dark conditions many revolutionary comrades embraced death without any hesitation. That was when they were given the death or moral deterioration as only options. We must remember there were numerous comrades who faithfully embraced death refusing moral deterioration.”

Uprising in 1971 witnessed sacrifices of thousands of

comrades whose names are known to us and unknown to us. Comrade Kamalabandu of Dodangoda who was also a close associate of Comrade Rohana Wijeweera chose silent death refusing to reveal details about fellow comrades when he was questioned by police while cutting him slowly using a timber cutting electric saw. Despite the immense physical pain caused to him he manifested the heroism of a revolutionary without submitting to police. Comrade Anura of Unagaswala also chose death at once without betraying fellow comrades or the struggle. Comrade Rathnayaka of Nochchiyagama while he was dying by torture and bullets of police sang the song of proletariats in a feeble voice manifesting his revolutionary spirit and consciousness.

Comrade Sisira Weerakoon of Teldeniya shouted “Victory to JVP” leaving no pleasure

or victory to his murderers when he was shot on a bridge near Kandy by the police after not being able to get a confession regardless the pain and torture inflicted on him. Comrade Gamage of Weligama was buried by the police in pit which police made him dig by himself. Comrade Suraveera of Dikwella chose death without giving any information to the enemy even after his bones were crushed. Comrade Sunny Ariyatilake of Tangalle died shouting a slogan refusing to betray the struggle when he was shot by police murderers.

Death of Comrade Premawathie Mananperi who was raped and made walk in naked throughout town and buried alive shows the brutality, cruelty and dreadfulness of capitalist suppression. Little sister who



Rohana-Wijeweera and Lionel Bopage being taken from Welikada Prison to courts. Pic courtesy CMU

was in her early teenage and called by all as 'Chooti Nangi' (Sinhalese term for little sister) pleaded from army not to kill comrades while she was dying by the bullets of army. She was in the group retreated in to forest of Vilpattu and her courage reminds us of the children of Paris Commune who took arms to safeguard world first proletariat state. Above mentioned are only few incidents which manifested the revolutionary spirit and conscience of comrades in 1971 uprising. Simultaneously, heroism of a struggle does not only rest on those who sacrificed

their lives but also rest on the ones whose lives were spared by coincidences. Proletariat Party named JVP still stand strong nationally and internationally till today as the comrades whose lives were saved took the responsibility of winning the defeated struggle giving meaning to the sacrificed lives. However, some of the many who retreated to forests, faced hellish suffering in prisons and hidden turned out to be confused, disappointed, misled by the enemy as well as started to hate the Party. Capitalist and left opportunists prepared their hooks such as brainwashing and offering privileges in

order to fish those who became weak. Regardless the obstacles comrades who understood the undeniable necessity of a real leftist party to lead the class, worked with Comrade Rohana Wijeweera to rebuild the party and even today their courage stands exemplary to us.

Victories 1971 uprising given for the Sri Lankan society

There are numerous political experiences that the uprising in 1971 has provided for Sri Lankan Proletariat Movement.





Emergence of the hope about a new society, Affirmation of the necessity of struggle in order to win rights, understanding the state mechanism as major enemy of the oppressed, confidence that no matter how strong capitalist state mechanism it is possible to be challenged by the oppressed class, necessity of strengthening class force in order to win the struggle and establishing the necessity of a strong proletariat party are only few such experiences. Uprising in 1971 was an awakening especially for the Sri Lankan youth.

Simultaneously, uprising in 1971 urged rules of the country to pay attention, find solutions and make reforms to address the social injustice and especially issues of young generation. It can be confirmed by some steps taken by the then government in recent years after the 1971 uprising. One such major change was that Sri Lanka

constitutionally withdrew from British Empire. 1971 uprising proved the shallowness and fraud of the so called freedom that had been given to Sri Lanka by the British Empire on 4th of February 1948. Revolutionaries who fought in the uprising was charged before court for conspiring and waging war against the British Queen's government. It caused the dialogue whether Sri Lanka was still a colony of British Empire and consequently capitalist government was compelled to introduce a new constitution Sri Lanka as a sovereign country. On 22nd of May 1972 new constitution was passed in Parliament declaring Sri Lanka as a sovereign republic.

Furthermore, capitalist government came to aware that seriously manifested class disparity caused the youth uprising. One such manifestation was majority of the land ownership was in the hands of few

aristocratic families. While there were thousands of people who did not own lands those aristocrats had ownership of thousands of acres of lands. On 26th of August 1972 Land Reform Commission Bill presented to Parliament and it imposed limitations on private land ownership. Accordingly, maximum amount of land a person can possess was limited to 50 acres and if entire land owned by one were paddy fields maximum amount was limited to 25 acres. This given opportunity for the State to acquire thousands of acres of estates and to nationalize those. Thereafter, 600,000 land acres in 1972 and 900,000 land acres in 1975 were given to people who did not own land.

Moreover, the then government took steps to make an employment program as a temporary solution for the unemployment which was an issue immensely suffered youth. Afterwards, a computerized method was introduced to recruit employees depending on the Ordinary Level Examination results in order to avoid giving jobs depending on the political favoritisms. Accordingly an employment bank was established and vacancies of state institutions were filled via that. Vocational Training Authority was established and started vocational training courses for the school leaving youth.

Another program started by the then government was to start collective farms in order to show that they create employment opportunities and also to show that they attempt to eradicate social injustice. This had seem to be taking the example



of collective farms functioned in socialist countries. In such collective farms methods were developed to give the profits of labor productivity to the people who actually do the production. However, this program was not much fruitful as political favoritism interfered and there were no successful mechanism to exercise it island wide. Simultaneously, such programs do not practically succeed within the capitalist system for long term.

When the contemporary period considered this might be the time period in which a government made most significant attention to the social problems, especially problems faced by youth. It manifest the effects 1971 uprising had on Sri Lankan society even if the uprising was brutally suppressed.

Towards the future victory

Comrade Rohana Wijeweera and other comrades who had been imprisoned after 1971 uprising established a temporary Central Committee making the foundation to rebuild the party on 18th of March 1975, which was also the 104th anniversary of the Paris Commune. Their courage and determination to build the party was further manifested by sending money received by donating blood in prison camps and also money saved in spite of meals out of prison to print the Central Organ of the party named 'Niyamuva'. Their efforts were successful as the party was rebuilt strongly. The strength of that foundation was proven in late 1989 when the enemy had killed leadership of the party and suppressed it for the second time and boasted about it. At that point capable membership had been prepared who once again built the party from what was left. If not for their sacrifices, courage and determination JVP would not be able to reach the strong and organized position it exist today.

Comrades who dedicated their lives for the 1971 uprising were true militants; free minded; were nor influenced or motivated by personal or narrow objectives. They took arms and came to the front line in order to safeguard their right to organize and involve in politics to establish a new society.

No matter what weaknesses were there in the uprising in 1971 it was a war drum of proletariats against the suffering of capitalist enslavement and against imperialism. Also it was the response of the youth against suppression in order to protect their political right. It will be meaningless to ascertain causes for the 1971 uprising without assessing the history of state suppression which continuously denied proletariat class of the right to organize in their own political organization. It was the armed challenge made against capitalist government as it snatched away political right of the class to pursue for proletariat objective which was to build a socialist society. It is what makes the uprising in 1971 a significant moment in the history of Sri Lanka.

1971 uprising, its objective and the names of heroes of the struggle will live and remembered even in the future. There intentions to create a just county; equitable society; free person will come true. Oppressed people of the world will create a new world.

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NOTES

Do Developed Countries Continue to Develop Further?

PART 01

What is meant by Developed countries?

There are multiple ways to assess the degree of development in a State taking in to account the social, economic and environmental progress achieved by the State concerned. In most instances the standards used to gauge the status quo is based on the viewpoint of a capitalistic angle. In one way this

affords us a manner to build a scenario of what is going on, but because the information is based on the capitalistic view point, very often the picture revealed can be, and is distorted from reality.

Currently, capitalist interpretations and measures regarding the progress of the human society are collapsing one by one. The inability to gauge the actual progress and the position in capitalistic states and the surfacing of fresh problems in the

fields of social progress, economic achievements and environmental degradation highlighted by the Marxist experts have





brought the failings of this capitalist system under the spotlight on a global scale. New methods of assessment have arisen as a result.

E.g. HUMAN DEVELOPEMENT INDEX (HDI) has been replaced by INEQUALITY ADJUSTED HUMAN DEVELOPEMENT INDEX (IHDI), 17 - SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPEMENT GOALS (SDGs) and etc.

Accordingly we intend to discuss 'Do developed countries continue to progress in that path?' In the process of making this investigation there are obstacles in the path when one tries to obtain the relevant data regarding criteria and analysis methods in addition to the obstacles placed to thwart the effort by political mentors involved. Subject to these restraining conditions we have had to depend on the indicators forthcoming from the United Nations

Organization (UN) with regard to IHDI and criteria from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) of the richer nations and data from other recognized international organizations purporting to deal with the subject. Internationally what is recognized as developed nations are, those States that have a high income and human development Indicators. The OECD is made up

mostly by the countries with afore mentioned achievements.

The question then arises. What is the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)?

This organization consists of 37 member nations as at this moment. According to basic tenets of this organization any member country must be **(i)** with a high income status **(ii)** with a higher human development status. They must also adhere to the characteristics of market economy principles. As a result a country with a socialist economy even if it fulfils this above requirement is not included in the fold. OECD was established as an organization by the USA in 1948 to help administer the Marshall Plan which was commenced in 1945, in order, to further their plan to nurture a global political network under their wing. It was particularly targeted to marginalize the socialist



countries of the world so that the USA could continue to establish global imperialism built by the British which started to collapse in 1945. (It was to take control of the rapidly disintegrating British control of the world economy.) It was purely formed to look after the political interest of imperialist countries. For this reason alone they did not include Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and socialist countries in Eastern Europe. Even though those countries had fulfilled the OECD requirements (except market economy system)

In 1961, the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) was reformed into the

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on the cessation of the Marshall plan. At present OECD has 37 member countries. In 2017 those 37 countries accounted for 62.2% of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

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What countries belong to the OECD?

The OECD's 37 members are: Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

It's important to analyze the countries who are members of the OECD.

Of these member states as of now

- 20 out of the 37 even by the year 1900, were developed capitalist countries.

- 15 states of the 37 were countries with a colonial past who had colonies in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America.

- 8 states prior to 1990 were socialist

countries.

- 5 states that do not fall in to the above categories of the OECD are South Korea, Israel, Mexico, Chile and Colombia.

(i) Two countries out of those five, pose questionable status when high human development indicators and market economy comparisons are taken in to consideration.

Therefore, in choosing these countries for the membership of the OECD, it is obvious that the basic principles of the organization have been grossly violated and they have been included purely on a political basis.

1.Colombia: Human Development Index ranks at 83 (Sri Lanka is at 72)

2. Mexico: Human Development Index ranks at 74 (Sri Lanka is at 72)

Therefore, in choosing these countries for the membership of the OECD, it is obvious that

the basic principles of the organization have been grossly violated and they have been included purely on a political basis. This is so especially because the IHDI is the standard accepted by the world community.

(ii) How did South Korea, Israel and Chile creep into the OECD?

All three of these states are ones that were built on the economic and political sponsorship of the Marshall Plan of USA. In addition to other causes these countries were the result of the protection afforded to them by the sponsorship of US imperialist powers and followed by their financial backing.

