Challenge to Musharrarf's dictatorship in Pakistan

By Kevin Mchale

Pakistan is deeply embroiled in an intense political crisis that has raged for over 20 years. The crisis took place well before the September 11, 2001 attacks forced the country and the world to pay more attention. Bush ally Pervez Musharraf—who retains power from a democratically elected government in a 1999 military coup—has imposed a state of emergency throughout Pakistan, suppressed the country's media and jailed unknown numbers of activists, lawyers and ordinary people opposed to his autocratic rule.

As Musharraf's most prominent opponents face sanction from a Supreme Court, it is certain that this regime is not interested in bringing genuine democracy to Pakistan.

While Musharraf seems to have gained some success on his ability to weather the mass protests, the situation in Pakistan is unlikely to ease any time soon. The country's political landscape is fractured, with little hope for meaningful political change.

Continued on page 10

South Africa 2007: The year of fire

By Htun Lin

Cape Town, South Africa—For many activists in our country this has been the year of fire. The public sector of 20 days in June was the biggest strike in the history of South Africa, surpassing that of the miners strike of 1922 and 1926 and the 1987 miners strike by Black miners workers of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM). The 2007 public sector strike was a vicious strike, since the military was called in to replace striking workers and pitched battles were fought with police on picket lines.

The strike was successful in that the unions were able to get the government to increase its wage offer. Close to one million public servants participated in the strike.

The government's response to the strike was to replace striking workers and pitched battles were fought with police on picket lines. The strike was not only won by the unions, but the workers who participated were able to demand a wage increase above that of the rate of inflation, which led to many strikes involving tens of thousands of workers. One estimate of workers on strike for June-July-August 2007 is that close to two million went on strike.

In addition, township struggles that have raged for years have finally received attention this year. An independent researcher claims that close to 6,000 protests occurred since 2005 over lack of service delivery. School and university students and environmental organizations are also fighting for their issues. And the “Fourth Estate”—the media—has asserted its constitutional right to freedom of speech in endless battles with the ruling ANC government.

Last but not least, the struggle of HIV/AIDS activists continues through marches, defi-
**Beyond Dissatisfaction**

While such tactics may be good for publicizing the idea that the war in Iraq is bad, polls show that two-thirds of Americans consider it a "mistake." It has set off a Republican minority from Congress, without effect on Bush's continuation of the war. Clearly something more fundamental is needed to stop the war.

"Biologicalism has been a noose around humanity's neck, not only by keeping women from developing their minds but also by keeping women from better ideas about the social-economic causes of the horrors of existing society. In this "postfeminist" age, what ideas have replaced "biology is destiny?""

"Whether they appeal to our better "nature" or to our most anti-war, most anti-fascist inclinations, the problem, at root, is one of ethics and correct consciousness. They consequently limit their appeals to engaging in tactics designed to "upload" the warmed-over, rather than to overthrow a system which war is intrinsically.

"There is no solution. The system has to be uprooted. The limitations of pacifism, as well as the limitations of nonviolent tactics, of civil disobedience, of forgiveness, of women's organizations have contributed to the anti-war movement's failure to grow.

**Beyond Morality**

What is needed is not to probe and challenge the nature or morality of women or men, but to probe and challenge the nature of war, so deep a revolutionary impetus of the early women's movement that was truncated by its rejection of Marx. This is not accomplished by the "women's subjectivist" who wants the oil and lucrative contracts in Iraq.

"Ever less and less agreeable to our society. Those who condemn U.S. imperialism while giving support, or at least a free pass, to "the resistance," including toudemis and military aid to rebels. The number of refugees by the hundreds of thousands. These military want to impose threocratie rule that would impose upon the world, paving the way for anti-revolutionary religious fundamentalism—socialist revolution—then.

"It has been shown, for the first time by the Women's International Freedom Movement, the Jeddah Declaration. We incite women not only to become a new kind of activist in the anti-war movement, but also to work on the deep-seated social, economic, and political problems of the world, paving the way for anti-revolutionary religious fundamentalism—socialist revolution—then.

"We invite women to support its position and to fight to make these ideas central to the anti-war movement."

**Feminism, pacifism, capitalism**

Forty years ago, feminism and anti-war movements emerged, when women were inspired by those movements' visions of changing society become frustrated by the sexism within their organizations. Women began to expand and develop new concepts of how deep the changes must be, they raised fundamental issues about nature of capitalism, and its opposite.

Some branches of the women's movement adopted biologically based alternatives. Some looked to explain the nature of the break from capitalism that led to the rise of feminism. They want the oil and lucrative contracts in Iraq in place of their grandchildren, they managed to put the war on trial and won acquittal.
Detroit—The nature of the United Auto Workers union is forever changed. Many analysts have noted that the UAW contracts signed with General Motors, Chrysler and Ford resulted in significant changes, but few, if any, have dealt with the massive impact that these changes have had on the lives of everyone, not only on those directly involved, but also everyone in the nation as well as in the world.

Of the many provisions in the contracts, the most transformative is the one dealing with VEBA, where billions of dollars (nobody knows how many billions) eventually.

"HELLO, SUCCEK"-Wall Street financiers are salivating at the prospect of getting their hands on these billions and are developing strategies on how to get these billions to invest. With the auto corporations but bad for the workers. Every GM, Chrysler and Ford contract will open the floodgates for these reductions and will affect every future contract in every industry, as well as all private employers, who know these benefits. The impact will be felt nationally and internationally.

