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SYRIA IN TURMOIL

Hands off US imperialism ! Stop intervention and intrigue !

Syria, an Arab country in the Middle East is presently embroiled in a pathetic turmoil for more than a year. It has ultimately graded into a gruesome battle between the government, its army and security forces and US- backed so-called 'Free Syrian Army' (FSA), Al Qaeda elements and others hinging largely on Sunni fundamentalism. A powerful section of the media sponsored and monitored by the imperialists, right from the beginning, tended to pose these anti-government forces as rebels demanding democracy and ouster of the Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, equating this movement with those of Arab Spring. But with time it was revealed that the so-called FSA was an outfit whose 'nerve centre' was located at a secret base in Adana province in Turkey near its border with Syria, where there was also the U.S. military base of Incirlik. Allegedly most FSA commanders were Iraqi Sunnis and around 90 per cent of the armed insurgents owed their allegiance to Al Qaeda. Over 10,000 mercenaries of 20 nationalities were sent to Aleppo, the second largest city. Even the U.S. media finally acknowledged that Al Qaeda and

Salafist fighters, the latter a close ally of Al Qaeda, had infiltrated from the neighbouring countries. And above all, this so-called 'free army' or the rebels were liberally funded, armed with most modern sophisticated weaponry and trained adequately by the US imperialists as well as by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Turkey and Israel. It has been openly acknowledged by the US government that it is providing

"non-lethal" support to the Syrian militant groups, including secure communications equipment and \$25 million in funding. Saudi Arabia and Qatar, two countries well known as breeders of international fundamentalist terrorists, are thought to have funded and armed the 'rebel' groups since the beginning of 2011 itself. Clerics and the fundamentalist Sheikhs of these

countries spat venom against the 'heretical' Syrian government and urged young Syrians to turn Syria into another Afghanistan.

As it further came out in the media, the rebellion of these rebels included deliberate killing of civilians and then presenting them to the media as victims of the government attack. The United Nations has an estimate of around

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SUCI(C) staunchly opposes allowing FDI in pension and increasing FDI ceiling in insurance

Staunchly opposing the decision of the union cabinet to allow FDI in pension and raising FDI limit in Insurance in the name of second phase of economic reforms, Comrade Provas Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), in course of a statement issued on 5 October, 2012, said that the Congress-led central government in the aggregate interest of the ruling Indian bourgeoisie is, apart from squeezing last drop of blood from the wretched impoverished countrymen through fiscal measures, triggering harrowing rise in price line of essential commodities, is now out to even squander the hard-earned savings of the common pensioners by permitting not only domestic but even foreign monopolists to use this money for widespread speculation in the country and abroad and thereby depriving the pensioners any guaranteed minimum return and instead exposing

them to great uncertainty on their sole means of social security after retirement. Opening insurance to FDI is also precursor to gradual handing over of even public sector insurance companies to foreign companies through disinvestment route and thus make even insurance, another social security sector through self-contributory route, a fiefdom of speculative plunder. It is also learnt that the government is slated to approve speculative price manipulation of essential commodities including food articles by grandiosely liberalizing future and forward trading.

Comrade Ghosh, therefore, called upon the countrymen not to acquiesce in these draconian moves of so-called reforms and immediately build up a countrywide mighty resistance movement to force the government rescind the decisions.



SUCI (C) holds massive demonstration in Chandigarh

SUCI(C) held a massive demonstration on the 15th October in Chandigarh against anti-people policies of the Congress-led UPA government leading to FDI in retail, unbridled price spiral, unemployment, rising crime graph particularly atrocities on women, etc. The rally was led and addressed by Comrade Satyawan, Member, Central Committee and Secretary, Haryana State Committee and other Haryana State Committee members of the party.

Syria in Turmoil**Hand of US imperialism explicit everywhere including Free Syrian Army***Contd. from page 1*

20,000 Syrians having been killed in the 18 months of fighting so far, a large section of which included government supporters and security personnel. Around 500,000 people have fled Syria. This has caused serious problems for the neighbouring countries like Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan. Twenty-two captured Syrian soldiers were executed by the FSA in front of Iraqi soldiers as the Iraqi Deputy Interior Minister Adnan al Assadi told the media. And as single significant terror act there was the attack on July 18 which claimed the lives of Defence Minister Dawoud Rahja and three senior officials who were at the helm of the government forces in charge of clearing the armed groups from their strongholds. The nature and purpose of that attack which took place in the National Security Building where meetings are often chaired by the President himself, amply suggested clear foreign hand behind it. The suggestion was corroborated also by the reaction of the leaders of the countries ranged against Syria including the U.S. State Department spokesman who virtually applauded the terror attack with utterances like those killed and injured "were key architects of the Assad regime's assault on the Syrian people". Immediately after this terror attack, the USA and its allies pressed upon the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to invoke Chapter Seven of the U.N. Charter, which allows the use of outside military force against Syria. It appeared as if they were going to support such acts of terrorism until the UNSC acts on their demands.

Imperialism survives upon war

All these proved beyond doubt that the present turmoil of Syria was perpetrated and monitored by none other than the US imperialists, towing their allies behind them. Those bring back memories of such calamitous incidents that have ravaged a number of countries of the Arab world in the last few decades. The kingpin behind all designs and deceptions, all genocides and massacres, all heartless, yet boastful bombings including drone attacks killing innocent women-children-old in the name of collateral damage, behind all these cruel inhuman acts there lay the shadow, the claws and tentacles of the war-monger profit-hungry US imperialists and their

NATO and other imperialist allies.

