South Africa puts Israel on trial before the world

By Monica Moorehead

No matter the judges’ decision on the historic complaint brought before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the highest court under the auspices of the United Nations, by the South African government against Israeli genocide in Gaza on Jan. 11, the hearing itself will have everlasting political ramifications worldwide.

The 84-page document includes devastating, factual evidence on the heinous terror that Gazans have experienced since October 7 and continue to experience at this writing. As of Jan. 14 — 100 days since the genocide began — the Gaza Ministry of Health reported that close to 24,000 people have been slaughtered, with 70% of the victims being children and women. Over 60,000 people have been wounded. Countless thousands more Palestinians have been buried under rubble caused by indiscriminate Israeli airstrikes. More than 2,000 massacres have been carried out, wiping out whole Palestinian families and bloodlines. (Resistance News Network)

Most of these horrific statistics have either been minimized or censored altogether by the Western corporate media since October 7. This, amongst other reasons, is why the South Africa complaint is so timely and significant.

In its introduction presented to the ICJ, South Africa states, “The acts and omissions by Israel complained of by South Africa are genocidal in character because they are intended to bring about the destruction of a substantial part of the Palestinian national, racial and ethnic group, that being the part of the Palestinian group in the Gaza Strip (‘Palestinians in Gaza’).

“The acts in question include killing Palestinians in Gaza, causing them serious bodily and mental harm, and inflicting on them conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction. The acts are all attributable to Israel, which has failed to prevent genocide and is committing genocide in manifest violation of the Genocide Convention, and which has also violated and is continuing to violate its other fundamental obligations under the Genocide Convention, including by failing to prevent or punish the direct and public incitement to genocide by senior Israeli officials and others.”

Israel: the world’s social parish

The fact that the fascist Netanyahu government could not ignore this complaint has led to further isolation of this Nazi apartheid state. This is a political victory in itself. Israel’s weak rebuttal to the complaint has been to label the South African legal team as being “antisemitic” and a “legal arm of Hamas.” In its opening remarks during the ICJ proceedings on Jan. 12, Israel characterized the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) as being a “terrorist” organization over 130 times and used Hamas as a flimsy excuse for decimating all infrastructure in Gaza and its population for 100 days.

The strength of a united Palestinian resistance since October 7 has wreaked havoc on the Israeli economy, with losses in the tens of billions of dollars in U.S. military equipment, along with thousands of casualties, dead and wounded.

Genocide by senior Israeli officials and others.”

Activists resist Northeastern U’s attack

NYC midwives protest firings

Bronx coalition unites with Yemen

U.S., Britain, out of the Red Sea!

Corporate media censors genocide hearing

Editorial U.S., Britain, out of the Red Sea!

Get a daily digest of articles in your inbox.
Sign up at www.workers.org/subscribe

South Africa puts Israel on trial before the world

On the centennial of Lenin’s death

A strong class orientation is needed in 2024

By Larry Holmes

The necessity for a strong class orientation and internationalism in understanding and in deeds is decisive in the spirit of the 100th anniversary of the death of Vladimir Lenin, the leader of the great Bolshevik Revolution in the former Soviet Union.

The relationship of class forces

Obviously, every communist should know that the class struggle, and all that it requires from the working class, ideologically, organizationally and strategically, is central to Marxism/Leninism and the goal of socialist revolution.

It is necessary to remind ourselves of the relationship between the working class and revolutionary theory. It is more helpful if the way that we remind ourselves of this does not rely on theoretical conceptions alone that can seem not quite dead 4

Fighting for disability rights 5

U.S./Canadian crimes in Honduras 10
Assassination of Hamas leader 10
Xinjiang is not Gaza 11

Continued on page 8

Continued on page 6
Workers World hails South Africa’s solidarity with Palestine

A statue of Nelson Mandela, erected by the Palestinian people, stands in Ramallah, on the occupied West Bank, in recognition of his support for their struggle, as leader of the African National Congress.

In 1990, after Mandela’s release from prison, he explained the workers’ support for the Palestinian struggle: “They ‘fully support the anti-apartheid struggle. They do not support us only in rhetoric. They are placing resources at our disposal, for us to win the struggle.’”

Mandela condemned the Israeli state for supplying South Africa’s repressive apartheid government with weapons to use against the people. (Israel even offered “lockstep support and provision of 2,000 pound bombs.”)

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression works on immigrants, misogyny, LGBTQ+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means homelessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are ginned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out the protestings against Israel’s genocide and Washington’s lockstep support and provision of 2,000 pound bombs.

Workers World newspaper supports the Palestinian people. Our staff members join the protests opposing Israel’s genocide and Washington’s lockstep support and provision of 2,000 pound bombs.

Unlike the corporate media, WW is partisan: Our paper has always sided with the Palestinians and their resistance organizations, just as our newspaper supported the militant anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa. Adhering to our principled support for national liberation movements, WW reprints and posts at workers.org statements issued by anti-Zionist resistance forces and their global allies and those of movements fighting imperialist domination and war.

WW calls for solidarity with the Palestinian people — and all exploited and oppressed peoples worldwide.

ww needs your help!

Workers World newspaper relies on our readers’ backing. The WW Supporter Program was founded 47 years ago to help build this socialist newspaper, which prints one issue a month. This fund also supports the website workers.org, where new articles are posted daily and the full run of the weekly paper is displayed.

Workers.org contains news and analyses of global and U.S. struggles. Our writer-organizers report on anti-capitalist struggles and people’s movements against racism and war for and women’s, workers’, migrants’ LGBTQ+ and disabled people’s rights.

While WW’s staff is voluntary, the printed issue and the website incur expenses. Although many online publications require payment to read their articles, WW does not.

Our articles are free to all readers.

Join the WW Supporter Program!

Can you donate $50, $100, or $200 per year? Contributing $50 or more will entitle you to receive 12 print issues a year, an emailed PDF of every weekly issue and, upon request, a copy of the book “What road to socialism?”

Your donations can help get class truth to more readers. Write monthly or annual checks to Workers World. Mail them with your name, address and email to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001.

ww’s this week

• In the U.S.
  A strong class orientation is needed in 2024 .... 1
  Fightback against Northeastern’s racism .... 3
  The fight against Israeli apartheid .... 3
  Midwives protest firings at NYC hospital .... 3
  Cities, unions back Gaza ceasefire .... 5
  Port of Oakland shut down for Palestine .... 6
  ‘Don’t let Israel succeed in its aims’ .... 7
  The Bronx is united with Yemen .... 7

• Around the world
  South Africa puts Israel on trial before the world .... 1
  Some Israeli youth say ‘No’ to military .... 5
  Western media whitewash on genocide hearing .... 6
  U.S./Canadian crimes in Honduras condemned .... 10
  Israeli murder of Hamas leader in Lebanon .... 10
  Western hypocrisy on Xinjiang and Gaza .... 11
  Tear down the walls
  Death penalty in U.S. is dying — but not dead yet .... 4
  Fighting for disability rights behind bars .... 5

• Editorial
  U.S., Britain, out of the Red Sea! .... 10

• Mundo Obrero
  Una arma para justificar el genocidio .... 12

Free Palestine rally in Washington, D.C., Jan. 13, 2024.

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression works on immigrants, misogyny, LGBTQ+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means homelessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are ginned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out the protestings against Israel’s genocide and Washington’s lockstep support and provision of 2,000 pound bombs.

Workers World newspaper supports the Palestinian people. Our staff members join the protests opposing Israel’s genocide and Washington’s lockstep support and provision of 2,000 pound bombs.

Unlike the corporate media, WW is partisan: Our paper has always sided with the Palestinians and their resistance organizations, just as our newspaper supported the militant anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa. Adhering to our principled support for national liberation movements, WW reprints and posts at workers.org statements issued by anti-Zionist resistance forces and their global allies and those of movements fighting imperialist domination and war.

WW calls for solidarity with the Palestinian people — and all exploited and oppressed peoples worldwide. You’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP member near you.