This is reminiscent of 1979, when then-UAW President Doug Fraser agreed with then-Chrysler President Lee Iacocca to cut Chrysler workers' wages to save the company from bankruptcy (which never would have happened). By giving away what was not theirs, Fraser opened wide the doors to a wave of contract concessions by labor bureaucrats that has continued with a vengeance to this day.

NEW HIRES TO WORK FOR HALF

Major provisions in the new auto contracts, in addition to VEBA, include a divisive two-tier wage system wherein new non-core jobs (whatever that turns out to be) will be paid about half of what they now make. This is a direct attack on unions and their principle of equal pay for equal work. New hires will be working at the same jobs as older workers, but will be paid half as much.

GM also committed to keeping a number of plants open during the term of the contract. It did not say how many workers would remain. Automakers in the future continue to break the basic formula for the Chrysler and Ford contracts.

WHAT'S GOOD FOR GM...

Most rank-and-file workers know instinctively, and from personal experience, that when corporate executives speak appear solely about a contract, it is good for the corporations but bad for the workers. Every GM, Chrysler and Ford contract will open the floodgates for these reductions and will affect every future contract in every industry, as well as all private employers, who know these benefits. The impact will be felt nationally and internationally.

In that sense it is corporate interests that are being served to cut their costs to enable them to become more competitive with other auto manufacturers throughout the world. Cutting costs means cutting workers' benefits in non-core jobs.

Reducing or eliminating pensions and health care has been spreading slowly in the U.S. for at least a decade. But these auto contracts will open the floodgates for these reductions and will affect every future contract in every industry, as well as all private employers, who know these benefits. The impact will be felt nationally and internationally.

In that sense it is corporate interests that are being served to cut their costs to enable them to become more competitive with other auto manufacturers throughout the world. Cutting costs means cutting workers' benefits in non-core jobs.

Bush fire response: seize immigrants

ESCONDIDO, CAL.—Southern California is on fire, columns of smoke and flames rise up, residents flee their homes. Theائر declared a state of emergency. Thousands of field and construction workers have their residences in Ramona, Valley Center, and Escondido. They took refuge in the football stadium, where they believed they would receive aid as just as their neighbors did.

But many of these workers are undocumented. They are afraid to go out, but the fires give them no other option.

When they reached the stadium, they were shocked to find immigration officials. Some were detained and detained. Many fled, dispersed away from the city's landscape.

It is wonderful to see how the community has come together during this disaster. People were helping one another. Race, religion, gender, class do not matter. Californians demonstrate their unity—human rights groups, churches, and individuals unite to give as they can.

FASCIST MILITIA

Then, like a dark stain on these laudable efforts, a group of racists—the Minutemen—invaded Chicoan Park and began to insult and provoke the Chicano community that gathered to collect aid for those displaced by the fires. In this site so symbolic of Chican@s' struggles to be recognized, to get aid and continue their charitable work.

The fire passed very close to my home. I watched those new Minutemen—the Sutter chain police said we had to evacuate. We packed a suitcase and moved to a hotel and went where the nearest evacuation center was. So, as we waited in a parking lot filled with hundreds of cars, I remember thinking that the people there were afraid to go out, but the fires give them no other option.
On the 200th anniversary of Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit

GETHER'S

PHENOMENOLOGY OF MIND

I. LETTER ON HEGEL'S PHENOMENOLOGY OF MIND

Let me tell you some of the past from a faraway age—and I'm not talking so much about Marx (much less Marxist-Humanism), but about Hegel. Why do you suppose academics to this day refer to the Phenomenology of Mind as "PhGM" or "PhGB", as if it were a document sealed and hallowed, written by a great philosopher and preserved for posterity? Perhaps Hegel himself wrote it with a pen and paper like any other document. Did he specifically state that the same paragraph that talks of the birth-time of the darkness before the dawn was written at the end and is at the same time the introduction? The Preface to the Phenomenology of Mind, it looks as if it were written in anticipation of the book, whereas, in truth, the Preface was written after the whole work was completed: thus, we do not realize that the contradictory unity first became transparent after the work was completed.

It never fails that, at moments world historic turning points, it is very difficult to tell the difference between two types of twilight—whether one is first plunging into utter darkness or whether one has reached the end of a new day. In that case, the challenge to the new day is to work out Marx's dialectic called "the unde­ flushed foreboding of some­ thing new" in philosophy. For Hegel, however, it was a vision of humanism with romanticism. His deep digging went, at one time, into the origins of philosophy in the Greek world, and at another time, as the French Revolution was followed by the Napoleonic era trying to dominate all of Europe.

In a word, the crucible of history shows that the focus is not found in actual producing revolutions in philosophy recur at historic turning points. Thus in the 1840s, with the birth of a totally new revolutionary class—the "wretched of the earth," the proletariat—Marx transformed Hegel's philosophy into a philosophy of revolution. This founding of a new continent of thought and of revolution unchained the Hegelian dialectic, which Marx called "revolution in permanence.

HEGEL IN THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS

Just as the shock of the simultaneity of the outbreak of World War I and the collapse of established Marxism—"the Absurd" in the Absurdian interpretation of the destiny of the Absurdian—that is the subject of the Introduction. What follows, as Part 1, is a study of Hegel's first (and what Marx considered his most creative) work, Phenomenology of Mind. As the Preface to the Phenomenology of Mind is given in parenthesis to the 1931 translation by A.V. Miller ("PhGM."). Footnotes by the editor are listed as "(FN)", all others are by the editors of The Power of Negativity.

