Striking Alabama miners

Take fight to Wall Street

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

Five hundred striking Alabama coal miners—joined by hundreds of other union members and supporters—rallied July 28 in New York City on Wall Street. They protested in front of BlackRock investment firm, the biggest shareholder in the miners’ employer, Warrior Met Coal.

The Brookwood, Ala., miners have been on strike since April 1 for better working conditions, pay and benefits. These members of United Mine Workers (UMWA) Locals 2245, 2368 and 2397 say the big hedge funds that provide financial backing to Warrior Met are blocking progress toward a fair contract. The coal company is “the leading dedicated U.S.-based producer and exporter of high quality metallurgical (‘met’) coal for the global steel industry.” (Business Wire, Feb. 24)

...continued

Housing is a right!

Bulletin, Aug. 3: Tonight the CDC announced that the eviction moratorium would be extended another 60 days in parts of the country with “substantial and high levels of community transmission”—about 40% of the U.S. This face-saving concession from President Joe Biden and the Democrats was only granted after there were protests around the country, including on the steps of the Capitol.

Having a roof over one’s head is a fundamental human right. The 1948 U.N. Universal Declaration on Human Rights, supplemented by subsequent international conventions, recognizes the right to “adequate food, clothing and housing.” Member countries are supposed to uphold the charter. Yet even in developed capitalist countries like the U.S., millions are houseless.

The ranks of the houseless are about to swell due to the end of the federal eviction moratorium July 31. Put into effect by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in September and extended several times, the moratorium kept millions of households sheltered.

Now some 3.6 million think it likely their will be put out of their living quarters in the next two months, according to the Census Bureau’s Household Pulse Survey, which tracks the pandemic’s impact. Over twice that number reported falling behind in their rent. Evictions would create a swell due to the end of the federal eviction moratorium.

Cops attack houseless activists

COVID challenge

Simone Biles & mental health

Labor on the move

Nurses’ strikes

Donut shop organizing

Cops attack houseless activists

COVID challenge

Glen Ford

¡presente!

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Free Dr. Mutulu Shakur

Daniel Hale: antiwar prisoner

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Solidarity with Cuba

Workers World
Honor Black August! Support Workers World!

Did you know the month of August holds special meaning for the Black Liberation struggle? This August marks the 402nd anniversary of the arrival of the first ship of Africans brought in chains to the shores of the British colony of Virginia in 1619. That means 244 years of slavery — with its countless injustices, brutality and institutionalized crimes against humanity. These atrocities continue, in this white-supremacist, capitalist society, to this day.

But August is also a time to commemorate the Black Resistance Struggle from the Haitian Revolution of 1791-1804 to the Nat Turner Rebellion in 1831, from the Underground Railroad of 1800-1865 to the Fugitive Slave Law Convention in 1850, from the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in 1925 to the March on Washington in 1963, the Watts Uprising in 1965 and the National Prison Strike from Aug. 21-Sept. 9 in 2018.

A number of freedom fighters were born in August, including Marcus Garvey, Fred Hampton and Russell Maroon Shoatz, while a number died: W.E.B du Bois, Huey P. Newton and Jonathan Jackson. Jackson was killed Aug. 7, 1971, while attempting to free the imprisoned Soledad Brothers, who included his brother, Black Panther leader George Jackson. One year and two weeks later, on Aug. 21, 1972, George was executed by prison guards. His assassination was an important spark leading to the heroic Attica Prison Rebellion in September 1971.

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For a donation of $75 to $100 to $300 a year, members receive a year’s subscription, letters about timely issues and one, two or three free subscriptions, respectively, to give to friends. Supporters can receive a copy of the book, “What road to socialism?” (Notify us.) Or read it for free at workers.org/books.

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Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you.

If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact: 212.627.2994

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Honor mental health

Athletes like Simone Biles deserve support

By Monica Moorehead

The biggest news coming out of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics is not about the pandemic excluding large numbers of crowds at venues and not about unfilled expectation of gold medals won by U.S. athletes compared to other countries. By far, the biggest news during the first Olympic week was that 24-year-old Simone Biles, recognized as the greatest gymnast of all time regardless of gender, withdrew from the gymnastics women’s team final on the first day of the competition July 27.

The four-time gold-medal-winning African American gymnast was expected to win even more gold medals for team all-around, individual all-around and various apparatus competitions over the two-week span of the Olympics. Biles became legendary when she outshined her competition during the 2016 Rio Olympics in Brazil. Since then, she has won seven U.S. all-around national titles and 19 world championships leading up to Tokyo.

Biles, now the most accomplished gymnast in history, to be the first-ever women’s team all-around Olympic champion, had already in 2013, become the first woman to win a gymnastics world championship gold medal in the all-around competition on Aug. 3.

Solidarity from other gymnasts

All athletes feel pressure to perform to the best of their ability, especially in competitive sports. But the pressure that gymnasts, especially young women, feel is very unique and highly specialized to their sport. Gymnasts are expected to perform incredible twists and multiple flips in the air. That requires them to be constantly mentally aware of their orientation in space in order to land on their feet, safely in control. Any mental distraction can cause disorientation in their spatial memory. This can result in serious injury, including neck injuries that could cause temporary or permanent paralysis.

This kind of disorientation for gymnasts is known as the “twisties.”

Christina Myers, a former gymnast and now a gymnastics coach in Birmingham, Ala., told BBC News: “Imagine skydiving, and your parachute won’t open. Your body starts adding extra twists and flips to the skill you’re supposed to be doing. That can affect even skills that feel as routine as walking to an elite gymnast. Your brain develops a strategy to pass your intended skill correctly, but your body feels like it suddenly has a mind of its own. Because the twisties are mainly psychological, it’s harder to try to push through. The harder the twisties push back.” (July 28)

Many other gymnasts, current and retired, have expressed support for Biles’ decision to withdraw, citing the pressures they felt to win at all costs. These include members of the “Magnificent Seven,” U.S. gymnasts who won the gold medal as a team at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. One of them, Kerri Shroff, felt immense pressure from her coach, the now-disgraced abuser Béla Károlyi, to perform injured — when he forced her to vault on a broken ankle!

