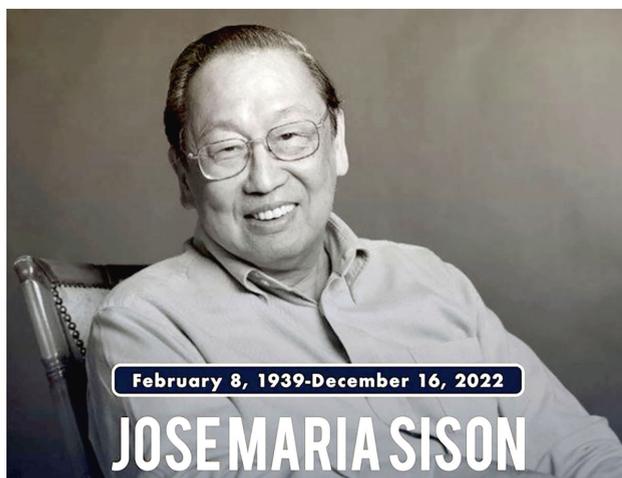




INTERNATIONAL **LEAGUE** OF PEOPLES' STRUGGLE

Promote, support and develop the anti-imperialist and democratic struggles of the peoples of the world



February 8, 1939-December 16, 2022

JOSE MARIA SISON

TRIBUTE TO A TEACHER, VISIONARY, REVOLUTIONARY Comrade Jose Maria Sison

Dear Comrade Joma Sison passed away on the 16th of December, 2022 after two weeks hospitalisation. We wish to express our sincerest condolences to Julie De Lima, Joma's life-long partner and comrade-in-arms, their children and their relatives.

Comrade Joma will be very greatly missed by millions of people across the globe. We give him a red salute.

Comrade Joma was a revolutionary, leading the way forward to the liberation of the Filipino people and the people of the world. He devoted his life to the overthrow of imperialism and other exploiting social systems.

Comrade Joma was a teacher who helped us understand history and the world as it is so that we could improve our efforts to change the world for the people. He fought continuously right to his death to expose the revisionists, the capitalist roaders in the former socialist countries who have demonstrated their vile treachery in working to restore capitalism in some former socialist countries.

NEWSLETTER

November-December, 2022,
Volume 2, Issue 3.

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Joma was a visionary who showed us the way forward to a new world of democracy, freedom, independence and Socialism for a bright future for all. He correctly alerted the world's proletariat to the vital importance of Mao Zedong and the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution (GPCR) in China, which will be required in some form in the future in socialist countries in order to safeguard the revolution from capitalist restoration.

What must be understood is that following the Second World War, over one third of the world's people lived under the socialist system, and millions more in the colonial and semi colonial world were being inspired by socialism to struggle for their independence and liberation.

Just think of the USSR, China, Eastern Europe, Cuba, Vietnam, North Korea etc.

Had that momentum continued, it is conceivable that two thirds or more of the world's people would be living under socialism today. What stopped that momentum?

As Joma reminded us on many occasions, the revisionists, the capitalist roaders in each of the socialist countries took advantage of the deaths of Stalin and Mao Zedong and along with the support from imperialism laid the basis for the restoration of capitalism by destroying all the magnificent achievements of the people in those countries.

As Joma reminded us, Mao Zedong and the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution which lasted about 10 years achieved some important victories for socialism in that time but ultimately was defeated. The lessons from that must be learned and revisionism must be fought and defeated.

One of many of Joma's lasting contributions to the world's people was his contribution to the rebuilding of the peoples' global movement against imperialism and particularly against US Imperialism which has been the most rapacious, war-like and vicious imperialist country in the world.

One of his contributions in this regard was the planning, launch and operation of the International League of Peoples Struggle (ILPS) which has continued for over 20 years doing magnificent work in exposing and opposing the imperialist wars, imperialist exploitation and imperialist robbery. This is one of Joma's finest legacies.

Joma knew that the revisionists, the capitalist roaders, and other opportunists, had committed and were committing treachery by working to cover up the crimes of imperialism and even by collaborating with imperialism in committing those crimes.

To mobilise the people against the common enemy was what had to be done and done it was.

The ILPS has grown into the biggest and most effective peoples' mass organisation fighting for democracy and against imperialism and imperialist exploitation with hundreds of peoples' mass organisations as members across the globe and is still growing and advancing.

This was one of the many long-lasting achievements of Comrade Joma, the visionary. Joma decided in 2019 to retire from his position as ILPS Chairperson to concentrate on writing which of course the world desperately needed.

I was asked to become the Chairperson. It was impossible to fill his shoes in that role, but he helped enormously by agreeing to become the newly established Chairperson Emeritus of ILPS.

This enabled Joma to continue to guide, help and be involved, all-be-it at a different level. We will be forever grateful for his decision, which was a huge assistance over those years since 2019.

We will miss dear comrade Joma so much. We will miss his infectious sense of humour, his biting analysis of the world's contradictions, his important writings and his internationalism. We must all step up and reread his important writings and books.

We will never forget his massive contributions in the service of the world's peoples and particularly the Filipino People.

Comrade Joma has left us an enormous legacy which guides us in fighting imperialism, in fighting for revolution, in serving the working class and other toilers, in changing the world for a bright socialist future.

We will remember you always Joma. We will step up.

Long live the beloved memory of
Comrade Joma Sison!
Long live his cherished internationalism
and international solidarity!
Long live his constant drive to
overthrow imperialism!

Len Cooper
Chairperson
International League of Peoples Struggle
18/12/22

EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

As we were putting the finishing touches to this issue, Vol 2 No 3, we received the sad news that Professor Jose Maria Sison, the great Filipino revolutionary leader and Chair Emeritus of the ILPS, has passed away in the Netherlands on December 16, 2022 at the age of 83.

We honour Joma, as he was known, on the first page of this issue and with a tribute statement by ILPS Chair, Len Cooper. As Len writes:

Comrade Joma has left us an enormous legacy which guides us in fighting imperialism, in fighting for revolution, in serving the working class and other toilers, in changing the world for a bright socialist future.

We will remember you always Joma. We will step up.

The next issue will be a full special edition of the ILPS Newsletter in Joma's honour. #JomaSisonLives

The feature article in this issue, *The Era of Imperialism and its multiple crises*, was written and presented by ILPS Vice Chair Azra Sayeed as a keynote speech to delegates attending the 5th International Assembly of our sister organization, the International Migrants Alliance (IMA). For those who do not know IMA, we provide some background on this dynamic organization.

In another detailed article, *Current situation in Kurdistan*, Haki looks at the volatile situation in Iran as well as the mounting attacks of Turkey on the Kurdish people along with their revolutionary response.

In this issue we also celebrate the successful holding of the 2nd country Assembly of the ILPS Chapter in the USA and examine the front-line role of the League in the Resist Climate Imperialism actions around COP27 in Egypt.

We end with two statements on the rapidly evolving situation in Peru from ILPS members in Latin America along with short articles from India, the first focussing on a struggle against a new port development in Kerala and the second a call for justice by The Scholars at Risk Network on the continuing denial of freedom for Professor Saibaba.

Your comments and feedback are not only very welcome, but necessary to help us improve the ILPS Newsletter. Please print and share this issue with comrades, friends and work mates when possible.

The Editorial Collective

THE ERA OF IMPERIALISM AND ITS MULTIPLE CRISES

Azra Talat Sayeed¹

I would like to start with saluting the migrant movement on holding its 5th Global Assembly. Given the fraught global situation it is indeed an immense feat that we are holding this event that has brought nearly 200 participants from 28 countries together.

