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INTERNATIONAL

April-June 2026



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CRISIS BEGETS RESISTANCE

THE FILIPINO PEOPLE AGAINST THE MARCOS AND DUTERTE CLIQUES

Crisis begets resistance

The Filipino people against the Marcos and Duterte cliques

For majority of Filipinos, the worsening crisis of the semicolonial and semifeudal ruling system is marked by the unbearable weight of soaring prices of basic goods and services, stagnant wages, and widespread landlessness. Following the US imperialist war on Iran and the compounding impacts of oil price hikes, Filipino families already struggling to make ends meet are forced even further to stretch their shrinking incomes as they shoulder the burden of a crisis they did not create.

The resulting increase in fuel costs has exposed once more the chronic backwardness and dependence of the Philippine economy. Decades of neoliberal policies imposed by foreign monopoly capital and faithfully implemented by successive reactionary regimes have left the country without a national industrial base, heavily dependent on imported fuel, imported goods, foreign loans, and remittances from overseas Filipino workers.

As oil prices soar, the burden is immediately passed on to the Filipino people. The giant oil corporations, protected by the Oil Deregulation Law and operating as a cartel, continue to rake in enormous profits while imposing weekly price hikes on diesel, gasoline, and kerosene. Even with the rollback of oil prices in the global market, Filipino consumers have yet to experience any meaningful relief. Recent fuel rollbacks merely clawed back a tiny fraction of the massive increases imposed during the height of the crisis. Diesel and gasoline prices remain substantially higher than they were before the US-instigated war on Iran disrupted the energy market, while the inflationary effects of previous increases continue to burden the people.

In the countryside, the crisis is equally severe. Landlessness remains widespread despite decades of agrarian reform promises. Farmers face rising production costs, cheap imported agricultural products, and declining incomes. Fisherfolk confront higher fuel expenses, dwindling catches and anti-people policies that prevent them from earning a livelihood in the sea in favor of big fishing vessels. Rural communities continue to be displaced by mining operations, big plantations, so-called “renewable energy” projects, and increasing land speculation and conversions. The country’s vast natural resources remain under the control of foreign monopoly capital and their local comprador and landlord partners, while the people who produce the nation’s wealth and food remain unacceptably impoverished.

While the basic masses struggle to survive on a daily basis, the political rivalry among competing factions of the ruling class grow even deeper, further exposing the rotten state of the current ruling system. Last February, the House of

Representatives impeached GRP Vice President Sara Duterte over her misuse of public funds among other allegations, while the Marcos faction moved to consolidate power and weaken their political rivals ahead of the 2028 presidential elections. In response to this attack, the pro-Duterte faction in Senate deposed the sitting Senate President, and installed Allan Peter Cayetano as the new Senate President to block impeachment attempts against Sara Duterte.

The impeachment trial against Sara Duterte has thus far started and is bound to further inflame the Marcos-Duterte conflict.

In the midst of this political circus, the ICC warrant against Senator Bato Dela Rosa was declassified on May 11, and instead of surrendering him to the court, the newly installed pro-Duterte majority conducted a ruse that would eventually allow him to escape. Since then, the intensifying Marcos-Duterte divide within the Senate has spurred widespread public frustration among the Filipino masses leading to broader calls for accountability and genuine change.

Revelations surrounding anomalous flood-control projects, infrastructure contracts, and other “farm-to-pocket” schemes have further exposed that public office has become a vehicle for personal enrichment among bureaucrat-capitalists. The anger of the people is particularly intense because these corruption scandals unfold amid repeated floods, landslides, and other disasters that devastate communities lacking adequate protection and support.

The Filipino people rightly demand accountability from both the Marcos and Duterte camps. Yet they also recognize that the ongoing political drama of the Marcoses and the Dutertes is fundamentally a struggle among rival factions of the same ruling classes. Neither side offers a solution to the poverty that they experience everyday, the hopelessness caused by rampant unemployment, landlessness and the endless cycle of debt, the brazen corruption, and outright disregard of the country’s sovereignty.

As the economic and political crises deepen, the Marcos regime has increasingly relied on repression of all forms of dissent and relentless militarization in the countryside. Student protests, transport strikes, anti-corruption mobilizations, and anti-imperialist demonstrations have been met with surveillance, intimidation, red-tagging, arrests and threats. Military and police forces continue to be deployed against communities, workers, peasants, and indigenous peoples asserting their democratic rights.

The US-Marcos regime has increasingly weaponized the institutions of the state. In addition to its primary fascist instruments in the form of the NTF-Elcac, the AFP and the PNP, it has used laws, courts and civilian agencies to criminalize dissent and portray all forms of resistance, including revolutionary forces as “terrorists” or “obstacles to development.”

The regime's repressive posture is closely linked to its unquestionable subservience to US imperialism. While the people suffer, the Marcos regime has enthusiastically opened the country to an expanding US military presence. Through the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA), and multiple Status of Visiting Forces Agreements, multiple military sites have been made available to ever-growing US forces on Philippine soil. Massive Balikatan and Salaknib exercises have become annual demonstrations of military trainings between the fascist Armed Forces of the Philippines and the US military.

The AFP continues to receive millions of dollars of funding, weapons, intelligence support, and training from the US to secure the interests of US imperialism in the region.

The same military forces trained through these programs are deployed against peasant communities resisting land grabbing, against indigenous peoples defending ancestral lands, against workers organizing unions, and against the revolutionary forces of the New People's Army fighting for national and social liberation. The intensified counterrevolutionary campaign, marked by military occupation of villages, bombings, blockades, extrajudicial killings, abductions, and other grave violations human rights and international humanitarian law, serves both domestic reaction and foreign imperialist interests.

As the ruling classes intensify their competition for power and wealth, the Filipino people are increasingly recognizing the necessity of revolutionary change as the only means to end US imperialist control, feudal exploitation, and the scourge of bureaucrat capitalism. 🚩

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LIBERATION INTERNATIONAL

The NDFP is the revolutionary united front organization of the Filipino people fighting for national freedom and for the democratic rights of the people. Established on April 24, 1973, the NDFP seeks to develop and coordinate all progressive classes, sectors and forces in the Filipino people's struggle to end the rule of US imperialism and its local allies, and attain national and social liberation.