Another member of the Seven, Dominique Moceanu, tweeted, “I was 14 years old with a tibial stress fracture, left alone with no cervical spine exam after a fall. I competed in the Olympic floor final, minutes later. Simone Biles’ decision demonstrates that we have a say in our own health — a say I NEVER felt I had as an Olympian.”

Dominique Dawes, the first Black woman to win a gold medal in the individual all-around gymnastics competition, commented on CNBC in response to Biles: “I felt that [pressure] leading into the 1996 Olympic games in Atlanta, Ga. We were expected to win gold, to make history, to be the first-ever women’s team to do that; and I knew, as one of the leaders of that team, that my scores really didn’t matter, so I felt what she’s feeling. But I hope she knows that we’re behind her every step of the way; and no matter what the outcome is, we love her, and she’s a positive force for the sport of gymnastics.” (July 28)

A survivor of sexual abuse

Biles has said she felt a weight on her shoulders to win gold medals especially over the past year. She is the only woman still in Olympic competition who lived through and survived the sexual abuse of Dr. Larry Nassar, former team doctor for the U.S. women’s national gymnastics team. Nassar targeted and molested hundreds of young girls and women under the pretext of medical treatment.

In an NBC interview before the Olympics, Biles disclosed she felt compelled to represent all the gymnasts who were molested for many years by Nassar. Biles said, “I feel like, with everything that happened, I had to come back to the sport to be a voice, to have change happen. Because I feel like if there weren’t a remaining survivor in this, they would’ve just brushed the abuse to the side.

“But since I’m still here, and I have quite a social media presence and platform — people do have expectations of me,” Biles said, “I feel like, coming back, gymnastics wasn’t the only purpose I was supposed to do.” (April 14)

Even though Nassar will be spending the rest of his life in prison after being convicted in 2018, to this day U.S. gymnastics Olympic and Paralympic Committee have not been held accountable for covering up Nassar’s abuse.

Biles stated in the April 4, 2019, tweet: “The more I learn, the more I hurt. USA Gymnastics failed us. USOC failed us. Many failed us. And I’m not just talking to us. Real world change isn’t easy, but it’s clear there’s a lot more work that needs to be done.”

Ally Raisman, Biles’ teammate at the 2016 Olympics, echoed the widespread support for her action, saying, “I think sometimes people forget that Olympic athletes are human beings. What happened to all those gymnasts affects the mental health of athletes really matters. When I was training, there really weren’t resources for us to talk about our mental health or even ways to understand it. So I’m not even sure if there are resources out there in Tokyo for Simone....

“We need to be asking the organizations like USA Gymnastics and the United States Olympic Committee: What are you doing to support your athletes, and how can we prevent athletes feeling like they are struggling so much that they can’t finish the competition? What can we learn from this?” (ESPN, July 27)

Bringing global attention to mental health

Recently four-time Grand Slam tennis champion Naomi Osaka withdrew from both the French Open and Wimbledon, citing mental health issues. She also decided not to participate in post-match press conferences — an action which can result in thousands of dollars in fines.

Though Osaka was criticized for taking this stance, she was also praised. Biles credited Osaka for inspiring her to speak about her own mental health issues.

The global pandemic has impacted millions of lives on a global scale. Recent reports show that life expectancy inside the U.S. dropped by more than a year since 2019. Within that year, millions of people were out in the streets protesting police brutality — a massive outpouring ignited by the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Both Biles and Osaka — prominent women of color athletes, unprecedented in their skills and popularity — have been steadfast outliers against racism.

Given all the societal issues that Simone Biles and Naomi Osaka face — such as societal pressure to perform on the highest level and a global pandemic — their decision to put their mental health first is truly heroic. Both have inspired others going through similar trauma.
Cops assault housing protesters outside mayor’s condominium

By Joe Piette

Cops assaulted a peaceful protest and harassed on July 27 outside Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney’s condominium. The fifth “Tuesdays at Kenney’s” protest since May 25 had been organized to demand more action to reduce homelessness in the city. Organizers were grilling hamburgers and setting food and drinks on tables at curbside, when Civil Affairs Sergeant Eric Reiser walked past them onto condominium property and announced people had to move. The four or five participants on private property, including this Workers World reporter, immediately began moving to the public sidewalk.

One of the participants didn’t walk fast enough in the eyes of the cop, and he violently pushed her. She would have fallen to the ground, if I hadn’t prevented her fall with my right arm.

The cop, a Civil Affairs sergeant, further escalated the confrontation by threatening to arrest the victim of his assault. He announced organizers had 10 minutes to remove tables and leave; but minutes later he ordered cops from the Civil Affairs, Traffic and Narcotics Strike Force units to cause a melee. ACT UP spokesman Max Ray-Riek later told public radio/television WHYY: “The Philadelphia Police Department forcibly removed us and refused our First Amendment right to protest. Officers shoved people and on or kicked people, grabbed people by their throats and dragged them.” (July 28)

Stop evictions, end houselessness

ACT UP Philadelphia stated on Facebook: “Two members were forcibly removed by law enforcement; a total of four members are now getting medical attention as a result of police violence, and we are standing by to support. Our BBQ was going to be a peaceful speakout against Mayor Kenney’s policies that keep people homeless. We had spent several days talking to folks who are unhoused and directly impacted by these policies and inviting them to enjoy a BBQ with us and speak out for their rights.

Instead, Mayor Kenney had his police use violence against protesters once again.” (facebook.com/actupphilly, July 27)

A spokesperson for Kenney told WHYY, the mayor “learned of the incident after it was over and was not on-site during the protest activity.” That statement doesn’t deny that he ordered the police to remove the demonstration.

The two people arrested were charged with assaulting an officer and other offenses. They were then released on their own recognizance. ACT UP has been demanding that “the city place a moratorium on all evictions; establish an oversight board comprised of unhoused individuals and those using OHS services to review OHS policies, practices and personnel; reopen COVID hotels until everyone has access to housing; institute housing-first care.” (June 29)

A CT UP Organizer Jamaal Henderson said they will continue to hold protests. “We’re not going to let Philadelphia PD bully us into not exercising our constitutional right to protest,” he said. (Philadelphia Inquirer, July 28)
Solidarity rally for striking Alabama miners

By Dianne Mathiowetz
Alabama

Preparations are under way in Brookwood, Ala., for an Aug. 4 solidarity rally for striking United Mine Workers (UMWA) members who have maintained a picket line 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at the entrances to Warrior Met Coal facilities since April.

