

Toufan International

The International Bulletin of the Party of Labour of Iran

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Foreign Investments, Privatisation, Oil; the New Arena of Struggle

Excerpt from the Political Report to the Second Congress of the PLI

The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organisation pressure the Iranian regime to open Iran's door to foreign investments and products.

Foreign capital includes cash, machinery and spares parts, technology, patents, and skilled services.

The Iranian government will be forced to accept the following conditions if it wants the foreign capitalists to invest in Iran.

- To change the labour laws to further squeeze the workers and to intensify the profiting of the capitalist investors
- To suppress the workers' demands immediately
- To facilitate the firing of the demanding workers
- To suppress the activities of the trade unions
- To ban the collective bargaining and agreements
- To cancel the tariffs on importing foreign products
- To grant the foreign investors the same rights as the domestic capitalists
- To cancel laws, environmental and others, that cause barriers to freedom of production
- To prepare all the necessary means for a guaranteed profit to the foreign investors, to stop the workers' strikes in the foreign invested factories, and to compensate any losses by national income or taxes paid by the people

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The Flowers that Wither, Imperialism, and the Deadly Sickle of Hunger!

Flowers are produced for the Europeans in the green houses of the large mechanised farms of Kenya. Europe pays a total of 4 billion (4,000,000,000) dollars to purchase the flowers. The Kenyan flowers are produced for their long stems and their beautiful colors and qualities. The Kenyan flowers, contrary to the Kenyan people, do not wither in the spring of their life. The Kenyan flowers are hardy and are being used for decoration of the house of the well to do Europeans. They are hardy as the African slaves who built Liverpool and who reached the Mississippi river. The flowers are produced by 30,000 daily paid Kenyans who work for an entire long day for less than one Euro. The wisdom for such a small wage is that the Kenyan kids, instead of going to school and getting an education, have to work to put some food in their stomachs. The Kenyan flowers have thorns, but the thorns remain in Africa and the flowers reach Europe. The small hands of the African kids are bloody, as red as the flowers they produce, because they have to cut the thorns. Their hands bleed because the employers, in order to lower the cost, do not give them gloves. The skins and lungs of the kids are

Torture in a Closed Society, Torture in an Open Society

A 22 -article bill to prohibit torture was adopted recently in the Islamic Parliament of Iran. This bill, which itself is a confession to the use of torture in the slaughter houses of the regime of the Islamic Republic, tries to define what constitutes torture, and includes

"Infliction of any kind of physical harm to get a confession, detention of the captive in the prison halls, interrogation during the night time, forcing sleeplessness on the prisoners, infliction of what is commonly considered mental pressure, the use of abusive and contemptuous language during interrogation, the use of drugs that mentally alter the detainee, keeping the prisoner in a location with annoying noise, inflicting hunger or thirst on the prisoner, inflicting mental pressure through pressuring the family of the prisoner, etc constitute torture and is prohibited"

After 23 years of torture in the dungeons of the Islamic Republic and 14 years after the massacre of the political prisoners, now a bunch of Reformists remember that the Islamic regime tortures the prisoners. These Reformists even know how the regime tortures and what methods of torture are used by the Islamic interrogators.

give them gloves. The skins and lungs of the kids are exposed to pesticides because the protective clothes and

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torture are used by the Islamic interrogators.

The prohibition of torture of communists is not what

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- To grant rights to foreign investors to move their investments, as well as their profits, in a fixed valued exchange, out of Iran

- To guarantee, through the Iranian assets in the foreign banks, compensation for losses in the case of confiscation or nationalisation

- To grant the same rights to foreign corporations as to domestic corporations

- To stop the support for the domestic investors and to eliminate the subsidiaries for agricultural and fuel products

- To investigate any differences that may arise between the government of Iran and the foreign investors by courts that are set up outside Iran and to abide the results of the investigations

- To spread the privatisation to all Iranian industries, including steel, oil, gas, chemical, pharmaceutical, and atomic energy so that there will be no restriction on the foreigners to invest in more profitable industries

