Volume IX Number 11

(English Edition)

August 15, 1977

CONTENTS

WORLD JURISTS CONFIRM HARCOS' CRIMES p. 1

REGIME'S ACTION ON SABAH CLAIM MEANS TO UNDERMINE THE MNLF p. 2

MILITANT STUDENT PROPEST MOVIMENT FORCES MARCOS TO TAKE A STEP BACKMARD P. 5

OPPRESSED KALINGA MASSES
SUPPORT NEA MILITARY OPERATIONS p. 5

12,000 EASTERN VISAYAN RURAL POLK GIVEN MEDICAL AID BY NPA TEAMS p. 6

ACTIVITIES OF U.S. !CORPORATE DRACULAS! p. 7

'KULAY LAHI' IN METRO MANILA SENKS TO CONCEAL PEOPLE'S MISERIES p. 9

PALISTINIAN WOMEN CARRY THEIR SHARE OF REVOLUTIONARY RESPONSIBILITIES p. 10 The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) gave a stinging blow to the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship in a publication, "The Decline of Democracy", reporting on martial law conditions in the Philippines.

Harcos continues to impose martial law to perpetuate his personal power and that of his collaborators, the ICJ report said, and to increase the power of the armed forces.

With its almost total suspension of civil and political liberties, it is not justified to continue imposing martial law today, according to the report.

The document was published in Geneva, Switzerland, and signed by William J. Butler, chairman of the Executive Committee of the ICJ; Prof. John P. Humphrey, former director of the Human Rights Division of the United Nations and a member of the Commission; and G.E. Bisson, chairman of the New Zealand Section of the ICJ. They carried out missions to the Philippines during the past two years.

The report confirmed that the martial law regime continues to torture political prisoners.

Investigations carried out by the ICJ also showed that the "referendums" rigged up by Marcos "cannot be regarded as true expressions of the will of the people", the report went on.

Among the basic rights denied to the Filipinos, the ICJ said, are the right to freely elect their government, freedom of speech and of the press, the right to habeas corpus and the right to strike. Furthermore, there is little freedom of movement, and detainees are being held without trial for very long periods.

Under martial law, the independence of the judiciary has been "severely undermined", the ICJ also noted.

Regarding the dicintership's programs on land reform, health, education, literacy and housing, the ICJ said "the rate of progress has been slower than hoped".

Little has been done because, it explained, "so much of the national wealth is concentrated in so few hands, and overwhelming priority is given to strengthening the military sector".

In a reply to Marcos carlier this year, another world organization, Amnesty International, stood firm on its conclusion concerning the widespread use of torture on political prisoners.

Amnesty International made a point-by-point answer to Marcos' clumsy attempt to hide the facts uncovered by the AI mission in 1975.

But he himself admitted the widespread use of torture by his own claim that some 2,700 military personnel had been disciplined for maltreating prisoners--"a very considerable proportion of the personnel serving in military units"--, according to AI.

Amnosty International made 15 recommendations to the regime regarding the treatment of political prisoners (Ang Bayan, April 15, 1977), but very little has been done to implement them.

The martial law regime is rapidly being isolated by world opinion. The dictator would like to pose as a leading figure on the international

scene, but he cannot lead even in his own country without torturing and massacring the people.

The people of the world support the just struggle of the Filipino people to overthrow the repressive and antidemocratic U.S.-Marcos dictatorship.

REGIME'S ACTION ON SABAH CLAIM MEANS TO UNDERHINE THE MNLF

The fascist dictator Marcos took two more major steps in recent days to push his ruthless campaign to undermine the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro people's struggle for self-determination.

At the summit conference of the five-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Kuala Lumpur Aug. 4 and 5, he announced the Philippine government's abandonment of its claim to Sabah.

Before leaving for the Malaysian capital, the fascist dictator also expanded the coverage of his scheme whereby gunholders in the southern Philippines could obtain government leans of up to 25,000 provided they surrender with their firearms.

This is clearly meant to entice members of the Bangsa Moro Army, the MNLF's fighting arm, to lay down their arms and abandon the Moro people's armed struggle for self-determination.

On the Sabah question, Marcos said his regime was giving up the claim to this land, which had been filed and pursued by his predecessor, Diosdado Macapagal. He added there were no preconditions for his decision to drop the claim.