Miners, other union members and community supporters are expected to travel from nearby and far to let the Wall Street hedge fund investors backing Warrior Met know that this is a battle the working class is determined to win.

This writer will be traveling to Brookwood on a bus caravanning left from Atlanta organized by the Georgia State AFL-CIO. Retired United Auto Workers members have already filled one bus as of this writing.

Brookwood is just 30 miles from Birmingham, where the recent historic attempt by the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union to organize workers at an Amazon warehouse inspired class solidarity across the U.S. and around the world. Despite its racist Jim Crow power structure, Alabama has a long legacy of unionization in mining and steel production, uniting Black and white workers.

According to Larry Spencer — International Vice President of District 20, UMWA, and a coal miner himself for 10 years — the strong bonds among miners are rooted in their absolute reliance on each other to stay alive, as they work hundreds and hundreds of feet underground under extremely dangerous conditions.

In 2016, Warrior Met bought out the Jim Walters coal company when it went through bankruptcy. In order to save their jobs, the workers agreed to sharp concessions. They accepted a reduction in wages and other benefits that will be eliminated in the 2021 contract.

Now the highly paid bosses of Warrior Met Coal have stonewalled negotiations to raise pay — even to the level of five years ago — to ensure exceedingly excessive work hours of 12 hours a day, six and seven days a week.

Warrior Met has brought in scabs from other states, who, Spencer reported, have in several instances deliberately tried to run over picketers with cars or trucks.

Delegations of miners have traveled to New York City twice to picket on Wall Street, including July 28 at the offices of BlackRock, the hedge fund with the largest investments in Warrior Met Coal. BlackRock is a major shareholder in some 18,000 companies, banks and financial services firms in the U.S., Europe, Asia and Latin America. (Workers World, “BlackRock capital finance works with Republicans and Democrats,” January 26)

The courageous coal miners of Brookwood, Ala., are facing off against the monied interests of the capitalist class. It is the task of all workers, organized and unorganized, to join in solidarity to secure a victory in this fight!

Larry Spencer’s remarks are from an interview with “The Labor Forum,” a program of WRFG 89.3 FM in Atlanta. The interview aired Aug. 2. For a schedule of the weekly audio programs, check wrfglaborforum.org.

Striking Alabama miners take fight to Wall Street

Continued from page 1

International Union of Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers Local 463, United Auto Workers Local 2110, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, PSC-CUNY Professional Staff Congress and others.

Mine workers, families fighting ‘no matter the cost’

Alabama miner Braxton W Tweeted from the rally: “We Are One. One of the messages we sent to BlackRock today in New York City. Actor Susan Sarandon is seen chanting with the crowd: “One day longer, one day stronger!”

In a rally video, Left Voice asked Alabama miner Josh Krim what he was fighting for. He replied: “To get to spend time with our families. From the time I hired in, I’ve had, literally, two days off. That’s it. We’re on an 800-hour probationary period. Being new, like me, you’re lucky to get a day off. I literally didn’t see my kid for two months. And that — that’s rough. While we’re here trying to get a contract, those COOs and CEOs, those board members — they don’t care. We’re fighting to survive so we can get back to work. We’re here till it’s over. We’re not giving up.” (Twitter, July 28)

The Alabama miners labor in one of the world’s most life-threatening workplaces.

The Brookwood mines are sunk 1,400 to 2,000 feet underground, some of the deepest underground coal mines in North America. In 2003 methane gas explosions and a cave-in at one of the mines killed 13 workers, including a former high school classmate of this writer.

Krim said of working conditions: “Dusty, really dusty. Most days we’re there at least a minimum of 12 hours. No light other than what’s on your hard hat. In the dark pretty much all day.”

Alabama miners, still on the picket line 24 hours a day, seven days a week, watched the rally on a big screen as they defended the line. One of the women of the local UMWA auxiliary recently survived a vehicular attack on the line. The auxiliary has worked overtime to keep their union families fed, clothed and cared for.

On July 31 labor reporter Kim Kelly tweeted she was “getting reports of yet another vehicular attack on the #WarriorMetStrike picket line … just days after hundreds of strikers traveled to NYC to protest in front of Warrior Met investor BlackRock.”

An Aug. 4 support rally has been called in Alabama. Plans are for labor leaders and members to come from across the country.

To support the strike materially, see Twitter @UMWAStrikePantry. For support rallies and protests, go to @LaborReporters, Valley Labor Report, Alabama’s only union radio show.

Glen Ford ¡presente!

The death of groundbreaking and history-making Black journalist Glen Ford was announced July 28 by his co-editor at Black Agenda Report, Margaret Kimberley. Ford was 71. In a Truthout tribute, Kimberley said: “He was the consummate journalist, a man who demanded rigorous analysis of himself and others, and he lived by the dictum of affiliating the comfortable and comforting the afflicted.”

Glen Ford was a socialist, a Vietnam-era military veteran, a member of the Black Panther Party in 1969-70, and a union activist during the 1980s. Raised in Columbus, Ga., in the days of segregationist apartheid, he began his journalistic career reading newswire copy on the radio at age 11. In 1977, Ford launched “America’s Black Forum,” the first nationally syndicated Black news interview program on commercial television.

Ford co-founded the Black Commentator in 2002, a weekly journal that became the most influential Black news site in the U.S. Ford co-authored the BlackCommentator.com interview with “The Labor Forum,” a program of WRFG 89.3 FM in Atlanta. The interview aired Aug. 2. For a schedule of the weekly audio programs, check wrfglaborforum.org.

Report by Minnie Bruce Pratt

High Tech, Low Pay
A Marxist Analysis of the Changing Character of the Working Class
By Sam Marcy with an updated introduction by Fred Goldstein, author of Low-Wage Capitalism.

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Describes in sweeping detail the drastic effect of the restructuring of global capitalism in the post-Soviet era. It uses Karl Marx’s law of wages and other findings to show that these developments are not only continuing to drive down wages but are creating the material basis for future social upheaval.