It must be realized at the outset that such bloodshed, such mass killings accompanied by all sorts of slanderous false propaganda through pliant media, are rather a compulsion for the imperialists. They can not live without war, can not survive without drinking from fountains of human blood. Thus they carried out two devastating world wars plainly to capture and redistribute world market for profit hunt; their bloodthirst unquenched they launched Korean War to split an independent country into two with one puppet part serving the interests of the imperialists against the will of the Korean people who had chosen socialism; they thrust grueling Vietnam War with the same motive, though unfortunately for them they had to flee that country most ignominiously. There are countless such incidents of manoeuvring and misdeeds of the imperialists, particularly the US imperialists since the second world war ended. The latest have been the barbarous aggressions by the US imperialists upon the Middle East rather the Arab world. Syria is an unfortunate victim included in that list.

Why do US imperialists chose the Arab world?

It is now clear to the world that this imperialist onslaught upon the Arab world is driven by the rapacity and cruelty so typical of imperialists. That the entire region is virtually floating on oil and natural gas is known even to any uninformed person. Recently huge gas reserves to the extent of 1450 cubic million feet have been discovered in the Mediterranean Sea of which 70% are within the Syrian shores, rest in Gaza, Israel, Lebanon and Cyprus. And it is clear as broad daylight, as well, that these are the resources that fetch exorbitant profit to the imperialist sharks and their corporates. They have thus pounced upon this region with all might and shrewdness to establish an unchallengeable control over this region and its natural resources. Their cruelty and inhumanity are boundless; so for the purpose of fixing their tight grip on pelf, they devastate one country after another like demons killing, maiming, torturing human beings and destroying traces of human civilization recent as also ancient.

Next, as mentioned above, imperialism, the highest and the

most decadent stage of capitalism survives upon war, so it generates war. Inherently it is crisis-ridden and particularly in the present days of soaring unemployment, acute market crisis and tremendous industrial recession, militarization of economy has become their important means to sustain upon. Militarization artificially stimulates industry and thus economy; at the same time it demands that wars consume the military products, open scope for fresh production and thus maintain industrial production and fuel the economy. So imperialism continuously requires a war- psychosis to prevail and even local or regional wars to take place. It is thus found that the war-monger US imperialism now launches attack in Kosovo or Somalia, then on Afghanistan, followed by attacks on the Middle East or rather the Arab world.

And lastly, to carry out this total design, the US and other imperialists need to establish a powerful and viable military presence in the region, so much so that no opposition may crop out to challenge them any more. To ensure that, they need to destroy whatever infrastructure, economic- military-political- cultural, these Arab countries might have been able to build up through the years. Only then, they can bring the impertinent anti-imperialist forces to their knees; only then they can turn some civilized countries into cemeteries, where they can bring about 'regime change' successfully to install some puppet or stooge governments there that would not dare to stand head high; only then they can build up their military bases in those countries as and when they wish.

The recent grievous US imperialist attacks on the Arab countries need be judged on the anvil of these prime reasons. Prolonged resistance of the Arab people against Zionist Israel along with their mentor-master, the imperialists, standing in full support of that surrogate child of the imperialists, not only continues but even meets with success, as in Lebanon and elsewhere and draws wide support from all over the world. Unrelenting imperialist intrigue and intervention is creating strong anti-imperialist, more so anti-US imperialist mindset in the Arab people; the more the imperialists are trying to bring them to their knees, the stronger is

becoming their resolve and zeal against US imperialists and their allies. On the other hand debacle of the socialist camp provides unforeseen opportunity to the war-maniac greed-driven imperialists to extend their firm hold on the global market. Exploiting the situation the imperialists engineered attacks one after another to settle the Middle East affair once for all.

Iraq, Libya and now Syria: noxious US design stands exposed to the world

Led by the US imperialists, the greatest enemy of mankind today, the imperialists thus decided upon launching direct attack on Iraq, which had been emerging as a fairly developed industrial country standing firm against imperialism in the interest of their national bourgeoisie. On the pretext of Iraq possessing Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and its President Saddam Hussain carrying out oppression on his own people and indulging terrorism, the US imperialists and its allies launched a barbarous aggression upon that country using all kinds of most lethal highly sophisticated weapons, and arsenals. In the process, far from their own land the US imperialists perpetrated worst kind of state- terror upon the Iraqis, totally ravaged its industrial and civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, bridges mercilessly killing thousands of children-women-old and others, pilfered and looted the remains of the ancient human civilization as war mementoes, executed its leaders including its President Saddam Hussain, and finally occupied the land installing a puppet regime to carry out plunder of the country and its natural resources, unbridled and unhampered. They got the country torn with religious fundamentalism and deadly sectarian conflicts. Naturally, the Iraq war of the USA, and particularly the false pretext of WMD upon which the attack was made, brought strong and worldwide condemnation holding the US imperialists as nothing short of barbarous aggressors.

This experience of Iraq prompted the US imperialism and its NATO allies to change tactics in the next case of Libya, another Arab country with a similar firm anti-imperialist stand. Taking advantage of people's legitimate democratic movements in many Arab countries

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Prakash Karat's lamentation of being marginalized because of corporate-funded elections

Prakash Karat, General Secretary of the CPI (M) while speaking at a brainstorm held by the Council for Social Development in New Delhi on 8th August last, commented that an election system awash in industry-financed money had considerably weakened the Left, virtually "squeezing" it out and getting the party "marginalized." By this newly-fangled alibi, he cunningly tried to justify the drubbing the party received in the last assembly and parliamentary elections causing among other things ouster from power in the states of West Bengal and Kerala. But, as is common with any effort to hide truth in a superficial way, this has entailed much more embarrassment for him and his party. Within 48 hours of Shri Karat's iconoclastic(!) observation, it came out in the media that besides the known bourgeois parties, even the CPI (M) is also a front-ranking recipient of massive corporate funding, so much so as to feature only after the Congress, BJP and Mayawati's BSP in terms of the quantum of funding. According to an article captioned "CPM coffers bulge with capitalist cash, reveals data given to EC", published in the Times of India of 10th of August last, "the CPI (M) had mopped up more than Rs 335 crore between 2007-08 and 2011-12" and "some of the corporate donors to the party have also been contributing to Congress and the BJP." The article also held that the CPI(M) manifesting the 'traits common with the bourgeois outfits' of "keeping the names of the donors a secret" has been "the least transparent on that count."