If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact:

National Office
27th St., Suite 404
New York, NY 10001
212.627.2994
ww@workers.org

Atlanta
PO Box 18123
Atlanta, GA 30307
404.627.0185
atlanta@workers.org

Bay Area
PO Box 22947
Oakland, CA 94609
510.394.2207
bayarea@workers.org

Boston
2809 Artery St.
Boston, MA 02130
boston@workers.org
instagram: @wwbooston

Buffalo, N.Y.
335 Richmond Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14224
716.883.2534
centralgulfcoast@workers.org

Central Gulf Coast
(Alabama, Florida, Mississippi)
centralgulfcoast@workers.org

Cleveland
cleveland@workers.org

Durham, N.C.
919.322.9970
durham@workers.org

Hague, Netherlands
P.O. Box 3454
Hague, Rotterdam, NL
731.500.2633
hague@workers.org

Minneapolis
mnn@workers.org

Philadelphia
P.O. Box 34249
Philadelphia, PA 19101
215.851.2165
philadelphia@workers.org

Portland, Ore.
portland@workers.org

Salt Lake City
801.710.0248
csl@workers.org

San Antonio
sanantonio@workers.org

Seattle
seattle@workers.org

West Virginia
WestVirginia@workers.org

In the U.S.
A strong class orientation is needed in 2024 .... 1
Fightback against Northeastern’s racism .... 3
The fight against Israeli apartheid .... 3
Midwives protest firings at NYC hospital .... 3
Cities, unions back Gaza ceasefire .... 5
Port of Oakland shut down for Palestine .... 6
‘Don’t let Israel succeed in its aims’ .... 7
The Bronx is united with Yemen .... 7

Around the world
South Africa puts Israel on trial before the world .... 1
Some Israeli youth say ‘No’ to military .... 5
Western media whitewash on genocide hearing .... 6
U.S./Canadian crimes in Honduras condemned .... 10
Israeli murder of Hamas leader in Lebanon .... 10
Western hypocrisy on Xinjiang and Gaza .... 11
Tear down the walls
Death penalty in U.S. is dying — but not dead yet .... 4
Fighting for disability rights behind bars .... 5

Editorial
U.S., Britain, out of the Red Sea! .... 10

Mundo Obrero
Una arma para justificar el genocidio .... 12

Workers World
121 W. 27th St., Suite 404
New York, NY 10001
Phone: 212.627.2994
E-mail: ww@workers.org
Web: www.workers.org
Vol. 66, No. 3 • January 18, 2024
Closing date: January 17, 2024

Editors: John Catalinotto, Martha Grevatt, Deirdre Griswold, Monica Moorehead, Bettie Piette
Web Editors: ABear, Harvey Markowitz, Janet Meyes

Production & Design Editors: Gery Armby, Sasha Mazumder
Copyediting and Proofreading: Paddy Collignon, Steve Gillis, K. James
Contributing Editors: G. Dunkel, K. Durkin, Sara Flounders, Otis Grotewohl, Gloria Rubac
Mundo Obrero: Deborah Rodriguez, Carlos Vargas

Workers World (ISSN-1070-4205) is published monthly by WW Publishers, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Phone: 212.627.2994.

Subscription information is at workers.org. A searchable archive is available on the Web at www.workers.org.

A deadline digest is available via e-mail subscription. Subscription information is at workers.org.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404 New York, NY 10001.
Fight back against Northeastern’s racist attack on Palestinian solidarity!

By Will Hodgkinson
Boston

Some 30 courageous Northeastern University (NEU) student activists rallied Jan. 10 in front of Ell Hall, where disciplinary hearings for three student supporters of Palestinian liberation were scheduled to take place. Huskies for a Free Palestine, a member group in the Boston Coalition for Palestine, organized the action to demand that the NEU administration drop all trumped-up “disciplinary” charges against its members and for Northeastern’s total divestment from the Zionist state of Israel.

The university is targeting students for protesting the ongoing Zionist genocide in Gaza. On Dec. 3, the University’s Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, with offices in Ell Hall, brought these charges against students who organized a Dec. 1 sit-in at the Curry Student Center to protest the University’s investments in the Israeli state’s murderous terror campaign in Gaza and the Palestinian territories.

Jan. 10, the day of NEU’s show trial, was also the day before South Africa made its opening arguments before the International Court of Justice at The Hague, in the Netherlands, where the Zionist state faces judgment for its ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people.

Other Palestine solidarity groups and alumni have rallied in support of the students. At Dec. 13, NEU alumni posted messages on Huskies for a Free Palestine’s Instagram page, saying, “As a Palestinian American Northeastern alum I am APPALLED to be associated with the aluna mate,” write one supporter. “Your disciplinary charges are unjustified. I vow to never encourage another pro-"student to consider NEU anew.”

NEU administration’s response to the solidarity action on Jan. 10 was an intensi- fied crackdown. Campus cops and administr- ators prowled the public green where the demonstration was taking place, demanding students show their IDs and refusing to let activists, including members of Workers World Party Boston, who had shown up in support.

Defying the police, protesters chanted “Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel’s crime!” and “In our thousands, in our millions, we are all Palestinians” in support of their comrades, with several waving Palestinian flags.

Part of broader effort to quash student solidarity with Palestine

Northeastern’s persecution is part of the ongoing efforts by pro-Israeli bourgeois institutions to quash the inter- national Palestinian solidarity movement. Nearly all major universities in the U.S. and Western Europe have threatened and tried to intimidate activists associated with international Palestinian solidarity move- ments, including Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) and Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP).

Today, Palestinian solidarity action on Jan. 10 was an intensi- fied crackdown. Campus cops and administr- ators prowled the public green where the demonstration was taking place, demanding students show their IDs and refusing to let activists, including members of Workers World Party Boston, who had shown up in support.

Defying the police, protesters chanted “Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel’s crime!” and “In our thousands, in our millions, we are all Palestinians” in support of their comrades, with several waving Palestinian flags.

Other NEU alumni posted messages on Huskies for a Free Palestine’s Instagram page, saying, “As a Palestinian American Northeastern alum I am APPALLED to be associated with the aluna mate,” write one supporter. “Your disciplinary charges are unjustified. I vow to never encourage another pro-"student to consider NEU anew.”

NEU administration’s response to the solidarity action on Jan. 10 was an intensi- fied crackdown. Campus cops and administr- ators prowled the public green where the demonstration was taking place, demanding students show their IDs and refusing to let activists, including members of Workers World Party Boston, who had shown up in support.

Defying the police, protesters chanted “Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel’s crime!” and “In our thousands, in our millions, we are all Palestinians” in support of their comrades, with several waving Palestinian flags.

NEU administration’s response to the solidarity action on Jan. 10 was an intensi- fied crackdown. Campus cops and administr- ators prowled the public green where the demonstration was taking place, demanding students show their IDs and refusing to let activists, including members of Workers World Party Boston, who had shown up in support.

Defying the police, protesters chanted “Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel’s crime!” and “In our thousands, in our millions, we are all Palestinians” in support of their comrades, with several waving Palestinian flags.

Other NEU alumni posted messages on Huskies for a Free Palestine’s Instagram page, saying, “As a Palestinian American Northeastern alum I am APPALLED to be associated with the aluna mate,” write one supporter. “Your disciplinary charges are unjustified. I vow to never encourage another pro-"student to consider NEU anew.”

NEU administration’s response to the solidarity action on Jan. 10 was an intensi- fied crackdown. Campus cops and administr- ators prowled the public green where the demonstration was taking place, demanding students show their IDs and refusing to let activists, including members of Workers World Party Boston, who had shown up in support.

Defying the police, protesters chanted “Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel’s crime!” and “In our thousands, in our millions, we are all Palestinians” in support of their comrades, with several waving Palestinian flags.

Other NEU alumni posted messages on Huskies for a Free Palestine’s Instagram page, saying, “As a Palestinian American Northeastern alum I am APPALLED to be associated with the aluna mate,” write one supporter. “Your disciplinary charges are unjustified. I vow to never encourage another pro-"student to consider NEU anew.”

NEU administration’s response to the solidarity action on Jan. 10 was an intensi- fied crackdown. Campus cops and administr- ators prowled the public green where the demonstration was taking place, demanding students show their IDs and refusing to let activists, including members of Workers World Party Boston, who had shown up in support.

Defying the police, protesters chanted “Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel’s crime!” and “In our thousands, in our millions, we are all Palestinians” in support of their comrades, with several waving Palestinian flags.

Other NEU alumni posted messages on Huskies for a Free Palestine’s Instagram page, saying, “As a Palestinian American Northeastern alum I am APPALLED to be associated with the aluna mate,” write one supporter. “Your disciplinary charges are unjustified. I vow to never encourage another pro-"student to consider NEU anew.”

NEU administration’s response to the solidarity action on Jan. 10 was an intensi- fied crackdown. Campus cops and administr- ators prowled the public green where the demonstration was taking place, demanding students show their IDs and refusing to let activists, including members of Workers World Party Boston, who had shown up in support.

Defying the police, protesters chanted “Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel’s crime!” and “In our thousands, in our millions, we are all Palestinians” in support of their comrades, with several waving Palestinian flags.

Other NEU alumni posted messages on Huskies for a Free Palestine’s Instagram page, saying, “As a Palestinian American Northeastern alum I am APPALLED to be associated with the aluna mate,” write one supporter. “Your disciplinary charges are unjustified. I vow to never encourage another pro-"student to consider NEU anew.”

NEU administration’s response to the solidarity action on Jan. 10 was an intensi- fied crackdown. Campus cops and administr- ators prowled the public green where the demonstration was taking place, demanding students show their IDs and refusing to let activists, including members of Workers World Party Boston, who had shown up in support.

Defying the police, protesters chanted “Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel’s crime!” and “In our thousands, in our millions, we are all Palestinians” in support of their comrades, with several waving Palestinian flags.
Death penalty in U.S. is dying—but not dead yet

By Gloria Rubac

It is a slow and painful death, but executions in the U.S. are slow and painful. The death penalty is gathering its last breaths as even Republicans are condemning it these days.

