

EDITORIAL

# Intensify the struggles against the oppressive and treacherous Marcos regime

**T**he suffering of the Filipino people continues to deepen and worsen due to the anti-poor, anti-people programs and policies of the Marcos regime, that favor large foreign capitalists and their local agents, landowners, and bureaucratic capitalists.

The Marcos family, cronies, and sycophants gobble up government funds and indulge in privileges, while the majority of Filipinos struggle to survive. Workers and the toiling masses labor tirelessly. Wages are grossly low in the face of rising prices and charges. Millions are unemployed. Meager earnings barely touch the hands of the impoverished masses. More and more people resort to desperate measures just to feed their children.

The people are outraged at the Marcos regime for its lack of concern for the masses who suffer in poverty, and for exacerbating the economic crisis and people's hardships. Marcos is turning a deaf ear to the widespread calls of the peo-

ple. He ignores the cries of the masses for living wages, jobs, genuine land reform, fishing rights, increased budget for free social services, and the expansion of local production, among other urgent demands.

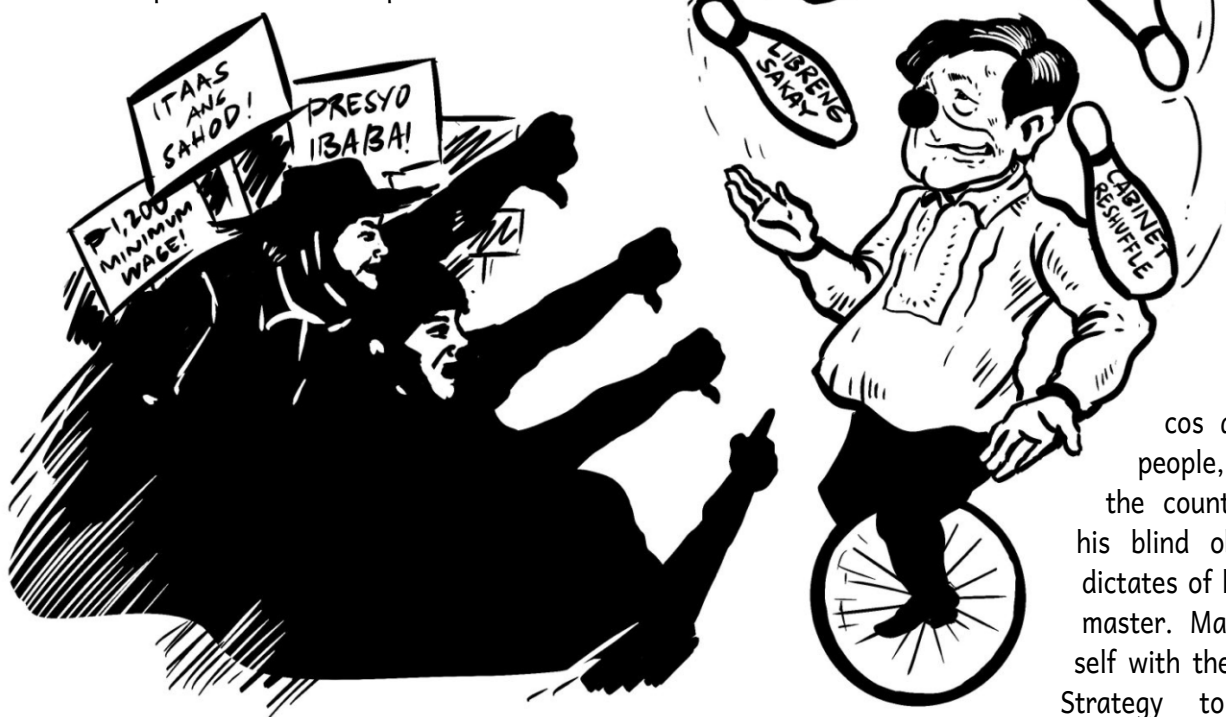
Instead, Marcos is preoccupied with superficial displays that bring no relief to the people, such as the staging the grand drama of reshuffling his cabinet (where only three were replaced), the promise of rice at ₱20 per kilogram (which benefit only a few, and only temporarily), free rides on the LRT (which lasted only four days), and

various other hollow gimmicks. To deceive the public, Marcos and his officials release statistics to cover up the ongoing deterioration of the economic crisis, the rising prices of goods, and the increasing poverty of millions of Filipinos.