Visibly rattled this revelation, the CPI(M) leaders instead of sending a rejoinder to Times of India swung into some damage-containment exercise by publishing a statement in People's Democracy, its central organ, on 19th August calling the aforesaid report "a bluff". But in the same breath they confessed that they did receive funds from some companies and indicated the figure of 'donation' received to be as high as Rs 165 crores while Rs 48 crores were received as "contribution in the election fund". It is also reported that though the CPI(M) in its statement denied having "concealed the name of any donor, either company or individual who donated more than Rs 20,000 to the party", the Party has not provided the details when sought for under RTI act. What a double-whammy! Besides revelations about corporate funding and the party's being "among the least transparent on that count," it became obvious that if the party was not dependent on such finance, what prompted Shri Karat to express grudge over losing out in the competition of money-spinning in the elections? Whatever may be the CPI (M) top brass claim, the people at large are not blind-folded. They have been seeing how the CPI(M), notwithstanding all radical slogans and leftist vocabularies, is running simply on bulging cash. Even its cadres are working on salary. Alas! They have nothing else to offer, no ideology to inspire, no ethical-moral-cultural standard or character to attract. The entire party has virtually been sold out to the ruling bourgeoisie. It is only vote, climbing to power by hook or by crook which constitutes its political

plank. So, there is no choice but to fall back on lure for lucre, liberal distribution of privileges of varied kinds as well as providing licence to indulge in all sorts of corrupt and mafia activities to keep the rank going. Everyone is a witness as to how lavishly CPI (M) spends money during the elections overtaking even the known bourgeois outfits at times on this score. Hiring thousands of buses including luxury buses and lorries for transporting party supporters to the meetings, pomp and grandeur of propaganda, massive distribution of sumptuous food packets and even installation of make-shift air-conditioner the back of the meeting dais are common spectacles. It is also widely known that like the Congress, BJP and others, the CPI (M) too shower cash, liquor and certain other privileges on the eve of the polls to manipulate the verdict in their favour. When in power, in either government or panchayat or municipality its coffers swell more because of squandering and cornering public fund. And come election, there is a feast of riches.

Naturally, eyebrows are raised as to where does the money come from? Believing the source to be public contribution is akin to attempt to impossibility. And, by the way, why should the corporate houses not nourish and nurture a force which under the garb of Marxism-leftism serve them no less obediently, if not could more efficiently? The CPI(M) leaders had made enough overtures towards them that once anointed to power, they would prove how they have "changed and become realists" to sing in praise of domestic and

foreign monopoly capital as the drivers of 'growth and industrialization' and work overtime to diffuse the spirit of class and mass struggles. The ruling bourgeoisie from its class instinct could realize that this was no false a gesture but a genuine feeler. Who is that fool not to respond to such an appeal from an intending servitor particularly when the veneer is coming off other faithful servants? So, the appeal was upheld and both money and media powers were rallied behind the CPI (M) to pitchfork it as a formidable force in parliamentary vote politics with so much of fanfare as to make even the Congress or BJP envious.

The rest is history. The CPI(M) leadership openly declared that its government would no more be an instrument of struggle as the first United Front government of West Bengal in 1967 was viewed by the people. On the contrary, CPI (M)-led government would try to meet the aspirations of the people through its alternative policies within the existing framework of bourgeois parliamentary democracy. And the people could get immense glimpses of such "alternative policies" when the CPI (M) governments in both West Bengal and Kerala openly made no secret of their pro-capitalist tilt and sounded the siren of 'industrialization' with the help of the monopolists, both domestic and foreign. Even the CPI (M) leaders openly advocated in favour of FDI, SEZ, taking loans from the World Bank, Private-Public-Partnership route of eventual privatization of government organizations and such other prescriptions of capitalist globalization. On the other hand, the CPI (M) leaders took upon themselves the 'prodigious' task of educating the workers about the imperativeness "to maintain harmonious relationship with the management", shun "irresponsible agitations like bandh" and "dare not touch even the hair of the industry barons." So much was the discouragement to development of working class movements by the CPI(M) chief ministers and other leaders that widespread dissent was observed even within CITU, the party's trade union wing, which was virtually turned into the proverbial 'a never do-well'. The CPI(M) top brass even demonstrated to the domestic and foreign monopolists in Singur and Nandigram how savagely they can crush any legitimate movement and thereby

protect their interest. Though for playing to the gallery, they cry hoarse against globalization-liberalization, in all their deeds and practices, even reportedly in the closed door meetings with the agents of US imperialism, as laid bare in a recent WikiLeaks expose, they have been found to endorse every prescript of neo-liberalism on the ostensible plea of 'not being able to insulate themselves from the neo-liberal globalisation and liberalization.' Naturally the corporate houses and industry barons were agog with joy because they got more than they might have expected. Why should not the corporate houses be extravagant on sustaining such a force both in terms of money and media backing? So, the CPI (M) leaders were awash with praises and encomiums. Even today, the monopoly-controlled media give huge publicity to the CPI(M) almost on a par with the Congress and the BJP and leave no stone unturned to prevent the rusting of their 'leftist' mask. The CPI(M) and its few associates are now reckoned as 'hugely respected', 'responsible' 'official left' courtesy the business tycoons and the corporate media. The CPI(M) leaders know that their existence is dependent on the favours of the class. Naturally, they cannot but themselves be party to all the opportunism, afflictions, aberrations, vices and corruption that mark ruling capitalism and its lackeys today to stay afloat in the corridors of power. And like other bourgeois parties, they also count their progress and regress based on the performance in the polls, number of seats won etc., without which they feel they are marginalized. Perhaps, Shri Karat and his friends are disappointed that despite giving up shedding crocodile tears for 'socialism', 'revolution' and 'class struggle' and openly practising constitutionalism-reformism by calling capitalism as "the compulsion for the future", they are starved by inadequate funding by the class and so lost the elections. May be, that is what they are trying to indicate to the class with a covert appeal to look on them with a little more mercy.