The need of our times called for such a gathering of a workers' front which together with other sectors of the working class will be certainly the frontline to bring down imperialism.

To this end, much needs to be done. Our work on the ground has to be tied very strongly to the theoretical and practical understanding of how imperialism works.

As we know that imperialism is based on certain developments of the capitalist system. Lenin has explained the different stages of imperialism, and include the following:

- * Concentration of Capital and Production
- * Concentration of Banks and Rise of Finance Capital
- * Domination of Finance Capital and Financial Oligarchy
- * Exportation of Capital
- * Colonial Conquests and imperialist expansion

Concentration of Capital and Production

The very first stage was initiated with colonization itself; in the 20th century, the concentration of capitals, in other words the formation of mega corporations and then the intense spate of mergers and acquisitions that have followed in the late 1990s and which continues. This concentration of capital can be seen in various sectors. For example, in the early 2000s six corporations still held major markets in the seed and agro-chemical sector. In 2013 they controlled 63% of the commercial seed market and 75% of the agrochemical market. These included BASF, Bayer, Dow, AgroScience, DuPont, Monsanto and Syngenta. By 2017, there has been another set of mergers and acquisitions leaving only three (3) dominant groups:²

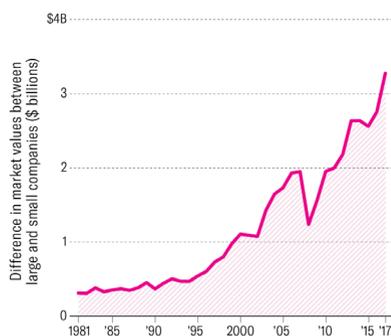
- * BASF's merger with Bayer (the first and third largest seed and biotechnology firms, respectively);
- * Dow and Dupont merger (the fourth and fifth largest biotechnology and seeds firms worldwide, respectively);

* ChemChina and Syngenta merger (China’s largest chemical company and the world’s largest crop chemical producer, respectively) and in 2021 ChemChina merged with SinoChem to form the world’s biggest chemical firm³.

Similar concentration of corporations can be seen in the oil industry. Through the 20th century, seven giant oil companies dominated the global oil industry, five from the US— Exxon (earlier known as the Standard Oil Company), Mobil, Chevron, and Gulf Oil Company and two from Europe—Royal Dutch/Shell and British Petroleum. These have gone through various mergers to make the current Big4 – ExxonMobil, Chevron, British Petroleum and Shell.⁴

In essence, similar concentration can be seen across various sectors such as for global grain traders, four have dominated the global trade for many decades— the Archer-Daniels-Midland Company, Bunge, Cargill and Louis Dreyfus. Collectively, they control 70-90% of the global grain trade.⁵

The Size Difference Between Large and Small U.S. Companies Is Growing



Note: Large companies are defined as those with the top 30% of market values, and small companies are those with the bottom 30%. Market values are medians calculated on an annual basis and are in 1981 values, adjusted for inflation. Source: Vijay Govindarajan et al., based on data from Compustat HBR

Giant corporations have overtime been able to keep growing and increasing their market share while the smaller ones stagnate. “It is evident that from the mid-1990s, the size difference between the large and small (firms) increased continuously and rapidly”⁶

Concentration of Banks, Rise of Finance Capital and Export of Capital

Going to the next steps of imperialism, there is a shift from monopoly control of the giant corporations to financial institutions. These include commercial and investment banks, private equity firms, venture

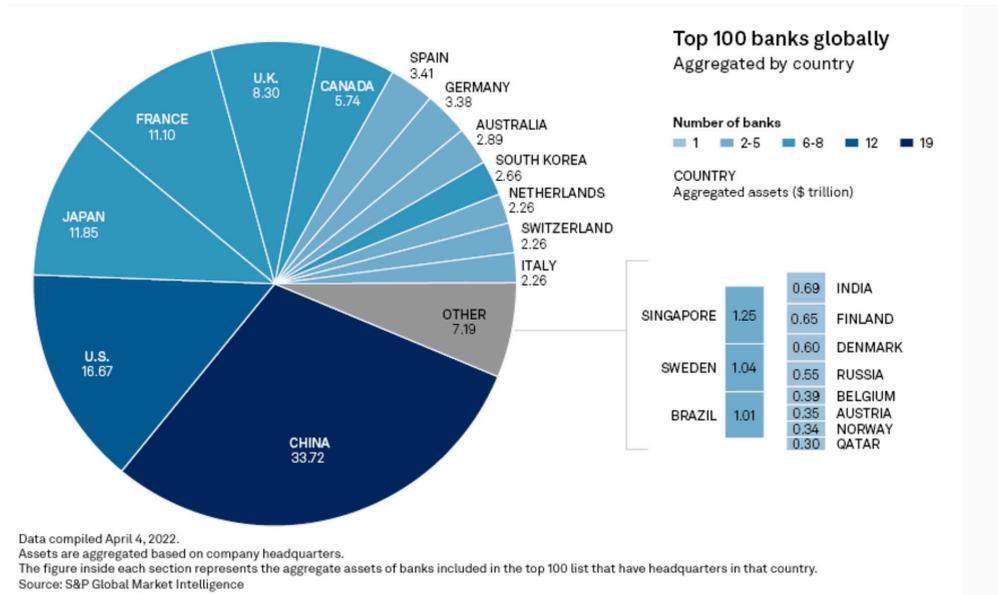
capital, insurance companies and brokerage firms. There are also the sovereign wealth funds (SWF), defined as state-owned investment funds comprised of money generated by the government. The role of these financial investment entities is basically to earn super profits, not through actual physical manufacturing but primarily buying corporations and businesses at a cheaper price and selling them as a whole or in pieces with the aim of increasing returns on investment. In addition, such funds are also invested in cutting edge technology realms such as in biotechnology, digital technology and similar critical innovations in the modern economy.

According to a report, “in 2000, private equity and venture capital funds held just over \$500 billion in assets under management. By 2018, that figure stood at \$3 trillion.”⁷ These firms access their funds from a whole range of funds such as pension funds, private and public endowments, as well as educational institutions’ endowment funds. The overreaching arms of finance capital is most evident in the turf wars ensuing between the imperialist countries of the US and China. The Chinese state-owned enterprise, China Investment Corporation, has the world’s largest SWF and its investments in the US and other parts of the world are seen as threats that the US state and capitalists have been viewing with ‘hackles raised.’⁸

The following graph⁹ has been taken from S&P Global Market Intelligence and shows the dominance of Chinese banks in the financial market in 2022. China has the four largest banks, while other prominent countries include US, Japan, France, UK and Canada, which have the remaining sixth largest global banks. Note that in 2010, there was not a single Chinese bank among the first largest ten banks.

While no doubt the US has competition from Chinese banks, it is also evident that the US and European largest banks have also seen a giant increase in size. According to S&P Global Market Intelligence:¹⁰

“In the U.S., New York-based JPMorgan Chase & Co. has nearly doubled in size since the end of 2006, totalling \$2.56 trillion as of September 30. Bank of America Corp.’s asset size has increased by more than 50%, while at beleaguered Wells Fargo & Co., assets are nearing \$2 trillion, more than 300% larger than pre-crisis ... In Europe, London-based HSBC Holdings Plc had \$2.49 trillion in assets at mid-year 2017. This is up significantly from \$1.86 trillion at year-end 2006. . . . The growth is most pronounced in Asia. China’s four G-SIBs have all more than tripled their asset sizes over the last 10 years. The biggest, Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd., had \$3.76 trillion in assets at mid-year 2017.”