The Marcos regime ruthlessly trample on the rights and livelihoods of the working masses. To attract foreign capitalist investors, Marcos keeps workers' wages low to exploit their cheap labor. In the countryside, Marcos uses fascist military forces to facilitate widespread land grabbing for plantations and mining operations, displacing hundreds of thousands of farmers and indigenous peoples from their land. Fisherfolk, jeepney drivers, and other

small workers are deprived of their livelihoods. In the name of austerity, Marcos plans to reduce the government workforce, which will further worsen public services.

Not only is Marcos a burden on the people, he jeopardizes the country's security by his blind obedience to the dictates of his US imperialist master. Marcos aligns himself with the US Indo-Pacific Strategy to encircle and



counter the rise of China. More and more US military bases and facilities are being established in the Philippines to station thousands of American troops across the country. Marcos drags the Philippines into a war that the US wants to ignite by continuously conducting war exercises and preparations, and stockpiling more and more powerful US weaponry aimed at its rival China.

By oppressing and betraying the nation, the ruling regime is becoming increasingly isolated from the Filipino people. Marcos issued Memorandum Circular No. 83 to brutally instill fascist terror to suppress the people's struggle. However, Marcos cannot stop the advance of the militant mass movement, because it is a force of the multitudes determined to end hunger and repression.

Marcos is trying to consolidate his power by appointing over 200 generals in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and placing new personnel in government-controlled companies, while being shaken by a political crisis amid the ongoing and intensifying conflicts among rival factions.

Desiring to perpetuate his family's hold on power, Marcos want to crush the Dutertes to thwart his ri-

val's 2028 plan to return to power. However, he seems to be toying with the people by having his allies in the Senate delay the impeachment proceedings against Vice President Sara Duterte, indicating a possible accomodation among corrupt reactionary factions. The fire of the people's anger is spreading rapidly in response to attempts to thwart calls to conduct the impeachment trial and hold Sara Duterte accountable over plunder of public funds and other serious offenses against the people.

The bureaucratic capitalist, fascist, and puppet Marcos regime will bring no relief to the lives of the Fil-


ipino people. Amid the sharpening crisis, the suffering and oppressed masses have no other option but to struggle. The situation is pushing workers, farmers, the semi-proletariat, and other oppressed classes and sectors to unite and fight for their livelihoods and democratic rights, and direct their anger and protests against the Marcos regime, US imperialism, and its fascist minions.

In factories, schools, communities, and various towns and provinces, the urgent issues and demands of the masses must be identified. On the basis of these issues, the solid force of the masses must be built in the form of unions and organizations, and their consciousness raised. Stage marches or rallies to demonstrate the people's widespread unity and amplify their cries. Strengthen or establish branches of the Party and underground revolutionary mass organizations to serve as the backbone of the broad masses. Guide them in their struggles and elevate these to confront the ruling Marcos regime.

There should be persevering efforts to strengthen and expand the New People's Army as a weapon wielded by the people to completely end the system that oppresses and exploits them. Recruit as many workers, farmers, semi-proletarians, fishermen, and petty-bourgeois intellectuals to serve as Red fighters and commanders of the New People's Army.

In the face of the extreme cruelty and brutality of the ruling regime, the New People's Army stands firm in fighting for the welfare and rights of the masses, and their just and long-term aspirations and interests. Marcos cannot deceive the revolutionary forces, even if he wears a mask of "peace" to hide his fascist fangs. The Red fighters will firmly wield their weapons. They are ready to fight for the nation until the last drop of their blood is shed. They are determined to advance the people's war until victory.





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 [ang.bayan@cpp.ph](mailto:ang.bayan@cpp.ph)

# Theoretical conference on comprador and bureaucrat capitalism

On May 23-24, 110 individuals representing 28 proletarian-socialist parties, anti-imperialist formations, research organizations, and progressive people's movements from 20 countries across five continents gathered in Nairobi, Kenya in Africa for a theoretical conference. Led by the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) and the Communist Party Marxist Kenya (CPMK), the conference successfully held discussions on bureaucratic and comprador capitalism in neocolonies.

The International Theoretical Conference on Comprador and Bureaucrat Capitalism in the Neocolonies is the fourth in a series of conferences launched by the NDFP addressing important theoretical issues. This was the first conference held in Africa. The conference discussed 21 articles authored by communist and proletarian-socialist parties, and anti-imperialist organizations leading liberation movements in Congo, Cyprus, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Kenya, Kurdistan, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, Philippines, Sudan, South Sudan, Turkey, Uganda, and Zambia.