Shri Karat and his friends need to know that people cannot be taken for granted. Whatsoever may be the attempt on the part of the power-that-be or the quarters of vested interest, people have not yet been dispossessed of the rudiments of

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West Bengal AIUTUC conference calls for militant working class struggle against capitalism

Towards holding its 20th All India Conference in Bangalore from 4th to 6th January, 2013, the All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC) is having its state-level conferences in different parts of the country. In West Bengal the State Conference has just been held from 28th to 30th September in Kolkata. The trade union organization of the working people on this soil, the AIUTUC is the working people's genuine instrument of struggle for winning their legitimate demands, their school of communism, liberator from economism, and the rouser of their class consciousness and obligation to fulfil their historic responsibility. Through unremitting and arduous struggle against all designs and machinations of the capitalist rulers, fighting against social democratic divisive forces within working class struggle, ever vigilant protector of working class interests, the AIUTUC, is gradually spreading its organizational base in every direction, every part of the land.

The West Bengal State Conference began with its Open Inaugural Session on 28th September last in the heartland of the city, Rani Rashmoni Road in Esplanade. Thousands of industrial and agricultural workers and other sections of the toiling masses marched towards the meeting place defying a blistering sun. The session was presided over by Comrade A. L. Gupta, the President West Bengal State AIUTUC. Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C) and President, AIUTUC, addressed the gathering as the main speaker. He elaborated all the major problems afflicting the workers' lives, especially of the Indian working class, emphasizing how the capitalist-imperialist design of globalization-privatization-commercialization aimed at ridding capitalism-imperialism of its ever-deepening crisis is aggravating sufferings and misery of the working masses all over the world, yet failing to come out of its crises. It is not possible to remove these

sufferings without overthrowing the capitalist order, which is the root cause of all these evils. He explained, it is possible to resist the attacks of the capitalist-imperialists by waging united struggle of the working people. But any and every sort of unity cannot achieve the desired end. A movement without direction cannot bring the working masses relief, not to speak of emancipation. Specially, working people must know their organization

learning from the course of struggle. They are to rally under the banner of this organization, the AIUTUC. Also speaking on the occasion were Comrades Sankar Saha, General Secretary, K Radhakrishna, Vice-President and Dilip Bhattacharyya, State Secretary of AIUTUC.

On the next two days, 29th and 30th September, Delegate Sessions were held at Yuva Bharati Krirangan, Kolkata.

Victory for struggling nursing students in Odisha

Student nurses of Odisha used to work for six hours a day and one month compulsory night duty in a year with a monthly stipend of one thousand rupees only. Secondly due to delay in conduction of the board examination of nursing students resulted in the delayed publication of the results, issuance of mark sheets and registration numbers, thereby pushing their career into the doom. Thirdly a student was injured on 15th September as a piece of plaster from the ceiling fell on her hand. Student nurses approached the authorities of different levels for fulfilment of six-point charter of demands to provide at least sixty per cent of the salary of a staff nurse and hike in dress allowance, to construct new hostel and renovate the ladies hostel immediately, conduct board examination every year regularly and allow boys to pursue nursing courses in Berhampur and Cuttack nursing schools, but yielded no result. Nursing students of SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack launched the strike on September 25th and after three days, they started boycotting their duties. Meanwhile other two nursing colleges of the state extended their hand of support. All India Democratic Students Organization (AIDSO) backed the nursing students' movement and organized demonstrations in different places of the state. But Government and

authorities of nursing education didn't open a dialogue with the student nurses, on the other hand Government declared closure sine die for SCB Medical College & Hospital, Cuttack on 29th September to suppress the students' movement. Nursing students took the challenge and continued their stir under the guidance of AIDSO. At last Government bowed down. The State DMET (Director of Medical Education and Training) and two officials of the Health Department had a long discussion with a delegation of striking students. The State government agreed to increase the monthly stipend of the students. Similarly, it was also agreed that the washing allowance would be increased to Rs.1500/- from the present Rs.750/- . Besides, the authorities told the students that an amount of Rs.4 crore had already been earmarked for construction of a new hostel and renovation of the old one. The authorities also agreed in principle that henceforth the examinations of the students would be held regularly for timely completion of the three-year course. The authorities said the government would consider the proposal to admit boys in Berhampur and Cuttack nursing schools at a later date. Following assurance by the authorities concerned, the striking student nurses called off their nine-day agitation on 3rd October.



Dharna by Gujarat SUCI (C) on burning issues of life

Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) has been actively organizing various protest programmes against price rise, unemployment, marketization-commercialisation of education and other issues in Gujarat. A month long signature campaign was undertaken in various parts of the state. Thousands of signatures were collected from Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat and other places of the state addressed to the Chief Minister of Gujarat on 9-point charter of demand on the people's burning problems of the state. The copy of the memorandum had been sent to the Chief Minister seeking his appointment for submitting to him the collected thousands of signatures. Yet no appointment letter was sent by the CM office. In this case it was decided that the collected signatures will be

delivered at CM office, Gandhinagar.