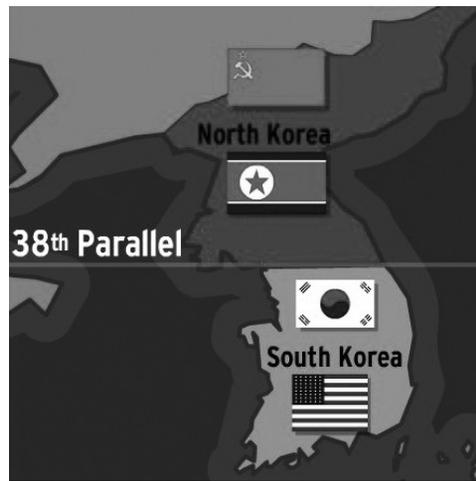
1. South Korea:

North Korea happened to be a socialist country backed by The Soviet Union and China which opposed the American aggression, which finally resulted in the division of the Korean

peninsula dividing the Korean nation. As a result of the long term occupation of the south of the Korean peninsula by the American forces, in accordance with the Marshall Plan, this new state has achieved a degree of prosperity. (If there was no socialist North Korea ,if there was no socialist USSR and China, USA wouldn't assisted South Korea to gain this development, it would be a Haiti or any other USA backed country in Latin America.) Apart from some plans and activities implemented by South Korean people to gain these achievements majority of these achievements were not gained following general capitalist path. To this day American military establishments are stationed there. USA from the beginning protected and groomed South Korea as a child.

2. Israel:

It is a country created completely by USA military, financial and political sponsorship and



exists as a strategic war front and base for the US armed forces. It is maintained by USA as a protectorate. By no means has its prosperity been achieved by the general capitalist development path.

3. Chile:

In the year 1973 President Salvador Allende's Socialist government was disposed by a CIA sponsored coup and the world's first neo liberal economic system was injected to that country by the intervention of US financial experts. All this happened in the ambit of the Marshall Plan and General Augusto Pinochet's cruel dictatorship. Therefore, Chile is not a state that arrived in to the folds of the OECD by following the general capitalist development path.

4. Singapore:

It was created in 1965. Even

though not a state in OECD, it was developed in accordance of the Marshal plan fold due to the importance of its strategic situation in the Malacca straits and its proximity to the very extensive socialist states of Indo China (i.e. China, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and leftist government in Indonesia).

South Korea is being strengthened to counter socialist North Korea. Israel is being strengthened within Middle East in order to keep the military, political and resource control over the region countering other countries. Chile was strengthened against the rapid wave of leftist revolutions that had been rising within Latin America. Singapore had been strengthened due to its strategic importance against the prevalent leftist states of Indo - China. Even today there are American military establishments in Singapore.

The objective is to clarify that the development of the newly included

members of the OECD is not really an evolution of general capitalist development. Although it is not possible to do an in-depth description of the development of these countries, it is important to understand that all member states did not receive their membership due to their success in following general capitalist development path. These emerged for the purpose of extending the rule over other countries (protectorates) and for extending political and economic access, power and control over those states.

It is therefore very clear that other than the five states mentioned none have arrived at the membership of the OECD via evolution in general capitalist development path, within the last 120 years or since 1945.

The countries that were developed by the 1900s (USA, United Kingdom, Netherlands, France, Germany, Belgium, Japan and etc.) were all colonial empires. Empire that was colonizer, but not so developed was Turkey - Ottoman Empire.

What are the other countries that belong to the high income group or of a high standard of living?

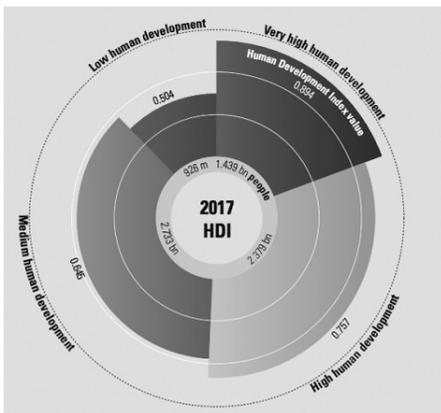
1. Countries developed by USA through military interventions are South Korea, Singapore, Chile and Israel- as its protectorates.
2. Countries that have qualified and have the requirements to join the OECD are the following 9 Pre Socialist Countries. They are Russia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.



Inequalities that appear due to distorted comparisons.

Countries are ranked into different brackets according to Human Development Index (HDI) Ranking

HDI 0.900-1.000	Countries with a highest Human Development	27
HDI 0.8 - 1.00	Countries with a very high Human Development	66
HDI 0.744 - 0.799	Countries with a high Human Development	52
HDI 0.550 - 0.699	Countries with moderate Human Development	38
HDI 0.350 - 0.549	Countries with a low Human Development	32



Those countries achieved these achievements through socialist path of development.

Although capitalist Russia (now) belonged to an upper income country with high living standards it was not taken into OECD in spite of its suitability because it was an impediment to the USA's world domination programme.

3. Russia also happened to be a colonial empire. There is a question whether

Russia and other pre-socialist countries have reached their development due to that.

If that be the case, why are the colonies of empires of Britain, USA, France, Netherlands, Italy, Belgium, Japan and Turkey did not reach that development?

In the year 1917 when the Soviet Union with 15 republics came in to being these countries were poor as poor can be. In the Second World War those territories lost 27 million citizens and 70,000 cities and villages were leveled to the ground. However, after the year 1945 those built back from the aforementioned ashes and obtained high socio economic status within Soviet Union. For

that reason it's evident that the new countries that reached OECD status during the last 120 years were those which followed a Socialist economic system and not the capitalist development path.

HDI and progress of Capitalism

Mahbub ul Haq, the renowned Pakistani Economist who was a Special Adviser to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) gave the blueprint for the establishment of the Human Development Report and the HDI, which measures development by well-being, rather than by income alone. This HDI to measure a country's development, created in

1990, was more progressive and included an in-depth analysis. The 2010 Human Development

Report introduced the IHDI, which takes into account, the Inequality Adjusted Human Development Index.

Therefore, HDI is now referred to as Inequality Adjusted Human development Index (IHDI).

Human Development Index (HDI) is an index that measures key dimensions of human development.

The Three dimensions are:

- **Measured by life expectancy at birth**
- **Measured by expected years of schooling of children of school-entry age**
- **Decent standard of living – measured by Gross National Income per capita**

By the year 1900, 20 out of 25 countries having highest HDI now, possessed colonies and were considered as developed. Today amongst the 25 considered as

highest in developed, there is no single country that achieved this status, after the year 1900 or after 1945 for that matter. (Singapore, Israel and South Korea which are among these 25 were not even conceived as sovereign states at that stage and also they gained this levels through special treatments as we mentioned above)

Accordingly, only 14% of States managed to get to OECD or HDI level of human prosperity following the general capitalist path. Only 34% of the countries are above 0.8 in HDI. Therefore, 66% States in the world or two thirds of the States could not reach higher HDI status that is required to reach human prosperity for the past 120 years or for past 75 years for that matter.

Therefore, except the countries which were colonial masters in 1800s, 1900s and also had reached stage of capitalist development by 1900, there are hardly any countries which had reached higher development stage within past 120 years. Only exceptions are the countries reached development

within Socialism. Such development that could not be gained for past 120 years cannot be expected to gain in this degrading stage of capitalism.

“India cannot develop in the manner that Great Britain forged ahead because the United Kingdom had India an extent 50 times bigger than herself to exploit and plunder and India has not got that unholy privilege”-Mahathma Gandhi

Every third world country has followed the capitalist models like USA, Great Britain, Switzerland and Sweden. In Asia there are several which will be added to the list. That is Singapore model and South Korean model. Yet, in the last 120 years, there is not one country that has progressed to the OECD level in the world, by following these models (Except few US protectorates and 9 former socialist countries). It is therefore, clearly evident that by following the global capitalist system, no country has achieved high human development status.

Expect Part II in next Issue.....

Environmental Catastrophe is Inevitable in Capitalism:

Special focus on Deforestation in Sri Lanka



Recently, within Sri Lanka the environmental destruction including the destruction of forests, wildlife and sensitive eco systems have been increased. This has been expediting since Gotabhaya Rajapakshe's government gained power.

When this regime came to power the background has been set out to facilitate it further by abolishing permit system to transport granites, sand and soil. Thereafter, by removing the legal provisions that safeguard residual forests, those became vulnerable to be utilized for economic purposes. Newest victim of this destruction is the Sinharaja forest which is the largest and oldest evergreen tropical rainforest in Sri Lanka, which is also a World Heritage.

Since the government of Gotabhaya Rajapakshe came to power roughly close to 25090.5 hectares of forests have been destroyed. Therefore, it has become vital to intervene to stop the environmental destruction that is being continued in Sri Lanka.

Rich Bio-Diversity

Sri Lanka is a tropical island situated in the middle of Indian Ocean south to Indian peninsula. It is a country with significant bio-diversity with eco systems ranging from tropical forests

to savanna extended in the area of 65,610 square kilometers. Sri Lanka is not a country that forests have to be artificially planted. It is a country with favorable conditions for the natural growth and sustainability of forests and other eco systems. At 2005, 29.9% of entire area of Sri Lanka was forests which were 1,933,000 in hectares. Among those primitive forests are only 167,000 in hectares which amount to 2.6% of the entire area. When entire forest area of Sri Lanka is considered primitive forests are only 8.6%.

27% of the plants and 22% of all amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles are indigenous. Sri Lanka has a significant place among countries with bio diversity due to the variety of species to be found within a comparatively limited area. For example 2% of the species of Frogs and Toads of the world can be found in Sri Lanka even if it only amount to 0.013% of the entire lands of the world. 910 of the 3210 flowering plants which can be found in Sri Lanka are indigenous species.

In Sri Lanka only 1.5% of the primitive forests are left of entire land area. Majority of the primitive forests of Sri Lanka has been destroyed within British colonized period in order to obtain lands for tea, rubber and coffee plantations. Forest population of Sri Lanka had decreased from 80% to 43% when British given Dominion status to Sri Lanka in 1948. It had been further decreased to 16.5% up until year 2019.

Intensified Environmental Destruction

It can be observed that the environmental destruction has been intensified during the brief period of governance of Gotabhaya Rajapakshe. At the beginning of the governance of present capitalist regime, legal requirements to obtain permits to transport soil, sand and granite stones were removed and thereafter soil, sand and stones transporters and suppliers moved to extract soil, sand and stones from river banks, isolated



Killing nature and escalating human - elephant conflict

mountains and sensitive eco systems.

Moreover, three Circulars intended forest conservation were removed. Thereafter, removed legal provisions intended to safeguard 800,000 acres of forest known as residual forests which were under the authority of the Department of Forest Conservation. These residual forests amount to 5% out of the 16.5%, which is the entire forest population. It is observable that around the country destruction of entire forest area including residual forests is increasing like never before as the legal safeguards for the residual forests have been

removed.

Likewise, forest area in Hanthana - Kandy, mangroves in Kalpitiya, Knuckles forest reserve, mangroves reserve in lagoon of Negombo, several areas of Sinharaja forest, Mangalapura Eluvankulama forest population in Vanathavilluwa, Anavilundawa wet lands reserve has become sacrifices to the forest destruction. Apart from this, government has taken a decision to alienate 40,000 acres of lands which are under the authority of the Department of Forest Conservation situated in Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa and Monaragala to facilitate corn plantation. 5000 acres have already been waived

for the purpose. Labor necessary for these plantations are obtained from the detainees under Department of Prisons. Further, government has made plans to offer Palwatte Sugar Factory 7000 acres from the very area and to waive another 8000 acres of land from Kandakadu wet lands and forests in Polonnaruwa district for corporate agricultural purposes. Government also has plans to alienate 15,000 acres of Hambantota and Monaragala districts for the Chinese industrial city which is to be erected in

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Hambantota area in future. In order to supply water for that project government is moving to build water reservoirs by deforesting some areas of the World Heritage Sinharaja Forest and also to use river Ging and Nilwala which spring out from the water sources of the very Sinharaja Forest.

At this point also number of plant and animal species have faced the threat of extinction.

