



EDITORIAL

Resist the brutal attacks against civilians in the war against the people

Systematic attacks against civilians committed by the fascist reactionary state in its war against the people are becoming more and more and vicious. This reveals both the Rodrigo Duterte's malevolent and bloodthirsty policy, and the desperation of the entire ruling classes to suppress the Filipino people and prevent the advance of their national and democratic struggles. Anticipate that these attacks against civilians will further intensify in the face of the US-Duterte regime's desperation to show "victory" in its declaration of "crushing" the New People's Army before its term ends in May 2022.

Acts that endanger or directly aim at civilians by the armed and coercive instruments of the reactionary state violate the principles and policies of international humanitarian law (IHL). These laws and principles must be recognized or applied with the objective of protecting the lives and welfare of civilians amid wars, such as the current civil war in the Philippines between the ruling state and the armed revolutionary movement. Humanitarian law also covers the

welfare of captured combatants or those who have been rendered incapable of fighting.

Aiming at or armed suppression against civilians is a brutal counterinsurgency strategy of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP), in line with doctrinal teaching of the US military. This is promoted by the National Task Force (NTF)-Elcac, Duterte's civil-military junta, which practically runs the country. They are obsessed with the

failed fascist dogma of "draining the waters" where the armed revolutionary forces swim, to justify their relentless armed suppression of peasants, workers, the pettybourgeoisie and other progressive classes and sectors. They are blind to the fact that the wellspring of the masses' support for their people's army does not dry up, and that the more vicious the terrorist typhoon of the AFP and PNP's fascism, the more that the people's flood of support and the tide of resistance rises.

The attacks of the AFP and PNP are most barbarous against civilians in rural areas as they wage their war against peasants. Fascist state agents aim to crush the peasant masses through intimidation, make them bow to military power, smash their organizations and force them to surrender their struggle for land. The anti-peasant war of the AFP

and PNP is a war to pave the way for the plunderous and destructive mining companies, for establishing and expanding plantations and ecotourism, energy and infrastructure projects of big business.

These attacks are relentless especially in the hinterlands, far from media coverage, where communication is slow and where the military control the flow of information. In many areas in the countryside, there is no law but martial law. The military and police do not respect legal processes or the justice system even under the 1987 reactionary constitution, more so the provisions of international humanitarian law

and declarations of human rights.

Contrary to the principle of distinction to differentiate civilians from armed combatants, the AFP and PNP target civilians in its armed and psywar operations. The military and police employ brutal and illegal weapons against civilians in its war against the peasants.

It employs red-tagging or the arbitrary accusing entire communities of supporting the revolutionary movement to justify suppressing and terrorizing civilians. Contrary to humanitarian law, they occupy and place entire communities under military control on the pretext of "community support" and

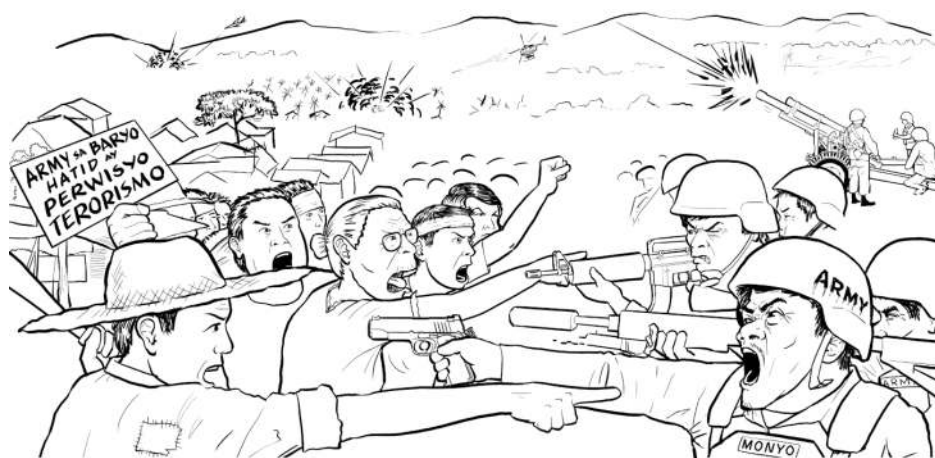
"barangay development." In violation of humanitarian law and human rights, the AFP and PNP imposes blockades on food and commerce. Checkpoints are illegally set up and communities are fenced off to control to entry and exit of people and subject to search anyone passing through. The AFP and PNP bring great suffering and hardship by prohibiting peasants to tend to their land or swidden farms for weeks or months on end.

