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e-mail : redpowerlanka@gmail.com

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THE CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION FRONT (JVP) - SRI LANKA

ARREST the BRUTES!

State sponsored gunmen carrying T-56 automatic rifles shot indiscriminately at a political meeting organized by the JVP at Hediwatte, Katuwana in Hambantota District on the 15th.

The gunmen killed the JVP activist Malani Edirimannage (53) a mother of three children and Nimantha Heshan Pathirage (18) on the spot and injured many others. The meeting was held at the house of comrade Cyril Ranjith at Hediwatte in Beliatte electorate. The motor cycle riding attackers have been terrorizing the area during



Nimantha Heshan Pathirage

the last few years.

At the time the attack took place Comrade Nalinda Jayatissa, member of Central Committee of the JVP was addressing the meeting under the theme "RALLY AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION THAT TORMENTS PEOPLE OF SRI LANKA".

According to the people who attended the meeting about 8 gunmen terrorized them shooting and beating them and causing damage to the vehicles and motor cycles belonging to those who attended the meeting.

Those who attended the meeting have identified the leader of the terrorist gang who is very close to the Rajapakse regime. This state sponsored underworld group supported UPFA (United Peoples Freedom Alliance – the ruling alliance) during the last General Election and they spoke on election platforms in support of powerful members of the Government.

This criminal underworld group continuously harasses the people in Katuwana, Walasmulla, near Medamulana where President Mahinda Rajapakse's family home is situated. This gang could carry weapons freely in this area where the government has deployed many army and police personnel to provide security to the area. The thugs have been protected by the powerful members of the government.

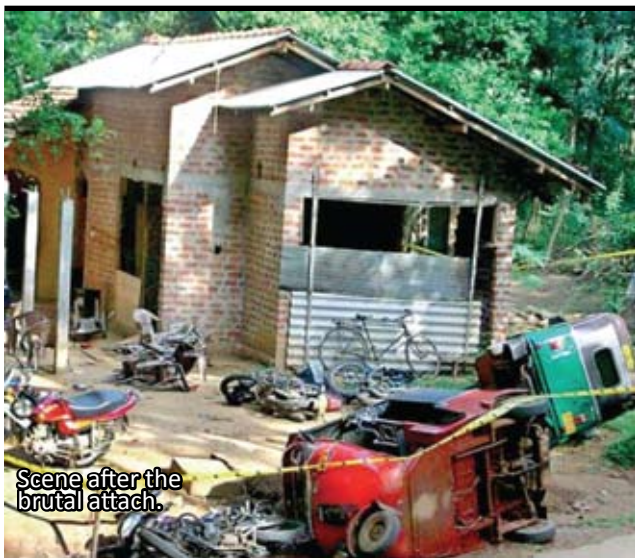
The funerals of the victims were held in Katuwana with the participation of thousands of people from all over

the country. There was a heavy police and army presence in the area and there were restrictions imposed by the police to disrupt the funeral rituals.

The JVP organized a protest at Katuwana against the killings and to demand the arrest of those who are responsible for killings ignoring the restrictions imposed by the police. The Member of Parliament and the Political Bureau of the JVP Comrade Anura Kumara Disanayake vowed to continue the protest until the government takes action to arrest the criminals and bring them before court of law. On the following day, the 19th June the JVP held a protest in Colombo. Thousands joined the protest held near the Colombo Fort Railway station.



Malani Edirimannage



Scene after the brutal attack.



Demonstration at Katuwana before the funerals defying the police and the army



JVP demonstration in Colombo on the 19th

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THE MAIN TASK OF THE ANTI IMPERIALIST PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO THE WORKING PEOPLES FORCES DOMINATED BY THE WORKERS

Comrade Tilvin Silva
General Secretary , JVP



Red Power: What is the form of the present serious crisis facing Sri Lanka?

Comrade Tilvin : Explaining very briefly, at this moment Sri Lanka is facing an enormous economic crisis. The neo liberal economic policy followed by the rulers of this country has led to this situation. Politically the government has failed in moving towards the direction of achieving national unity. As a result lankan national question and the human rights problem which are closely interconnected is opening the way for the Indian and imperialist intervention. This is very serious. Earlier in Geneva in the Human Rights council the United States moved a resolution against Sri Lanka with the support of India also. Thus it is very clear the danger of foreign intervention. The fact that those with dissenting voices are suppressed, abducting people, the assaults carried out on peaceful protests and also shooting and killing unarmed citizens who took part in protests is an indication that there is a danger for democracy in Sri Lanka. The crime rate has increased in the country and there is a big threat

to the lives of ordinary people. All these points to the fact that the country is facing a number of social-economic, political crises.

Red Power: How do you analyse the imperialist impact aimed against Sri Lanka?