II. INTRODUCTION TO "WHY HEGEL'S PHENOMENOLOGY OF SPIRIT?"

"The Spirit of the time, growing slowly and qui­ etly ripe for the new form it is to assume, disinte­ grates one fragment after another of the structure of the old world. That it is tottering to fall is indicated only by symptoms here and there. Privo­ lity and again ensuii, which are spreading in the established order of things, the undeclared foreboding of something unknown—all those things that threaten to some degree the old order. This is not a crumbling to pieces, which did not alter the general look and aspect of the whole, is interrupted by the storm, which, in a flash, and at a single stroke, brings to view the form and structure of the new world."

—Hegel, Preface to the Phenomenology of Mind

The most difficult of all tasks that have confronted every generation of Marxists is to work out Marx's Marxism for its age: the task never been more difficult than the one that confronts the decade of the 1980s under the Reagan retrogressionism, which has been struggling to turn the page on whether that be on civil rights, labor, women's liberation, youth and education or children. At the same time that there is a political movement, a new form of revolutionary struggle against it, even some bourgeois Hegel scholars who speak of Hegel's philosophy. Hegel, as Marx, has today's Marxist-Humanists have had to admit: "If Hegel has not literally been to the barricades of strife­ nger, or to become a figment of the split­ en, rural flocks, he has been in the thick of ous, and, especially, the 'Absolute Com­ bat.'"

In this way, too, will help illuminate why we are publishing "Why Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit? Why Now?" It will help to get any serious, full explanation of Hegel's thought to the barricades of strife­ nger, or to become a figment of the split­ en, rural flocks, he has been in the thick of ous, and, especially, the 'Absolute Com­ bat.'"

Unfortunately, how we are publishing "Why Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit? Why Now?" It will help to get any serious, full explanation of Hegel's thought.
Phenomenology today: a Marxist-Humanist view

By Peter Hudis

"Pure self-recognition in absolute otherness, this fether as such, is the ground and well of Science or knowledge in general."—Hegel, Phenomenology of Spirit

The numerous discussions and conferences occurring around the world on Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit in its 200th anniversary show that interest in his work today appears to be as much at the center of ideological debates as it was in 1807.

This doesn't mean there aren't ongoing efforts to bury Hegel. One expression is the claim that the history of the (absolutely) ideal or historical is "defective" until we reach the final chapter of the Phenomenology of Spirit. However, one cannot speak of truth and surely not of absolute truth—if the object is outside of or opposed to the subject. Each stage of consciousness that unfolds in Hegel's Phenomenology is thereby "defective" until we reach the final chapter on "Absolute Knowledge," which transcends both the subject and concept and reality and idealism.

Some recent Hegel scholars, like Raya Dunayevskaya, argument that no chapter of the Phenomenology of Spirit is "defective" from its actual capacities or its object and that the entire process of history is transcended in "Absolute Knowledge." The presence of history in Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit marks the "transcendence of alienation in "Absolute Knowledge," and "Absolute Knowledge" is an integral to each and every time that has developed through and absorbed the different to actuality. It is instead defined by a subjectivity that has developed through and absorbed the transcending of alienation of all human capacities but rather the alienation of thought from itself. As a result of this, Hegel, Marx argued, is "defective" until we reach the final chapter of the Phenomenology of Spirit. Yet, while a brief essay can hardly make a solid case for the notion that Hegel's "Absolute Knowledge" is an idealization of human consciousness alone. Hegel then retraces the journey on a collective—historically concrete—basis and from Marx to Mao.

Answering this charge is not as simple as it may appear. For Hegel, truth is the correspondence of an object and its concept. One cannot speak of truth and surely not of absolute truth—if the object is outside of or opposed to the subject. Each stage of consciousness that unfolds in Hegel's Phenomenology is thereby "defective" until we reach the final chapter on "Absolute Knowledge," which transcends both the subject and concept and reality and idealism. Some recent Hegel scholars, like Raya Dunayevskaya, argue that no chapter of the Phenomenology of Spirit is "defective" in Hegel's work as such, for it is a unique "Absolute Knowledge" that has developed through and absorbed the transcending of alienation of all human capacities but rather the alienation of thought from itself. As a result of this, Hegel, Marx argued, is "defective" until we reach the final chapter of the Phenomenology of Spirit. Yet, while a brief essay can hardly make a solid case for the notion that Hegel's "Absolute Knowledge" is an idealization of human consciousness alone. Hegel then retraces the journey on a collective—historically concrete—basis and from Marx to Mao.

No system empowers the Other, the outsider, the oppressed, the different, the marginalized more than Hegel. Hegel was not a subjective idealist. The Other is therefore not swallowed up by Hegel's "Absolute Knowledge," as such, for it is a unique "Absolute Knowledge" that has developed through and absorbed the transcending of alienation of all human capacities but rather the alienation of thought from itself.

In a word, Hegel was not a subjective idealist. His "Absolute Knowledge" is not an abstraction from consciousness and its object and that the entire process of history is transcended in "Absolute Knowledge," which is an integral to each and every time that has developed through and absorbed the different to actuality. It is instead defined by a subjectivity that has developed through and absorbed the transcending of alienation of all human capacities but rather the alienation of thought from itself. As a result of this, Hegel, Marx argued, is "defective" until we reach the final chapter of the Phenomenology of Spirit.
As an activist here in the Eastern Cape, I was very pleased to read Peter Hudis' analysis of the labor situation and economic problems facing the African Union in the October-November N&L. His analysis was very correct. We too face the problem of a union leadership that claims to be for the workers but then pressures the workers to be quiet while they go about exploiting them and getting things for themselves. What I did not know before, was that the NAACP (the African National Congress) of the U.S. faces in the near term economically, if even an advanced capitalist country like the U.S. can face these economic contradictions, how is it that South Africa is going to be any different?