Among the plant species in Sri Lanka 78 have been recognized as critically endangered to be extinct, 73 endangered to be extinct and 129 vulnerable to the danger of extinction. Among the frogs in Sri Lanka 17 species have already extinct and 11 are at the verge of extinction.

Since the destruction of forests has been increased plants and animals are losing natural habitats and favorable environmental conditions and these have caused to increase the threat of the extinction of indigenous species. With the deforestation animals such as monkeys, hedgehogs, tigers, bears,

elephants are compelled to reach villages and agricultural fields in search of foods.

Recently, clashes between the humans and animals which break in to villages and agricultural fields have increased. It can be observed that the elephants and tigers that enter villages not only destruct plants and harvests, but daily take lives of people also. Parallel to the destruction of forests by the government hiding behind the curtain of development, the clashes between humans and animals are increasing. People are dying due to the attacks of wild animals, which also has faced the threats of extinction. These clashes between people and wild animals have come to a point that it cannot be solved without the intervention

of State. Currently

also within several areas of the country including Walsapugala,

Mahiyangana, Anuradhapura and

Polonnaruwa people has conducted

demonstrations and boycotts more than 90 days compelling government to find solutions to end clashes between elephants and people.

More Power! More Destruction

Norm of all the capitalist regimes who ruled the country for last 4 decades have been working to liberalize land market, promoting destruction of ecosystems for commercial purposes, weakening the State institutions, delaying enacting of more progressive laws to protect environment such as Bio diversity bill of Sri Lanka and etc... The present regime with its special majority (2/3)

in the

Recently, clashes between the humans and animals which break in to villages and agricultural fields have increased. It can be observed that the elephants and tigers that enter villages not only destruct plants and harvests, but daily take lives of people also. Parallel to the destruction of forests by the government hiding behind the curtain of development, the clashes between humans and animals are increasing.

parliament, including strengthen executive presidency, has been championing implementing destructive environmental policies.

This intensification of deforestation, withdrawal of many environmental rules and regulations, criminalizing and demonizing the campaign and people who act against government led environmental destruction naming them as “environmental terrorism” by the higher authorities of the country is serving one purpose. That is to serve the economic interests of the Agro business and wealthy families who are desperately searching to acquire bigger lands for minimal prices during this pandemic. **Large Sri Lankan companies as well as foreign are reluctant to invest their hordes of money in share markets and their traditional fields of investments as due to COVID, majority of these economic sectors are under performing. So they**

have decided to invest in agriculture and lands.

However, a small country with higher population density, it is difficult to find 1000 + acres of lands for large scale Agri businesses. This capitalist class who funded and supported the present government has been pressurizing it to alienate forest lands which belongs the State. Therefore, apart from alienating 800,000 acres of State forests for commercial purposes Sri Lankan government has been amending four cardinal laws relates to administration of Lands. These amendments have been focused to further liberalize the land administration of the country to serve the neo liberal interests. Since 1980s due to the implementation of neoliberal economic policies under the pressure and guidance of the World Bank & IMF, there has been a tremendous pressure to liberalize the land market of Sri Lanka.

Environmental Destruction: Global Phenomena

This environmental destruction not only limited

to Sri Lanka. It is a condition faced by entire world.

Within only five centuries of capitalism it has victimized whole earth including human species.

In the fifteenth report of the United Nations Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Changes it has admitted that earth is facing the tragic and destructive consequences of the rising of global warming. What is the result of predatory utilization of nature by the capitalism for its narrow economic necessities? Destructions which previously limited to particular areas or particular countries have now reached another qualitative stage to become a catastrophe spread throughout the world. As scientists have already alerted in failing to stop **increasing global temperature from 1.5 degrees of centigrade entire world will be victimized by pandemics, diseases, migrant problems due to increasing ocean levels, droughts and hurricanes.** Therefore, in 2015 an agreement has reached in the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris to

make efforts to decrease global temperature from 2 degrees. Accordingly it has proposed to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases from 45% before 2030 and from 100% before 2050. However, this requires drastic changes in the fields of industries, transportation, energy and utilization of lands.

How the catastrophe can be stopped?

Humans are also a part of nature and interconnected

to every other aspect of it. However, among the living beings on the earth only humans are capable of consciously input labor and change the conditions of the nature. That is what makes human special and more responsible for the nature. There are certain favorable conditions in nature for the survival and reproduction of human beings. So far the development of science and increased accumulation of knowledge has revealed to people such favorable and

unfavorable conditions for the survival of humans as well as other aspects of the nature. Within the capitalist system profit making, exploitation and accumulation of capital have over powered the protection and safeguard of nature. Environmental assessments are being manipulated or undermined by the powers and money of capitalist companies and by the capitalist state mechanism as well. This has become



Photo Illustration by Andrea D'Aquino

a necessary factor for further survival of capitalism and imperialist world order. As Engels suggested revolution is necessary to shift the situation from worse to better.

“

In nature nothing takes place in isolation. Everything affects and is affected by every other thing, and it is mostly because this manifold motion and interaction is forgotten that our natural scientists are prevented from gaining a clear insight into the simplest things.

”

(Frederick Engels- The part played by Labour in the transition from Ape to Man)

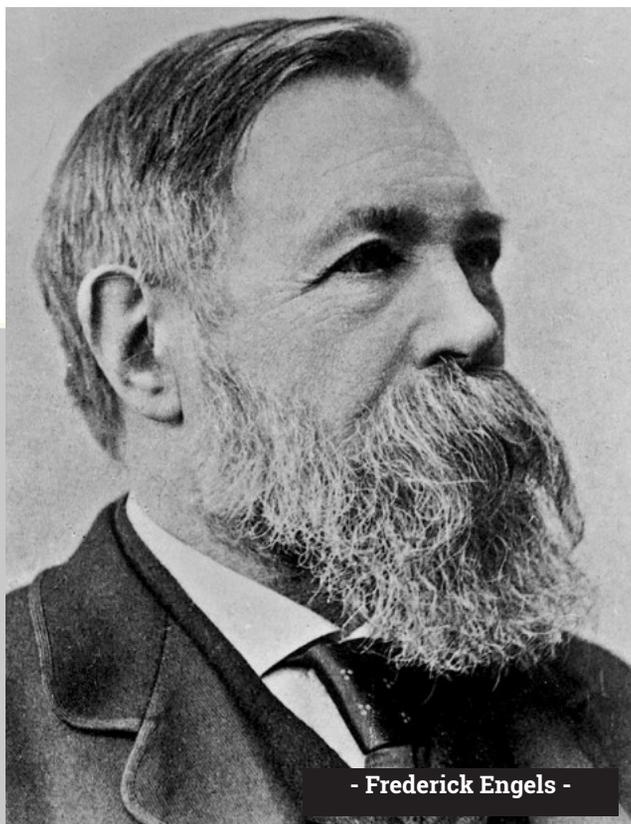
In the same article Frederic Engels further state as follows.

“

This regulation, however, requires something more than mere knowledge. It requires a complete revolution in our hitherto existing mode of production, and simultaneously a revolution in our whole contemporary social order.

”

(Frederick Engels- The part played by Labour in the transition from Ape to Man)



Today we are at the edge of transforming favorable conditions of nature to unfavorable conditions for survival. However, capitalism has given priority to the survival of capitalism over survival of human beings. The Monopoly corporations around the world have expressed their strong opposition to Paris Agreement. Climax of this manifested when in 2017 United States declared that they will entirely withdraw from Paris Agreement. USA withdrew from Paris Agreement formerly in November of 2020. Survival of capitalism serves only the minority of capital owners but survival of human beings in a favorable conditions is what is needed by the majority of proletariat living on earth.

“Freedom does not consist in any dreamt-of independence from natural laws, but in the knowledge of these laws, and in the possibility this gives of systematically making them work towards definite ends. This holds good in relation both to the laws of external nature and to those which govern the bodily and mental existence of men themselves – two classes of laws which we can separate from each other at most only in thought but not in reality. Freedom of the will therefore means nothing but the capacity to make decisions with knowledge of the subject. Therefore the freer a man’s judgment is in relation to a definite question, the greater is the necessity with which the content of this judgment will be determined; while the uncertainty, founded on ignorance, which seems to make an arbitrary choice among many different and conflicting possible decisions, shows precisely by this that it is not free, that it is controlled by the very object it should itself control. Freedom therefore consists in the control over ourselves and over external nature, a control founded on knowledge of natural necessity; it is therefore necessarily a product of historical development.”

(Frederick Engels- Anti-Dühring)

It is clearly manifested today that free and liberal economy is not fancy as it was initially suggested. It is a mechanism of exploitation. It is a system of ensuring freedom and liberty of few while disregarding the welfare and survival of many. Even though freedom of man must be understood parallel to his existence within nature and not as something superior to it. As Engels rightfully explained within capitalist system coexistence of

humans and nature will not be encouraged. Within capitalist system it is not possible to make a culture with mutual respect for both humans and nature. Only in socialism which will be established uprooting capitalism, the mankind can be saved from this environmental catastrophe. Therefore, we strongly believe that the Parties and Movements struggle to realize socialism in world have to incorporate slogans to protect environment from the catastrophic

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capitalism. Best possible interventions must be made to stop irreversible damages caused to the environment. We also take the stand that while we struggle to temporarily avoid environmental destructions, it is very important to pay attention to unite all struggling forces in the struggle to realize socialism.

“

From the standpoint of a higher economic form of society, private ownership of the globe by single individuals will appear quite as absurd as private ownership of man by another. Even a whole society, a nation, or even all simultaneously existing societies taken together, are not the owners of the globe. They are only its possessors, its usufructuaries, and, like *boni patres familias** they must hand it down to succeeding generations in improved conditions.

”

Marx- Engels - Capital, Volume III, Chapter 46)

As long as the private ownership exist it will not guarantee the stopping of arbitrary damages on environment due to the profit making and resource exploiting intentions. As long as capitalist governments manipulate state mechanism to favor few capital owners the safety of environment cannot be ensured. Destruction of environment and deforestation have become elevated than it was predicted by Marx and Engels in their contemporary period. Now we are at the verge of irreversible environmental damages. Some of such have been already occurred. Centralized state mechanisms and international programs must be established in order to conserve environment. This can only be guaranteed by a society which is focused more on people welfare and sustainability which is not controlled by the 'Capital' allowing welfare of few capital owners. This is one of the reasons we have to rely on socialist revolution and must fight in full capacity to realize it.