But it was public knowledge that in exchange for his action, he wanted guarantees from the Malaysian government that steps would be taken to stop assistance to the MNLF. It was understood that a monetary settlement was also in the works. Marcos expects to pocket a big share of the money.

Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Harris Salleh partially let the cat out of the bag later on when he assured Marcos that he would prohibit the use of Sabah as a sanctuary, training ground and jump-off area for HNLF fighters.

Sabah, on which there is a pending proprietary claim by the heirs of the sultan of Sulu, is a relatively short distance from the southwestern tip of Mindanao, across the Sulu sea. It was incorporated into Malaysia when U.S. and British imperialists created this new state in 1962.

Based on the proprietary claim of the sultan's descendants, Macapagal filed a claim for Philippine sovereignty on this land. But his diplomatic maneuvers came to nothing.

Upon succeeding Macapagal in the presidency, Marcos hatched up a plan to seize Sabah by force. In a secret undertaking known as "Project Jabidah", the reactionary Armed Forces of the Philippines trained a group of Moro youth on Corregidor in 1968. They were to form the nucleus of an armed force to infiltrate Sabah.

But the ill-conceived plan was aborted and exposed when Marcos' training officers malversed the funds intended for the trainees' pay. The trainees were murdered in cold blood when they protested. This has come to be known as the Jabidah massacre or Corregidor massacre.

For this and other bloody crimes, the fascist dictator aroused the wrath of the Moro people and fanned the flames of armed resistance against his government.

In Kuala Lumpur carly this month, the hypocritical Marcos said he was dropping the claim to Sabah out of a desire for "peace" in the region, especially among the ASEAN states.

What Marcos could not concoal was his dosire to establish close cooperation between his regime and the fascist Malaysian government in cracking down on the MNLF and the BMA, while making a large amount of money on the side.

In a larger sonse, it is in line with a conspiracy of the five fascist regimes comprising ASEAN to launch joint military operations against the burgeoning national democratic revolutions in their respective countries. Marcos' regime and the fascist U.S.-Suharto dictatorship of Indonesia already have a joint border patrol agreement, also to the south of the Philippines.

But the forces of revolution continue to surge forward as the Filipino, Halaysian, Indonesian, Thai and Singaporean masses rise to everthrow the fascist dictatorships in their countries.

For the More people in particular, there is a wellspring of support from the people of Sabah that is beyond the Manila and Kuala Lumpur governments' power to suppress.

Almost one-sixth of the estimated 600,000 people on this land are Mores of Mindanae, many of them victims of persocution and oppression by the Marcos fascist regime. They are united with their brothers and sisters of Mindanae in struggling against the regime.

MILITANT STUDENT PROTEST HOVENENT FORCES MARCOS TO TAKE A STEE BACKHARD

Student masses in Motro Manila scored a victory in their strugglo against the reactionary Marcos government with the recent suspension of all applications by private school owners to increase tuition fees this sensator.

By the end of July, almost 200,000 students in 13 universities and colleges had walked out of their classes in a massive beyont sevement that you the support of parents and teachers.

The students' militancy and unity, and the broad support they received from the people, proved to the martial law regime that the masses are determined to resist appression and to fight for their rights.

Effective organizing methods mobilized students at the University of the Philippines, University of the East, University of Sante Temas, Philippine College of Commerce, Adamson University, Trinity College, Araneta University Foundation, Feati University, Philippine College of Criminelogy, Lycoum of the Philippines, Arellane University, Philippine University and Manuel L. Quesen University.

At the UST, 30,000 students beyontted their classes in the last work of July, and seme 20,000 joined a march that went from building to building around the sampus.

At the University of the East, reactionary school authorities and military intelligence agents were caught by surprise each time the students walked out of their classes, thousands at a time. Plans for every mass action were carried out by student committees.

At the Feati University, at the end of July, marches and a total boycott of classes mobilized 45,000 students. A big rally was held July 29, at which the issues were explained and the students repeated their demands for a rollback in tuition fees and for better school facilities:

Faculty members at this university expressed their support for the boycotting students in an open letter that said:

Wo, the faculty members of Feati University, join you in the struggle for the rollback of tuition fees and for the implementation of basic changes or improvements in the university.

"We believe that the 15 percent increase in tuition fees is unjustified and too heavy a load for Feati students. It is unjustified because
no improvements in essential facilities such as library; laboratory
equipment, comfort rooms, classrooms, chairs, electric fans, canteen, etc.,
are being initiated. There is therefore no reason for the 15 percent
increase precisely because there are no added operating or maintenance
expenditures. (Incidentally, there is no increase in the salaries of
instructors, centrary to rumors being circulated by the administration.)
Obviously, the 15 percent increase in tuition fees merely enlarges the
amount of net income and profits of our beloved university.

