

Proletarian Era

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Assimilate Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought, translate it in your life, be a youth worth the name

Call of Comrade Provash Ghosh at the Second All India Youth Conference organized by AIDYO

[This is the text of the speech delivered by Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), on 24 October 2016 at the concluding session of the 2nd All India Youth Conference, organized by AIDYO, held in Patna, Bihar]

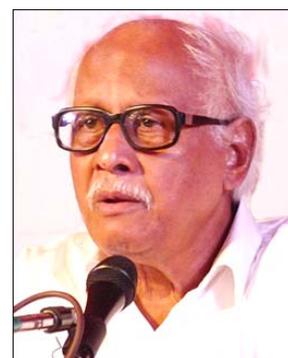
Comrade President, Members of the Presidium and Comrade Delegates,

Let me first express revolutionary greetings on behalf of the party SUCI (Communist) founded by the outstanding Marxist thinker and great leader of the proletariat Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, to all present here in this All India DYO Conference as delegates, the comrades who worked tirelessly for the preparation of this conference and particularly the comrades of this Bihar state. My Revolutionary greetings to you all.

Who embodied youth in this country?

First I want to raise a pertinent question that may be unpleasant to some. How should we define youth? Only based on age? Because there are thousands and thousands of young people who are drunkards, debauched, addicted to drugs, engaged in eve-teasing, raping women not even sparing 3 year old girls or 70 year old women. Can they be really called young people? Can they be called human beings? Even in an animal's life also there is no question of raping or gang raping. In fact a new species has been developed by the ruling capitalist class who neither can be called human beings nor animals, only they are physically human beings. This is one section of so-called young people. There is another section who are engaged only in earning money, running for money, running after riches, wealth, enjoying life in the luxurious way ignoring all social obligations, even neglecting their own parents, driving them out from the house or sending them to so-called old age homes, which are in reality prison houses for the old people. This is also a new development in our country. Can they be really called young people? There was a third category of young people—let me recall the old days. A teenager from Bengal was instructed by his leaders to punish the oppressive British officer. For that, he came to this state of Bihar in 1908 and became a legendary martyr. He was Kshudiram Bose. His age was merely 18. He had no college or school degree then. When he was instructed, he simply smiled with a sense of pride. While judges pronounced the death sentence on him, again he smiled. On the gallows also he smiled. Another young

man in 1915, Kartar Singh Sarabha, belonging to the Gadar Party, at the age of 19, also became a martyr and both these persons, Kartar Singh Sarabha and Kshudiram Bose inspired Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh. Bhagat Singh himself mentioned this. Let me name another person—a woman of Chattagram in undivided Bengal, now Bangladesh, Pritilata Waddadar. Her age was 21. She also faced death while fighting with the British army. She declared in a written statement, 'I will be facing death only to prove that Indian women can die for the freedom struggle of the country.' Now I will quote Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh. He was then only 23 years old. Two days before his execution, his friends sent a letter to him stating that they could, if he agreed, arrange his escape from the jail. What was his answer? He said, "The desire to live is natural. It is in me also. I do not want to conceal it. But it is conditional. I don't want to live as a prisoner or under restrictions. My name has become a symbol of Indian revolution. If I escape gallows, then this weakness would come before them and the symbol



Comrade Provash Ghosh

of revolution will get tarnished or perhaps it may vanish altogether. On the other hand if I embrace the gallows boldly and with a smile, that will inspire Indian mothers and they will aspire that their children should also become Bhagat Singh. Thus the number of persons ready to sacrifice their lives for the freedom of our country will increase enormously."⁽¹⁾ This was the answer of Bhagat Singh.

So, I refer to three categories of young people. You have to select which category you should belong to. That is the most important question. Now, we both [Comrade

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Middle East and around

Imperialist banditry creates cauldron of violence causing grave humanitarian crisis

The vast region of the world known as the Middle East and around in West Asia and North Africa was the land of quite a number of Arabian tribes, now divided into a number of Arab countries. It is a land of great tradition that housed the cradle of some of the highly developed early human civilizations. It has also been a land of continuous strife and bloodshed among the warring tribes. In the contemporary world, the

region continues for decades to remain a hot bed of intrigue, aggression, material devastation, human disaster and all the other accompanying maladies. Obviously, it is the hapless common people, from the old to the newborn who have been suffering through years miserably as the victim. Here in this write-up we, based on recent incidents and latest developments, intend to focus on the nature of the crisis; why it has cropped up, who is the culprit and how it may end.

Local and partial wars generated by imperialist forces headed by US imperialism

A large and influential section of the media present the ongoing conflicts as either civil or sectarian war involving different religious or ethnic communities. But a careful look would unfailingly reveal that all these wars are cruel onslaughts on humanity brought about by the

power-crazy, profit-hungry, unscrupulous deadliest enemy of the mankind, the imperialist powers, that happen to be brandishing their sword of military might weaving every possible ploy to precipitate fratricidal feuds, ethnic conflicts, violence planted to destabilize regimes refusing to submit to their dictates, all these virtually unopposed. The local and partial wars as well as other

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

Is this the freedom for which Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar Azad and others sacrificed their lives?

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Provash Ghosh and Comrade Ranjit Dhar, veteran member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C)] have grown old. We started our political life while these names were uttered with respect in every household of India. These names inspired us. At that time we used to hear Netaji Subhas Chandra advancing with INA forces for the liberation of the country, Great Stalin leading the Red Army to defeat fascist Germany. In our families, in our school-colleges, all these great names were discussed with reverence. Starting from Vidyasagar there were many names to be remembered and to be respected. We started our lives in that way.

Ruthless capitalist exploitation enshrouded the country in darkness

Now the situation is altogether changed in our country. Is this the freedom for which these martyrs and freedom fighters sacrificed their lives? This question has to be asked very seriously. Now we are passing through the darkest period in our country — economically, politically, socially, ethically, morally, everywhere there is complete darkness. What is the future before you? Is there any future? The future is just like a desert! Not even an oasis, not even a mirage is there. No future at all! The country is moving towards ruination, in all walks of life. With sunset a natural darkness descends upon everywhere in the villages, towns. Along with that, another kind of darkness is now enshrouding the country, the social darkness. At this moment thousands and thousands of our sisters, daughters are found selling out themselves at the railway station, at market places or at public places to maintain their families. This is the reality! Women-trafficking has become a roaring 'business' in our country. Yesterday I read in the newspaper that within 5 years women trafficking has increased by 90% in our country. They are compelled, rather forced to maintain their families in this way. There is another business of 'fake marriage'. Young girls are purchased from poor families in the name of marriage and then sold at hefty prices. Crores of people are crying for food, for employment, for shelter, for medical treatment. Millions and millions of boys and girls are living on railway platforms and on footpaths. They even do not know who their parents are. The political leaders of our

country celebrate 15th August and 26th January with grandiose feast and throw the left-overs in the dustbin. These boys quarrel amongst themselves for scavenging food from those left-overs in order to satiate their hunger. Is this the freedom for which Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar Azad and others sacrificed their lives? Lakhs of people are preferring death by committing suicide to escape from this miserable life. This is happening in our country. Was it inevitable? This is another important question.

Youths are plagued by acute unemployment

Have you ever asked why there is no employment for you? According to the President of India, more than 60% are unemployed. But it is not the whole truth. The figure is much higher. Almost 80% people are unemployed or semi-employed. Recently a statistics from the Labour Department revealed that 77% households are not having regular income to meet the minimum necessity of maintaining a family. Just imagine! 77% of the population is living in this condition. Last year, it came out in the newspapers that in U.P. 23 lakhs applications were received for 323 vacancies in the post of peons. The applicants included a good number of holders of BA, MA and PhD degrees. This year the same thing happened in West Bengal. For 4000 Group-D services, 27 lakhs have applied with almost the same number of degree holders. This is the situation in the country. Lakhs of factories are being closed down. Crores of workers are being retrenched. Where is the guarantee of your jobs? This is one aspect of the picture.

Handful of super-rich amassing huge wealth squeezing people

There is another aspect. Only a 100 people in the country are having as high as 25,50,000 crores of rupees at their disposal. Ambani, Jindal, Adani, Tata—these are the people who belong to this category and the government exempts and waives their taxes. They are looting few lakh crores of bank-money and they are being allowed to do this with impunity. This is public money they are plundering. In direct contrast to this, the taxes on common people are continuously hiked. Prices of commodities are also increasing by leaps and bounds. Who rules the country? Only a handful of capitalists, industrial

houses and big business houses. They are ruling and plundering the country. Under the grinding wheel of their exploiting machine, crores of people are being crushed, smothered. These few super-rich are amassing maximum profit by sucking the blood of the people. This is the situation in the country. In this situation what should be your task?

Murky face of bourgeois politics

The political leaders who are running Central Governments, State Governments, are all hypocrites, frauds and all of them deceive people. You will be astonished to know that 90% of the members of the house of the representatives of the people, that is the Indian Parliament, are having crores of rupees as their income. The income of the MLAs is also on that range. Overtly and covertly, they are in league with the black money holders and the industrial houses. Even the Ministers are making fortunes in that way. At the time of Bhagat Singh, Kshudiram and Subhas Bose, politics was viewed with deep respect. Politics then meant sacrificing everything for the country, for the people. Now politics has been reduced to a profession of deceiving people, of plundering the country. In the name of politics, all this is going on.