Colonial Conquests and Imperialist Expansion

The export of capital is an intrinsic drive under monopoly capital. It is imperative for financial monopolies to be able bring in and out capital and of course profits earned from their investments. The above section has shown that clearly. Imperialist drives for expansion, and control over resources comes hand in hand and leads to competition with each other, and of course ultimately clashes; these are the basis for the wars of aggression that imperialist nation wage on not only each other but on the territories and domains that house critical inputs for market monopoly, namely raw materials, markets and labour.

If we look at the terrible wars and conflicts that have been inflicted in parts of Asia, the Arab world and Africa the context of the imperialist wars is not be difficult to understand.

Energy Wars: Control over Oil, Gas and Coal

In the 21st century, one can see that imperialist powers have reached the highest stage of imperialism. The fight is on one hand over depleting resources, and on the other to control markets most profitable for the goods and services. A most critical source of control are energy sources; they are not only crucial as commodities themselves, but also remain the main vehicle which drives monopoly capital. The top ten countries that have the highest reserves include Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Iran, Iraq, Russia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, USA, and Libya.¹¹ The top ten countries that have highest gas reserves are Russia, Iran, Qatar, USA,

Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan, UAE, Venezuela, Nigeria and China.

Graph 1 illustrates the continued wars and conflicts inflicted on certain regions by imperialist powers. Saudi Arabia and UAE have been basically lackey governments of the US and have avoided being targets. On the other hand, Iraq and Kuwait were fought over aggressively, causing millions of deaths, and are now by and large controlled by the US. Iran and Venezuela have resisted US hegemony and have been kept shackled by continuous sanctions and participating fully in the global economy. It's worth pointing out that Canada, being the third largest country with oil reserves, sells all of its surplus oil and gas to the US.

It is also important to note that the Russia and US are the top one and fourth country with gas reserves respectively, while the US holds the largest coal reserves, with Russia and China being second and fourth respectively (Graph 2). Central Asia as a region hold rich reserves of all three fossil fuels, and apart from other geo-political strategic advantages to be gained in the Ukraine Russia war, the real point of interest for the US-NATO backed war in Ukraine is to control energy reserves not only of Russia but the larger region that was part of the former Soviet Union.

China is totally dependent on importing oil but has one of the highest rankings for oil producing countries as it has the second largest refining capacity in the world. A key strategic objective of the US is to cut-off oil imports to China.

Graph 1 Countries with Highest Oil & Gas Reserves

	OIL	GAS	COAL
1	Venezuela (17.5%)	2.8% (8)	
2	Saudi Arab (17.2%)	4.2% (5)	
3	Iran (9.0%)	17.3% (2)	
5	Iraq (8.4%)		
7	Kuwait (5.9%)		
8	UAE (5.6%) -63%	3.1% (7)	

Graph 2 Countries with Oil, Gas and Coal Reserves

	OIL	GAS	COAL
6	Russia (6.2%)	24.3% (1)	15.5% (2)
9	USA (4.0%)	5.3% (4)	22.3% (1)
	China	2.4 (10)	13.1% (4)
11	Central Asia (3.20%)	3.8% (6)	2.7% (10)

Digital Economies and Rare Earth Elements

Another particular area of interest to understand imperialists' drive for the geopolitical stratification of the world is to have a closer look at Rare Earth Elements (REE).

The rare earths are 17 metallic elements and have unusual fluorescent, conductive, and magnetic properties—which make them very useful when alloyed, or mixed, in small quantities with more common metals such as iron.

These metals are used in a range of hi-technology areas, including clean energy applications, electric vehicles and hybrid cars. With China holding a majority of global reserves, as well as controlling 98% of the global supply chain¹², it is a point of conflict between the US and China.¹³ The US defense sector uses REE for military equipment. For instance, “out of the 17 REEs, neodymium and samarium can be used to create resilient magnets that withstand high temperatures, making them perfect for mission-critical electronic and defence applications.”¹⁴

These REEs are “very important for guidance systems, submarines, guided missile cruisers, but also for the MANPADS and other shoulder-fired rockets currently used in Ukraine, too.”¹⁵ After mineral extraction, they can be turned into magnets for use in military hardware, and China and Japan are the largest specialized magnet producers. However, Japan depends on export of REE from China. REEs are also used in semi-conductors used in more than 200 products, especially in high-tech products such as cellular phones, computer hard drives and flat screen monitors.¹⁶ Taiwan is the number one producer of semi-conductors.

In summary, it's not difficult to understand that the escalating friction between China and the US: from Chinese highest sovereign wealth funds, control over industrial production and state of the art modern technologies, to REEs. That is the nature of imperialism.

Colonial Expansion and Military Might

Economic superiority must come hand in hand with military superiority, which is very evident with the Ukraine-Russian war. The US and its western allies have set up different military alliances that encircle strategic geopolitical territories. These include the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD) commonly referred to as Quad and AUKUS.

The NATO was set up ostensibly for military defense in 1949 as a counter force to Soviet Union; it is no secret that even though currently NATO has 30 member countries, the US with a military budget of \$738 billion is its most powerful member with the largest number of troops. The United States has now committed approximately \$16.9 billion in security assistance to Ukraine since January 2021.¹⁷

Despite the fall of the former Soviet Union, NATO has continued expand, with many countries of Eastern Europe joining NATO, which of course has raised valid concern from Russia and China. The current war in Ukraine is a result NATO's aggressive posturing against Russia; its area of operations reaching into Asia including a role in the US invasion of Iraq as well as Afghanistan.

The heightened military aggression of the US can be seen by it push for setting up military alliances in the Asia Pacific region. QUAD is an informal partnership between US, Japan, Australia and India. It was initially set up in 2004 and was restructured in 2017. In a joint statement the group declared:¹⁸

“We bring diverse perspectives and are united in a shared vision for the free and open Indo-Pacific. We strive for a region that is free, open, inclusive, healthy, anchored by democratic values, and unconstrained by coercion. . . . Together, we commit to promoting a free, open rules-based order, rooted in international law to advance security and prosperity and counter threats to both in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

In September 2021, AUKUS, a security alliance between Australia, UK and the US, was announced. The alliance will assist the Australian Navy to build nuclear-powered submarines as well as collaborate on cyber and artificial intelligence. The three countries believe that the alliance would “help sustain peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific,”¹⁹ however, it is well understood that the purpose is to create a military alliance against China.

The military might of the US remains much ahead of any nation in the world. In 2021, it spent \$801 billion, while Russia and China spent \$65.9 billion and \$293 billion respectively. The US, China and India had the first, second, and third highest military budgets. Yet, the combined military budgets of China and Russia (\$76.6 billion) are still only 45% of the US budget.

If the military strength of the US and its allies in Asia, especially Japan, Australia, South Korea and the Philippines, is taken into consideration, it is quite apparent that the US is well prepared to encircle China in order to not only to contain it but to take aggressive steps to maintain its global domination.

Imperialism has been able to dig deep its tentacles in our countries based on its collusion with the elites in our countries, forming unholy alliances with the state forces that include the national bourgeoisie and the military and para-military apparatus. In short imperialism in many of our countries has given birth to a semi-colonial, semi-feudal mode of production. Such exploitative, oppressive and destructive alliances have given rise to an era of multiple crises. Except for 1% of monopoly capitalists, the 8 billion humans on Earth are suffering from economic crisis, health and food crisis, environmental and climate crisis. With little concern for the suffering of the people, there is now little doubt that the stage is set for global wars among imperialist nations. Their thirst for power, vying for control over lands, territories, and forming neo-colonies will only lead to further wars of aggression.