- To grant the foreign investors the freedom of choice and pricing of their products, and the rights to invest in imports and distribution

- To exempt the foreign investors, as domestic investors, from 4 to 8 years of tax payment depending on the type of their products, and 6 to 12 years for the less developed areas

- To grant the rights to the foreign investors to use the exchange obtained by selling their product to pay their debts or to buy raw material and spare parts for their factories

- To recognise the rights to grant patents to the products produced by the foreign investors

These conditions have enormous social - economical - political effects on the country. According to these conditions, for example, the Iranian government has no right to copy tractors, machineries, technical, medical, and chemical products made in Iran that are granted patents by the international institutes that register inventions and discoveries. Naturally, this is only in the interest of the dominant country. The dominated country has no right to copy the scientific inventions.

Iran's agreement to these conditions ties its hands from behind against completion and development of its necessary scientific and technological knowledge.

The Socialist Republic of the Soviet Unions, the People's Republic of China, North Korea, and even Japan copied the technologies developed by other countries and neither bowed to the pressure nor gave

developments, in the production of food and medicine, in communications, etc.

By agreeing to this treaty, the Iranian regime ignores the research in all arenas and only buys the patented commodities of the imperialist countries.

The US, during the so called anti-terrorist war, produced the antibiotics of the German company Bayer though it did not have a patent. The US imperialism, contrary to the international treaties on patents, produced the antibiotics under the cover of necessity, expediency, and its national security and marketed them at a low price. The German company Bayer had to agree with this done deal. Iran is unable to act in a similar manner. If it does, both the US and Germany will skin it!

Every major economic act is a political act. Those governments that can stand on equal footing with the imperialist powers benefit from joining the WTO. A very few western European countries, together with China, India, Japan, Canada, and Australia may benefit from cooperation with the WTO. The rest of the world, including many European countries, will be the losers. The world events show that the imperialist powers use the WTO to strengthen their monopolies for the battle within themselves and against revolutions.

If Iran accepts these conditions, it will sign off on the slavery of the country. In fact, these conditions form the legal basis to strengthen the globalisation of capital and are imposed upon dominated countries. These capitals are enormous in size and are transnational. The concerns are transnational and pass through the geographical boundaries of the independent states, and they are in competition and intra-struggle against each other. They super exploit the nations in order to strengthen their positions.

The result of these brutal rivalries is clear. The masses of the dominated nations, the workers, toilers, and the petty bourgeoisie have to tolerate the pressure caused by the plunder of their homeland. The people are faced with an amalgamation of a kind of neo-colonialism and capitalist exploitation.

Contrary to what the pro the WTO claim, the foreign capitalist investment will not end unemployment in Iran. The goals of the foreign investors are not to acquaint the Iranian engineers and experts with the new technological skills. Their goal is not to develop Iran so that it becomes an economically independent state. Their goal is to gain the maximum profit by all means possible no matter what the cost. Their goal is to remove the "impeditive" barriers to production in their own country.

countries and neither bowed to the pressure nor gave their assets to the imperialist powers. The first tractor made in North Korea drove backward when it was put in the first gear! This fact forced North Korea to develop their technological knowledge to a point of building a functional and complete tractor. These type of defects existed in all arenas of scientific and technological

matter what the cost. Their goal is to remove the "impeditive" barriers to production in their own country. They want to minimise the cost of production by exporting capital to dependent countries which have no impeditive barriers to production such as labour laws, workers' rights, powerful trade unions, environmental laws, safety and protection laws, unemployment and

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retirement plans, etc. They want to accumulate more wealth so that they are in a better position in their internal rivalries. They also want to lower the workers' wage and the living standards in their own country.

