

Proletarian Era

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88th Anniversary of Great November Revolution Observed



Leaders on the dais paying Red Salute (from left to right front row) Comrades Mobinul Haider Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Khalekuzzaman (Bangladesh), Nihar Mukherjee (General Secretary, SUCI), Tapas Dutta (SUCI), Nina Andreyeva (Russia), Heather Cottin (USA) and Nisha (Turkey)

Through a huge mass meeting at the Mahajati Sadan under the auspices of the SUCI the 88th anniversary of Great November Revolution was observed. Comrade Tapas Dutta, veteran member of the Central Committee, SUCI took the chair on this occasion. Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, beloved General Secretary of our party, SUCI was present as the main speaker. Present were also different representatives from fraternal parties from abroad, namely Comrades Nina Andreyeva, General Secretary, All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, Heather Cottin of Workers' World Party and International Action Centre, America, Nisha of Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Turkey, Khalekuzzaman, Convenor of Socialist Party of Bangladesh (BSD) and Mobinul Haider Chowdhury, member, CC, BSD. All of them, in the meeting, placed their valuable observations on 'Problems of world communist movement in the light of Great November Revolution' in the presentday context. Shibdas Ghosh Selected Works, Vol. III was also released on this occasion.

(The news in details will be covered in the next issue)



Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI releasing Shibdas Ghosh Selected Works, Vol. III at Mahajati Sadan, Calcutta on 25 November, 2005

Anti-Imperialist Convention Exhorts : Build up worldwide unity against imperialism

Against mounting imperialist aggression, in fraternity with people's resistance for militant peace movement, All India Anti Imperialist Forum organized the 4th anti-imperialist convention on November 24, at Mahajati Sadan in Calcutta.

This convention has been organized at a time when imperialism-capitalism has been tottering under the deadweight of the insoluble crisis of the capitalist system itself and has no respite from the market crisis, which plunged it into an unprecedented instability. In desperation to survive, the

imperialists led by the US are on the prowl, pursuing hegemonistic aspirations, overlordism and brigandage with impunity, flouting all norms and laws, occupying and invading foreign territories at will flaunting military might. As against this, there is growing protest and indignation of the peace-loving people all over the world. Keeping in view the need to integrate all these anti-imperialist struggles and launch a protracted and determined battle against imperialist rampage, this Anti-Imperialist Convention

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Internal contradiction of imperialism threatens world peace

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was held with more than one thousand delegates including fraternal delegates from abroad.

Dr. Sushil Kumar Mukherjee, a renowned scientist and the General Secretary of the All India Anti-imperialist Forum presided over the proceedings. On behalf of all the delegates and participants in this Convention, Dr. Mukherjee placed a floral wreath at the Martyrs' Column erected on the dais to pay tribute to the valiant fighters who laid down their lives in struggles against imperialism around the world.

Thereafter, a message from Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer, an eminent jurist and consistent fighter against all sorts of social and political injustice, the President of AIAIF who could not be present because of ill health was read out. In his message he wrote : "I should have been an active participant with ideological conviction had health permitted me..."

I hope this Kolkata Conference will catalyse the battle against the horrendous Super-State terrorism. We have no alternative but to struggle and so we must. We will win since mankind can never lose"...

Messages were read out expressing solidarity and goodwill for the Convention from Communist Party of Cuba, International Relations Department; Andy Brooks, General Secretary New Communist Party of Britain Central Committee, London; Michael Lucas, Chairman of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, Toronto, Canada Editor of Northstar Compass journal; Heikki Sipila KOMINFORM Helsinki, Finland; Frederic F. Clairmont, eminent essayist, Geneva, Switzerland; Andrea Schoen, Author of German and Austrian magazines (Offensive Communist Workers Magazine, New people's Voice); Alexander Moumbaris, Editor Democrite, France; Michael Opperskalski, editor of 'Top Secret', Germany, The New Communist party of Netherlands and Party of Democratic Labour, Albania.



In his inaugural speech, Dr. Sushil Mukherjee, said : We are meeting here today after ten years from the first time we set up the Anti-Imperialist Forum in 1995 in this city. During these ten years the world has seen the rampant and inhuman demolition of civil and moral rights. In course of these ten years the branches of the Forum established throughout the country met on several occasions to devise measures to prevent the growth of the imperialists' fangs. I am confident that we are proceeding in the right direction. All our branches throughout the country are actively pursuing the policies laid down at the first conference.

Broadly speaking, we find that imperialism has spread out vehemently throughout the world using newer, more destructive weapons. More

money is also flowing into the hands of the imperialists, and thereby making it more attractive to their followers. We must, therefore, meet the newer forms of imperialism squarely and firmly. The Forum's responsibilities are, therefore, manifold. The imperialists have money and therefore making it attractive. The Forum has got men of dominant will and constructive outlook.

Nine Resolutions were moved on behalf of the Forum.

Manik Mukherjee, Vice-President AIAIF placed the Approach Paper on the growing contradiction in the imperialist camp and the role of the working class to be deliberated upon.

Fraternal delegates on the dais then addressed the audience one by one. At the end the document and Resolutions placed for discussion were unanimously adopted.