Cultural-moral degradation crushing moral backbone

And what is the situation in the cultural field now? Nobody remembers Bhagat Singh, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Kshudiram, Chandrasekhar Azad. Nobody remembers Vidyasagar, Phule. Nobody remembers Deshbandhu Chittaranjan, Tilak or Lala Lajpat. These are forgotten names, because heroic memories of these names have been deliberately sunk into oblivion by the rulers of the country. They instead highlight the most brazen life of film stars, cricket players and such other so called celebrities because it serves their purpose. There is no moral value in the society, no question of conscience or conscience pricking. Smilingly any cold blooded crime can be committed by anybody at any moment. Society is completely demoralized and dehumanized. There is no love and affection, no tender feeling, not even in the family life. What matters is only money and revel in gala enjoyment by spending that money. Worst form of

consumerism has become the order of the day. Observing this painful development Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era, expressed his agony in 1974 by saying : "I cannot but emphasize here that a nation going without food, suffering the worst kind of oppression and exploitation, and half fed and half clad for days together can also stand up, fight, acquire the power to combat, organize itself and rise up holding its head high, provided its moral strength remains intact and the people have a correct ideology before them. The ruling class in India is engaged in a conspiracy to totally destroy that very moral character of the nation."⁽²⁾

Vibrant youthful fervour lies in revolutionary life

Under such circumstances, what should be the task of the young people? Who are the real youth? One should be young not just physically but mentally and ideologically. Only a revolutionary can be really young. Without revolutionary ideology, revolutionary ethics and morality, you cannot really be young. It must be remembered that only revolutionary ideology of a given era can provide vigour, spirit of sacrifice, truthfulness, concern for society and humanity, undaunted courage to fight against injustice and oppression alongwith the concept of real love and affection.

Absence of genuine Marxist Party halted logical culmination of freedom movement

It is evidently clear that in spite of the glorious anti-imperialist movement in our country, people could not achieve real freedom. In the name of freedom what was achieved was the freedom of the industrial houses and monopolists to loot the country, to exploit the people. So what was established was the exploitative rule of the Indian bourgeoisie in place of the British imperialists. This is because at that time of freedom struggle, the real revolutionary party of the proletariat was absent in our country. There were petty-bourgeois (middle class) revolutionaries who fought bravely. But there was necessity of a real Marxist party to support and combine with them and lead the freedom struggle. Great Stalin in a speech in 1925 said: "The fundamental and new feature of

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

Only a handful of capitalists, industrial and big business houses ruling and plundering the country

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conditions of life of colonies like India is not only that the national bourgeoisie has split up into a revolutionary party and a compromising party, but primarily that the compromising section of bourgeoisie has already managed, in the main, to strike a deal with imperialism. Fearing revolution more than it fears imperialism, ... it is forming a bloc with imperialism against the workers and peasants of its own country... the communist party can and must enter into an open bloc with the revolutionary wing of the bourgeoisie in order, after isolating the compromising national bourgeoisie, to lead the vast masses of the urban and rural petty-bourgeoisie in the struggle against imperialism."⁽³⁾

However, the so called communist party which is now divided into CPI (M), CPI and Naxalites did not heed these teachings of Stalin. You will be astonished to know that they preferred to support the compromising bourgeois leadership of Gandhiji instead of the revolutionary leadership of Netaji Subhas. Several times Netaji Subhas Chandra appealed to them seeking their support, but in vain. This is because they were not at all Marxists. It is a long history and it will take much time if I deal it here.

Bhagat Singh is the only martyr in our soil who before his execution raised the slogan 'Inquilab Zindabad', 'Long Live Proletarian Internationalism'. Bhagat Singh had accepted Marxism. In his last letter to the students and youth, he suggested to build up a real communist party on the soil. I am reading out a small portion from his letter now. He wrote: "The real revolutionary armies are in the villages and factories, the peasantry and labourers. But our bourgeois leaders do not and cannot dare to tackle them. The sleeping lion once awakened from the slumber shall become irresistible even after the achievement of what our leaders aim at. ...revolution means the complete overthrow of the existing social order and its replacement with the socialist order. ...it is essential for gaining the active sympathy of and organizing the peasants and workers. The name of the party be rather, ...a communist party. This party of political workers are bound by strict discipline, should handle all other movements..."⁽⁴⁾ To build the real communist party was his

appeal. Netaji Subhas Bose also felt in that way. Subhas Bose was an admirer of Marxism and Soviet Socialism. He was highly respectful to Comrade Stalin. He expressed his hope, "Among the present social systems in the world, numerous currents and counter-currents can be classified into two main divisions, in other words, imperialist powers and racing in their opposite current the forces of Communism and that is why the end of Hitlerism virtually means the establishment of Communism."⁽⁵⁾ But regarding India with much pain he said in 1931, that, "...I may say that in spite of the universal and human appeal to communism, communism has not been able to make much headway in India—chiefly because the methods and tactics generally employed by its protagonists are such as tend to alienate rather than win over possible friends and allies."⁽⁶⁾ Comrade Shibdas Ghosh at that time was a teenager and he was also involved in the freedom struggle as a revolutionary fighter. Afterwards, he accepted Marxism as philosophy of life, realized and concretized it in the concrete conditions of our country and in the process enriched and developed Marxism-Leninism further, which we call 'Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought'. It was Comrade Shibdas Ghosh who founded the real communist party SUCI (Communist) in the year 1948 with a handful of persons. Braving tremendous odds and difficulties, he established and developed this revolutionary party of the proletariat and provided us with a powerful ideological weapon, which we call Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought and by wielding that weapon our Party and its class and mass fronts including AIDYO are developing and expanding throughout the country.

Motive of RSS-BJP behind highlighting religion

There is a preaching much trumpeted by the BJP and RSS leaders in particular. That is, 'when religion only can provide the guidelines, why Marxism?' They even say that India is the soil of religions and all along people of this land had believed in God. They say that religious scriptures like the Vedanta, Gita, Ramayana and Mahabharata have flourished in this land. But it is a blatant lie. In the primitive society, that is in the first stage of human society people never believed in God or in any

supernatural power. They tried to know and win over different forces of nature with the then primitive understanding. To prove this, I can even quote from Vivekananda. Although as Marxists we differ with him philosophically, but we respect him as a great man. He himself admitted that, "The first was in search in external nature for the truths of the universe; it was an attempt to get the solution of the problems of life from the material world."⁽⁷⁾ Note this expression of Vivekananda. Even now if we go to the Andamans, we will find people, aboriginal people like Zarwas, Andamanis and others; they are human beings but they do not believe in God. They do not worship any God. In Africa also, you will find such tribes who have no concept of God.

But it is not the only point! If you go to the college and university syllabus, you will find a different picture. In India, there was powerful existence of materialistic thinking. Charvak Muni was a philosopher. Muni means saint and he preached materialism. Lokayat and Swavabad philosophy also preached materialistic thinking. A concept was preached at that time that the entire universe was composed of *Pancha Bhuta* (five matters), i.e., *Khiti* (earth), *Tej* (fire), *Marut* (air), *Op* (water) and *Byom* (vacuum). A section excluded *Byom* (vacuum) and opted for *Chatur Bhuta* (four matters). This was the understanding at that time. 'Darshan'—the very expression of philosophy is a Sanskrit word. 'Darshan' means what I see, that is truth. It is also a materialistic expression. 'Number '0' was discovered in our country. Zero is also a digit which means there is no 'nothingness'. There were powerful personalities at that time. Even he who is now called 'Bhagwan Buddha' did not believe in 'Bhagwan'. He denounced worshipping God. Mahaveera also denounced 'Bhagwan'. They were not Europeans. They all belonged to ancient India. Yes, religious ideas were there in India. There was idealistic thinking as well. But, why are the RSS-BJP highlighting religion so much? Because, they are using religion as 'opium for the people'. They are creating an illusion that the division between rich and poor, exploiter and the exploited is eternal. It is the divine order. Poor people committed sins in their past life. That is why they are suffering in their present life. If they accept this

suffering without any discontent, then they will go to heaven. As if the rich people had committed many good things in their past life and so they are allowed to exploit the people and to plunder the country! In this way, they want to confuse the people.

Origin of concept of god and religion

That is why, religion is being highlighted. But as Marxists, we do not dishonour the religious preachers of yester years. Rather we say that they were great men. It is great Marx who pointed out that religious thinking developed in the second stage of the society, when society became divided between slaves and slave masters. At that time, tears of the oppressed slaves gave birth to religion. Marx said religious distress is the distress of the oppressed people. Religion is the sigh of the oppressed people. Later Comrade Ghosh has explained that at that time, some thinkers thought that as society was ruled and governed by the slave masters, similarly nature was also governed by a master. They observed that sunrise and sunset, day and night, cycle of seasons, birth and death—all were taking place in order. So, they thought that there ought to be a master of this universe. That master has created the world. In this way, ideas of god developed in the society. Then, those who were great men at that time advocated religion. They said that both the slave masters and slaves were all sons and daughters of God. In the eyes of God all were equal. So society should be run according to the religion. When these thoughts and ideas for the welfare of and justice for the exploited slaves emerged in the minds of those great men, they considered that these ideas in their mind came from an external supermind, that is God. At that time it was not possible to understand scientifically how ideas originate in contradiction between human brain and the external material conditions, and how with the change of external conditions, ideas also change; old ideas become obsolete and new ideas develop. Accordingly religious preachers honestly felt that they were carrying the message of the almighty God. But, the slave masters could not accept this. They persecuted the religious preachers, even murdered them. Many religious preachers became martyrs at that time. That is the history.

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

RSS-BJP using religion as 'opium for the people'.