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PAX SILICA

Philippines in the crosshairs of the US war agenda

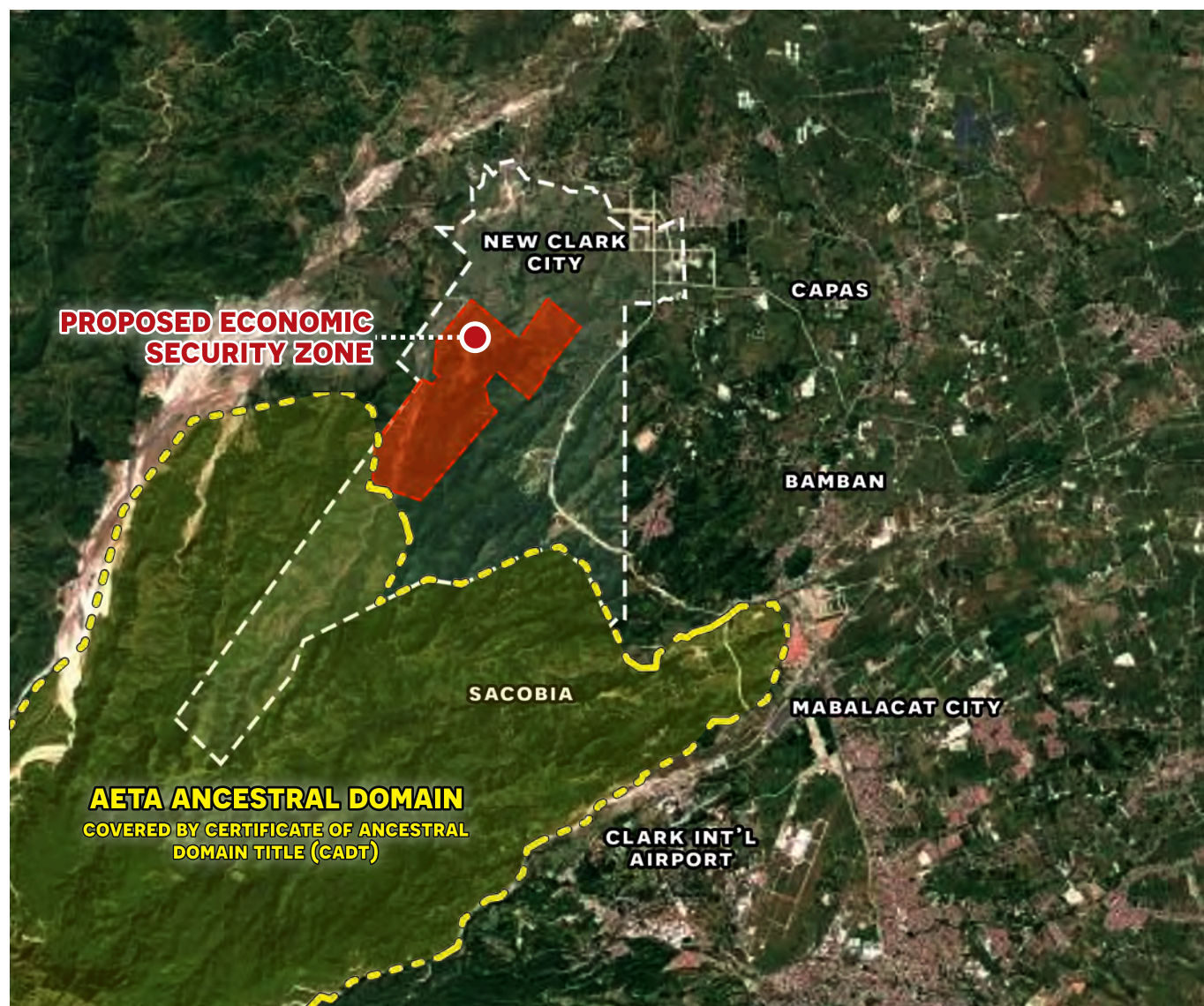
By Ricardo Lozano

Under the rule of madman US President Donald Trump and his puppet Marcos Jr. regime, the Philippines is being rapidly transformed into a forward military and economic outpost of US imperialism in the Asia-Pacific. Alongside expanding military agreements, basing access, and constant war exercises, a new instrument of US plunder and control has emerged under the so-called Pax Silica initiative.

What is Pax Silica?

Pax Silica is a US-led alliance to reorganize global supply chains for artificial intelligence, semiconductors, so-called “critical minerals,” and advanced technologies.

At the center of this initiative is a new 1,619-hectare “economic security zone” in Luzon, designed as a strategic hub linking mining, manufacturing, data infrastructure, and logistics into a US-directed industrial network.



Launched in December 2025, the so-called Pax Silica Coalition expanded to 24 member countries including:

Founding members:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1.  United States | 5.  South Korea |
| 2.  Australia | 6.  Singapore |
| 3.  Israel | 7.  United Arab Emirates (UAE) |
| 4.  Japan | 8.  United Kingdom |

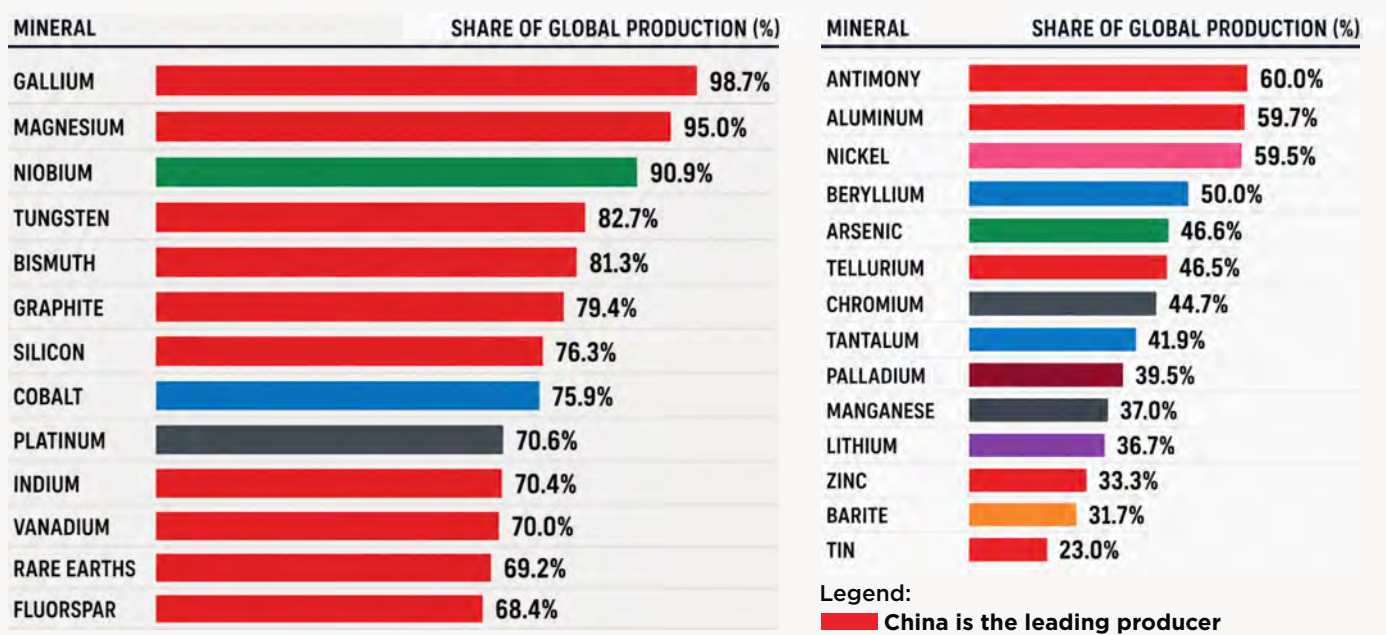
Recent additions:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1.  Argentina | 9.  India |
| 2.  Chile | 10.  Kazakhstan |
| 3.  Costa Rica | 11.  Netherlands |
| 4.  El Salvador | 12.  Norway |
| 5.  European Union | 13.  Panama |
| 6.  Finland | 14.  Philippines |
| 7.  Germany | 15.  Qatar |
| 8.  Greece | 16.  Sweden |