The big picture of capital punishment is that the United States is moving away from the death penalty. Here are some new facts:

• For the first time in the U.S., a majority of people believe that the death penalty is applied unfairly, according to an October 2023 Gallup Poll.
• Twenty-one states, a slim majority, have either abolished the death penalty (23) or have a moratorium on executions in place (3).
• In 2023, only five states conducted executions and seven states imposed new death sentences, the fewest number in 20 years.
• There were three people executed on death rows in 2023, bringing the total number of exonerations to 195 since the death penalty was reinstated in the U.S. in 1976.

Texas was one of just five states to carry out executions in 2023, but led the country with eight people put to death. The other four states were Alabama (2), Florida (6), Missouri (4) and Oklahoma (4).

Even in Texas, which leads the U.S. with total 386 executions, change is coming. Death sentence convictions have fallen from a high of 48 in 1999 to three people sent to death row by Texas juries in 2023. Convictions with a death sentence are the lowest number in Texas since 1976.

Virginia made history in 2021 when it became the first former Confederate state to abolish the death penalty. Now two other former Confederate states, Kentucky and Missouri, along with Ohio, have bills to abolish the death penalty before their legislatures. Rep. Jim Murphy, a Missouri Republican, told the media that he “believes the death penalty is something that we really need to examine and put to an end because there’s just too many errors to be made and it’s just too big an error to make.” (tinyurl.com/mthy79kv)

So, there is definitely some good news. But the horrors of executions do continue unabated.

Death penalty still despicably racist, and torture

But the flip side of this big picture is that the death penalty is still despicably racist, and is still torture. It is still killing people who had totally incompetent attorneys, people who are mentally ill, and people with extremely low mental abilities. And it is still killing innocent people.

According to the Death Penalty Information Center, “93% of the people executed this year [2023] had at least one of the following impairments: serious mental illness, brain injury, developmental brain damage, an IQ in the range considered intellectually disabled, and/or chronic serious childhood trauma, neglect and/or abuse. One-third or eight of the people executed had all three. At least three prisoners were under the age of 20 at the time of their crimes.”

This is important because death penalty proponents and district attorneys, more often than not, dehumanize people in order to rationalize their killings. Prosecutors make those on trial out to be “monsters” who have to be rationalized in order to be killed. That is what they do to people with IQs in the 60s. We’ve seen people by forcing them to breathe pure nitrogen. People by forcing them to breathe pure nitrogen.

People by forcing them to breathe pure nitrogen.

Because the death penalty is still despicable, and it is still torture. It is still killing people who had totally incompetent attorneys, people who are mentally ill, and people with extremely low mental abilities. And it is still killing innocent people.

Innocent, but still sentenced to death row

High profile innocence cases in several states have recently received intense media attention but found little relief in the courts. Otherwise, there would not be one person found innocent for every eight that are executed. The Rev. Jeff Hood, a spiritual advisor to the Texas death row, has been fighting against the death penalty in the court of last resort, are arguing against almost every death row appeal or are just refusing to even hear the appeals. Hood is the state with the highest per capita number of executions. Recently, the case of Richard Glossip has garnered national attention. Glossip has spent 26 years on Oklahoma death row, had two trials, nine execution dates and three last meals. His ninth execution was stayed by the courts last May as Glossip was saying his last goodbyes to his loved ones, and now Glossip is asking the Supreme Court to throw out his 2004 murder conviction.

The New York-based Innocence Project said that Richard Glossip’s case is “a harrowing example of how the justice system can fail an innocent person. Glossip’s case is the most recent example of how the inequities in the system can result in wrongful convictions.”

Two Texas cases of innocence received widespread media attention this past year.

On Jan. 11, 2023, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals issued a three-page decision denying relief to Robert Roberson despite copious new evidence of his innocence, which was presented during Roberson’s nine-day evidentiary hearing in Anderson County.

Roberson, who was convicted and sentenced to death in 2005 for the death of his two-year-old daughter, Nikki, has consistently maintained his innocence. The evidence proves that Nikki’s death was a tragic accident exacerbated by her chronic illness, not a homicide.

In May, Roberson filed a cert petition with the U.S. Supreme Court asking the justices to reverse the lower court decision denying him a new trial. The justices declined to even consider his case. Roberson may be the only person on death row in the U.S. who was convicted under the “Shaken Baby” hypothesis, which is no longer considered a scientifically sound theory.

On June 28, 2023, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals rejected Rodney Reed’s petition for relief despite significant evidence of his innocence and claims of prosecutorial misconduct that were well-documented during a weeks-long evidentiary hearing the year before this. It is still being appealed.

Earlier, on April 19, 2023, the Supreme Court ruled in a 6-3 decision that the time limit had not run out on Reed’s request for DNA testing of key crime scene evidence, including the belt that was used to strangle the victim. Reed will now be able to pursue his quest for DNA testing in federal court.

A recent court ruling in Alabama in January 2024 was shocking. A federal judge ruled that Alabama can use nitrogen hypoxia, which suffocates people by forcing them to breathe pure nitrogen. Unless an appeals court intervenes, Kenneth Andrus will be the first human being executed using nitrogen gas. The consequences of using this protocol are completely unknown, even to Alabama officials.

The nitrogen is planned to be administered through a gas mask placed over Smith’s nose and mouth.

Smith tried for four hours and failed to execute Smith in November 2022 using lethal injections, but abandoned its efforts when staff were unable to access a vein.

A recent article in the United Nations experts expressed alarm over Smith’s upcoming execution. In their joint statement released on Jan. 3, the four independent U.N. monitors called on the U.S. government and Alabama to halt the execution. “We are concerned that nitrogen hypoxia would result in a painful and humiliating death,” the experts wrote.
Some Israeli youth say ‘No’ to military conscription

By Michael Kramer

Wars of aggression — particularly those that are racist and genocidal in character — will always result in society being used as a means to execute on those who are called on to carry out the war. During World War II, tens of thousands of German soldiers were executed for either desertion or refusing to follow military orders.

And now a small number of Israeli youth are refusing to take part in this most recent phase of the 75-year war against the Palestinian people and the occupation of their country. It began on October 7, 2023, with a war against the Palestinian people and the occupation refusing to follow military orders.

By Dave Welsh

Every week, more U.S. cities are calling for a cease-fire in Gaza, where Palestinians face extreme violence at the hands of the Israeli occupation army. According to a list compiled by Newsweek magazine, city council and mayors in these cities have also been passed in Oakland, Richmond and San Francisco, in California, as well as Ann Arbor, Detroit, Dearborn, Hamtramck, and Ypsilanti in Michigan; Akron, Ohio; Albany, New York; Atlanta, Georgia; Bridgeport, Connecticut; Providence, Rhode Island; Wilmington, Delaware; and others.

As of early January 2024, 179 labor organizations have also called for an end to the slaughter in Gaza, where over 24,000 Palestinians have been killed and an estimated twice as many wounded, mostly civilians, including thousands of children.

The pro-government groups supporting a cease-fire or otherwise backing the besieged Palestinians are national unions including Alphabet Workers Union (Google employees), American Federation of Teachers, Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, American Postal Workers Union, IUPAT (Painters), National Education Association, National Nurses United, Starbucks Workers Union, United, United Auto Workers, and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (UE).


This is all I want — to have my foot — in order to be able to walk around again, and to be able to go for a walk on my block with former Unit 90, my mother f****r. When I asked him for his name, Dunn stated, “Make sure you spell it right. I’m retiring. Your one-legged ass can’t do nothing to me.”

On Dec. 7, I filled a grievance due to my right foot and toes becoming infected, atrophied, copped with hammertoe. I now need surgery to have my toes realigned and have a bunion removed.

The result is the delay of delays in providing me with a fiberglass foot on my left leg, causing unnecessary stress and harm to my right leg over time.

I would like to thank my whole family for their love and support, my criminal attorney, my civil attorney, my doctors, state senators and reps, my Counselor Ms. Tom, jailhouse lawyer Mr. Arroyo and WW for giving me the platform.

Some Israeli youth say ‘No’ to military conscription

Wars of aggression — particularly those that are racist and genocidal in character — will always result in society being used as a means to execute on those who are called on to carry out the war. During World War II, tens of thousands of German soldiers were executed for either desertion or refusing to follow military orders.

And now a small number of Israeli youth are refusing to take part in this most recent phase of the 75-year war against the Palestinian people and the occupation of their country. It began on October 7, 2023, with a war against the Palestinian people and the occupation refusing to follow military orders.

By Dave Welsh

Every week, more U.S. cities are calling for a cease-fire in Gaza, where Palestinians face extreme violence at the hands of the Israeli occupation army. According to a list compiled by Newsweek magazine, city council and mayors in these cities have also been passed in Oakland, Richmond and San Francisco, in California, as well as Ann Arbor, Detroit, Dearborn, Hamtramck, and Ypsilanti in Michigan; Akron, Ohio; Albany, New York; Atlanta, Georgia; Bridgeport, Connecticut; Providence, Rhode Island; Wilmington, Delaware; and others.