The two-day conference provided an opportunity to present Marxist-Leninist analysis of the prevailing mode of production in vari-

ous countries. It particularly examined the historical development of neocolonial societies under imperialist control.

The conference delegates analyzed the material roots of bureaucrat capitalism and comprador capitalism, based on the writings of Lenin and Mao on semicolonial and semifeudal rule, as well as the imperialist US' schemes and maneuvers to maintain control over the neocolonies.

It also studied the role of various classes in the neocolonies as local agents of economic plunder, and their political and military subservience in the name of imperialist interests. The delegates engaged in focused discussions to further deepen and exchange analyses

of the conditions that bred semicolonial and semifeudal social structures in their respective countries.

It also discussed practical issues related to revolutionary work and advancing people's movements, especially in the context of bureaucrat capitalism. The participants examined strategies for organizing specific social classes, such as the semiproletariat, and studied how the worsening global crisis and intensifying imperialist aggression shape the development of revolutionary forces and the broader Left movement in their countries and regions.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines authored the article shared from the Philippines. The article traced the history of the emergence of comprador and bureaucrat capitalism in the country as a result of US imperialist rule through its economic and political agents. It also explained the role of comprador and bureaucrat capitalists in maintaining the semicolonial and semifeudal Philippine society.

At the conclusion of the conference, the delegates expressed solidarity with the celebration of African Liberation Day on May 25 in commemoration of the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which later evolved into the African Union. The OAU was established to promote unity and cooperation among anti-colonial liberation movements and newly emerging independent governments in 30 African countries in the 1960s.

They consider this as part of the common struggle of oppressed peoples against imperialism and all reaction. The conference affirmed the solidarity of anti-imperialist and proletarian-socialist forces with the continuing importance of liberation movements in Africa within the broader struggles for self-determination and socialism.



# Workers, drivers, and urban poor struggle for livelihood and housing

**A**mid worsening economic crisis and widespread destruction of the livelihoods of the working masses, workers and the urban poor continue to stand firm. They resist by launching pickets, strikes, transport strikes, and community barricades.

**Kawasaki strike.** One hundred forty workers of Kawasaki Motors Phils. Corporation (KMPC) led by the Kawasaki United Labor Union went on strike on May 21 amid a deadlock in collective bargaining agreement (CBA) negotiations between the management and union. The union's picket line stands in front of the company headquarters in Muntinlupa City. They are demanding living wages, just benefits, and recognition of workers' rights.

**Drivers' strike in Lucena City.** Drivers and workers of FOC Transportation Corporation have been on strike for nearly two months at its terminal in Barangay Comon, Infanta, Quezon. The buses ply the Infanta-Lucena City route. The strike was staged to protest the company's denial of just separation pay and refusal to engage in negotiations. Instead of addressing the workers' grievances, the company filed charges of grave coercion and illegal strike against the workers and the union federation organizers.

**₱1,200 living wage.** Workers from the National Capital Region (NCR) led by Unity for Wage Increase Now picketed the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board-NCR while filing a petition for a ₱1,200 living wage on May 22. They timed their action and submission with the consultation called by the NCR wage board.

On June 2, workers staged a picket before Congress to assert



the passage of the proposed ₱200 across-the-board nationwide wage increase for all workers. Two days later, Congress passed the proposal on its third reading. They asserted Ferdinand Marcos Jr must immediately approve the ₱200 wage increase although this is still far from the ₱1,200 living wage.

**Abolish NCAP and jeepney phaseout.** On June 2, the Stop NCAP Coalition held a caravan along major roads in Metro Manila and gathered before the MMDA office at EDSA-Ortigas to call for the scrapping of the No-Contact Apprehension Policy (NCAP). According to the coalition, the NCAP is illegal, anti-poor, and bypasses due process. Legal experts and human rights groups earlier questioned the policy, especially regarding its constitutional basis and processes.

Jeepney drivers and operators in Panay and Negros mounted transport strikes and protests to demand the scrapping of the Public Transportation Modernization Program (PTMP) and Local Public Transport Route Plan (LPTRP) on June 5 and May 30. This was part of a week of protest Piston

launched from June 2 to June 6.