"Moreover, the tuition fee increase is unjustified because of the higher cost of living now prevailing throughout the country.

The clarming number of Feati University drop-outs attests to this fact. And we, your instructors, would hate to see another number added to the high percentage of students who stopped studying for reasons of poverty."

Uniting under the banner of the Alyansa Laban sa Pagtaas ng Tuition Fee, the students raised the following common demands:

"Roll back tuition fees! Restore our student councils, organizations and newspapers which assure our voice in the making of decisions in the university! Stop the harassment, arbitrary arrest and expulsion of our student leaders! Resist the increasing military intervention in campus affairs!"

In the face of their unity and determination, Marcos suspended the increase of tuition fees until after the Department of Education and Culture has gone through the motions of investigating how private schools are using the additional profits they get from higher fees.

The dictator was hoping to slow down the momentum of the student protest movement by putting up bureaucratic obstacles in its path. At the same time, he continued to ignore the demands to restore student councils, organizations and newspapers, and to stop the militarization of the campuses.

On the contrary, colleges and universities today are packed with informers posing as students, teachers and employes. Student leaders are accused of subversion, detained, suspended, expelled, threatened and harassed. One telephone call from the school administration brings the Metrocom running.

But increased repression only brings about increased resistance. Through persistent and painstaking political work among the masses of students, teachers, parents, university workers and others, the student movement will continually strengthen itself and win new victories in the months to come.

OPPRESSED KALINGA MASSES
SUPPORT NPA MILITARY OPERATIONS

Red fighters of the New People's Army have joined forces with the people of Kalinga-Apayao in carrying out armed resistance against the Harcos fascist regime which is driving the masses out of their homes and farms to make way for the Chico river dams.

Dangadang (Armed Struggle), revolutionary mass newspaper in North-western Luzon, reports that with the support of the revolutionary highland masses. NPA guerrilla fighters have ambushed scattered puppet troops of the fascist regime in the last few months.

The Red fighters have so far killed five government soldiers in these operations and seized two M-16s and plenty of amounition from the enemy, according to the newspaper.

The first of these ambushes took place in Palpalayon, Tanudan, in April. Two puppet soldiers were killed. On May 12, the Red fighters killed a Sgt. Bulao in barrio Basao, Tinglayan, and on May 30, they killed C1C Rolando Mendoza of the PC detachment in Tanglag, Pasil.

The most recent operation took place July 10, when Red fighters raided the PC camp in Basao and killed a puppet soldier. They seized two M-16s and many bullets.

In carrying out these operations, the people's army is giving went to the people's anger over the forcible construction of four dans by the fascist regime on the Chico river up in the Cordillera mountains, from Bontoc to Kalinga-Apayao.

The entire project would submerge the homes and small landholdings of tens of thousands of Bontoc and Kalinga masses which have been built and cultivated over hundreds of years by generation after generation.

One major factor that has aroused the wrath of the affected Igorot masses is that they were never even consulted on a project that has a direct bearing on their lives. Characteristically, the regime drew up its plans and started implementation before making sham explanations to the people.

When the masses resisted, the regime resorted to such brutal measures as mauling and imprisoning the people who stood in its way.

For the moment, the government is concentrating on Chico Dan 4, on the Kalinga-Apayao side of this province's boundary with Bontoc. But work has been interrupted time and again because of the militant resistance of the Igorots and their countrymen in the lowlands.

At the start, the masses and their pangats (tribal loaders) sent resolution after resolution to Harcos, telling him that his project would spell their death as a people.

When Marcos ignored these appeals, the masses escalated their resistance. They tore down the camps put up by surveyors and other technicians of the National Power Corporation at the dam site. They also confiscated the equipment of the NPC men and drove them off their lands.

The dictator reacted by instructing the puppet armed forces to arrest and imprison anyone who interferes with the project. Combining tactics, he also tried bribery as when he insulted an Igorot delegation by sending them off with some articles of clothing and some canned goods.

Marcos was rebuffed, as was his Presidential Assistant on National Minorities (Panamin). When Panamin chief Manuel Elizalde succeeded in bribing only a few corrupt pangats, he provoked violations of budongs (intertribal peace pacts) to make the Igorot masses fight among themselves.