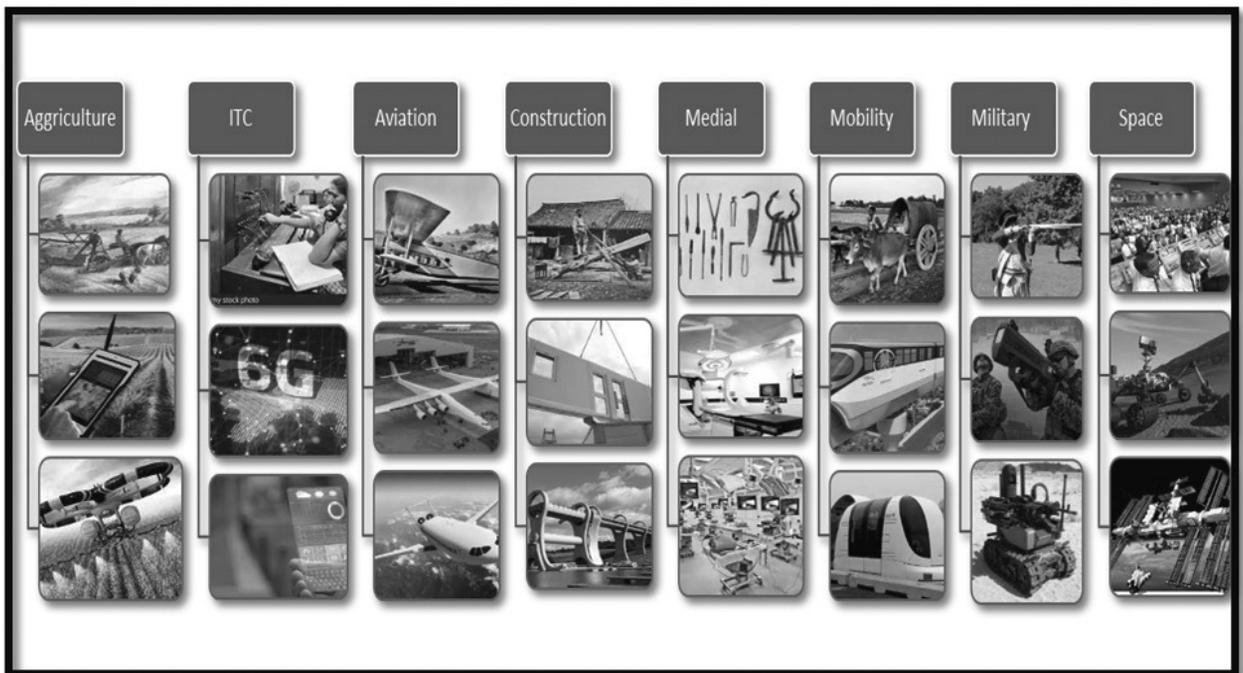
* like a diligent guardian



Friedrich Engels, who, along with his comrade Karl Marx, was one of the fathers of scientific socialism.

Technological Advancement:

What it is and what it needs to be?



1. Areas of modern-day technological advancement

Desire of mankind's towards acquiring an improved and convenient living condition in contrast to his present-day life has drastically been the cause of technological advancement accomplished by him since the beginning of civilization. During the capitalist system, this has been further driven by the inherent profit oriented nature of it, by way of

optimizing labor productivity and also by way of labor exploitation. Society has advanced into the current era of technology and information, alongside many industries and areas that have undergone technological advancements, have pushed them into the modern-day which has made certain industries more efficient, most sustainable, and more effective.

Agriculture

Drone technology-

The efficiency and scale of agricultural operations have significantly increased from it being a physically laborious activity in the past to being able to conduct larger scaled agricultural operations at a faster rate and more effectively by planting with drones. Drones have also helped in collecting analytical data through getting aerial views to map out the area, identify field conditions and to make long-term decisions.

The agriculture of the present day has been substantially boosted in quality, scale, and reduced in time

with effective and sophisticated pieces of technology such as robots, temperature and moisture sensors, aerial images and GPS systems that has allowed agriculture to advance alongside society into the modern day and the era of technology.

Aviation

With the advancement of technology in aircrafts, aviation is being made more sustainable and is reduced its environmental impact in the modern world through improvements in fuel efficiency; for example, fuel burn can be improved on new aircrafts through fixes mainly on the airframe which can boost aerodynamic efficiency by improvements in the Lift and Drag ratio; and reducing actual combustion use through fixes mainly in the engine can improve fuel burn. Fuel efficiency cannot also be only improved through aircraft structural improvements but rather systematic improvements as well, for example, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 'improvements in air traffic management could help

reduce fuel burn by 6-12%

Construction

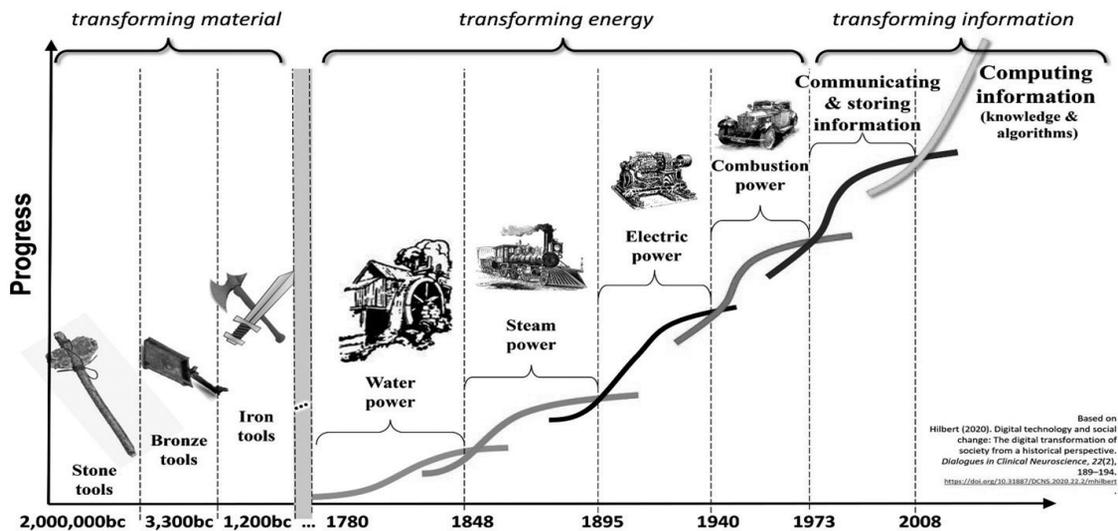
Working as a construction worker in the construction industry has known to carry major risks that can result in death; however, with certain technological advancements in the construction industry, risks are being reduced and efficiency is being improved. For examples, usage of drones, mobile technology for remote control, Virtual reality, 3D printing and artificial intelligence can help reduce risks and substantially improve sustainability and efficiency of construction.

IT & Communication

Communication and IT have undergone major changes that has progressed it from the past to the present, from telegraph and fax to telephones to satellites and to the present day where communication and IT have progressed into the world of the internet, with new and powerful mobile networks that keep you connected with the rest of the world such as 4G (4th Generation) and 5G(5th Generation).

Medical

Hundreds of centuries ago, medicine was unreliable and depended on ineffective methods leading to a world where you could die from a fever, a sickness that would almost always lead its victims to death, but it is now a sickness that people treat like a harmless and annoying bug. This has been made possible due to major technological advancements in the world of medicine, that has transformed medicine into a powerful force that saves hundreds of thousands of worlds annually and a force that improves your life and keeps you healthy. Examples of some of the technological advancements being smarter pace-makers, Telemedicine, vaccines, Nanomedicine, sterilizing tools, healthcare artificial assistants, major treatments etc.



What mankind has accomplished due to technological advancement Yet, has the advancement prioritized to the Required Direction?

- Annually 500,000–970,000 people are dying from HIV all over the world.
- Around 41 Mn people are annually dying from non-infectious diseases, which is the 71% of total annual deaths globally.
- Average, around 11 Mn annually dying from various cancers Average and circa 250,000 people have been dead from natural disasters during last two decades.
- More than 3 Mn people already died from new COVID 19 virus all over the world.
- It is hard to realize that still 25,000 people in the world are dying from hunger, even though many scholars accepting that present day food technology is more than adequate to feed the whole world.

Military

The military over time has undergone major technological advancements that have led to improved defense and offense through transportation to move soldiers, weapons that are highly effective and powerful for offense, radar systems to locate and communication systems to discuss tactics, examples of technological advancements being robots, hypersonic missiles, army helicopters and other autonomous aircrafts, guided missiles and etc..

Space Engineering

Certain technological advancements put in place in the area of space engineering has made the job easier for space engineers to maintain space-crafts, design sectors and build new systems in order to progress man into the infinity of the universe. Technological advancements have supported the industry of space engineering sending man into space, rovers to Mars and beyond that zero-fuel aircrafts, 3D

printing, advanced materials, advanced space propulsion technologies and etc.

Mobility

The advancement of mobility into the 21st century has not only sent man across the world, but man into space. From bicycles and horse carriages from aircrafts in the air and space crafts for space exploration projects, and soon, space crafts that will contain passengers, a goal that companies such as SpaceX has worked towards. Examples of technological advancements that have improved the quality of travel on earth as well as the sustainability and efficiency can be recognized as lightweight materials, ride services, autonomous cars, projects such as hyperloop, safety features and forms such as trains, cars, flying cars, volocopters, ships/boats, aircrafts and space crafts.

2. What mankind has accomplished due to technological advancement

Throughout the centuries, one thing has been certain. The lifestyle of man has been

dictated or affected by the technological advancement that each generation faced. Improvements to the technology meant that man had the ability to surpass his own limitations as a person. The help of technological advancement means that man shall always be developing newer and more innovative ideas that can help to ease the prevailing lifestyles.

3. Yet, has the advancement prioritized to the Required Direction?

Needs and Wants are two highly sensitive terms, which the present-day capitalist system has predominantly misused. Despite the fact that technology being drastically advanced in various associated sectors, the world is still heavily suffering from major social issues such as hunger, diseases and natural disasters.

Regardless, the field of technological advancement, those available and affordable to the owners of capital and business monopolies. This can be related to the

almost all most all technological advancements. **If agriculture is considered most of the modern technologies can be afforded by large and multi-national companies. This can encourage mass production by monopolies and the elimination of small scale and middle scale companies or persons in agriculture.** When capitalist state mechanism is also favorable to large companies it can be deadly to small scale farmers and dependents of agriculture. This is the major reason causes recent farmers struggles in India. When we consider aviation, IT, and mobility also experience is similar. **Who gets the access to the fastest and most comfortable facilities either in aviation, IT and mobility? Not the regular working people. Most of the working people cannot even imagine to travel abroad. Many of them cannot even find a time to spend for leisure as they have to work even in the weekends.** Mostly the advancements in the fields of military, mobility and aviation are used by the

imperialist nations to keep the dominance over other countries, to intervene to them, to destabilize them and to exploit labor and resources. When it comes to the advancements in medical science also mostly not accessible or affordable by the proletariat. Health facility of medicine you get access to depend on how much money you can spend. Simultaneously, compared with the innovations being evolved and advancement of technologies in other industries, there is a reasonable doubt among ordinary people, why modern-day science could not find a reliable preventive medicine to curb these life threatening diseases.

Even though lucrative advanced machinery has increased the productivity and has saved time that has not been received by the proletariat who are the actual producers. That time also used by the capital owners to exploit more labor from working people only by giving them bare minimum to survive while make them living on loans and mortgages. While the living conditions and quality of life continued to drop, technological advancements

serve capital owners to concentrate more profits. Some other concerned aspects are as follows.

Sea Ice Melting Vs planetary exploration:

Scientist using "Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer 2 (AMSR2) technology with satellites such as JAXA's GCOM-W1 and CryoSat-2 satellite are continuously monitoring the sea ice melt in Arctic and Antarctic poles. As it is learnt, the mission time of these satellites will be end in near future, however no immediate funding arrangements to replace them upon expiry of their mission. Knowing that the data being gathered from these satellites are crucial to develop mitigation measures to curb rising sea level which is a global threat, most of the space agencies and respective government bodies are actively continue working and prioritizing on exploring Moon missions, Mars missions and space tourism projects which are more prospective in terms of profit gains.

Advancement of Solar Technology:

Solar power is identified as most Eco friendly, sustainable source of power compared with all other means.

“In 1839, French physicist Edmond Becquerel discovered the photovoltaic effect while experimenting

with a cell made of metal electrodes in a conducting solution. He noted that the cell produced more electricity when it was exposed to light”.

Since then, it has been nearly two centuries, advancement of solar technology has not been evolved significantly, in contrast with other industries. Until such time the environmental issues such as global warming, climate changes began to discuss in many of the global forums, most of the governments and institutions not paid adequate attention and not allocated sufficient investments to enhance the solar technological, apparently due to possible influences from petroleum giants.

Alternative Energy sources:

Similar to the solar energy, there are number of other renewable energy sources,



Figure 03:

such as Wind power, Ocean tidal force etc, in which no adequate attention is given for research and development aspects, that are required to improve the technology being adopted for power generation and storage of generated power. However, no matter how advanced and beneficial renewable energy utilization is, the unplanned, profit oriented capitalist approach can and also has started to utilize them in an extreme manners without giving priority to long term welfare of people.