The capitalists produce commodities that are suitable to the world market and have no concerns for what Iran's needs are or for development of the Iranian economy. If they can produce kiwi or asparagus in Iran cheaply, Iran's good lands will turn into kiwi and asparagus farms for the world market. They have no concerns whether the continuous and unscientific plantation of these products may destroy Iran's lands. When they gained the maximum profit and the lands are no longer "productive", they export their capital to another country such as Afghanistan. We have seen these types of investments in Iran by Californian and Israeli corporations during the Shah's time, which had no benefit for the Iranian masses except plunder and exploitation.

In the arenas of food products and agriculture, the monopolies destroy the Iranian rural areas, which do not have any state support. The domestic capital cannot compete with the foreign capital either from the point of view of the volume of the investment or from the technological point of view. The domestic capitalists either have to go bankrupt or become the puppet or petty share holders of the foreign capitalists and put their experience in the service of the foreign investors.

Privatisation and the permission to foreign investors to invest in all arenas of production in Iran will destroy the natural resources of the country. We pointed out at our First Congress that the Islamic Republic of Iran has the intention of privatising even the oil and gas industries. Naturally, the high ranking officials of Iran will try to sign bilateral agreements with the tycoons of foreign oil companies in order to divide the benefits. When the oil wells are dried, the clergies and their families will flee from Iran with enormous wealth deposited in the banks of the imperialist countries, and will leave behind a ruined Iran with a poor population. The experience of the Latin America is in front of us. A component part of the policy of the foreign investors in Latin America has been to transform a huge agricultural land into tourist centers for the North, which has forced the people to leave their homes and lands for search of work

wealth.

- The countryside will disintegrate further and flight to the cities will increase.

- The domestic capitalists who cannot compete with the foreign capitalists will go bankrupt.

- The army of unemployed will increase rapidly. This will lower the workers' wages further, and the buying power of the masses will decrease. Poverty, corruption, prostitution, lack of health care, robbery and crimes, lack of personal safety and security, and the number of street kids will intensify.

- The class gap will intensify. A significant section of the petty bourgeoisie, with its own characteristic and tendencies, will be thrown towards the proletariat.

- The size of the proletariat will increase.

- The social unrest will intensify rapidly.

These features of a capitalist society will be widely spread through the entire Iranian society. Once again, the experience of Latin America, South East Asia, Turkey, Eastern Europe, etc is in front of us.

The Islamic Republic's agreement to privatisation and foreign investments will be the most treacherous act in the Iranian history.

Torture

his extradition because Morocco uses special methods of interrogation (Read: torture) that are illegal in the USA! There are many such cases in the USA, Germany, Britain, etc.

The US imperialism that claims to support the values of "civilised" and "open" society and that stands for human rights, prohibition of torture, and for democracy and freedom, commits the most hideous crime in the world. The crimes of the US imperialism against its class enemy in Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Iran, Africa, Latin America, Turkey, Iraq, Balkan, etc shows that torture, along with capital, is globalised.



centers for the North, which has forced the people to leave their homes and lands for search of work somewhere else. The central governments have become puppets and are impotent regimes that follow the dictates of the foreign investors.

The results of further privatisation and the policy of open doors to foreign investments will include the following:

- 90% of Iran's population will fall below the poverty level. Only a tiny section of the population who will be closely tied to foreign investors will accumulate more



Flowers

promised that no one would be hungry in the world by the next decade. In 1996 and in a similar gathering, a resolution was adopted to reduce in half by the year 2015 the 860 million who were suffering from hunger.

And now 30 years after 1974, the "respectful" delegates get together in Rome and repeat the same phrases. Now they want to form a "unity against hunger"!

The number of hungry people is not reduced, but is increased, and the contribution by the rich industrial states to the budget to fight hunger is remained at 700 million Euros.

The rich industrial states strengthen their agriculture through state subsidiary, and burn or dump into oceans enormous amounts of food products in order to not lower the prices and be able to compete against each other. It was only a few months ago that the US President George Bush gave billions of dollars to the US farmers to strengthen the US position in the world free market. This act was widely protested by the European states. In the US Farm Bill, it is stated that the American farmers will receive an extra 51.7 billion dollars in subsidiary for the next 6 years in order to keep the prices low and to preserve the farmers' income. The US farmers receive 47 billion dollars state subsidiary a year. The US, in support of free market economy and in opposition to the restrictions that the policy of the European states cause to the market economy, pressured the Europeans to reduce their agricultural subsidiaries.