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Then feudalism came as the rule of religion. Feudal kings, monarchs used religion as the weapon of exploitation. They claimed themselves as the representatives of god. They were mandated to own all property and their rule was to be accepted as divine rule. Then came the question of ending the feudal system in order to end the feudal oppression, exploitation. Consequently, modern democratic society was established responding to the need of the newly developed rising bourgeoisie and emancipation of serfs. A slogan was raised to establish rule of the people instead of rule of the kings. This movement was initiated and led by the rising bourgeoisie. That is why it is called bourgeois democratic revolution. By the people, for the people, of the people, rule of constitution, rule of law—all these concepts were developed at that time. Renaissance prepared the ground for this democratic revolution. At that time, the bourgeoisie fought against religion and idea of almighty God. They developed the philosophy of mechanical materialism, secularism and agnosticism. I can name Bacon, Lock, Hobbes, Spinoza, Kant, Feuerbach and many other eminent thinkers who preached these ideas and denied the existence of god. They were not Marxists. They were bourgeois philosophers. Concept of Parliamentary Democracy evolved based on those ideas. Concept of Janatantra (democracy) instead of Rajtantra (monarchy) had developed.

Religion cannot solve burning problems of life

There is a mischievous propaganda that those who do not believe in religion and god have no character. I can quote what the great pioneer of Indian renaissance, Vidyasagar, in a dauntless voice in 1853, informed the British Government: "For certain reasons, which it is needless to state here, we are obliged to continue the teachings of the Vedanta and Sankhya in the Sanskrit College. That Vedanta and Sankhya are false systems of philosophy is no more a matter of dispute. These systems, false as they are, command unbound reverence from the Hindus. Whilst teaching these in the Sanskrit course, we should oppose them by sound philosophy in the English course to counteract their influence. Bishop Barkley's 'Inquiry' which has arrived at similar or identical conclusions with the Vedanta or Sankhya, and which is no more considered in Europe as a sound system of

philosophy, will not serve that purpose."⁽⁸⁾ He did not believe in god, denounced other religious scriptures but he was highly respected by Ramkrishna, Vivekananda, Rabindranath and all the leaders of Indian freedom struggle. Saratchandra, Bhagat Singh, Meghnad Saha, Satyen Bose and some eminent personalities of the world did not believe in god and religion. Can anybody dare to say that they were characterless persons? Even Bhagat Singh from British jail wrote his celebrated essay titled "Why I am an atheist?"

You can ask a religious leader or a believer in religion whether there is any chapter in the Gita, Vedanta, Ramayana, Mahabharata or Bible or Quran which deals with the burning problems confronting our lives today, that is, rise in prices and taxes, unemployment, closure of factories and retrenchment, illiteracy and fee hike in educational institutions, absence of facilities of medical treatment, women trafficking, rape and gang-rape, police atrocities, increase in transport fares etc.. Which chapter deals with the questions of democratic rights, how to judge different political parties and such other questions? They cannot show you because in those times, religious preachers did not face these problems. At that time they did not know what capitalism is. They faced the slave system and its oppression. And today if we have to follow Ramayana, what are we to do? According to Ramayana, King Dasharatha instructed Ram to go to the forest without any cause. Sita and Laxman followed him. If today, a Ram bhakt's father instructs his son to go to forest and if his wife and brother also follow him, what will people tell? They will tell — send them to lunatic asylum. They are mad people. Question of chastity of Sita was raised and Sita was asked to jump in fire and prove preservation of her chastity. Sita obeyed! If it happens today, both Ram and Sita will be persecuted,— Ram for attempt to murder and Sita for attempting to commit suicide. If you follow Mahabharata, you would find five brothers sharing one wife following their mother's instructions. Parasuram following the instruction of his father murdered his mother. Shall we allow these things today? Ask the people in this way. He may believe in god. That may not be the point. That is his personal affair. But these religious scriptures cannot solve the problems of life of today. It is to be

noted that not a single religious leader today protests or fights against any injustice, oppression or corruption. Rather they defend all these saying that the will of almighty is deciding everything. You will be astonished, if I remind you what was the comment of RSS Chief on the horrifying rape of Nirbhaya. He said these happened in India, not in Bharat, and due to women who are crossing the 'Lakshman Rekha'! As if the villages are free from rape and women must stay indoor and be confined to domestic work. What a justification of a horrendous crime on women!

Vulgarization of religion by RSS-BJP

It is to be noted that the bourgeoisie who in course of fighting feudalism fought against religious ideas, is today, in its decadent moribund stage, encouraging religious blindness. Being faced with people's discontents, agitations and harbouring fear complex of anti-capitalist revolution, the bourgeois rulers today want to distract the people's mind from real cause of sufferings in life and make them believe that all miseries in their lives are governed by god's will. Earlier the bourgeoisie fought spiritualism and upheld scientific outlook. Now their role is completely opposite. They are encouraging blind religious faiths and spiritualism, opposing scientific outlook and confining science within its technical aspects only. In our country this was done during the Congress rule and is further boosted by the present BJP rule. Moreover present rulers are exploiting religious blindness in order to divide the people and create vote bank for themselves by fomenting communal tension and engineering communal riots in the name of Hindu religion. I can show you from history that the religious preachers of yester years had never vilified other religions, let alone organizing religious riots. The RSS-BJP even demolished a historic monument, Babri Masjid, claiming it to have been built on the birth place of Rama, a mythological character, with an objective to build up a Ram Mandir there. This was never claimed by Chaitanya, Ramkrishna and Vivekananda, three respected preachers of Hindu religion. Rather Ramkrishna said, God, Allah, Bhagwan are one and the same. He even offered 'namaj' in Masjid and prayers in Church. Now, allow me to quote Vivekananda. He said: "If I had a son, I would not have given him any religions tutelage except

practising concentration, one paragraph of prayer and chanting mantras. Thereafter, in course of growing in age and listening to various opinions and advices, he would have been acquainted with something which to him would have been the truth. It is very natural that simultaneously with full freedom and without having any conflict, my son could be a Buddhist, my wife a Christian and myself a Muslim."⁽⁹⁾ He further said: "...we want to take mankind to that end where there is no Veda, Bible and Quran, but all works will be performed through integration of the Veda, Bible and Quran. We not only tolerate all religions but believe all of them to be true."⁽¹⁰⁾ Now, let me ask you to judge who are to be considered real Hindu — Chaitanya, Ramkrishna, Vivekananda or these RSS-BJP people?

Solution does not lie in Parliamentary Democracy either

I have already told you how religious ideas originated in the slave society to serve the oppressed slaves and what historic and progressive role it played at that time. It is for this reason that we highly respect all the religious preachers. But, today religion is exploited by the ruling class to hoodwink the people. I have already discussed before you why religion cannot provide any solutions to the problems faced by the people today. Can the existing bourgeois parliamentary democracy provide solutions to the problems of life either? Our answer is no. Because, parliamentary democratic election without real political education of the people is a hypocrisy without any limit. In fact, instead of 'by the people, for the people, of the people', it is today 'by the money power, for the money power and of the money power', that is for the capitalist class. Crores of people are illiterate. They don't know politics. From early morning to midnight, they have to toil hard only to have a handful of rice or a slice of bread. They cannot spend time to discuss, to think about politics. They cannot differentiate between this or that party. Simply they are carried away by the media power, the relentless propaganda in TV, radio and newspapers. They are purchased by money power in order to vote for this party or that party allegiant to the ruling class. It is the bourgeoisie who decides who have to be elected to power. Government is nothing but servant of the bourgeois class. As the industrial houses need industrial managers and business

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Middle East

West Asian humanitarian crisis, pathetic outcome of cruel imperialist design

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subversive activities are planned, programmed, engineered, sponsored and fuelled with money, arms, mercenaries including their training for military or subversive activities, all done by the imperialists headed by the greatest war-monger of the day, the US imperialism, with a view to extending or maintaining their respective spheres of economic-political influence- dominance exercising military might, establishing their hegemony. Of late, a design is glaringly manifest. Whenever there is an opposition or any regime of any country refuses to oblige the US rulers and chose to go their own way, the imperialists, aided and abetted by their subservient section of media, the allies and lackeys with or without the help of local agents, immediately raise hue and cry and move to overthrow that 'non-pliable enemy' under any false or fraudulent pretext, be it for possessing and using WMD or weapons of mass destruction or for violating human rights. So much so that, as the Iranian leader once remarked in 2014: "The US aims to bring its own blind followers to power". Then for the purpose, there is a war, the so-called civil or sectarian war of the imperialist-controlled media- brand, that lingers for years to follow.

Unpardonable crime on humanity

Those wars annihilate or uproot lakhs of innocent lives, destroy properties, ravage the country, inflict immense hardship on its people. And then, the imperialist forces directly aggressive or generating worst forms of lie, devour upon the victims and the ravaged land with ruinous neo-colonialist exploitation agenda on the plea of restoring democracy and order, and reconstruction. In course of these wars, the imperialists and their pliant media raise fingers at the forces they pick up to, for perpetrating war crimes; however, they themselves, more particularly the US imperialists, assuming the role of judge, jury and executioner, that is the sole monarch of the imperialist brigand in this unipolar world, remain permanently exempted from answering for their crimes against humanity. A rough calculation shows that from these onslaughts of imperialists, more so the US imperialists in the last two decades, death toll of innocent citizens including women and children has crossed 5 lakhs, in

course of wars of occupation against Iraq, military assault on Libya, civil war in Afghanistan, plotted rebellion against Assad rule in Syria, murderous attack of US-backed Zionist Israel on Lebanon, Israel's prolonged armed hostility against Palestine people, US sponsored ethnic war and eventual division of Sudan, bombing of US-backed Saudi Arabia on Yemen and uprising in Tunisia. Many parts of these targeted trouble-torn countries have virtually been razed into rubbles. Invading US military did not spare hospitals, orphanages, schools and places of religious prayers while resorting to indiscriminate aerial bombing and using lethal weapons including poisonous gas like orangeB and radioactive explosives. As a sequel to such devastating armed attacks, millions of innocent people having lost their home and hearth, properties and even near relatives, have been fleeing their lands and desperately seeking safety as migrants in other countries. According to a Western journalist, these hapless migrants look like a herd of sheep running helter skelter in fear of being pounded over by a pack of salivating wolves. This is the extent of crime that the US imperialists have perpetrated so far in West Asia just for grabbing oil fields and other natural resources, creating their spheres of influence, establishing their hegemony over the entire region by flaunting military might and thereby buttressing their heinous imperialist agenda. Yet they shamelessly boast of being the 'largest democracy' having arrogated to themselves the sole authority to decide who should survive in this world and who should perish.