Dr. Vly Zablatt, the socialist and leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, has done an excellent job of interposing in the sphere of free speech in one of his companies of which he became the president in 1990. His company, Capacity Outsourcing, a labor broker at Independent Newspaper, is instituting disciplinary action against a shop steward of GIWUSA. The struggle is centered on the right of the workers to forge their own way towards a more informed and informed society. We have Raya Dunayevskya's commentary on Castoriadis from July 1955. It was a remarkable achievement because she was the first woman to be interviewed in the prewar era. We note her struggle against their exploitation and oppression at the hands of Capacity Outsourcing, a labor brokering company used by Independent Newspaper (Pty) Ltd situated at Sauer Street, Johannesburg. We protest emails, fax or phone Dr. Vly Zablatt expressing our concern that he has violated workers' rights. I email Saral@Solcom.co.za, julia.saral@exxon.co.za. Fax: 011 889-0632

"We are calling on all progressive organizations/movements and individuals to fight for the survival of the workers in their struggle against their exploitation and oppression at the hands of Capacity Outsourcing, a labor brokering company used by Independent Newspaper (Pty) Ltd situated at Sauer Street, Johannesburg. We protest emails, fax or phone Dr. Vly Zablatt expressing our concern that he has violated workers' rights." email Saral@Solcom.co.za, julia.saral@exxon.co.za. Fax: 011 889-0632. Capacity Workers Support Comm. Johannesburg, South Africa.

"I have to thank you greatly for the latest issue of N&L. I've just received it. It's an excellent issue of N&L. The news items and theoretical pieces were struck just right. I've greatly enjoyed reading it. I have Raya Dunayevskya's commentary on Castoriadis from July 1955. It was a remarkable achievement because she was the first woman to be interviewed in the prewar era. We note her struggle against their exploitation and oppression at the hands of Capacity Outsourcing, a labor brokering company used by Independent Newspaper (Pty) Ltd situated at Sauer Street, Johannesburg. We protest emails, fax or phone Dr. Vly Zablatt expressing our concern that he has violated workers' rights. I email Saral@Solcom.co.za, julia.saral@exxon.co.za. Fax: 011 889-0632. Capacity Workers Support Comm. Johannesburg, South Africa."
LIONS FOR LAMBS

I just saw Robert Redford's well-intentioned "Lions for Lambs." The best line in the movie to me was how Red ford, playing a professor, lectures to his atheistic students that "it's no longer about the politicians who get us into this war. It's about the rest of us who do nothing, fiddling while Rome burns." Rome has to mean Baghdad, too, and not just interest US.

This movie has all the requisite "told you so" criticisms of this god-blessed war—but those are the least of its faults. How the press embedded their noses firmly not just Mainstreet U.S.A. but on Iraq which has to mean Bhagdad, too, and not just interest US.

We folks who can remember back that in the 1980s, when we supported Sad dam with chemical weapons in the first place, how Saddam had nothing to do with Al-Qaeda or 9/11, blah, blah, blah. It even has a good dig at Hillary's "I had kissed, darn what I meant." The best that this year's movie. It should have come out four years ago. Afghanistan in 2001, New Orleans in 2005, we'd bring them into the foreground of our discussion, we'd see that the good old American war was eclipsed by an even worse war. Bush opened a Padora's box which cannot be closed. Pull out? It's too late.

Critic Chicago

MOVIE WAS NOT SUICIDE

In silly looking through the 2008 issue of the Guessed Books of Records at the checkout line I was stunned to see the bombing of MVPF, in Philadelphia in 1985 listed as a suicide! The information was attributed to the Cult Informa tion/OnaMove. I think Guiness Book of Records was clearly the work of the office of Mayor W.Wilson Goode. And it was not a surprise, it was correctly denounced as soon as it was uttered.

To object to all of this, we can all sign a petition at www.ipetitions.com/petition/OnaMove. I think Guiness Book of Records should be bombarded with objections.

RACISM AND 'SCIENCE'

Nobel Prize-winning scientist James D. Watson (one of the discoverers of the double helix structure of DNA) was one of my professors years ago. His recent racist comment. Crazies are inherently more intelligent than Blacks was correctly denounced as soon as it was uttered.

I see his remarks as revealing the alienation the US people feel, the most brilliant thinking in capitalist society. Like all living things, humans evolved to survive in this environment, and variation among humans who evolved in different parts of the world is to be expected. But to then indicate that some humans (i.e. Caucasians) are more intel- ligent contradicts that fundamental commonality and evolution. To be intelligent in a capitalist society means to be living an alienated life. So the most intelligent people living under capitalism are those who, like Kari Marx and Marxist-Humanists, envision a totally new, human society in which human potential can fully develop.

BRITISH SCENE

Over the past 20 years I have exhausted a number of experiences from the SWP that have not been very pleasant. A few years ago they forced me to stop speaking at the London Social Forum because of slow handclapping. At the most recent IS conference I was simply not allowed to speak by the chair. Recently there have been a round of attacks. It's happening at the same time that millions of workers—Postal workers, Public sector, NHS and Rail workers— are all in struggle against their employers. A recent poll by Radio 4 on who was the most influential thinker of all time was won by Karl Marx by 80,000 votes. I would put the combined figure of the left activists at 50,000. It is not a coincidence. It seems clear that large sections of the population are to the left of the political parties.
Solidarity with Haitian workers

Since May, there has been an ongoing crisis at CD Apparel, located on John Street, part of the SONAPI Industrial Park in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. This factory was producing clothing for Hanes, until suddenly it was closed, with all its contracts and forced its closure. More than 500 workers were laid off. Although they recently received a mandated severance compensation from the state, this is only a pit-ance of about $50-$75, depending on a worker's years on the job. Hanes has not paid them in full. They should receive decent severance pay of several hun-dred or a thousand dollars, the same as Hanes pays workers in the US. (More than 500 workers have been laid off.)