The imperialist countries are not concerned with the hunger in the world. They are concerned with how to exploit further the already hungry people, and to accumulate more wealth. They are concerned about how they can make the dependent countries agriculturally more dependent. They are developing genetically altered wheat and other agricultural products that cannot be reseeded in order to further control the world's food products. Kofi Anan's statement that "the science of genetics should be put in the service of ending hunger" is an empty phrase.

The very same countries which "try" to find ways to combat hunger do not reduce their trillion (1,000,000,000,000) dollars of military spending. invade

similar issues next year and in the years to come.

Hunger, poverty, child labour, child prostitution, etc stems from the capitalist relation in the society. The long and sweet speeches on these social ills will be worth nothing as long as they are not accompanied by the attempts to eliminate the capitalist relations. The solution to the wounds of humanity passes through struggle against capitalism and the US led world imperialism, abolition of the private ownership of the means of productions, and the establishment of socialist society.

Torture

these Reformists have in mind. They started to condemn the use of torture in prisons of the Islamic Republic only when the reformist regional mayors of Tehran, a group of National-Religious figures, and the reformist interrogators of Saeid Imami (The chief coordinator of the chain of the political assassinations) who were all part and parcel of the regime were themselves tortured. The above mentioned cases of torture, which are used on the "family" of the Islamic regime, show the existence of torture in Islamic justice.

The so called Reformist members of the Parliament oppose the application of torture on the "friends", and consider it as a lack of respect for the principles of human rights. But the very same reformists say in the second article of the bill that:

"In a necessary case and to discover crimes such as drug trafficking, spying, armed robberies, and armed actions against the Islamic Republic, it is allowed with some justifiable reason to interrogate the accused individual at night for at most one week, and to keep the accused in an isolated cell for at most 15 days".

On the basis of this article, every barbarism against "non-friends" including mainly the communists is allowed with some justifiable reason. And if a communist could resist the barbaric torture for 15 days, naturally the period of torture could be extended for 15 more days until a confession is achieved from the accused!

The very existence of the dark regime of the Islamic Republic is based on the physical and mental torture of a

combat hunger do not reduce their trillion (1,000,000,000,000) dollars of military spending, invade Afghanistan, Iraq, and the Balkan to slaughter the people of these regions, impose sanction on Iraq to kill 1.5 million kids from lack of food and medicine in the last decade, drop bombs in the form of toys on Afghan kids, etc.

The number of hungry people in the world is over a billion. The UN's statistics are incomplete and do not include those in the USA, Germany, Eastern Europe, and many other countries who live under the poverty level and suffer from chronic hunger.

There will be a convention on child prostitution this year. And of course, there will be other conventions on

the very existence of the dark regime of the Islamic Republic is based on the physical and mental torture of a whole nation. The existence of 23 years of barbaric torture in the prisons of the Islamic Iran is so clear, has claimed so many lives, and has been so widely exposed through documents that even the Islamic lies cannot deny it. But on the subject of torture, if we only expose the Islamic Republic, we have not done justice. Torture in Iran has a longer history than the regime of the Islamic Republic. The Regime of the Islamic Republic learned the lessons of torture from the Shah's regime. Torture was extensively used by the Shah's regime to break the communist prisoners, and the methods

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Flowers

masks increase the cost of production. These black human flowers wither before they reach the spring of their lives.

Instead, the Europeans enjoy the beauty of the Kenyan flowers in their lavish parties. The pleasure of one is the suffering of the other! Of course, in the hypocritical capitalist world, and as a result of the public pressure, the capitalist governments have to pass laws that mention about protective clothes, workers, health, minimum wages, freedom of the trade union activities, and prohibition of child labour. But the capitalist world, under the name of the economic "expediency", does not recognise these laws, and it violates the same "respectful" laws that were passed unanimously by the same "respectful" representatives. The downtrodden African workers expose their kids to pesticides "voluntarily" and with respect for "democracy"!