Comrade Tilvin: Right from the time Sri Lanka became independent from direct colonial rule and became a neo colonial state imperialist pressure was exerted against Sri Lanka. The imperialist started implementing the neo liberal policies with the intention of subjugating the world and recently with this in view they intensified their interventions. Earlier making use of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and World Trade Organisation Sri Lanka was misled into a debt trap. Through numerous so called aid projects they also acted



Hence the interventions by the imperialists are not simple happenings or unintentional. It is a requirement of their strategic needs.



to change the Sri Lankan political background to suit them, particularly the United States of America. During the J.R. Jayawardene regime they established, the Voice of America in Sri Lanka. They tried to get the Trincomalee harbor and oil tanks there for their use. At that time Indian and the United States of America were representing opposing camps. Hence India tried to keep Sri Lanka under its grip so that Trincomalee harbor will not fall into the hands of the United States of America. The 1987 Indo-Lanka pact is a result of this. But later

in 1990 with the fall of the Socialist block a new world political order came into being. Here India and United States of America aligned together with common policies and strategies and intervened in Sri Lanka. As before they made use of the Sri Lankan national problem for this purpose. It was because of their intervention the separatist politics of the North developed into a separatist war. Making use of the separatist was they intervened in 2002 and succeeded in pushing Ranil's government to accept the ceasefire agreement. Now after the war ended they are coming out with the new concepts –'Human Rights Violations' and 'Accountability Issues' they are engaged in manipulating Sri Lankan internal politics in a manner acceptable to them. In this way they try to manage the Sri Lankan economy and the Sri Lankan Market the way that suits them. Hence the interventions by the imperialists are not simple happenings or unintentional. It is a requirement of their strategic needs.

Red Power: By now Imperialism is exposed to a severe crisis. They are faced with an extensive economic recession. Under these circumstances in countries such as ours how can imperialist interventions increase?

Comrade Tilvin: Indeed, it is when they are in a severe crisis that the imperialist interventions are increased against countries such as ours,. The serious crises face by imperialism forces them to loot and subjugate more and more countries of the world. Their war and economic political needs compel them to manage these countries. Accordingly they act in a desperate manner. The more the crisis of imperialism is elevated the more is the tendency to invade and brutality and savageries increase. This is

the truth. This is because in order to liberate from the economic recession the imperialist are facing, the only path they choose is to loot the resources and acquire the trade markets of the peripheral countries. This conditions exists until imperialism is defeated.

Red Power: In what ways does the intervention of the imperialists against Sri Lanka happen? What are the objectives?

Comrade Tilvin: There are a number of ways of interventions by imperialists in many countries like Sri Lanka. Sometimes they make use of internal problems on those countries or else they create conflicts and intervene. If necessary they invade. A few examples are Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya. Also divisions or separatist tendencies are caused in countries and weaken them and then interfere to subjugate. The examples are the intervention to divide Kosovo, the division of Sudan and through separatist politics the intervention in Sri Lanka. Besides the economic field we can observe the army intervention, by the establishment of war camps in countries.

At one time in Sri Lanka through the granting of loans and presently through the nation question they are involved in the internal problems of our country. Through the International Monetary Fund and such other monetary organizations they are controlling the economic policies of Sri Lanka in a manner that suits them. The devaluation of the rupee was a result of this. The United States of America acted to stop buying of Iranian oil for dollars by Sri Lanka. In this way they indirectly involved Sri Lanka on the sanctions imposed on Iran. The Sri Lankan government has no alternative other than to bow down. The United

States of America signed a defence agreement with Sri Lanka. This was in March 2007. According to this the Sri Lankan soil can be used by them for their military activities when necessary, and they have also obtained consent for the use of Sri Lankan services. Under the guise of carrying out welfare activities the army unit – "Pacific Command" of the USA is engaging Sri Lanka for their requirements. They are engaged in obtaining Sri Lankan natural resources. The strategy of USA regarding Sri Lanka is that in the Asian region to keep Sri Lanka in their agenda in relation to the United States of America's economic, political and military activities. This is essential for them particularly under conditions where Socialist China is strong in Asia.

Red Power: In this problem how should we understand the behavior of India?

Comrade Tilvin: Earlier when India was friendly and Pro Soviet, at the time when the Socialist bloc existed, they acted against the interventions of United States of America in this region. Accordingly they released their hegemony to make Sri Lanka, pro India instead of being pro-American. They patronized when the separatist politics was transformed into an armed movement. Now under the present conditions in the absence of the Soviet Union India joined hands with the United States of America and are acting against the Chinese influence. As regards Sri Lanka now just as much as the United States, India too are acting according to the same agenda. This is how India voted in favour of the resolution brought forward by the United States in the Human Rights Council in Geneva. Both these countries are using their influence towards devolution of power to

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It is not very clear when dogs were domesticated. However, it could be presumed that at the end of man's hunting age the dog was a regular member of his abode. Many of these dogs were reared for hunting and with man beginning to lead a civilized life the need for hunting dogs diminished. There hasn't been any record of using bloodhounds to hunt down people until defense sections of dictators like Hitler or Pinochet used them to torture prisoners.

The talk about bloodhounds has begun in the society again. A pack of bloodhounds reared by Rajapaksa regime has attacked a meeting held by the JVP and killed two persons. It would be unjustifiable for dogs but there is no other suitable term to be used for these underworld thugs at this moment. They become dogs as they are being reared. They become blood hounds as they hunt to fulfill the wishes of their masters.

The attempt of the government to wash its hands from the murders by diverting the responsibility to other parties disclosed its guilty mentality. Even before a complaint was made regarding the incident the Director General of Media Center for National Security Lakshman Hulugalle told the media that the murders were committed by a group that had left the JVP. The 'responsible' media center of the government attempted to defend the government even before any police investigations were carried out regarding the incident.

On one hand the behavior of the government is reasonable. The whole country knows that the violence was unleashed by an underworld thug called Joolampitiye Amare and his gang. These are not their first murders. They are unpunished perpetrators of more than a dozen murders. Everyone in the area knows it. However, these underworld thugs have been reared, nurtured and made powerful by the politics of the government and specially that of President Mahinda Rajapaksa. No legal action has been taken against their unlawful acts. Hence, they expect they could wriggle through the current situation and this coincide with the attempt of the Director General of MCNS. The whole country awaits the move of the government. The government should be fully aware of this.