**Barricade at Mayhaligue, Tondo.** The unity and barricade of residents of Mayhaligue Street in Barangay 262 and 264 in Zone 24, Tondo, Manila successfully thwarted the state forces' demolition on May 26. Police illegally arrested four people during the confrontation. More than 400 families or nearly 2,000 individuals would lose their homes in the planned demolition and land grabbing by 2288 Ethan Realty Corporation. The demolition was temporarily halted after a Manila court granted a petition for a temporary restraining order (TRO) on May 27.

**Demolition in Davao City.** A demolition carried out by a 500-man force, including 300 police, evicted at least 400 families in Upper Arroyo, Barangay Matina Crossing, Davao City on May 23. They demolished up to 80 houses displacing 60 elderly people and at least 200 children. To carry out the demolition, they used a court order that supposedly covered only seven houses in the district. A TRO obtained by the residents on May 24 temporarily stopped the demolition. **AB**

# Military harassment of communities, fatal for civilians

Military harassment in communities reportedly led to the deaths of two civilians in Negros in May. Meanwhile, soldiers' abuses continue in Albay, Masbate, Bohol, and Metro Manila.

In Negros Occidental, extreme fear and trauma from 79th IB operations reportedly led to the death of Lolita Reman in Sitio Toril, Barangay Bandila, Toboso, on May 20. The 79th IB Soldiers raided and ransacked the the Mahusay family's house where the woman was staying.

A similar incident happened in Barangay Minapasok, Calatrava. Farmer Boyet de Asis suffered a stroke on May 23 after being threatened by seven 79th IB soldiers and traitors Marlon Basalo (Elan) and alias Jonel/Mike in Sitio Kapanuya.

On May 31, 79th IB soldiers forcibly entered and ransacked the home of spouses Alejandro and Mari-cel Villamero in Sitio Manaysay, Barangay Cambayobo, Calatrava. The soldiers took ₱7,000 cash, which the couple had long been saving.

In Masbate, 96th MICO soldiers subjected 12 civilians from Uson, Masbate to harsh interrogation during the last week of May. They were forced to admit having links to the NPA. Fear and trauma from the interrogation worsened the condition of one victim, who had speech difficulties after suffering a heart attack and diabetes complications.

In Negros Oriental, soldiers went to farmer Alan Garde's home in Barangay Sandayao, Guihulngan City on May 15. They coerced Garde to admit having links to and supporting the NPA. On the same day, soldiers raided and ransacked Rocky Fat's home, claiming they had confiscated weapons and attempted to arrest him. His family bravely stood firm to stop the arrest.

Starting May 3, the 83rd IB imposed de facto martial law over three

barangays in Caramoan, Camarines Sur. Community residents, especially six NPA relatives or supporters, were harassed, threatened, and accused. The military forced some victims to present and "surrender" their spouses, whom they accused of being Red fighters. Soldiers also forcibly and repeatedly entered residents' homes and illegally took their photos.

In Northern Samar, the AFP placed barangays in Catubig, Las Navas, Gamay, Mapanas, and Palapag under hamlet starting June 4. The military imposed this following the reported encounter between the AFP and the NPA that day in Barangay Nagooan, Catubig. Residents were prohibited from leaving the village, even to visit their own farms, neighboring villages, or the town center. Before this, the military had been widely forcing Palapag residents to "surrender" their relatives accused of being NPA fighters.

**Arrests and filing of fabricated charges.** "Ruben," 47, a construction worker and resident of Barangay Nantao, Daraga, Albay, was arrested for illegal possession of firearms and explosives and alleged NPA membership. The 31st IB elements abducted him from his home on May 23 and brought him to a vacant house. Soldiers fired their weapons to stage a supposed encounter.

In Bohol, the CIDG disseminated fake news and information on May 23 against Carmilo Tabada, a Trinidad town barangay councilor. Police claimed he was arrested on charges of "terrorism financing," accusing him of being a CPP finance officer. Tabada clarified that he himself went to court and posted bail for the case. AB



## Revolutionary groups paint slogans

SEVERAL NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC Front (NDF) allied organizations painted slogans and put up posters exposing and denouncing the rottenness of the reactionary election days before and after it was held on May 12. The slogans highlighted the message that revolution is the real solution that will bring genuine social change in the country, not the reactionary election.

Blatant electronic fraud and other types of anomalies favored representatives of landlords, the comprador bourgeoisie, and the imperialist US. The recently concluded election further exposed the bankruptcy and fallacy of this so-called "democratic process."

They called on the people to go to the countryside, join the New People's Army (NPA), and advance the people's war.