The economic needs force the African workers to put their kids to work, with the hope of giving them a chance to live. The well to do Europeans put the flowers on their desks, give them to their lovers, put them on their families' graves, and make empty statements about the human rights, children's rights, open society, and about democracy. But none of them put flowers on the graves of the African kids. These kids are our red flowers who wither in the black Africa!

There was a gathering in New York in May 2002 to investigate the rights of children. This was not the first time that a meeting was held to investigate the lack of rights of children. These kinds of meetings are held from time to time. The heads of the states get together from time to time, look at the dusty files of their previous speeches, and make statements about the rights of children. They talk about their lack of success in lifting the burdens from the kids, and about how to use their experience for future plans. This story has continued and will continue for many years to come! In the imperialist world, it is capital that talks and not the empty phrases in support of the children's rights. The imperialist states

fatter. Germany and the USA are among the countries that did not outlaw the use of mines in wars where children are the main victims. Well, the sale of arms is very profitable! The Islamic world does not recognise the rights of adult women, let alone the rights of children, in their legal system or in their backward traditions and superstitions.

To make the convention in New York more colorful this year, the participating children were allowed to make statements. These children were not among those in Latin America who are constantly threatened by the death squads, nor among those in the Islamic Iran who have been turned into street kids. They are carefully selected to play in the shows of the hypocritical representatives of capitalism. When Kofi Anan made the statement that holding the convention was an action for the future of humanity, a 13-year old kid responded that "you consider us the future, but we belong to the present".

This explains the conditions in the exploitative capitalist world. The children of the world will not achieve their rights as long as capitalism exists. Poverty and hunger are inseparable parts of capitalism.

Last year, a convention was held to prohibit child labour. The "respectful" representatives of the world expressed their utmost "disgust" for the exploitation of children, but neither the child labour nor the exploitation of the kids has ended.

In July 2002, the World Congress on Food was held in Rome, Italy. The agenda of the Congress included the invitation of the rich industrial countries to fight hunger in the world through their financial and technical assistance, and assessing its past work.

According to the recent findings of the World Organisation on Food, between 20,000 and 30,000 individuals lose their lives daily as a result of the chronic hunger, of which 75% are children.

The European press report that the unconditional assistance to the poor nations has been reduced, that the industrial countries had obligated themselves to

world, it is capital that talks and not the empty phrases in support of the children's rights. The imperialist states have shifted the burden from their "own" children to the children of the dominated world.

The US delegation to the convention in New York opposed many universally recognised rights of children. The delegation argued that the execution of children should be permitted, that abortion should be illegalised, that the recognised rights of children are contradictory to the God given rights of parents! The delegation opposed the resolutions of the convention on support of the rights of children in the US and Somalia.

Belgium and France purchase the diamonds of Sierra Leone where children are forced to go to war to access the mines. This is the situation in Congo and Angola too where thousands of children must lose their lives in order to make the Amsterdam's fat diamond merchant

assistance to the poor nations has been reduced, that the industrial countries had obligated themselves to contribute 0.7% of their GNP to the fund for the impoverished nations, but they reduced it to 0.22%, and that Germany has reduced its share of 0.50% to 0.22%.

In the international agreements since 1948, the access to food material has been considered as a right. As other rights in the capitalist world, this right is only recognised on paper. The implementation of this right is impossible when the private ownership of productive forces is considered a sacred right.

The international gatherings to fight against hunger have been held for many decades. The millions of hungry people who heard the sweet and sour speakers in 1974 are dead now. In those days, the speakers said that 900 million people were in danger of dying of hunger, and

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Civilised Homicide

After the mounting international pressure and with the fear that the Taliban may treat the US soldiers accordingly, the US recognised the rights of the Taliban captives, but not those of Al Qaeda. At the same time, the Taliban captives are injected with tranquilizers whenever the US takes them for interrogation.