As a part of these, today a state level dharna was organized in Ahmedabad, Income Tax Circle to protest price rise in cooking oil, VAT on petrol-diesel, privatisation of drinking water, commercialization of education and health, against pass-fail system and semester system, in services contract system instead of permanent recruitment, snatching away of workers' rights, corruption, DMIC, SEZ, SIR, GIFT CITY, Nuclear Reactor at Virdi, etc.

The Dharna was addressed by Comrade Dwarika Nath Rath, state secretary, Gujarat and other state level leaders of SUCI (C). People gave their signatures also at the venue of the dharna to express their solidarity with the struggle.



Indian people express solidarity with Korean people for peaceful reunification of their country

A solidarity meeting in support of the Implementation of the North-South Joint Declaration for reunification of Korea was convened under the joint auspices of International Anti-Imperialist Coordinating Committee (IACC) and Korean Chapter of Afro-Asian Solidarity (KCAAS) in Kolkata at the Rotary Sadan on October 4, 2012. The meeting was graced by the presence of two distinguished delegates from DPRK, Comrade Ri Song, Secretary, KCAAS and Comrade Dr. Kim Sung Hyok, by Prof. Tarun Sanyal, an octogenarian poet and Marxist litterateur, Manik Mukherjee, member Polit Bureau, SUCI(C) and General Secretary, IACC, and was presided over by Prof G S Ghatak. After a brief introductory speech by Comrade Amitava Chatterjee, member IACC, Comrade Ri Song in his speech explained the significance of observance of 4 October as the reunification day of the people of North and South Korea and thanked the organizers for holding the meeting as a mark of solidarity of Indian people with the Korean people. Comrade Manik Mukherjee

presented the rich experience of his recent visit to the DPRK, that belied all false and slanderous propaganda of the imperialists painting the DPRK as a poverty-stricken, iron-fisted autocratically ruled country and revealed the glorious achievements of socialism in DPRK in every sphere. He assured the audience that there will be more exchanges of delegation between IACC and KCAAS in future. Prof. Tarun Sanyal reminisced his student days and recounted in brief, the glorious history of valiant anti-imperialist struggle of the Korean people, North and South together, led by their great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung against the Japanese colonial occupation and later against the US imperialists which prevented Korea from emerging as an unified independent country after the second world war. Prof G S Ghatak summed up the proceedings.

A resolution placed and adopted unanimously by the meeting highlighted the contribution of the great Korean leader Kim Il Sung in leading the national liberation struggle to success and establish socialism, adding further that the



Comrade Ri Song addressing; seated on the dais (from left) are Comrade Dr. Kim Sung Hyok, Prof. G S Ghatak, Comrade Manik Mukherjee, Prof. Tarun Sanyal and Comrade Amitava Chatterjee

anti-imperialist struggle remain unfinished with Korea being artificially divided into north and south parts, with a puppet capitalist fascist regime installed in South Korea and US army being stationed permanently there. In spite of all efforts from the DPRK leadership towards reunification through peaceful means and without foreign interference, the latest being the October 4, 2007 Declaration, the fascist regime of the South Korea foiled the attempts repeatedly and adopted an attitude of military confrontation continuing till today.

The resolution besides hailing the uncompromising relentless struggle of Korean people against all imperialist threats, demanded total withdrawal of all US forces from the Korean Peninsula, abolition of all US military bases, cessation of military manoeuvres and lifting of the 50-year old blockade. On behalf of this solidarity meeting, a letter was sent to the President, DPRK by Comrade Manik Mukherjee, expressing full confidence in his leadership in the struggle of the Korean people against imperialism and for socialism.

AIDSO Chennai holds Students' Protest Demonstration

All India Democratic Students Organisation (AIDSO) had given a call for All India Protest Day on September 26, 2012, against the all out attacks going on both the education and democratic rights of students. As part of this movement the Tamilnadu State Organizing Committee of AIDSO organized a protest demonstration on that day at Memorial Hall, Chennai.

Students from different colleges and schools participated in this demonstration and raised slogans against the attitude of the Central and State governments to totally commercialize and privatize education. M J Voltaire addressed

the students gathering and in course of his speech came down heavily on the central and state governments for giving only lip service to providing education for all. He said, rather the rulers are taking steps to systematically attack the secular, scientific and democratic education whatever that is remaining in the present education set up. He called upon the students to build sustained and protracted movement that will force the central and state governments to concede to their just demands of stopping abolition of Pass Fail System upto Class 8, Fee Hike and Commercialization of Education.



A part of the gathering at the open session of West Bengal state AIMSS conference in Kolkata on 1 October



Impressive rally of Anganwadi workers at Kanpur (UP) on 7 October at the call of All India Anganwadi Karyakartri evam Anganwadi Sahayika Welfare Association, UP

Syria in Turmoil**Deep design of US and other imperialists to rule over Middle East***Contd. from page 2*

against their respective oppressive rulers, which is termed as Arab Spring movements, the imperialists targeted Libya and its President Qaddafi. They set up so-called rebels against the government, trained up, funded and armed them and posed them as staging popular movement against Qaddafi. These rebels included Islamist fundamentalists, including Al Qaeda fundamentalists and the NATO forces worked hand in glove. The former included groups like the Libya Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG), led by US propped AbdelhakimBelhaj, an established jihadi who had sharpened his skills in the 1980s during the anti-Soviet jihad in Afghanistan. When these so-called rebels took over Benghazi, it was made an excuse by the NATO to establish a "no fly zone" over Libya, which meant the right for the NATO to bomb Libya into submission with the Libyans having no right to fly over that zone. They took cover behind their doctrine of the "right to protect", arguing that only outside military intervention would save the lives of civilians from the wrath and oppression of the Qaddafi government. Libya had no power to withstand that severe aerial attack including deployment of armed drones; the country was ravaged; Qaddafi was captured and killed; it was claimed that the enraged Libyans killed him, but it has later been reported that the killer was an under-cover French agent sent by the French President to ensure that Qaddafi did not divulge secretly funding him during his last election. This Western intervention in Libya fanned up religious fundamentalism and sectarian clashes in the country, over and above looting of the treasury by the NATO forces and their local aides and wiping out of \$200 billion in Libyan government funds deposited in Western banks, not to speak of the fact that this intervention ensured the US imperialism to have unchallenged scope to plunder the huge high quality oil reserves and other natural resources of the country.