Manik Mukherjee

Nina Andreyeva, General Secretary, Central Committee, All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks (AUCPB) from Russia said : Marxism is a scientific world outlook. Dialectical materialism is the higher form of materialism which crystallizes the sum total of knowledge of former philosophers and philosophy. Briefly outlining the laws of social development as enunciated by Marx, she said, inter alia: Marx showed exploitation is the essence of capitalism. Marx proved that the basic contradiction of capitalism springs from the fact that here production is social but its ownership is private. This contradiction leads to class struggle between bourgeoisie and proletariat. This class struggle can be resolved only through proletarian revolution, socialist revolution. From slavery to feudalism and from feudalism to capitalism society has changed through social revolutions. These revolutions did not put an end to private property but only changed the forms of private property. Socialist revolution is a higher form of revolution. It transforms private property qualitatively, thereby brings a total change of human life covering socio-economic and all aspects of life.



Nina Andreyeva

Recalling the main characteristics of imperialism as taught by Lenin, the great leader of proletarian revolution, she said : The sharp contradiction between the two imperialist power blocs resulted in two world wars. Lenin and Stalin paved the way of socialist construction in

Ramsay Clark, former Attorney General, USA, renowned for his active role in anti-imperialist struggle, said in a videotaped address to the Convention, projected before the delegates : ...Peoples of the world need to work together to overcome the concentrated power of wealth and what we have called over the years, the imperialist forces. ... US violence has expanded immeasurably. So the imperative need is that we study hard, analyse carefully, reach out to each other to organize, to plan, to work to bring peace to earth....

(The full text of his address will be published soon)

USSR. Stalin showed that among the imperialists there is always and everywhere internal contradiction. Stalin exposed the gangsterism of imperialists and said that after the defeat of German military machine, due to internal contradiction of imperialism world peace might last for 50 years. Now we see how Stalin's analysis, the analysis of the true disciple of Great Lenin proves to be correct.

Drawing attention to the fact that under capitalism technological development has pushed people almost to the stage of slavery and has only been heightening capitalist economic crisis, she said, civilization now has a huge productive power but the present production relation stands as obstacle to its growth. Monopoly capital is dominating the world. It leads to huge accumulation of capital, fictitious capital in many countries. Usurious capital grows and it solely depends on profit in share market. Because of the huge growth of speculative capital in financial market we see global economic crisis setting in.

Outlining in brief how under Khrushchev the opportunists weakened socialism from within, leading finally to the degeneration of CPSU and collapse of USSR, she stressed that now 10 years later the world imperialism is shaken by financial crisis. This has led to sharp contradiction among the imperialist powers manifest in the open competition between the dollar and Euro. She said : The latest ongoing process within imperialist world is called globalization. Globalization is a historical process which is the concomitant of the urge of development of productive forces to form a global market of commodity and labour.

I like to mention here that after the Second World War Soviet economic co-operation was formed under the leadership of USSR. It was also a type of globalization but within socialism which was in the interests of all the participant nations. It helped to develop every country, develop in science, technology and it helped them to rationally use their resources. Each of the countries was enriched by the process. It helped develop living standard of the people there.

Imperialist globalization is a process to serve the interest of the leading imperialist states, particularly the US.

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Extradition of Abu Salem — What it bears out ?

Abu Salem, the fugitive don allegedly responsible for the 1993 Mumbai blast and a host of criminal underworld activities including murders, killings, extortion, channeling illegal money into the film production, forgery, fraud, match fixing and so forth was finally nabbed by the CBI. This India-born international gangster has reportedly been the right-hand man of Dawood Ibrahim, the chieftain of underworld operation, but later fell on with his mentor to be on his own. According to CBI an anonymous e-mail from an implausible identity nailed the don three years back in Portugal. But as per Portuguese law, request for handing over such persons with alleged criminal records is not entertained if any of the offences in question is punishable in the other country with death sentence or a sentence resulting in irreversible injuries to the person's 'integrity'. So the Indian government had to give an undertaking not to bind the Indian Courts not to impose death sentence on Salem and then got him and her girlfriend extradited to India.

Soon after his arrest media created a hype as if there has been a crackdown at the underworld den and bursting more criminal rackets would follow in no time. It was also indicated that spilling beans on Dawood Ibrahim and such other hard-core mega-criminals was in the offing.

How far can one confide in such propped up opinion? Everyone in India knows that these arch criminals operate a huge network of dubious activities throughout the world. Connections of the underworld mafia with eminent politicians, bureaucrats, film personalities, sports superstars are well known. Often many of the so-called celebrities and known public figures are seen enjoying cricket matches, attending marriage parties or regaling in variety entertainment shows in the company of these mafia dons.

The police, CBI and such other watchdogs of the government are well aware of all these. Yet they remain passive bystanders and it is the unholy nexus of the power that

be with these arch criminals which rules the roost. In fact, what has come to light in Abu Salem's case is a tip of the iceberg. Not only Mumbai, such crime rackets and gangsterism are now rampant in all big cities under direct patronage of the bourgeois parties of all hues. Hapless unemployed youths are being lured with money, drawn into the dark world of multiple crime and exploited to intimidate the people voicing protest against mounting capitalist onslaught on life and livelihood and crush legitimate working class struggles and democratic mass movements. Otherwise, neither Dawood nor Abu Salem, Chhota Sakeel or Chhota Rajan could afford to carry out these illegal activities at will with alacrity. In fact, these underworld dons and criminals now operate in open, run a parallel reign of their own. The people at large are terrorized at this ever-growing crime graph with overt or covert indulgence of the police-administration. Not that the Mumbai film industry in the financial capital of India is only financed by the underworld. In fact, the arm of this underworld is now 'openly' extended to funding and nurturing of power-hungry bourgeois political parties. Specific links of media-hogging bourgeois political bigwigs with known mafia kingpins are no more secrets. There was a time when the bourgeois politicians in order to win elections and brandish power used to requisition the services of the criminals and anti-socials. At that period, criminals and mafia elements were nurtured under the protective tutelage of the power seeking aspirant bourgeois leaders. But now the criminals call the shot. The ruling bourgeoisie now stands completely isolated from the people. But to pretend that a rule of the people's choice is in vogue, the class makes a show of parliamentary election which it has been merrily rigging and manipulating to the advantage of its subservient parties by pressing into action, among other things, the services of these criminals and anti-socials. So much indulgence has been given to these hard-core criminals and proteges of the