The presence of armed soldiers shatter community peace, especially when they go on drunken sprees, gambling, cockfighting and promoting drugs and pornography. There have been countless cases of indiscriminate firing of weapons in the middle of the night to terrorize the people and establish their tyrannical rule in the communities. They also aim to terrorize people when they go around in the middle of the night, enter homes and interrogate civilians and force them to leave their organizations.

Even without lawyers or legal representation, civilians are forced to "admit" to the military and police accusations. Thousands have been victimized in this terrorist campaign to intimidate the masses to "surrender." Large numbers of people have been deceived to join rallies or assemblies organized by the military supposedly for distributing subsidies or relief goods. People are forced by the AFP and PNP to join the fake organizations they set up.

Relentless aerial bombing and strafing and artillery shelling in communities are brazen violations of international humanitarian law. These clearly target farms and villages with the objective of enveloping people in terror and paralyzing them with fear. Civilians suffer hours of noise emitted by drones encircling above their communities. Over the past years, tens of thousands of peasants have been forced

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to leave their homes due to fear of indiscriminate bombing. On a number of occasions, people have been driven away to declare their communities as "no man's land" making anyone left fair game for the military.

Fascist attacks against civilians must be resisted thoroughly and firmly. The people must unite to demand an end to the AFP and PNP's total war. The masses in the countryside must strengthen their defense of their rights as civilians under the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL) and other laws.

All attacks against civilians by armed agents of the reactionary state must be untiringly exposed and condemned. Presently, most of the cases are not being reported. Employ every means of informing the public about every violation. Mobilize the people to expose in mass media and social media all the military and psy-war operations of the AFP and PNP that bring terror, violence and burden on the masses. Exert all effort to inform the international community of the attacks against civilians and bring together the broadest opposition against aerial bombardment, artillery shelling and other forms of state terrorism.

Especially in the coming months, the Filipino people must strengthen their resistance and show the entire world that they will never bow or kneel before the US-Duterte regime's fascist onslaught. AB

Menacing civilians as tactic of the terrorist state

DURING THE CHRISTMAS season, the Armed Forces of the Philippines perpetrated widespread attacks against civilian communities under the pretext of preventing celebrations for the 53rd anniversary of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP).

Soldiers of the 75th IB attacked a Lumad wedding at Sitio Katabadan, Barangay San Roque, San Miguel, Surigao del Sur on December 24, and fired at 30 residents who attended the ceremony. Businesswoman Vilma Tawede was shot and killed, and four others were wounded. The military made it appear that Tawede was a member of the New People's Army (NPA).

In Sta. Teresita, Cagayan, it was reported on January 4 that 98th IB soldiers burned down three peasant huts at Sitio Bungcag, Barangay Luga. Afterwards, the military peddled a lie that the crime was perpetrated by the NPA.

In Northern Samar, the 8th ID shelled four times farmlands along the boundary of Barangay San Miguel, Las Navas, and barangays Osang and Hinagonoyan in Catubig, on December 26, 1 a.m. In the afternoon, the 20th IB, forcibly assembled residents of Barangay San Miguel, made them carry anti-NPA placards, and took photos of them to make it appear they voluntarily participated in rally against the CPP/NPA/NDF.

