



We support the unconditional right of the Hangberg community and the working class in general, to self-defence against state violence

We support the unconditional right of the residents of Hangberg to self-defence against the violence of the police and the state. We cannot depend on the courts. The immediate task must be to build self-defence committees, uniting the masses of Hangberg and Imizamayethu. The bourgeois media remains silent on the institutional violence of homelessness and unemployment in the land of plenty. Millions are unemployed, millions are without decent homes, while the imperialists take over R200 bn in profit offshore every year. The state housing policy is **not** to build houses but to maintain the scarcity of housing so that the capitalists can continue to profit from it.

We call for the expropriation of the banks and all capitalist construction companies, to be placed under workers control; nationalise all the land; expropriate all imperialist assets- place these under workers control; this is the way to achieve adequate housing for all, close to places of work.

We reject the call by the Cosatu leaders for the army to be sent in; we call for the rank and file soldiers to join hands with the residents of Hangberg.

The city acts against the Hangberg residents because they have identified the land for profiteering for their capitalist friends. The DA-ID and ANC stand together with the imperialists against the masses. The ANC government is in control of the SANparks which was a co-applicant for the eviction of the residents from the shacks on the mountain. The SANparks only withdrew after the ANC realized that they could use this resistance of the masses to gain votes for next year's local government elections. When the police shot the eyes out of 4 residents in what was a deliberate planned act of state violence against the homeless masses, the signatures of both the ANC and DA were on the eviction order. We stand with the residents of Hangberg, the rising masses of Mozambique, against the imperialists and their agents.

Just across the city, in Langa, it was the ANC that initiated the mass eviction of 3000 families from Joe Slovo. It was the ANC that sent the police to shoot the masses when they occupied the N2 highway. In Johannesburg the ANC sends private demolition teams, the red ants to evict the masses; in Durban and in Khayelitsha the ANC-SACP-controlled police have been unleashed on the Abahlahli. If the ANC-SACP government builds too many houses, the banks, who make money out of the desperation of the masses, will lose profits. The banks will never allow this. The ANC sits on the boards of the banks and have a direct interest in not building enough houses- more profits to the capitalist and more crumbs to the ANC fatcats. The DA are the direct agents of the banks and have always been open about their support for the capitalists. Billionaires like Sol Kerzner and Oprah can freely buy up the land but when the masses take a tiny piece of vacant land, we are shot at.

We call for the immediate dropping of charges against all the residents arrested in their fight against the brutal police.



Beware the treacherous role of the Cosatu leaders and of the SACP

Throughout this resistance of the masses in Hangberg, the Cosatu leaders have been championing the ANC as if the ANC will provide the masses with houses. This is sheer opportunism. The ANC has spent R100bn on the world cup while this money could have been used to solve the housing crisis overnight. The ANC is spearheading the massive increases in electricity so the international banks, the imperialists make super-profits while the masses are dumped in the dark, dying of preventable diseases. The new electricity scam programme for power stations that we do not need, will cost over R1000 bn. It is the Cosatu leaders that failed to carry out the mandate for a general strike against the electricity increases; these leaders sold out the public sector strike by twice proposing a sellout of less than 8.6%. They helped the capitalists because now the bosses will use the 7.5% to beat all workers to accept lower wages. The Cosatu leaders betrayed the mandate they had for a general strike in support of the public sector workers. The Cosatu leaders cannot be trusted to lead the campaign for part of the vast open land in Houtbay to be used for housing for the working class.

The SACP leaders are no different. Most Cosatu leaders are members of the SACP from where they get their direction to support the capitalist ANC. The SACP leaders are also cabinet ministers applying the policy of the capitalists; they were part of the sellout to prevent the general strikes against the electricity increases from taking place; they helped call off the general strike that would have supported the struggle of the public sector workers. Recently the SACP condemned the Abahlali for organizing barricades in their struggle for housing, the SACP called for the protection of the police stations. Thus in the month which the SACP calls 'Red October' they oppose the basic method of the October Russian revolution and all other workers revolutions. The SACP call for the protection of the police, the very ones who have shot out the eyes of the Hangberg protestors. It is the SACP who is reactionary not the rank and file of the masses who set up barricades every day against the capitalist system that starves us and oppresses the working class. Today the workers in France are driving truckloads of tyres to barricades against the state that is cutting their pension rights, but the SACP condemns the barricade. Indeed it shows that in the class struggle the SACP is on the same side of the barricade as the capitalists, the imperialists and their agents.

Out with the Cosatu leaders from the unions!

Break with the capitalists! Break with the capitalist ANC and SACP!

Joint Self defence committees between residents of Hangberg and Imizamayethu!

For vacant land in Hout bay to be shared among the working class in the area, principally that of Imizamayethu and Hangberg. Decent housing for all close to their places of work!

Unite the struggles of the abahlali and the working class in Houtbay!

Expropriate the banks, the capitalist construction companies, without compensation and place them under workers control! Nationalize the land to provide housing to all! Open up the unused space in all hotels and vacant buildings in the cities for accommodation for those without adequate housing.

For a national congress of delegates of employed , unemployed , urban and rural workers, immigrants, rank and file soldiers, students, to set in motion and plan of mass action to fight for houses , jobs, education,, health care.

We call for the setting up of an organizing committee to refound the Fourth International.

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