The government deployed its official security sections to take the life of Roshen Chanuka When workers fought against the attempt of the government to plunder the EPF. When there was an outburst in the country against the sordid act a commission headed by a retired judge was appointed a year ago to carry out an investigation. However, until today there hasn't been any report presented or perpetrators identified and punished.

Later, Anton Fernando, a fisherman, was shot dead

Bloodhounds should be tied with their masters...



when a peaceful agitation to demand reduction of increased fuel prices carried out by fisher folk in Chilaw was shot at. Several teams were allocated to investigate regarding this incident too. However, as usual, there were no offenders. There is a possibility that Katuwana murders too would not have any offender.

Malani Edirimannage and Samanthe Heshan are two innocent civilians silenced by the bullets of these thugs. They did not have any personal grudge against the thugs. The only 'wrong' they did was participating at a meeting of a political party that is not in the ruling alliance. What the message the thugs wanted to instill by the murders is no one would be allowed to engage

in politics against the government in President's village and no one should attempt to do so. There are media reports that the government, to show its strength,

is moving to dissolve a few provincial councils before their legitimate term ends and hold elections. If so, nothing has been left to imagination as to how these elections are to be won. Government's goons are already displaying this 'strength' to the country and to the world.

This indicates that there are no 'lessons learnt' by the government. It would be the most idiotic move of the government if it considers that it could strengthen its administration by murders and unleashing terror. It is the same line of thoughts Ben Ali, Gaddafi, Mubarak and the kind entertained. However, things didn't take place as they expected. Instead of being strengthened regimes of most rulers who unleashed bloodhounds were weakened. They were also shortened. Such rulers had to spend their final years or die in prisons.

Asking the government to leash bloodhounds will have no results. For, the whole country knows who the owners of these bloodhounds are. This doesn't mean they should be unleashed. They should be leashed with their masters and the scoundrelly politics of their masters.

JESUMARIE KINGLSLEY COMMITS SUICIDE

Four months before the fishermen in Sri Lanka took to the streets to demand the government to lower the price of oil. Police fired live bullets at the unarmed demonstrators. Antony Fernando was killed and three other fishermen were injured and permanently disabled. Jesumarie Kingsley who was crippled committed suicide on the 15 as he did not want to be a burden to his family.



21st International Communist Seminar - Brussels

The 21st international communist seminar organized by the Workers Party of Belgium was held in Brussels from the 18-20 May, 2012. Fifty eight communist parties participated and discussed "The relation between the immediate tasks of communists and their struggle for socialism" Comrade Bimal Rathnayake, member of central committee represented the JVP at the seminar.



Comrades from all continents,

I come from Sri Lanka, a tiny island nation just below the southernmost tip of India. I represent the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP – People's Liberation Front). JVP is the largest leftist political party in Sri Lanka. JVP's ideology is based on Marxism-Leninism. We reject Trotskyism and also Maoism. The founder leader of the party Comrade Rohana Wijeweera named it the JVP to avoid confusion among the people as there were number of Communist Parties in Sri Lanka during 1960s. The JVP is the party of professional revolutionaries. They are not paid any salary or any allowance.

The JVP led two armed uprisings against the pro-imperialist capitalist regime in Sri Lanka once in the year 1971 and again in the years 1987 and 1988. The uprisings were crushed brutally. Repressive measures taken against the JVP compelled it to take arms against the state. The JVP learnt enormous lessons, both positive and negative and entered the mainstream peaceful political activities for the third time in 1994.

Since 1994 JVP achieved a series of victories and it is now established as a mass political party at national level. It controls the largest and strongest Trade Union Federations of both the Public and Private sectors. JVP is the only militant political party that confronts the pro imperialist capitalist regime of Sri Lanka at present. Sri Lanka is a victim of international finance capital under imperialist – globalization. The JVP, the genuine Communist Party, in Sri Lanka identifies its immediate task as building the party of the class conscious workers and also building the anti-imperialist, democratic alliance. The JVP and its mass organizations are seriously engaged in fulfilling these tasks while engaged in day to day ideological and political struggles. The JVP was successful in reversing many anti-peoples acts brought to the parliament by the regime as instructed by the IMF. Our struggle for Socialism continues. We are very happy to be here with you.

This International Communist Seminar organized by the Workers' Party of Belgium is historical and is very important because there are challenges and

also opportunities before us. We are compelled to discuss them collectively and exchange our ideas and experiences that will certainly be beneficial for us to achieve victories in future. We admire the Workers Party of Belgium for organizing this international seminar.

Neo liberal globalization or monopoly capitalism possesses strong economic and ideological power. However, it is strangled by un-ending systemic crisis that brings it closer to its end. This crisis resulted massive job cuts, wage cuts and withdrawal of benefits. Even pension benefits have been withdrawn. Millions of workers, young men and women, University Students, Pensioners took to the streets in protests hitherto unseen in the Western World in particular. The 'OCCUPY' movement and 'WE ARE THE 99%' movement sprang up in the United States of America and spread to the other countries like a wild fire indicating widespread indignation throughout the world towards capitalism. A new chapter of history is being written. The people are demanding a change; a change for the better that will guarantee their basic needs. These are certainly positive developments of the class struggle. Undoubtedly these

the Communists in forming this alliance during the past; a few years back, when neo liberalist globalization enjoying the full advantage of the set back suffered by the International Communist Movement. However, the situation has changed. The working class and other people severely affected by the drastic cuts fought back under the banners of 'OCCUPY WALL STREET' and 'WE ARE THE 99%'. The embryo of the anti-imperialist alliance is thus born. Now our task is to nurture this 'somewhat spontaneous' alliance and strengthen it ideologically and organizationally.