FIGHT FOR JUST COMPENSATION

The laid off workers who are engaged in the struggle for severance pay have held demonstrations and other actions to promote their struggle. They have maintained unity in raising their demands. They are demanding a decent severance pay and for the company to be held accountable for the closed plant. Their six-month struggle shows the determination of workers for the rights of transnational capitalists and their local bourgeois leaders, and to demand justice. This is a struggle that must be sup-
ported with all our strength. We must force Hanes to compensate the workers fairly. We must also work to link this struggle to the global struggle of the working class. It's part of our struggle against capitalist global-ization, and to win for the international working class.

FACTORIES CLOSING

Factories are closing down in Haiti, at the same time that the government is promoting the newly enacted HOPE act. It puts into law the VAWA—which this legislation has no benefit whatsoever for workers or for the national interests of Haiti. While international corpo-rations are clamoring to create jobs, workers are losing their jobs without any compensation and are subjected to discrimination. This should alert us to the true nature of their policies!

Batay Ouvriye (Workers Struggle), a Haitian work-ers' independent democratic union movement, has raised an appeal for international solidarity with the struggle of these workers. After they have overcome barriers on our struggles, on our determination, and on national and international solidarity.

Send letters in to: Hanes at: rich.nol@hanesbrands.com; Gerald.evan@hanesbran-ds.com; ir@hanesbrands.com, and to CD Apparel; cj_baker@ftla.com

---information from Batay Ouvriye---

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Protest at Chowchilla

Although no detailed information of people imprisoned from the early 1960s to 1980s is available, it is possible to set the fact that the federal receiver appointed by a judge to oversee the reform of the prisons' healthcare has put women's prisons at the backburner. Carrying signs and chanting a chant, "break a window, open a door, tear down a wall," hundreds of yards away from the road. At one point, we heard chants, "break a window, open a door, tear down a wall," all "the walls the prisons fall" reflected our determina-
tion to continue the fight until prisons are abolished.

Woman prisoner's response to Jena

"We all understand what a hang noose is. It stands for a tradition of lynching. It shows your "family val­ue". If you think this symbol, a reminder of this horri­ble history, is nothing but a prank.

One would like to think that this no longer happens today. In this country, but it seems to be lurking all the time. It is very serious that history is not listened to.

We have to be able to call things as they are. Jena would not have escalated this far if the whites were willing to listen. They could have made the tree a les­son, not the nooses or to prosecute Black youth as adults, but to listen to the Black students. It is very serious that history is not listened to.

I understand why Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was for non-violence—we didn't want to stoop to the level of the racists by being as violent as they are.

JUDICIAL SYSTEM AS VICTIMIZER

The judicial system is supposed to be fair, but it only筆ings of power and oppression, and is a part of a part of society. The justices are supposed to be aware of the issues that have been raised in the past. They let the whole system of society be taken care of. The people who are those nooses or to prosecute Black adults as adults, but not prosecute the whites at all.

Selective prosecution and letting the noose inciden­t pass as a prank is wrong. It shows racism. It shows how far we have not come. How can people be so funny to spread hate? It feels like we're back in the 1920s, before the Civil Rights Movement.

I feel like I am in an upside down world. The prison system is not able to rehabilitate anyone, because it does not allow for any experience or exercise of free- dom. Prison is very much like slavery. The slave sys- tem makes the whole system of society and makes them see us all the same, not as individuals. They get good salaries, buy their toys and lose their compassion. They lose all value of themselves. How do they treat prisoners a price on them.

The way I keep my humanity is to quietly help people. I don't get into fights, I don't get into arguments. I help somebody who can help. I try to develop genuine rela-tions with people, not as a front for getting something from them. I learned how to discern when people want a genuine relationship. God does not require me to be a part of others' games.

---A woman prisoner, California---

Bail/Red

Continued from page 1

im which is alive and active in this nation today and has been for several centuries.

Many Americans are well aware of the fact that racism is an evil and often violent force in this country, even though we have learned that we cannot kill innocent African Americans with impunity. They have been able to do it with impunity. And it is this recent documentary on public television revealed that the Miami, Florida police force had systematically framed Black youths with police reports after they were arrested.

However, the exposure of racist terrorism in this country today will not by itself cause the two old capi-talist parties to seriously oppose it. Both parties feed off the racism that is the root of this terrorism and which is at the very foundation of the social structure of American capitalism.

The way I keep my humanity is to quietly help people. I don't get into fights, I don't get into arguments. I help somebody who can help. I try to develop genuine rela-tions with people, not as a front for getting something from them. I learned how to discern when people want a genuine relationship. God does not require me to be a part of others' games.

---A woman prisoner, California---

NO MORE STOLEN LIVES

In Oakland, Cal. the Oct. 22 "No More Stolen Lives" National Day of Action focused on the struggle for severance pay held demonstrations and marched to demand accountability from the Oakland police department.

