

Article

A Brief Introduction to the Policies of the C.P.N. (Maoist)

-Com. Prachanda
Chairman, C.P.N (Maoist)

Ideology & Ultimate Goal

It is well known that the guiding principle of the C.P.N. (Maoist), the political representative of the Nepalese proletariat, is Marxism-Leninism-Maoism (MLM), and its ultimate goal is socialism and communism. While firmly adhering to its principles and goals the Party has been developing its policies in a flexible manner on the basis of concrete analysis of concrete conditions. The Party has been particularly stressing on creative application and development of the principles with ceaseless struggles against dogmatism and empiricism in the realm of ideology. According to this scientific understanding, the Party has synthesized 'Prachanda Path' as a particular set of ideas of its own in the course of providing leadership to the anti-feudal and anti-imperialist democratic revolution of the Nepalese people. Prachanda Path has provided a new dimension of ingenuity and creativity to the communist movement with the proposed new idea of 'Development of Democracy in the 21st Century'. The C.P.N. (Maoist) may not be cognizable to those who fail to understand this ingenuity and creativity of the ideas and view it from the old perspective.

Political Strategy

On the basis of study of history of the Nepalese society and its economic, political and cultural specificities the Party has concluded that feudal production relations and imperialist exploitation and interventions are the main obstacles to the progress of Nepal. The Party is firm in its conviction that the development process of the productive forces would take a forward course and the progress of the Nepalese society would be ensured only when it is freed from the feudal production relations. Hence, the basic political strategy of the Party is to free the Nepalese society from feudalism and imperialism through the bourgeois democratic revolution. The military strategy of People's War (PW) is objectively based on the goal of achieving this political strategy.

Political Tactics or Immediate Policy

In the light of the particularity of the total international situation and the prevailing balance of power within the country, the Party has been pursuing a very flexible political tactics. A round table conference, an interim government and election to a Constituent Assembly are the minimum political tactics proposed by the Party in this context. Only a new constitution made by a Constituent Assembly can in reality institutionalize the sovereign rights of the Nepalese people. There can be no reason for anybody to disagree with this supreme modality of democracy to let the Nepalese people determine their own destiny and future.

On the basis of this flexible tactical line the Party entered into negotiations with the old regime twice. However, both the times it was proved that the old regime was not in favour of a political solution but was in the path of conspiracy and regression. Rejection of the supreme democratic method of Constituent Assembly to make a new constitution by the old regime merely proves that it does not rely on the people but on armaments, army and terror.

The past 53 years of political developments in Nepal have proved time and again that the feudal monarchy is the principal impediment to the democratic rights of the people. The eight years of PW, the infamous Narayanhiti palace massacre and the regressive step of October 4, 2002, have inflated the hatred and wrath of the Nepalese people against the King and the monarchy to its peak. Scared of the reality that republican consciousness has now become the consciousness of the general masses, the fake monarchy erected after the palace massacre has consistently opposed the proposal for a Constituent Assembly. Now it is making a vain attempt to perpetuate the rule of genocide and terror on Nepal and the Nepalese people by appeasing and kowtowing mainly American imperialism.

As a conspiracy to hoodwink the international community and to perpetuate its feudal military dictatorship, the old regime has labeled the great & historic democratic movement of the Nepalese people as “terrorism”. The Party has been cautioning the international community against the false and conspiratorial propaganda of the old feudal regime of Nepal that has degenerated into a pawn of American imperialism to maintain its hegemony in South Asia.

In this context, the Party once again reasserts its commitment to the following minimum policies and programmes:

- The Party still maintains the proposal of round table conference, an interim government and election to a Constituent Assembly to make a new constitution as its immediate minimum political proposal for a forward-looking political solution to the present crises in the country.

- The Party wants to institutionalize a republican form of state through the Constituent Assembly and believes that in a free and fair election the mandate of the Nepalese people would be in favour of a republic.

- In the given context of the existence of two ideologies, two armies and two states in the country, the Party is agreeable to demobilization of both the armies and carrying out of elections to the Constituent Assembly under the supervision of United Nations Organization and international human rights organizations.

- The content of the new constitution would be:

- (a) Political

Full sovereignty to the people; secular state; elected house of representatives as the highest representative body of the people; reorganization of a unified national army; provision of national and regional autonomy along with rights of self-determination; provision of constitutional changes or refinement according to the wishes of the people; guarantee of multi-party competition, periodic elections, adult franchise, rule of law and fundamental rights including freedom of speech and press; provision of special rights for women and dalits (i.e. oppressed caste); etc.

(b) Economic

Revolutionary land reforms for judicious redistribution of land on the principle of 'land to the tiller'; self-reliant and national industrial policy; promotion and development of national capital; formulation of an integrated national policy for proper utilization of natural resources; etc.

(c) Social

Development of a mechanism for strict punishment to the corrupt, smugglers and profiteers; development of employment-oriented national and scientific education system; universal health service; provision of state care for the destitutes, the elderly and the children; end to all forms of exploitation, discrimination and dishonour to women and dalits; guarantee of minimum wages and worker's participation in industrial management; guarantee of intellectual & academic freedom and professional rights; promotion of democratic and scientific culture in place of feudal and imperialist reactionary culture; plan of integrated national infrastructure development; guarantee of full employment to all; fulfillment of demands of class and mass organizations; etc.

(d) Foreign Policy

- Independent foreign policy of maintaining friendly relations with all on the basis of Panchasheel (i.e. five principles of peaceful coexistence) and non-alignment.
- Abrogation of all unequal treaties from the past and conclusion of new treaties and agreements on a new basis.
- Promotion of good neighbourly relations with neighbouring India and China with mutual cooperation in the fields of utilization of natural resources, trade and transit, etc. for mutual benefit, keeping in view the particularity of economic, political, cultural, historical and geographical relations with them.

It is obvious that these immediate policies reflect the most flexible and democratic methods for peaceful and forward-looking political solution to the ongoing civil war in the country. However, the old feudal regime that has lost all support and confidence of the people is unleashing a naked military terror on the people relying on the military assistance of imperialism. In this context the Party highly values the solidarity of all the democratic forces

inside and outside the country against the autocratic monarchy and in favour of the republican movement of the people. Hence the Party appeals to all concerned to lend their voices in favour of the democratic movement of the Nepalese people. •

[From: *The Worker*, #9 (Feb. 2004).]