The 9th ID shelled the vicinity of Sitio Campo Nueve, Barangay Del Carmen in Lagonoy, Camarines Sur on December 28 and 29, 2021. The shelling lasted overnight, wherein at least 10 artillery shells were launched by the military. This resulted in the forcible evacuation of 100 residents from their homes. They sought refuge at a small chapel in the barangay. The attack was perpetrated after a failed offensive by the 83rd IB against an NPA unit wherein a soldier was killed, and two others were wounded.

Military forces Odette victims to repair detachment

THE NEW PEOPLE'S Army-Central Negros reported on December 28, 2021 that elements of the 62nd IB harassed and made residents of Guihulngan, Negros Oriental prioritize the repair of a military detachment damaged by typhoon Odette. This was while the villagefolk were not still able to repair their own houses which were also damaged. Instead of helping them, soldiers accused residents who were helping each other to reconstruct their communities as NPA supporters.

In Tapaz, Capiz and Calinog, Iloilo on December 14-27, 2021, soldiers and policemen returned to barrios they attacked in 2020 where nine Tumandoks were massacred. The fascists peddled a threat that there will be a second round of massacre. They also threatened to arrest known indigenous leaders. Out of fear, more than 160 households evacuated from their communities.

In Gonzaga, Cagayan in the early morning of December 25, 2021, suspected elements of the 77th IB gunned down peasant leader Ray Basquez while celebrating Christmas with his family. The victims was outside his house in Barangay Flourishing when he was gunned down. Basquez opposed plunderous black sand mining operations in their community.

Soldiers of the 901st IBde also killed 40-year old coconut farmer JB Bon, resident of Barangay Baya in Ragay, Camarines Sur on December 12, 2021. They soldiers made it appear the he was an NPA member who was killed in an encounter in the adjacent barangay of Salvacion.

Revolutionary forces celebrate Party's 53rd anniversary

Celebrations mounted by various units of the Party and New People's Army to commemorate the 53rd anniversary of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) on December 26 were lively and full of lessons. These were successfully held despite relentless attacks by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP).

"Simple yet something to be proud of." This was how the NPA-Agusan del Norte described their celebration which was attended by the masses. Celebrations were also held in Bicol, Central Luzon, Negros, North Central Mindanao and Cagayan Valley. Friends of the revolution and peasant masses attended these events.

Ilocos-Cordillera. According to the National Democratic Front-Ilocos, the revolutionary base remains strong and continues to expand across the region, contrary to claims by the AFP that it has cleared it of NPA presence. Kasama-Cordillera Peoples' Democratic Front noted a 28% growth in the number of its members who are mobilized in various forms and levels. Key to this was the continuous conduct of council meetings, as well as individual and group discussions.

Cagayan. In West Cagayan, the NPA frustrated the combat operations of the 501st IBde in 2021. Without being detected by the enemy, the NPA was able to conduct two batches of Advanced Party Course, while there were continuous discussions on the Basic Party Course in local Party units. A series of Basic Politco-military Course were also mounted, as well as harassment operations against military units.

Southern Tagalog. Revolutionary forces and Party members continue to overcome challenges brought about by military opera-

tions. The masses continue to support the people's army despite relentless enemy attacks.

Celebrations were held in Batangas and Quezon, wherein many youth forces from the cities who participated decided to enlist as full-time Red fighters.

Negros. The towns covered by the area of operations of the NPA-Central Negros increased by five. The membership of mass organizations increased by 10%, and agrarian revolution and 28 armed actions were carried out.

The NPA-Northern Negros led the establishment of communal farms and fishponds, and the systematization of aid distribution. In response to the pandemic, the NPA conducted medical trainings, distributed herbal medicines, and educated the masses on the importance of vaccines against Covid-19. It also conducted in person classes, and helped students with their modules.

Panay. The NPA-Panay paid tribute to eight Red fighters who were slain by the brutal AFP bombing in Barangay Alimodias, Miag-ao, Iloilo on December 1, 2021. The Party, NPA, and revolutionary masses were able to preserve their strength despite more than a year of intensified attacks in the region.