For more information on these books and other writings by the author, Fred Goldstein, go to LowWageCapitalism.com

Capitalism at a Dead End
Job destruction, overproduction and crisis in the high-tech era

For more information on these books and other writings by the author, Fred Goldstein, go to LowWageCapitalism.com
By Marie Kelly and Phebe Eckfield

An incarcerated person must be very sick before the prison administration will allow them to go to an outside hospital. Such was the case for political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, who contracted COVID-19 as a result of his incarceration in a Pennsylvania prison. Mumia also suffers from congestive heart failure, a debilating disease in which the heart muscle has weakened and cannot pump well, so fluid surrounds it, making it difficult to breathe, and therefore to walk or run.

In addition, Mumia suffers from the effects of hepatitis C, cirrhosis of the liver, hypertension and a severe skin condition. Despite this, Mumia lay shackled to a hospital bed for four days in February and again in April. There is no way he could have attempted to escape. A restraining cuff was placed on his ankle, worsening the skin condition. It became raw, sore and painful.

Mumia. Also, an armed guard is stationed outside on the grounds of the facility.

Despite this, Mumia lay shackled to a hospital bed for four days in February and again in April. There is no way he could have attempted to escape. A restraining cuff was placed on his ankle, worsening the skin condition. It became raw, sore and painful.

By Gloria Rubac

Rodney Reed Evidence of innocence finally heard

“Rodney [Reed] had a Jim Crow trial in a kangaroo court. There’s not a system of justice. This was a conspiracy between the sheriffs, the police, the Texas Rangers and the district attorney,” said Sandra Reed, the mother of Rodney Reed, told Workers World. “Mumia is shackled to a hospital bed right now. Loud and clear are the echoes of chattel slavery in the Americas, that developed handcuffs, shackles and fetters to control the enslaved population. This practice is now common in prisons throughout the U.S. Pennsylvania Department of Corrections administrator John Wetzel publically denounced white supremacy, but his prisons are practicing a system of racial barbarity.” (Workers World, April 22)

The number of inmates over the age of 55 has increased 400% from 1993 to 2013, stated the U.S. Department of Justice. As of October 2018, more than 18% of prison inmates are over 50 years of age. In general, seniors need more medication and medical attention.” (tinyurl.com/ah6q292z)

Military

When an incarcerated person is shackled, this usually means one wrist and one ankle are cuffed with a metal cuff and secured by a chain to the bed. The excuse is the individual may try to escape. After being taken to a hospital from a prison in Cook County, Illinois, after testing positive for COVID-19, Jeffrey Pendleton, 59, died a week later, chained to the hospital bed. Pendleton was fighting for his life. His brothers filed a lawsuit stating that the shackling violated his constitutional rights. The prison had a 24-hour armed guard watch him.

Stop shackling incarcerated people during childbirth

The National Abortion Federation’s position on shackling states: “The practice of shackling pregnant prisoners during childbirth, and for any medical emergency, is deplorable and causes Mr. Abu-Jamal permanent brain damage to the child. Shackling pregnant prisoners during childbirth should be banned unconditionally at all levels of the carceral system. Anything less than a total ban is dehumanizing practice to continue.”

Rodney Reed was on death row almost half his life, convicted of the rape and murder of Stacie Stites in 1998. Reed is African American, and Stites was white. They were having a casual, consensual relationship when she was killed in 1996. However, Stites was engaged to a white cop.

By Marie Kelly is a registered nurse, and Phebe Eckfield is a licensed practical nurse.
Free Dr. Mutulu Shakur!

By Mirinda Crissman

Despite being imprisoned for 35 years, the revolutionary and aging Dr. Mutulu Shakur remains a steadfast beacon in resistance to the oppressive capitalist system.

Born in Baltimore in 1950 to a Black mother, Dr. Shakur was arrested in 1969 for participating in a protest against the U.S. invasion of Vietnam and was sentenced to 35 years in prison due to a false accusation of growing marijuana. He has been denied parole since 1986, when the same parole board denied him his first parole hearing.

In a 2008 interview, Dr. Shakur explained, “I'm not a political prisoner. I'm a political activist.”

Dr. Shakur's legal team has filed a compassionate release petition because now his very health is at stake. Demand immediate release of Mutulu Shakur for compassionate release, to bring attention to the United States' brutal treatment of political prisoners.

Dr. Shakur remains a steadfast beacon in resistance to the oppressive capitalist system. He was recognized as the largest and most active member of the largest political prisoner organization in the world, the National Lawyers Guild's Political Prisoners Task Force.

In 2008, just after Dr. Shakur's 58th birthday, he was denied parole for the 13th time. His parole officer stated that he should be denied parole again because of the possibility of him committing another crime. Dr. Shakur wrote a letter to the parole board, asking them to deny his parole.

Dr. Shakur was denied parole again in 2017, 2018, and 2019. In 2020, Dr. Shakur was denied parole again for the 16th time. Dr. Shakur is now 71 years old and has been in prison for 35 years. Demand immediate release of Mutulu Shakur for compassionate release.

Mutulu Shakur has been in prison for 35 years, and his health is declining. Dr. Shakur suffers from cancer and other serious medical conditions. He has been denied parole for the 16th time, and his legal team has filed a petition for compassionate release.

The U.S. Department of Justice initiated a political prisoner program in 2008 to provide medical care and support to political prisoners. However, Dr. Shakur has been denied parole for the 16th time, and his legal team has filed a petition for compassionate release.

Demand immediate release of Mutulu Shakur for compassionate release, to bring attention to the United States' brutal treatment of political prisoners.

Rodney Reed

Continued from page 6

Prison Policy Initiative reveals that “Black people make up 40% of the incarcerated population. Twenty percent of all incarcerated people are in federal prison, while Black people make up 9% of the population.”

A post on the Daniel Hale Support Network Facebook page seeks to raise awareness about Daniel Hale's case and spread the petition for clemency/compassionate release.

Dr. Shakur is a recognized advocate for human and civil rights, who poses no threat to society and has never been charged with a violent crime.

The U.S. Department of Justice, under the Trump administration, has initiated a political prisoner program to provide medical care and support to political prisoners. However, Dr. Shakur has been denied parole for the 16th time, and his legal team has filed a petition for compassionate release.