Note: Taiwan also observes and endorses the Pax Silica Declaration

Pax Silica is part of a broader strategy by the US to reorganize global production networks amid intensifying inter-imperialist rivalry with China. By securing control over semiconductor production, AI infrastructure, and critical mineral supply chains, the US seeks to maintain dominance in the most strategic sectors of the global economy and strengthen its capacity for technological and military warfare.

Right now, China plays a very strong role in these global supply chains. It is not only a major manufacturer of electronics, but more importantly, it dominates many of the early and middle stages of production such as processing rare earth minerals and producing key industrial materials needed for chips and high-tech devices. The US, on the other hand, has weakened its own industrial base over decades of neoliberal globalization and relying more on finance and services than manufacturing.



This is why the US is trying to rebuild its own supply chains with its neocolonies such as the Philippines under initiatives like Pax Silica. In simple terms, Pax Silica is part of the US attempt to catch up and reorganize global production so it can compete more effectively with China.

Why is the Philippines important to this initiative?

The Philippines occupies a key position in this design. Rich in mineral resources such as nickel, copper, chromite and cobalt, and strategically located along vital sea lanes, the country is being integrated into a system of supply chains that serve US monopoly capital and its war-driven agenda.

How does Pax Silica relate to the US imperialist war agenda?

Two things are immediately clear.

First, Pax Silica does not aim at genuine industrialization that benefits the Filipino people. Instead, it expands and deepens the country's role as a semi-processing and low-value production hub, where raw materials are extracted, minimally processed, and exported for higher-value production abroad. The initiative ensures that US corporations and their local comprador partners monopolize the extraction of "critical minerals," rare earth elements, and other strategic resources while relying on cheap Filipino labor for assembly, logistics, and support operations.

Official descriptions of the Pax Silica initiative frame it as a "secure supply chain" hub for semiconductors, artificial intelligence, critical minerals, and advanced manufacturing within a broader allied system led by the US. In practice, this means the Philippines is positioned as a mere node in a wider chain where higher-value activities such as chip design, advanced AI development, intellectual property creation, and strategic decision-making all remain concentrated in the US and other advanced capitalist economies. What is being located in the Philippines are the lower and mid-tier segments of production such as mineral extraction, basic processing, assembly, testing, logistics, and support services. This reproduces the country's long-standing role as a supplier of cheap labor and raw materials. Even proponents of the Luzon Economic Security Zone acknowledge that its purpose is to "move the Philippines up the supply chain ladder," which itself implicitly confirms that the plan remains to keep the country locked into low-value roles rather than breaking free from them.

Second, the timing reveals its strategic purpose as part of the US war agenda. These supply chains are essential to the United States' preparation for present and future wars of aggression in the Asia-Pacific. The same industrial and logistical infrastructure being

promoted under Pax Silica will directly support the production of advanced weapons systems, ammunition, electronics, and war materiel needed for US military operations in the region.

Pax Silica must be understood alongside the accelerating militarization of the Philippines under the Marcos regime. The country is being converted into a forward military base of US imperialism through the expansion of EDCA sites, Balikatan and Salaknib war exercises, and new logistical and operational facilities for US forces.

From Subic Bay's ammunition facilities to the Davao oil depot, and through US-linked corporations such as Moog Controls Corporation in Benguet, Collins Aerospace in Batangas, and Valar Atomics in Metro Manila, US imperialism is leaving an increasingly heavy footprint across the Philippine economy. These installations seek to blur the line between "economic development" and outright war preparation, embedding the country deeper into the US war machine.

The Luzon "economic security zone" under Pax Silica is not separate from this broader strategy. It complements the growing network of US military-linked production and logistics facilities that serve both commercial and war-making purposes. In this sense, the Philippines is being shaped not only as a cheap labor platform but also as a strategic staging ground for US military and economic domination of Asia.

How will Pax Silica impact the Filipino people?

While foreign corporations secure access to land, minerals, and infrastructure, Filipino workers remain trapped in low wages, precarious employment, and contractual labor. The minimum wage in Central Luzon (Region III) ranges between P515 to P600 way below the Family Living Wage in the region at P1,201. In addition, the AI hub being located within an export processing zone effectively allows capitalists to effectively lower the minimum wage bar due to widespread labor standard exemptions and exploitation. Peasants in the area will continue to lose land to mining, plantations, and infrastructure corridors tied to foreign investment. National minorities face displacement and environmental destruction as extraction expands.

Even the promise of employment coming from this initiative must be viewed critically. Jobs created under such schemes are likely to be concentrated in low-wage assembly, logistics, and service work, while high-value design, research, and technological control remain in the hands of foreign capitalist control.

At the same time, the expansion of militarized economic zones increases the risk of greater state

terror in neighboring areas in Central Luzon. Areas prioritized for foreign investment are often accompanied by heightened security operations, surveillance, and the suppression of community resistance to land grabbing, mining, and environmental destruction.

Pax Silica also seeks to recruit Filipino scientists, engineers, and STEM professionals into the service of imperialist production and war. By integrating local technical labor into global supply chains controlled by US corporations, it channels local scientific capacity away from national development and toward foreign strategic objectives.

This raises a fundamental contradiction: science and technology under imperialism do not serve national progress but reinforce dependency and exploitation. The Philippines does not lack technical talent or natural resources; it lacks sovereign control over how these are developed and utilized. From a national-democratic perspective, the question is not whether to reject science or technology, but whose interests they serve.

Why should the Filipino people reject Pax Silica and fight for genuine national industrialization?

The Filipino people should reject Pax Silica because it does not offer genuine development, but a deeper form of economic dependency. Instead of building an independent industrial base that can process raw materials, produce machinery, and develop its own technological capacity, Pax Silica confines the Philippines to low-value activities such as extraction, assembly, and support services within a US-led and dominated supply chain. This means that even as advanced technologies like artificial intelligence and

semiconductors are developed on Philippine soil, the country remains fundamentally excluded from the benefits of these technologies.

The expansion of Pax Silica and related US-led initiatives has sharpened the urgency of the struggle for genuine national industrialization. Real development cannot be achieved through US-controlled enclaves designed for extraction, cheap labor, and military integration.