US imperialists target anti-imperialist forces, spare terror-breeding fundamentalists

After having demolished Libya and Qaddafi, the US imperialists have now chosen Syria. But before entering into details of that, we must

deal with some other aspects to delve into the truth of the heinous and most dangerous design that the US imperialism is trying to give effect to in this part of the globe, called the Arab world.

The Arab countries were subject to prolonged colonial domination over their feudal-monarchical society often marked by severe conflicts centring round tribes, clans, religious sects and communities like Shias and Sunnis etc. Their struggle against colonial forces for national freedom took place when capitalism had entered into the era of imperialism and had become decadent and reactionary. Hence, the national bourgeoisie with which rested the leadership of those anti-colonial, anti-imperialist struggles, did not carry the revolutionary fervour that the bourgeoisie had during the early days of capitalism, the days of democratic revolution. As a result, some of these countries still remain today most autocratic feudalo-capitalist in character, even retaining monarchical structures and also being close allies of western imperialism. Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait belong to this category. It must be added that some of these countries also proved themselves to be the breeding ground of international religious fundamentalist terrorist outfits such as the Al Qaeda led by Osama Bin Laden.

In several other countries of this region, the national bourgeoisie in the interest of developing and consolidating their new-born capitalist economy in an independent way, took a relatively stronger anti-imperialist position. At the same time, Iraq and Syria among them, also stood for at least a semblance of secularism. In these two countries as also Iran there also developed a significant Marxist movement as the newly formed mighty socialist camp led by the Soviet Union and in later also China, stood as a beacon to the freedom-loving people of the world. But sooner or later these Marxist movements were emasculated from the rise of modern revisionism in Soviet Union and were subsequently destroyed by the rulers of those countries. Also, developing in the era of decadent capitalism, the ruling national bourgeoisie of these Arab countries could not conduct the correct ideological struggle against religious fundamentalism and thus religious fundamentalism lay as powerful

forces. Also the ruling national bourgeoisie of these countries could not fulfill the democratic aspirations of their people. The divisions and disunity among different tribes, clans, sects and communities etc., far from being wiped out in the process of developing as integrated nations, continued to exist. In face of continuing imperialist design and domination, as these countries tried to maintain their anti-imperialist position, particularly at times of fierce imperialist onslaught these weaknesses of their nationhood, these divisions among people and their mutual conflicts, remained subdued. But in other situations, these often tended to come to the fore and bring disunity among people.

The imperialists, headed by the US imperialists in the recent years, were and are well aware of these weaknesses in the Arab countries. All along, in keeping with their notorious divide and rule policies, the imperialists try to use and play upon these seeds of disunity in people that existed, at least lay dormant even in countries with records of anti-imperialist struggle to safeguard and consolidate their national capitalist economy led by the national bourgeoisie. Through all nefarious means the imperialists try to drive wedge between people of these countries to further their disunity and division. In overt and covert ways they try to push in religious fundamentalism that also breeds terror, destroying even the semblance of secularism that might exist in these countries. And this they do with singular objective: to vitiate the entire Arab world with religious fundamentalism leading to blind fanatic terror, vicious fratricidal strife with all sorts of sectarian parochial divisions so much so that people may not stand united against the imperialists and the latter can carry on their exploitation without any hindrance and resistance. Thus earlier in the name of fighting Soviet domination they created, trained up, equipped and let loose the Talibans with money and arms in Afghanistan and then, in the name of fighting the Talibans have ravaged the country. Or, as discussed earlier, in the name of fictitious allegation of Iraq possessing weapons of mass destruction, and its President Saddam Hossain oppressing his non-Sunni people, including the Kurds, they bring the country to total ruination, to rubbles, execute

its President under cover of a fake trial and create a fertile ground there for all kinds of racial, sectarian or communal conflicts to mount to menacing height. The US imperialists with their NATO allies then pounced upon Libya and President Qaddafi posing themselves as champion of democracy and alleging Qaddafi of conducting oppressive rule upon his people, only to devastate the country and install there rabid terrorist fundamentalist forces, that is perpetrating all sorts of fratricidal clashes.

Not only that. It is a painful fact that the countries which in the interest of their national bourgeoisie have fought and are fighting against imperialism, could not forge unity among themselves against imperialism because of their mutual conflicts stemming from the regional aspiration of their respective own national bourgeoisie. As they failed in this task, the imperialists taking full advantage of it have played on this disunity and picked them one after another to launch severe attacks on them. Thus they instigated and engaged Iraq and Iran in a severe war between themselves; then again when Iraq was attacked Iran did not stand by it; Libya had to face alone the brute onslaught of the US and NATO forces. Even after perpetrating all these ghastly attacks they are now coming down upon Syria with all cunning, ferocious and heinous means, again in the name of its President Bashar carrying on oppression upon his own people.