Eastern Visayas. In a statement, the CPP-Eastern Visayas paid tribute to 22 Red fighters who were martyred last August 2021. At least 16 AFP and PNP battalions are currently deployed in the region. De-

spite this, the Party was able to consolidate its mass base, strengthen mass organizations, and mobilize the masses to assert their democratic rights. Even in barrios with military camps, revolutionary forces were able to coordinate with the masses. The casualties sustained by the AFP in the region mounts is equivalent to a company.

North Central Mindanao. The CPP and NPA have been further steeled by the life and death struggle in the region in the past year. Lessons from these experiences will serve as foundation to further advance the people's war. The region paid tribute to 20 Red fighters who were martyred in 2021. During the year, the NPA was able to mount 55 armed offensives, inflicting company-sized casualties against the enemy.

Local Party committees in Bicol, regional chapters of Makibaka, Kabataang Makabayan chapters in Southern Tagalog, Southern Mindanao, Cagayan and Negros, Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan and Compatriots-Asia Pacific also issued their statements.

In Canada, the Friends of the Filipino People in Struggle mounted a poster campaign in Ontario. The Communist Party of Australia (ML), Communist Workers Union (MLM) in Colombia, Communist Party of Turkey (ML), Communist Party of India (Maoist) and Freedom Road Socialist Organization in the US also expressed their solidarity to the celebrations.



The masses and people's army overcome military lockdown operation

The many years since comrades last set foot on Nuevo in Southern Tagalog (ST) did not become an issue insignificant when Red fighters returned to the area amid the pandemic.

Residents here are not new to working with and helping the people's army. Red fighters were delighted with the residents' warm welcome, especially because most of them are belong to a new generation of Red fighters, and most of the Red fighters whom the residents' knew were already martyred or have long been gone even before the 1990s.

While analyzing and studying the particular economic issues faced by residents of Nuevo, the Red fighters helped the masses in production in their swidden farms. They serve as lawyers and mediators when issues cannot be resolved by local barangay officials, teachers of students who cannot understand their modules, and frontliners in explaining Covid-19 and the importance of having every one vaccinated.

In the evening, youth, peasant, fisherfolk and women groups conduct secret meetings to unite Nuevo in order to improve their economic conditions. Revolutionary mass organizations were established, and the local Party branch was established.

The masses are highly supportive of their army. Even without being asked, they voluntarily give the people's army food supplies and other forms of support.

However, it cannot be denied that the long absence of the people's army enabled the AFP and PNP to plant their assets and other bad elements in the community. These individuals are typically those who have records of theft, syndicated crimes, and land grabbing in the area. The NPA adapted to this condition.

One evening, five Red fighters went to the community to facilitate a mass meeting and educational discussion. The following day, two columns of soldiers and police patrolled the barrio. They declared a lockdown, claiming that someone in the community has been infected with Covid-19 but is asymptomatic. This was supposed to be the first case of Covid-19 infection in the community, but residents knew that state forces are only using this as a pretext to justify the lockdown. Later on, it was revealed that the individual whom they claimed was infected was actually in Manila. Ac-

tually, The real targets of the lockdown are the Red fighters who were in the barrio.

The soldiers mounted a checkpoint and flew drones, while patrolling the community

They forcibly entered the houses of residents. Little did they know that the Red fighters were in one of these houses.

The masses took the initiative to conceal the comrades to avoid a defensive. They quickly passed information among themselves. The youth secured their hangout spots and houses. Residents prepared a getaway vehicle so the Red fighters could elude the enemy.

The exit of the Red fighters was delayed by a day, and policemen and soldiers entered entered the house where they were waiting. The owners took them to the back of the house, and told the enemy that they know nothing about reported sightings of Red fighters in the area.

Nuevo residents worked together to facilitate the comrade's exit without being detected by the soldiers. One by one, the masses helped them withdraw until they were able to regroup with their unit.