The US arguments on the war captives are ridiculous. For the US, a captive is considered a war captive if he is a military person that belongs to a specific government, otherwise he will be a terrorist. According to this definition, all members of the International Brigade, who were non-military volunteers from different nationalities and went to Spain during the civil war to fight fascism, were murderers and terrorists.

With the hope of releasing itself from the public pressure and from the international laws, the US claims that the Taliban captives are illegal fighters. The paper Sud Deutsche Zeitung wrote that the new pictures of the shackled Moslems, who after interrogations were taken by wheelbarrow and placed into cages in the US military base in Cuba enclosed by barbed wires, can cause doubts in Cairo and Karachi about the superiority of the American civilisation.

The same paper wrote that the US did not recognise the Taliban captives as war captives, that a US soldier has judicial support, that the US did not give the same support to the Taliban captives, and that the US military courts for its soldiers is similar to the "Special Courts for Clergymen" in Iran.

The US "democratic" system has created such an atmosphere that a large percentage of the US population agrees with the torture and execution of the detainees, or with the assassination of the heads of the states who shelter the terrorists, or with issuing the Arabs and Arab-Americans residing in the US with a special identity

people of the world forget what was going on in the "civilised" USA. And, if they publish the pictures someday, they will write under it "The documents of the crime of Stalin in USSR"!

Torture

included pulling out the nail, electric shock, electric iron, hanging by the feet, lashing by electric cable, hot water enema, steelyard handcuffing, Apollo, rape, rape by bear, etc. the Shah used the American and Israeli experts to train his torturers. The infamous torturer Tehrani was trained in the USA. With the assistance from "democratic" and "open" governments such as of Israel and the USA, torture was widely used to keep the unpopular regime of the Shah in power.

Torture was, is, and will be used in the future by all unpopular regimes. As long as the class struggle exists in a society, the unpopular regimes will use torture whenever necessary as a tool to preserve their rules. The regimes of "democratic" Israel legally recognises the use of torture on Palestinians under the cover that the Palestinian suspects are terrorists and their confessions save many lives, and they shamelessly support the use of torture through their press. The conduct of the Israeli regimes are not different from that of the Islamic Republic. Only its lackeys in Iran consider Israeli as the only democratic country in the Middle East!

The capitalist regimes in Africa and the CIA appointed generals and puppets in Latin America and Asia all have been and are applying torture to their political opponents. This fact has not been hidden from the "civilised" Europe and America. In the US, where the use of torture on prisoners is legally prohibited, many forms of torture are used. The torture, execution, and assassination of radical activists in the 1930s, in the era of McCarthyism in the 1960s and 70s and most

Americans residing in the US with a special identity card, something that Nazis did with the Jews in the 1930s.

In the US, the spirit of McCarthyism has risen from the grave, and the fight against terrorism means the fight against opponents of imperialism.

In the US, the fight against terrorism has been replaced, as in the 1950s, by the fight against progressiveness and communism. By labeling as terrorists, the rights of progressive minded individuals and the communists can be abolished quickly.

As a result of the US treatment of the Afghan detainees, the Islamic Republic, with its history of shamelessness and savagery, has grown such a long tongue that it criticises the violation of the human rights of the captives in Guantanamo base. We congratulate the US officials!

Of course, the US officials will burry the pictures of the horrific treatment of the Afghan captives so that the

assassination of radical activists in the 1930s, in the era of McCarthyism, in the 1960s and 70s, and most recently on the Afghan captives are a few examples. Furthermore, the USA has become a safe heaven for many torturers even though the international treaties have demanded the prosecutions, and even though a law was passed in the USA in 1994 to consider torture as a crime prosecutable in the country even if it were committed outside USA. Many torturers of the Shah's SAVAK have fled to the USA and are not prosecuted. The hypocrisy of the US imperialism in these concrete cases is clear and shows that imperialism passes beautiful laws to deceive the intellectuals and bourgeois liberals. The imperialists have never applied the laws to their "friends". According to Amnesty International, over 1000 torturers are living in the USA where almost none of them is prosecuted. The US press reported that a confidant of Osama Bin Laden, Abu Zahir, was arrested in Morocco, that the US authorities are not requesting