Instead, it requires breaking the structural control of foreign monopoly capital over the economy, asserting national sovereignty over resources, and building an independent industrial base oriented toward the needs of the Filipino people.

Patriotic and revolutionary STEM professionals and students have a critical role to play in this struggle. They must expose and oppose imperialist projects like Pax Silica and the operations of US-linked corporations embedded in the Philippine economy. More importantly, they must align scientific and technical expertise with the struggle for national and social liberation.

At the same time, we must also advance the struggle for genuine agrarian reform as it is only through the free distribution of land and the modernization of Philippine agriculture can national industries have a solid base to develop in a sustainable manner.

Ultimately, the struggle against Pax Silica is part of a broader struggle to break away from US imperialist control, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism. As the Philippines is further drawn into US war preparations and economic control, the fight for genuine independence and development becomes ever more urgent. 🚩





NDF slams AFP and Marcos Jr. regime anew for killing minors in Toboso

Bayani Obrero, NDF-Negros Island

The National Democratic Front-Negros (NDF-Negros) condemned in the strongest terms the US-Marcos II regime and its henchmen, the AFP, regarding the killing of 2 minors in Barangay Salamanca, Toboso, Negros Occidental last April 19, 2026.

In a press statement released May 5, NDF-Negros spokesperson Ka Bayani Obrero expressed ‘the anger of the revolutionary mass organizations in Negros towards the blatant disregard of International Humanitarian Law, completely opposite to the AFP’s claim that it protects the people.’

”The summary execution of Jemina Gumadlas, 15, and Dexter Patajo, 17, alongside 7 other unarmed individuals and 10 hors de combat Red fighters who had no capability in retaliating shows the inherently violent nature and bloodthirst of the reactionary armed forces. Instead of following protocol to distinguish combatants from civilians, the 79th IB and the 303rd Infantry Brigade worked hard to fabricate evidence and legitimize the so-called encounter” mentioned Obrero

Furthermore, Obrero decried how the AFP ‘lauded its ranks and celebrated the Toboso massacre, including the

killing of 2 children, feat only monsters are capable of. Their heinous crime is denounced by the families of the victims and the masses, and their celebration only outrages the people more.’

The statements of the Apolinario Gatmaitan Command and the Roselyn Jean Pelle Command confirm that the incident in April 19 was not a result of an encounter, but a ‘full-on bloodbath committed by the AFP,’ said Obrero.

”The track record of the AFP in the island shows that they are more than capable of killing minors, including the Jacolbe massacre in Canlaon City and the Fausto massacre in Himamaylan City. This pattern is etched in the culture of impunity they strive to terrorize the masses with,” Obrero added.

Obrero also clarified that ‘the NPA remains strict in its policy in only recruiting individuals aged 18 and above, contrary to the AFP’s hogwash. However, the revolutionary movement will continue to protect the rights and welfare of children and the people, including their right to defend their lives, livelihoods and communities from state terrorism’. 

CRITICAL THINKING AND SOCIALLY AWARE YOUTH TERRIFIES RULING SYSTEM

TRIBUTE TO VINCE FRANCIS “KAY MOYMOY” DINGDING

by Jose Emilio Jacinto III

"The ruling class terrifies itself over socially aware youth and critical thinkers," said Maoche Legislador, spokesperson of the Negros Island Regional Operational Command (Apolinario Gatmaitan Command) of the NPA, in a fitting tribute to Vince Francis "Ka Moymoy" Dingding.

Ka Moymoy was martyred on May 16 in Barangay Abaca, Cauayan, Negros Occidental together with five other Red fighters of the New People's Army-Southwest Negros (Armando Sumayang Jr. Command). Ka Poy was the Secretary of the Southwest Negros Guerilla Front at the time of his death. He was 30.

Ka Moymoy, otherwise known as Ka Poy or Ka Cat to the masses of Negros Occidental, was an alumnus of the University of the Philippines Cebu where he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science in 2016. Even at a young age, Ka Poy was keenly aware of the need to integrate with the masses across communities in Cebu in order to arouse, organize and mobilize them to fight for their rights and ultimately to change Philippine society.

After graduating, Ka Moymoy took on a corporate job in the technology sector. But he quickly came to recognize the limitations to a life devoted solely to personal success. The long hours and modest compensation of corporate work only sharpened his awareness of the deeper injustices embedded in the semicolonial and semifeudal Philippine society.

In 2018, he took his first steps into revolutionary work through a Tour of Duty (TOD) with the NPA. What began as a temporary exposure trip quickly became his lifelong calling. Within a matter of months, he left behind the comforts of his petty bourgeois life together with the certainties of his former career as an IT professional and decided to dedicate himself fully to the people's struggle for national liberation.

The countryside became his classroom, the masses his teachers, and service to the people his daily practice. Living among the peasant communities of Negros, he devoted himself to the patient and arduous task of helping the masses improve their lives and strengthen their capacity to fight. He taught literacy to children and to farm workers who had been denied education,

believing that every person who learned to read and write gained another tool in their common struggle against exploitation. Wherever contradictions emerged among the people, Ka Moymoy worked tirelessly to resolve them, combining principled leadership with a deep respect for the experience and practice of the masses.

Ka Moymoy possessed a keen political mind that enabled him to grasp the roots of problems quickly and identify the lessons needed to overcome them. Many comrades remember how he would draw from revolutionary theory as a living guide to daily revolutionary practice, helping individuals and collectives navigate political challenges. His political guidance was always grounded, practical, and attentive to the concrete conditions facing those around him.

Yet those who knew him best remember not only his intellect but also his humanity. He brought warmth into difficult situations and knew how to lift spirits during long days of work and struggle. His wit and humor strengthened camaraderie, while his maturity and sense of responsibility earned the trust of fellow revolutionaries. He was also an accomplished cultural worker whose poetry gave voice to the hopes, sacrifices, and aspirations of the Filipino people, enriching the revolutionary movement through art as well as action.

The life of Ka Moymoy reminds us that the revolutionary potential of the youth is realized in full integration with the masses and their struggles. It is through sharing the lives of workers and peasants, learning from their struggles and participating in their collective aspirations that young people discover their highest purpose in service to the revolution. His life may have been cut short, but the example he leaves behind continues to illuminate the path for the socially aware and critical thinking youth to dedicate their talents, energy and lives to the cause of national and social liberation.

Quoting from Maoche Legislador's tribute, the ruling classes "are deeply wary of an educated generation because they know that enlightenment in this semi-colonial and semi-feudal system will prompt them to topple this system completely." 🚩

The NDFP @53: Advancing the people's war to defeat imperialist wars

On its 53rd anniversary, the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) Secretary General Elias Dipasupil stressed the call to unite and arouse the Filipino people against the growing threat of US imperialist wars and its use of the Philippines as launchpad for its wars of aggression.