Military Technology:

“Military technology is the application of technology for use in warfare”. It is a well establish phenomena that war and technological has

a direct proportional in terms of its advancement.

Again, the obvious question ordinary person might ask, who are benefiti from war.

Governments are spending billions to enhance the technology of their war machines to retain their power and protect territories. However, has the man kind truly benefited from this, apart from its indirect benefit, in which the technological advancement of military sector creating openings for other industries to widen their boundaries as a consequential effect of so called wars?

4. Barriers to extend benefits of technological advancements for entire mankind

Intellectual Property Rights:

Intellectual Property Rights (IP) are the legal rights

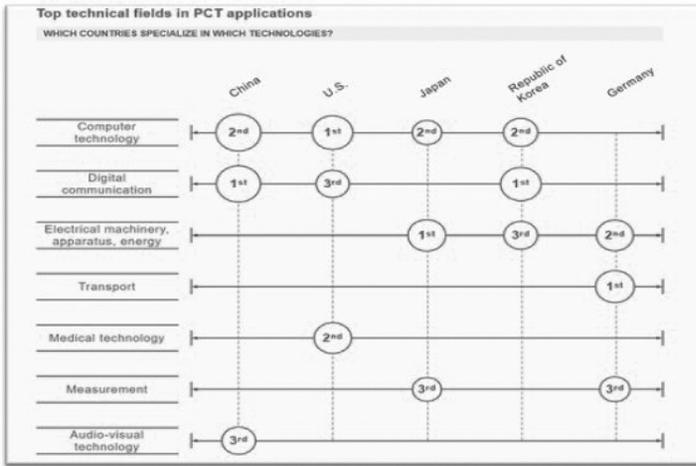


Figure 04:

Source: World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)

that provide a creator an exclusive right over the use of his/her creation for a certain period of time.

Intellectual Property Rights may sound like a modern world invention, but it has roots to the time of 500 BCE. Sybaris, an ancient Greek state, granted a yearlong exclusivity for bakers to make their culinary invention, is now evolved to more complicated set of laws in the modern world.

There are several forms of IP rights such as patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets.

Even though the IP rights were developed to protect and encourage the innovators to involve in more

research, today they do not provide any security to protect ideas or concepts. Instead, they have been commercialised to genuine business assets that can be vital to their products or services, or the success and profitability of the businesses and trades.

Therefore, it is imperative to analyse how the intellectual property rights are practiced in capitalised world to achieve their economic goals and how it opens gates for powerful imperialists to dominate over the third world countries.

As per the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) records, the highest

number of patents related to the technology are owned by 5 leading countries (refer above graph). In 2019, 84% from the total patents related to technology have been submitted by the aforesaid 5 countries. It emphasises that, the companies owned by those countries are legally entitled to make profit from the latest innovations associated with science and technology which the market share is nearly 84%.

Last year, at the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic, the United States and the most governments in Europe were not bothered to make adequate measures to prevent the rate of infections and the fatalities. Instead, they were in a race to manufacture the first jab of vaccine and to acquire IP rights for the same. Currently, several brands of the vaccines

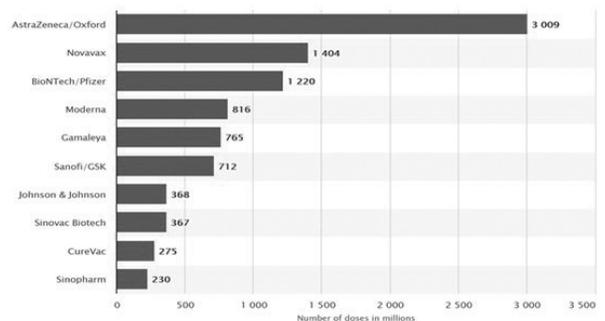


Figure 05:

Source: Statista

have been successful in the market and it predicts that Covid-19 vaccine market could be worth more than \$10bn a year. Even companies like AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson, which promised to make a successful vaccine available on a non-profit basis limited period of time during the pandemic, could make money when it is over.

Meantime, sales of the COVID-19 vaccine developed with US based Pfizer and Germany's BioNTech company posted a net profit of \$1.4 billion in the first quarter of 2021.

Below table indicates the Drug manufacturers with the highest number of ordered COVID-19 vaccine doses (in million doses) as of March 2021.

Western countries like the United States, U.K. and Europe achieve high vaccination rate are seeing declines in COVID cases since mass inoculations began earlier this year. As of early May, 45.3% of the U.S. population and 55% of the UK population have received at least one dose.

In contrast, in South Africa and India the vaccination rate is 0.5% and 9.2%, respectively. Since the highest number of orders for COVID vaccines have been placed by the wealthy countries including US and Europe that they have secured the IP rights of the vaccine manufacturing, the countries on the periphery have to be in the waiting list until their orders been delivered.

as the pandemic ravage countries around the world. **Lifting IP restrictions of coronavirus vaccines will set an important precedent. If the decision can be made in this case that saving lives should be prioritised over protecting the rights of pharmaceutical corporations to make profits, why shouldn't patents on other life-saving medica-**

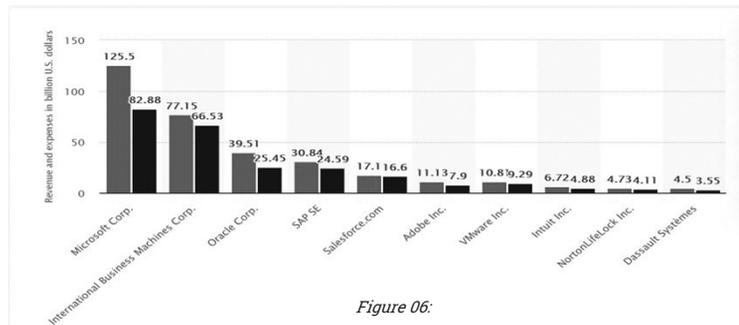


Figure 06:
Source: Statista

Hence, lots of leftists, social workers, and such organisations making a voice to push those companies to wave the IP rights for coronavirus vaccines enabling other countries to manufacture the vaccines according to their capacity that may result to save millions of lives from the coronavirus.

Moving forward, on 05 May, the US newly elected president Joe Biden announced its support for waiving IP rights for Coronavirus vaccines

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tions and equipment be removed as well?

However, it is hard to except any such long-term flexibility from these multinational investors, except to the extent to control the growing pressure being faced by them from the rest of the world, to lift patent rights of such essential drugs, which is the major channel of their return on investment and driving the market price by maintaining a monopoly in terms of production.

IP Rights Shield in Software Industry

The global software market had total revenue of \$ 597.3bn in 2019 which is projecting a 10.5% growth rate in every year.

Following table indicates the revenue of leading software companies worldwide in 2019.

All above leading software manufacturing firms are located in US and Europe which enable to create an enormous monopoly in the market. Since those prod-

ucts are sheltered with the IP rights, those companies are in a position to demand their products as they want, and no rooms have been allowed for the alternatives.

In most countries, the schools, universities, and other forms of educational institutes have been closed and adopted to eLearning system due to the effect of the COVID 19 pandemic. Hence, the use of distance learning software and document processing software like Microsoft Office are advantageous than ever to improve the learning skills of the students. No such software can easily be download via the internet without paying certain amount of dollars that makes a huge burden for families having low-income level, which eventually creates gaps in the level of education and maintain the education a privilege rather than a right of the people.:

Hence, software industry needs to be immunised with socialist perspective, by waving the IP rights, in terms of providing the equal rights in education. This is something we cannot expect from the capitalist system.

What it should be and where should we go?

Development emerge from human continuous intervention on environment to change it in order to make the lives effective and better. Undoubtedly, the mankind has benefited from the advancement of technology in various sectors since the beginning of civilization. Yet, the question being raised, are benefits available for utilization par with its capabilities and potential? and the concern being escalated, unfair and unreasonable opportunities and numerous obstacles to reach them. The profit oriented, exploitation-based capitalism has snatched the effectiveness can be achieved by the development from the working class people.

Except in few rare cases, essence of knowledge being discovered, and outputs of the technological innovations are barricaded by limited number of multinational companies, known as investors of such initiatives. Those capital owners have been converting all invaluable efforts of human

being into a sellable market commodity or service to be bought at a given price. Therefore, the question of fair and reasonable distribution of benefits of the technological advancement still remains unsolved since the beginning of capitalism.

According to Marx human progressed through the history with the necessity to increase knowledge, master over the nature and to develop production forces in order to improve the standards of life as well as to reduce the labor time necessary for production. In his prefaces to **“A Contribution to the critique of Political Economy”**

Marx stated as follows:

“In the social production of their existence, men inevitably enter into definite relations, which are independent of their will, namely relations of production appropriate to a given stage in the development of their material forces of production. The totality of these relations of production constitutes the economic structure of society, the

real foundation, on which arises a legal and political superstructure and to which correspond definite forms of social consciousness.

The mode of production of material life conditions the general process of social, political and intellectual life. It is not the consciousness of men that determines their existence, but their social existence that determines their consciousness.”

Accordingly relations of production in a society are what create the economic structure which ultimately determine the social consciousness.

Likewise, relations of production within feudal system determined the economic structure and the social consciousness of the contemporary society. Within Capitalism relations of production is as such that working class or the laborers do the production with the means of production provided by the capital owners giving the entire ownership of the products to the capitalists. Majority of the production goes to the ownership of production goes to the capitalist class while the proletariat who are the majority gets a minimum payment suffice

only for their survival. This is what determines the economic structure and social consciousness of capitalist society. Institutions in the superstructure raised on this economic structure serve as the guardians of the system.

Until a certain point material productive forces coexist with relations of production. At first stage of capitalism this coexistence even led to fast and extensive growth. However as Marx rightfully pointed out as follows time for revolution arrives.

“At a certain stage of development, the material productive forces of society come into conflict with the existing relations of production or – this merely expresses the same thing in legal terms – with the property relations within the framework of which they have operated hitherto. From forms of development of the productive forces these relations turn into their fetters. Then begins an era of social

revolution. The changes in the economic foundation lead sooner or later to the transformation of the whole immense superstructure.” (ibi)

When we consider technological advancements in the capitalist society it no longer serve to reduce the crisis, rather those serve to further intensify the crisis of capitalism. Technological advancements and innovations used for further accumulation of capital, further exploitation of proletariat and further extension of imperialism. The capitalist system has failed to further increase the standards of life, keep the working class who is the majority educated, healthy and employed. Private property ownership has hindered the advancements of technology and innovation from reaching majority of the people in the world. Welfare of the fewer privileged has been given priority over the welfare of the majority of proletariat. The indications are clear that we are at the edge of social revolution. Proletariat class around the world are tasked to make it happen internally.

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Hitherto, every form of society has been based, as we have already seen, on the antagonism of oppressing and oppressed classes. But in order to oppress a class, certain conditions must be assured to it under which it can, at least, continue its slavish existence. The serf, in the period of serfdom, raised himself to membership in the commune, just as the petty bourgeois, under the yoke of feudal absolutism, manage to develop into a bourgeois. The modern laborer, on the contrary, instead of rising with the progress of industry, sinks deeper and deeper below the conditions of existence of his own class. He becomes a pauper, and pauperism develops more rapidly than population and wealth. And here it becomes evident, that the bourgeoisie is unfit any longer to be the ruling class in the society, and to impose its conditions of existence upon society as an over-riding law. It is unfit to rule because it is incompetent to assure an existence to its slave within his slavery, because it cannot help letting him sink into such a state, that it has to feed him, instead of being fed by him. Society can no longer live under this bourgeoisie, in other words, its existence is no longer compatible with society.,

(Marx/ Engels- Manifesto of the Communist Party)

Marxist are not against technological advancements. It is the very opposite. Marxism favors the development and progress. Technological advancements are not the reason for ill treatment caused on proletariat. It is the capitalist system which alienate proletariat from its benefits. Future must be towards the socialist revolution to realize a society in which productions will be people welfare oriented and not profit oriented. Simultaneously, a society in which the ad-

vantages of the technological advancements and innovations will be granted to the proletariat around the world. Within a socialist society plans and programs will be made to gain more production with less labor time and the time saved will be utilized for the moral, cultural, educational and innovative development of the people while transcending towards the classless Communist Society.



Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx in Office

Marxist Critique on Modern Monetary Theory

We observe that the capitalist economic theory named 'Modern Monetary Theory' is being practiced by the capitalist rulers in the attempt of reasoning their economic management methods. Similarly, used by the Sri Lankan rulers as well. It is the reason that a dialog regarding Modern Monetary Theory is being going on in Sri Lanka. Within countries as USA and Britain Berny Sanders, Jeremy Corbin are presenting Modern Monetary Theory as an easy answer for the question posed to them as to how they are going to find money for the welfare work when they came to power.

Within Modern Monetary Theory there are several concepts built in.

1. There will be no issue in printing currency notes for money in order to coer the expenditure of the government and it also can cause economic progress.
2. When currency notes are released to the economy those can attract economic resources to the production process and this can be continued until all resources in the country exposed to fully utilization.
3. This does not need to be coincided with the growth of Gross Domestic Product (rate of economic growth).
4. Challenges the concept that collecting taxes and obtaining loans are necessary to cover the government cexpenditure. Thereby admits that the currency notes can be printed instead of increasing tax income and obtaining loans.
5. The increase of inflation caused by increasing demand can be controlled by increasing taxes

These concepts basically mean by printing and releasing currency notes an economic growth can be achieved, issuing more currency notes can cause increase in demand and the amount of currency notes need not be proportional to the economic value.

What is money?

Within a developed society of commodities, value of every commodity is expressed by monetary value. However, money did not exist in every society i.e. Primitive collective society. Before the evolution of money the form of value had to pass a long history. Even if production and exchange of the commodities began with the social division of labor and ownership of private property, money had not been evolved. Money evolved as the universal equivalent in commodities when production of handicrafts developed as a mode of social division of labor. Money is a special type of commodity which can act as the universal equivalent in the exchange of commodities. Money was not

evolved as a consequence of conscious agreement between people to introduce monetary units or as a result of governmental order. It evolved as a spontaneous consequence of growth of contradictions of production and exchange of the commodities and also due to the development of the forms of value.

Is what printed by the government is money?

What is printed by the government is not money, but the currency notes and coins. Those should not be confused with money. Currency notes and coins are mere nominal symbols. Not the value, but only symbols which can represent values. These act as a mean of payment and medium circulation replacing gold or silver to represent values. Currency notes and coins are circulated by State authorities according to a fixed and a legal rate of exchange. Since notes and coins have no value of their own unlike in the case of gold those cannot act as a measurement of the value of commodities. Even in the utilization of notes and coins, imaginary gold is used as measurement of value.

A government can print notes and coins. However, government cannot certify as to the value of those. Therefore, printing notes and coins will not produce values. How can economic growth be obtained without producing values? Even if the government can print notes and coins it cannot print food, clothing, medicine, houses, technicians, engineers and other professionals.

What is demand?

An argument presented by the supporters of Modern Monetary Theory is that money can result a growth in demand. Demand is the social necessities expressed by way of money. There are two factors mainly influence the volume of demand. Those are financial income of people and the amount of value that capitalists input to obtain means of productions. However, since printing notes and coins does not produce any value when a country print more notes and coins while keeping its production in a constant

level that causes the rise of prices of commodities and consequently real income of people decrease. This causes comparative decrease of demand rather than increase of it as the Modern Monetary theorists suggests.

Even if a government can print notes and coins it cannot certify as to the utilization of such notes and coins.

In order to increase the value capitalists invest for means of production there should be an incentive for the capitalists. That influence over the capitalist producer is none other than the profits and rate of profit. Capitalist producer will invest in whichever field he can gain profits. If capitalist cannot gain profits he would not produce. Nonetheless, by printing more notes and coins how would capitalists get certificate as to gaining profits?

Shouldn't amount of money be proportionate with the

Values of economy?

Any one or any Modern Monetary theorists can suggest that amount of money does not have to be proportionate to the values in economy. However, economic theories are not fantasies occur to human minds. Economic theories are

“A law peculiar to the circulation of paper money can spring up only from the proportion in which that paper money represents gold. Such a law exists; stated simply, it is as follows: the issue of paper money must not exceed in amount the gold (or silver as the case may be) which would actually circulate if not replaced by symbols.”

(Karl Marx, Capital, vol.1 p. 128.)

objective as much as the theories in chemistry, physics and other natural sciences. Also, express relations and inter-relations that do not depend on human intentions and consciousness.

Since coins and notes have been directly developed from precious metals i.e. gold, law of circulation of those entirely depend on the law of circulation of gold. “A law pecu-

liar to the circulation of paper money can spring up only from the proportion in which that paper money represents gold. Such a law exists; stated simply, it is as follows: the issue of paper money must not exceed in amount the gold (or silver as the case may be) which would actually circulate if not replaced by symbols.”

(Karl Marx, Capital, vol.1 p. 128.)

When releasing notes to the circulation in order to perform the task of gold those will circulate according to the values of the gold coinage that are being replaced by the notes. However, if issuing of notes exceeds the amount of gold that necessary for the circulation of exchangeable goods, then the purchasing power of notes go down and prices of commodities rises. However much amount of the notes government issues, the spontaneous increase of market prices will forcibly equated with the amount of gold coinage replaced by them.



There is an opinion that this conditions would not affect the reserved currencies as so called sovereign dollars in which the exchange rate has not been determined in relative to the other currencies. Their suggestion is that since no matter how much reserved currencies are printed, those can be sold to other countries at any time and the countries are prepared to buy them as they need to maintain their dollar reserves. Therefore, Modern Monetary theorists express the view that countries like United States can achieve economic growth and other economic capabilities by printing

more currency notes. Is this accurate? If so to what extent.

However, in order to buy commodities from other countries investing the dollars that are being printed by the United States those countries must continue to produce. United States can buy from other countries only if they have the production.

A country like United States can print as much as currency notes as they wish. However, can the other countries maintaining dollar reserves, increase their reserves by buying dollars as they wish? For that purpose the countries which maintain dollar reserves must

increase their capacity to buy dollars. Economy of the countries must grow and must produce values. In case when the countries maintain dollar reserves do not have economic growth can there be any certification that those countries can buy dollars no matter how much dollars are printed by the US government?

Even if the capitalist rulers try to use Modern Monetary Theory as a panacea the methods it suggest will only cause to intensify the crisis. Practicing of Modern Monetary Theory is leading so called developed countries into crisis and practicing it in the so called developing countries such as Sri Lanka will be disastrous.

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Geo Political Developments in the Indian Ocean Region

The Indian Ocean is the third largest of the five major Oceans and it covers 20% of the earth surface. It is approximately 70.56 million square kilometres in area.

Within the Indian Ocean Region there are 38 countries with a coastal area, 28 countries which are islands and 17 land locked countries. Albert Mahan who was an expert on Maritime Strategy once said "Whoever controls the Indian Ocean will dominate Asia. This Ocean is the key to the seven seas in the 21st century, the destiny of the world will be decided in these waters." (M. I. Ali 'The Implication of Chinas' String Of Pearls Strategy On Relation With Indian Ocean Nations' 2013).

Its importance is enormous when it comes to economy. Currently, 30 % of the world trade, 2/3 of the crude oil transportation is done via Indian Ocean and 50% of the cargo transportation of the world is operated by ports in Indian Ocean. In addition 75% of the crude oil needed for Japan and 85% of the crude oil needed for India are transported via Indian Ocean. 40 out of 57 industrial raw materials needed are supplied

via Indian Ocean.

Nature of the world political contradictions

After cold war relatively to the shift of the power balance of the world, the power balance in the Indian Ocean Region was also shifted.

Cold war time countries were biased towards either imperialist camp or socialist camp which were the major contradictions in the contemporary world politics.

Though after cold war USA imperialism established as the sole power in world

politics currently it has started to lose that status. In the world economic and political powers have started to emerge that can challenge the economic power of USA. China, Russia, India, Brazil and South Africa have started to come forward as economic giants and several countries in Latin America are having anti - imperialist governments. Currently, in Venezuela, Mexico, Bolivia and Nicaragua have anti-imperialist governments.

Even though European Union had trusted USA for survival and defence and also followed its agenda now it decide own stand in the emerging different situations. Therefore, USA can-

not always continue to keep European Union in USA agenda. On the other hand USA imperialism has begun a competition with Russia and seems to be working on a plan to impose economic sanctions and militarily surround Russia.

China is considered a threat to USA not only economically but in militarily as well. That is the reason why USA imperialists has been working on a plan targeting China





and it goes through significant straits of the world such as Mandab Strait, Malacca Strait, Hormuz Strait and Lombok Strait In 2017 for the first time China has established a military base beyond its territory in Djibouti. China is also in the process of building an energy and transportation project worth 62 billion USD named

and Asia (Pivot to Asia) from the time of Barak Obama's governance. According to the statistics of current capitalist world, China is economically secondary only to USA. 2020 in which COVID 19 pandemic has spread all over the world China has been capable of maintain its Economic Growth Rate at 1.9% while USA has -3.8% of Economic Growth Rate. China is racing towards two century goals. First goal to eradicate poverty has been achieved by 2021 and the Second goal is to make China a developed Socialist State by 2049. In this situation Indian Ocean Region has become especially important to USA

and China not only economically but strategically as well. This contradiction has become the major foundation for the recent geo political developments in the region. Priority of the USA defence planning has now shifted from Asia - Pacific region to Indo - Pacific region.

Involvement of China in the region

China has intervene to develop the Port Gwadar in Pakistan, Port Hambantota in Sri Lanka and Port Kyaukphyu in Myanmar which are known as pearl string in the maritime silk road intended to be built by China's Belt and Road Initiative. This maritime silk road of India extend from China to Port Sudan in Africa

China Pakistan Economic Corridor extended from Xinjiang province of China to port Gwadar in Pakistan. In the year 2015 it has been decided to invest another 45 billion USD to this proj-

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ect and 12 billion USD of it has been allocated to build a railway connecting Xinjiang province of China and port Gwadar in Pakistan via territory of Kashmir governed by Pakistan.

In 2017 China became world's largest crude oil importer. 80% of the crude oil imported by China come from East Africa and Middle East. It is also planned to lay an oil pipe line to transport crude oil from port Gwadar of Pakistan to Xinjiang province of China. By this China Pakistan Economic Corridor will also connect China and Iran.

In addition China involve in projects to build infrastructure related to the tourism in Maldives. For the first time China built a sea bridge between two islands in Maldives which are Hulhule and Hulhumale. Simultaneously, China has taken over uninhabited island named Feydhoo Finolhu in Maldives for 4 billion USD for 50 years.

Intervention of India

Activities of China in the Indian Ocean Region are

being considered by India as challenge for its dominance in the region and India takes it as that China has surrounded it within own region. China is also the main trading partner of India. Amount of goods India imports from China exceeds its total imports from USA and UAE. (For India largest amount of imports come from China, second largest from USA and third largest from UAE). Regardless, conflict is on the rise between two countries regarding the economic and geo political lead within the region. Therefore, India process to stop Chinese expansion within region while making efforts to establish Indian dominance within the region. For that cause it intervene economically, diplomatically and politically in to the affairs of the other countries in the region.