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Civilised Homicide

himself announced that those who are suspicious of terrorist acts can be put on closed military trials with the order of the US Defense Secretary, and these trials can take place on a ship in the ocean, in a cave in Afghanistan, or in the Pentagon. These closed military trails do not need clear evidence of any crime. Three military officers will make a decision on the fate of the captive. If two of the three officers agree on putting the captive on the front of a firing squad, the captive will be sent to the front of a firing squad. The captive will have no rights to any defense lawyer. This is a court of wartime!

The US vice president Dick Cheney said that the terrorists do not have the support of the US Constitution, that is, they could be tortured and beaten. These statements show the nature of the imperialist judicial systems and constitutions. They show the credibility of laws and rules in the imperialist countries. It is the US Executive Branch that decides who can or cannot have the support of the Constitution. This is similar to the situation in Iran. A German newspaper wrote that the US methods of punishment are not different from the Islamic Shariat, the Islamic laws of retribution. A popular US caricaturist published a picture of the US Attorney General putting a big turban, as big as Ayatollah Khomeini's turban, on his head and labeled it "Mullah Ashcroft".

According to the US definition, a terrorist crime occurs when it influences the work of the government by pressure or threat and when the government has to act reciprocally. With this ridiculous definition, all pro peace movement, all pro animal and the green activists,

blurs the line between accused and criminal, between suspicious and innocent is already dead and is not dedicated to the implementation of civil laws.

This blurring is already taking place with intensity in the imperialist countries. Taking advantages of the atmosphere created by the events of September 11, the imperialist states are passing laws that eventually will be used against the working class. The imperialist states ask the public to understand the necessity of these reactionary laws and to sacrifice their freedom for the preservation of the "security" of their homeland! But history has seen many of these types of "sacrifices", sacrifices that have cost suppression and injustice to the nations. The judicial and legal rights, and the security of the public is crushed under the boots of police, security agencies, and the intelligence centers.

The US government violated all rights of the Taliban captives in the Guantanamo Bay military base in Cuba. It treated the war captives as animals and defended the anti-human actions disgracefully. The US officials argued at the beginning of the invasion of Afghanistan that it is at war with the Taliban and the war conditions will apply to the country. If it were true that the US is at war with the Taliban, then the captives are war captives and they must be treated according to the US ratified Geneva Convention. The war captives should not be tortured, handed over to a military court, or executed. But what did the US do with the Taliban captives? The US military personnel put chains on the feet and hands of the captives, covered their heads with dark bags, and placed some of them into small cages so that they could not move. The cages were often hung above the ground, perhaps to make sure that no invisible and mysterious

reciprocity. With this ridiculous definition, all peace movement, all pro animal and the green activists, all pro abortion activists, and all anti globalisation activists can be labeled as terrorists and be punished according to the mullah Ashcroft's judicial law of punishments.

The US bourgeois ideologues themselves say in support of the Constitution that the prevention of and the defense against the hostile attacks cannot be elevated to a level that it interfere with the life and work of the public, that by using the excuse of prevention, the government can arrest, imprison, or execute everyone in order to achieve "security", and that this type of security is achieved by violating the security of the masses. What does this type of security solve for the people?

These ideologues say that the more a government crosses the sensitive line between freedom of the masses and the "security" of the homeland, the more despotic the government becomes, that it is like beheading or cut the fingers of an individuals from the fear that they may become murderers or thieves.

The US is crossing this sensitive line in order to secure the rule of capital. Naturally, democracy in a state that

perhaps to make sure that no invisible and mysterious hands help the captives in the US military base! The Al Qaeda captives received even worse treatment.