By Ted Kelly

Former U.S. Air Force intelligence analyst and whistleblower Daniel Hale was sentenced to 47 months in prison for leaking classified information, including a report on U.S. drone assassinations.

Hale pleaded guilty in March for charges related to leaking classified information about U.S. drone assassinations. Hale has been denied parole for the 16th time, and his legal team has filed a petition for compassionate release.

In a 10-page, handwritten letter submitted to the judge on motives for his action, Hale said, “I made this decision after a careful consideration of the law, the facts, and the judges, and I am confident that my actions were legal and justified.”

Hale is a whistleblower who refused to compromise his principles. The U.S. Department of Justice initiated an investigation during former President Donald Trump's term of office and prosecuted Hale under the Espionage Act.

Hale has been denied parole for the 16th time, and his legal team has filed a petition for compassionate release.

Demand immediate release of Daniel Hale for compassionate release, to bring attention to the United States' brutal treatment of political prisoners.

Daniel Hale: Biden's latest political prisoner

By Ted Kelly

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Hale has been denied parole for the 16th time, and his legal team has filed a petition for compassionate release.

Demand immediate release of Daniel Hale for compassionate release, to bring attention to the United States' brutal treatment of political prisoners.

March in February 2015 in Austin, Texas.
China reforms take on Big Tech

By Joshua Hanks

Over the past several months, the Western media have grown increasingly alarmed by what labor rights groups and workers in China that significantly rely on Chinese private capital and strengthen the power of Big Tech, a capitalist class. Now this is officially to be the case.

The anti-trust campaign quickly widened its scope and a language like his.

The reforms may represent the biggest policy shift since 1978, when former leader Deng Xiaoping instituted “reform and opening up,” allowing private capital, free trade zones and foreign direct investment in China. "Reform and opening up" led China on a trajectory of remarkable economic growth over the past several decades.

The anti-trust campaign quickly widened its scope and entered into other sectors, including the education and housing sectors.

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The elimination of poverty and inequality, along with environmental sustainability, now feature prominently in the Party’s agenda. The aim of these goals will take a class struggle within China to rein in the bourgeoisie, once again.
The COVID challenge—cooperation or competition

By Sara Flounders

Read the entire article at workers.org

President Joe Biden’s May 25 announcement, calling on U.S. intelligence agencies to launch an inquiry into the charge of a leak in Wuhan, China, is an aggressive act that disrupts cooperative work to contain the virus.

What does U.S. imperialism hope to gain by blocking the World Health Organization’s inquiry into COVID with the demand that the WHO Inquiry focus on blaming China? This intentionally blocks an international initiative which needs full cooperation.

Regarding the 18 intelligence agencies, nine report directly to the U.S. military, the rest cooperate. They provide means to instigate and fight U.S. wars not to provide neutral, unbiased scientific information.

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic, which has obviously been a failure, with more than 250,000 deaths, still the highest official death toll for any single country, this failure begs the question:

Is the U.S. refusal to cooperate on a global strategy for COVID based only on the desire to create a diversion from their own failure? Or is the struggle at the World Health Organization part of the many facets of U.S. strategy: using military, economic, diplomatic and cultural weapons to isolate China? Or both?

Bidens blocks global coordination

Whatever its pretext, Biden’s call for a report from U.S. intelligence agencies focused only on China is comparable to throwing a grenade of anti-China hostility into the urgent epidemic.

China is the one country that has cooperated and shared information with the World Health Organization from the first day.

It is the U.S. who refused cooperation and determinedly ignored the advice, guidelines and WHO strategy that has guided many countries in the battle against the virus.

Infectious Diseases in Fort Detrick, Md.

Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases in Fort Detrick, Md., is being investigated for dangerous conditions.

By Sara Flounders

Read the entire article at workers.org

In a country built on serving capitalist profit, U.S. imperialism has played only a disruptive role in the development of underdeveloped countries. Sanctions, military escalation and political threats are all part of its strategy to maintain monopoly trade, scientific exchanges, high tech industries, cutting-edge technology confirm this direction.

While the U.S. government often makes arrogant threats and demands, it is inef- fective that they arouse the kind of sharp backlash that they got from China.

What is suspicious is that the media assault on China began with articles written by two different journalists, not a single person with their own dubious background and neither with any credentials in virology or public health. Yet these articles were praised in the corporate and used to build pressure for the anti-China campaign.

One journalist was former New York Times science writer Nicholas Wade, author of a book on genetic theory that many geneticists consider a misuse of their work. Wade’s book has been seized upon by pro-Nazis and conspiracy theorists as anti-semitic and anti-Semitic arguments. His opin- ion piece published May 5 in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists was completely speculative.

The other was Michael Gordon, who with Judith Miller had co-authored for the New York Times the total com- bined columns in 2002 that President Saddam Hussein of Iraq was secretly building weap- ons of mass destruction, a false argument used to justify the 2003 U.S. attack on Iraq.

Gordon’s article appeared in the May 23 Washington Post, in which he quoted a U.S. intelligence organization report implicating China.

Other media repeated or referred to the two articles without underlining the history of the writers. Thus they manipulated highly suspi- cious articles to mobilize official action against China, which Biden announced May 25.

China’s response

Chinese officials and Chinese media are now publicly asking the following: If Biden is really for transparency, shouldn’t some examinations of U.S. labs be in order? For instance, shouldn’t there be examinations of the notorious biological lab at the Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases in Fort Detrick, Md., be part of a global study? Chinese media has linked to U.S. news articles on the July 9, 2019 sudden shut- down of research at the Fort Detrick Army Lab of infectious viruses in the world, including Ebola, smallpox, SARS, MERS and the novel coronavirus are worked on.


The Times explained, “Problems with disposal of dangerous mate- rials led the government to suspend research at the military’s leading biodefense center.”

Opposition to Fort Detrick

For decades there has been opposition to the nefarious role of the biological weapons lab at Fort Detrick. One of the early opponents, Dr. Gregory England, told Workers World: “I was a Ph.D. student in mathematics at the University of Maryland from 1962 to 1967 and a campus militant against the university’s complicity with the U.S. war effort in Southeast Asia. We researched, published material and held conferences on the connection of University of Maryland’s weapons development and biol- ogy department – and the biological weapons program at Fort Detrick. We were continu- ing campaigns on the dangers posed by Fort Detrick.”