In this procession of destruction-death- eviction from homeland and suffering, several countries figure out most strikingly. The miserable plight of Palestinians set in as far back as the close of the second world war when the state of Israel was set up by the imperialists and a Zionist regime was established there. Since then the list went on to become longer with virtually all countries of the region being affected by the handiwork of the imperialists. The carnage and devastation tended to get worse and ghastly with days-months-years. And in that process the world became familiar with the names of Iraq, Libya, Syria, Yemen and others that came out in the most recent past of a few decades, as the most

affected countries.

Iraq occupation on fraudulent charges

Of these, **Iraq** was twice ravaged by imperialist onslaughts, in the eighties of the last century and with the advent of the new millennium. As usual with other cases, the pliant media played a vital role in catering sponsored or monitored news to build up a world opinion in favour and justification of the most dastardly of the US aggression upon this country. In the second onslaught, the US imperialist brigand aided particularly by their faithful counterpart from the United Kingdom, devastated Iraq ruthlessly with the heartless pounding of the land with most lethal arsenals and bombs, with the cruel witch-hunting of the President of a sovereign country, Saddam Hussain, staging a fake trial of him with the help of their agents inside the country and finally murdering Saddam on charges of possessing and using WMD that is, the weapons of mass destruction for chemical and biological warfare. It was subsequently proved and the proof made open to the world that the entire charge of WMD was **utterly** false. Even a former UN human rights chief in Iraq and a UN secretary general special representative for Iraq could not but make it clear that '*the war in Iraq was illegal*', the invasion initiated by the Bush administration of the USA was in breach of international law with its aim at '*disarming Iraq of weapons of mass destruction*' that were never to be found. The British Premier who had written personally to Bush on July 28, 2002 to be '*with you, whatever,*' and had lied to his Parliament, later in 2004 shifted his position, to tell the House of Commons that notwithstanding absence of '*actually deployable weapons*', Saddam '*retained the intent and capability*'. And what did this war on deliberate false premise bring to Iraq? The US brigand indiscriminately bombed the country destroying their infrastructure including hospitals, schools, bridges etc. and butchering more than 2 million people including old, infirm, children and womenfolk, and maiming still more, which act the invaders termed as '*collateral damage*'. The US imperialists planted governments under their control which could never earn people's support; the victors, the US soldiers freely looted the invaluable

museum specimens and artifacts of the great Mesopotamian civilization as war souvenirs; the US rulers plundered the natural resources of the country, mainly oil and to do it smoothly maintained military presence.

US imperialism gave birth to inhuman fundamentalist-terrorist outfits

To ensure their grip, they sowed seeds of disunity among the hitherto essentially secular Iraqi people, by inciting communal hatred and strife between the religious communities and sects, like the Shias and the Sunnis; fanned up fundamentalist forces from which emerged the dreaded fundamentalist outfit, Islamic State (IS, formerly ISIS/ISIL) standing on the shoulders of similar fundamentalist forces like the Talibanis, Al-Qaeda and Al-Nusra Front.

This IS, Daesh being its Arabic acronym, swept through northern Iraq and held a swathe of Syria, to declare in 2014 to have established a new cross-border caliphate based horribly on the fundamentalist tenets. In 2014 Zeid, a former U.N. ambassador of Jordan and a Jordanian prince characterized the IS rule as 'a harsh, mean-spirited, house of blood, where no shade would be offered, nor shelter given, to any non-*Takfiri* in their midst'. The *Takfiri* mind, as found in Nigeria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Kenya, Somalia, Mali, Libya, Syria and Iraq, does not indulge in love of neighbour; it harbours the mindset promoting only annihilation to those who believe differently to them. So the IS beheaded journalists- critics, brought down inhuman torture to their suspects and particularly to women and children of different belief, mindlessly destroyed hundreds of invaluable sites of ancient civilization (for example, the Assyrian city of Nimrud in Iraq), to mention only a few of their '*versatile*' brutality.

This IS, presently the most dangerous and hated fundamentalist outfit that has extended its network in many countries of Middle East, South Asia, West and North Africa and elsewhere, was however, a fond baby of the imperialist designs. The IS '*grew out of our invasion*' in Iraq, admitted the US President Obama at long last to the media and '*there would be no Islamic State if there were no Iraq war*' told

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Middle East

Power-crazy profit-hungry imperialists dwell upon lies, arrogance, inhuman brutality

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Blair, the former British Premier in a CNN interview. And they could make inroad in Syria too, courtesy the US imperialists and their allies.

The devastating ravage of Iraq and pathetic bloodbath of Iraqi people was thus based entirely on fraudulence and fabrication of charges that ultimately told miserably upon the country and its people. The US imperialism would thus find its place in human history as a deceitful cruel war-monger with insatiable greed for hegemony and profit-hunt.

Criminal war of aggression on Libya

If fraudulence, cruelty and greed had marked the Iraq invasion of the US imperialists, their 'Libya gamble' as their own media (*New York Times*, 28-29 February 2016) termed it, was characterized as one more instance of arrogance and recklessness of US policy that is inseparable from militarism and aggression. The Libya war of the US brigands and that accomplices in NATO was launched with the purpose of establishing a puppet regime in that country ousting the Muammar Gaddafi-led Libyan government known for its vigorous anti-US stand. And all this with a view to smoothening satiation of imperialist greed for the rich oil reserve of the country. Libya under Gaddafi had grown into one of Africa's most developed ones, with just six million people, no sectarian divide and plenty of oil. So the ouster of Gaddafi was only aimed at imposing a US-controlled puppet regime there and to assert unfettered control over Africa's largest oil reserves in the bargain.

The US-NATO war on Libya, a blatantly criminal war of aggression that laid waste to an entire country was preceded by rejection by the war-monger US imperialist rulers of all proposals for negotiation for a peaceful settlement; on the contrary arms were supplied to the so-called rebel militias which were nothing short of branded Islamist fundamentalist groups, with direct ties to Al Qaeda, ISIS or Boko Haram. In October 2011 Muammar Gaddafi, President of a sovereign country, along with his son (who had been warmly welcomed to the US State Department just two years earlier) were viciously murdered by a lynch-mob of the US-backed fundamentalist rebels. The murder

was welcomed by the then US Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton with exclamation "We came, we saw, he died!" , as she watched the lynching in a video. Arms seized from Libyan government stockpiles were funneled, along with Libyan Islamist fighters, into Syria, under the supervision of the CIA, which established a secret station in Benghazi along with another in southern Turkey.

The entire operation flagrantly violating international, constitutional and US statute laws turned the once prosperous country into a cauldron of endless violence, instability, turmoil and unspeakable human suffering involving tens of thousands of noncombatant men, women, children, the elderly and infirm. In aftermath of the war, the country turned into one with no central authority and various armed militias roaming the streets and competing for control. Nearly a third of the country's population fled across the border to Tunisia. Others headed for Europe, there treated with disdain and internment under concentration camp conditions on arrival. (*Global Research* 04-08-16) The situation came to such a pass in September 2012 that the US facilities in Benghazi were attacked and the US ambassador and three security personnel killed. The Libyan War, though marked as a US-NATO war on Libya, really stood out in human history as another mark of 'a consummate expression of the degraded character of the US rulers and its political system as a whole' (*worldsocialistwebsite*.)

The US rulers could occupy Iraq, devastate Libya, apparently as they wished for. But they could not prevent fast rise of world people's opinion, including their own, against them and their policies. The US imperialists then set out to try some other means afresh in another country, Syria.

Heinous plot to install puppet regime in Syria

In Syria, the US imperialism and its allies and lackeys like Israel and the monarchies of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates desired a "regime change", that is ousting of President Bashar-al-Assad from power. With this avowed programme they raised, sponsored, financed, armed and trained anti-Assad rebel groups and a conglomerate of so-called Free Syrian Army. These forces could never attain the goal of

their master, as Assad, though maintaining a dictatorial, undemocratic regime could garner, to a significant extent, his people's support against the US design. The rebels could only succeed in creating turmoil and strife within the country and thus making the ground soft for fundamentalist forces to raise their heads. The IS could make inroad into Syria under these conditions. As an anti-Assad force it was also blessed by the US imperialists in all kinds and materials. Both the IS and the Syrian rebel groups backed by the U.S. and its allies 'have committed serious violations of international humanitarian law, including abductions, torture and summary killings,' according to Amnesty International. The Amnesty report also shows how rebel groups have targeted ethnic and religious minorities. The Amnesty has further asked the International Syria Support Group, that is the U.S., Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Turkey, the U.K. and France — to 'immediately cease the transfer of arms, munitions and other military equipment, including logistical and financial support, to armed groups implicated in committing war crimes and other serious human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law.' On the other hand, presently the Syrian government forces with air cover from the Russian forces are bringing down severe attacks on the IS and other rebel held areas of the country. As with these attacks, the IS or even the other US backed rebels are losing their territories, the US imperialists and their allies are frantically trying to prevent those on the pretext of violation of human rights. Thus the world now sees the USA and Russia engaged in mutual bickering, violent in cases, to ensure their respective hegemony over this land, which is again oil-rich and strategically placed.