Under the call "people's war against imperialist war", the NDFP declared that the Philippine revolutionary movement is well-positioned to carry forward the path of armed revolution especially with its strengthening and renewed vigor in recent years as allied organizations continue to expand and consolidate in line with the rectification movement launched by the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) in 2023.

In his anniversary message, Dipasupil warned about the US imperialism's tightening control over the Philippines as it seeks to further extract and monopolize the country's remaining mineral wealth, and vast tracts of land to build plantations and tourism projects. The US puppet Marcos regime has recently surrendered 1,620 hectares to the full control of American imperialists under the so-called Pax Silica initiative that aims to support US warfare through the creation of a manufacturing hub for artificial intelligence and rare earth minerals.

More outrageously, the US continues to expand its military presence in the Philippines, stationing more and more American troops, missiles, and war matériel in EDCA sites and in secret military facilities in strategic parts of the country, and carries out larger military exercises and war games, the NDFP stated.

Citing the writings of Ka Joma Sison, Julie de Lima said that since its founding 53 years ago, the NDFP has won great political victories as an indispensable and crucial weapon of the Filipino people in carrying out the general line of people's democratic revolution through protracted people's war alongside the New People's Army and under the leadership of the CPP.

How well-positioned the revolutionary alliance is in facing these challenges may be gleaned from the expansion of the membership of the allied organizations of the NDFP, the robustness of their underground activities and propaganda work, and the steady stream of urban-based revolutionary activists specifically from the youth and students and the middle forces going to the countryside to join the New People's Army and undertaking revolutionary work among peasant communities.

During and around the anniversary itself, NDFP allied organizations heartily conducted and launched various militant and creative activities, discussions and study sessions.

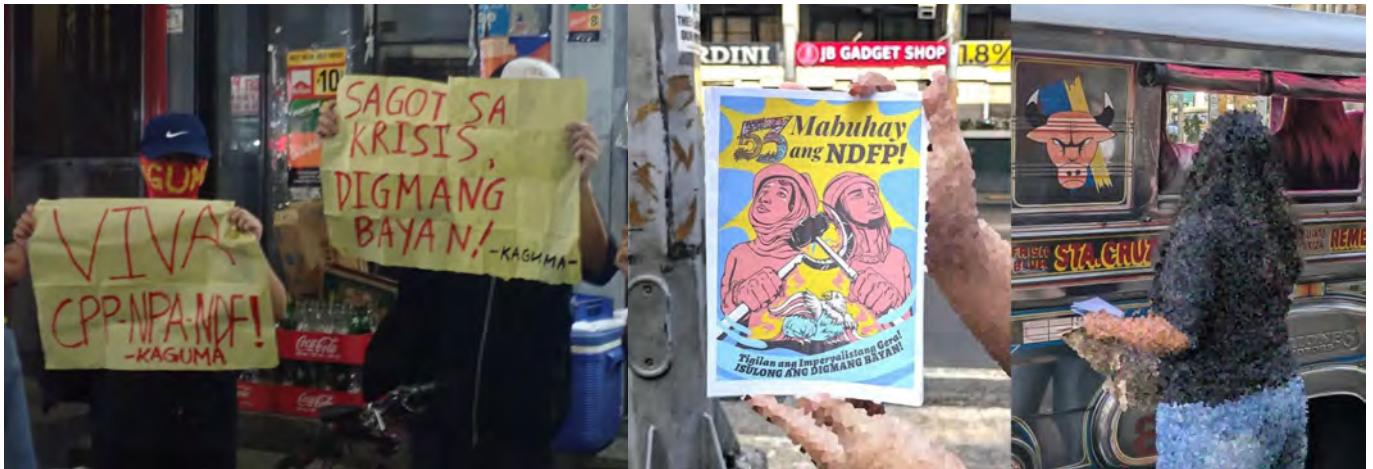
Kabataang Makabayan (KM) chapters in Manila, Mindoro and Batangas launched a lightning rally, posted statements and carried out paint-and-post operations (OP-OD), respectively in Manila.

Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan (LAB, or League of Scientists for the People) chapters also carried out OP-OD in various parts of Metro Manila.



Katipunan ng mga Gurong Makabayan (Kaguma, or Alliance of Patriotic Teachers) chapters launched separate rallies on sidewalks and crowded areas and the UP campus to celebrate the anniversary.

Makabayang Samahang Pangkalusugan (MSP, or Patriotic Health Association) distributed leaflets in different parts of Metro Manila.



Artista at Manunulat ng Sambayanan (Armas, or People's Artists and Writers) launched a series of OP-OD in Metro Manila led by the chapters of Mithi Paglaya, Kerima Tariman, and Ronnel Rhay Phoben Madrigal.



A Compatriots chapter in Australia held a gathering to mark the NDFP anniversary and read messages of solidarity among others, from the Communist Party of Australia–Marxist-Leninist and the Marxist Workers Party.

Inside guerrilla areas all around the country, the New People's Army (NPA) together with the Pambansang Katipunan ng mga Magbubukid held community gatherings, meetings and cultural performances.

International parties and organizations also conveyed their greetings, including Anti-Imperialist Action Ireland, Communist (Maoist) Party of Afghanistan, and Friends of the Filipino People in Struggle/Friends of the National Democratic Front (FFPS/FNDF).

During all the gatherings, and activities, and in different statements, participants honored the martyrs and heroes of the Filipino people, including the Toboso 19—the Red fighters, civilian organizers, and journalist massacred in Barangay Salamanca, Toboso, Negros Occidental. They joined the popular call for justice for the Toboso 19. 🚩



CHRISTIANS FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION HOLDS 10TH CONGRESS

By Raya Andres - Montañosa

Members of Christians for National Liberation (CNL) concluded their 10th National Congress with full determination and steely resolve to carry forward this year's theme: *Strengthen and expand our ranks and further contribute in advancing the national democratic revolution! Strike deeper roots with the masses in fighting the fascist and bureaucrat-capitalist US-Marcos Jr. regime! Advance the armed struggle!*

An NDFP-allied underground revolutionary organization of priests, nuns and church people, CNL was founded on February 17, 1972, and played a pivotal role during the struggle against and the ouster of the US-Marcos fascist dictatorship. Since then, CNL has continued to fight for national liberation alongside the poor and oppressed peoples.

During their 10th Congress, newly elected Chairperson Renmin Malaya emphasized the importance of immersing and integrating themselves with the masses to build a "community of faith committed to the liberation of the oppressed", and to advance the national democratic revolution. Malaya also emphasized to faithfully advance the armed struggle, noting the need to deploy forces to the New People's Army (NPA).