The activities were launched by Kabataang Makabayan, Artista at Manunulat ng Sambayanan, Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan, Katipunan ng mga Samahang Manggagawa, and regional chapters of the NDF. They conducted these at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines-Sta. Mesa, University of the Philippines (UP)-Los Baños, UP Manila, and on the streets of Manila, Baguio City, Rizal, and Quezon.

# Filipinos suffer under Trump regime's crackdown on immigrants

SINCE RETURNING AS US president last January, Donald Trump's widespread attack, persecution, forced and arbitrary expulsion or deportation of immigrant workers have been relentless. From January to May, the administration deported more than 271,000 immigrants, while at least 49,184 immigrants are currently detained in various Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facilities in the US.

According to the Philippine embassy and based on cases handled by Tanggol Migrante, at least 30 Filipino immigrants have been reportedly deported this year. The exact number of those detained or deported by ICE is not available as it does not publish information.

An estimated 150,000–370,000 Filipinos are without documents or illegally residing in the US.

According to Bayan USA, the Philippine embassy in the US and its consulates failed to sufficiently act for Filipino immigrants facing detention and deportation. It has displayed utter neglect and indifference toward Filipino immigrants seeking help. Even the embassy's Assistance to the Nationals Fund was denied to those in need.

Amid the US-Marcos regime's neglect, US-based organizations, led by Tanggol Migrante, allied organizations, and Filipinos in the community, continue to campaign and organize. They launched various activities such as press conferences, rallies, visits to detainees, sending letters to courts, and raising donations for the immediate release of those detained and to help their families.

The collective action of people in the US managed to free Michelle (not her real name) on April 30 and Lewelyn Dixon on May 29, both detained at the NorthWest ICE Detention Center (NWDC) in Tacoma, Washington.

Maximo Londorio, Rodante Rivera, Ligaya Jensen, and Alma Bowman are still currently detained. They are decades-long residents in the US.

US-based democratic organizations demanded urgent action from the Philippine government, saying it must provide adequate support to all immigrants, including those facing deportation, trafficking, or wage theft. They also challenged Ambassador Jose Manuel Romualdez to step down unless he fulfills his duty to defend Filipinos in the US.



**Prosecute Sara Duterte.** Progressive groups protested at the Senate in Pasay City on June 3 to call for the immediate start of the long-delayed impeachment trial of Vice President Sara Duterte. They condemned the Senate for using various pretexts to delay the proceedings. The House of Representatives already submitted the articles of impeachment as early as February.

The Senate drew widespread criticism for violating the 1987 Constitution in delaying the trial. The critics include professors from the University of the Philippines College of Law. Meanwhile, various groups led by the Taumbayan Ayaw sa Magnanakaw at Abusado Network Alliance (TAMA NA) are set to launch a large protest on June 11, the day of the Senate hearing on the impeachment.

**Fishers fight.** Pamalakaya and the Save Laguna Lake Movement held a fluvial parade in Muntinlupa City on May 31, the national day of fishers, to call for the scrapping of the destructive Laguna Lake Roadshore Network Project and the 2,000-hectare floating solar power project in Laguna de Bay.

On May 30, hundreds of fisherfolk, supporters, and environmental advocates marched together to Mendiola in Manila. They called for the protection of fishers' rights, opposed reclamation, and demanded the reversal of the Supreme Court's ruling on the 15-kilometer municipal waters.

**Justice for Junver.** University of Santo Tomas students lit candles on their campus in Manila on May 29 to call for justice for the death of their fellow student Junver Toledo, 22. Academic pressure reportedly drove Toledo, a student at the UST College of Rehabilitation Sciences, to commit suicide on May 17.

**Free the political prisoners.** Karapatan-National Capital Region held a picket protest before the Quezon City Hall of Justice on May 20. They called for the immediate release and dismissal of cases of illegal possession of firearms and explosives against unionists Mark Ryan Cruz, Romina Astudillo, and Jaymie Gregorio, who belong to the Human Rights Day 7. The hearing scheduled for that day was postponed to August because the judge was reportedly "on vacation" and thus stood them up.



71 of 82

provinces remain controlled by **political dynasties** after the 2025 election, just as before the election.

Only 3

secretaries **were replaced** by Marcos Jr after his cosmetic call for the entire cabinet to resign, supposedly to address the people's clamor for change.



of **fresh fish** were allowed to be imported on the pretext that fishing season in **Davao Gulf** and other fishing grounds is closed for three months starting June 1.



or up to ₱600M per month is being lost by businesses in **Tacloban City** while large trucks are restricted to ply the **San Juanico Bridge**.



confirmed cases MPox (**monkeypox**) reported in the Philippines from 2024 to June 4, 2025. Unlike Covid-19, MPox is not airborne but transferred through direct contact with an infected person or with contaminated objects.