The lockdown in Nuevo is one of the cases of how the Duterte regime is using the Covid-19 pandemic to serve its repressive war. It is exploiting the health crisis to further sow terror in the countryside.

However, this incident proves further that the close link between masses and the people's army can defeat all deceptive schemes employed by the military and police amid the pandemic. On numerous occasions, the masses have proven time and again that they are the true heroes. Without their courage and love for their army, the armed struggle will not flourish and advance.



Serve the people and revolution

Agham Bayan (People's Science), the official publication of the Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan (LAB or People's Science League,) came out with a new issue last December 2021. The publication first came into circulation in the 1970s but was stopped in the 1990s. Agham Bayan is back to popularize and promote the analyses, programs, campaigns and revolutionary activities of revolutionaries in the science and technology sector.



In this issue, revolutionary scientists and technologists stood firm against the return of the Marcoses and the perpetuation of the Duterte in power through the 2022 elections. They described the science and technology outlook under the current system as "bleak."

"Research and development (R&D) and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education continue to be the last priority of the government," according to the paper's editorial. "Brain drain will persist as scientists and engineers are forced to go to other countries because of the lack of jobs and opportunities in the country," it said. At the same time, projects and research that help develop the local economy and truly serve the people are disregarded.

Second Congress

The paper also wrote about LAB's Second Congress held in December 12, 2020. The Congress' theme was "Expand and Strengthen the League of Science for the People, contribute to the Development of Revolutionary Mass Movement and Armed Resistance in the Countryside." It affirmed its belief that only through the victory of the national democratic revolution with a socialist perspective will science and technology fully develop and truly flourish in the Philippines.

The Congress approved the summing up of experiences and practices of organizing scientists for the past two decades. The three-year program of LAB, formed from the lessons of the summing up

documents, was presented and approved by the delegates. The three-year program's strategic call is to "Further advance the anti-fascist, anti-feudal and anti-imperialist movement and defeat the fascist Duterte regime."

LAB aims to organizing organize tens of mass organizations with hundreds of members. Presently, it has chapters in government agencies, academe, and industry with several hundreds of members. Among LAB's tasks is to daringly organize and to develop understanding of the science and principles of revolution.

The Congress reviewed the LAB Constitution and orientation and elected a new set of officers. It elected Trinidad Ramirez as its president for the next three years. On his part, Ramirez hoped for more fruitful years for the league.

The LAB is an allied organization of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) among scientists, technologists, engineers, environmentalists, science educators, students, and advocates. LAB was founded on December 26, 1975 by members of the Progresibong Samahan sa Inhinyerya at Agham and Samahan ng Makabayang Syentipiko. It became a part of the struggle against the Marcos dictatorship.

It weakened towards the latter part of the 1980s, after it was affected by revisionism and sectarianism which afflicted the entire revolutionary movement then. Among its major errors was sectoralism and legalism. It also failed

in expansion and consolidation.

Together with the entire revolutionary movement, LAB reaffirmed the basic principles of people's democratic revolution during the early part of the 1990s. In 1996, it held its First Congress to revitalize and expand the organization.

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Aid for Odette victims. Democratic organizations protested at the Boys Scout Circle, Quezon City on December 29, 2021 to demand the regime to immediately provide aid for the victims of typhoon Odette. They condemned the criminal negligence of the regime during the said typhoon which devastated provinces in Visayas and Mindanao, and several towns in Palawan.

Justice for Tumandok massacre victims. Relatives of victims, and human rights organizations commemorated on December 30, 2021 the first year of the brutal massacre of 9 Tumandoks and the arrest of 17 others in Panay. Programs were mounted at the Pastrana Park in Kalibo, Aklan, and in front of the Commission on Human Rights in Quezon City. They said that justice remains elusive for the victims. In addition, militarization of Tumandok communities persists wherein deployed military units are relentlessly sowing terror.

36.9%

positivity rate

recorded in the country on January 5, from only 1.7% on December 3. This indicates the rapid spread of the virus in communities.

17,220 tested positive on January 6, from only **3,617** on January 1.