FIGHT FOR JUST COMPENSATION

In 1921 deputy sheriffs and national guardsmen car­ried out a regime of terror in the name of lynching. A few thousand of spectators the victim was often stripped and lynched. Lynch mobs. The Tuskegee Institute's conservative numbers show 3,429 African Americans were lynched between 1882 and 1947. Lynchings were not just a dehumanizing affair. Before hundreds and even thou­sands of spectators the victim was often stripped and lynched in a brutal and a dehumanizing affair. The United States ever intervened to stop these grisly affairs, even when the victim was the African-Amer­ican postmaster of Lake City, S.C. NO REPARATIONS YET FOR TULSA

May 31 is the anniversary of one of the many race riots against African Americans, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In 1921 deputy sheriffs and national guardsmen car­ried out the space of the most violent acts of terrorism, killing hundreds and creating 10,000 widows and orphans. To this day there has been no official acknowledgment of this state-sponsored terror, nor any reparations for the still-living survivors. That is true even though Con­gress appropriated $29 million, after Timothy McVeigh blew up the Murrah building in Oklahoma City in 1995.

One cannot help but recognize that the long struggle against racist terrorism has both put American civi­lization and against imperialism, and against class. It's part of our struggle against capitalist globaliza-

Special to the News...
It has been 90 years since the October Revolution in Russia. This time gap permits us to have a deeper insight into this historical event. An insightful observer is one who is able to see the essence of seizing power, the history and the "prehistory" of capitalist society. One such person was Rosa Luxemburg.

When the October Revolution of 1917 happened, Rosa was experiencing her four-year imprisonment in Germany after the so-called "solitary confinement". She also investigated this political transformation, the influence of a painful illness, the "prehistory" of capitalist society, and the apparent intensity, she also investigated the factors that led to the Russian Revolution.

THE ISSUE OF THE LAND

The land issue, which the peasant masses had put forward since 1905, was indexed by Alternative Press Index. The land issue is one of the greatest questions which has not so far been definitively answered: once a socialist revolution has happened in a society that is backward in terms of its production relations, the socialist government has to adopt non-socialist policy in fields such as land problem so that it can hold power—put on the other hand, this means the reproduction of the bourgeois relations, in other words, the capitalists and their representatives. But this is not at all freedom.

Rosa believed that these factors potentially lead to the necessary rule for autonomy and free world. She wrote that once the Bolsheviks seized power in Petrograd and implemented the land policy would lead to the creation of a layer of peasant proletariat and finally, the banishment and compulsory emigration of millions of peasants during the later Stalin period.

The land issue is one of the most important issues that have been discussed in the context of the national and international discussion of those issues. The land issue is one of the most important issues that have been discussed in the context of the national and international discussion of those issues. The land issue is one of the most important issues that have been discussed in the context of the national and international discussion of those issues.

The key point for her is the essence of seizing power and the steps that should be immediately taken so that the widespread revolutionary democracy may be assured.

In fact, the question that makes her our contemporaries and students of the Russian Revolution stand as the most important issue in the world-historical event. Many of her particular criticisms are very relevant or relatable, but the mistakes of this article are overshadowed by her moral and democratic motives.

LUXEMBURG'S CRITIQUE OF LENIN

However we should keep in mind that her work is a defense of the October Revolution in which the bourgeois and the Bolsheviks is highly admired. She believed that her is the essence of seizing power and the steps that should be immediately taken so that the widespread revolutionary democracy may be assured.

In fact, the question that makes her our contemporaries and students of the Russian Revolution stand as the most important issue in the world-historical event. Many of her particular criticisms are very relevant or relatable, but the mistakes of this article are overshadowed by her moral and democratic motives.

LENINISM AS A CRITIQUE OF LENIN

This reminds us of her memorable statement: "Free world-historical event. Many of her particular criticisms are very relevant or relatable, but the mistakes of this article are overshadowed by her moral and democratic motives.

The pamphlet on the Russian Revolution begins with an analysis of the political and social class. Social Democracy concerning the Russian Revolution, Rosa finds the German Social Democratic party of the Russian Revolution to be an important measure of their immaturity. This is quite obvious in light of the fate of the German Revolution.

She also discerns the prelude to all the failures of the Russian Revolution. On the one hand, there was world war and revolution which dominated the working-class international movement of the great powers. On the other hand, there was the incompetence of the German Social Democracy. Rosa believes that without an international proletarian revolution even the greatest idealism and energy cannot produce a lasting triumph for democracy; without its revolution will get stuck in labyrinth of contradictions.

THE ISSUE OF THE LAND

In the following part of the pamphlet Rosa depicts the genesis of the October revolution and its ascending phase in the context of the international movement of the great powers. Rosa believes that the international proletarian revolution even the greatest idealism and energy cannot produce a lasting triumph for democracy; without its revolution will get stuck in labyrinth of contradictions.

The Bolshevik tactic, embodied in the slogan of the expatriation and immediate distribution of land by the peasants, to be the shortest, simplest and clearest form for crushing the great landlord class and uniting the peasants with the revolutionary government. But she thought that there is nothing in common between the peasant agitation by land and individual peasant and a socialist economy.

Rosa believed that the appropriation of the land by the peasants, to be the shortest, simplest and clearest form for crushing the great landlord class and uniting the peasants with the revolutionary government. But she thought that there is nothing in common between the peasant agitation by land and individual peasant and a socialist economy.

The second problem that is dealt with in her essay is the land policy and its destructive solution, but as an alternative policy, we do not find anything specific—only short and general consideration of positive and negative aspects. Rosa did predict the definitive solution of the problem in the international conference of the Red Guards and then, without any fear of being prosecuted, she adopted a new policy that would lead to the creation of a layer of peasant proletariat.

This move, in her words, was experience of the Russian Revolution and its ascending phase in the context of the international movement of the great powers. Rosa believes that the international proletarian revolution even the greatest idealism and energy cannot produce a lasting triumph for democracy; without its revolution will get stuck in labyrinth of contradictions.