underworld in the process that they themselves are now in command of the show, becoming MLAs, MPs and ministers, controlling trade and commerce, blackmarket, redressal machinery and even desks of administration. In fact, the bourgeois political heavy-weights often capitulate to the criminal and underworld chiefs for making fortunes in vote-politics. Criminal elements have been merrily making to the top of the bourgeois political parties as well. Not only the known bourgeois parties like the Congress, the BJP or those headed by Laloo, Mulayam, Nitish, Mayawati, Jayalalita, Chandrababu are in the vortex of criminalized politics, even the pseudo-Marxists like the CPI, CPI(M) who have now joined the bandwagon of serving the ruling capitalist class for pelf and power are increasingly becoming dependent upon criminals and musclemen for survival and muffling people's voice. Criminalization of bourgeois politics is complete. It cannot be otherwise. Criminals are not clutched out of the thin air but are bred by the system. It is the moribund decadent bourgeois system, which is producing, rearing and steering the criminals. The ruling bourgeois class which is giving birth to these criminal elements in soaring numbers, put them in use to let loose a reign of terror so that the people, grueling under ruthless exploitation, do not dare to raise voice of protest and instead resign to fate. Facts show eloquently that under the facade of democracy, there is a fascist rule operative based on crime-corruption-gangsterism and it is a free ground for the underworld dons to ride roughshod over law.

One may question then how could Abu Salem be taken into custody. It is true that the omnipotent underworld kingpins are allowed to go full throttle. But the ruling class also keeps a watch that certain individuals do not drag to such an extent that quelling voice of dissent from even its own close quarters becomes a problem. At such points, it is forced to undertake

some pretentious actions through its subservient state machine as eyewash to assuage the feeling and bury the controversies and questions. The serial blasts in Mumbai in 1993 killing 257 people and wounding thousands were such acts that considerably embarrassed the bourgeois government and the capitalist state already rattled following the Babari Masjid episode. The risk was becoming too much for the government to handle. Moreover, the demand for identifying and nabbing the culprits responsible for such a heinous crime could not be disdained altogether. When Abu Salem estranged from Dawood Ibrahim, considered to be wielding maximum power in the international gangsterism and shady underworld deals, the Indian administration found it relatively convenient to lay a hand on Salem and bring him to India. But one can jolly well anticipate what could be the outcome of namesake of a trial because those who could enforce law are themselves under the governance of criminalized politics. Already rumours are in the air that Salem might become government approver, might remain insulated from any serious punishment because of conditions of extradition, etc. Even if some token punishment is meted out to him, the polity and the society would not be freed from the yoke of thumping criminalization. So long capitalism exists, there will be no extradition of crime from the society. Expecting reprieve through bourgeois administrative set up and legal framework will be futile. To contain Abu Salem and his ilk, people must rise up in organized protest, be united to launch a fierce democratic movement with courage, valour and determination and compel the administration take some remedial action. More intense is this movement, more enhanced will be the chance to effectively check the growth of this menacing phenomenon of criminalization. Otherwise, the ruling class, with the help of these underworld dons and notorious criminals will ultimately clamp total fascism on the country.

Iraq proves : Imperialism inflicts wounds, it can't defeat determined people

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Highlighting that imperialist globalization sharply increases inequality, poses a danger to ecology, and that imperialism perpetrates neo-colonial exploitation through globalization, Comrade Nina Andreyeva said : Recently US has raised a slogan to fight so-called terrorism. But to the people it is clear that in the present world the No. 1 terrorist is US; wherever US spreads its tentacles we see flow of blood, destitution, degeneration and collapse of state. Citing the examples of Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Iraq, etc. and pointing to the sharp contradiction between US and European Union for status of superpower, she said: Under the plan of "Greater Near East" US is implementing its policy of establishing control and engineering war on global scale. US tries to increase the area of control under NATO. USA desires to establish bases for future attack on China, Russia and if possible India. Following US politics Russia also now talks of its right to "preemptive attack". We would like to ask, is there any difference between US imperialism and Russia in international context ?

She stated that in one or the other question the US is losing its leading position. In this context Comrade Nina Andreyeva particularly hailed the North Korean stand on developing nuclear weapons for defence of the country to thwart the threat posed by US. She said : We think if People's Republic of Korea has nuclear weapons then in North Eastern Asia powers will be properly balanced.

Next to Europe, India Russia and China are trying to develop a consensus to form a bloc. They have their own ambitions.

The US is threatening Iran for developing nuclear weapon. But already China has invested 200 billion dollars in oil industry in Iran, hand in glove with India. Russia gives assistance to Iran for developing nuclear reactor and has already given a few billion dollars.