57/day

new **HIV** cases in the Philippines during January to March 2025, 50% higher compared to the same period in 2024. **The cases are mostly aged 15-25.**



of highest paid government officials in 2024 were all officials of the **Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas**; the highest paid was its head, Eli Remolona, who earned ₱47.96M per year.

70%

rise in the number of crime cases involving American soldiers in South Korea in 2023 compared to 2018.



Source: 2024 Justice Yearbook, Ministry of Justice, South Korea

# CBK Hydroelectric Plant privatization condemned

Former Bayan Muna representative Atty. Carlos Zarate strongly condemned the US-Marcos regime’s plan to privatize the Caliraya-Botocan-Kalayaan (CBK) complex. He said this would only raise electricity rates, further burdening the people who depend on the service.

“The government should regulate essential services such as electricity. Instead of selling the CBK, it should become a model for renewable energy that will lower electricity rates for everyone,” Zarate added.

The privatization of the CBK complex is scheduled at the end of June this year. According to the Department of Finance (DOF), the government may earn ₱50 billion (\$897.99 million) to ₱100 billion from the privatization of the facility.

The 728 megawatt (MW) Caliraya-Botocan-Kalayaan hydropower complex is the last remaining state-owned operational hydroelectric facility and the oldest hydropower plant in the country.

The CBK complex is composed of the Botocan hydro electric power plant (HEPP), built in 1939 with a capacity of 20.8 MW; the Caliraya HEPP, built in 1942 with a capacity of 22 MW; and the Kalayaan pump storage power plant, built in 1983. The plants are located in barangays in Kalayaan, Lumban, and Majayjay in Laguna.

The complex was first developed under the National Power Corporation (NAPOCOR). On February 7, 2001, CBK Power Company Limited officially took over the management of the CBK complex under the government’s Build-Rehabilitate-Operate-Transfer scheme through NAPOCOR, which will end after 25 years.

In April 2005, two Japanese companies—Electric Power Development Co., Ltd (J-Power) and Sumitomo Corporation—acquired the CBK BROT Agreement from the original owner. Their contract will end in February 2026.

The CBK complex is one of the three remaining government-owned large power plants. These have been placed under the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (PSALM) for the privatization of the facilities. The two others that are also set to be sold are the 932MW Agus-Pulangui hydropower complex in the Mindanao grid, and the 210MW Mindanao coal plant.

AB

# US holds 3 simultaneous war games in the Philippines

THE PRESENCE OF thousands of American, Australian, and other foreign troops in the country’s territory for instigative and large-scale war games is a blatant assault on Philippine sovereignty. Since May, the US has been simultaneously launching three of these exercises, one in partnership with the Australian military. These are Kamandag (May 26–June 6), Kasangga (May 19–June 24), and Salaknib 2025 Phase 2 (May 19–July 20).

Kamandag was launched in Batanes; in Capas, Tarlac, where live-fire drills were held; and in Burgos, Ilocos Norte, where a maritime strike operation was conducted. There are also activities in Palawan and other parts of Luzon, as well as in Tawi-Tawi in Mindanao.

US and Philippine troops used the Navy-Marine Expeditionary Ship Interdiction System (NMESIS) and High Mobility Artillery Rocket System or HIMARS in Kamandag. NMESIS is an anti-ship missile system. It is mounted on an unmanned ground vehicle (a large truck) called the ROGUE Fires Carrier and is equipped with a Naval Strike Missile (NSM).

The war games involve 2,031 US Marine Corps soldiers and 2,028 personnel from the Philippines. Military personnel from South Korea, Japan, and the United Kingdom are also participating in the war games. Personnel from France, Canada, Bahrain, Australia, Indonesia, Thailand, and the Netherlands are serving as “observers.”

Kasangga opened at the 4th ID camp in Cagayan de Oro City and is being conducted at Camp Kibaritan, Kalilangan, Bukidnon. At least 90 soldiers from the Australian Army and 140 soldiers from the Philippine Army are participating in the war games. Kasangga will run until June 24.

Meanwhile, Salaknib, conducted by the US and the Philippines, is currently underway in Northern Luzon.

According to the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), the US conducts these war games in the country to tighten its control over the AFP.