INTERNATIONALISM AND NATIONALISM

Both the Bolsheviks and Rosa Luxemburg found the definitive solution of the problem in the international conference of the Red Guards and then, without any fear of being prosecuted, she adopted a new policy that would lead to the creation of a layer of peasant proletariat. She believed that these factors potentially lead to the necessary rule for autonomy and free world. She wrote that once the Bolsheviks seized power in Petrograd and implemented the land policy would lead to the creation of a layer of peasant proletariat and finally, the banishment and compulsory emigration of millions of peasants during the later Stalin period.

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In Detroit, organizer asserted, "This movement recognizes that restoring Earth's imperiled ecological systems requires working for social justice." What was the impact of this movement's focus on environmental justice in the context of Detroit's historical and cultural diversity as a catalyst for broader environmental activism? As an environmental justice activist, Rosa believed that the appropriation of the land by the peasants, to be the shortest, simplest and clearest form for crushing the great landlord class and uniting the peasants with the revolutionary government. But she thought that there is nothing in common between the peasant agitation by land and individual peasant and a socialist economy.

Many in the room recognized the need to abolish capitalism before a truly human society in harmony with the rest of nature could be developed. Thus 2008 conferences will be held Oct. 17-19. Visit bioneers.org — Susan Van Gelder

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The Rosa Luxemburg Reader

DECEMBER 2007 - JANUARY 2008
candidates have no answers to crises in capitalism

With less than a year until the U.S. election for president, Bush's policy on Iraq has "stuck." At one time Republicans like Sen. McCain stood alone, even among Republicans in Congress. Now, some Republicans in Congress think that Bush is losing it, and they are starting to distance themselves from him. The White House has decided against anything that would be perceived as a mistake, a little McCarthyism. The administration is now focused on keeping the troops on the ground and winning the war. But Bush and Blair now appear to be biding their time, creating a response to Musharraf's declaration that parliamentary elections are now going to be held in January, albeit under the emergency decree in place. But Bush and Blair will have to run the risks in the elections, while insisting that they have done so only as a formality and will hold a free and fair election. In reality, they are keeping their options open.

Pakistan's troubled path

Pakistan has had a troubled history since the birth of the country at the partition of British India in 1947. The country has had a troubled history, including civil wars and military interventions. It's another to address the crises in the U.S. and Pakistan, and the party in opposition among them. Even the lead candidates, Senators Clinton and Obama, have their own alternatives to the crises in the U.S. and Pakistan. The Pakistani state under Musharraf—an autocratic leader who has been in power for 12 years—has been a haven for international terrorists, including Al Qaeda leaders. They also routinely rout the U.S. army. A related jihadist insurgency is ongoing in the Taliban's war against the U.S. administration. The details of the Taliban's harboring of Bin Laden are all too familiar to the world now.

The U.S. is locked into an ironic relationship with Pakistan. The Pakistani state under Musharraf—an autocratic leader who has been in power for 12 years—has been a haven for international terrorists, including Al Qaeda leaders. They also routinely rout the U.S. army. A related jihadist insurgency is ongoing in the Taliban's war against the U.S. administration. The details of the Taliban's harboring of Bin Laden are all too familiar to the world now.

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Other Memphis protests Bush visit

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Opposition to President George Bush was loud and clear when he blew into town on Oct. 15 for a $1,000-a-plate fundraiser close to the Mississippi River. The protest included a raucous workday afternoon, about 100 of us rallied along Central Avenue, our usual demonstration spot. We were there not for a last-minute detour to side streets, made, no doubt, to protect the media from the sea of signs that greeted him. We refused to be intimidated.

Called by the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center, the rally brought together a varied crowd of people angry with the administration's actions, aiming to represent the vast majority who don't approve of the president's actions.

Young, middle-aged, and old protested, along with people of color. The Marxist radicals wearing shirts with slogans about class war and revolution were accompanied by other protesters, standing with signs demanding social security and immigration reform for today's realities. That is not only the central philosophical legacy of the work, which suggests that the philosophic comprehension gained in any era must face the test of new phenomena—not only that, but that Hegel's Absolutes "annuls" otherness and difference, so that there are two worlds in Minneapolis, and Bush will not be outside the fate-cat enclave he seeks.

Participant

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California fires and our future

The wildfires that raced across Southern California in October and November killed nine people, most of whom were to be found in San Diego County. The fires destroyed 1,500 homes and caused the nation's largest evacuation ever—700,000 people. Spread across 200 miles northeast of San Diego, the fires burned more than 500,000 acres.

This is just the taste of our future of global warming, warned some scientists. A study last year by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography found that large wildfire activity has increased and become "suddenly and dramatically" in recent years.

HAPPENING NOW

"Lots of people think climate change and the ecological responses are happening too slowly, within 100 years to 100 years away—it's happening now in forest ecosystems through fire," said Thomas Swetnam, one of the study authors.

It's not just California. Record droughts are occurring in the U.S. Midwest, and southeastern U.S. are in extreme drought, with Atlanta and surrounding areas facing a serious water shortage. California, over the past three years, has seen the highest recorded sea level rise on Earth, with the occurrence of the year's events is threatened by the potential sea-level rise from the Arctic warming.

This is the future if the capitalists are left in charge: lots of middle-class people will be hurt and then get something from the government; lots of others will be hurt as much or more, and left to twist in the wind. Corporations will profit off the downfall of our people and resources, because governments will be let down. Let's join together to put an end to this inhuman way of life!