The masses have successfully resisted these splitting tactics of the regime. On the other hand, they have been creative in widening their support base. In Metro Manila, for instance, they conducted seminars and cultural presentations to acquaint their lowland brothers and sisters with their oppression and resistance. They also enlisted the support of people overseas.

Marcos' bogus referendum last Oct. 16 gave them another opportunity to express their hatred for the regime. An independent newspaper of the religious, Intercom, reported a 100 percent boycott of the "referendum" by the villages of Tulgao, But-but and Tomiangan in Kalinga-Apayao, site of Chico Dam 4. Near-total boycotts were also reported at the proposed site of Chico Dam 2 in Bontee.

The struggle took a higher form last February when militant Igorot men and women courageously swept past the guns of the fascist military to confiscate the tents, lumber and equipment hauled by the government to the site of Chico Dam 4.

Marcos' troops mauled and arrested men and women alike. At last report there were about 100 Igorot resisters in Camp Olivas and other detention centers. They have staunchly refused to sign an "eath of allegiance" to the regime, a condition set for their release.

With all other forms of protest ignored and suppressed by the fascist regime, the Igorot masses are more enthusiastic than ever in joining the New People' Army to wage armed struggle against the enemy. The recent ambushes it need by the NPA are just the start.

12.000 EASTERN VISAYAN RURAL FOLK GIVEN NEDICAL ALD BY NEA TRANS

Medical teams within New People's Army units in Eastern Visayas treated some 12,000 miling peasants in the last few months.

This is one of the reports carried by An Gerilya (The Guerrilla), newly published mass newspaper of the NPA in Eastern Samar. There are now two revolutionary newspapers--Larab (Spark) and An Gerilya--serving the masses in the Eastern Visayan region.

According to An Gerilya, the masses are in dire need of medical services because of the Marcos government's utter neglect of their welfare. This lack is now being filled by NPA medical workers, the paper added.

The Red fighters' knowledge of acupuncture helps cure such common diseases as tuberculosis, rheumatism, beri-beri and various stomach disorders. As in other regions of the country, the NPA medical teams in Eastern Visayas give free treatment.

There are many other reports in the first issue of An Gerilya, dated June 13, 1977, such as:

1. The simultaneous raids by Red fighters on the police forces and CHDF units in the towns of Arteche and San Policarpio, Eastern Samar, last June 9.

The people's guerrillas confiscated 18 firearms, plenty of ammunition and other equipment. After holding a public trial, they also carried out the penalty of death on two criminals, Arteche Police Chief Samuel Nebrida and Mingming Kho, a councilor of the same town.

2. The carrying out of the death penalty on 15 "demons" in the northeastern part of the province from January to April this year. Those executed had committed such crimes as spying for the fascist military, cattle rustling and other acts harmful to the masses and the revolutionary movement.

The "demons" who were duly punished were Deo del Monte, Romeo Nabis, Junior Murcio alias Dungoy, Judato Fereras, one identified only as Romy of Gamot, Arteche, Eurico Bajado, Nardo Celo, Nonoy Lazarra, one identified only as Rudy, Dado Lorot, Narsing Lumantad, Jose Picardal, Pelagio Concan, Berto Cebrero and Nardo Valderama.

Other stories in An Gerilya dealt with the NPA's presentation of revolutionary cultural shows, the Marcos fascist regime's deceptive and bogus land reform, the manhandling of local policemen by PC soldiers, and the people's militant resistance to the CHDF.

NATIONALIST BUSINESSMAN DESCRIBES
ACTIVITIES OF U.S. 'CORPORATE DRACULAS'

multinational "corporate-Draeulas", dominated by U.S. imperialist interests are bleeding the Filipino people dry through monopoly practices, price fixing, dumping, political corruption and aconomic subotage.

A recent article by a loading representative of the Philippine national bourgeoisie gives a graphic account of the economic devastation caused by multinational corporations doing business in the country, with the collusion of the comprador big bourgeoisie, big landlords and the Marcos martial law regime.

Hilarion Henares Jr., former chairman of the National Economic Council. said in his article entitled "Multinationals: How They Sap the Economy":

-For every dollar they invested in the Philippines, 108 American firms took out 36.50 in profits and royalties from 1956 to 1965. From 1964 to 1972, according to Marcos government statistics, multinationals took out \$5.66 for every dollar they brought in.