However, history has taught us that hegemonic powers are not above peoples’ resistance, people power, and the peoples’ militant forces. The political consciousness

of the people, our deep commitment to organize and mobilize, to dig deep into our ability to copy and maintain, our willingness to wage militant peoples’ wars against imperialism will overcome imperialism.

Endnotes:

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ILPS MIGRATION COMMISSION HOLDS BANGKOK MEETING

Commission 15 of the International League of People's Struggle (ILPS) held its first meeting since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, and its biggest meeting so far, on Wednesday, November 30, 2022 in the sidelines of the International Migrants Alliance (IMA) 5th Global Assembly in Bangkok, Thailand.

The commission, devoted to "the rights and welfare of the diaspora, refugees and migrant workers displaced by imperialism and local reactionaries," introduced ILPS to prospective members, discussed the multiple crises



of imperialism, assessed its work since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, and gathered proposals for future study groups.

The meeting was attended by 35 individuals representing 33 organizations based in 16 countries and featured Azra Sayeed, ILPS vice-chairperson and chairperson of the International Women's Alliance or IWA, and Robert Reid, president of New Zealand's FIRST Union -- both keynote speakers of the IMA assembly who answered follow-up questions about their speeches.

Camilo Perez Bustillo, member of the National Lawyers Guild of San Francisco and also a keynote speaker of the IMA assembly, was not able to attend the meeting as he had to immediately fly to the US-Mexico border to join a protest of migrants and refugees.

Malick Sy, from the Confédération nationale des travailleurs du Sénégal (CNTS, National Confederation of Senegalese Workers), presided over the assessment, presenting the webinars organized by the commission on migration and the pandemic on the one hand and labour, neoliberalism, fascism and racism on the other, as well as the role of overseas compatriots in national and social liberation movements.

Among topics that were proposed for future webinars were: intensified exploitation of migrant workers during the pandemic; heightened labour export amidst the multiple crises; scams targeting migrants; economic policies of migrant-sending countries; laws that hinder migrant organizing and unionization; climate change and its effects on migration, particularly on Pacific countries; migrants' need for greater unity with workers given the intensification of the crisis that is pressing down wages and scapegoating migrants; and migration caused by wars and conflicts.

While recognizing that the webinars provided migrants with educational activities, which were much-needed especially during the pandemic, the par-

ticipants also called for maximizing forms such as social media and podcasts, that will reach ordinary migrants.

The commission meeting also announced the ILPS' plan to hold its 7th International Assembly on 2024 and called on members to prepare to attend.

Presiding over the meeting were Joanna Concepcion, chairperson of Migrante International from the Philippines, and Terry Valen, president of the National Alliance for Filipino Concerns or NAFCON from the USA.

HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS ALLIANCE

Since the spike in international migration in the 1970s, migrants of the world have been forming organizations and coalitions using various issues as bases of unity.

In the 1990s, the migrants and peoples of the world increasingly felt the negative effects of neoliberal globalization on their rights and interests. This, even as the world's elites were proclaiming the "end of history," the victory of capitalism over socialism with the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the creation of the World Trade Organization and other "free market" institutions.

The 1997 Asian Financial Crisis worsened neoliberal globalization's negative impacts on the rights and interests of the migrants and peoples of the world, even as it heightened forced migration in various ways.

The US responded to the 9-11 attacks in 2001 with a "war on terror" that caused wars of aggression, the militarization of various states, the securitization of migration policies, and an increase in anti-migration sentiments and outlooks.

By the early 2000s, many migrant organizations were already critical of neoliberalism, wars of aggression, and imperialism but they were not working together to pursue common objectives.

As early as 2001, however, some migrant organizations came up with the idea of creating an international migrants alliance that would unite and strengthen solidarity among migrant organisations from different countries and fight as one against neoliberalism and imperialism.

United in this idea were Migrante International from the Philippines, Tenaganita from Malaysia, Asia Pacific Mission for Migrant Filipinos in Hong Kong, and other migrant organizations present in the 2001 International



Migrants Conference organized by the Asian Migrants Coordinating Body or ACMB.

This unity was strengthened by migrant organizations' active and even leading role in the mass protests against the World Trade Organization and neoliberal globalization in Hong Kong in 2005. The protest, the participants thought, gave concrete expression to the political basis for forming a broad anti-imperialist alliance of migrants.

The 2006 UN High Level Meeting on Migration and Development and the 2007 launching of the Global Forum on Migration and Development became rallying points for migrant organizations from around the world as well as the immediate context for the founding of an anti-imperialist migrant coalition.

In 2006, the AMCB, Migrante International and the May 1st Coalition from the US formed an organizing committee to prepare for the founding assembly of the International Migrants Alliance (IMA) and reach out to migrant groups from all over the world.

The IMA's founding assembly was held in Hong Kong on June 15-16, 2008, attended by 167 delegates representing 118 organizations from 25 countries.

From that date on, IMA has been a grassroots-led international alliance that promotes the rights and welfare of all migrant workers, refugees, asylum seekers, displaced people, and their families in countries of origin, transit and destination. It relies principally on the power of collective action or the mass movement of migrants and refugees in exposing and opposing imperialism as the root cause of forced migration and the super-exploitation of migrants and refugees.

CURRENT SITUATION IN KURDISTAN: DEMOCRATIC HOPE

Haki

Academy of Democratic Modernity

The ongoing Third World War is marked, above all, by an awakening of democratic forces in all countries of the world. In view of the horrors that the rulers of the existing world order have brought upon humanity and nature, more and more people are beginning to openly doubt the legitimacy and correctness of this system every day. The fault lines, cracks and fractures in the formerly massive hegemonic blocs give the oppressed room to manoeuvre, breathing space and completely new options for action.



Thus, with the Springtime of the peoples in Northern Africa and the Middle East in 2011 the door opened to a new era of uprising and freedom, which was to bear its first flowering a short time later in the revolution of Rojava. With the revolution in Rojava and the struggle of the revolutionary movement of Kurdistan spreading in all directions, the democratic forces of this world grew a strong voice and the idea of a real alternative beyond the categories of the ruling system became a material reality.

With the revolution in the north of Syria and the establishment of self-administration in large parts of Kurdistan and the Middle East, the revolutionary process, which in 2011 could only achieve lasting success in the fewest countries, reached a stage and gained a firm basis. Against all odds and attacks, the revolutionary forces and the resident population managed to defend the project of democratic self-administration and prove that the real alternative can only be created by the people themselves.

The hope and the exemplary effect that the revolution in Kurdistan has had since then have significantly changed the political conditions in the region and also worldwide. The revolution today is not a superpower

like the United States of America, it does not have the military power, the arsenals and the personnel strength of the modern armies that compete against each other today, nor does it have the wealth of the global corporations and banks. However, it is a power and force in its own right, stronger than many military machines.

In Kurdistan, especially in the last seven years, since the AKP/MHP regime unilaterally broke the ceasefire, it has been practically shown that an oppressed people, a struggling society can also stand up against the boundless brutality of Turkish fascism and the concentrated power of the NATO countries supporting it.

So it is no coincidence that today thousands of young women and also men let the slogans of that same revolution resound once more in the streets and on the squares of Eastern Kurdistan and Iran. The latest uprising in Iran, which broke out after the murder of the young Kurdish woman Jina Amini by Iranian security forces, cannot be seen separately from the developments of the past years and the existing balance of power.