NDFP-panel member and one of the pillars of CNL, Coni Ledesma expressed pride in CNL's achievements and wished them to "welcome more new members and

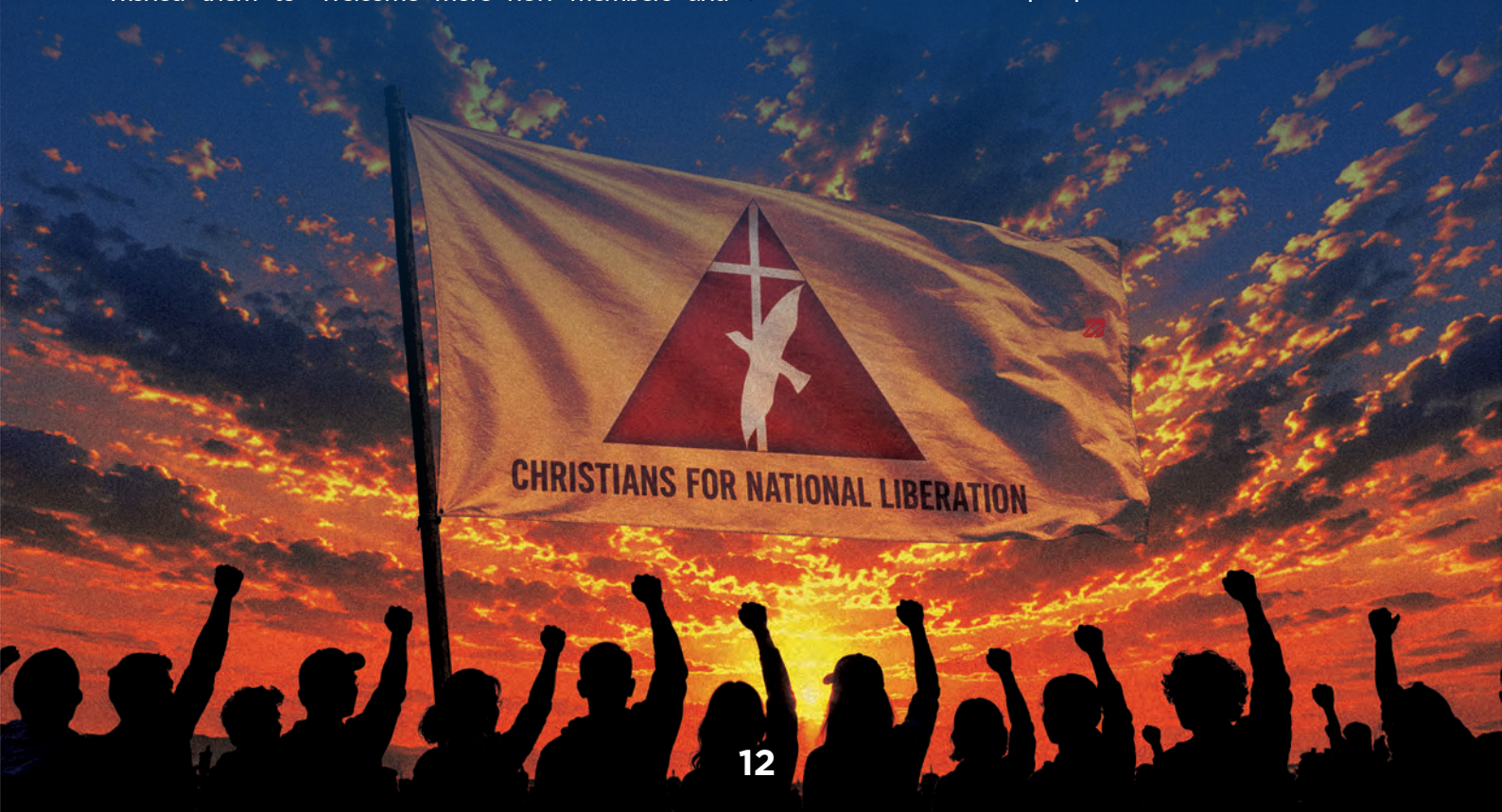
steadfastly bear witness to what true Christianity truly is—standing up and fighting for the rights of the oppressed and exploited."

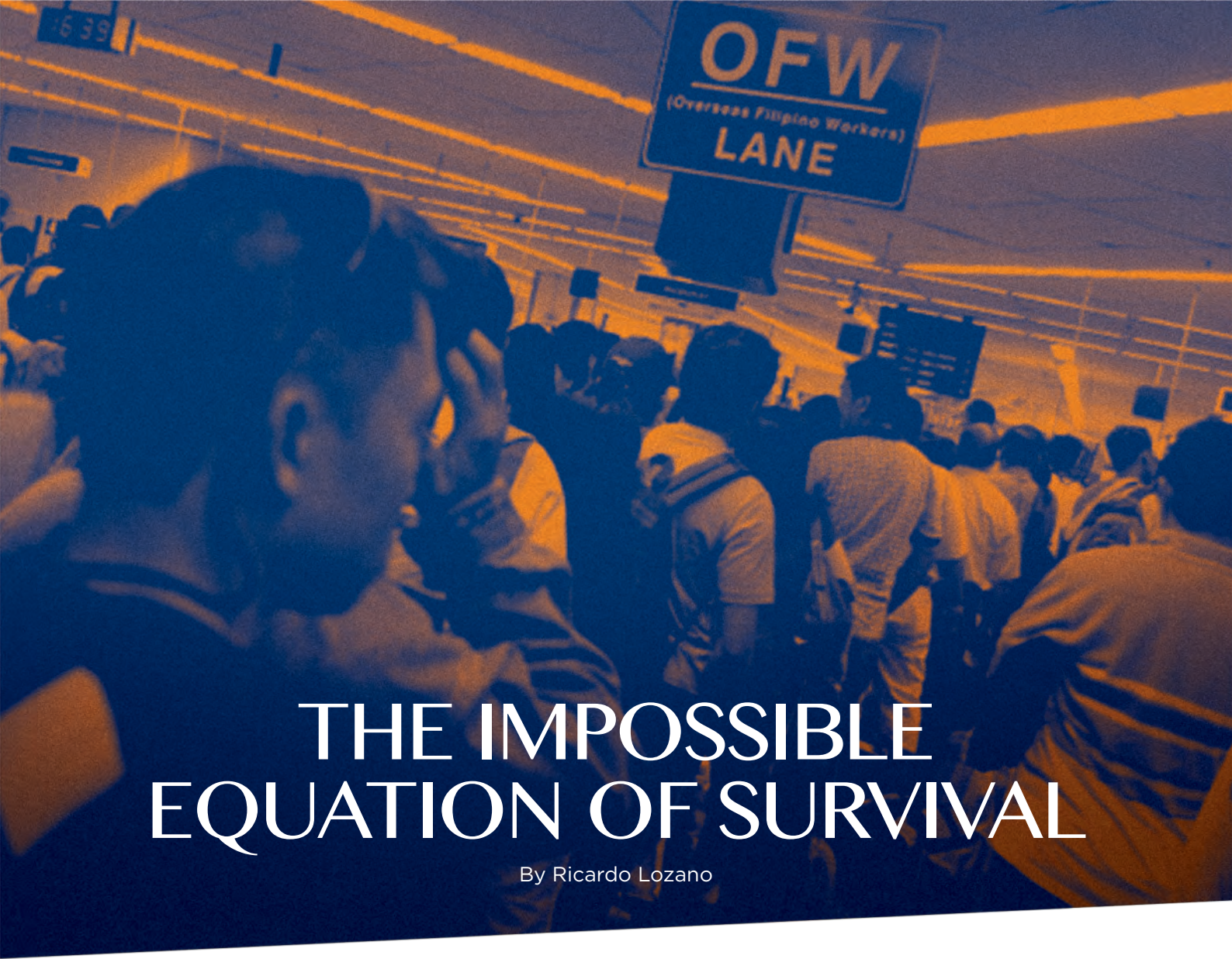
Revolutionary organizations, such as the Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan (LAB – NDFP) and Compatriots commended CNL for focusing on expanding their ranks and their meaningful contributions to the advance of the Philippine revolution.