This alliance will not achieve victories if it does not embrace the working class ideology. Working class ideology is molded and tested in the ideological struggle against capitalist ideology in the working class movement. Reformism is the main enemy of the working class movement. Reformism leads to class collaboration and it assures strengthening of capitalist ideology.

The contradiction between the labour and capital is the main, most important and basic contradiction within the capitalist system. This main contradiction is

THE IMMEDIATE TASKS OF COMMUNISTS AND THEIR STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALISM

Comrade Bimal Rathnayake

attacks against neo-liberal globalization mark a great beginning. However the protests were leaderless. We Communists do not believe that the working class is capable of achieving victories without building an organization to lead the struggle against capitalism.

The vast majority of the millions that took to the streets are certainly not Communists. We believe that the protests were not led by the Communist Parties in vast majority of countries either. Also the protests were purely economic struggles. It is the task of Communists to raise the awareness of the working class and the rest of the democratic and progressive people that this struggle is essentially an ECONOMIC and POLITICAL struggle as well against neo liberal globalization.

The Working Class no doubt is the historical leader of democratic and progressive people. In the struggle against neo-liberal globalization the working class essentially needs alliances with democratic and progressive forces because neo liberal policies are in conflict with the interests not only of the working class but also of the vast majority of the people in the world. The task of the Communists is to work tirelessly to build an anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist alliance led by the working class. Such an alliance is essential to win the broad support of the people against neo liberal capitalism. There were enormous challenges before

now intensified rather than disappearing as expected by capitalists after 1990 when Socialism suffered a temporary setback. Neo liberal capitalism during the last two decades has sharpened the contradictions compelling the working class and the other oppressed people to fight back against capitalism. The unprecedented crisis of today's capitalism has created the most favourable conditions for the struggle. In other words 'OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS ARE MATURED' offering the workers and the people a great opportunity to reject capitalism in most developed capitalist countries in the world and fight for an alternative - namely socialism.

The matured objective conditions alone will not bring socialism. The revolutionary party of Class conscious workers, or workers organized within the revolutionary party of which ideology is Marxism-Leninism allied with anti-imperialist forces could bring socialism when objective conditions are matured. Thus the immediate task of Communists is to build strong Communist Parties in their respective countries and also to rebuild the Leninist Communist International so that we Communists, the most trusted leaders and members of Communist Parties, could lead the struggle against Imperialism.

We wish International Communist Seminar every success.

General Conclusions unanimously passed by the Seminar

The generalized crisis of capitalism opens the way to socialism

1. The primary task of communists around the world at present is to clarify the nature of the crisis that has been afflicting the entire world capitalist system for four years. Promoting the Marxist analysis of the crisis is a first-rank ideological task. This means helping the workers and the peoples understand the root causes of the global economic cataclysm. It means

making the link between the various attacks they are subjected to, and the barbaric nature of the system itself. It means addressing the root cause of partial issues like the food crisis, environmental problems, wars of conquest, polarization between wealth and poverty, and the crisis of the parliamentary system and bourgeois ideology.

2. This task implies rejecting any thesis

that denies the character of the crisis as a crisis of the capitalist system. We are facing a crisis of relative overproduction and overaccumulation. The so-called financial bubbles are a reflection of this crisis in the sphere of circulation. Once these exploded, the contradiction between the real purchasing power of the impoverished masses and the overdeveloped production capacity became more obvious. This contradicts the

thesis that the crisis is a financial deficiency or a "debt crisis". As Marx demonstrated, the root cause of each crisis is to be found in the contradiction between the social character of production and the private appropriation of its products.

3. We have to fight any illusion regarding "exit strategies" that keep the system itself intact. Measures applied by

the bourgeoisie aim at restoring the rate of profit and saving themselves to the detriment of competitors and workers. Social democracy is once again proven to be a loyal manager of capitalism in crisis and a protagonist of anti-popular attacks. The bankruptcy of these policies creates a popular base for nationalism, xenophobia, religious fundamentalism and neo-fascist views and forces. The bourgeoisie creates and uses these reactionary tendencies as well as ethnic and religious conflicts to mask antagonistic class contradictions, while imperialism uses them to extend its spheres of control. The 1930s have shown where this can lead to. Communist and Workers' Parties are unified around a common conviction: in order to liberate workers and peoples from exploitation and misery, socialism has to be installed, taking into account all lessons from previous experiences. The left-reformist tendency that claims that a Keynesian policy can open the way to a market economy without crisis or exploitation is fooling the masses.

4. A planned economy, based on the public ownership of production means, is the only way to create an economy that serves the needs of man and the sustainable management of nature and production. The defeat of imperialism and the victory of socialism are necessary preconditions for establishing a sustainable peace amongst peoples and building international relations of mutual aid, without domination or exploitation. For this crisis of capitalism to lead to new perspectives for socialism will depend on the vanguard role of Communist and Workers' Parties in the struggles, but also on their persuasiveness and organizational work.