Pointing to the economic pacts entered into imperialist Russia with different Central Asian countries, including Byelorussia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia and Tadjikistan as well as the Shanghai Organization of Cooperation that includes China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Tazikistan and Uzbekistan, which are openly opposed to imperialist superpowers, she stressed that the unity forged among the imperialist powers after collapse of Soviet Union has melted into air and the dream of US to build a unipolar world with US at the top has not materialized. Pointing to the present economic crisis of US imperialism and its barbaric destructive character, she said, we must put an end to imperialism in order to save mankind. Imperialism destroys morality, equality and humanism, in this way leads to the destruction of MAN. Declaring that All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks (AUCPB) stands for classical Marxism-Leninism, stands for fight for Soviet power for socialism, for revival of USSR, she said : we think that revival of USSR is the way to thwart



On the dais : (left to right front row) Sunil Manander, Khalequzaman, Heather Cottin, Manik Mukherjee, Dr. Sushil Mukherjee, Nina Andreyeva, Nisha, Ranjit Dhar and Mobinul Haider Chowdhury

barbaric US plan of globalization.

So long there is imperialism there is the danger of war on a global scale.

So we call upon all the anti-imperialist forces to forge unity and solidarity in struggle for peace, real democracy and socialism.

AUCPB calls upon all progressive forces to stand by the countries on whom US has stamped the mark "supporters of terrorism".

We call upon all progressive forces to stand by Cuba and North Korea who have not yielded to the pressure of imperialism.

I wish that the fighter of All India Anti-Imperialist Forum will grow stronger and stronger.

Speedily we shall win.

Victory, I am confident, is ours.

Heather Cottin, from International Action Center, USA, said: The growing antagonism of the imperialist camp is against the working class. The feral policies of the international cabal of capitalists, buttressed by military, financial and legal architecture has declared war against the working classes of the world. The United States is firmly in control of this group, and ... the US has NATO firmly under control, because the imperialists are facing an increasingly competitive and hostile world in their final push to dominate.

Highlighting that Germany and France which once pretended to oppose the Iraq war are in Iraq along with the rest of imperial powers and supportive of expansionism for their own vested interests, she said: In Iraq, it's oil, in the rest of Asia and beyond, it is natural gas, minerals, crops, and

above all cheap labour power. These are imperial interests, and right now it is to the imperialists' advantage to cooperate.

Contrasting Japan's proclaimed plans to assist US-led "war on terror" and reconstruction missions, with protests there that have just forced the US to cancel plans to build a large offshore military base on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa, she said: Unbridled imperialist aggression is not going down well. The most significant obstacle to imperialism's savagery and avarice is the mighty resistance of the Iraqi people. Last year the US had three Iraqi battalions in action. Now they have only one. US (and British) military leaders say, "the United States is ...losing the war in Iraq."

Because of the resistance of the Iraqi people, many nations see that "Coalition of the Willing" is in fact a bogus authority, capable of inflicting horrible wounds, but incapable of defeating a people in resistance.

This has given heart and strength to other nations in the Middle East, notably the two the US-UK is currently threatening, Syria and Iran. Both nations are gearing up for resistance.

When Hugo Chavez of the Bolivarian Venezuelan appeared recently in Argentina, tens of thousands of workers took to the streets to oppose the FTAA that threatens to kill Latin Americans with the policies of hunger for profit. The agreement is dead. Millions of Latin Americans beat back a major mechanism of globalization.

The imperialists are the enemies of the working classes everywhere. Poverty rates are on the rise in every former socialist republic except Belarus. People in the former socialist countries are dangerous to the imperialists; they are educated and conscious opponents of liberalization, privatization policies.

Pointing to the growing resistance against US imperialist policies of war, indebtedness, and liberal economic reforms as witnessed in many

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Heather Cottin

Anti-imperialist movement demands correct political line and organization

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parts of the globe, including Europe and US itself, she stressed that the anti-imperialist movement needs theory, analysis and organization. She said: In the US, working class consciousness is low but there is a growing realization that those who are benefiting from the war and official economic policies are the corporations. Although workers don't call the rich the bourgeoisie, they know they are the ones who control the government. When Hurricane Katrina happened, US racism and poverty was revealed, as was the official indifference of the Republicans and Democrats. US African Americans and Latinos learned a great deal from this and they are, as US political prisoner Mumia Abu Jamal said recently from Death row, "on the move."

In Latin America the Caribbean people understand imperialism. The workers of the world are awakening to our historic tasks in the 21st century. We know we have to fight imperialism. The imperialists may be armed and united against us, but they have no real support from our class.

We are many. They are few. As the Cubans say, "Venceremos!" We will win.

Nisha, the delegate from MLCP, Turkey, stressed that the imperialist centres of rivalry such as the USA, EU led by German and French imperialism, China, Russia, Japan came to the fore as the forces who want to have a word in re-division of the world. She added further : Although the hegemonistic struggle among the imperialists has not sharpened as much as turning into a war, different powers are trying to strengthen their own hands and gain new positions by occupying strategic regions; by organizing reactionary internal coups in the countries under the control of rival forces; by gaining initiatives through struggles that appear provoking of peoples against each other; by establishing protectorate colonial regimes; by collaborating with various regional powers and by deepening their internal organizations as seen in the foundation of Shanghai Cooperation Organization or efforts on the EU Constitution. Division of Yugoslavia and the invasion of Kosovo, the occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan are the examples of this aggression. What happens in Caucasus and Central Asia that is considered by Russia as a back-garden, is another example of this. Pro-USA civil coups in Ukraine, Georgia and Kyrgyzstan are examples of this. USA-Israel, USA-Turkey, China-Russia relations on the basis of Shanghai Organization move forward on this ground.

Re-division of the booty that appeared after the collapse of the USSR and revisionist bloc has brought into the agenda the reactionary civil wars on the basis of national, religious etc. differences and the struggles among the peoples in the Balkans, Caucasus, and Central Asia.