“The Filipino people oppose these war games. In addition to endangering Filipinos, they are also a scourge to residents who are deprived of their livelihoods to make way for the exercises,” CPP chief information officer Marco Valbuena said.

The large-scale and intensive war games, as well as the subservience of the AFP and the Marcos regime, are the reasons why many countries in Asia now regard the Philippines as a US proxy, according to the CPP. Neighboring countries in Asia are not blind to Marcos and his generals’ obedience to US directives and plans.



# Comrade Basavaraju, hero of the Indian revolution and the international proletariat

The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) paid tribute to Communist Party of India (Maoist) general secretary Comrade Basavaraju (Nambala Keshava Rao) who was martyred along with 27 others on May 21. Indian state forces killed them in the so-called Gundekote Massacre, in Abhujmad in the Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh, India.

Comrade Basavaraju's name now shines among the immortal heroes of the epic people's war in India and the revolutionary struggles for national liberation and socialism around the world. He carried the torch of the armed struggle in India, enlightening the path of the international proletarian revolution, especially during the past decades of setbacks and defeats of socialist forces in various parts of the world.

## Who is Comrade Basavaraju?

Comrade Basavaraju was born in 1955 to a peasant family in the Jiyannapetta community in the Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh, in southeastern India. He attended elementary and high school in their district and went to the city of Warangal in the neighboring state of Telangana to study engineering in college.

While in college, he became aware of the situation and the Indian people's struggle, leading him to join the student movement. In the 1980s, he became part of and played a key role in CPI (Marxist-Leninist) People's War. He became a member of the party's central committee in 1992.

In 2004, he was among those who led the merger of CPI (ML) People's War and the Maoist Communist Centre of India (MCCI) to form the CPI (Maoist). He was one of the founders of India's people's army, the People's Liberation Guerilla Army (PLGA), in 2000. He led it for a sustained period and spearheaded many victories in building revolutionary bases and launching tactical offensives against fascist forces.

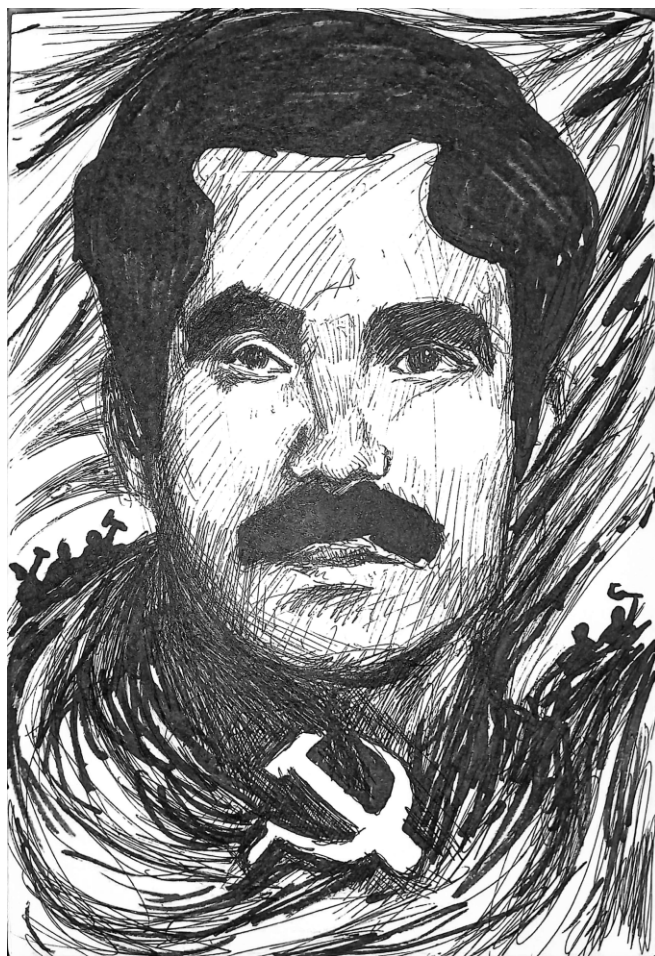
He served as a Central Committee member for 33 years and of the Politburo for 25 years. He led the Central Military Commission of the CPI (Maoist) for a long time. In the latter part of 2018, the Central Committee elected him as CPI (Maoist) general secretary, succeeding the leadership of Comrade Ganapathy.

## Call for justice

Justice is the united cry of the Indian people and international parties and organizations over the killing of Comrade Basavaraju and 27 other comrades. The Gundekote Massacre violated a number of provisions under international humanitarian law and the rules of war.