Now China is asking several sharp ques- tions that deserve attention. For example, rather than focus on only one lab in China, why not examine conditions at more than 200 labs the U.S. runs around the world engaged in virus research?

By the end of July 29, 2019, two retirement communities near the Fort Detrick base with- out symptoms hadazaar of pneumonia of unknown cause. In September 2019, vapid-related, lung-illness cases with symptoms highly similar to COVID-19 doubled in Maryland where Fort Detrick is located.

By revealing the underride of the empire, Flounders shed light on how to stand up to the whirring machine and, in so doing, save ourselves and humanity.”

― Miguel d’Escoto Brockman

Pre-December 2019 results

Why not announce DNA results of samples gathered due to the sharp rise in pneu- monia in the U.S. many months before the COVID virus was identified in China? To date, the U.S. has yet to check or announce any domestic results of blood samples before the December 2019 announcement of the virus in Wuhan. In contrast, scientists in Italy, Spain and France have announced that by retesting old blood, samples and wastewater sam- ples, they found that COVID was widely circulating as long as nine months before China announced they were suddenly dealing with an unknown virus.

Despite this evidence of the virus’s early spread before COVID was identified as a new virus and its DNA sequenced in China, Washington demands a focus of a World Health inquiry only on China.

Corporate media have tried to ignore the push forward the questions raised by China, even though the questions are major coverage in China and many other parts of the world.

24 million in China demand investigation of U.S.

Millions of Chinese people have jumped into the discussion by initiating a global petition calling on the WHO to investigate Fort Detrick.

By Aug. 2, more than 24 million people had signed the online petition. While the U.S. government insists that the controversy, the server hosting the online petition is under constant attack by IP addresses in the U.S. and governments in more than 60 coun- tries have sent letters to the World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, emphasizing that the virus is the common enemy humanity currently faces, and it can only be conquered by the joint effort of the global community. They urge the World Health Organization to act according to the resolution made by the World Health Assembly (WHA) and push for the global probe on the trace- ability of the virus.

A study of the present pandemic, its early spread in several countries, its global impact and what future measures are needed must be addressed.

Organizations, political parties and sci- entists are demanding that the world are gather- ing signers and releasing statements urging cooperation and criticizing the U.S. for dis- poisoning the weaponizing the inquiry into an attack on China, in an effort to smear and contaminate China.

All those who oppose U.S. wars and mili- tarianism need to step forward and oppose this new U.S. demand on China. Everyone who fights for health care for all needs to speak out and oppose this sabotage of world health cooperation.

MALAYA organizes for the people’s struggle in the Philippines

By Gloria Rubac

MALAYA Movement-Texas held “People’s State of the Nation” events in four Texas cities July 25 to honor people in the Philippines martyred by the reactionary government of Filipino President Rodrigo Duterte.

The goal of the events in Austin, Dallas, Lubbock and Houston was to build solidarity with the struggles in the Philippines. The date was chosen to coincide with the last State of the Nation Address by Duterte, whose five-year term as president is ending. Progressive Filipino groups protested in different places around the U.S., and events were held by Filipinos internationally.

In Houston, a militant event was held by the youth of MALAYA, with speakers sharing their condemnation of Duterte, as well as U.S. imperialism. The center of the event was an altar honoring those killed in the Philippines, with their photos beautifully displayed. A musical tribute was made by a member of the Filipino Artists of Houston.

Several speakers referred to the failures of Duterte’s tenure. Twelve million Filipinos are unemployed, and nine out of ten farmers are landless. Less than 4% of people in the country are vaccinated, and over 30,000 have been killed in the supposed “war on drugs.” There are over 700 political prisoners, many elderly and ill. Over 50 trade unionists have been murdered.

The Houston event was organized by MALAYA Movement and Anakhayatan at Rice University and supported by the Filipino Artists of Houston, Palestinian Youth Movement and Workers World Party.

WAR WITHOUT VICTORY

By Sara Flounders

“By revealing the underride of the empire, Flounders shed light on how to stand up to the whirring machine and, in so doing, save ourselves and humanity.”

― Miguel d’Escoto Brockman


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Housing is a right!

Continued from page 3

they lived in public or private housing, as long as they could prove they had lost income during the pandemic, attempted to circumvent the federal mandate and made an effort to pay as much rent as possible,” the July 31 New York Times explained. “For many renters and advocates, the expiration has a particularly painful sting because only a small fraction of the rent assistance approved by Congress has been distributed.”

Of the $47 billion in rental assistance approved by Congress, just $3 billion had been distributed. Many who qualified for rental assistance due to pandemic-related economic distress, but were not able to access the aid, still were left without the rent they desperately pay. Yet President Joe Biden declared on July 29 to extend the moratorium.

While mass evictionsloom, Democrats go on recess

As the moratorium expired, Congressional Reps. Cori Bush, Ilhan Omar and Ayanna Pressley slept outside on the steps of the Capitol overnight to draw attention to the problem. They condemned Congress members, including Democrats, who voted no on summer recess rather than stick around long enough to ensure the stay on evictions.

Not everyone wants to see the moratorium on evictions continued. Powerful big landlords and organizations such as the National Association of Realtors filed lawsuits and lobbied to try to end the moratorium before July 31. Republican Senators Pat Toomey and Mike Crapo took $180,000 and $281,000, respectively, from real estate groups; both spoke in Congress against the moratorium last December.

Billions like Jeff Bezos are taking in obscene record profits; the stock market is booming, and the gross domestic product is approaching pre-pandemic levels. But 9.5 million people, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are still officially unemployed. Many more are underemployed by the COVID crisis to stay at home or have given up looking for work.

Getting the COVID pandemic under control will not by itself resolve the housing crisis. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, full-time workers are being paid the federal minimum wage cannot afford a two-bedroom apartment anywhere in the U.S. and can only afford a one-bedroom in 7% of U.S. counties.

Low wage workers have to work more than one job just to afford shelter.

This is criminal. But it’s par for the course under capitalism.

They have a mortgage on evictions and foreclosures—one with no limiting conditions and no expiration date. They have their economic complement to regular unemployment benefits must be reinstated immediately. Minimum wage must be a living wage—even $15 an hour is not enough! Rent is too high and must come down.