As a result, the severe and prolonged war has killed Syrian people in hundreds of thousands (300,000 by some report, but some other reports fix it at nearly 1 million) and uprooted several millions from their homestead. In fact, these refugees from Syria and Iraq, victims of imperialist engineered war, have found no alternative but to flee their land even making dangerous attempt to cross the Mediterranean Sea in boats. In fact this vast mass of innocent people have contributed to the enormous

mass of hapless human beings who are bracketed by the imperialists and their subservient media as generating the unprecedented recent migrant problem of Europe. They hold the respective countries, Iraq and Syria responsible and pose benevolent saviours only to crawl out of their disgraceful deeds. What an audacious travesty of truth!

A few more words on Syria!

The war against Syria that virtually defines war in the current phase of imperialist buccaneering is a war led by the U.S., CIA, imperialist proxies and their so-called allies. It may be pertinent to mention that the imperialist powers headed by US imperialism began the process of redrawing the Middle East and Northern Africa on the basis of a secret Sykes-Picot 2.0. [The original Sykes-Picot was a secret 1916 agreement between Great Britain and France (the Tsarist Russian Empire also agreed to it) that defined mutually agreed spheres of influence and control in South-Western Asia.] Its aim was to destabilize independent states and halt any force from gaining any semblance of independence. Moreover, the war against Syria would have been impossible without the destruction of Iraq, the continued occupation of Afghanistan and the total devastation of Libya. The reactionary death squads in Syria are committing genocide against Kurds, Christians, Druze, Shia and Sunnis who will not submit! More than just US escalations in Syria, Turkey, NATO's Middle Eastern nuclear weapons base, has also been playing a large role in the war against Syria. Turkey is tottering down a path of civil war on its own streets while simultaneously furthering its imperial ambitions in Syria and Iraq. It is almost a certainty that Turkey will be utilized to expand the NATO role in Syria, widening the scope of the war.

Brute onslaught on poor Yemeni people

In the most impoverished country of the Middle East, **Yemen** on the Red Sea coast, another act of destruction and death is being enacted. Here the US-brand regime change drama is being unfolded in a reverse mode. The present president Rabbu Mansour Hadi was driven into exile by the Yemeni people in late 2014. Despite enjoying a small support base, he is installed in power

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Middle East**Resistance against imperialism with correct leadership is what situation calls for***Contd. from page 6*

with the backing and blessings of the monarchies of Saudi Arabia, a faithful US ally and the US imperialism itself. It gives him the audacity to even reject UN peace proposals with the Saudi monarchy sabotaging the moves and the US State Department standing in tacit support of them. In a desperate bid to reclaim and establish Hadi's control firmly on Yemen and thereby ensure the economic and political interests of Riyadh and other allies of the USA, a Saudi-led coalition is carrying out air-strikes since March 2015 against the Shi'ite rebels known as Houthis and their allies including supporters of former president Ali Abdullah Saleh. The US imperialism, the mentor – master, is providing the aggressors with logistic support and refueling advantages, among other facilities. Enriched and emboldened with those, the air strikes of the Saudi and allied aggressors have deliberately destroyed power stations and water supply lines of this poor country, as well as much of its medical facilities and other vital civilian infrastructure. It has caused immense carnage and devastation which even led to virulent outbreak of cholera. In a recent reprehensible act, in early October this year, a 500lb laser-guided US-made bomb was dropped on a funeral procession by the US-sponsored Saudi-led coalition. This bomb killed more than 140 people mostly civilians who were already mourning the loss of loved ones and wounded more than 525 people. The incident has been called 'an apparent war crime' by the Human Rights Watch group (Guardian-15-10-16). In protest Houthi rebels fired missiles from their Soviet-era stockpiles which fell harmlessly into the water. In retaliation, the US navy stationed in the Red Sea, some thousands of kilometers from their land, launched cruise missiles from their destroyer to destroy radar sites in Houthi-rebel controlled territory. A Pentagon press secretary justified the action as "... limited self-defense strikes ... to protect our personnel, our ships and our freedom of navigation in this important maritime passageway". Shameless admission by a rogue of its own crime!

US people vigorously questioning war policies of their own rulers

In this list of Middle East countries and around, that have fallen into the vortex of US-engineered turmoil there are more

names like Afghanistan, Pakistan, Lebanon, Egypt, Iran and others. They have either been victims of ruthless aggression from the US as in Afghanistan or has fallen prey to the fundamentalist activities that have been generated and fomented by the US imperialists, be it the Saudi-born Al-Qaeda or Afghanistan born Taliban or the recent IS. The US intervention-aggression has reached such a magnitude that the top leader of Iran, once a deadly foe of Iraq, could comment: "We strongly oppose the intervention of the US and others in the domestic affairs of Iraq,.... The US aims to bring its own blind followers to power."

The monopolists-imperialists-controlled media have worked out every ways and means to paint the picture rosy, to portray the belligerent aggressors as saviours of democracy and human rights which, as they paint, are being violated by this or that ruler of the target countries. But even from the monitored, censored even falsified reports, truths have come out and are coming out in a steady course. It is now clearly known to anybody with a minimal sense, from irrefutable evidences and documents that the allegations against Iraq for holding and using WMD were utterly false, the murder of Gaddafi and wreaking havoc on Libya were criminal, desperate attempt for installation of a puppet regime in Syria was nothing but a design to weed out one of the last major oppositions to the US imperialists in the Middle East. Even the people of USA have been raising questions, much more and much precisely than what they raised during the Vietnam War of US imperialism. In addition to their powerful protests against their own regime as expressed in the Occupy Wall Street movement, they are holding massive rallies against war and for peace. They are questioning what for the USA people are laying down their lives thousands of kilometers away in the deserts of the Middle East or Africa. With capitalism fleecing them on their own soil, with unemployment, homelessness, poverty rising rampant, the US people are questioning the huge financial loss being incurred in the wars away from home, for causes not their own.

Question is also coming up as to if the U.S. is really fighting the Islamic State group or al-Qaida in

Syria. Otherwise how is that despite the imperialists claimed on assault on the terrorists for over 15-years, war on terrorism; yet this terrorism has become a thousand times stronger, a thousand times fiercer? Available facts and objective analysis corroborate that the reactionary terrorist groups are direct proxies of the imperialist powers. The imperialists have consistently given their proxies material support and continue to share their aims across the entire region.

Power- and profit-hungry imperialist sharks live on human blood, survive on war

In such a situation we need some recapitulation, reiteration of some truth to get at the truth for the present. It is no longer just an irrefutable Marxist-Leninist understanding. It has now come out as the stark reality, a day-to-day experience for people in this so-called unipolar world. Even with no socialist camp existing, the capitalist-imperialist world does not refrain from generating wars. Because, capitalism inevitably generates war for its survival. Over and above the ruthless capitalist exploitation, it takes resort to another atrocious measure of militarization of economy. It exploits people, pauperizes them and thus generates market crisis, industrial recession. Unable to get over such recession inevitable in dying capitalism, they go for extensive militarization of economy. The bourgeois government usurps people's money to provide to the capitalists-monopolists hefty financial assistance, doles and freebies, and even magnanimous bail-out packages to somehow stave off the insolvable market crisis they are sunk in. In absence of market for industrial production because of rapidly dwindling purchasing power of the common people, the capitalists-monopolists seek to maximize profit and thereby stimulate the market artificially through large scale manufacturing of military hardware. The government which provides finance to this arms production by the monopolists and MNCs from public exchequer often by slashing subsidies and cutting cost towards public welfare, itself becomes buyers of this weaponry again by drawing on the public exchequer, sells them in an ever-running arms market across the world to clear

out stockpiles of older arms to keep the arms industries moving. The bourgeois government thus becomes a partner in production as well as sale of arms –ammunitions. But to sustain production of arms through increased militarization of economy, it is imperative to find a route for consumption of the arms. That is impossible unless there is precipitation as well as perpetuity of wars, be it local or regional, communal or fundamentalist. Wars keep their industries moving when otherwise they are bogged in dire straits. So there are wars one after another, stoked up, fomented, launched by the war-mongers, imperialists led by the most belligerent US imperialists. And to keep the process on and nurture the militarized economy, capitalism-imperialism further needs war-psychosis, frenzy and enmity posing to jump into war any time. So it needs relentless trade and business in arms and associated ancillaries, campaign in favour of pouncing upon an enemy of democracy or human rights, be it there or not. Imperialist powers produce arms in profusion. They sell them liberally to less powerful states. The ruling capitalist class of the buyer countries are also exploiting their own people without relent and are thus giving birth to ever-rising resentment in them. They need to stifle their people's resentment, thwart people's resistance, if any, channelize their wrath against the existing rule into some other course. So the rulers of capitalist countries, big or small, powerful or not, need to create bogies before their people, create war tension on this or that pretext and convince people about the necessities to prepare for war. So they spurt up defence or military expenses manifold. Thus, even the smaller or less powerful capitalist countries play into the hands of the bigger imperialist powers and get to become partners in their war games. Along with their powerful counterparts they also join the bandwagon for creating war psychosis. All this to reap the maximum benefit possible for the ruling class from the prevailing situation at any moment.