Recognizing CNL's significant role during the early stages of people's democratic revolution in the early 1970s and during the Second Great Rectification Movement (SGRM), the CPP's Central Committee envisions CNL taking on a meaningful role in further advancing the revolutionary work comprehensively throughout the country.

The 10th Congress paid tribute to all martyrs and heroes of the Philippine revolution. At the same time, CNL members abroad paid special tribute to Louie Jalandoni, highlighting his life and legacy. They said, "Ka Louie Jalandoni served as a strong voice for the oppressed and exploited, especially the sugarcane farm workers of Negros both as an activist priest and one of the founders of CNL."

Lastly, Malaya declared the Congress a success and called the attendees to "reaffirm our vow to heighten the support in all fronts and carry forward the national democratic revolution with socialist perspective." 





THE IMPOSSIBLE EQUATION OF SURVIVAL

By Ricardo Lozano

Raffy used to count days by pay cycles which was monthly as mandated by the Gulf country where he found employment as a construction worker 20 years ago. He first heard about the US-Israeli war on Iran while working on a high-rise tower being constructed in the middle of the city. Now he counted the days by air raid sirens that blared through a small dormitory he shared with six other Filipinos.

Around 2.4 million Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) are scattered across the Middle East, all of them suddenly exposed to a war they had no part in, all of them calculating the same impossible equation of survival – whether to stay in the Middle East and face the dangers of war, or return back to the Philippines and face slow economic death for themselves and their families.

The Philippine embassy's notice came one day stating "voluntary repatriation" was being arranged for OFWs. It promised free plane tickets, airport assistance, temporary shelter, medical referrals, transport, counseling. The repatriation program was a "complete package," according to the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration or OWWA.

But inside the dormitory, no one saw it that way.

"They call it voluntary," Banjie said, sitting cross-legged on his bunk bed, his phone glowing in the dim light. "As if we are choosing between two good options."

"They even listed what we get," Banjie added, scrolling. "Plane ticket, airport assistance, temporary housing, medical help... counseling." He read it like a full-course dinner menu.

Raffy almost smiled: "Complete, except for the one thing none of us could find back home – work."

There are approximately 7,000 Filipinos who leave the country daily to work abroad, totaling over one million annually. They had not left by accident. OFWs are a product of decades of a policy that treated migration as a solution to trade deficits, using their remittances to keep the national economy afloat.

The Philippine reactionary state had built an economy that depended on exporting its people. In 2025 alone, overseas Filipinos sent home \$35.63 billion which made up 7.3% of the country's GDP, a figure large enough to sustain millions yet never large enough to build an economy that could keep them home. The government praises them as heroes, but heroes, Raffy realized, are often those expected to leave.

Myrna, calling in from a women's dormitory across the compound where she had lived for fourteen years, laughed with a dry, knowing sound.

"Fourteen years," she said. "Nag-menopause na nga ako dito." I've practically reached menopause here.

A few chuckled, but it faded quickly.

"At our age," she continued, her voice flattening, "no one will accept us there."

Elvie nodded from across the room. At fifty-eight, she still moved with the efficiency of someone who had spent decades as an administrative staff.

"Even with experience," she said, "I already know. In Manila, I am finished."

There was a cruel arithmetic to it. Here, they could still earn up to five hundred dollars a month. It was not much, but it was just enough to keep their families afloat. Back home, they would earn nothing.

Outside, the war made itself known again. Sirens cutting through dawn, the distant tremor of something exploding somewhere else. News filtered in fragments: airspace closures, stranded workers, small batches of repatriations. A few hundred sent home, while millions remained. Even the Banko Sentral ng Pilipinas (Philippine Central Bank) central bank admitted the scale of exposure with a massive Filipino labor force directly tied to the conflict's outcome. And yet the government response felt thin, procedural, and almost detached. They were monitoring remittances, tracking flows of dollars, managing risk as if the workers themselves were just another economic variable.

"Where is the plan?" Benjie asked quietly, though it sounded less like a question and more like an

accusation. Other countries were evacuating their citizens at scale. Here, repatriation came in trickles, draped in language that shifted responsibility back onto the workers themselves. Voluntary. As if choosing to stay in a war zone was a preference, not a condition created by years of policy. As if the state had not already decided long ago that their place was elsewhere.

Raffy thought of home and the tricycle he used to drive. He reminisced the days when income depended on luck and exhaustion. The way work disappeared quietly, without explanation, until leaving his family of four became the only rational decision.

"If we still have a chance to work here," Raffy said, steady now despite the sirens, "we will definitely grab it."

Raffy opened the repatriation form and stared at the word again: voluntary. He thought about it over and over in his mind until it collapsed under its own weight. There was nothing voluntary about being pushed out of your country by the absence of work. Nothing voluntary about being told to return to a system that had already marked you as disposable. Nothing voluntary about choosing between being bombed abroad or being erased at home.

He closed the form.

Around him, people were still deciding. There were some who chose to leave, others indignant in staying, but all of them aware that neither option meant safety. The war would continue. The sirens would return. The uncertainty would not lift. But neither would the reality waiting in Manila, where the economy they sustained had no place for them.

So he stepped out of the dormitory and back toward the unfinished tower, toward the work that still existed, however fragile, however temporary. Above him, the sky was clear for now. The cranes still moved. The city still functioned.

In the end, the Philippine government had offered him a way out, but not a way back.

And like millions of others scattered across the region, Raffy chose to stay not because he did not understand the danger, but because he understood something more fundamental: that he had already been exported. And the country that needed his labor had never built a place for him to return. 