Taking up and leading workers' and peoples' struggles

5. The crisis in all spheres of the capitalist system creates new opportunities for Communist and Workers' Parties to conquer the masses for the perspective of socialism. But the objective necessity of socialism does not spontaneously become a subjective conviction in people's minds. Each Party has the responsibility to look for suitable means to heighten consciousness, organize and mobilize the working class and the people, starting from an assessment of the level of organization and consciousness of the masses, the correlation of forces and the character of our era, above all within the framework of its own country. Moreover, the counterrevolution which overthrew socialism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe has sown much confusion among the masses and has been used by the world bourgeoisie to blacken the image of the socialist path. The generalized crisis of capitalism enables this anticommunist propaganda to be smashed into pieces.

6. Enabling large masses to acquire this consciousness can best be done through experience, through struggles of the working class and peoples of the world, through partial advances and defeats. It is therefore of the utmost importance for parties to lead the daily struggles of

workers and peoples, to orient them in an anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist direction and towards socialist revolution. Through class struggle the working class accumulates valuable experience that contributes, in combination with the political-ideological intervention of Communist and Workers' Parties, to the development of class consciousness.

7. Communists insist on the adoption of goals of struggle that respond to the contemporary needs of workers and their families (on employment, wages, social rights, public services, social services, education, health, retirement, housing, high living costs...). Communists struggle for the right to work, for better working conditions, for social security rights, for equal rights and equal treatment for women etc. in order to obtain better conditions for the sale of the workers' labor power and a better protection from excessive exploitation by employers. However, the position of the working class as wage slaves in the relations of production does not and cannot change, no matter how many gains it achieves through its struggle.

8. It is by means of their role in daily struggles that communists win the confidence of the toiling masses, proving that they are the best advocates of their general or long-term interests. It is by means of daily struggles that a better correlation of forces is built for the ultimate confrontation with the monopolies and the bourgeoisie. It is mainly by means of daily struggles, and not by means of elections, that the masses prepare for greater victories. Communist and Workers' Parties participate in elections and parliaments to extend their audience and create better conditions for class struggle. The masses are aware that under capitalism nothing is ever achieved definitively, even more so today, when capitalism does not make any concessions but on the contrary abolishes rights that have existed for decades. But even if all concessions are partial, temporary and soon to be put into question, communists fight to obtain results, because partial victories are important to boost the people's morale.

9. Socialist revolution is the end result and the culminating point of a great number of partial struggles that converge in a qualitative step when "the 'lower classes' do not want to live in the old way and the 'upper classes' cannot carry on in the old way" (V.I. Lenin, *Left-Wing Communism: an Infantile Disorder*). As long as capitalism exists, the working class and the peoples will struggle for the improvement of their living and working conditions, for political, social and democratic rights to pave the way for people's sovereignty. Any struggle for the improvement of the conditions of the working class can go in two directions. If it creates illusions in the system, it will end up consolidating the dictatorship of the monopolies. If, on the contrary, it arouses the consciousness of the masses, strengthens their organizations and gathers energy for future battles, it creates a better correlation of forces to advance towards socialism. This depends in the first place on the leadership that

the communists are able to give to the struggle.

10. The communists fulfill their vanguard role during working class, people's and youth struggles and try to formulate the objectives of the struggles according to people's needs. If the masses are willing to mobilize for certain demands, communists have the duty to support them and to help them actively. But they also have the duty consciously to link tactics with strategy in such a way that the former serve the latter, and to ensure that the struggle for immediate demands serves the preparation of the working class for victory at the level of power, for the abolition of monopoly power and of exploitation of man by man.

11. Under capitalism, communists struggle for reforms to improve the situation and further the rights of the working class. As Lenin said, reforms have two sides. On one side, a reform is a conquest from the perspective of the working class. On the other side, reforms can be a tool for keeping the working class within the capitalist system: "The reformists try to divide and deceive the workers, to divert them from the class struggle by petty concessions. But the workers, having seen through the falsity of reformism, utilize reforms to develop and broaden their class struggle." (Lenin, *Marxism and Reformism*)

12. While communists fight right-wing opportunism, they have to be vigilant in face of the danger of left-wing opportunism. It is wrong to treat daily struggles for immediate demands with contempt. Communists place themselves in the tradition of Marx, Lenin and the First and Third International.

- In the struggle with Proudhon, Bakunin and the Lassallians, Marx stressed the importance of immediate demands, even though he believed revolution was close. At the first congress of the International in 1866 in Geneva, the Proudhonists were defeated. The congress voted in favor of the struggle for an 8-hour working day as an international demand, and in 1871 the representatives of the First International led the first demonstration for an 8-hour day in New York. In his *Critique of the Gotha Program*, Marx offers a virulent criticism of the "iron law" of Lassalle, who wanted to conduct only political struggles.

- At the foundation of the Bolshevik party in 1903, in a period of increasing class struggle, Lenin adapted tactics to strategy, taking care closely to link the immediate political and economic demands and the immediate task of smashing tsarist autocracy with the ultimate perspective of socialist revolution. The aborted revolution of December 1905 was preceded by a year full of protests and strikes in the whole of Russia, for civil liberties, salary increases, land distribution, the 8-hour work-day and the convocation of a Constituent Assembly elected by universal suffrage.

- At the second congress of the Third International, Lenin fought dogmatic opportunism or "leftism" which denies the need of conquering the masses' consciousness through persistent

ideological, political and mass struggle by communists, through their work in the trade unions, through the development of tactics and the use of compromises, without retreating from the strategic goal.