The brief outline above presents this same scenario being enacted in the turmoil — rather war-ravaged Middle East and countries around. And this imperialist design has simply been giving way to death

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Middle East and around

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and maiming without number, to incessant stream of innocent people, tired of seeing- feeling and suffering from war for no fault of theirs, and driven to the extreme where they take recourse to flee their homestead in search of safer land, but taking the gravest possible risks of crossing a sea on overcrowded boats. The powerful countries including their monopoly-controlled media enthusiastically make threadbare analysis of whether it is justified to indulge entry of migrants in a foreign country and exploit their cheap labour power, or not. The UN, supposedly the conscience-keeper for the world, now turned watchdog of the imperialists, more so of the US imperialists, sit tight, unperturbed in sessions after sessions only not to find any way out. The entire humanity stand bewildered. How could such dastardly acts go on with impunity?

How could the perpetrators of these worst crimes go unpunished, even not facing minimum criticism?

Absence of correct leadership causes people to suffer against imperialist design

But this is one part of the tragic issue. It may be recalled that even though there were spurts of communist movements in some of the countries of the Middle East, revolutionary movement on Marxism- Leninism could not develop adequately in those. Now when gripped under modern revisionism, the world communist movement has become considerably weaker, even a militant peace movement, a genuine anti-imperialist movement which is direly needed is difficult to generate. And in the Middle East countries, the parties with the banner of communism have virtually turned into powerless entities.

In such a situation even though people of the Middle East and around are facing inhuman sufferings, there is no leadership to organize and lead them against unjust interventions- aggressions, to help them fight against the war-monger imperialists and save them from their sufferings. The imperialist onslaughts thus could not be thwarted; the imperialists could not be prevented from giving shape to their designs unopposed with impunity. Whereas it was the need of the hour that a militant anti-imperialist movement with the communists at the core and ideologically-culturally equipped for sustained and organized struggle spread across the world be developed immediately.

And here lies the importance of the third vital aspect of the issue. People of the world, more so of the Middle East and around must address the problems keenly and meticulously, must face the stark

reality without prejudice. It needs to be recognized that things cannot be let to go on the way they are going. Not for ever, not even for long. There is no question of giving up. And so people must be equipped with the ideological-organizational- ethical strength to stand up to resist. They must find out the correct way, build up their own leadership which will equip them in all respects. It would not end in one movement or two, but will carry on sustained till the goal is attained. The goal to fix it right now is to resolve that the blood-thirsty, profit-hungry, cruel and deceitful imperialists, led by the US imperialism, cannot be allowed to carry on their barbaric adventures with impunity for long. There must be a stop. Conscientious people of the world should step out to raise this voice and help people of the Middle East to create powerful centres of resistance.

Double Standards : Secrecy for Demonetisation, But a Long Rope for Swiss Bank Accounts

In the Indo-Swiss deal, there is no sense of urgency to bring back black money that will increase tax revenues without burdening the common person.

In late September 2016, Switzerland became the latest country to ratify the Joint Council of Europe/OECD Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters as amended. Its ratification will take effect as per procedure in the convention on January 1, 2017. The convention is multilateral and is stated to have been developed to ensure mutual assistance in tax matters and in particular effective exchange of information to enable countries to maintain sovereignty over the application and enforcement of their tax laws. Before that, Panama had acceded to the convention, in the

face of mounting world pressure following the Swiss HSBC leaks and the Panama leaks.

Yet India has signed a joint declaration with Switzerland on November 22, 2016, for the implementation of automatic exchange of information, agreeing to the release of financial information by Switzerland *only* from September 2019 onwards, on an automatic basis and that too *only* of accounts held by Indians in Switzerland for 2018 and subsequent years. This is as per the press communiqué of the Central Board of Direct Taxes, whose chairman signed the declaration on behalf of India. Thus there is ample amount of time for black marketeers stashing their money in Swiss accounts to move it.

Given the aggressive state

propaganda on demonetisation is about dealing with unaccounted money, it may be useful to look at the position of the magnitude of black wealth in relation to other sources and also question why such aggressive measures were not taken in these areas, where the consequences would not be felt by common people. India ranked 16th in the Swiss leaks database of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists with \$4.1 billion (approximately Rs 268.2 million) in just the leaked Swiss files. There were 26,999 bank accounts of Indian clients and 1,668 clients. The maximum amount of money associated with a client connected to

India was \$876.3 million. The amount detected through the leaked files by itself amounts to 7.07% of the revenue collection from taxes on wealth in India, which was Rs 3792.3 million in 2013-2014.

A confidential report by the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy on the true extent of India's parallel economy quantified it in 2013 at 75% of GDP.

India could have done far better in terms of mounting pressure on Switzerland to disclose in 2017 the details of past and present accounts, given that global pressure is still on Switzerland to disclose account details. (Source:—the wire 09-12-16)

Industrial Production Dips Further

The *Index of Industrial Production (IIP)* fell 1.9 per cent in *October*, 2016. This plummeting of IIP was at the fastest pace in three months. October's result was driven chiefly by a decline in manufacturing output, which fell 2.4% annually, contrasting the 0.9% expansion in September. The fall in mining moderated to a 2.4% decrease (September: -3.2% year-on-year). On a use-based classification, the production of capital goods fell notably. Consumer goods also declined. The trend continued to point downward. Annual average variation in industrial production swung from plus 0.5% in September to minus 0.5% in October, a multi-year low.

This continued slide in IIP indicates that Indian economy is in recession. (Source:—*Economic Times*-11-12-16 and *Focus Economics*-12-12-16)



Observance of Anti-communal day on 6 December at Patna. Comrade Arun Singh, Bihar State Secretary addressing

American young reject capitalist economy, favour socialism while majority populace of former USSR and erstwhile socialist East European countries want socialism back

A Harvard University survey reported by the Washington Post on April 26, 2016 throws open some questions to the US Society in particular, and world people in general. **The target population, young adults between ages 18 and 29, by a majority (51% against 42%) responded with a rejection of capitalism as the basic principle of the US economy.** It was not clear to the surveyors (the pollsters) if those young people would prefer socialism as the alternative system, though 33% of them did express support. **They hold that the newest generation of voters is frustrated with the status quo, with an economy in which household incomes have been declining for 15 years. Others hold that they are more focused on the flaws of free markets.** 48 % of young surveyed agreed that "basic health insurance is a right for all people." And 47 percent agreed with the statement that "Basic necessities, such as food and shelter, are a right that the government should provide to those unable to afford them."

The result was, however, no freak. In 2011, another survey by a Pew Research Centre found that the same kind of population (between ages 18 to 29) were

similarly frustrated with the free-market system. In that survey, 46 per cent had positive views of capitalism, and 47 percent had negative views. With regard to socialism, 49 percent of the young people in Pew's poll had positive views, and just 43 per cent had negative views.

Naturally, the Harvard University survey result was not palatable to the US experts. They put up different face-saving explanations. Some say, capitalism means different things to different people; even the word 'capitalism' doesn't mean what it used to. **For those who grew up during the Cold War, capitalism meant freedom from the Soviet Union and other totalitarian regimes. For those who grew up more recently, capitalism has meant a financial crisis from which the global economy still hasn't completely recovered.** Even the Republicans, held as rightist in view and as the champions of free enterprise, use the word 'capitalism' these days, often to complain about 'crony capitalism.' A youngman involved in conduction of the polls even say that they, the rightists, do not tend to use the word 'capitalism' to defend their economic policies.

The nervousness of the experts was evident from other reactions.

"Young people could be saying that there are problems with capitalism, contradictions," an editor-in-chief maintained, adding "I certainly don't know what's going through their heads."

The polling director at Harvard himself tried to personally interview a small group of young people about their attitudes toward capitalism. They told him that capitalism was unfair and left people out despite their hard work. The director remained content with his self-realization that 'They're not rejecting the concept. The way in which capitalism is practiced today, in the minds of young people — that's what they're rejecting.'

The question if the American young men are rejecting free markets as a matter of principle or whether those views are simply an expression of broader frustrations, is thus, conveniently left open.

It may be added that the people who have lived both under socialism and capitalism give their answer to the various bourgeois and petty bourgeois unhistorical slanders. **Various polls in former socialist countries prove that the majority of people, in Russia and Eastern Europe, think that life was better before the counter-revolutions and the restoration of capitalism.** Under

socialism their major problems had been solved: Free education, free healthcare for all, social security, jobs, free vacation and holidays for everyone, etc. The restoration of capitalism brought an unprecedented barbarity in almost every sector of public life: Social inequalities, unemployment, privatization of major public sectors from healthcare to education, etc.

On March 2016, a survey conducted by the All-Russia Public Opinion Center (VTSIOM) showed that **more than half of Russians (64%) would vote to maintain the Soviet Union** if a referendum were held today. This figure increases from 47% among those aged 18-24 to 76% among respondents aged 60 and more. **The majority of the participants in the survey (58%) said that they would welcome the revival of the Soviet Union and the socialist system.**

57% of eastern Germans defend the German Democratic Republic (GDR). 63% of the survey participants from Romania said their life was better during communism. 72% of Hungarians say that most people in their country are actually worse off today economically than they were under socialism.

Audit: Pentagon Cannot Account For \$ 6.5 Trillion Dollars of Taxpayers' Money

A new Department of Defence Inspector General's report revealed that the Pentagon couldn't account for \$6.5 trillion dollars worth of Army general fund transactions and data, according to a report by the *Fiscal Times*.

The Pentagon, which has been notoriously lax in its accounting practices, has never completed an audit, that would reveal how the agency has specifically spent the trillions of dollars allocated for wars, equipment, personnel, housing, healthcare and procurements allotted to them by Congress.