Resistance of the working class, labourer masses and the oppressed peoples against the

capitalist exploitation and the imperialist barbarism is constantly growing. Every passing day the conditions, political forces and potentiality of international and regional anti-imperialist struggle are growing. However, the anti-imperialist forces and resistance is dispersed, disorganized and ineffective on regional and international scale. This problem of the international anti-imperialist struggle brings out the necessity of unity and common will of progressive, anti-imperialist, revolutionary and communist party and forces of all parts of the world.

Highlighting the need for developing real unity of action not only in words but on a concrete basis, the delegate comrade from Turkey placed some proposals to this end, that include among others, formation of regional centres or institutions that would provide regional co-ordination and the establishment of their infrastructures and bureaus, and stressed that regional anti-imperialist struggle co-ordinations are faced with the task to combine anti-imperialist struggle with the fight against capitalism.

Khalekuzzaman, Convenor, Socialist Party of Bangladesh, inter alia said: The whole episode of the recent activities of the imperialist forces, particularly the US, reveals that they are now engaged in re-conquering and re-dividing the territories in East Europe, Asia, Africa and South America which slipped their grips because of socialist revolutions and the bourgeois national liberation struggles during the period of 1917 to 1980.



Khalekuzzaman

At this moment, the EU, Japan and Russia don't have the military might compared to US, right; but they are arming themselves. Each of them in the name of 'war on terror' is trying to ensnare their masses in the logic of war, push through increased military budgets, train troops, set up bases etc. Simultaneously they are adopting similar so-called "anti-terrorist" laws with a view to establishing tight control over the masses destroying their fundamental rights and to suppressing the revolutionary and anti-capitalist struggles in their respective countries. In a word, we can say, they are moving towards fascisation more and more.

We the followers of Marxism-Leninism, know well that the small and weak states have to fall prey to this situation first. And this is happening in the present world. He said: Our country, Bangladesh, is also no exception to this. US and India, with the collaboration of our ruling class, are plundering our natural resources including oil, gas and coal. They are destroying our industries and agriculture. US is eyeing our main seaport, which is the lifeline of our

economy. This is threatening peace and stability in our region. Pointing to the heroic resistance war of Iraqi masses, Palestinian people, and DPRK, Cuba, Venezuela and Syria at the forefront of struggle against US hegemonism, he said : In this situation, we think, the revolutionaries and the anti-imperialist forces have to stand firm and unitedly and broaden the alliance in each country and internationally to defeat our common enemies. In this respect, we salute the AIAIF for their effort to build up struggle against imperialist machination on their land. May I propose Comrade President, that this forum can play the key role to co-ordinate the anti-imperialist movements of the SAARC region. It has become an urgent necessity now.

Sunil Manandhar, President, Nepal Progressive Trade Union Federation (NPTUF) stressed that after the collapse of the Soviet Union and disintegration of the Socialist Camp — the great historical tragedy of the twentieth century — the unity of the imperialist powers from the cold war time which was based on anti-communist posture has ceased.

He said : The race for capturing the world market and ensuring their sphere of influence and domination has set out and the trade war is evidenced now everywhere. It resembles the pre-



Sunil Manandhar

world war scenario of the last century. The inter-imperialist conflict inevitably will lead to a new world war and keeping in view the present arms stockpile this new war will bring unprecedented disaster to mankind.

He said: At present, for working class movement there is nothing more urgent and more important than to internationalize the anti-imperialist struggle galvanizing all anti-imperialist forces against all kinds of manifestation of capitalist aggression. Unity of all the working people in this respect is the most vital aspect. To achieve the broad unity of working class some changes may be needed in our outlook and working style with conviction that a better world — the world free from exploitation of man by man is possible.

Referring to the situation in Nepal he pointed out that under the king an undeclared military autocratic dictatorship is reigning, and is pushing the nation to the verge of civil war. He said that an alliance of all left and democratic parties of Nepal, the Seven Parties Alliance, is launching a nation wide resistance struggle. The common people from all walks of Nepalese society are participating in this struggle to safeguard the democratic rights of the people.

Prof. Tarun Sanyal, eminent poet and leftist intellectual, observed that Bush and Hitler have

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Coordinate global anti-imperialist movement on a firm ideological base

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become synonymous. Referring to Afghanistan, he said that everywhere US imperialists are perpetrating a divisive policy, encouraging terrorism and exposing their fascist dictatorial face. He emphasized the necessity of a powerful united anti-imperialist movement to free the world from the tutelage of imperialist domination.

Shri Vellaiyan, a noted Gandhian from Tamilnadu Uanigar Sanga Eravi, condemned commercialization of healthcare, education and transport and the government's pro-US tilt.

Prof. B.K. Nayak from Orissa said, while 'terrorism' provides an alibi for setting up military bases, 'economic backwardness' provide alibi for imposing the regime of Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization. Imperialism has therefore grown a vested interest in both 'terrorism' and 'economic backwardness', which needs to be perpetuated both for its survival and growth. He stressed that the anti-imperialist resistance movements developing in different parts of the world at grassroots level need to be integrated and steered along correct line.

Prof. P.D. Verma from Haryana thanked the organizers for being able to attend the convention and voiced his support for the resolutions moved.