FIGHTING FASCISM

JMS TELLS US HOW IN HIS LATEST BOOK

By Jose Emilio Jacinto III



The launch of Prof. Jose Ma. Sison's latest book titled "*Little Book on Fascism and How to Fight It*" last May 30 in Utrecht, The Netherlands drew activists, revolutionaries, anti-imperialists, trade unionists, community organizers and solidarity groups, eager to learn more about what Professor Sison, founding chairperson of the CPP, had to say about fighting fascism. This latest book is a compilation of eight articles written between 1986 and 2022 on fascism and covers topics such as the origin and development of fascism, the basis of a fascist state and tools and technologies of contemporary fascism.

The Jose Maria Sison Legacy Foundation, which published the book, emphasizes that the book's relevance comes not only from its discussion of fascism but more importantly on Sison's exhortation to all anti-fascists and anti-imperialists "to fight to eliminate fascism at its roots", "*Makibaka, huwag matakot*" (Fight, do not fear!), as the slogan echoes.

Reading from the foreword of the book during the launch, Comrade Julie de Lima, chairperson of the NDFP Peace Panel and Sison's partner, collaborator and editor, stressed that conditions are ripe for a revolutionary resurgence because of the worsening economic crises of imperialism, which necessitates the ruling class to use fascism against the people, especially against the working class.

UP Professor Sarah Raymundo in her review of the book and analysis on fascism said Sison refuses "to reduce fascism to personalities, political temperament, or democratic backsliding. Fascism, for Sison, is not simply the excess of cruel leaders or the erosion of liberal institutions. It is a historical and political response to crisis—a mode through which

ruling classes preserve domination when ordinary mechanisms of consent become increasingly unstable".

Citing the recent massacre of 19 revolutionaries and activists in Toboso, Negros by fascist forces of the US-Marcos regime, Raymundo explained that fascism is real and concrete in the context of the regime's war against the Filipino people. "Counterinsurgency does not simply emerge from security concerns. It secures the social order necessary for land monopoly, extractive development, militarized governance, and foreign strategic priorities. State violence against dissenting communities is not anomaly. It is political economy in a semicolony of the US made visible," she stated.

Sison's book on fascism, Raymundo says, compels us to recognize fascism not only in the spectacle of strongmen, but in the normalization of militarization, surveillance, permanent war, dispossession, techno-imperial control, and the criminalization of dissent. "It asks us to see the connections between missile systems and massacres, between foreign military access and domestic counterinsurgency, between elite corruption and deepening repression," she said.

Prof. Ramon Guillermo, of the UP Center for International Studies, in his insight on the issue of fascism emphasized the need to pursue an anti-fascist education, and to fight for and continually develop a nationalist, scientific and mass-oriented education inside and outside our classrooms as one of the central areas of struggle against fascism. He explains that fascist ideology and philosophy in the educational system and structures contribute to the rise and domination of a fascist state.

Guillermo cites the example of education in Israel, which promotes the racist Zionist historical narrative as the only valid one and marginalizes, if not erases, Arab and Palestinian history and identity. "Arabs are portrayed in their curricula with negative stereotypes as the Jews once were in Nazi Germany," he emphasized. In the Philippine context, he explained, systematic efforts of all US puppet regimes to suppress and eliminate critical thinking, expand intellectual horizons, and emphasize patriotism and service to the people are reflected in the revisions in and implementation of the educational curriculum.

Providing their insights on the struggle against fascism, Chris de Ploeg, journalist, author, and board member of political party De Vonk, based in the Netherlands, Joe Iosbaker, founding member of Freedom Road Socialist Organisation, based in the United States and Azra Sayeed, Secretary General of the International League of Peoples' Struggle (ILPS),

based in Pakistan, spoke about their respective struggles with repression and fascism and their own organizational experiences as examples on the use of anti-terror laws as instruments of fascism, taking advantage of sharpening contradictions to bring about new and higher levels of struggle, and most importantly on building a broad global united front against imperialism and fascism.

Ultimately, in all his writings on fascism especially this latest one, Comrade Sison never fails to affirm that because fascism is rooted in the capitalist state structure, the complete elimination of fascism requires the revolutionary overthrow of the bourgeois state and the establishment of a socialist society through the people's democratic revolution.

Copies of Ka Joma's *Little Book on Fascism and How to Fight It* are available at the JMS Legacy Foundation Museum in Utrecht or by writing to jms.foundation@proton.me. 



NDFP HOLDS 6TH INT'L THEORETICAL CONFERENCE ON FASCISM IN THE NEOCOLONIES

By Ricardo Lozano

The National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) successfully held its Sixth International Theoretical Conference on Fascism and Imperialism in the 21st Century in the Neocolonies last May 22–23 in Kathmandu, Nepal, bringing together nearly 200 participants from 17 countries across five continents.

The two-day gathering marked the sixth installment in the NDFP's series of international theoretical conferences aimed at bringing together proletarian-socialist parties and anti-imperialist groups to share their analyses of the contemporary situation of imperialism.

"In the neocolonies, the rise of fascism is intertwined with the formation of the coercive state imposed by imperialism, in collusion with local big bourgeois comprador interests, to carry out unimpeded semifeudal extraction and suppress national resistance," emphasized the Communist Party of the Philippines in their keynote speech differentiating it from how fascism emerges in the imperialist centers.

Centered on the theme of fascism in the neocolonies, the conference deepened participants' theoretical and historical understanding of fascism as a class phenomenon rooted in the contradictions of imperialism. Discussions examined how fascism has developed and adapted in the 21st century, particularly within countries subjected to neocolonial rule and imperialist intervention.

"In the Philippines and in other countries with active armed liberation struggles, fascism is expressed primarily in the form of counterinsurgency operations modelled after the US Counterinsurgency guide," added NDFP International Representative Marian Espinosa who opened the conference.

The conference drew from the works and experiences of revolutionary thinkers and leaders such as Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, Georgi Dimitrov, and Mao Zedong, as well as lessons from the Fifth NDFP International Theoretical Conference on fascism in the imperialist heartlands.

A total of 17 theoretical papers were presented and discussed, focusing on the present-day manifestations of fascism in the neocolonies and the specific historical conditions that shape its emergence and character. Participants examined the deepening economic crises confronting working people both in the imperialist centers and across the neocolonial periphery, highlighting how these crises intensify exploitation, oppression, and social instability. 📄



Monsters in the Market

By Jose Maria Sison

Shame on those who spread the false illusion
Of the free market and tout the law of the jungle.

The self-interest of monopolies is so visible,
A hand that squeezes and ruins the lives of people.

Monopolies are monsters preying on the market.
They can't hide their greed with any sleight of hand.
They make super-profits from the sweat and blood
Of entire nations, the workers and the peasants.

Awake and arise, unite to fight the monsters
That oppress and exploit the people
In the factories, farms and marketplace.
Let us free ourselves and build a new world.

They manipulate the prices of goods in the world.
Burden weaker countries with deficits and debts
And pay only a bit of the full value of labor power
And feed like sharks on the big unpaid labor.



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