These are legitimate demands, but the capitalist class will not grant them without a fight.

Friedrich Engels wrote a series of articles from 1872-73 on “The Housing Question.” His words are relevant today: “Only by the solution of the social question, that is, by the abolition of the capitalist mode of production, is the solution of the housing question made possible.”

Cuba is not alone: love and solidarity prevail

The following lightly edited article first appeared in Resumen English July 29, 2021, one day before U.S. President Joe Biden took measures adding additional sanctions on Cuba, while openly assisting Cuban dissidents living in Miami. Many of the countries providing aid to Cuba must do so using military ships and planes in order to circumvent the U.S. embargo. A red salute to all those who continue to find ways to support revolutionary Cuba.

By Alejandra García Havana

Those who encouraged the riots in Cuba on July 11 were left empty-handed. The violent events that took place that day have been forgotten, and now Cuba is trending for more moving reasons. In just two weeks, the island has received 115 tons of medicines and supplies needed to treat COVID-19 patients arrived in Havana from Moscow. On the flights, the government of President Vladimir Putin sent wheat, 1 million disposable face masks, meat, refined sunflower oil and other food items.

Russian Ambassador to the island Andrei Gusakov assured that the shipment is “a token of the respect and affection my country feels for Cuba, that of freedom and independence from U.S. blockade.”

The Bolivian government confirmed the shipment of 2.5 tons of syringes, 16.5 tons of medicines, 1 ton of medical and biosecurity material. “From the Plurinational State of Bolivia, we raise our voices of dignity, solidarity and support for the gains of the Revolution.”

“Solidarity is not giving our leftovers, but sharing the little we have,” Arez added and assured that he is discussing with Bolivian social and trade union organizations other forms of support to the Caribbean island.

From Mexico, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO) sent two Navy ships loaded with more food, medicines, syringes, oxygen tanks, masks and 100,000 barrels of diesel, destined to supply Cuba’s hospitals.

In his latest morning conference, AMLO recalled that almost all the countries worldwide oppose the blockade, “that medieval and inhumane policy” that the “United Nations General Assembly against this interference policy should turn their support for Cuba into action.”

“The island needs it today more than ever,” he warned; and [he] recalled that in the last voting held in June, 184 nations were in favor of eliminating the blockade, three abstained and two (the U.S. and Israel) voted in favor of maintaining it.

The diaspora also mobilized to support its people. Cubans in Japan are collecting medical supplies for Cuban families.

The Cuban Embassy in that Asian country has already received 90,000 isolation gowns, 1,000 surgical masks and 120 face masks, which will arrive in Cuba in the coming weeks with the Olympic delegation taking part in the Tokyo 2020 games.

And in the U.S. itself, solidarity activists and caring people of good will have mobilized funds to buy 6 million syringes for the island, 1.7 million of them have already arrived, compelling President Díaz Canel to comment on his twitter, “we will definitely say thanks to the noble American people.”

Today they are not present either. Before these demonstrations of love and solidarity, silence prevails from the promoters of the bloqueo, who stick around long enough to extend the stay on evictions.

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This is criminal. But it’s par for the course under capitalism.

Reissued as an e-book!

Market Elections: How Democracy Serves the Rich

When you couple “democracy” with “free enterprise,” the presence of multimillionaires and billionaires — think Jeff Bezos and Bill Gates — you get a system where government is “as much a commodity as anything you can buy in a supermarket.”

How the wealthy capture the votes of the many is not simple. While the candidates with the most money behind them usually win, Copeland shows that there are exceptions to that rule. Mass struggles impact elections.

Copeland’s “Market Elections: How Democracy Serves the Rich” never loses sight of broad historical trends and yet also gives space to the quirks and idiosyncrasies — some caused by the peculiarities of the political class struggle in presidential elections in a clear and witty way that reflects the decades he spent working entourage and enablers. The book is available in a choice of PDF or ePub formats at workers.org/books. There is no charge to download this book. But the book is not “free.” Copeland and the editors of Workers World newspaper devoted hundreds of unpaid hours to produce the original print edition of “Market Elections.” Now editors have spent hundreds of additional hours scanning, proofreading, formatting and publishing so that the electronic version is an accurate reflection of the original version.

We hope your donation will help us purchase this book and produce e-book versions of others in our archives. To donate, go to workers.org/donate.
Cómome defender el derecho al voto

La lucha por el derecho democrático burgués de una persona, un voto aún continúa en Estados Unidos, el país imperialista más poderoso. Esa lucha comenzó una vez que la última persona esclavizada fue liberada en Galveston, Texas, el 19 de junio de 1865, conocido como Juneteenth.

Durante los siguientes 10 años que definieron la Reconstrucción Negra, miles de hombres negros obtuvieron el derecho al voto, lo que dio lugar a su representación política por primera vez en las legislaturas de los estados del Sur, especialmente en Luisiana, Carolina del Sur y Mississippi, bajo la tutela de las tropas federales armadas.

Este derecho y otros importantes logros de este período radical fueron trágicamente efímeros cuando las tropas federales se retiraron bajo la presidencia de Rutherford B. Hayes. Esto permitió que la antigua Confederación se reagrupara en forma del Ku Klux Klan y los Consejos de Ciudadanos Blancos, acompañados de la aprobación de leyes opresivas de semi-esclavitud utilizadas para aterrorizar a la población negra.

Las mujeres, excluyendo a muchas mujeres de color, obtuvieron el voto al voto en 1920, gracias a los esfuerzos del movimiento sufragista.

Desde finales de la década de 1880 hasta mediados de la década de 1960, el aparte mid Jim Crow gobernó el Sur profundo, hasta que el masivo Movimiento por los Derechos Civiles, con sangre, sudor y lágrimas, obligó a la aprobación de leyes opresivas de semi-esclavitud utilizadas para aterrorizar a la población negra.

Las mujeres, excluyendo a muchas mujeres de color, obtuvieron el voto al voto en 1920, gracias a los esfuerzos del movimiento sufragista.