As of early January 2024, 179 labor organizations have also called for an end to the slaughter in Gaza, where over 24,000 Palestinians have been killed and an estimated twice as many wounded, mostly civilians, including thousands of children.

The pro-government groups supporting a cease-fire or otherwise backing the besieged Palestinians are national unions including Alphabet Workers Union (Google employees), American Federation of Teachers, Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, American Postal Workers Union, IUPAT (Painters), National Education Association, National Nurses United, Starbucks Workers United, United Auto Workers, and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (UE).


This is all I want — to have my foot — in order to be able to walk around again, and to be able to go for a walk on my block with former Unit 90, my mother f****r. When I asked him for his name, Dunn stated, “Make sure you spell it right. I’m retiring. Your one-legged ass can’t do nothing to me.”

On Dec. 7, I filled a grievance due to my right foot and toes becoming infected, atrophied, copped with hammertoe. I now need surgery to have my toes realigned and have a bunion removed.

The result is the delay of delays in providing me with a fiberglass foot on my left leg, causing unnecessary stress and harm to my right leg over time.

I would like to thank my whole family for their love and support, my criminal attorney, my civil attorney, my doctors, state senators and reps, my Counselor Ms. Tom, jailhouse lawyer Mr. Arroyo and WW for giving me the platform.

Cities, unions back Gaza ceasefire

Every week, more U.S. cities are calling for a cease-fire in Gaza, where Palestinians face extreme violence at the hands of the Israeli occupation army. According to a list compiled by Newsweek magazine, city council and mayors in these cities have also been passed in Oakland, Richmond and San Francisco, in California, as well as Ann Arbor, Detroit, Dearborn, Hamtramck, and Ypsilanti in Michigan; Akron, Ohio; Albany, New York; Atlanta, Georgia; Bridgeport, Connecticut; Providence, Rhode Island; Wilmington, Delaware; and others.

As of early January 2024, 179 labor organizations have also called for an end to the slaughter in Gaza, where over 24,000 Palestinians have been killed and an estimated twice as many wounded, mostly civilians, including thousands of children.

The pro-government groups supporting a cease-fire or otherwise backing the besieged Palestinians are national unions including Alphabet Workers Union (Google employees), American Federation of Teachers, Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, American Postal Workers Union, IUPAT (Painters), National Education Association, National Nurses United, Starbucks Workers United, United Auto Workers, and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (UE).

Labor-affiliated organizations backing a cease-fire include the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, Coalition of Labor Union Women and United and the National Education Association, National Nurses United, Starbucks Workers United, United Auto Workers, and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (UE).
Western corporate media whitewash on hearing of Israeli genocide

By Otis Grotewohl

The South African government defended Israel’s genocidal actions against the genocidal actions of Israel during their initial presentation in front of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands, Jan. 11.

South Africa’s legal team consists of a multinational and multigenerational group of advocates, including Tembeka Ngcukaitobi, John Dugard and Max du Plessis, plus other junior and external counsel members. Many members of International Longshore and Warehouse Union Locals 10 and 34, who refused to cross the lines. Protesters said they were attempting to block the loading of a U.S. military ship ferrying weapons from West Coast ports to Israel, as well as to stop the genocide in Gaza.

On Jan. 11, in another act of solidarity with Palestine, the government of South Africa presented charges of genocide against Israel before the International Court of Justice. The Israeli regime has killed at least 24,000 Palestinians in Gaza since October 7 and wounded 60,000 people, two-thirds of them women and children. South Africa’s charges were filed in The Hague, Netherlands.

One of the key fighting organizations during the South African freedom struggle, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), has said militant nuclear weapons, to the racist South African system of apartheid and South Africa’s legal team. By Otis Grotewohl

Thousands shut down port to demand Gaza ceasefire

By Dave Welch

Block-the-port protesters, calling for a cease-fire in the 100-day-old Israeli military assault on Gaza, shut down the Port of Oakland starting at 5 a.m. on Jan. 13. Mass picket lines were honored by members of International Longshore and Warehouse Union Locals 10 and 34, who refused to cross the lines. Protesters said they were attempting to block the loading of a U.S. military ship ferrying weapons from West Coast ports to Israel, as well as to stop the genocide in Gaza.

On Jan. 11, in another act of solidarity with Palestine, the government of South Africa presented charges of genocide against Israel before the International Court of Justice. The Israeli regime has killed at least 24,000 Palestinians in Gaza since October 7 and wounded 60,000 people, two-thirds of them women and children. South Africa’s charges were filed in The Hague, Netherlands.

One of the key fighting organizations during the South African freedom struggle, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), has said militant nuclear weapons, to the racist South African system of apartheid and South Africa’s legal team. By Otis Grotewohl

South Africa puts Israeli genocide on trial

Continued from page 1

wounded, for the brutal occupation forces.

Israeli cargo ships have been targeted and rerouted from using a port route on the Red Sea thanks to the Yemeni Naval Forces demanding a permanent end to the bombing of Gaza to allow the flow of direly needed humanitarian aid.

There are reports from the Israeli media that there is growing internal strife within Netanyahu’s cabinet, especially amongst defense ministers — some of whom have been barred from meetings by Netanyahu — due to the resilience and resistance, despite all of the carnage in Gaza.

There is also growing discontent amongst Israeli citizens who have come out in the streets in larger and larger numbers to demand a ceasefire, an end to the apartheid occupation, and for Netanyahu to resign.

Hundreds of Israeli teenagers are risking jail time for refusing to serve in the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF).

Palestinians thank South Africa

On Dec. 30, one day after the South Africa complaint was made public, an International Coalition to Stop Genocide in Palestine was formed, spearheaded by groups such as Black Alliance for Peace, Samidoun Palestinian Prisoners Solidarity Network, Nacitlaw Lawyers Guild and others. To date, over 1,200 groups have signed on to the coalition including Workers World Party, Broms Antiwar Coalition and the International Action Center.

Ajamu Baraka, chair of the coordinating committee of the Black Alliance for Peace, stated in a Jan. 3 press release: “The action by the South African government is a courageous attempt to do no less than save the credibility of the international mechanisms that were meant to protect human rights and international law. The South African petition is a reminder that it is a legal and moral imperative for states and international civil society to oppose impunity. Genocide has been identified as one of the most egregious international crimes. If the Israeli state and its backers are allowed to escape justice and impunity, it will be a direct challenge to strip the current international system of justice of any legitimacy.”

Go to blackallianceforpeace.com/movement-news/israel2icj to read the entire statement.

On Jan. 11, the opening day of the ICJ hearing, hundreds of Palestinian residents living in Ramallah, in the Occupied West Bank, gathered around the statue of the legendary African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela to give praise to the South African government. A youth band played the national anthem of South Africa, while the rest of the crowd waved both the Palestinian and South African flags.

The South African and Palestinian struggles have three important things in common: Both have experienced the horrors of apartheid, both have organized armed resistance and both have shown solidarity with each other for many decades. In 1977, Mandela stated, “We know too well that our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians.” (aljazeera.com, Dec. 5, 2023)

This same South African government has vowed to bring the war crimes of the U.S. government to the ICJ to expose its complicity with the Israeli genocide against the Palestinian people.

Israel’s charges “baseless.” Israeli representatives peddled false claims about the Hamas Islamic Resistance Movement of Gaza and denounced its supporters. The U.S. corporate media has also been pushing misinformation about the Palestinian resistance movement in recent months. Neither the Israeli legal team nor the bourgeois press willingly admit that the people of Gaza overwhelmingly voted for Hamas as their legitimate representative during the 2006 legislative elections.

In addition, the book “The Unspoken Alliance: Israel’s Secret Relationship with Apartheid South Africa” documents Israel’s provision of arms, including nuclear weapons, to the racist South African regime of the 1970s and 1980s, to the racist South African apartheid state as well as to the times that, as bad as apartheid had been in South Africa, it is worse for the Palestinians under Israeli apartheid domination.

In his closing remarks, South African attorney Tembeka Ngcukaitobi stated, “The evidence of genocidal intent is not only chilling, it is also overwhelming and uncontroversial.” (Timeslive, Jan. 11)

South Africa is a country that legally defeated a white-supremacist, apartheid system in 1994. It is also the first country to courageously bring charges of genocide against Israel before a world court.

More than 20 countries are publicly endorsing South Africa’s case, including socialist Cuba and the pro-worker governments of Brazil, Bolivia, Nicaragua and Venezuela. Despite the strong global showing of solidarity, the Western corporate press has egregiously censored the proceedings as a strategic attempt to discredit South Africa’s claims and to undermine the justified grievances of the people of Palestine.