Beginning in 1996 all federal agencies were mandated by law to conduct regular financial audits. However, the Pentagon has NEVER complied with that federal law. In 20 years, it has never accounted for the trillions of dollars in taxpayer funds it has spent, in part because "fudging" the numbers has become standard operating procedure at the Department of Defence, as revealed in a 2013 *Reuters* investigation by Scot Paltrow.

According to the report by the *Fiscal Times*:

An increasingly impatient Congress has demanded that the Army achieve "audit readiness" for the first time by Sept. 30, 2017, so that lawmakers can get a better handle on military spending. But Pentagon watchdogs think that may be mission impossible, and for good reason...

The Defence Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), the behemoth Indianapolis-based agency that provides finance and accounting services for the Pentagon's civilian and military members, could not provide adequate documentation for \$6.5 trillion worth of year-end adjustments to Army general fund transactions and data.

While the Department of Defence can't account for \$6.5 trillion dollars of taxpayer funds, in 2014 there were 47 million people, including over 15 million children, living in poverty in the U.S. — 15% of the U.S. population, which is the largest total number in poverty since records began being kept 52 years ago. (Source:—mintpressnews 26-08-16)

MBAs and B Techs Clean Drains to Qualify as Sweepers in Uttar Pradesh : Report

People with graduate and post-graduate qualifications, including BTech and MBA degrees, were among the candidates who recently appeared for the practical examination to become sweepers with the Allahabad Municipal Corporation, *The Times of India* reported today.

The practical examination, which 1.10 lakh candidates are taking in order to become contractual sweepers (*safai karmcharis*), involved cleaning drains, *TOI* reported. The Allahabad Municipal Corporation introduced this practical examination to evaluate cleaning skills in 2008.

The minimum qualification for the job is the ability to read and write in Hindi. The candidates are aspiring for 119 vacancies in Allahabad and around 100 in every district across the state.

Earlier this year, 17,000 people including those with MBA, BSc and BTech degrees, applied for 114 posts of safai karmachari in Amroha district for a pay of Rs. 17,000 a month. In Bhatinda, the majority of 8,500 applications for 19 posts of a Class IV position, came from people with M Phils, MSc, and B Tech degrees. This shows the magnitude of unemployment in India (*Huffington* post 09-12-16)

Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

Society is made bereft of moral value, conscience or conscience pricking

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managers, they need the ministers as political managers to run the show. Sometimes they change the political manager also through elections. This time it is one party, next time it is another. This is going on. People have seen many elections in our country but has there been any change in their suffering lives? Life is becoming more and more miserable, unbearable. Change of government does not mean change of exploitation. There is a saying, 'whoever goes to Lanka becomes Ravana'. Common people often say this out of disgust. But we say this proverb is wrong. According to Ramayan, Rama went to Lanka, so went Sita, Laxman or even Hanuman. None of them became Ravana. But if we have to take a lesson from Ramayana, there is an important lesson. Sita was deceived by Ravana. Ravana came to Sita not as Ravana but disguised as a saint to dupe her. Sita believed him and paid the price. Likewise, at the time of elections, all these vote-based bourgeois political leaders masquerade as 'Saint Ravana' and deceive people. In this way our people are being duped time and again. These leaders of ruling parties pose themselves as champions of 'democracy' but in reality they have thrown to the winds the flag of democracy which once they upheld at the time of bourgeois democratic revolution. It was the Congress rulers who enacted draconian acts like MISA, TADA, AFSPA, etc., and promulgated Emergency to suppress people's voice of protests and movements. The same acts are now ruthlessly implemented by the BJP rulers and their rule has also turned out to be a state of undeclared emergency. Those who oppose them are branded as 'non-patriots' or 'traitors'. They claim that they only are the 'patriots'. But history tells otherwise. When thousands of people, youths and students sacrificed themselves in the patriotic freedom struggle against the British rulers in our country, RSS not only stayed away from this struggle but opposed it by branding it as 'reactionary'. What were their views? RSS guru M. S. Golwalkar himself said: "The theories of territorial nationalism and of common danger, which formed the basis for our concept of nation, had deprived us of the positive and inspiring content of our Hindu Nationhood and made many of the 'freedom movements' initially anti-British

movements. Anti-Britishism was equated with patriotism and nationalism. These reactionary views have had disastrous effects upon the entire course of the freedom struggle, its leaders and the common people."⁽¹⁾ That means according to the RSS Guru—Deshbandhu Chittaranjan, Tilak, Lala Lajpat, Netaji, Gandhiji, Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar Azad, Kshudiram along with Rabindranath, Saratchandra, Nazrul, Premchand, Subramania Bharati and others who did not advocate Hindu Nationhood, fought for a united nation irrespective of religions, castes, nationalities and struggled against British imperialism for freedom of the country, were not real 'patriots' and 'nationalists'. The views of these leaders of freedom movement, as per RSS, were 'reactionary'. He even went to this extent of characterizing them as traitors. "All those not belonging to the national, i.e. Hindu race, religion, culture and language, naturally fall out of ... real 'National life' ... Those only are nationalist patriots, who with the aspiration to glorify the Hindu race and Nation next to their heart, are prompted into activity and strive to achieve that goal. All others are either traitors or enemies to the National cause or, to take a charitable view, idiots."⁽²⁾ Can RSS or BJP leaders deny these statements and facts? Did they not play a most treacherous and an anti-freedom struggle role at the time of freedom movement in our country? Did they not make such derogatory remarks against the great freedom fighters, martyrs and eminent personalities? Now, RSS and BJP leaders are posing themselves as patriots by taking advantage of ignorance of the people about actual history of the Indian freedom struggle.

Only Marxism can show path of emancipation

You know people are crying out for change and sometimes spontaneously they burst out in sporadic agitations. But they do not know how to change this oppressive system, what is the correct ideology which can guide them. You with your youth and political education can show them the real path of emancipation. You can convince and educate them that only Marxism as a revolutionary ideology can show the real path of emancipation. There is a sinister propaganda that Marxism is foreign and hence cannot be accepted. Ask these motivated propagandists which land the

concepts of parliamentary democracy, independence, sovereignty, rule of constitution have come from? Ask them which is the land from where have flourished the different branches of modern science, modern industry, communication etc.? Have they come from the Vedas, Ramayana, Mahabharata or the western world? If we can accept all these from the western countries, then why not Marxism? Like earlier ideologies, Marxism has also emerged out of a historical necessity as a weapon of the exploited class. Marxism, to be particular, appeared as a weapon in the hands of the revolutionary working class in its struggle against oppressive capitalism. Marxism is not merely a philosophy but the only philosophy based on science. By applying scientific methodology of experimentation, examination and verification, different branches of science discover particular laws governing different fields of this material world. Accordingly physics, chemistry, biology, botany, zoology, geology, geography, etc., have developed by way of discovering particular laws governing the respective particular fields. It is the genius of Marx, who in order to find out the path of emancipation of exploited people and end all forms of class exploitation once and for all accepted science as the method. He coordinated, correlated and dialectically generalized all particular laws of particular branches of science and discovered the general laws governing the movement of the entire material world including human society. As science discovered that starting from great planets to the lately discovered smallest particles, all are in continuous motion and change, there is nothing eternal and static and every motion is law governed. Accordingly, Marx had also shown that starting from primitive society to slave system, feudalism and then capitalism — all societies have emerged one after another in accordance with some particular social laws. Similarly, neither capitalism nor any of its institutions including parliamentary democracy is eternal. It is historically bound to change and be replaced by socialism. Then in course of further and onward development, society would reach communism. In this way society will advance further and further. So Marxism is a scientific philosophy. The bourgeoisie accepts science and its application only to the extent of

running industries, agriculture, transport, mines, military and other production. But the bourgeoisie is very much afraid of Marxian science, because it threatens the very existence of capitalism.

You will have to study, understand and realize this scientific philosophy and educate the people accordingly. Starting from Copernicus, Galileo, Newton to Einstein, Heisenberg, Max Plank and Jagdish Bose, Acharya Prafulla Ray, Satyen Bose, Meghnad Saha, C. V. Raman of our country — all have contributed in the development of science. Science is continuously developing. Similarly Marxism is also developing. Marx discovered the science. Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Zedong successively developed this philosophy. Comrade Ghosh also enriched Marxism further. That is why we call Marxism-Leninism-Comrade Shihdas Ghosh Thought as our ideology, our fighting weapon.

Socialist Revolution to end all forms of exploitative class exploitation

A question is often raised that since the socialist system has been dismantled in Russia, China, and East European countries by counter-revolution and capitalism is restored, then what is the guarantee that socialism will survive after successful revolution in our country? If you thoroughly study the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, Mao Zedong and Shihdas Ghosh, you will find that all of them apprehended this danger of restoration of capitalism even after successful socialist revolution and its advancement because they viewed socialism as a transitional stage between capitalism and communism.