-These same 108 corporations raised 88 percent of their capital requirements from local sources. Only 12 percent was brought in from abroad.

-As of May 31, 1976, First National City Bank, one of the biggest institutions of U.S. finance capital, had berrowed 22.5 billion from local sources for its money market operations.

--Ford Philippines, subsidiary of another U.S. giant, has already borrowed P168.5 million from local banks, and will borrow even more. Its paid-in capital amounts to only P1.3 million.

-- The same company, Ford, by inflating the costs of importation from other Ford subsidiaries abroad (transfer pricing), managed to send about P19 million abroad in untaxed income for 1975 alone. Its Filipino competitors, meanwhile, had to pay income taxes on their profits.

"Transfor pricing is an open secret in the drug industry, in the tire industry, in every industry controlled by multinational corporations," Henares added.

the state of the s

--The Philippines supplies 65 percent of all coconuts produced and traded in the world. But the prices of Philippine coconut oil are fixed by four imperialist corporations: Cargill and Co., Pacific Vegetable Oil, Unilever and Proctor & Gamble.

--Through their creation, the Petroleum Institute of the Philippines, the imperialist oil companies manipulate prices and make bigger profits per liter from the sale of oil products in the Philippines than in the United States.

--Soap, toothpaste, cooking oil and other consumer products keep getting dearer because of price-fixing between Philippine Manufacturing Co., Philippine Refining Co. and Colgate-Palmolive, all subsidiaries of U.S. imperialist corporations.

By spending more for advertising, increasing the number of salesmen, soliciting personal endorsements from "superstars" and conducting endless contests, these multinationals artificially increase their costs. The consumers are forced to pay for these artificial costs.

The same trick is used by manufacturers of canned milk such as Carnation and Alaska, and by the bottlers of Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola.

--Radiowealth (TV sets) and Delta Motors (cars and trucks), under their licensing agreements with multinationals, may not export their products even if other countries want to buy their cheaper products. The multinationals do not want their local subsidiaries to be competing with them on the world market.

--In what Menares calls "a curious breach of national security", two U.S. importalist corporations, RCA and ITT-Globe Mackay, hold the monopoly of all communications from the Philippines to the outside world up to the year 2015.

--Nultinational control over international shipping makes it cheaper for the United States to get plywood from Japan rather than from the Philippines. As a result, Philippine logs are sent to Japan where they are made into plywood, instead of being manufactured right here for direct export to the U.S.

--Terramycin, a widely used antibiotic, costs 20 times more in the Philippines than in Europe. A 250-milligram tablet was being sold at 24.20 to Filipines, at the same time that people in Italy could buy it for 20.06 and people in Thailand for 20.25.

This was because the Philippine government joined the Patent Convention to protect imperialist patents in the Philippines, even if the Philippines has no patents of its own for other countries to protect.

--When oil was selling at \$1.30 a barrel in the world market, Esso Philippines was importing crude oil from its subsidiary abroad at \$1.74 per barrel.

--Pressure from the U.S. Steel Corporation (through the U.S. Export-Import Bank) has prevented the Philippines from putting up a real steel mill. Steel plants in the country only process steel, but do not manufacture it.

--On "advice" of the World Bank, the Philippine government has increased the taxes on earnings of Filipino family corporations by 10 percent. At the same time, taxes on profits of U.S. multinational corporations were reduced from 30 to 15 percent.

The U.S. multinational corporations camouflage the bulk of their profit remittances through transfer pricing and payments for management and technical services, royalties and patents. If Central Bank statistics on profit remittances are to be believed, these firms must be most stupid indeed to make only a few tens of millions of dollars on their huge assets amounting to \$4 billion.

The U.S.-Marcos dictatorship may argue itself hoarse that only foreign investments can pull the Philippines out of its poverty. The facts clearly show that foreign monopoly capital drains the precious natural resources of the Philippines while mercilossly working the Filipino masses to the bone.

Domination of the Philippine economy by U.S. imperialists results in high prices and low wages for the toiling people, and in bankruptey and humiliation for Filipino capitalists.

The Philippines has more than enough natural wealth, plus the skill, talent and energy of its people, to build a prosperous society where all those who work may get a fair share of the benefits from the common labor.

But U.S. imperialism and its local puppets will not be driven away by the angry look on people's faces. Fighting together, the Filipino workers, peasants, urban petty bourgeoisic and national bourgeoisic must unite in the violent struggle to overthrow the exploiters.