Corporate press displays empathy towards Israel

Much of the corporate media downplayed the arguments made by the South African attorneys, while at the same time presenting Israel as a “victim” simply “defending itself.” Take for example the first sentence of a Reuters article: “Israel on Friday rejected as false and ‘grossly distorted’ accusations brought by South Africa at the U.N.’s top court that its military operation in Gaza is a state-led campaign to murder civilians” (Jan. 12) The author legitimizes Israel’s deceitful response to the charges of genocide at the very beginning of the article, setting its tone.

Unlike South Africa’s diverse legal team, the Israeli respondents are predominately white. In a sick twist of irony, Germany has decided to testify on Israel’s behalf, which the bourgeois press has been happy to report. Numerous U.S. media headlines, have highlighted Germany’s being South Africa’s charges “baseless.”

Israel’s regime for genocide against the people of Palestine. As early as 1962, ILWU members staged a boycott of apartheid South African cargo, picketing on the docks of San Francisco. In the late 1970s, after the 1976 Soweto massacre by the racist gov- ernment, the ILWU protested the docking of the Nedloyd Kimberly, which was carrying South African cargo, in various ports. Then in 1984, the ILWU refused to handle South African cargo for 41 days when the Nedloyd Kimberly docked in San Francisco. With that dramatic act, the anti-apartheid movement spread like wildfire across the U.S., especially on college campuses.

The recent block-the-port action continues the decades-long history of class solidarity between West Coast longshore workers and workers living under apartheid in both South Africa and occupied Palestine.
By Frank Barat

The following article covers the first part of an interview with Palestinian author and activist Susan Abulhawa by Frank Barat, film critic and film producer on Dec. 29. Their full conversation can be found at tinsar.com/3yk8cu9y.

Frank Barat: How do we build on the horrors that are happening [in Gaza], and how do we make sure this actually changes everything in terms of the way people think of Israel, of its supporters, of its backers? The numbers are horrifying – hundreds of thousands of Israelis have been displaced; over 65,000 homes completely destroyed; 700,000 partially destroyed – 305 schools partially damaged and destroyed; 1,500 industrial facilities completely destroyed; three churches – we can go on and on.

And even though horrifying, these numbers don’t reflect the true nature of what’s happening. A work, through social media, through your books, you’ve been one of the best persons in reframing the way we see Palestine and humanizing it. We declare our unwavering support for Palestine and Gaza. Yemen will be the graveyard of invaders. We witness a people engaged in a war of righteousness and keepers of honor are under attack. We declare our unwavering support for Palestine and Gaza.

Susan Abulhawa: Honestly, I feel very emotional hearing even the numbers, because every day I scroll through the videos and the images, and I know the profound despair that underpins all of that. I also imagine this sort of industrialized terrorism is still ongoing with no end in sight.

Those numbers also grossly understate the true harm that has been done. We know that there are thousands, if not tens of thousands, of people who remain trapped under the rubble. We know there are people who died or are dying alone in the dark and the cold. Nobody is able to get to them. Nobody knows they’re there.

And when you imagine the way that people have died so far, you know it’s not just killing people. It’s death in the most gruesome ways – people literally being buried alive.

I think there’s probably no more horrifying way to die than to be crushed under the weight of walls and ceilings that once contained your memories and your family and your life. At this point, this will end. It must. But the extraordinary destruction puts a big question mark on the future. Where do people return to? What do they return to? What do they do in the meantime?

These are all things that we have to start thinking about and preparing for to ensure that Israel is not successful in its aims, even when its true aims are not what they declare officially.

We know this is not about Hamas. It’s certainly not about the hostages.

This is about colonial conquest, as it has always been. That’s the essence of designs as a colonial, European, racist, supremacist movement to violently colonize Palestine and steal everything from the Indigenous population, and they have been doing that for decades. But they have often lamented how inefficient they have been in this colonization for several reasons.

Number one, the Palestinians who remain, who they could not get rid of, continue to live and reproduce, and Israel has not been able to kill them off quickly enough or contain them or expel them. All along they talked about creating conditions – I think Shimoon Peres said it – conditions that would invite the voluntary migration of Palestinians. That’s what they hoped all along, that they could make the Palestinians’ lives so miserable and desperate that people would just leave of their own accord.

Like all colonizers and all racists, they understate the humanity and the attachment of Indigenous people to their homes and their lands. And with that, they have often viewed Palestinian lives as demographic threats. You know, they have been, for the past 20 years or so, speaking openly about how worthwhile it is that between the river and the sea, the number of Palestinians versus Israeli Jews could become equal or worse, even outnumber them. So, for years they have been planning genocidal actions like what we’re seeing, and they found an opportunity now to execute that.

Masses protest U.S.-British air strikes

Mass demonstrations in Sana’a, Yemen, have erupted in response to the bombings. It has become open season for U.S. and British military bases across the region. Yemen’s strike capacity extends far beyond Yemen, and their deep alliances beyond Yemen, and their deep alliances with other resistance groups should not be underestimated.

Today, the defenders of justice, soldiers of righteousness and keepers of honor are Yemeni. We witness a people engaged in a war solely to defend human dignity, without any ulterior or profit motives. The anti-imperialist people of the world resist Western hegemony and stand with Yemen. We demand the U.S. and Britain remove its presence from the Red Sea, the Gulf of Oman and all of West Asia.

We salute Yemen – its people, leadership and army – for their unwavering stance in upholding the cause of Palestine and supporting Gaza, regardless of the consequences. We declare our unwavering support for our Yemeni siblings in the face of this brutal and immoral aggression.

We’re not surprised that it has reached this level, but it is shocking. It shocks the conscience. It shocks the mind and begs our belief. But it is not surprising, because with every massacre that Israel has committed, the imperialism, the next one was escalated. Every time it’s like they just keep pushing the envelope to see how much they can get away with.

What is absurd is such brutality and industrialized terrorism for so long, without any real consequences, of course, because every day, the baby images, the gruesome ways—people literally being buried alive.

This impunity has allowed Israel to think that the terms they’re saying are normal. It is a truly pathological society. It really is, because what has been allowed to prevail in the public sphere is so racist, so appalling and really grotesque to most of us in the world, but it’s become normal, I think for most Israelis.

I think when this is over – and when I say over, I mean when Israel is over, because this kind of profoundly racist regime cannot continue to thrive in the world – I think we will spend generations unpacking this. This pathology was allowed to continue, was nurtured by so-called Western “democracies” that love to pretend to the rest of us about human rights and democracy and whatnot.


The Bronx is united with Yemen

Statement of the Bronx Antiwar Coalition, Jan. 12, 2024

The Bronx Antiwar Coalition strongly condemns the U.S.- and British-led bombing of Yemen, a nation that fulfilled its duty under Article 1 of the Genocide Convention to defend Palestine and penalize Israel for committing genocide in Gaza.

Yemen exercised its authority over its territorial waters, including the Red Sea and Bab El Mandeb Strait, having the right to control the passage of ships.

The U.S.-British bombing in an illegal act of terror and a gross violation of Yemen’s sovereignty. The U.S.-British aggression against Yemen lacks any justification, as there was no threat to international navigation in the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea.

Yemen’s targeting was solely focused on “Israel” ships or those destined for the ports of occupied Palestine. Yet, Yemen’s nonviolent efforts to impede genocide have been met with predictable Western violations.

Yemen has not caused harm to anyone; it is simply making it challenging for Israel to obtain the war supplies required to continue their genocidal acts. Biden’s bombing of Yemen took place after the first day of proceedings in the International Court of Justice, in which Israel was exposed as a genocidal, colonial, settler state created by Britain and adopted by the U.S.

With the recent bombing, the U.S. and Britain have targeted Yemen, an already oppressed Arab nation whose people they have waged war against for years due to their opposition to the Zionist genocidal policy in Gaza. The Yemeni people have suffered hundreds of thousands of deaths between 2015 and 2022, defending themselves from an unsuccessful attempt to prevent Ansar Allah from gaining power.

The U.S. has a long history of bombing Yemen, and the Saudi-Utied Arab Emirates-led and U.S.-backed war on Yemen has resulted in one of the world’s most devastating humanitarian catastrophes.

The U.S. has made a grave error in bombing Yemen, as Washington has underestimated Yemen’s unwavering support for Palestine and Gaza. Yemen will persist in its religious and humanitarian stance, standing firmly with Gaza and utilizing all available means to support its people. The U.S. aggression will only strengthen the Yemeni people’s resolve and determination, bolstering their ability to defend themselves and to continue advocating for the legitimate and just cause of the Palestinian people.

The U.S. and Britain are instigating a regional war to protect “Israel’s” ability to carry out a months-long massacre of Palestinian children in Gaza and to safeguard the financial interests of the apartheid state and its corporate backers. The fearless Yemeni people, with nothing to lose and all to gain, have the potential to ignite the entire region.

Masses protest U.S.-British air strikes

Mass demonstrations in Sana’a, Yemen, have erupted in response to the bombings. It has become open season for U.S. and British military bases across the region. Yemen’s strike capacity extends far beyond Yemen, and their deep alliances with other resistance groups should not be underestimated.