Prof. N.K. Chowdhury from Bihar congratulated the organizers and emphatically remarked that the approach paper was comprehensive enough to cover both theoretical and factual aspects and for determining the correct line on which AIAIF movement is to follow. Prof. Chowdhury said that the fight against imperialism should not be confined to socialists and communists alone but must involve broader sections of peace-loving people and the younger generation. He stressed that justice demands that in place of Saddam Bush should be put in the dock for invading Iraq under flimsy pretext and violating all international laws.

Dr. Bijoy Kumar Piyush from Jharkhand spoke emotionally urging upon the need to develop a 'world level forum' with unified programmes. He referred to the imperialist conspiracy of depicting barbaric attack on Iraq and other countries as 'clash of civilizations', spreading consumerist culture, and fomenting individualistic thinking and invoking anti-Marxist post-modernist thoughts. He reminded the gathering of the Santhal rebellion against British imperialism and urged to transform the anti-imperialist movement into class struggle.

Prof. S.K. Malavya from UP pointed out that anti-imperialist movement cannot advance today unless struggles are waged against respective capitalist rule in various countries. He severely deplored the role of the CPI (M) CPI in supporting Congress-led central government which is taking a pro-US stand.

Shri Simhadri from Karnataka said, we today miss Soviet Union and a strong socialist camp which will be born again in the course of this anti-imperialist struggle. To fight imperialism, we should fight liberalization,

globalization, privatization.

Sm. Chandralekha Das from Assam condemned the Indian government, supported by so-called lefts, for working closely with US imperialists and stressed the need to combine anti-imperialist struggle with fight against capitalism.

Shri Amrinder Pal Singh from Punjab spoke about the anti-imperialist tradition of Punjab right from the colonial times. He said Indian capitalist class is destroying human rights and human civilization and should be fought tooth and nail.

Shri Anup Moitra from Chattisgarh said that though, people in Chhatisgarh were earlier attracted by outsourcing, on witnessing the recent demonic role played by imperialism, people are getting disillusioned. He promised to develop anti-imperialist movement in his state.

Deependra Singh Kapoor from Delhi was of the opinion that anti-imperialist struggle will inspire struggle against attacks on women, eviction of slum dwellers, water charge etc. and consciousness will be brought about. Imperialist influence in political, economic, social, cultural field and in personal life too has to be fought.

Shri Mukesh Senwal from Gujarat mentioned about two incidents — WTO negotiations going on to loot and plunder the world and absence of left democratic movement. He spoke of the inspiration derived on seeing anti-war movements taking place, on seeing Latin American people fighting tooth and nail against US hegemony, and processions taken out in Russia with portraits of Lenin and Stalin.

Shri Y. K. Kulshrestha from Maharashtra observed that people must be freed from the strangulation of capitalist mindset. He also stressed on formulating a guideline for fighting invasion of imperialist culture.

Shri B. K. Rajagopal from Kerala proposed that along with anti-imperialist movements to be developed in all the countries, a weekly or fortnightly organ may be published for better coordination. He pointed out that although outwardly there is darkness, anti-imperialist movement is growing up everywhere.

Shri Rajendran from Tamil Nadu supported resolutions and wanted some specific dates to be fixed for programmes.

Some salient points of the document adopted at the Convention

The document adopted at the Convention highlighted that victory over the fascist powers in the Second World War gave a tremendous boost to the global struggle for the establishment of socialism. In the international arena, the Soviet Union, under the wise leadership of Stalin played a pivotal role that helped the people's struggle for emancipation to surge ahead in all parts of the world. But thereafter the revisionist policies persistently followed since the time of Khrushchev ultimately led to counterrevolution and restoration of capitalism in Russia and East

European countries. Capitalism got a new lease of life and USA, the leader of the capitalist world, went on the offensive. Slogans of privatization, globalization and liberalization were aggressively paraded. But the capitalist world was reeling under a severe economic crisis. Competition between the imperialist powers for shares in the world market became more and more fierce. WTO came into being as a crisis management measure, to somehow patch up a regulated trade system. But all their attempts have failed and are failing because of the inherent contradiction in the capitalist system which inevitably plunges it into insurmountable crisis

The slogans of privatization, globalization and liberalization are but thinly veiled attempts to establish all round domination by the western imperialist countries over the underdeveloped world, to pressurise the weaker nations to open up their markets for unrestricted loot and plunder and to allow the imperialists to have free access to their resources. Privatization-globalization-liberalization is used as a political instrument of this imperialist strategy.

WTO has singularly failed to curb the conflict between the imperialist powers for market domination. All the capitalist-imperialist countries are engaged in trade wars, with each one trying to obstruct penetration by the others into its own market, while demanding unrestricted right to enter into others' markets. There have been acrimonious debates and lack of unanimity at the International Conferences at Seattle, Cancun, Doha, Davos. The fissure between the developed countries and the resurgent capitalist countries became wider. The latter are trying to group together to oppose the agenda of the G8 countries. The total picture is one of deep division and bitter fight between the imperialist countries, on the one hand, and between the imperialist camp and the developing capitalist countries, on the other.

Though in their own class interest and because of the American military pre-eminence, the other imperialist powers have been going along with the US, yet France and Germany openly criticised the US policy of invasion of Iraq. The inter-imperialist contradiction is bound to be more and more irreconcilable in the coming days, as the crisis deepens and the competition for shares in the world market becomes fiercer. Their unity is only in opposition to the working class, but the contradiction between them is fundamental, inherent in the capitalist system. The Leninist teaching that imperialism begets war is as valid today as it was in the early part of the twentieth century. The present phase of the third intense crisis of the capitalist world market portends great danger to world peace. Engineering local and partial warfares has become a compulsive necessity of imperialism. Hence there is now a heightened urgency of building up a militant peace movement and integrate it with the struggle against capitalism-imperialism.