'KULAY LAHI' IN METRO MANILA SEEKS TO CONCEAL PEOPLE'S MISERIES

Once more the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship is concecting a new beauty trick for Metro Manila through the Kulay Lahi.

Kulay Lahi is an outdoor art project. It appropriates huge blank walls which are highly visible from busy streets and intersections of the city and transforms them into giant canvasses for the works of a few painters.

Subjects and styles, which can be as numerous as the number of "modern" Filipino artists selected to participate in the project, range from a cubist rendition of slit-eyed fishermen, through a pop art city street scene accented by comic-strip characters, to a jigsaw color abstraction of the "Green Revolution".

On the surface, this outdoor art project seems to derive inspiration from mural art which has become a landmark in several communities abroad, most notably in the black ghettes of Chicago. The source of this art, as exemplified by those powerful works in the Chicago slums, is the abounding energy and decisive will of an oppressed people to fight back.

No such compelling energy and will propel the artists on the payroll of Kulay Lahi.

Their works, which are familiar stuff in hotel galleries, museums and rich men's mansions, are stretched hundreds of times from the narrow but expensive confines of a picture frame to cover the cracks and grime of the dictatorship.

The impending riot of colors, styles and contents engineered by Kulay Lahi has nothing to do with the earthbound realities faced by the masses of the people in Metro Manila and everywhere else in the country under the rule of the dictatorship.

Like its cultural predecessors, such as Bagong Anyo, Kasaysayan ng Lahi, Hiss Universe Contest, Ugnayan and other scandals, Kulay Lahi is not meant to speak for the people's interests. In truth, Kulay Lahi is just a less brazen method of whitewashing walls, giving its selected painters right of space for their trade while denying the same right to the artists of the people whose creativity is nurtured by the conditions, problems, struggles and aspirations of the people rather than the tastes and checkbooks of the ruling class.

Denied this right, the people's artists continue to wage struggle to liberate spaces for the people's images and words of discontent and united action against the dictatorship. However quickly they may be scraped off by fascist agents, anti-dictatorship posters and slogans—and in high time, the defiant and powerful mural art of the people—can stir hundreds of thousands of the masses because they crystallize their own struggle for liberation and democracy.

Kulay Lahi may brush on the thickest of paints, but the images and words of mass struggles will certainly prevail.

PALESTINIAN NOMEN CARRY-THEIR SHARE OF REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES

In 30 years of armed struggle by the Palestinian people against Tarmeli Zionist aggression, the women's associations in Palestine have played an increasingly-important role in the armed revolution and in mobilizing the masses of the people in the national war of resistance.

Side by side with the men. we men guerrillas take part in military actions and perform other tasks in the Palestinian armed forces.

At the same time, other Palestinian-women are shouldering heavy responsibilities organizing mass support for the armed struggle.

Jomen underground activists transport ammunition for the Palestinian armed forces. They collect arms and gather food and other supplies for the fighters. They handle classes in political education in the occupied areas and in the refugee camps. In summer, camps are organized to train women to handle arms and carry out military work.

Special attention is given to the welfare of political prisoners and the families of martyred fighters. Committees are set up to solicit material support for the families of the people's fighters. The children of revolutionary martyrs are cared for. Members of women's associations visit detention camps and organize mass protests to fight for the prisoners' rights.

To help develop the people's livelihood, the women's associations set up workshops producing goods such as embroidery and dresses. By building up such enterprises, the people will also be less dependent

centers are also established to impart technical skills to women living in the camps and villages.

The first Palestinian women's association was founded in 1919 in the city of Jerusalem. It was active in the popular protest against the order of the League of Nations allowing imperialist Britain to rule Palestine. These mass actions also denounced the scheme to settle Jews in Palestine which led to the creation of the Zionist state of Israel by the U.S. and British imperialists:

With the establishment of the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1964 to lead the people's struggle to regain their homeland, efforts were made to further strengthen the women's association.

Since then, the women have actively participated in the struggles waged by the Palestinians and other Arab people living in Israelioccupied territory against the confiscation of their land, the establishment of Jewish settlements, the expulsion of Palestinians and other
measures of repression.

Although they have long been subjected to oppression just as other women in societies weighed down by feudal tradition, the women of Palestine are creating a new role for themselves. In the long and difficult struggle for national liberation, women everywhere are also finding their own liberation.