Today, the defenders of justice, soldiers of righteousness and keepers of honor are Yemeni. We witness a people engaged in a war solely to defend human dignity, without any ulterior or profit motives. The anti-imperialist people of the world resist Western hegemony and stand with Yemen. We demand the U.S. and Britain remove its presence from the Red Sea, the Gulf of Oman and all of West Asia.

We salute Yemen – its people, leadership and army – for their unwavering stance in upholding the cause of Palestine and supporting Gaza, regardless of the consequences. We declare our unwavering support for our Yemeni siblings in the face of this brutal and immoral aggression.

We’re not surprised that it has reached this level, but it is shocking. It shocks the conscience. It shocks the mind and begs our belief. But it is not surprising, because with every massacre that Israel has committed, the imperialism, the next one was escalated. Every time it’s like they just keep pushing the envelope to see how much they can get away with.

What is absurd is such brutality and industrialized terrorism for so long, without any real consequences, of course, because every day, the babies aren’t innocent or “We need to turn Gaza into a parking lot. And yes, we need to wipe everybody out, and we need to starve them to death.”

There are all things that they have been saying – “We need to starve them; we need to make sure that there are conditions that would spread disease that would make our job easier.” These are all things [said] in the public sphere. Even countries that want to do things like that may know better than to say this out loud. But Israelis do say it out loud, and they say it a lot, because it’s normal in that society.

I think when this is over – and when I say over, I mean when Israel is over, because this kind of profoundly racist regime cannot continue to thrive in the world – I think we will spend generations unpacking this. This pathology was allowed to continue, was nurtured by so-called Western “democracies” that love to pretend to the rest of us about human rights and democracy and whatnot.

The Bronx is united with Yemen
abstract. It’s better to break things down in order to clarify the relevance to today.

When we look at the world situation, right now, the facts are clear: the class struggle and the overlapping developments that impact the global class struggle is the relationship of class forces on a global level.

It’s important to isolate and analyze each crisis, be it war, trade disputes, substitutions, and transitions in the world. The class struggle in the U.S. and everywhere else.

And this struggle, which is the class struggle to free Palestine, is the key to the class struggle.

This is why we understand that the struggle in Israel that is not native to Palestine was not forced to migrate there out of economic need but many migrated there to be part of the Zionist project. This suspends its development as a class. The working-class internationalism that must be overcome.

In my view, to a large extent Israel at present is an exception. Israel is an extreme version of a relation in which and conditions of the settler-colony state being imposed on the region by imperialism and displacing and subjugating the Indigenous population.

There’s a working class in Israel. But that class is not only divided, it is hostage to the reality of colonial occupation. In Israel, the struggle to free Palestine is the key to the class struggle.

And this is why we understand that the relationship of class forces that is not native to Palestine was not forced to migrate there out of economic need but many migrated there to be part of the Zionist project. This suspends its development as a class. The most vital, politically healthy part of the working class are Palestinian Arab workers who are 20% to 25% of the population and also 25% of the working class.

They are the social and political link between the class struggle and the liberation struggle until something changes in the remaining part of the working class. If we were there, part of our work would be to push workers to save themselves, break with Zionism and help unite the world’s working class. How much time and effort communist and advanced workers should devote to this task would depend on the needs of the Palestinian resistance.

From our perspective we understand more than anyone else that inequality between workers is a serious obstacle to internationalism. But this understanding will not have any effect if it feels less urgent and less consequential. It demands our attention not later, but now.

The very existence of bourgeois nation states is a barrier to the advancement of internationalism in heretofore unimaginable ways. The end goal for us is to maximize class unity, without which it will be impossible to make a revolution and establish socialism.

The struggle against all forms of oppression is a direct political objective. Our goal is not only to be in solidarity with the oppressed, it is to educate and call on the working class to take the lead in this struggle.

The end goal for us is to maximize class unity, without which it will be impossible to make a revolution and establish socialism. The connection between class orientation and internationalism.

There are many good developments that tend to weaken working-class solidarity. As we have talked and written about for a considerable time, changes in technology have enabled the working class to interact and coordinate the class struggle on a global and immediate level in a way that did not exist before.

The worldwide protests sparked by the genocidal war against Gaza are only the most recent examples of how material conditions have advanced the potential for internationalism in heretofore unimaginable ways. The main problem that’s holding back the ability of the working class to take full advantage of the new technological level is its political and ideological weaknesses. The capitalist class is determined to do everything possible to sustain these weaknesses.

This is the reason why, if we want to change the relationship of class forces in favor of the working class, it is absolutely vital for us to do whatever it takes to strengthen our class orientation. We should consider this objective essential to our relevance and even for our very existence. The best attitude for us to have about this is to pretend as if we only recently discovered the weaknesses that are hampering the working class’s ability to assert itself as an independent force, and neither are trying with all of our might to respond to our new revelation.

Radical and revolutionary forces in the working-class movement cannot impact the consciousness of the working-class struggle. Events and the course of the class struggle are decisive factors in this process. But such forces do not have the luxury of thinking that they are London or Geneva, or pretend as though the struggle is not necessary.

When this happens, the left cuts itself off from the working class. Political forces and movements, even forces that are revolutionary that depoliticize a class orientation, render themselves weak and ultimately irrelevant.

If the struggle to raise and spread class consciousness is forfeited, it only helps the capitalist class. This is a struggle that should be prioritized, deliberate, bold, concrete and consistent.

Generally, and especially at this moment, there is no more important struggle. It would be an enormous step forward if like-minded forces could launch a new campaign that, apart from its objectives, is needed to create a relationship of class consciousness and internationalism, especially among workers who are already in the process of being radicalized.

The BRICS alliance: its significance and limitations.

A contradictory development that working-class organizations, leftist, revolutionary and progressive forces everywhere, including ourselves, are struggling over is how to view the alliance between Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS).

A considerable number of other countries, including Iran, as well as Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela, have joined this alliance. For the moment, in practical terms, this is the main opposition to U.S. imperialism hegemony. It poses an enormous problem for U.S. imperialism.

The bases for this alliance are complex and fluid, but most essentially this alliance reflects a worldwide geo-political sea change. That change is the crumbling of the U.S. imperialist empire and the rise of China. Obviously, the social and political characters of the countries in this alliance are different. Therefore, the BRICS alliance must not be considered an example of working-class internationalism.

The existence of this alliance impacts the global class struggle, but it is not based on class unity or class struggle.

BRICS is based on curtailting U.S. imperialist hegemony, especially in relation to the Global South, but also China, Russia and other countries. In a sense, this alliance is temporarily filling that vacuum created by the inability of the world’s working class, as of yet, to be strong enough to occupy the position of the main opposition to U.S. imperialism and capitalism in general.

BRICS is important to countries like Iran and Venezuela, etc., because it partially shields them from being isolated in relation to U.S. imperialism. This is of particular importance to China as the danger of war grows.

Is the role of the working class in the United States changing?

The relationship between the working class in the U.S. and the workers and the oppressed in every other part of the world is dialectical. The struggle all over the world has the effect of weakening U.S. imperialism, which in turn creates the basis for greater revolutionary class consciousness and ultimately revolutionary class struggle at the center.

In this context, it becomes important for the working class and the politically advanced forces in the U.S. to understand their responsibility to the workers and oppressed everywhere.

A century ago, Lenin believed that ultimately the...
needed in 2024

**Continued from page 8**

development and struggle emanating from the working class in the U.S. would decide the fate of the world revolution. The world has changed over the past century, and Lenin’s view would be debatable. We would still argue that Lenin’s assessment remains essentially correct.

Why trade unionism cannot be the only form of class organization

From a revolutionary Marxist perspective, one of the biggest misconceptions about the working class is that the trade union movement is not only the main and preferred form of working class organization, but the only form of worker organization.

Most socialist groups and forces, including revolutionary working forces, have succumbed to this misconception. This misconception fortifies the idea that the best that the working class can hope for is the ability to negotiate the conditions of its exploitation with the capitalist class.

It presupposes that since revolutionary class consciousness, internationalism and the struggle for social revolution are beyond the aims of trade unionism, then these goals are more or less permanently off the table of the class struggle.

It also promotes the false idea that there are finite limitations to the political development of the working class, including the right and the necessity for the working class to engage in political struggle independent of the capitalist ruling class. The class struggle is not only a struggle for economic demands; it is a political struggle and ultimately a political struggle for power. The trade union is not of the political struggle, but they are not capable of manifesting its full potential.

The contradictions of the trade unions do not in any way alter the need to support them. And though we currently are in the early stages of the life of the trade unions, the work of the working class with them, the working class would be left defenseless. Still, it is important to raise the limitations of trade unions because—especially now in the wake of the heightened magnitude of the world capitalist crisis—any barriers to the political development of the working class must be identified and overcome. But this does not mean that it’s time to turn away from the union movement.