13. There is no impassable barrier between economic and political struggles. Issues that immediately have a political character include demands for anti-imperialist and class struggle, violations of human rights, brutal acts of repression and wars of aggression. Issues such as unemployment, wage freeze, homelessness, soaring prices of basic goods and services, deteriorating social services, and others arise at first as economic and social issues. But they can easily become political issues when the communist party and the people raise them as issues in the anti-imperialist and class struggle.

On the other hand, the struggle for people's power has a tangible and immediate stake for the masses. In the course of the political struggle, tactical demands for basic reforms and the strategic call for revolutionary change are made. The Bolshevik party won the masses for the revolution with three demands: peace, bread and land and by demonstrating that only Soviet Power could fulfill these demands.

14. As soon as popular revolt spreads, the bourgeoisie reacts by limiting democratic rights and reinforcing the repressive apparatus. This reminds the working class that class struggle is waged foremost on the political level, the level of power, because the antidemocratic and fascistizing measures serve to enslave the oppressed people forever. The working class should also extend its vision of society beyond the economic sphere and unite around the defense of basic democratic rights: the right to organize against anti-communist attacks, the right to strike against repressive measures, the right to protest against a state of emergency, trade union rights against any restriction on struggles or on organizing class solidarity. Any broadening of democracy renders the possibilities for class struggle more open and general. The struggle to have democracy for the popular masses applied to the maximum and in a consistent manner in all fields of society, is an essential component of the struggle for socialism.

15. The crisis intensifies the militarization of the economy, prepares new wars and sharpens inter-imperialist competition. The USA, the EU and Japan aim to maintain their control on the world economy, natural resources, energy resources, world trade and the international monetary system. NATO is becoming increasingly aggressive, expanding to the Persian Gulf, the Middle East, the Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean and all over the world. It creates and stokes up war flashpoints. It is imperative for Communist and Workers' Parties to fight side by side against the pacts of aggression concocted by the monopolies' political representatives, reinforce the solidarity front with countries and peoples



FARMERS TAKE TO THE STREETS

The farmers in the paddy cultivating areas in Sri Lanka were frustrated by the government during the last harvesting season by not buying paddy at a reasonable price. The government and the ministry of agriculture promised the farmers that arrangements would be made to buy paddy at Rs. 30 per kilo. As usual the farmers were betrayed. Majority of the farmers had to sell their paddy to the private sector at lower prices. They

have not earned enough to settle their loans.

This season the farmers had to raise further loans to cultivate their paddy lands. The government promised to provide water before the farmers cultivated their paddy fields. Now the ministers say that there is not enough water in Irrigation tanks and that they could provide water only for 40% of the cultivated lands. As a result paddy fields are destroyed and the farmers are demanding compensation from the government. All Ceylon Farmers' Federation is leading the farmers in Sri Lanka in their struggle to win their demands.

"ORGANISE AGAINST THE REGIME THAT TORTURES THE PEOPLE"

JVP has launched a programme to raise the awareness of the people of Sri Lanka under the theme "Organise Against The Regime that Torments the People". The JVP activists throughout the country organized hundreds of pocket meetings after house to house canvassing in villages. The programme was started on the 15th May and will continue till 30th June.

ROSHEN CHANAKA COMMEMORATED



Roshen Chanaka gave his life in the struggle against the government's ugly attempt to rob Employees Provident Fund (EPF) by introducing a fraudulent pension scheme. A commemoration ceremony was held at the Free Trade Zone in Katunayake, near Colombo. Comrade Wasantha Samarasinghe, the President and the Secretary comrade Janaka Adikari, of the Inter Company Employees Union also participated.



ELECTRICITY WORKERS' STRIKE

15000 Electricity Board workers throughout the country left their work sites and offices on a token strike at 12 Noon on the 29th May. The strike was a complete success" said comrade Ranjan Jayalal a member of the Steering Committee of the United Workers Trade Unions of the Electricity Board. The work in the breakdown section, accounts section, daily services section, electricity stores and payment section came to a halt due to the

strike. The electricity workers demand the pay hike due to them since long ago.

Death Threat – Meanwhile comrade Ranjan Jayalal was threatened with death using the mobile telephone bearing the number 0784945856 on the 29th. Comrade Jayalal made a complain at the Inspector General of Police's office regarding the threat. He said, "IGP has not taken any action regarding the complain he lodged at his office.

"THE PEOPLES' WALL OF COMRADESHIP" WAS FORCED TO STOP ITS DEMONSTRATION IN VAVUNIYA.

"The People's Wall of Comradeship" organized a demonstration on the 23rd May to demand the government to expedite the resettling of the Displaced people during the war in North and East. The organization is demanding the return of the lands belong to the people in the North and East immediately. The demonstration was stopped by the police and the army and the people in Vavuniya were threatened and dispersed away.



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THE MAIN TASK...

the North and East within Sri Lanka. The purpose of the visit of the Indian parliamentary delegation on the 17th – 18th of last April is to pressurize the Sri Lanka government on the devolution of power. Now the imperialists are engaged in bringing the Sri Lankan government on bended knees after trapping them further making use of the resolution passed in Geneva. This is true position of the imperialist

interventions against Sri Lanka.

Red Power: Good ! Can we defeat these imperialist interventions? If so how?