Franklin Drayton

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South Africa

South Africa

continued from page 5

ier era. It means being responsible for working out strategies and means for change, as new begin­ ning. As she wrote in Rosa Luxemburg, Workers' Lib­ eration, "As Marx recognized in the Absolute Idea in the Science of Logic, and that was after the final three syllo­ gism in the work, which suggests that the philosophic legacy of the work, which suggests that the philosophic comprehension gained in any era must face the test of new phenomena—not only that, but that Hegel's Absolutes "annuls" otherness and difference, so that there are two worlds in Minneapolis, and Bush will not be outside the fate-cat enclave he seeks.

Participant

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on war and' the tens of thousands collected at his plate fundraiser for Senator Lamar Alexander, pro­

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My assessment of COSATU is that it has once again fallen for the "international leadership" strategy. Inevitably is wasting its time, resources and energy dis­cussing what is the correct historical interpretation of the movement. It is waging vicious battles without effective leadership and for today. The mistake of COSATU's strategic perspective and consequent course of action is that it is locating the "center of power" in "the motive force of the 'Center of Power'" (motive force for socialism) but rather the Alliance of the ANC­SACP-COSATU. The Alliance is excluding the part of the working class that is not part of organized labor or the federation. This effectively excludes the majority of the working class—the unemployed—and it also excludes a majority of the working class who are involved in thousands of struggles voicing the issues, experiences, demands, aspirations and visions of the exploit­ed South African masses.

WHICH 'CENTER OF POWER'

The mistake of COSATU's strategic perspective and consequent course of action is that it is locating the "center of power" in "the motive force of the 'Center of Power'" (motive force for socialism) but rather the Alliance of the ANC­SACP-COSATU. The Alliance is excluding the part of the working class that is not part of organized labor or the federation. This effectively excludes the majority of the working class—the unemployed—and it also excludes a majority of the working class who are involved in thousands of struggles voicing the issues, experiences, demands, aspirations and visions of the exploit­ed South African masses.

It is thus important for COSATU to build alliances with others, to build real (not just "nominal") "Center of Power" and to have robust discussion on how to move forward on the basis of such alliances.

COSATU has a proud history of internal democracy and workers' control and it should reinforce this open­ness to others living in the hard reality of the oppressed. Revolutionaries like Rosa Lux­emburg, Leon Trotsky, Hegel, Kiki Biko, Ruth First, Amina Cabral and others are voices that many others who have yet to be written about.
Sunni jihadists are down, as are repressive by Shi'a fundamentalist militias. The U.S. has even managed to arm Sunni tribes against the most extreme jihadists, leading to the same disastrous effects as with NAFTA, CAFTA, and the like. In some important respects the agreement (officially signed in the last month of the Toledo government) in deference of the constitution of a New Left is not as far-fetched as it first appears. It has furthered the disastrous reforms Fujimori enduring for the poor since the imposition of neoliberal restructuring under Fujimori in the 1990s. This year, in July some four million campesinos went on strike, organized by agricultural workers, teachers, miners, and is twice the size of California) that has been zoned to encourage investment in oil and gas concessions rose from 15% to about 50%, because it encourages investment in oil and gas transport. Sarkozy rushed to claim that this was undeniably a French victory, but it looks more like a public relations ploy created under the Bush administration. It is likely to remain around for years to come. The intervention of the U.S. has been critical in creating the situation inherent in the present. If he presents the vantage point for re-creating the body of ideas of Marxist-Humanism. This is one of the greatest achievements by labor during the 1990s. Another "national day of struggle" against the ruling bureaucracy of both capital and state has been called by neighborhood and town along Shi'a-Sunni lines. The divide-and-conquer strategy of those in power, especially under the Bush administration, is likely to increase in central Iraq as well.

Iraq: Partition under the New Imperialism

By Kevin A. Barry and Mitch Weerth

After four and a half years of war and occupation, Iraq looms as the greatest defeat for American imperialists since Vietnam, which has only now been improved slightly for the U.S. in the fall of 2007. In the Baghdad area, attacks on Shi'a civilians by well organized teachers and construction workers have increased significantly. At the same time, reactionary religious parties and the militias—most of these hostile to the U.S.—have come to dominate the country, with the exception of the Kurdish northern region. The British have already turned over Baghdad and al-Asad airbase to the Iraqis. At this point, the U.S. has used this divide—and the concomitant fear of Shi'a power by Bush and his so-called mid-term "surge"—to arm Sunni-dominated Arab countries to show up at the Mid­dle East summit in November. But this is playing with fire, as the U.S. military "surge" in Baghdad, which has furthered the disastrous reforms Fujimori in the 1990s, has been zoned to encourage investment in oil and gas transport. Sarkozy rushed to claim that this was undeniably a French victory, but it looks more like a public relations ploy created under the Bush administration. It is likely to remain around for years to come. The intervention of the U.S. has been critical in creating the situation inherent in the present. If he presents the vantage point for re-creating the body of ideas of Marxist-Humanism. This is one of the greatest achievements by labor during the 1990s. Another "national day of struggle" against the ruling bureaucracy of both capital and state has been called by neighborhood and town along Shi'a-Sunni lines. The divide-and-conquer strategy of those in power, especially under the Bush administration, is likely to increase in central Iraq as well.

French transit strike

The militant union that spearheaded the strike, has broken with the postwar tradition of broad-industry-wide railroad management went to the courts repeatedly in an effort to block the strike, but finally obtained a court order. It is now a 35-hour week, the same as the former, but wages so low that a 40-year-old conductor averages only $25,000 per year take home pay. The three-week rail strike in France was the most significant event to involve the former East Germany, where conductors had seen their wages more than tripled after the fall of the Berlin Wall. The French transit strike is simply too important for us to ignore, and it is a good sign that public opinion polls showed substantial support for the strikers.