In 2014 when Modi regime came to power India continued to raise defence budget. In 2020 while COVID 19 pandemic has been spreading and the Economic Growth Rate is at -10.3% the Indian government has

raised the defence budget than it was in 2019. In 2019 India spent 56.6 billion of Indian Rupees to develop infrastructure in Andaman and Nicobar islands while establishing warships, war crafts, military troops and drone vessels. In the month of January in 2019 India established a naval base in Bob Island of India. Also India involves in number of infrastructure development projects in Mauritius and Seychelles. India also has established a military base in Agalega Island of the Mauritius as well. Additionally, India intervene politically to acquire economically and strategically important places and resources in the countries within region such as Maldives, Sri Lanka Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles and Nepal.

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U.S. strategic commitments and support to India should be carefully calibrated.
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Intentions of USA within Indian Ocean Region

USA is utilizing the prevailing contradiction in the region between India and China to fulfil its intentions in Indian Ocean Region.

Within this region USA has situated its military troops and also it seems to have a plan to keep India with the agenda of USA in managing prevailing and emerging contradictions in world politics. Recently, USA entered in to number of strategically important agreements with India. General Security of Military Information Agreement (2002), Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (2016), Communication Compatibility and Security Agreement (2018) and Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (2020) are some of those. These agreements have open a gateway between USA and India for deals related to technology and military. Within past period weapon exportation of USA to India has increased to 15 billion USD and two countries have started joint military activities.

The plan of USA is to utilize India against China, the major competitor of USA. By implying to strengthen India in the competition with China, USA try to persuade India to believe that intentions of USA in Indian Ocean Region are similar to the intentions of India. Its ultimate goal is to ensure USA dominance over Indian Ocean Region.

USA uses different methods to expand its military power such as stablishing military bases, entering in to military agreements with countries and entering into military alliances with other countries. USA Military bases have been established in Diego Garcia and also in Afghanistan. In addition to that USA has entered into several military agreements with the countries in Indian Ocean Region. Recently, USA changed its Pacific Command Centre as Indo Pacific Command Centre and seems to be done with the intention of a more emphasized programme common to Indo Pacific including Indian Ocean Region. USA military bases have already been established in Asia Pacific Region. Those are 11 bases in Japan, 15 in South Korea, 4 in

Australia, 2 in New Zealand, 5 in Philippines, 1 in Guam, 1 in Uzbekistan, 1 in Kirgizia and also in Afghanistan and Diego Garcia.

The other mission of USA is to make QUAD organization the NATO in Asia against Shanghai Cooperation Organization that has been established by collective initiation of China and Russia. QUAD organization was established in 2007 by the ex-Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe. It was also participated by ex-Prime Minister of Australia, John Howard, then Prime Minister of India, Man Mohan Singh and the then Vice President of USA Dick Cheney. This was recognized as an inter-governmental security dialogue and was intended to be the NATO in Asia and to challenge China. However, it became inactive after the withdrawal of Australia until it again become active in 2017. In 2019 while General Assembly took place foreign ministers of QUAD countries had a special summit. Second summit of the foreign ministers of QUAD countries took place in Tokyo in 2020.

In this summit it has been discussed how to improve coordination to establish free and open Indo - Pacific Region. Final summit has been held on 12th March 2021 and discussed matters such as production of COVID 19 vaccination, coordination related to emerging new technologies and intervention to control climate changes.

However, in 2020 participation of QUAD countries in the Malabar Naval Exercises held in Arab Sea and Bay of Bengal has marked entering of military involvement of QUAD in the Indian Ocean Region. Malabar Naval Exercises started in 1992 as a joint military exercise of India and USA. Since 2015 Japan participated in it as a permanent member. After Australia joined it in 2020 it has become a military exercise of QUAD countries in Indian Ocean Region.



These developments of the geo politics of Indian Ocean Region can be considered as manifestations of the crisis of imperialism. It is too soon to be certain on how fast and in which direction these contradictions will grow. These developments which take the nature of inter imperialist contradictions will push imperialism more into the direction of crisis rather than resolving it. Therefore, the growth of these contradictions within the Indian Ocean Region will lead the Asia Pacific ocean region which is originally a peaceful zone in to a zone full of military conflicts.

International Solidarity

In Solidarity with Palestinian People

We vehemently condemn the brutal Israeli attacks and provocations being continued on Palestinian people on the areas including Al-Aqsa Mosque, Gaza strip and West Bank that have been escalated from Monday which also have extended to air raids and shelling. Hundreds of Palestinian people including children have been killed and more than thousand have been injured and several thousands of people are being displaced daily. Now these attacks have reached the second week and if the attacks continue these numbers will continue to escalate.

It has been 73 years from the Nakba took place and since then it has become regular for the Palestinian people to face barbaric attacks in their day today lives being refugees in their own homeland. All along Palestinian people are struggling to free their motherland against the barbaric attacks of Israel and USA led imperialists which violate the freedom, sovereignty and Human Rights of the Palestinian People. They have been sanctioned from rights, freedoms as well as welfare while having to face arbitrary imprisonments, arrests and torture. These attacks being continued by the Israeli forces are also jeopardizing the integrity and security of Middle East as a region which will also cause to the suffering of working people in

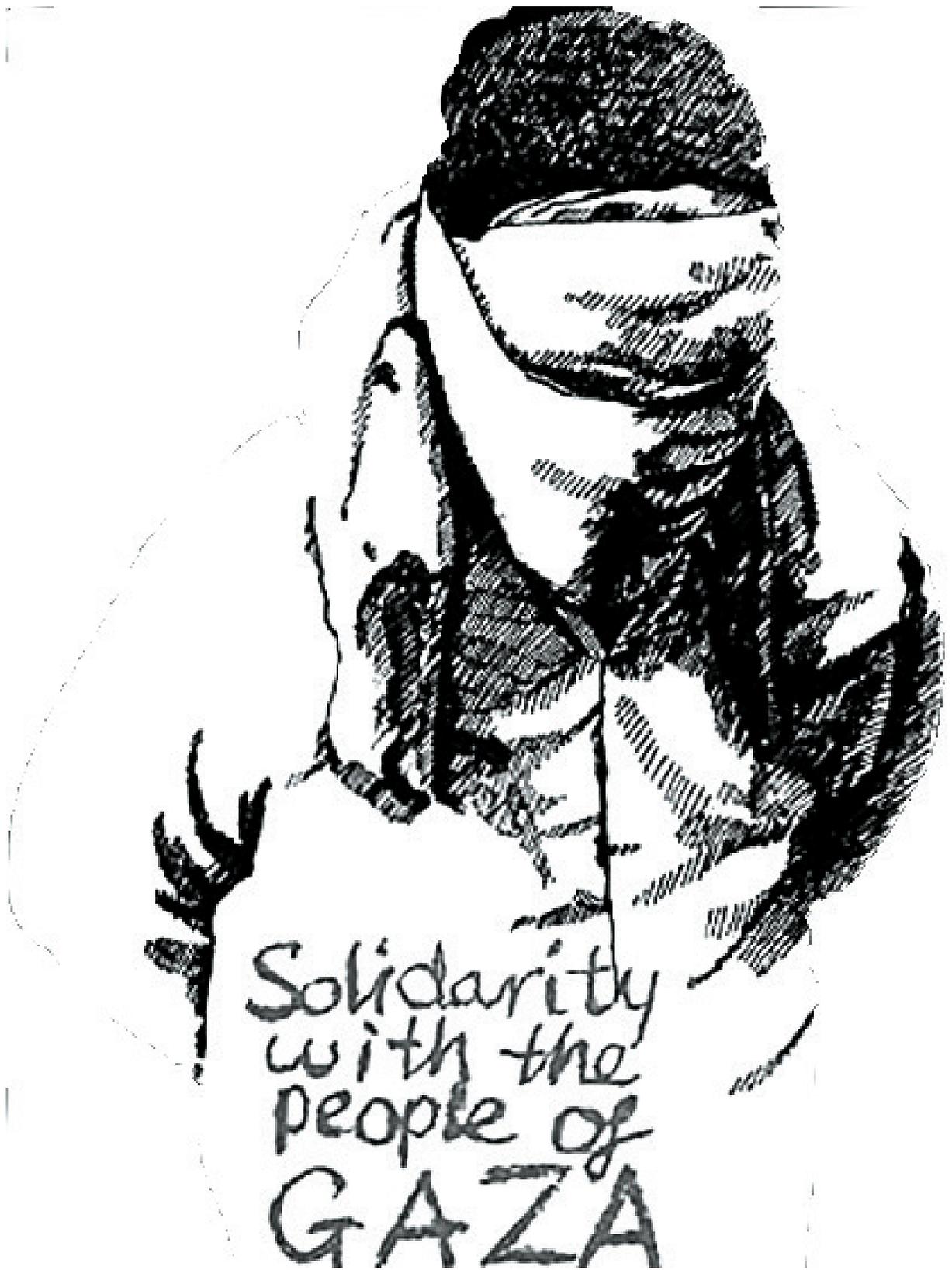
both Palestine and Israel as well as in other Middle East countries. Despite of the international calls and demands Israeli Prime Minister says that the offensive attacks will continue. Also the US President speak of Israel's right to defense while world witnesses how offensive Israel has been for the past 73 years.

For this crisis between Israel and Palestine solution has been suggested with the responsibility of the United Nations in 1967 to establish two different sovereign States of Palestine and Israel admitting East Jerusalem as a territory of Palestine. This Two State solution with "1967 Borders" is still possible for solving this conflict establishing independent state of Palestine

alongside the State of Israel. Currently, this solution has been accepted by more than 140 countries and by the Vatican as well. Despite, the crisis between Palestine and Israel has escalated so far due to Israeli government's non adherence to this solution and also due to the instigations of conflicts by US led imperialists. Therefore, the Israeli government and US imperialist are accountable for the massive suffering and casualties caused on Palestinian people and suffering of Israeli people as well.

We as the Peoples' Liberation Front (JVP) of Sri Lanka hereby express our deep condemnation towards the Israeli attacks on Palestinian people as well as US led imperialist interventions and we stand





*The Liberation Graphics Collection of Palestine Posters -
Nominated to UNESCO's Memory of the World Program 2016-2017*

in support and solidarity towards the People of Palestine. We request all the progressive parties and organizations around the world to stand in solidarity with Palestine and voice up for free and sovereign Palestine. As it is the United Nations responsible to create an Israel within the Palestinian territory, we strongly urge United Nations to take immediate actions to stop the attacks against Palestine and to take serious steps to establish free and sovereign Palestine. We urge the peace loving people of Israel to demand from Israeli establishment to end its occupational policy on Palestine to have a safe and peaceful life in Israel. We urge people of Palestine and Israel to be united to defeat the Imperialist projects operated on cost of their lives and future of their children.

Stop brutal attacks against Palestine right away!
Put an end to illegal occupation right away!
Establish free and sovereign Palestine right away!
Long live anti - imperialist International Solidarity!

People's Liberation Front (JVP)
Sri Lanka

We will always stand by the Cuban people & with the Cuban Revolution

Recently there have been certain disturbances in several parts of Cuba. These unfortunate moves have taken place due to scarcity of food, medicines and power supplies. People indeed have genuine concerns regarding these shortages. However, at the same time, it was regrettable to note that certain small groups in several parts of Cuba engaged in vandalism, breaking and stealing products from stores, damaging vehicles and behaving violently. The Cuban government is making a genuine effort to address the people's grievances. It could be made easy if the US government suspends Cuba's blockade to allow emergency medical and humanitarian aid into the country to ease the economic and health crises Cuba is experiencing.

The Cuban people led by the Communist Party of Cuba have endured sanctions and blockades imposed by US imperialists for more than six decades. These include 243 sanctions imposed by the Trump administration. Added to this is the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We doubt that under this level of cruel and most extreme sanctions for 60 long years, no other country, including the USA or any capitalist country, would survive even for six years.