To the contrary, sharpening a class orientation would require turning even more towards the labor movement, with a refined political strategy for influencing union workers, especially active in and outside the trade union struggle. It’s important for communists to be in the union movement as strongly as possible. However, many changes have to significantly diminish the barriers that labor bureaucrats have erected in order to keep radical ideas out.

Actually, in some instances, it may even be easier to influence rank-and-file workers as well as union leaders, and even more so to change their politics and initiatives can’t be suppressed by those in the trade unions who might be inclined to do that.

Again, the struggle for class consciousness is more critical now than ever. The last few years have opened the road forward for the working class. The intervention of radical young workers into the organizing drives at Amazon, Starbucks and many other companies marks the beginning of a sea change in the transformation of the workers’ movement. The big workers strikes and the changes in the leadership of several big trade unions are also evidence of transformation.

There was an anticipation and hope that the initiatives of Amazon, Starbucks and many other workers would be decisive to the formation of a big, radical wing of the working class in the U.S. that in turn would accelerate the radical transformation of the workers’ movement.

The full scope of my expectations may have been a bit premature; however, the transformation is underway, and it’s going to reach a level that will raise the class consciousness of tens of millions of workers. But the transformation of the working class is underway, and it must expand; otherwise, capitalism will continue to benefit from the fragmentation of the working class, especially to benefit from the fragmentation of the working class, especially in the wake of the heightened magnitude of the world capitalist crisis—any barriers to the political development of the working class must be identified and overcome.

In a similar fashion, the intensifying of the trade union response to the capitalist class is under way. The tendency towards wider concrete workers’ solidarity has not yet reached the level of a sea change. But it is another symptom of how the working-class movement is undergoing a transformation to a more inclusive and radical stage.

**Labor and Palestine: The transformation of the working class is underway**

It seems that the level of trade union response to the genocide in Gaza is impressive and unprecedented, considering not so long ago, trade unionists might hesitate before saying anything at a union meeting in solidarity with the Palestinian freedom struggle.

The unions, with a few exceptions, are not announcing support for the Palestinian resistance. They are responding to the genocide, destruction and ethnic cleansing that the U.S. government and Israel are perpetrating on Gaza. Their demand is for a cease-fire, which while hardly revolutionary, objectively helps the Palestinian resistance. But the response from labor is a big breakthrough.

Labor’s response reflects the social character of the global proletariat against Zionism and imperialism, which is generally young workers of all nationalities. This is a sign that underneath there is a powerful yearning in the working class to break with U.S. imperialism, move in the direction of internationalism.

Organic developments are strengthening class consciousness and internationalism in the trade union movement. It may be that some of the radical movement needs to catch up with this tremendously consequential process.

If the working-class orientation of the movement is not as strong as it needs to be, there are other ideas that can fill the void left by such a weakness, ideas that tend not to strengthen class consciousness.

The transformation of the working-class movement will pave the way for new developments. What could be a major reflection of this transformation is that it’s somewhere between likely and inevitable that in the near future another attempt to form a labor party will be launched that will be more meaningful than prior failed attempts to form a labor party in this country.

The presidential elections this year may postpone this development, but it also may speed it up. The political character of such a party will fall in the general category of social democracy. Critical to the political character of such a development, and of great importance to us, will be the relationship of a new labor party to the Democratic Party. In addition, the degree to which such a party is connected to real workers’ struggles and to a section of the working class, especially the most oppressed workers, will be of the utmost importance.

Depending on the political character of such a party, it may be very important for revolutionary forces to explicitly support organizations, especially against the imperialist power that makes Israel genocide possible?

**Fascism and the 2024 elections**

What is the main danger?

The prospect of Trump becoming president again, the scary things that he says he will do if elected, the prospect of another 4 years of the corrupt, racist and warmongering Trump administration, the Trump court cases is going to make discussion of the danger of fascism in 2024 perhaps wider and more serious than it was in 2016. The danger of a Trump win is either deeply concerned that a Trump win will harm their democracy, or they are whipping up what idea in order to frighten people into voting for Biden.

This will require reopening the discussion of all questions related to the development of fascism, such as what is fascism, is a Marxist view of this question still relevant or would the response of the movement to this danger?

There are many factors that play into the rise of Trump and the concentration of neo-fascist forces. Among these factors are the social conditions of the population of the decline of U.S. imperialism; the Democratic Party’s abandonment of the working class; and the decomposition and unraveling of the U.S. working-class political establishment and of capitalist society in general.

The main danger facing the workers and the oppressed at this time is that whatever is happening in the ruling class, the petty bourgeoisie, the economy and the world, the workers and oppressed are at the mercy of enemy class interests, because they don’t have sufficient vehicles for our class to harness and fight for our own class interests.

The struggle against war and the danger of fascism is a political struggle that is clearly international in scope. For some, even some who consider themselves socialist, the struggle against war and fascism is separate from the working-class struggle. We know that that is not so. But it’s not good to merely understand this. The fact remains that an international strategy that openly makes the struggle against war and fascism a workers’ struggle. How do we do that? In 2024, history and the global working class is calling upon all of us to be ready to hear the call to rise to the occasion.
Delegation to Honduras condemns U.S./Canada-backed dictatorship's crimes

This news release was issued January 10 in Honduras.

Members of a 10-day U.S./Canada delegation, hosted by the Cross Border Network of Kansas City and the Honduras Solidarity Network, has portrayed the coup in Honduras as part of a regional pattern investigating how their two nations prioritize protecting the political, economic and military interests of their governments and corporations over the rights and interests of the Honduran people.

The delegation visited communities affected by mining and land grabbing, met with labor movement activists and spoke with U.S., Canadian and Honduran officials. They concluded that poverty, inequality and dispossession of the Honduran people result from the crimes of the narco-dictatorship that ruled Honduras since the U.S.- and Canadian-supported coup in June 2009.

Since then, both the U.S. and Canada have covered up and lied about their “democratic” ally [former Honduran President] Juan Orlando Hernandez, who they knew was trafficking drugs for years.

Since the restoration of democracy with the election of Xiomara Castro as Honduras’ first woman president [who took office in January 2022], both countries continue to interfere in the affairs of the Castro government to undo the damage done by the narco-dictatorship or to pass reforms that help to ameliorate the plight of the majority of the population. Instead, they [U.S. and Canada] exacerbate problems.

The delegation found that extractive industries like mining in Guapinol; the loss of sovereignty, as in the CAPTA [Central America Free Trade Agreement]-imposed Investment and Economic Development Zone; and the PLA [military] in the Aguan Valley; the dispossession of campesinos in the Agua Zarca and Sula River basins; and the lack of political freedom in Honduras; the loss of sovereignty, as in the CAPTA [Central America Free Trade Agreement]-imposed Investment and Economic Development Zone; and the PLA [military] in the Aguan Valley; the dispossession of campesinos in the Agua Zarca and Sula River basins; and the lack of political freedom in Honduras.

These companies benefited economically from the coup and continued doing business to their own profit and benefit under the narco-state.

The U.S. is now seizing the opportunity of the trial of Juan Orlando Hernandez (HOJO) and his cronies, including the former head of the national police and a family member of Hernandez, to whitewash its own complicity in the narco-dictatorship. Beginning in 2009, and continuing into 2022, the period that those being tried could never have committed the dreadful crimes they are accused of without being enabled by the U.S. in exchange for favorable treatment for the U.S. military, its drug war and for North American corporations.

For all these reasons, the Honduras Solidarity Network and its members are launching a campaign to formally bring the information of the two nations’ complicity in crimes against the countries during the trial. The campaign will take place before, during and after HOJO’s trial in New York that begins on February 5.

The campaign demands:

1. The declassification of documents pertaining to U.S. and Canadian involvement in the 2009 Honduras coup and subsequent administrations of Porfirio Lobo and HOJO. This includes detailed information about DEA [Drug Enforcement Agency] operations in Honduras and the full extent of U.S. and Canadian support, training and funding for the Honduran military and police forces.

2. Congressional and Parliamentary investigations or inquiries of U.S. and Canadian support for the 2009 coup and post-coup governments, including human rights violations committed by Honduran state forces and whether U.S. and Canadian officials acted negligently and/or lied to cover-up electoral fraud, violence and other abuses during and following the coup.

3. Reparations for the Indigenous victims of the DEA-led Ahuas massacre, in consultation with the victims and their representatives.

4. An immediate end to U.S. opposition to progressive reforms that address the root causes of migrations and that roll back the post-coup policies in Honduras.

5. Drop support for ISDS clauses in trade agreements with Honduras that allow U.S. and foreign companies to sue the Honduran state. This includes claims that arise from omissions in laws made by U.S. companies under the HOJO dictatorship.

Tegucigalpa, MDC, Honduras.

Israel murder of Hamas leader in Lebanon

Workers World Party condemns the heinous assassination of Sheikh Saleh Al-Arouri, deputy head of the Political Bureau of Hamas and co-founder of the Martyrs Izz El-Din Al-Qassam Brigades. Those in the Israeli government and military who ordered the drone strike and those in the U.S. government who have colluded with and supported Israel are equally guilty of this latest war crime.