Comrade Tilvin: However great the crisis of imperialism is, it will never be silent willingly. They will use every possible means to have their hegemony upon the world. While we understand the activities of imperialism we should realize that defeating it is not a simple matter. As Lenin declared once the back bone of imperialism is made strong steel, it is not something that any young chicken can break. The magician ministers of the Mahinda Rajapakse government, or President Rajapakse cannot defeat imperialism; nor do they have a need. For that we need a massive peoples force. Imperialism can be defeated only by a national massive anti-imperialist people's movement. This necessitates the formation of a massive anti imperialist people's movement that includes large scale national and universal organization. This anti imperialist movement should have a clear vision and objectives to defeat imperialism and the local capitalist rulers who are acting as local agents of imperialism.

Red Power: It seems that the Geneva resolution was moved by the United States of America, because Sri Lanka Mahinda Rajapakse regime is anti-imperialist. Is this true?

Comrade Tilvin: Absolutely not! Mahinda Rajapakse regime is in no way anti imperialist or anti USA. The USA moved the Geneva resolution not because Rajapakse rule was anti imperialist. The already pro imperialist government who are hand in glove with the imperialists is paving the way for further subjugation. Some bullock cart drivers beat the bull with a stick not because the bull is not pulling the cart, but in order to accelerate the movement of the cart. It is in order to frighten the bull and get more work done by the bull. This is a similarity of the above imperialist subjugation..

Already by now the Rajapakse government is working together with the United States in different directions. As stated before the economic policy of this government is decided by the International Monetary Fund. Then how can they be anti imperialist? Last month the 7th instalment of the loan allocated to Sri Lanka by the International Monetary Fund was released because this government was pro imperialist. On the other hand the Rajapakse government signed a defence pact with the United States Defence department in March 2007. This was signed by the defence secretary Gotabhaya Rajapakse. It is still in force. The army unit "Pacific Command" of the USA makes frequent visits to Sri Lanka. Certain military exercises are carried out with Sri Lanka. How can this government be anti-USA? Also a lubricant is sold in Sri Lanka by the US company Caltex. This pact that existed between Sri Lanka and the American company was renewed for the second time during the Rajapakse rule. It was this government that decided to provide 5000 acres of land from Polonnaruwa for the cultivation of bananas to the American company – Dole.

Therefore this government is not anti-imperialist or anti-USA. This government acts according to the economic, political and military needs of them. There can be some contradictions between this government and the imperialists. These are not serious

differences. What really happens is to get the loyalty of this government certain actions are taken by the imperialists.

Red Power: Under these circumstances what does the JVP propose to defeat the imperialist interventions against Sri Lanka?

Comrade Tilvin: Very clearly to defeat imperialist intervention we need a capable anti-imperialist political movement. From the very beginning we were mindful about this. We believe that we have a modern national liberation struggle. Through the national liberation struggle moving to socialism in our strategy. On account of this and the serious intervention of imperialism at this moment, we need a broad anti-imperialist front, an anti imperialist peoples movement.

Red Power: Can you make an explanation regarding the leadership, its fuctional duties and composition of this anti imperialist front?

Comrade Tilvin: The leadership of such a true anti imperialist front in this era essentially falls on the shoulders of the left movement. In this era imperialist protests and capitalist protests are woven together in backward weak capitalist countries such as ours. Therefore the leadership of a true anti-imperialist front should be taken over by the left movement. In Sri Lanka this responsibility falls on the JVP.

True anti imperialist, patriotic, progressive forces should be brought together under the left leadership. More than the bringing together of peoples forces. Under the prevailing conditions those who are getting crushed under imperialism and in all respects of social, economic and political framework those who have the capability to stand firm in the face of continued imperialist onslaught without yielding in the working peoples force led by the working class. Also the youth woken and the students will become the main fighting force of this anti imperialist struggle. They should also join as a forceful group. Here the Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims – all should nit and come forward in this struggle. Besides them the anti- imperialist patriotic individuals, those in different segments of the society the intellectuals, the journalists, the artists, the environmentalists and those who love the country will become partners in this anti imperialist people's front. In this manner we have to build the broadest anti imperialist peoples movement under the left leadership that brings together all the above mentioned organizations individuals and social activists. This movement should act with the aim truly saving Sri Lanka from imperialist intervention and it should join hands with all the anti imperialist forces in the world who are fighting against imperialism and also those who fought against the backward weak capitalism in Sri Lanka and creating a new socialist rule.

Red Power: O.K. lastly what are the steps taken presently and what are your future plans to build such an anti imperialist peoples movement.

Comrade Tilvin: By now we have started discussions with numerous organizations, trade unions, farmers and fisheries organizations, anti imperialist forces and individuals. With their participation we began series of seminars in the country. Already we have conducted a few There is a good response from the people. We are in the process of having discussions with various organizations and groups and also with selected individuals. These discussions are very successful. Very soon we are hoping to bring this anti imperialist peoples movement as an organization into public exposure. Afterwards to build it up into a massive force and by that to organize and bring the people together for the anti imperialist struggle is our aim. Whatever obstacles are placed on our way we are definitely completing this task.

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General Conclusions

threatened by imperialism (Iran, Syria, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea) and energetically support countries and peoples which oppose foreign interference, destabilization and military interventions by imperialism. They must firmly support socialist Cuba against the imperialist blockade. They must support the acquisition by the Palestinian people of their inalienable rights, the right to self-determination without foreign interference, national independence and sovereignty; and the right to return to their homes and the property from which they were displaced.

16. In all these struggles, communists advance the perspective of the overthrow of capitalism by socialist revolution, as an objective necessity to improve the conditions of the toiling masses in a radical and sustainable way. Like Lenin, Communist and Workers' Parties are opposed to Bernstein's call that "the movement is everything, the final goal is nothing". This implies that the necessity of socialism is not relegated to a 'later' time in the work with the masses or buried in internal documents. Our parties propagate the solution of people's power, of the socialist alternative in our daily struggles, as the answer to the crisis and the exploitation of the capitalist system.