Contrasting imperialist propaganda with the dismal reality of living condition in which the

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Anti-Imperialist Convention in Karnataka

The Karnataka state unit of All India Anti-Imperialist Forum (AIAIF) organized a convention at the State Youth Center Hall on 16th November 2005 to demand immediate withdrawal of US troops from Iraq and to protest US-led imperialist attempt to attack Iran.

Ms. Heather Cottin from International Action Center (IAC), USA attended the convention. In her speech she categorically opined, imperialism means war. She described the Anti-war movement in US as the most significant radical development in the US after First World War. She said that in the US, a great many middle class white people are opposed to the war in Iraq. The IAC has seen the US led war in connection with domestic issues and has called for 'Money for Jobs, Education, Health Care and not for War'. She said that the anti-war movement in the US aims at the real transformation of US society. She, however, added that the anti-war movement is becoming a movement of multi-national, anti-

racist, conscious anti-imperialist forces which bodes well for the US society.

Shri H.S. Doreswamy, veteran freedom fighter spoke on the occasion and lauded the anti-war movement that is gaining momentum all over the globe. He regretted the miserable failure of United Nations after World War II in preventing imperialist aggression on weak and poor countries by powerful imperialist countries.

Shri Simhadri, Karnataka State Convener and president of the convention of AIAIF paid glorious tribute to the heroic resistance struggle of the Iraqi fighters that has cornered the US imperialist aggressor.

Professor Alladi Seetharam, retired professor of mathematics, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and Shri Prakash Belawadi, renowned director also addressed.

Shri Amarnath, leader of AIAIF from Andhra Pradesh and Shri Voltaire, leader of AIAIF from Tamil Nadu also greeted the convention and wished success.

labour unions. The IAC and the militant Million Worker March movement (a militant Black movement of working class people and labour unions) together have founded a new multinational anti-war organization called Troops Out Now Coalition (TONC).

In conclusion, she said, "The anti-war movement is slowly but consciously becoming a movement made up of multinational, anti-racist, conscious anti-imperialist forces. This represents a great potential for anti-imperialist forces everywhere. There is no better way for the people of the US to support the people of the world than to build such an anti-war movement."

The audience, composed of students, youth, workers, teachers, and professionals responded enthusiastically to Heather Cottin's presentation and raised searching questions on a variety of related subjects — on which Heather Cottin responded, providing major insights into the everyday reality of life and class struggle in the US.

AIMSS felicitates fraternal women delegates from abroad

All India Mahila Sanskritik Sangathan (AIMSS) felicitated the three foreign delegates of the anti-imperialist convention, Comrades Nina Andreyeva, General Secretary, All Union Communist party of Bolsheviks, Russia, Heather Cottin of International Action Centre, USA and Nisha of MLCP, Turkey on 25th November 2005 at Students Hall, Kolkata.

Comrade Menoka Basu Roy, All India Vice President presided over the meeting. All India leaders like Comrades Chhaya Mukherjee, Sadhana Chowdhury, Hasi Hore, H.G. Jayalakshmi, and Chandralekha Das were also present along with representatives of different states of the country.

The guests were welcomed heartily and presented with shawls and some literatures of the organization.

Then Comrade Jayalakshmi, the General Secretary delivered the welcome address. She said, women as we find are among the worst hit of this all-pervading boundless exploitation. Over and above the capitalist onslaught, they have to face abject patriarchal domination, one of the shameful feudal hangovers our society still bears.

We are aware at the same time that in all the capitalist countries the plight of women, their utter helplessness is more or less same. We are also of considered opinion that the capitalist exploitative system is responsible for all these problems confronting the lives of our women. We feel that in order to counteract the increasing onslaughts against women and to give further momentum to the growth of women's emancipation movement in different countries, the movement must be given an international content. We sincerely expect that you will also give a serious thought to it.

We hope that greater cooperation with you on this common issue will become possible in near future. We express our solidarity with the exploited people particularly the women of the whole world.

First, Comrade Nina Andreyeva expressed her opinion.

She in her extempore address told us about her childhood, about the socialist society that was there in the time of Stalin. At that time though luxury was not there, there

was food for everybody; children used to have free education and there was work for everybody. She told about how everything started changing from the time of Khrushchev. When Glasnost started, some persons became wealthy. People, who had money, could purchase anything and everything. Food, education, health care was no longer for everybody. Presently her country has become poverty-stricken, poverty in money, poverty in culture and values. Though women are more oppressed than men, condition of men is also very bad. Average longevity has decreased. She told about Cuba and Korea who are still trying against all odds to keep up their belief.

In her speech Comrade Heather Cottin talked about India and her own country where the oppression of people came into the open glaringly after Hurricane Katrina. She expressed that the problem of equal wage is still prevailing in a country like USA.

Comrade Nisha narrated some of their movements. In Turkey women are facing a grave problem of rape in custody, sexual abuse in work places. Killing of women to keep family honour and tradition etc. is a menace in their society. Women are not getting equal wages for equal work. She told that whenever there is a meet like this they try to be present there. Whenever they hear a name of woman who is fighting against imperialism, they try to meet that person. They are lending their hand to Cuba and Korean people in their movement. She placed concrete suggestions before the house to help the presentday international women solidarity movement, like exchange of opinions and articles; organising conventions and women's solidarity movements.

Later Comrade Nina and Comrade Nisha handed over some publications of their parties to Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee.

