

## **Why imperialism needs the 'Conference for the Democratic Left' as an option to contain the masses Part 1**

The economic crisis of world capitalism/imperialism in the present decade and particularly the last 3 years, has compelled the capitalist classes and imperialism to increasingly pass the consequences of the crisis, both economic and social, onto the shoulders of the urban and rural working classes; including the urban and rural petit-bourgeois.

Wholesale retrenchments, cuts in wages and massive withdrawal of social services, such as health and education has been brutally implemented by the bourgeoisie and its state apparatus on a world scale. The extent and depth of their attack on the working masses is reflected by the corresponding rising resistance by the organised working classes throughout the capitalist world. The 8 general strikes thus far in 2010 in Greece; the uprising in Kyrgyzstan; the victorious resistance in Linzhou China signifies a qualitative change in the psychology of the masses. A move to the left in the form of a crystallization of class consciousness where the question of the irreconcilability of class interests starts to take form. This implies that the political and social forces which are used by capital in the past to contain and suppress this danger of irreconcilable class interests is not sufficient and therefore not effective.

Trade union bureaucrats, social democratic reformist parties, Stalinists and the fake left are less and less capable of duping the mass and crushing their hostility to the capitalist system. The decreasing usefulness of these treacherous organisms in the workers movement is becoming abundantly clear to the capitalist classes and imperialism.

A dangerous situation if the form of a political vacuum could result in the sprouting of genuine revolutionary forces, to challenge the status quo and capitalism as a whole, could, and inevitably would, sooner or later take place. In fact imperialism capitalism is of the opinion that this possibility would arise sooner rather than later, and hence the emergence of the 'anti-capitalist' parties and at the same time the rise of fascist parties are rapidly appearing on the political scene of all the major imperialist countries. Those trends are also surfacing in the semi-colonial and colonial countries.

The formation of the Conference of the Democratic Left (CDL) must be viewed and analysed in the international and national context of the economic and political crisis in South Africa.

The analysis of the political forces, ie parties operating in the Southern African social milieu in containing and duping the mass into believing that the present social, political relations and conditions will be able to ultimately meet the needs of the impoverished and exploited mass, if certain economic and social changes are implemented, has been utterly discredited by the rapidly deteriorating conditions of life of the working class. The latest programme of the 'Growth Employment and Reconstruction' programme and the 'Accelerated Growth' programme have instead of alleviating the conditions of life, has been complete , deliberate misrepresentation of objective reality. In

2009 alone an extra million workers have been thrown into the unemployment queue. The health system has been progressively collapsing; the whole education system is destroying the cultural development of our youth. Housing, water, sanitation, roads, transport, electricity (basic necessities for simple physical existence) are increasingly just a wishful hope of attainment in a country which has the necessary resources to make it immediately available to very single person inhabiting South Africa, if not all of Southern Africa. On the other side of this tragic and unacceptable scenario, billions of Rands are raked in as profits by the big bourgeoisie. Mansions, fancy cars and salaries in the millions, parties and conspicuous consumption are enjoyed by every single member sitting in our national and provincial parliaments, the so-called representatives of the people.

Added to this is the deliberate and artificial creation of the black petit bourgeoisie and its hangers on. Through the process of 'black economic empowerment' by the imperialist bourgeoisie, such as Anglo American, Sanlam, Barlow Rand, Rembrandt, Liberty Life, Old Mutual, etc. To add insult to injury, even those enterprises that are state-owned (Isacor, Telkom) have been sold and still are being sold to further enrich the imperialist and its parasitic Southern African agents; the emerging black middle classes and bourgeoisie.

This scenario of wealth, opulence, on the other hand and the continuous struggle to acquire the basic needs for mere physical existence, is becoming rapidly clear in the minds of the vast majority of the impoverished mass. The realization that there is something fundamentally wrong in the whole system of social organization is becoming abundantly clear, not only to the advanced sections of the working class, but even to the servile, confused super-exploited mass. Intense anger and frustration is boiling under the fragile surface, which must inevitably find expression in gigantic social eruptions on a national scale, which could and would spill over to the neighbouring countries.

The above picture has not escaped the ideologues and think tanks of the ruling classes and imperialism. What forces are there at present at their disposal to maintain the status quo of the super-exploitation of the masses, is being analysed as insufficient. This is why imperialism is behind the creation of the Conference for a Democratic Left (CDL), which on the surface appears as being spearheaded by the SACP and the fake left; this is just one of several nooses being prepared by imperialism to contain the coming working class explosions. We may also add, this is why the Cosatu leaders are busy reviving the UDF (United Democratic Front), in this case building a 'new' front with several so-called civic society organizations- another measure to help imperialism contain the coming working class explosion.

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