Historically it is a stage where if the victorious proletariat armed with developed understanding of Marxism can successfully conduct ideological, political, economical and more particularly cultural and ethical class struggle against the defeated but not yet destroyed bourgeoisie, socialism can advance and reach communism, a society where classes and class struggles will be fully abolished. But if the proletariat fails to conduct that struggle due to complacency and ideological, cultural backwardness, the defeated bourgeoisie in a disguised form would succeed engineering counter-revolution aided and abetted by world imperialism-capitalism. Although this sad development is much painful, we, the

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

Socialism would come back if revolutionary proletariat struggles in conformity with social law of development

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students of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh thought are not frustrated. We know from history that in earlier times religious preachers who are considered by their followers as the representatives of almighty god also had to fight hundreds of years for final victory facing defeat after defeat. Same thing happened with bourgeois democratic revolution. Starting from Renaissance to the establishment of bourgeois democratic republic, it took almost 350 years. These movements replaced one class rule by another class rule. But socialist revolution is a struggle to end all forms of exploitative class rules; that is it is a revolution against thousands of years of class rule. What a difficult task! It is also to be remembered that so long as socialism existed, it proved its superiority over capitalism in all aspects of human life. In Soviet socialism, there was no exploitation, no unemployment, retrenchment, poverty, illiteracy, problems of price rise, death due to hunger and absence of medical facilities and nationality-religious-ethnic conflicts. All people, men and women alike, enjoyed equal rights. Soviet socialism helped morally and materially anti-imperialist freedom struggle of all the colonies and semi-colonies. It defeated fascist aggression in the Second World War and stood as a citadel of world peace. For these reasons, all the great men of the western countries like Romain Rolland, Bernard Shaw, Einstein and great personalities of our country like Rabindranath, Saratchandra, Premchand, Subramania Bharati, Netaji Subhas, Bhagat Singh and many others hailed Soviet socialism as dawn of a new civilization.

Socialism came as per a historic law. Again it will appear following that law when the class conscious proletarian party armed with Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought struggles in strict adherence to that law and will maintain its existence by taking appropriate lessons from the counter-revolutions in erstwhile socialist countries. So to save the human civilization from devastation, you must accelerate the process of socialist revolution.

Fight bourgeois vices and individualism

I like to remind you of an important point. Emotionally we raise the slogan - 'long live Marxism-Leninism-Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought'.

Emotionally we raise the slogan - 'Red salute to the great leader of the Proletariat Comrade Shibdas Ghosh'. But mere emotion will not help us. Becoming a Marxist, becoming a real Communist is contingent upon conduction of a hard struggle, a continuous arduous struggle embracing all aspects of life. Honesty is necessary. So are necessary dedication and struggle. But what is most important is that the struggle must be conducted in a correct process. You have to understand Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought. Don't quote him in a parrot-like way. Apply Shibdas Ghosh Thought in your approach towards family life, towards your parents, towards any relationship that you might be having, towards your wife if you are married, towards your children; in other words in all aspects of life. Every moment whatever thoughts that come to my mind, in whatever way I behave, in whatever way I react—all are having a class character. Economically, I may be a proletariat but ideologically-culturally all of us are products of capitalism. So, as Comrade Ghosh has taught us, there is a necessity of continuous struggle. Every moment we must be alert. In this state of Bihar, the comrade who was once the Party secretary for many years became a renegade afterwards because he failed to conduct this struggle. Some others who earlier embraced Marxism emotionally but failed to accept Marxism culturally, ethically, morally in all aspects of life, became renegades later. This point I would like to emphasize in this house. Fight out individualism. First, it is necessary to have your emotional commitment to the oppressed people. Whenever you see any aged beggar in the street, you must view them as your father-mother. You ought to be stirred by the thought that these hapless have-nots also cared for their children but now because of this oppressive inhuman social system, they are begging on the streets. I owe my responsibility to them. What about the girls who are on the streets selling themselves? If I am only concerned about my wife or my husband, am I not ignoring these girls? Is it not a crime on my part if I do so? I am thinking of my children, my brothers and sisters. But can I ignore the boys and girls who are loitering on the railway platforms or begging on the streets? That is why, it is necessary to have emotional

commitment to them. Who will remember you if you only care for your wife and your children? Do you remember who was the father of your grandfather? Perhaps you are enjoying his property but you do not remember his name. I also do not remember. But I remember Buddha even today. I remember Mahaveera, Jesus, and Muhammad. We remember Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, Mao Zedong, Shibdas Ghosh. We remember Netaji Subhas, Bhagat Singh and such other revered personalities, not because whether they cared for their family, not because whether they cared for their wives and children or for their property but for their dedication and commitment to people's cause. So fight individualism. Don't run after name and fame or wealth.

Mix with the common people. Do not fence yourself off from them due to middle class vanity. They are the real builders of this civilization. Who are growing food crops, who are preparing clothes, who are building our houses? These impoverished deprived toiling people only. We are enjoying their labour. But what service are we rendering to them? Ask your conscience. We must mix with them, educate them on the basis of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's teachings and organize them. This is the need of the hour. Again I emphasize on studying and restudying, learning and relearning Marxism-Leninism-Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought and on assimilating it. Whatever you are learning and accepting would change your outlook, change your mode of life, change your approach to life. That is called cultural change. It is a question of serious struggle. You are surrounded by bourgeois environment — economically, politically, culturally, ethically — a corrupt bourgeois environment. You are made selfish, ego-centric, opportunist, coward, greedy of wealth. So every moment you must be conscious to remain as a revolutionary till death and prepare the people accordingly.

Emancipation can be brought about only by revolution

AIDYO is the organization where we prepare young revolutionary fighters to organize the downtrodden, illiterate, frustrated, helpless, slumbering crores of peasants and workers of this country. They are the real fighters. If workers and peasants are not

prepared both ideologically and organizationally, we cannot change this capitalist system.

I do not doubt your honesty. Again I repeat, don't quote Comrade Shibdas Ghosh like a parrot. Whatever you read, whatever you quote, translate those in your life. Change yourself, become a real student of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. That should be the task. Society is crying for emancipation. Civilization is crying for emancipation. But emancipation can be brought about only by revolution led by a party armed with Marxism-Leninism-Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought and that party is SUCI (Communist). In conclusion, I will remind you of the historic clarion call given by great Comrade Shibdas Ghosh to the students and youths in 1974. He appealed, "Comrades, engage yourselves and take active part in all the just struggles of the masses individually and collectively, and all the while keep up your political initiative at the fore. Your slogan should be — go to the masses, organize them, help them in creating political power so that people, the toiling masses, can take up arms and bring about a fundamental change of our society by overthrowing the bourgeoisie from power, replacing capitalism and establishing socialism."⁽¹³⁾

Red salute to you all!

Inquilab Zindabad!

All India DY0 Zindabad!

Red Salute to the

Great Leader of the Proletariat

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh!

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Fidel Castro memorial meeting in Kolkata

A memorial meeting of Comrade Fidel Castro, a legendary communist leader of world anti-imperialist movement, was organized on 4 December at the University Institute Hall in Kolkata. It was presided over by Comrade Ranjit Dhar, veteran member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C) while Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), was the main speaker. Also present were Comrade Manik Mukherjee, member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C) and other Central Committee members. The meeting began with the song composed on the departed leader. Then floral tribute was paid by all the above three leaders. Then Comrade Ranjit Dhar read out the condolence resolution. The resolution highlighted in brief the life struggle of Comrade Fidel Castro and how he emerged as an iconic figure of anti-imperialist struggle in the entire Latin America as well as the freedom-seeking African countries and provided immense inspiration to world anti-imperialist movement. In his emotional and thoughtful address, Comrade Provash Ghosh first dwelt on the world situation in which Castro

began his struggling life for freeing Cuba from the tentacles of imperialist occupation. When Castro beginning as an anti-imperialist fighter gradually became attracted towards Marxism-Leninism. At that time the glory of world communist movement had begun to ebb following usurpation of power in Soviet Union by Khrushchevite revisionists. Cuba, an island in the Caribbean Sea, was at a handshaking distance from the US, headquarters of world imperialism, and did not have any border with any socialist country. The Pentagon tyrants had virtually encircled Cuba from all sides. They had their client Batista regime in power there. Yet, Castro showing laudable revolutionary audacity overthrew the puppet regime by revolution and not only established but protected socialism in Cuba overcoming all threats and intimidations by US imperialism and politics of capitulation and pacifism of revisionist Soviet leadership. Though Castro could not by way of concrete conscious application of Marxism-Leninism on Cuban soil enrich the treasure house of this noble ideology as was expected, he



Comrade Provash Ghosh addressing Fidel Castro memorial meeting in Kolkata on 4 December. Seated on the dais are Comrades Manik Mukherjee (right) Ranjit Dhar (left), both Polit Bureau Members and other Central Committee Members.

from his revolutionary intuition could notice some of the deviations among the leadership of Soviet Union and other East European countries in post-Stalin period which posed danger to socialism. He was not acquainted with Comrade Shirdas Ghosh Thought nor was he, as far as is known, that familiar with the thoughts and teachings of Comrade Mao Zedong. Under influence of the revisionist Khrushchev leadership, he even had some misgiving about Stalin also. Yet, he was undeterred and firmly pursued the path of

socialism. After dismantling of the socialist camp, though he was upset, was not covered by the adversity. "Either socialism, or death"—this was his resolve and remarkably he defended socialism in the unipolar world. (The full speech of Comrade Provash Ghosh will be published later) After Comrade Provash Ghosh's enlightening discourse on this legendary departed leader, a short film on Comrade Castro was shown. With rendition of the *Internationale*, the meeting came to an end.



Comrade Satyawan, Member, Central Committee and Haryana State Secretary addressing Fidel Castro memorial meeting at Rohtak on 7 December



Comrades Pran Sharma, Delhi State Secretary (left) and K C Tiwary, Member, Delhi State Committee, (right) with Cuban Ambassador of India (centre) at Cuban Embassy in Delhi after offering floral tribute to the departed leader and signing the register on behalf of the Party on 26 November.



Comrade Radhakrishna, Member, Central Committee and Karnataka State Secretary, addressing Fidel Castro memorial meeting in Bangalore on 30 November



Comrade Pratap Samal, MP State Secretary, addressing Fidel Castro memorial meeting at Guna, Madhya Pradesh on 4 December

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