Real face of the US design in Syria

The pattern followed in Syria is very similar to that adopted in Libya. The US imperialists lead the group of its allies to create a so-called rebel force. Fed with all aids and assistance they start a movement, here again under the cover of Arab Spring movement for democracy, with a declared demand for ouster of the president, Bashar Al-Asaad, but really with the plan to destabilize Syria. They kill civilians mercilessly thrusting the blame on the government forces for that act. They assassinate important personalities of the state, targeting even the President. When in spite of these efforts they fail to make adequate inroad, they are now crying hoarse for setting up a 'no fly zone', which as it has been in Libya, would allow the destabilisers and

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Syria in Turmoil**Worldwide militant peace movement is the crying need of the hour***Contd. from page 6*

their mentor-master US imperialists to ruthlessly bomb the country to submission. Fully aware that these acts of theirs would not receive any support from freedom-loving people of the world, the aggressors frantically tried, particularly after the heinous terror attack in July this year, to get an approval stamp from the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) mentioned earlier. Third time in nine months, the U.S. and its allies tried to force a resolution on Syria invoking Chapter Seven of the U.N. Charter, which allows the use of outside military force against Syria.

But here too, they faced frustration from Russia and China casting veto on the resolution in the same way as in earlier cases. These two countries, no longer socialist any more since long, have their own respective interests for maintaining and consolidating spheres of influence in this vital region and have thus acted to the extent of casting veto against US resolution. The role of India, a new member of the UNSC, was absolutely dubious. On one hand, it claims boastfully to be a long-term friend of the Arab people from the days of the NAM. But in reality the friendship call is driven solely from the ulterior motive of exploring and capturing the markets of these countries, as the Indian capitalism has attained the character of imperialism. Also with their imperialist aspirations to emerge as a regional superpower, they are presently acting in close

collaboration with, rather as a junior partner of the war-monger US imperialism. Even in this case, without giving any semblance of respect to the long traditional anti-imperialist fervour of the Indian people, Indian rulers have repeatedly voted in the UNSC in favour of the US resolution, though of late, it abstained on a Saudi-sponsored resolution demanding Assad to step down, for the first time in the present case of Syria. It was more for the fear of losing the huge market of the Arab countries than from any love for Syrian sovereignty, that the Indian monopolists and the Indian rulers opposed the Saudi-resolution. For the same reason, it also expressed its favour for the proposal extended by the former U.N. peace envoy to Syria, Kofi Annan, who at the time of his placing the resignation had proposed that the best solution to end the fratricidal conflict of Syria was to ensure a regional solution based on consensus instead of a solution imposed by the West and its allies.

The instance of Syria, taken on the backdrop of similar instances of Iraq and Libya in particular presses hard upon democratic minded people in any and every corner of the world. It demands of them immediate condemnation of the heinous US design of destabilizing Syria and thereupon bringing upon a regime change there along with fomentation of fundamentalism and terrorism. In one voice with the fighting Syrian people they must

call for immediate withdrawal of US imperialists and all their lackeys, including the fundamentalist terrorist outfits like Al Qaeda from that country. Syria must be left to the Syrians to decide the course, people of that land would follow. The arrogant belligerent US imperialism, whose only wealth today are lethal weapons of mass destruction that annihilate innocent people, without sparing children, women and old, understands only the language of militant protest of people. Hence it is the demand of the hour that militant anti-imperialist struggle, directed more so against the US imperialism be stepped up over the globe. That struggle will not only encourage the struggle of Syrian people against US intervention, together it will also enhance their cause.

In conclusion we reiterate once more that in recent years, the US imperialist and their allies have devastated Afghanistan in the name of fighting the Talibans, have ravaged Iraq on false allegations of weapons of mass destruction, have shattered Libya and murdered its President, have, in league with the Zionist Israel been carrying on gruelling war on the Palestinians denying their right to homeland, threatening and imposing sanction upon Iran and are now bringing down extremely heinous attack on Syria. They could not have

ventured these dastardly acts had there been existing a powerful socialist camp led by the Soviet Union and China, had there been a worldwide powerful communist movement and had there been a strong worldwide anti-imperialist militant peace movement – all these to act not only as deterrent to imperialist belligerence but also as inspiration to freedom-loving people of the world. Here we can recall the incident of the Suez Canal in 1956. It was an incident to occur when the Egypt government stepped out to nationalize the Suez Canal and when, in reaction to that, the Anglo-French imperialist combine along with Israel and fully aided by the US imperialists attacked Egypt. At that time, in the then Soviet Union the Khrushchevite revisionist leadership had not yet been able to wipe out the glorious legacy of Stalin, the great proletarian leader. In immediate reaction to imperialist overlordism, the Soviet Union issued ultimatum to the imperialists to withdraw immediately or face consequences like London, Paris, Israel be bombed. The ultimatum forced the imperialists to immediately retrace their move and withdraw from the Suez Canal and Egypt in no time. The world today fervently hopes to bring those memories of ignominious retreat of the imperialists back to reality!

Prakash Karat's lamentation*Contd. from page 3*

intelligence. They are silent beholders of each and everything and are not as blunt as not to be able to distinguish between milk and water or coquetry under the guise of modesty. Notwithstanding the fact that elections today are being widely manipulated through money-muscle-media power making the scope for reflection of people's will a virtual impossibility. Yet, whatever little opportunity is there has been availed of by the discerning people of both West Bengal and Kerala to give a fitting reply to the CPI (M)'s anti-people, anti-movement, pro-capitalist policies by toppling its governments. After such an abject rejection by the people, a bourgeois party, if it possesses even a trace of honesty, would have seriously undertaken a self-introspection to ascertain the cause of such a rebuff. But Shri Karat and his colleagues feel no

necessity for that. Rather, like any other rotten bourgeois party they are only concerned about money and hair-splitting analysis about corporate funding of elections. So, when they have abandoned everything of leftism, why do they carry the baggage of a 'communist' name? Why not jettison the very name and opt for a nomenclature befitting murky bourgeois politics of vote, pelf and power? But we know that is not possible. In that event, the masters would stop all patronage. The contract is that wearing a cloak of Marxism-leftism, they must go splurge in treacherous opportunistic social-democratic politics to hoodwink people, whisk them away from the path of genuine revolutionary movement, confine them within the labyrinth of nasty degraded electoral politics and thereby surreptitiously protect the ruling capitalists and the oppressive capitalist system.