This conduct at the Guantanamo Bay military base is the same as that in Iran's notorious Evin prison of the Shah and the Islamic Republic.

The USA experimented with the placement of prisoners into cages on Vietnamese also. Pressure and the prolonged captivity dried out the captives' joints and made them permanently handicapped.

At the beginning of the war on Afghanistan, the US did not recognise the captives as war captives and therefore did not implement the international treaties and declarations on human rights to the captives. The US argued that a terrorist is not a war captive but a murderer. Who is a terrorist and who is not is determined by the US itself! After all, doesn't a murderer have rights? Shouldn't a murderer be treated humanely? Shouldn't civil laws be implemented to a murderer? Can anyone who wishes torture or behead a murderer? What sick minded and racist US officials we have seen since September 11!

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The Civilised Homicide!

The killing and murder of Afghans are continuing by the US led allied forces. The imperialist controlled media do not report them lest the public hear what crimes the imperialists are committing in Afghanistan. The murder of the innocent Afghans is not of concern to the imperialists. What is important for the imperialist states is to achieve their strategic goals at all cost.

The number of innocent Afghans who are being killed in the so called anti-terrorist war by the allied forces exceeds by far the total number of victims of the September 11 terrorist acts, but no politician drops a tear or puts flowers on their graves. At the beginning of the war in Afghanistan, the killing of the innocent people was called "collateral" damage by the imperialist powers. This civilised killing was justified under the cover of "collateral" damages. Mr. Rumsfeld, the US secretary of defense (Read: the secretary of war) spent a few seconds of his time to express sorrow for the "collateral" damages in order to release himself from the pressure of public opinion.

These days, the "collateral" damage has been so extensive that no one can recognise which is the collateral damage, the war or the collateral!

arrests. He continued that those who were guilty will get their just punishment and those who were innocent would go to heaven! Of course, Mr. Rumsfeld has university education and cannot argue as Ayatollah Khalkhali. Rumsfeld's statement is "civilised". For Ayatollah Khalkhali too, the condition was unclear and difficult. He killed everyone whom he arrested in order to achieve his goal. The US imperialists act the same way. Every Afghan who lives in the countryside and near a mountain is a member of Al Qaeda or is Osama! The lives of Afghans are worth nothing. It is the oil that is worth everything, and the US is willing to do whatever it takes to bring it under its control.

In the "A Caricature of Marxism and the Imperialist Economism" Comrade Lenin stated that:

"It is fundamentally wrong, un-Marxist and unscientific, to single out 'foreign policy' from policy in general, let alone counterpose foreign policy to home policy. Both in foreign and home policy imperialism strives towards violations of democracy, towards reaction. In this sense imperialism is indisputably the 'negation' of democracy in general, of all democracy, and not just of one of its demands, national self-determination".

extensive that no one can recognise which is the collateral damage, the war or the collateral!

Now the time for the continuous and empty expression of sorrow for the loss of lives of innocent civilian Afghans has passed. When 16 civilians were killed in a US bombardment in the north of Ghandehar, Mr. Rumsfeld who could no longer repeat his shallow expression of sorrow stated that he was facing a difficult situation in Afghanistan, that the condition in Afghanistan was unclear, and that it was not the case that evil is on one side and good is on the other.

The Rumsfeld's civilised statement reminds us Iranians of the statement Ayatollah Khomeini, one of the butchers of the Islamic Republic, made in 1984. He stated that the Islamic Republic will kill whomever it

of one of its demands, national self-determination".

After the events of September 11, the US authorities have arrested and imprisoned 1200 Arabs residing in the US, of which 500 were persecuted only because they were Arab Moslems. This is even in violation of US civil laws. The US judicial laws were violated under the pretext of being in a war condition. If the US Secretary of Justice felt that they were a threat to security, the "foreigners" were in risk of interrogations, detention, and deportation without a clear charge. This is still the situation in the US. The persecutions, threats, and harassment were carried out on the basis of the will of a single person, whose name is not Stalin! President Bush

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