

# On Gorkha Recruitment for Afghanistan Occupation

[This is a letter by Joseph Ball to *Shola Jawid*, the publication of the Communist (Maoist) Party of Afghanistan, providing further information regarding the continuing use of Gorkha (Gurkha) recruits from Nepal in the military operations of British imperialism in Afghanistan. The letter was publicly distributed via the “Maoist Revolution” newsgroup on April 9, 2009. –S.H.]

To: [Shola Jawid]  
Subject: On Gorkha recruitment for Afghanistan occupation  
Date: Wed, 8 Apr 2009 17:44:25 -0400  
From: [Joseph Ball]

Dear Afghan Comrades

I have sent out the email below, following a little bit of research I did into this issue. I have made a full analysis of the revisionist turn of the UCPN(M) leadership on my website at <http://www.maoists.org>

Best  
Joseph

The issue our Afghan comrades are raising is to do with the recruitment of Gorkha's to the British Army who are then sent to serve in places like Afghanistan.

Prachanda has recently told a delegation of British MPs that he is not going to stop Gorkha recruitment in Nepal.

According to Hansard, the official record of the British Parliament, Sir John Stanley, leader of the Inter-Parliamentary Union delegation to Nepal was given this promise by Prachanda. He stated in Parliament: 'Unusually, for such visits, we achieved one significant change in policy. When the Maoist leader, Prachanda—now Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal—was engaged in the Maoist insurgency, he made a firm commitment that he would end the recruitment of Gurkhas to the British Army. During our meeting, I put it to him that he should consider abandoning that commitment and resume recruitment. I am glad to tell the Chamber that he said that he would do so. Following our meeting, his office put out a press statement to that effect.'

<http://www.parliament.the-stationery-office.co.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090303/halltext/90303h0010.htm#09030330000344>

For a story about Gurkha's in combat in Afghanistan, see the British 'Daily Telegraph' newspaper: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/onthefrontline/4970907/Family-of-Gurkha-killed-in-Afghanistan-allowed-to-live-in-Britain.html>

It is obvious that we have to stop deceiving ourselves about the direction the Unified Communist Party Of Nepal (Maoist) is taking. Across the world many Maoists are not only giving support to this party but also adopting the ideology of its leadership. We all need to pull back from the revisionist brink.