Selected Works of Stalin Published

The first volume of the 'Selected Works of Stalin' published by Prometheus Publishing House was formally inaugurated by Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), on 26th September in an austere ceremony at the Party's central office in Kolkata. In his short address Comrade Provash Ghosh said that, as shown by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era, it was Stalin who provided the foundation of Leninism as Marxism in the era of imperialism and proletarian revolution, defended Marxism-Leninism from all revisionist-reformist-constitutionalist deviations, inflicted crushing defeat on fascism and was instrumental in the progress

of scientific socialism in the Soviet Union. So, those who are fighting today against imperialist-capitalist tyranny and oppression and for accomplishing anti-capitalist revolution need to minutely study the works of Comrade Stalin, a giant Marxist authority. Prometheus Publishers deserve praise for publication of Stalin's works which are now not available. Also present on the occasion were Comrades Manik Mukherjee, Krishna Chakraborty and Asit Bhattacharya Polit Bureau members, Comrades Debaprasad Sarkar, Sankar Saha, Soumen Basu and Chhaya Mukherjee, Central Committee members and Comrade Pratibha Mukherjee, veteran leader of the Party.



Comrade Manik Mukherjee during his discussion with Diarmuid Mac Dubhghlais and Dieter Blumenfeld of Republican Sinn Féin International Bureau at Dublin, Ireland on 11 September, 2012.

Red Salute Comrade Amar Roy

Comrade Amar Roy, a veteran leading organizer of the Party and AIUTUC, a front-ranking leader of the Bank and government employees' movement and former member of the Editorial Staff of Proletarian Era passed away on 11 October last after a massive cerebral attack. He was 78. Comrade Amar Roy was initiated into Party in the early 1950s at a very young age and devotedly engaged himself in the Party activities right from the beginning, shouldering all responsibilities assigned to



him from time to time. Because of his knack of befriending people with ease, charming them with ready wit and humour and above all, lovable nature, he was endeared to one and all. Even the leaders and cadres of other political parties held him in high respect. He was Assistant Secretary of Reserve Bank Employees' Association, Kolkata for quite a long time and as against the prevailing opportunist trend played a pioneering role in building up Bank employees' movement in general and Reserve Bank employees' movement in particular along the correct line fostered by real fighting spirit. He also played a crucial role in the formation of the Bank Employees' Unity Forum. Even with a falling health, he provided valuable guidance to bank employees' movements particularly the legitimate movements of IDBI and SIDDBI employees till his last breath and was actively involved in the electricity consumers' movement by ABECA. A voracious reader and having good command over pen, Comrade Amar Roy was closely associated with the work of publication of various party literatures and rendered commendable service in preparing write-ups for *Proletarian Era* and *Ganadabi* under party guidance till the time he fell seriously ill a decade back. In his death, the Party has lost an important comrade with skill to undertake multiple activities. On behalf of Comrade Provash Ghosh, our beloved General Secretary and on his own behalf, Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya, Polit Bureau member paid floral tribute to the departed comrade when his body was brought to the Party's headquarter, AIUTUC office and Ganadabi Press in Kolkata. Floral tribute was paid by Comrade Sankar Saha, Member, Central Committee, SUCI(C) and General Secretary, AIUTUC, and state committee members, class and mass organizations and on behalf of *Proletarian Era*, *Ganadabi* and Ganadabi Press.

Karnataka AIUTUC Condemns attack on migrant labourers

The Karnataka State Committee of All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC) strongly condemned the wanton attack by ABVP (BJP's student wing) activists on migrant labourers mostly from eastern part of India in the Kannur bound train near Mandya, labelling them as Bangladeshis. All the 98 hapless labourers were assaulted and forcibly detained at Mandya and transported to Bangalore. It is clear that the BJP state government, on the one hand, maintains heinous silence when goons launch criminal assaults on innocent people either in the name of religion, region or moral policing, as found during attack on college students in Mangalore recently and pretends to protect life and property of the victims, on the other. What is more, this very attack on the people mostly belonging to

eastern part of India comes on the heels of the mass exodus of north eastern people from Karnataka recently, as a reaction to panic driven hysteria and makes a mockery of the government's 'attempts' to create a congenial atmosphere for those people to return to the state. There is complete lawlessness in the state when it comes to such attacks launched by the members of the Sangh Parivar.

Karnataka AIUTUC demanded of the government to instantaneously take exemplary action against those responsible for launching attack on the poor labourers who are very much *bona fide* citizens of India. It also demanded that adequate compensation be given to those assaulted for the injuries caused as well as loss of their daily bread on account of loss of working hours.

Huge students' rally by AIDS0 in Kolkata



Comrade Sourav Mukherjee, General Secretary, AIDS0 addressing the protest rally on 8 October in Kolkata against abolition of pass-fail system upto class VIII, introduction of sex education at school level and other demands

Protest demonstration at Patna

Protesting against the poisonous country liquor deaths at Muzaffarpur and the disastrous liquor policy of the JD (U)-BJP coalition government of Bihar, hundreds of students, youths and women participated in a protest demonstration organized by AIDS0, AIDYO and AIMSS at Patna on 4th October. An effigy of the chief minister was burnt. The speakers drew attention to the fact that while the government is boasting of growth and development of the state, a nexus of ministers-administration-liquor mafia was making a roaring trade of poisonous liquor which has already taken in its sweep 11 precious lives in the Muzaffarpur district alone. The speakers also demanded high level judicial probe into the deaths, stringent punishment of the guilty and adequate compensation to the bereaved families.

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