Strengthen Communist and Workers' Party for the tasks to come

17. Our parties are committed to wage the fight for social progress, democratic rights, proletarian internationalism, peace and the protection of the environment, in the perspective of socialism. Through their presence and action in the unions, in the democratic, environmental and peace movement, the Communist and Workers' Parties broaden their influence and underline that socialism is the only way to obtain social progress, workers' democracy, and the preservation of nature and peace. For in none of these fields can achievements be sustainable as long as capitalist monopolies have power. The party's presence, side by side and at the vanguard of the workers in their struggles, creates the best conditions to strengthen the party's authority, to recruit new members and to proletarianize the party.

18. In order to wage daily struggles and orient them towards the perspective of socialism, a primary task of communists is to work with energy, perseverance and determination in the mass organizations of the exploited workers, the trade unions. Trade unions have to be the mass organizations for the resistance of the working class and the effort to build and strengthen this class line is a priority to acquire an influence on the toiling masses.

19. Today's conditions are ripe for the building of social anti-monopolist and anti-imperialist alliances whose objectives are to defeat the imperialist offensive and aggressions in all their forms, to struggle for power and for the realization of profound, radical and revolutionary transformations.

20. International collaboration among Communist and Workers' Parties as well as among Communist Youth Organizations has to go beyond declarations and achieve concrete cooperation. The exchange of experiences must be intensified, in order for vanguard experiences to be generalized more quickly. The achievements in the fields of study and ideological struggle against reformist and dogmatic currents must be put at the disposal of the entire communist movement. The exchange of information and articles among newspapers, journals and electronic media of the Communist and Workers' Parties is of the utmost importance for better international cooperation. Frank and open debate, respecting each party's autonomy, must lead to a more solid ideological and political unity.

Long live proletarian internationalism!

FIGHT FOR RIGHTS TO ENGAGE IN POLITICS

Mahinda Rajapakse regime in Sri Lanka does not tolerate dissenting views. During the last three years after the war ended this regime has been blamed frequently that it is responsible for assassination of more than 15 journalists. All of them were assassinated for criticizing the regime for its blatant violation of Democratic and Human Rights. Many journalists left Sri Lanka to save their lives.

Law enforcing machinery failed mysteriously to bring to book a single assassin. They are still at large in the society threatening the members and activists of political parties and other organizations.

It is no secret for the people of Sri Lanka that these assassinations were carried out by the underworld gangs sponsored by the leaders of regime. Many members of criminal gangs are frequently seen in the company of politicians of the government. They have been seen even on election platforms during the elections. It has been disclosed that Julampitiya Amare, who is alleged to have led the criminal gang that attacked the JVP meeting held at Katuwana and shot dead a mother of three children and a youth 17 years old, has been nurtured by politicians of the government.

The High Court had issued more than 100 arrest warrants since 2001 against this 'Amare'. There are many court cases against him for rape, robbery and murder. The police during the last 11 years was not capable of arresting this criminal who was roaming in the area near Medamulana village where President Mahinda Rajapakse's family home is situated carrying T 56 rifles.

The JVP's protests compelled those who behind Julampitiya Amare to surrender him to the High Court. It was revealed at the High Court that this criminal visited a prison to see one of his friends after the shooting incidents took place at Katuwana. It remains a mystery why he was not arrested on that day. This indicates the serious deterioration of Law and Order situation in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka under Mahinda Rajapakse regime is bankrupt economically, politically, socially and morally. The JVP has launched a programme to make the people of Sri Lanka aware about the prevailing situation in the country. JVP's criticism against the regime for ruining the country is being widely accepted by the silent majority of the people of Sri Lanka.

Therefore there is no difficulty for anyone to understand why the regime needs to disrupt political activities of the JVP. The JVP assures again to the people of Sri Lanka that it will take every action to defeat cowardly attempts by the regime to disrupt and stop JVP's political activities.

AIPM INAUGURAL MEETING HELD

Anti-Imperialist People's Movement (AIPM) held its inaugural meeting at the Foundation Institute in Colombo on the 27th May 2012 with the participation of a large number of organizations and individuals who vowed to fight against the enemy number one of the people of the world, Imperialism.

Speaker after speaker addressing the huge gathering expressed their willingness to dedicate their time and strength to the success of the AIPM and to mobilize the people of Sri Lanka belong to all communities and all religions.

Senior Lecturer Rev. Dambara Amila addressing the meeting said "Imperialism led by the US imperialism with the full support of the Mahinda Rajapakse regime is

threatening Independence, Sovereignty and Dignity of Sri Lankan Nation. It is the sacred duty of the people of Sri Lanka to launch a fresh struggle for Liberation"

The General Secretary of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna comrade Tilvin Silva also addressed the gathering and said "Imperialism is the worst enemy of the people the world over. Imperialism led by US imperialism has been seeking to dominate other nations economically, politically and culturally. The Mahinda Rajapakse regime in collaboration with imperialism is betraying the Sinhala, Tamil, Muslim and other people in Sri Lanka. This regime has signed an agreement with USA allowing it to use Sri Lankan sea, sky and land for its military purposes. It is the time to defeat this government sooner than later.



Sri Lankans living in France, United Kingdom & Italy held demonstration against Katuwana political killings in front of Sri Lankan embassies in respective countries.