Asalto masivo a los logros del movimiento por los derechos civiles

Ha habido una lucha interna en la Legislatura de Texas entre los republicanos de derecha y los demócratas próximamente afroamericanos y latinos para limitar estas medidas represivas. De hecho, una delegación de estos demócratas abandonó Texas en un esfuerzo por paralizar la votación.

Planean celebrar una conferencia de prensa virtual de una semana de duración a partir del 19 de julio con el apoyo del Sindicato Internacional de Empleados de Servicios y de Mi Familia Vote, que promueve el derecho al voto de los latinos.

Los demócratas han amenzado con hacer arrestar a sus homólogos demócratas a su regreso al estado.

Estos proyectos de ley represivos se están debatiendo ahora en 43 de los 50 estados de Estados Unidos: ¿Por qué los demócratas no han convocado una manifestación nacional para defender el derecho al voto, ya que su principal base social son los negros, los latinos y otros sectores de la sociedad privados de derechos?

Incluso con la pandemia como factor, los sindicatos pueden ser una importante herramienta de organización y sin poder. ¿Qué trabajador organizado, e incluso muchos de los no organizados, no quiere actuar para defender o luchar por este derecho? El Consejo Laboral de Rochester aprobó una resolución el 8 de octubre de 2020, apoyando una huelga general si Trump se hubiera negado a dejar el cargo; otros consejos laborales siguieron su ejemplo. ¿Por qué no volver a plantear la necesidad de que los trabajadores organicen huelgas generales para defender el derecho al voto, no solo para los negros sino para los migrantes, los encarcelados, los desaparecidos y los jóvenes?

El hecho de que aún no se hayan convocado estas acciones que fomentan la intervención directa de los trabajadores, especialmente de los más oprimidos, expone una vez más el carácter antiobrero y proletario del Partido Demócrata, que busca mantener a las masas bajo su control y sin poder.

Este es otro ejemplo de por qué las asambleas de trabajadores pueden ser una importante herramienta de organización —para ayudar a empujar a los trabajadores a independizarse del Partido Demócrata y ayudar a allanar el camino para la liberación completa del sistema capitalista impugnado por las ganancias y sus partidos.

Perú: ya va venir el día, ponte el alma

Continúa de la página 12
Perú: ya va venir el día, ponte el alma

Por Marco Teruggi

Lima, Perú, 27 de Julio

"Disfruta tu risotto que va a ser al último que comas en mucho tiempo", le dice un hombre a otro en un restaurante de Miraflores, frente al océano Atlántico. Alrededor hay un ambiente de bullicio: edificios de vidrio y acero, los rascacielos con sus alturas, jardines cuidados, negocios de marca, autos caros, un estilo moderno, chic, y por momentos pretencioso. Se acaba de conocer que Pedro Castillo ganó las elecciones y en esta zona de Lima el 85% votó contra él.

Castillo es un extraño acá. Nadie entiende su sombrero blanco, su manera de hablar, de vestir, sus imaginarios, realidades, el mensaje que carga, el país que cuenta. Lo subestiman, le temen y desprecian. Los hombres como él no pasan por Miraflores o San Isidro, no se sientan en sus mesas, no salen a correr o a jugar al tenis los domingos en clubes, no toman aviones para vacacionar en Estados Unidos.

Ahora un hombre del norte de los Andes, campeñino, asumirá como presidente del Perú, contra todas las encuestas de victoria y pese al despliegue de miedo durante el golpe. Pocas veces se llegó hasta ese punto: los canales de televisión pidieron abiertamente un golpe de estado, se infundó terror sobre el comunismo y el marxismo-leninismo, las catástrofes económicas que sucederían con su victoria, se instó el invento de un fraude o de vínculos con el terrorismo, se perdió a Fujiko Kuroki, y con ella su casa, su historia personal y familiar.

Una descarga violenta que puso en juego las memorias irrefrenables, silencios y traumas del Perú.

Tampoco Castillo imaginó, al inscribirse a la presidencia, que el discurso de outsider, semi-esclavitud en el campo, el silencio de la violencia sistemático de asedio al ejecutivo, la mafia, la corrupción, el poder del poder de los poderes, la criminalidad financiera, la corrupción en su antigua gestión, el silencio de los medios, la corrupción en su antigua gestión, el poder de los poderes, la criminalidad financiera, el silencio de los medios, etc, se convirtió así en el quinto presidente en cinco años, el último presidencial que no proviene de las élites económicas, el último mandatario que no proviene de la unidad para terminar con el polarismo político, y el último con el que irrumpieron nuevas fuerzas políticas en el país.

Se trata de una situación inédita, cargada de simbolismo y potencia. Castillo es el primer mandatario que no proviene de los grupos de poder establecidos, que ha llegado al poder en un proceso electoral limpio y libre. Su candidatura fue descalificada en el inicio, pero la victoria de Pedro Pablo Kuczynski sobre Keiko Fujimori, y el proceso sistemático de acoso al ejecutivo por parte del parlamento condujo a un nuevo modelo de fujimorismo. El resultado: cuatro presidentes en cinco años, un proceso judicial que se ha caracterizado por su lentitud y falta de transparencia, y un país al borde del colapso.

El país está marcado a fuego por ese apellido. Alberto Fujimori, en julio del año 2000, reinició la lucha contra el narcotráfico y contrabando de armas, huyó a Japón desde el silencio de la violencia, y el nuevo país política que llevaba el nombre de su antecesor, Alberto Fujimori, es hoy una realidad en Perú. Castillo es ese inmenso país pero indígena, cholo, discriminado. Perú está doblemente marcado por la migración interna de provincias, de la selva, los Andes, y por el miedo a ser el nuevo Fujimori, o el nuevo Canales, o el nuevo Vargas Llosa, quien pasó de afirmar que Keiko era una amenaza para la democracia a sostener que era su salvación.

El asalto al Jurado Nacional de Elecciones para reubicar la elección a la presidencia fue la primera etapa de la lucha por el poder en el país, y el jurado fue derrotado en el Tribunal Constitucional. El resultado: Pedro Castillo es el primer presidente en cinco años que no proviene de las élites económicas, que ha llegado al poder en un proceso electoral limpio y libre, y que ha forzado a la fuerza a la fuerza de la unidad para terminar con el polarismo político, y el último con el que irrumpieron nuevas fuerzas políticas en el país.