Source:
Department of Health

“No vax, no labas”

burdensome and oppressive policy

proposed by the IATF on January 4 to prohibit unvaccinated individuals from leaving their residences, even as vaccination rates in the country have yet to reach 50%.

15%

of Filipino girls are married before reaching the age of 18.

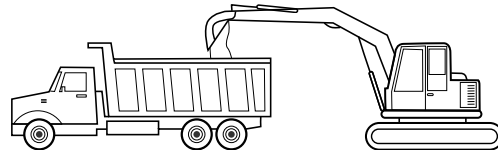
Globally, the Philippines is the 12th country with the highest number of children married before reaching the legal age. Child marriage is most prevalent in BARMM, Mimaropa and Soccsksargen.

Source: UNICEF

AO No. 2020-40

order issued by the DENR

on December 23 to allow the resumption of destructive open-pit mining operations in the country, four years after these were suspended by then Sec. Gina Lopez.



12

barangays in Mankayan, Benguet

voted against the issuance of an FPIC for the massive mining operation in **11,000 hectares** of their **ancestral land** on **December 20.**

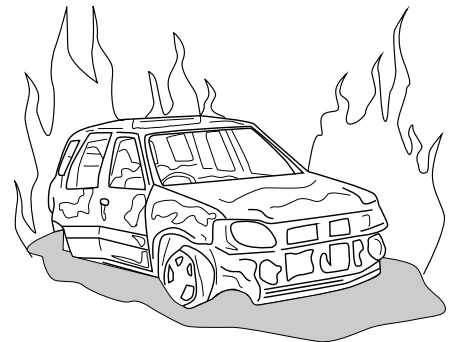
RA 11641

enacted on December 30 to establish the Department of Migrant Workers.

Migrants condemned this for promoting the policy of exporting Filipino labor.

35

civilians were massacred and burned by the military in Myanmar on December 24.



The victims were killed in a highway near an area where soldiers encountered an armed ethnic group resisting the military junta.

#FreeMassTestingNow

clamored for anew by health workers in the face of a new surge of Covid-19 cases. Despite threats of the spread of the more infectious **Omicron variant, daily testing has not reached 50,000.**

People's army marches forward in India for 20 years

The yearlong celebrations mounted by revolutionary people of India to mark the 20th anniversary of their people's army, the People's Liberation Guerilla Army (PLGA), culminated on December 2, 2021. A video released by the Communist Party of India (CPI)-Maoist on December 28, 2021 shows the celebrations featuring people's parades, speeches, tribute to martyrs, cultural performances and others.

For decades now, the CPI (Maoist) and PLGA have been leading the protracted people's war in India. From armed squad units, the formations of the people's army have grown into battalions. There are Party units in squads and other formation of the people's army at all levels. The Party gives regular theoretical educational discussions to the army, as well as studies on language, science, mathematics, social science and others to remold Red fighters and improve their political and military skills.

The PLGA operates in 17 out of 28 states in India. Indian states are equivalent to Philippine regions, but are way larger in land area. The PLGA has various levels of guerrilla formations in 13 states, and has bigger formations in areas where the armed struggle is stronger.

One of the primary war tactics developed by the PLGA in the past two decades is the use of explosives combined with gunfire in their am-

bushes. These explosives target military vehicles which the reactionary army calls "mine-proof vehicles." The PLGA was also able to develop its experience in targeting enemy units that are on their way back to camp after conducting combing operations in the countryside.

Aside from ambushes, the PLGA was able to mount coordinated raids against armories and prisons to free detained Red fighters, militias and mass activists.

In the past two decades, the PLGA mounted 210 big guerrilla operations, 331 medium, and 4,000 small. The number of company and battalion operations mounted by the PLGA is increasing. Some of the biggest armed actions employ mobile warfare in areas where the guerrilla war is intense. This gave the PLGA a practical understanding of the process of advancing the guerrilla warfare to higher levels.