President of the house, Comrade Menoka Basu Roy in her concluding speech thanked the guests for their valuable opinions. She supported the suggestions given by Comrade Nisha and promised that the women solidarity movement will continue & grow until it covers the whole world. Lastly she presented our guests with mementos.

Programme of Delhi Unit of Anti-Imperialist Forum

At the invitation of the Delhi Unit of the All India Anti-Imperialist Forum, Heather Cottin, a leading organiser of the International Action Center, USA delivered a talk on "Anti-Imperialist Struggles in the USA", on 13th November, at the Gandhi Peace Foundation, Delhi.

Calling the change in the direction of the US anti-war movement as its most significant radical development since World War II, Heather Cottin said: Domestic issues like the deteriorating conditions of education and health care and growing unemployment are also finding a central place in the anti-war movement as people see the connection between these and diversion of resources towards war by the imperialist Government. These issues have been consistently raised by the International Action Center (IAC). The most militant members of the US working class are immigrants from Latin America, and militant members of the Black

Anti-imperialist front with communists at the core is the need of hour

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worlds poor languish the document stresses : People's resentment against globalization is also increasing. In Russia itself people's movement for bringing back the socialist system is gaining strength. Hundreds of thousands are marching with the portraits of Lenin and Stalin protesting against the present capitalist regime. We witnessed unprecedented surges of public protests at the venues of the WTO conferences. In USA millions of people including war veterans are in procession with the slogans 'End the war – bring the troops home'. In Latin America anti-US movements have reached new heights. The Iraqi people have not succumbed to the American might and are valiantly fighting against the Anglo-American invaders. Imperialist aggression, far from strengthening the imperialist camp has further weakened it.

The need of the hour is to consolidate the people's movements on a correct ideological base under revolutionary leadership. It is our task to bring this consciousness to the people at large that in this era of imperialism and proletarian revolution anyone who is against war must also oppose imperialism, must integrate the anti-war movement with the struggle for the emancipation of people from capitalist-imperialist oppression and exploitation.

The successive BJP-led NDA and Congress-led UPA Governments discarded the cloak of peace and nonalignment which the previous rulers had put on. They followed and are following an open policy of coming closer to USA. Throwing all pretence of anti-imperialist stance to the wind it backed the US move against Iran; it is silent about the American occupation of Iraq and its barbaric killing of the Iraqi people; it is actively building up military alliance with USA, signing agreements and pacts and is organizing joint military exercises. The Indian ruling class is aspiring to have its 125 sphere of influence in South and Southeast Asia. It is a junior partner in the capitalist-imperialist camp and wants to emerge as a regional superpower in South and Southeast Asia and dominate over its neighbouring countries.

The pseudo-Marxists led by the CPI(M) make loud noises against American imperialism, but in the CPI(M) ruled states they are approaching the imperialists with a begging bowl for investing capital. Very carefully and deliberately they refrain from building up people's movements against capitalism-imperialism, rather use the governmental power to crush such movements wherever they are growing. We call upon the Indian people to foil the designs of the capitalist class and their lackeys, the social democrats, and to launch militant people's movements against capitalism-imperialism, building up broad based organizations, their own instruments of struggle from the grassroots level.

We firmly believe that to resist the onslaught



A section of the delegates in Anti-Imperialist Convention held on 24 November 2005 at Mahajati Sadan

of imperialism broad-based people's fronts must be built up and consolidated in all countries with communists at the core. While building up effective people's resistance through such broad based anti-imperialist fronts, through continuous ideological struggles and exchange of opinions we should strive to arrive at a uniformity of understanding and advance towards the goal of socialism. Today from this platform we are making an appeal for a global coordination of anti-imperialist movements in different countries. Only such globally coordinated movements on a firm ideological base can drive away the disarray and frustration in the socialist movement and infuse it with revolutionary fervour.

Resolutions were adopted hailing the valiant struggle of the Iraqi people against the occupation of Iraq by the armed forces of USA and its allies ; condemning the butchery of the Palestinian people by Zionist Israel with active US support ; saluting the resistance fight of the different peoples of Latin America against US hegemonism, calling upon the anti-imperialist people from all countries to build up movements demanding that the USA end its economic blockade and all aggressive manoeuvres against Cuba, and give up its machinations, military intervention and engineering of coups and assassinations in Latin America.

Resolutions were also adopted condemning the renewed efforts of the imperialist powers for

economic exploitation of the poor African countries ; hailing the fight of the Nepalese people against autocracy, and raising the demand of immediate establishment of democracy in Nepal the Convention demanded an end to foreign, especially Indian intervention in Nepal.

Resolutions condemned the naked support given by the Congress-led CPI(M)-CPI backed UPA Government to US and EU sponsored resolution of IAEA to impose restrictions on the nuclear energy programme of Iran and signing of the 10-year defence agreement and joint military exercise between USA and India and condemned the despicable role of the CPI (M), CPI and other so-called left parties in building up militant movements against the pro-imperialist policies of the UPA-led Central Government.

The Convention stated its firm belief that the need of the hour is to build up militant movements for peace and against imperialist oppression and aggression in all corners of the globe and to work a global co-ordination of such movements on a correct ideological base and revolutionary leadership to thwart the sinister designs of the imperialists.

[A mass reception was accorded to Comrades Nina Andreyeva, General Secretary, AUCPB, Nisha of Turkey and Mobinul Haider Chowdhury of Bangladesh on behalf of KKMS on 27th November at Joynagar. The report will be covered in a subsequent issue.]

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