For several weeks now, despite massive repression and open terror by the regime's forces, the peoples of Iran have been in a struggle for freedom and the future of their country. The uprising has shaken the regime to its foundations and is more than a spontaneous outburst of anger. It is a rebellion of women and youth who refuse to endure the yoke of the Islamic Republic any longer, and it is practical proof that the peoples and societies of Iran have realised that they can only fight for their future together. For the first time since the beginning of the Islamic Republic, an uprising movement has encompassed all classes and strata, all population groups and religious communities, and is demanding the overthrow of the existing regime so comprehensively and with such clarity.

Iran in the Middle East

Where the uprising will develop is difficult to assess at the moment, but it is already certain that its effects will not remain limited to Iran. An actual destabilisation of the Islamic Republic would result in a massive shift in the balance of power in the region. Today, Iran is one of the dominant regional powers in the Middle East and controls large parts of the region with its extensive network of proxy and front organisations, controlled by instructors and military advisors of the Revolutionary Guards.

In Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen, where Iranian forces and their allies, the self-proclaimed "Axis of Resistance", have managed to make significant gains over the last two decades in the course of the struggle

against the Islamic State, Israeli occupation and foreign intervention, a weakening of Iran or even an overthrow of the existing regime would open up a power vacuum that should not be underestimated, and a wide variety of forces will rush to fill it. And even now, while the formation of a new Iraqi government is being negotiated, the situation is becoming all the more explosive due to the tendency to weaken the Iranian regime. It is obvious that with an increasingly dynamic situation in Iraq, Turkish fascism will also try to use the favour of the hour to advance its own great power aspirations.

Attacks against the revolution

In the night of the 20th November, Erdogan launched a massive air attack campaign against the liberated area of north and east Syria and Rojava. The operation, called “Claw-Sword”, uses as a pretext the Istanbul attack of November 13, which the AKP-MHP regime attributes to the Kurdistan liberation movement in a blatant political manoeuvre to obtain a *casus belli*.

Many cities in Northeast Syria were attacked: among them Kobane, Derik, Shehba, Qamishlo and Hasseke. Most of the targets were essential civilian infrastructure: gas facilities, oil fields, medical buildings, schools, and grain silos. In addition to this, some military positions of the SDF as well as Damascus Syrian Arab Army were hit. Sixteen (16) civilians were killed and dozens were seriously wounded in the attacks.

Erdogan also repeated his invasion threats, and specifically mentioned that Manbij, Shehba and Kobane could be the target of a ground military offensive. A specificity of those attacks was that they occurred in the air-spaces under the control of US and Russia, which means that they received the green light of both.

Turkish fascism in decline?

Turkish fascism has stalled with its operation “Claw Lock”, which started on 17 April, 2022, and has not been able to achieve the desired results so far. The medium-term goal of complete territorial control over the mountains of Southern Kurdistan still seems to be far away, thanks to the successful resistance of the guerrilla units of HPG and YJA-Star.

In order to be able to present the necessary successes nevertheless and above all to keep the population on the home front in line, despite inflation rates of up to 180 per cent, Erdoğan’s regime and the Turkish military leadership seek refuge in chemical warfare and massive war crimes. Almost daily, the press centres of the resistance units report the use of chemical weapons

against the guerrillas’ war tunnels.

In the meantime, the use of the banned warfare agents has also been captured on video and audio several times; and videos showing Turkish soldiers inserting those materials into the guerrillas’ caves and tunnels have been made available to the public. Also, thermobaric bombs¹ are said to be used when attempting to hit the fighters in their underground positions.

Despite the fact that the guerrillas have largely been able to hold their positions to date, the seriousness of the situation should not be underestimated. The general commander of the People’s Defence Units, Murat Karayılan, emphasised in a recent interview that the decision in the fight against Turkish fascism would depend on the developments in the next three months. The goal of Turkish fascism continues to be the establishment of a permanent occupation zone in the south of Kurdistan, equal to the occupied areas of northern Syria; and in order to achieve this goal, any means will do.

Ankara could try to profit from a weakening of the Iranian axis and expand its own position in the north of Iraq. Recent meetings of Turkish intelligence with representatives of Iraq’s panturkist Turkmen Front could indicate preparations to expand its own area of operation from the mountainous regions to the plains of northern Iraq.

The integration of the provinces of Mûsil (Mosul) and Kerkûk, which were lost after the end of the Ottoman Empire, remains a strategic goal of Turkish foreign policy in the region for 2023. From the control of the region, which is rich in oil and gas deposits, the Turkish regime expects above all a strengthening of its own geopolitical claims and an advantageous position in the struggle for the development of new energy resources, which has intensified since the Ukraine war.

But whether the calculations of the Turkish power clique around dictator Erdoğan will work out or not will depend above all on the struggle of the people in Kurdistan and Turkey. This will also determine whether a weakening of the Iranian regime will ultimately lead to a strengthening of the other regional and global players or whether it will help the democratic forces to break through.

Erdoğan’s increasing threats against Turkey’s neighbouring states, such as Armenia or Greece, are probably

¹ A thermobaric weapon, also called an aerosol bomb, a vacuum bomb or a fuel air explosive, is a type of explosive that uses oxygen from the surrounding air to generate a high-temperature explosion. Thermobaric weapons are almost 100% fuel and as a result are significantly more energetic than conventional explosives of equal weight. (Wikipedia)

a sign of the existing regime's helplessness in the face of the serious crisis into which its rulers have plunged the country. What they have lost in support and sympathy among their own population is now being made up for with aggressive rhetoric and the promise of further territorial gains.

In view of the fact that elections in Turkey will be held in the summer of 2023 at the latest, the regime is faced with a decision: Either it will succeed in achieving military successes against the liberation movement and thus secure an election victory, or the regime will only be able to hold on to power through state of emergency laws and the abolition of even the last remaining democratic rights. Whether or not Turkey's societies will continue to tolerate such a regime indefinitely remains completely open.

The only thing that is clear is that the ice under Erdoğan's feet is getting thinner and thinner. Without the continued support of his Western allies and sponsors, above all of the German state, the house of cards of his rule would have collapsed long ago. If it were not for NATO keeping the Turkish military apparatus running with continuous financial injections and supply of arms, the Turkish army would probably have had to admit its own defeat against the guerrilla resistance a long time ago.

ILPS USA HOLDS 2ND COUNTRY ASSEMBLY Fighting For Our Rights, Lives, and Planet!

The 2nd National Assembly of the International League of Peoples' Struggle (ILPS) of the US chapter was held in Seattle from October 21-23 with 270 attendees from 122 organisations. The participants took part in a protest march, four plenaries, 8 workshops; passed 12 resolutions, new country chapter by-laws, and an assembly declaration; approved three (3) new member organizations; and elected a new Steering Committee.

We opened the first two days with international greetings from ILPS formations around the globe and a keynote speech from Kara Taggao of Kilusang Mayo Uno (May First Movement). With fierce militancy we took to the streets of Seattle, showing the strength of our forces in exposing the exploitative and oppressive business activities of multinational corporations in the Seattle area



such as Boeing, Amazon, Google, Microsoft and Starbucks, calling out in a united voice their super profits at the expense of their struggling workers and their complicity in arming the US war machine.

During the General Assembly we heard from the plenaries on the global people's movements highlighting the challenges of workers organizing and the resurgent labour movement, the relationship between anti-colonial struggle and defense of land and the environment against imperialist plunder, organizing efforts against heightened political repression and surveillance, and the key role which struggles for women's liberation and bodily autonomy play in this time of rising fascism.