According to the report of the Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee of the CPI (Maoist), the 27 CPI (Maoist) comrade-members and PLGA fighters were killed in the encirclement of their camp by thousands of the reactionary state's military and police. The committee revealed that after the battles, Comrade Basavaraju was captured alive and later deliberately killed by the Modi regime's butcher agents.

The brutal Gundekote Massacre is part of the terrorist campaign Operation Kagaar. The operation began in January 2024, during which the reactionary state deployed thousands of armed forces, established



hundreds of military detachments, and carried out a campaign of killings and terrorism mainly against the Adivasi, the indigenous peoples of India.

At present, various democratic organizations in India are pushing for an investigation into the Gundekote Massacre. They want the Modi regime and its military officials to be held accountable for these grave crimes.

Meanwhile, the Central Committee of the CPP expressed full confidence that the CPI (Maoist) Central Committee it will immediately choose a leader equal in capability to Comrade Basavaraju to assume the responsibilities he held. The leadership stated its confidence that with the wisdom of the senior cadres and the vigor and intelligence of the younger cadres, the CPI (Maoist) will overcome all challenges, continue on the path of revolutionary armed struggle, and achieve greater victories in the people's war in India.

# Operation Gideon's Chariots, Israel and the US' death blow against millions of Palestinians

The first 24 hours of the US' and Israel's bloody Operation Gideon's Chariots campaign of bombings and assault on Gaza instantly killed 144 Palestinians. In the following days, Israeli forces launched successive attacks on evacuation centers, as well as the remaining hospitals and schools, to drive Palestinians toward the prisons prepared for them. Hundreds of those killed were children.

Operation Gideon's Chariots, which began on May 18, is the planned death blow by Israel and the US in the ongoing 18-month genocide and 77-year brutal occupation of Palestinian territories. Its aim is to directly occupy the entire Gaza Strip and imprison around 1.5 million Palestinians in "evacuation centers" in the southern part of the enclave.

Since October 2023, Israeli bombings and assaults have directly killed 63,000 Palestinians and wounded 118,300. Nearly half of the victims are children and women. An estimated hundreds of thousands more have died from hunger, disease, and lack of medical facilities. Many have been buried under collapsed buildings and homes, never found or recovered because of Israel's relentless attacks.

## Weaponizing and commodifying food and aid

Famine in Gaza has reached catastrophic levels, especially since

March, when Israel absolutely banned the entry of all types of aid. In May, Israel handed over responsibility for food distribution to the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), a private company jointly established by the US and Israel to "defeat" Hamas.

The United Nations strongly criticized Israel's use of the GHF, saying it contradicts the required neutrality, impartiality, and independence of humanitarian work. The UN, together with many countries and international institutions, condemned Israel and the US for weaponizing aid and food against civilians.

In addition to the GHF, Israel also brought in other American private companies to act as "security forces" at its distribution centers. These include Safe Reach Solutions, UG Solutions, and S.R.S. Security Firm, all owned by former US Army and Central Intelligence Agency generals. The highest Israeli officials, in partnership with the US, se-

lected these companies bypassing their respective parliaments and congresses.

## Ongoing global protests

Millions of people worldwide took to the streets in protest against the renewed wave of genocide in Gaza. They called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza and an end to the Zionist Israel's brutal attacks and bombings. The protests coincided with the commemoration of the 77th anniversary of the Nakba, or The Catastrophe, the first time Zionists violently expelled Palestinians from their land to establish the Israeli state.

Hundreds of actions were held in cities across the Middle East, Europe, Asia, Africa, and even within the US. Many young students in the US bravely launched protests and discussions at universities despite intense pressure.

In the Philippines, the Moro-Christian Peoples Alliance (MCPA) joined the global call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

MCPA secretary general Amirah Lidasan said "since breaking the ceasefire, Zionist Israel and its number one funder have shown no mercy to our Palestinian brothers and sisters."

She calls on the international community to continue urging their leaders to take action against Israel's unceasing attacks. "The liberation of one is the liberation of all, especially now amid severe human rights violations. We must not stop until Palestine is free," she said.

On May 23, the group held a forum and staged a march at the University of the Philippines-Diliman. This coincided with the 8th anniversary of Rodrigo Duterte's declaration of martial law in Mindanao and the destruction of Marawi City, the country's only Islamic city, in 2017. **AB**