These figures exclude offensive mounted by the PLGA from August

2021. Its last major offensive was an ambush in Jeeragudem, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh on April 2021 against the operation of 2,000 enemy units. Twenty-four police men and 31 others were wounded, and 14 weapons were seized in this offensive. The people's army attacked the enemy unit which entered deep into the forest. On their way home, they were ambushed by the guerrillas. "It was raining grenades," said a policeman who survived the attack in an interview by the media.

The PLGA creatively utilizes their self-developed weapons, including "arrow bombs" and cannons. The artilleries which they fashion played a key role in their ambush against the enemy in March 2020 in the villages of Minapa in Sukma (district adjacent to Bijapur), Chhattisgarh which resulted in 39 casualties, and the seizing of 14 firearms.

In offensives the past two decades, more than 3,050 elements of the enemy have been killed, while 3,600 others were wounded. The PLGA has been able to seize 3,240 firearms and more than 155,000 bullets. These offensives effectively prevented the rampage of the reactionary armed forces.

The militia also actively participates in the people's war. They are active not only in setting explosives, but also punji stick traps. During a defensive campaign in 2018, the people's militia was able to mobilize 15,000 individuals who set 18,000 traps with 90,000 punji sticks. They also participated in offensives.

In the past two decades, the role of women in the people's war in India has grown. They are among the most exploited sectors of the society. The enemy perpetrates sexual attacks against them as one of its major repressive tactics. In the PLGA, the women's struggle and the

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Worsening global forced displacement crisis



Millions of peoples who were forced to leave their homes to escape war, repression, persecution, and conflict in their countries are now facing a severe crisis in various parts of the world. They suffer inhumane conditions, uncertainty, increasing violence and human rights violations. Many are forced to temporarily take shelter in refugee camps while seeking to take asylum in or permanently migrate to other countries. Many refugees who attempt to cross borders to seek asylum are refused entry in violation of the international humanitarian law.

There are approximately 82.4 million forcibly displaced individuals in the world, almost twice higher than in the previous decade. This means that one out of 95 individuals in the world has been forced to leave behind all belongings and livelihood. Approximately 42% (35 million) of them are children. The figure includes 48 million internally displaced persons (IDPs or individuals who have evacuated from their home but remain in their countries), and 26.6 million refugees or individuals who are taking sanctuary in

other countries. At present, 1.4 million more evacuees are seeking asylum.

Turkey hosts the biggest number of refugees with 3.7 million Syrian refugees. Around 22% or 6.6 million refugees are currently cramped in refugee camps of the United Nations which typically have weak health, water and sanitation systems. The biggest refugee camps are located in the poorest countries including Kenya, Jordan, Bangladesh and Sudan. A big number of refugees who are not accom-

modated in refugee camps are not covered by benefits given by the UN.

Contrary to international laws, many countries close their borders to deny the entry of refugees who travel by small boats. The starkest of these is the closure of boundaries in the Mediterranean Sea by European countries. This resulted in the drowning of 1,645 refugees this year, majority of whom are from Su-

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equality between women and men are upheld. Even in villages, the role of women in the people's militia is growing. Many of those who patrol in communities to detect the enemy are women.

The PLGA enjoys the support of the Indian peasant masses and indigenous people because the people's army supports their basic rights to "jal-jungle-zameen" or "water-forests-land." The reactionary state has entered into numerous contracts with multinational corporations to plunder lands cultivated by the masses, and ancestral lands of Adivasis or indigenous people. Many of these are mining and irrigation projects, and establishment of "natural parks" and military reservations which will result in widespread displacement of residents.

The establishment of Revolu-

tionary People's Committees (RPCs) as the people's organs of political power also played a key role in the advancement of the people's war. In a territory called "Dandakaranya," around 15,700 household benefited from agrarian revolution. In these areas, the PLGA and RPCs were able to open 25,774 parcels of land, and thousands of farmlands, fishing grounds, and irrigation.