As a major step in the development of the League and the growth of the anti-imperialist movement in this country, the business portion of this General Assembly resulted in the further development of our national structure with the passing of new bylaws and successful uniting on the following resolutions to guide our work in the coming period:

- * Call to Release Simon Trinidad
- * Resolution on Latin America and the Caribbean
- * Resolution in support of medical care for Kevin "Rashid" Johnson
- * El Grito De Lares
- * 1898 Treaty of Paris
- * Resolution to Support BAYAN USA Campaign for the "Makibeki NYC 3" and Fight Against Repression of the National Democratic Movement of the Philippines
- * Solidarity with the Palestinian People on the 75th Anniversary of Al Nakba
- * Resolution opposing the use of the terror label to brand activists as terrorists
- * Resolution on sanctions, blockades, and coercive economic measures
- * ILPS Endorsement of 2024 March on RNC
- * Free Alex Saab

Delegates from ILPS-US organizations elected a new national Steering Committee to carry out the day-to-day leadership of the Country Chapter which consists of the following members:

- * Aisha Mansour (Palestinian Youth Movement)
- * Bev Tang (Chicago Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines)
- * Bill Dores (Abolish the Pentagon & CIA)
- * Cody Urban (People Organizing for Philippine Solidarity)
- * Daniel Felde (Resist US-Led War Movement Seattle)
- * Michela Martinazzi (Committee to Stop FBI Repression)
- * Nina Macapinlac (BAYAN USA)
- * Nyusha Lin (Students for Justice in Palestine at UCLA)
- * Rhonda Ramiro (BAYAN USA)

The final day of the Assembly concluded with the passing of a declaration that summarized the remarks made over the three days into a description of the current crisis of US imperialism and resolved to launch a national campaign against state repression with the calls to:

- * Defend freedom fighters, mass organizations and movements for peace and justice being targeted relentlessly by state forces through so-called “counter-terrorism” programs.
- * Stand with organized and unorganized communities alike as they experience brutalization in the workplace, in racially policed neighbourhoods, in prisons and at the militarized borders.
- * Raise high the banner of the League and uphold the justness of all fights for national and social liberation!”

Finally, the Assembly members took part in a solidarity night with cultural performances from the many attending orgs to celebrate our commitment to continue to raise up the anti-imperialist struggle together.

The empire is desperate and dying—We Must Fight for our Rights, Lives, and Planet!
Long Live International Solidarity!

ILPS MOUNTS CAMPAIGN FOR SURVIVAL OF PEOPLE AND PLANET AND TO RESIST CLIMATE IMPERIALISM



The ILPS successfully mounted the Climate Campaign for the Survival of People and Planet and to Resist Climate Imperialism from mid-October to November. This campaign was led by Commission 19 on Environment and Climate Justice with the support of the ILPS General Secretariat and other commissions, particularly Commissions 10 and 13, and was built on the resolution of the International Coordinating Committee (ICC) in September 2022 to launch people’s campaigns to fight imperialist corporations and their imperialist states to end climate imperialism and the monopoly capitalist accumulation to extract super-profits from the labour and resources of societies and the whole planet.

To establish the framework of the peoples’ struggle against climate imperialism, monopoly capitalist hyper-accumulation, and imperialist-led wars, the ILPS General Secretariat published a reader on the articles, statements, and interviews of ILPS Chairman Emeritus Prof. Jose Maria Sison on the ILPS site. Professor Sison’s articles and interviews, a list of which is also published in this issue on page 15, collectively expound on the anti-imperialist and people’s framework for the climate struggle and its linkages with the struggle against militarism, fascism, and for social justice.

In early October, Commission 19, Commission 10 and Commission 13 initiated the formation of Peoples Rising for Climate Justice (www.fb.com/peoplesrising).

cj). Peoples Rising, as this network is called for short, is envisioned as a broad cross-movement people's campaign network against climate imperialism with people's movements and organizations at its core. It currently has members from organizations of indigenous peoples, peasants, youth, and NGO activists.

As the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) of the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (6-20 November, 2022) was underway, ILPS Chairperson Len Cooper released ILPS' statement on COP27 which called out imperialism for causing the destruction of the planet and its peoples, and US-led militarism for securing the destructive status quo and silencing legitimate dissent from peoples. It also called on peoples of the world to work together to end imperialism that is the root of the climate crisis and towards a socialist world order attentive to the social and ecological needs of the peoples and planet.

Under the tight watch of the state armed forces in Egypt, ILPS with Peoples Rising were able to mount actions and fora inside the COP27 venue in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. On November 15, the **Break the Chains of Colonialism, End Climate Imperialism Action** was led by ILPS and Peoples Rising inside the COP27 grounds to call to attention the issue of climate colonialism and its close linkage with climate imperialism and the need to break free from their chains to end the climate crisis. This action was joined by supporters and speakers from different organizations, countries and continents.

On the afternoon of the same day, the side event, **Fighting Climate Injustice: From Grassroots to Global** was also organized by ILPS and People Rising in Sharm El Shikh and streamed online. The event was headlined by leaders from the workers, indigenous, women, and youth movements and organizations worldwide and was able to highlight different grassroots voices and climate justice demands.

Several actions and mobilizations inside COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh were also supported by the ILPS, namely the action on Human Rights and Climate Action on November 10, the African Feminists Action and Global Day of Action on November 12, Indigenous Women's Action on November 14, and the Asia People's Action on November 15. Different ILPS members were able to deliver speeches in these actions and highlight the ILPS' call against climate imperialism and US-led militarism to end the climate crisis.

The month-long climate justice campaign had its peak on November 12, 2022, where ILPS, Peoples Rising, and its members and allies from Hong Kong, South

Korea, and Indonesia, PH, Canada, Pakistan, Egypt and Geneva participated in the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice. The ILPS also trended the hashtags #EndClimateImperialism, #RiseForClimateJustice and #ClimateJusticeNow to highlight our anti-imperialist calls and the peoples' movements rising and struggling for both social and climate justice.

ILPS Commission 19 vows to continue the struggle against climate imperialism through continuing discussions, study conferences, public fora and statements especially with grassroots and peoples' organizations and movements and with the support of other ILPS commissions and chapters. It will also work for the continued actions and expansion of the Peoples Rising for Climate Justice network.

PEOPLES OF THE WORLD UNITE TO END CLIMATE IMPERIALISM! STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALISM FOR THE SURVIVAL OF PEOPLES AND PLANET!

Statement of the ILPS Chairperson on the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) of the UNFCCC

As the 27th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) or COP27 takes place this November in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, we call on mass organizations and people's movements to resolutely oppose imperialism as the root cause of the ongoing climate catastrophe.

Imperialism has permanently scarred the planet in its unending expansion and encroachment. Ecosystems, particularly in the colonies and neo-colonies, have been carved out for the sake of capital hyper-accumulation in the imperialist core. Multinational companies — especially fossil fuel giants — have raked in trillions in profits over decades, at the expense of countries, communities, and peoples around the world. The massive scale of ecological disturbance and disbalance under imperialism along with ceaseless, fossil-fuelled overproduction has caused the perfect storm of global warming, climate change, and ecological collapse we experience today.

US imperialism in particular has been instrumental in the destruction of the Earth and its peoples. The United States takes the top spot in terms of cumulative carbon emissions, the result of decades of colonial exploitation

WE JOIN THE OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD IN THE CALL FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE!

The world's most marginalized and dispossessed, both from the Global South and the Global North, are facing the brunt of the current climate emergency.