The support for Cuba's attempt to get the unjust US blockade removed was overwhelmingly approved at the UN General Assembly recently by a vote of 184 against two, reminding the Biden administration what the world thinks about its "humanitarian intervention". It is time the global community demanded the US put an end to the economic, commercial and financial blockade it has imposed for almost 60 years on Cuba and abide by the principles of the United Nations Charter, particularly non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

The overwhelming majority of the Global community has been denouncing the US blockade against Cuba for the last 30 years. The blockade is causing great harm and suffering to all Cubans. The civilized world can no longer accept the perverted logic that it is permissible to impose severe sanctions and blockades to defend the human rights of people in another country. Progressive people throughout the world should stand by the Cuban people and do their utmost to defend the Revolution.

However, the progressives in the world cannot forget how, despite all the difficulties, Cuba has been an example of international solidarity. It got its medical brigades to

visit various countries at a time as complicated as the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic crisis it confronted due to the blockade. Even when the blockade prevented Cuba from importing raw materials even for its vaccine innovations, it was able to invent five vaccines, including the world's first conjugate vaccine for COVID-19.

The USA, chanting free trade but does the opposite to Cuba, we demand from US administration if they want to prove Cuban socialism is a failure then prove it without killing its economy and people through 'George Floyd' methods. Allow Cuban people to breathe; allow Cuban economy to function. If US doesn't not afraid of Cuban socialism and its great achievements in health, education, sustainable development, peace, security, crime rates, gender violence, remove the blockade and let Cubans mind their own business.

We want to ask very proudly, within the whole, world except for China, UK, and the USA; it is only the socialist Cuba that produced 5 Vaccines for Covid.-19. Does the US president say it is a failure of Cuban socialism? Yes, it is a failure for US imperialists because Cuba's Health sovereignty has created a shield of protection from US imperialists. So we demand the US administration to allow Cuba to play on a level playing field and then try to prove the Cuban system is a failure. Otherwise, the US president's actions have to be considered hypocritical and heinous against a small country.

We call upon all progressives to oppose any calls for foreign intervention coming from those in the US who seek to exploit the current difficulties and provoke unrest. The people of Cuba must resolve the solution to the challenges Cuba faces, and we support the efforts that the Cuban people and their government are making to fight the pandemic in the face of ongoing sanctions and provocations from the US. Together with the progressive and left-oriented people globally, we will always oppose imperialism, sanctions, and interferences. We will always be with the Cuban people and with the Cuban Revolution.

Down with inhuman, illegal, immoral US blockade!
Long live Cuban Revolution!
Long live, People of Cuba!
CUBA WILL WIN!

The Department of International Affairs
People's Liberation Front – JVP Srilanka.15-07-2021

Sigh of oppressed

My name is Daniel Blake, I am a man, not a dog.
as such, I demand my rights.

Wherever the capitalism gives same life for the oppressed who face not only the poverty, hunger, unemployment, injustice, losing freedom but also war and pandemic situations. It does not vary from country to country or continent to continent. Their sighs are same, even though their lands differ. The film 'I Daniel Blake' remind us of the very issue. It has been directed by Rebecca Obrien and produced by BBC Film. This tells us about the crisis of capitalism. Dan and Katie are two main characters of the film. Dave Johns cast as Dan and Hayley Squires cast as Katie. Capitalism has been unsuccessful after

about 500 years as it has failed to create an equitable society for majority of the people live in every country. England which has been recognized as an advanced capitalistic paradise in the world also consist with oppressed with tragic lives. It has been reconstituted by this film very well. Creation is a product in between reality and imagination and this film stand very close to the reality. It contains neither psychological imaginations nor psychological nonsense beyond reality. Instead, we meet men and women like Dan and Katie who face injustice in their day today lives. They are true products of this capitalistic system. These characters have no fakeness. These are very lives which belong to our class.

Therefore, this film flows from beginning to end without even letting us mind the time.

The main role Dan or Daniel Blake's character can be read by the speech made by Katie at the end of film. It is a short letter



which was written by Dan to administrative authority. It is a short note in Dan show his resistance.

"I am not a client, a customer, nor a service user. I am not a shirker, a scrounger, a beggar, nor a thief. I am not a national insurance number, nor a blip on a screen. I paid my dues, never a penny short and proud to do so. I don't tug the forelock, but look my neighbor in the eye. I don't accept or seek charity. My name is Daniel Blake, I am a man, not a dog. As such, I demand my rights. I demand you to treat me with respect. I, Daniel Blake, am a citizen,



nothing more, nothing less."

This includes resistance towards system and also a reminder of his rights. As a citizen he has duly paid taxes to government. He is a citizen who has fulfilled his duty. He has helped people without expecting anything in return. Now he wants to be treated as a citizen. He does not

expect anything more or anything less. It manifest Dan's personality very well. Throughout the film conflicts he go through to get his allowance considering his sickness and also the humanity have been pointed out very well. Within capitalism people have to sell them by themselves. Dan and Katie also face to the same problem of selling own labour. Marks has explained this well in Communist Manifesto.

"A class of labourers, who live only so long as they find work, and who find work only so long as their labour increases capital. These labourers, who must sell themselves piecemeal, are a commodity, like every other article of commerce."

Marks Engels - Communist Manifesto.

Accordingly, the labourer receives work only as long as they increase the capitalist's capital by their own labour. Dan also faces to this situation. Though he looks for work everywhere, he cannot find a job because he is not in a



condition to shed labour. In this society people become miserable due to capitalism tend to kneel before others Dan provide a different example. He refuses the quota of meal that was suggested to be provided for him. It is not what he want and what is owed to him. He does not like to be miserable. Once when there was a message from the market 'Suder Oli' in Germany about giving food for free for those who come in nudity, hundreds of people were in a queue for that free food. Dan stand as exemplary struggler against the capitalism which creates the adults who are ready to show their nudity and betray their dignity for a bag of food. What our society need today are people like Dan who had not broken spine. In a situation within which governments hurry deaths of people, we should read way Dan's death has been hurried by the government in order to comprehend the nakedness of capitalism.

The other main character, Katie faces the problems which have to be faced by the oppressed. Her efforts to live with her two children explains the common pressure of women face in capitalism. Finally she prefers to stealing and further work as prostitute reflecting the fate of majority of women within the

'I demand you treat me with respect. 'I, Daniel Blake, am a citizen, 'nothing more and nothing less.' Thank you.

capitalist system. She says Dan, "don't love me, it is a big trouble for me", because she has no moral to protect anymore. However, Dan has a pure human affection for her even though he has no relationship towards her. In contrast to what has been emphasized by capitalism this film also remind us about human relationship between a woman and a man beyond sexual relationships.

Simultaneously, the character of Katie points out the sufferings and difficulties faced by women while living in this capitalist system.

And also capitalism does not create a good world for children of the oppressed is also shown very well by the characters of two children of Katie. The norm that 'best for children' has just been neglected within

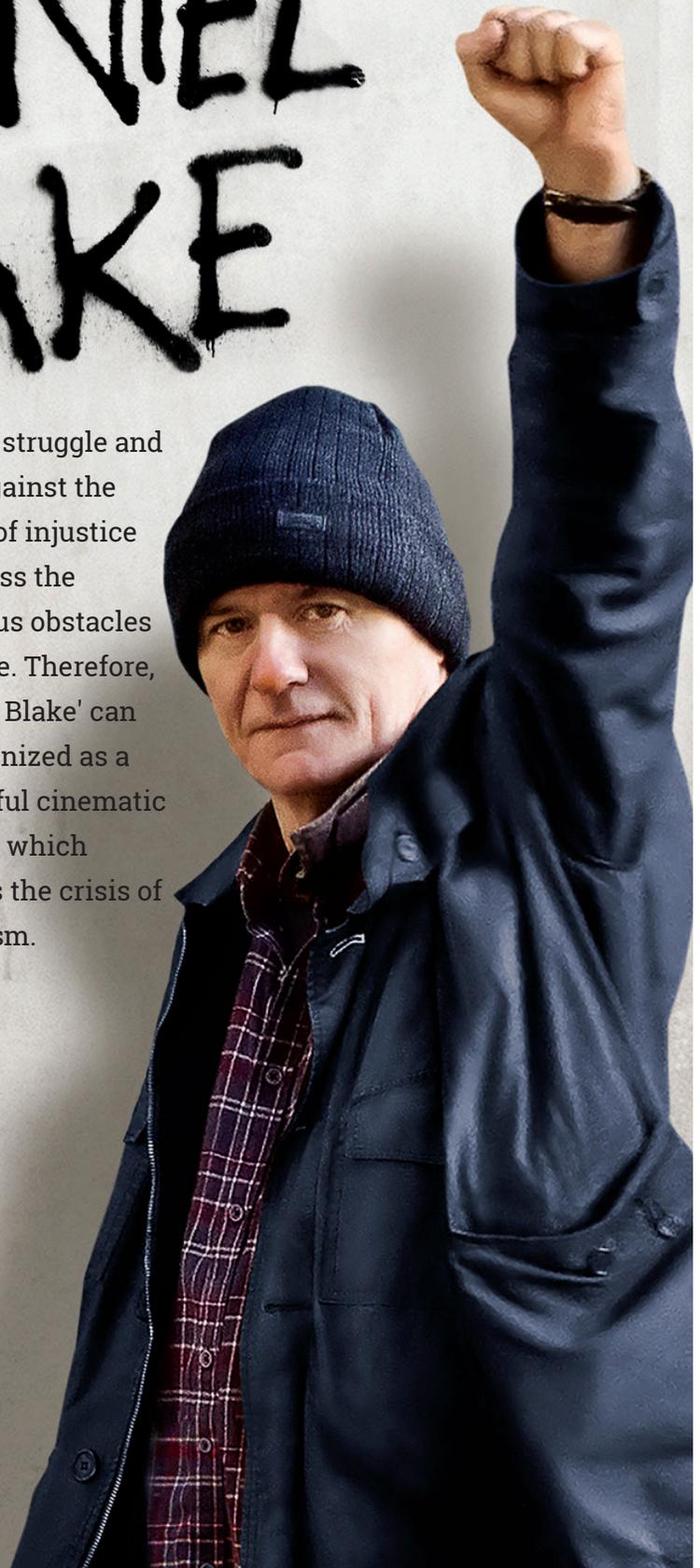
capitalism. The director of the film softly shake our conscience towards the issue.

The film 'Children of Heaven' by the Iranian filmmaker Majid Majidi also shows about the helplessness of children within this system. We can see that Katie's children do not receive adequate education, food, houses, freedom, sports and all other necessities. Katie's children show that there are children filled with human affection even if they face of difficulties and the psychological pressure or stress due to lack of smooth childhood they ought to have. The

I, DANIEL
BLAKE

food banks which gives food for free and people do not have a houses to live in so called developed cities show us that capitalism does not give opportunity for everyone to live conveniently. The people we meet in this film are also the people we meet in our real life. Here we meet the people who have been formatted and institutionalized by removing their humanity and also people who have human affection. In this film 'I Daniel Blake' we see youth who have commercialized mentality attempting to selling anything to anyone and also the ones who know the sorrow and pain of people of own class, who

helps to struggle and resist against the system of injustice regardless the numerous obstacles they face. Therefore, 'I Daniel Blake' can be recognized as a successful cinematic creation which explains the crisis of capitalism.



A black and white portrait of Che Guevara, looking slightly to the right. He is wearing his iconic beret and has a beard. The background is a dark grey with a diagonal split into orange and red sections.

**EVER ONWARD TO VICTORY OF
SOCIALISM AND SOVEREIGNTY !**



COMMUNIST VIEW
SRI LANKA