These victories were reaped by the PLGA amid the intense counter-revolutionary war of the government of India currently represented by the Modi regime. It mounted the Samadhan (solution) campaign in 2017 in an attempt to decimate the revolutionary army by 2022. In sum, at least 6.5 lakh (or 650,000) anti-guerrilla troops including, paramilitaries, soldiers, and policemen were deployed to fight the PLGA.

The counterrevolutionary war is characterized by "carpet security" and intense intelligence operations for precise operations. The enemy is regularly deploying helicopters and drone for its bombing operations along boundaries. The PLGA is aware of the adverse impact of real-time surveillance operations conducted by the enemy.

According to the PLGA, it needs to strive in relying on the masses for intelligence. It has to pattern its tasks after the changing conditions of war. It also strives to further strengthen the mass base to intensify and broaden the guerrilla warfare. It also strives to intensify efforts to strengthen the mass movement and revolutionary committees. These serve as the foundation for the advancement of the PLGA as the people's effective and undefeatable weapon in establishing their organs of political power. **AB**

dan, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Syria, Iraq and Palestine, among others. Since 2014, the death toll and the number of missing refugees in the said sea has reached 22,930. In addition, 166 refugees who attempted to enter the United Kingdom also drowned in the English Channel.

In August 2021, countries neighboring Afghanistan reportedly closed their borders to refugees. Last month, Iraq closed its border with Syria endangering the lives of tens of thousands of Syrian refugees. Poland also closed its borders in November 2021 endangering the lives of African and Middle Eastern refugees who passed through Belarus.

Amid the Covid-19 pandemic, the trend of mass displacement has persisted primarily due to the escalation of wars and armed conflicts. In 2020, the total number of forcibly displaced individuals reached 11.2 million, slightly higher than the 11 million evacuees in 2019.

Many of those who attempt to enter boundaries of other countries to seek asylum are shunned or detained like criminals. Far right reactionaries are driving an anti-refugee culture to justify repressive anti-refugee policies. Many countries which deny the entry of refugees commonly reason out that

their capacities have already been exceeded.

Displacement due to imperialist attacks

Nearly 60% (15.7 million) of displaced peoples hail from only four countries experiencing wars and armed conflict instigated by the US. Majority of the refugees are from Syria, South Sudan, Afghanistan and Venezuela.

Syria is currently experiencing the worst forcible displacement crisis. Around 11.1 million individuals (6.8 million refugees, and 6.7 million IDPs) evacuated in Syria due to the continuing civil war in the country which began in 2011, instigated by the US in the name of its "war on terror." The US deployed military advisers, and funded and armed rebel groups to oust the government of Bashar al-Assad. They were forced to evacuate due to the intense armed conflict, and indiscriminate bombings by the US which target civilians.

Afghanistan is facing the longest continuing forcible displacement in the world due to imperialist attacks and intervention in the country in the past four decades. It currently has 6 million evacuees, 2.6 million of whom are refugees and 3.5 million IDPs. The massive evacuation was a result of the two-decade US occupation and war in

Afghanistan in the name of "war on terror." Although its direct occupation has formally ended in August 2021 after the Taliban was able to seize political power, millions of refugees and IDPs are yet to return to their communities, more residents continue to evacuate.

Venezuela has 4.1 million refugees, excluding a huge number of undocumented migrants, who left the country because of the crisis caused by US economic blockades and sanctions in the country. These schemes have caused shortages in food, medicine and other basic services resulting in hyperinflation. During the first nine months of 2021, 47,762 Venezuelan evacuees have been arrested and detained by the US for attempting to cross the boundaries without appropriate documents.

In South Sudan, 2.3 million refugees and 1.87 million IDPs have evacuated due to the US-instigated civil war which has resulted in the founding of the country in 2011. The US has formed and has been funding armed groups in Sudan since 2003 in an attempt to divide the country through armed rebellion to ensure its hegemony over the country. These groups have since split into 30 warring rebel groups, resulting in the violent and continuing armed conflict in the country. AB