Workers, farmers, rural women, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples, urban poor, women and diverse groups, and youth at the frontlines of the environmental and climate crises are notably absent in the ultra-elitist, big business lobby-controlled, and male-dominated spaces where the future of the planet is being deliberated.

With COP27 shaping up to be another episode of greenwashing by global leaders, we join and enjoin the peoples of the world to strike on November 12 for climate justice and against climate imperialism!



and warmongering. Its military, with its annual budget amounting to billions of US dollars, is recognized as the single largest institutional consumer of hydrocarbons (e.g., oil, plastics, and related products) in the world today. It hardly needs to be mentioned that the US military is also responsible for terrorizing and decimating civilian populations around the world in its mandate of securing geopolitical control of resources for US empire.

Conferences like the COP have failed dismally in addressing the climate crisis, even just in terms of the straightforward demand of reducing global greenhouse gas emissions. Instead, they have been a reliable platform for world leaders to greenwash imperialism, allowing them to mask land grabs and human rights violations in environmentally-friendly rhetoric. They use the COPs as platforms to make bold but empty promises without actually making significant emissions cuts, and dangle these in lieu of just reparations for past, present and future loss and damages that they are causing. Patterns of extraction and displacement still continue, especially in neo-colonies and client states. The crisis, as it stands, has not been addressed.

It is also no small irony that this year's COP is held in Egypt. US-backed militarism under the el-Sisi regime continues to persecute political opposition — including environmental advocates — as evident in the detention of tens of thousands of political prisoners in the country. This situation reflects the plight of anti-systemic movements across the globe that are the primary targets of US military intervention.

In the face of this disaster of biospheric proportions, the International League of Peoples' Struggle continues to link together forces mobilizing against imperialism and all its social and ecological implications. As the climate crisis continues despite decades of UN conferences, it is clear that the only lasting solution to our predicament is to put an end to the imperialist world order. Climate and environmental movements must therefore throw their support behind movements of basic masses and most seriously affected peoples around the world who are carrying out this task, and ultimately work towards forwarding a viable alternative to the status quo — that is, a socialist alternative that actively attends to the ecological concerns of our time.

*Long Live International Solidarity!
End climate imperialism to attain climate justice!
Imperialist polluters must pay!
Climate Justice now!*

Len Cooper
ILPS Chairperson
10 November 2022

ON CLIMATE IMPERIALISM

A Collection of Jose Maria Sison's Articles, Statements, Interviews on Climate Crisis

This November, world leaders and big businesses convened in Egypt for the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference. This was the 27th Conference of the Parties of the UFGCC, also known as COP27, a gathering that aimed to renegotiate their control over the world's productive and natural resources amid an impending planetary catastrophe.

Decades of these climate negotiations have shown that the world's superpowers are incapable of meaningful and drastic actions to address the climate crisis. Monopoly capitalists in cahoots with their governments resort to carbon colonialism, fossil fuel production, and corporate greenwashing in line with their narrative of a "great reset" to jumpstart markets and create the facade of a new economic order.



To preserve the capitalist system, they wage wars and build military-industrial complexes that have been destructive to the environment.

In line with the International League of Peoples' Struggle's fight against climate imperialism, we aim to raise the discourse by forwarding the central role of people's movements and socialism as the meaningful system change we need. As part of our efforts to intensify the global peoples' demands for climate justice, we have consolidated relevant resource materials that raise and link the issue of capitalist production and imperialist-led wars to the current global climate crisis.

Here is the list of links to ILPS Chairperson Emeritus Prof. Jose Maria Sison's articles, statements, and interviews on the climate crisis:

1. On Climate Imperialism: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/on-climate-imperialism-2/>
2. System Change, Not Climate Change: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/system-change-not-climate-change/>
3. Imperialism on Food and Agriculture and Spread of Deadly Pathogens: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/imperialism-in-food-and-agriculture-and-spread-of-deadly-pathogens-2/>
4. The Climate Crisis and Migration: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/the-climate-crisis-and-migration/>
5. The 'Great Reset' Generates the Great Resist: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/the->

[great-reset-generates-the-great-resist-2/](https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/the-great-reset-generates-the-great-resist-2/)

6. US-Led Wars and Types of Weapons in the Era of Modern Imperialism: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/us-led-wars-and-types-of-weapons-in-the-era-of-modern-imperialism/>

7. Overview: Historical Rise of Fascism and Current Manifestation in Pandemic: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/overview-historical-rise-of-fascism-and-current-manifestation-in-pandemic/>

8. Paris Climate Talks are Predetermined by Monopoly Capitalism to Aggravate Climate and Social Injustice and Crises: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/paris-climate-talks-are-predetermined-by-monopoly-capitalism-to-aggravate-climate-and-social-injustice-and-crises/>

9. Burning Questions: Talking with Jose Maria Sison about Climate Change, Capitalism, and Revolution: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/burning-questions-talking-with-jose-maria-sison-about-climate-change-capitalism-and-revolution/>

10. Intensify the Peoples' Struggles against Imperialism to Address the Root Cause of Global Warming: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/intensify-the-peoples-struggles-against-imperialism-to-address-the-root-cause-of-global-warming-2/>

11. End Monopoly Capitalism to Address Climate Change: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/end-monopoly-capitalism-to-arrest-climate-change/>

12. ILPS Commission 13 On Climate Change and the Environment: <https://peoplesstruggle.org/en/ilps-commission-13-on-climate-change-and-the-environment/>

Peru

ON THE EVENTS IN PERU Declaration of the Latin American and Caribbean Committee of the ILPS

Repudiate the “institutional” coup of the right wing and imperialism in Peru, exercise in the streets the legitimate right to patriotic and popular rebellion against all reaction!

The institutional coup which took place in Peru last December 8, and concluded with the impeachment and imprisonment of Castillo, is one more chapter in the long generalized crisis going on in that country, after a period of profound struggle and popular insurgency which advanced and maintained a balance of power with the ruling classes and which, after its hard but transitory defeat, gave way to a rigged, restricted and repressive democracy, guarantor of the power of the big bourgeoisie and imperialism. The social and political instability, the constant interruption of presidential mandates in the last six years, are a manifestation of the deepening contradictions between the different factions of the big bourgeoisie that struggle to establish a “Peru for the few”, generating the active repudiation of the popular majorities of the imposed dependent capitalism, in view of the loss of sovereignty and the worsening of their living conditions.

In this framework, the parliament and the institutions in general are a function of this concentrated power and cannot be expected to be anything but reactionary and to act against the people. The rejection and the popular rebellion against these institutions is still very strong, expressed in the streets and highways and has spread to a large part of the electorate. In the last presidential elections, certain popular demands and aspirations were expressed in the last government and were frustrated by Castillo’s abandonment of those key measures, which could have put into question Peru’s dependent matrix, moving towards taking up the urgent needs of the workers and the people as a priority. Not only did he not advance with these priorities by calling for popular mobilization, but rather, in the face of permanent pressures from the right wing, he gave in to them, with a final attempt to overcome the crisis “from within” by closing the Congress, playing a game of repartee that ended up distancing him from the government.

In view of this situation, popular anger has exploded in the face of the systematic corruption and repres-



sion of the entire regime and the first murder of a young demonstrator has taken place, among the multiple actions unfolding in numerous regions of the country, demanding the release of Castillo and all political prisoners and the establishment of a Constituent Assembly. The people’s organizations of Peru are rising up and making their demands felt through street occupations and blockades, and the call for an unlimited general strike starting next Tuesday the 13th. They want to stop the reactionary plot underway and are creating the conditions for a new power born out of the agency of the toiling masses.