Workers World Party urges working-class organizations worldwide to join the protests called by the Palestinian resistance organizations to protest and condemn the assassination.

Resistance World described the 57-year-old Arouri’s contributions:

“...A freed prisoner who spent 18 years in Zionist prisons, Arouri, from Arara in Ramallah, was instrumental in uniting the Palestinian people, developing the resistance in the West Bank and establishing the Shalti prisoner exchange deal in 2011. He leaves behind a legacy of defiance and resilience, and an indelible influence on the regional and international resistance movement.”

This assassination is first and foremost a tremendous loss for the Palestinian people, including the resistance that he helped found. It is also a loss for revolutionaries around the world and for all whose lives are guided by working-class internationalism. It is a loss for the resistance movement to put an end to U.S. and Israel’s war against Gaza.

Nevertheless, we are certain Arouri’s martyrdom will deepen the resolve and determination of the Palestinian people’s heroic struggle since 1948 to free themselves from the shackles of Zionist apartheid. The Palestinian people must and will win back their ancestral lands, an integral component of self-determination. Reparations must be paid to the Palestinian people.

Arouri’s martyrdom will plant more seeds for the resistance to grow, both now and in the future, against all forms of imperialist plunder and occupation. A free and sovereign Palestine will be a victory not only for the Palestinian people but also for workers and oppressed peoples on the entire planet because it will strike an unprecedented blow against imperialism.”

Sheikh Saleh Al-Arouri, rest in power!
Arjae Red, a union activist and Workers World Party leader, traveled in May 2023 to The Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUR) to document the far northwest as part of a WVP delegation along with Workers World contributing editor Sara Finamore, projects coordinated by the China – U.S. Solidarity Network.

The movement in the U.S. supporting Palestinian national liberation has drawn truly massive numbers of people in action. On Jan. 13, for example, a reported 400,000 people marched in New York’s Central Park, marking the largest pro-Palestine demonstration in U.S. history.

To counter this growing outpouring of support for Palestine in the center of world imperialism, Western propagandists are trying to misdirect the popular outrage towards People’s China. They are trying to revivify the discredited “Uyghur genocide,” as well as the languages of other ethnic communities.

Following a fact-finding trip to the region, however, a 2019 delegation from the Council of Foreign Ministers — a key decision-making body of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) — endorsed and commended China’s treatment of its Muslim citizens (hongkongfp.com, March 3, 2019). With 57 member states, the OIC is one of the largest intergovernmental bodies in the world.

A week after our trip to Xinjiang last year, a large delegation from the League of Arab States, including top official representatives from as many as 16 Arab/Muslim countries were on the ground in Xinjiang. In June 2023 press statement, the delegation praised the “social harmony, economic development, people all ethnic groups living in Xinjiang and accelerated progress.” They urged caution toward “international forces who smear and ostracize China.”

No governments in majority-Muslim countries support the U.S. charge of “genocide.” In Central Asian countries, and the government knows that they will lose the support of the local population, which would further exacerbate inequality, ethnic and cultural divisions, and create political instability and lack of trust in the Chinese government to effectively develop the region.

Palestinian self-determination vs. U.S.-promoted Uyghur separatism

The Palestinian movement for self-determination is a mass movement with broad support from people within historic Palestine and from the diaspora, organizing nationally as a response to Israeli colonial occupation.

The Uyghur separatist movement, on the other hand is primarily pushed by U.S.-based anti-China think tanks and NGOs, usually with millions of dollars of U.S. funding and full support from the State Department and corporate media.

There is no evidence that the Uyghur separatist forces, represented mostly by the Diaspora Uighurs and many based in Washington D.C., represent the views of the millions of Uyghurs living in Xinjiang.

Only a small minority of Uyghur people in Xinjiang have fought for separation. And this has often manifested as a reactionary religious sect that utilizes tactics such as bombings in crowded public places and machete attacks at bus stops, movie-theaters, and mosques.

Anti-imperialist forces can be in solidarity with the Palestinian struggle for sovereignty, since Israel’s continued occupation and siege has taken a toll on the Palestinian people.

Israel’s anti-popular response

In its announced efforts to destroy Hamas, Israel has made no attempt to differentiate between combatants and civilians. Every adult, every child in Gaza, is a target of the so-called “anti terror” massacres. Israel’s disregard for all Palestinian life is well known worldwide and deeply understood.

China’s approach to eliminating attacks by separatist forces that are harming the lives of local civilians is different. It’s true that, during a period of time, increased police presence was necessary to protect local civilian populations.

The government knows that people who have no access to good education, job opportunities and have their basic needs met are less likely to commit crimes and become susceptiable to being recruited by separatist extremist organizations.

Thus, the Chinese government took steps to create jobs, vocational training centers, and to develop the region through infrastructure projects and assistance for small businesses. Poverty alleviation is the number one method for solving violence in Xinjiang — and it has worked. Over the last two decades, political and religious violence in Xinjiang has now been nearly eliminated, and Xinjiang is well on its way to being economically competitive with the rest of the country.

Drawing a line for the anti-imperialist movement

It is critical that organizers against imperialism and supporters of decolonial movements around the world have a clear and sober assessment of developments in each country and the forces behind them. We have a responsibility to engage with these struggles in a deeper way and not just take the narratives at face value.

The forces that accuse China of genocide against Uyghur people are the same that are and fund Israel’s imperialist campaign against the Palestinian people, and who profit from it. We cannot separate this fact from reality, no matter how the corporate media and their allies pretend to deny this.

We have a responsibility to engage with these struggles in a deeper way and not just take the narratives at face value.

For the author’s June 9, 2023, article about the trip to Xinjiang, see: workers.org/2023/06/79035.
Acusaciones de violación utilizadas como arma para justificar el genocidio

Por Martha Grevatt

Para justificar linchamientos, el KKK y otros grupos terroristas de supremacía blanca han invocado durante mucho tiempo el estereotipo racista de que los hombres negros eran violadores. Esto incluye a Emmett Till, de 14 años, en 1955, cuyo supuesto delito fue serlbar a una mujer blanca en Mississippi. El Estado capitalista ha hecho lo mismo. Los acusados de Scottsboro, nueve adolescentes africanos de Alabama falsamente acusados de violar a una mujer blanca en 1931, languidecieron en prisión durante años hasta que un movimiento mundial los liberó.

La instrumentalización de estereoti- pos racistas no es sólo cosa del pasado. En múltiples países se ha invocado durante su campaña presidencial en 2015 y más recientemente en 2021, el ex presidente Donald Trump calumnió a los inmigrantes recientemente en 2021, el ex presidente Donald Trump calumnió a los inmigrantes. La mayoría de las sobrevivientes de la falsa investigación CNN y Haaretz, antes de la guerra inventan acusaciones. En sus cargos anteriores, incluido un derecionamiento a las dificultades a las que cometé Israel en Gaza”.

La mayorïa de las sobrevivientes de violación no tienen testigos presenciales de su sufrimiento, pero la gran mayoría de los acusadores dicen la verdad. …

Sin embargo, es necesario reconocer que hay situaciones reales en las que los racistas y los propagandistas de la guerra inventan acusaciones. Lo hace para apelar a la simpatía instintiva con cualquiera que haya experimentado el horribl crimen de la violación. Durante la guerra de EE.UU./ OTAN contra Yugoslavia y Libia se hicieron denuncias indocumentadas de “campos de violación”.

Cuando las “feministas” ricas y de clase media se tragan esta propaganda, se convierten en cómplices del genocidio y, de hecho, perjudican la causa de las supervi- vientes de violación.

El grupo Speak Up, “Una iniciativa feminista para apoyar a las víctimas de la violencia en todas sus formas”, afirma: “Exploitar los cuerpos de las mujeres y las víctimas de violación como propaganda de guerra confía profundas y amplias implicaciones, que afectan no sólo al con- flicto inmediato, sino que también influyen en las actitudes y percepciones globales sobre las mujeres. Este enfoque menos- caba la credibilidad de los casos legítimos de violencia sexual.

“Puede provocar escépticismo e incre- dibilidad cuando las sobrevivientes com- parten sus experiencias, perpetuando una cultura de silencio e impunidad. Además, podría provocar una reacción global con- tra los esfuerzos para abordar la violencia de género y defender los derechos de las mujeres, y disminuye la credibilidad de las iniciativas internacionales destinadas a prevenir y responder a la violencia sexual en los conflictos.” (peakspg.com)

La cultura de la violación prevalece bajo el sistema capitalista de explotación. Su impacto más fuerte es la etapa del imperia- lismo lo sufre los pueblos nacionales oprimidos, tanto dentro de los países impe- rialistas como en los colonias. La supremacía blanca, el colonialismo de colonos y la cultura de la violación van de la mano.

La lucha contra todas las violaciones es una lucha contra el imperialismo. En este momento, la tarea más importante de los antimonopolistas es magnificar la solidari- dad con Palestina y su resistencia en todo el mundo.