We call for the active solidarity of all the anti-imperialist democratic forces of Latin America and the Caribbean to rise up together with the workers and the people of Peru, and follow the path of our rebellious peoples who since the beginning of the new century, from the cries of « let all of them begone” in Argentina to the recent Chilean, Ecuadorian and Colombian revolts, have tried to overcome the limits of the so-called popular and left governments to successfully thwart the plans of the ruling classes, and pave the way for National and Social Liberation in our countries.

ILPS Latin American and Caribbean Committee
December 11, 2022

Translated from Spanish

Peru

ILPS DENOUNCES COUP D'ÉTAT IN PERU



The recent coup d'état in Peru by ultra-right forces and US imperialism is part of their genocidal policy to eliminate the people's organisations and their leaders in Latin America. US imperialism is not only in the process of eliminating people's organisations and their leaders in Argentina, Paraguay and now in Peru, but also targeting ILPS member organisations and leaders as well as those fighting for the fundamental rights of Peruvians.

In its efforts to eradicate itself from its serious crisis and to prepare for a third world war, imperialism is attacking and/or eliminating the political leaders of the left, their people's organisations and even government leaders.

After the attempted assassination of Cristina Kirchner in Argentina and her criminalisation to prevent her from participating in the political arena, it carried out a coup d'état in Peru, arbitrarily removing President Pedro Castillo from office and imprisoning him.

Today, imperialism is using the judicial system as an instrument of war along with the armed forces and police of these countries in coordination with the military and police forces of the USA.

Caught in the inexorable economic and political crisis of their capitalist system, these reactionary forces are cowardly resorting to using the judicial system and even cruelly persecuting the direct relatives of political leaders.

They have previously attacked Presidents Evo Morales, Correa, Lula and Dilma Rousseff as well as Maduro. Today it is the turn of the Presidents of Argentina and Peru.

This is all part of the plans to exterminate political

and popular organisations in these countries, as their police and military manuals dictate.

Following the arbitrary persecution of the direct relatives of President Pedro Castillo, they have now proceeded with his dismissal and imprisonment.

They have been carrying out their genocidal plan in Peru since the 1980s, at which time they eliminated entire villages and massacred, eliminated and disappeared tens of thousands of peasants, workers, popular and Communist leaders of the Peruvian people. This continued recently with the assassination of Dr. Abimael Guzmán Reinoso including passing a law to have his remains disappear along with the remains of other revolutionaries.

Today they are carrying out an execrable persecution against left organisations such as ILPS member organization Movement for Amnesty and Fundamental Rights.

In Peru, since the beginning of the last century, a semi-feudal society and bureaucratic capitalism developed. In the 1980s Peru became a society of dependent capitalism.

And like capitalism in general, in the 1990s Peru entered a serious structural crisis of falling profit rates and absolute and relative pauperisation. This has today given rise to a general economic and political crisis.

This crisis has led to two major needs:

The need of the proletariat and the Peruvian people for a new Constitution that guarantees social, fundamental and national rights, an end to political persecution, the release of political prisoners and the need for a new society.

The need of the reactionary forces to eliminate the left-wing opposition in order to try to overcome their crisis of profitability, to prevent democratisation and any progress towards a change of society.

Peruvian reaction, in coordination with US imperialism, keeps hundreds of social and political prisoners in jail and is proceeding with an ongoing plan to exterminate the leaders of the Communist left in Peru, including leaving comrade Margot Liendo to die in jail.

Imperialism maintains several military and police bases and quasi-bases on Peruvian territory. For their Latin American military plan they formed with Peruvian reactionaries the militarist Lima Group. This group intervened in the coup against Evo Morales, against Correa in Ecuador, and has conducted military and police operations in Venezuela. They are the ones who are coordinating today in a multilateral plan with the Peruvian military, police and judicial forces their actions to eliminate the Peruvian popular forces.

It is necessary today to regroup our forces to oppose

and resist the genocidal plan of imperialism and Latin American and Peruvian reaction and prevent militaristic imperialism in Latin America and Peru.

Let us demand the expulsion of the US and NATO military bases along with the expulsion of the thousands of US military and police in Latin America and Peru.

Let us demand an end to persecution and forced disappearances in Latin America and Peru, the release of all political prisoners, and the handing over of the disappeared.

Finally, we demand the reestablishment of all the social and fundamental rights that have been suppressed or restricted and the repeal of the anti-labour laws and the so-called anti-terrorist laws.

ILPS in Peru
9 December 2022

Translated from Spanish

India

FISHER COMMUNITIES CALL FOR STOPPAGE OF SEAPORT CONSTRUCTION IN VIZHINJAM, KERALA



A solidarity statement has been signed by hundreds of individuals and organizations to defend the inhabitants of the coastal fishing villages of Vizhinjam, Kerala, India who are opposing with sit-ins and similar actions for 105 days the ongoing construction of a disastrous international seaport by Adani Ports.

The port construction has resulted in coastal erosion leading to the destruction of houses in surrounding fishing villages. The dredging in the port will also result in the loss of local fishing habitats and the destruction of

the livelihood of thousands of fishing families as well as their displacement from the coast.

Attempts have been made to slander Aleyama Vijayan, founder trustee of the Sakhi Women's Resource Centre, who has been working for women's empowerment for the past three decades, along with AJ Vijayan, a trade unionist and researcher in the fisheries sector since 1980. Media outlets have falsely claimed that Sakhi, a women's rights organisation based out of Thiruvananthapuram and which has no direct affiliations with the protest committee, is receiving foreign contributions for the protests. The Vijayans have issued a defamation suit against the media for spreading lies and rumours.

The fisherfolk have raised seven demands, including stoppage of the construction of the seaport in Vizhinjam and a complete study on the impact and damages by the port by an independent team of experts including people representing the fisher community.

India

JUSTICE FOR PROFESSOR GOKARAKONDA NAGA SAIBABA



December 5, 2022 -- The Scholars at Risk Network joined 18 organizations based in India, the US and other countries to express their grave concern for the well-being of Professor Gokarakonda Naga Saibaba, asking the Chief Justice of India to review Professor Saibaba's case and reconsider the decision to suspend the Bombay High Court's release order and to have the order reinstated.

Professor Saibaba was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment under India's Unlawful Activities

(Prevention) Act (UAPA) on charges of “being a member of a terrorist gang or organization,” despite a lack of credible evidence linking him to the CPI (Maoist).

On October 14, 2022, the Bombay High Court ordered Professor Saibaba released based on a procedural lapse during his prosecution. The following day, however, the Supreme Court granted an appeal by the government of Maharashtra and suspended the ruling.

The declaration states: “Professor Saibaba suffers from 19 separate conditions, including post-polio syndrome, which inhibits the use of his legs, as well as life-threatening pancreatitis and impacted gallbladder stones, both of which require immediate surgery. Over

the seven years of his imprisonment, he has been denied adequate medical care numerous times, including for two separate Covid-19 infections. Just a few months ago, Pandu Narote, who was convicted alongside Professor Saibaba, died in prison after contracting swine flu and reportedly being denied medical attention. We are deeply concerned about Professor Saibaba’s health should he remain in prison and not receive appropriate care.

We therefore respectfully urge you to review Professor Saibaba’s case, reconsider the decision to suspend the Bombay High Court’s decision, and reinstate the high court’s order so Professor Saibaba may be released and finally receive the medical care he urgently needs.”



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- PROMOTE
- SUPPORT
- DEVELOP

the struggles of the working-class, toiling masses and various oppressed peoples against imperialism and all local reaction.

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