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## **Support the mass uprising in Iran for bread, work, and freedom**

**Call by the International Relations Office of the Communist Party of Iran for solidarity with the current uprising in Iran**

Once again, the mass uprising of Iranian people against government's attack on their existence has erupted. The struggles of the Iranian working class for a humane life and the right to the most basic rights not only have not diminished during the Corona time but also have been spreading all the time across the country. This nationwide uprising is a class reaction to a government that has attacked the masses and their existence. Industrial workers, workers in service sectors, teachers and educators, retirees, oppressed women and workers, students, national minorities under double class and central government's oppression, and millions of others oppressed because of their class and religion have been coming to the streets chanting: "We will die, but we will not be humiliated!" "Death to this lying government" and "Death to the dictator". The geography of this widespread uprising in working class and industrial areas reflects its class nature. The oppressed and suffering masses no longer want to succumb to humiliation and gradual death in a county full of natural riches.



The uprising, which has spread throughout Iran since

May 1, 2022, continues, after government's announcement of a rise in prices of bread and other basic commodities on the eve of International Workers' Day. The government is seeking to steal more than \$330 billion from the people and pay for its military and terrorist budgets by cutting subsidies from vital goods. The Islamic government called this an "economic surgery", which is the secret word for attacking the bread and livelihood of the hungry. The May uprising is a continuation of the mass movements of December 2017 to early 2018, November 2019, and summer 2021.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, incapable of exercising political power in the old way and helpless in controlling economic, political and social crises, has more than ever resorted to killing, kidnapping and attacking on the society. To survive and save its crumbling rule, the government has resorted to suppressing the growing labor movement, including nationwide protests by oil, gas and petrochemical project and contract workers, teachers, women, and retirees. The arrest and abduction of labor activists, women and teachers, and the hostage-taking of even foreign tourists show how helpless and illegitimate this regime is.

A French couple went missing while on holiday in Iran, Reuters reported on Thursday, May 12, quoting a member of the National Federation of Education, Culture and Vocational Training, FNEC FP-FO. The two French tourists were



abducted on April 28, 2022 in a hotel in Tehran. It

was revealed that the two guests, Ms. Cecil Kohler, head of International Relations for FNEC FP-FO, and her husband, Jacques Kohler, were members of the same federation who had traveled to Iran as tourists. A day after the news broke, the two were accused of "organizing chaos and social disorder aimed at destabilizing (Iran)" in conjunction with foreign intelligence services, Iranian state TV on Wednesday cited Iran's intelligence ministry as saying.

Among those arrested in the following days were activists of the labor movement: Reza Shahabi, Anisha Asadollahi, Reyhaneh Ansarinejad, Keyvan Mohtadi, Maryam Mansouri, Hassan Saeedi, as well as activists of the teachers' movement, Rasoul Bodaghi, Jafar Ebrahimi, Eskandar Lotfi, Mohammad Habibiha, Houshang Khastar, Javad La'l Mohammadi, Mohammad Hossein Sepehri, Mohsen Omrani, Massoud Nikkhah, Mahmoud Maleki, Reza Amanifar, Asghar Hajib, and Hadi Sadeghzadeh and Hossein Mahdipour, a teacher from Dashtiari city of Sistan and Baluchestan province. The number of men and women arrested reaches more than a hundred. Also let's not forget Zeinab Jalalian, the Kurdish female political prisoner who has been in prison for more than 15 years, and Sepideh Qolyan, Iranian labor activist,



dubbed as "the daughter of Sugarcane and Haft

Tappeh" because of her support for Haft Tappeh Sugarcane labor movement, who are facing torture in regime's prisons on a daily basis. The crime of the recent detainees is nothing but the demand for freedom of association, expression, assembly, protest, strike and class and international solidarity, which are among the most basic social rights.

In Iran, labor and women's movements are moving towards revolutionary conditions. While the Islamic government is mired in the crisis of budget deficit and systematic corruption, the stagnation crisis has crippled the working masses.

Ebrahim Ra'isi, the president of the Islamic Republic, and one of the perpetrators of the massacre of more than 100,000 people throughout Iran in the 1980s and the head of the Death Committee for the Massacre of Political Prisoners in Tehran in 1988, announced in the Parliament an inflation rate of nearly 60 percent, which is much lower than the actual rate. Inflation in Iran is rising not daily but on an hourly basis, and the water crisis, the corona, the lack of medicine and medical treatment, the general mortality and mass suicides, and the misery and famine are the sad pictures of the life of the oppressed masses under the rule of the capitalist Islamic regime in Iran.

For more than 15 years, the Islamic government has cut construction budgets to spend it on nuclear weapons, long-range missiles and boosting its military



capabilities. With a 50 percent deficit of the current budget this year, the regime has imposed a cost-of-living crisis and rising prices on the society. The promotion of state terrorism, the offshore Quds Force and the special military units, the whole machine of repression and the acquisition of nuclear bombs are all financed at the expense of the bread of the workers and the destitute. The Islamic state pursues a policy of shock therapy called "economic surgery" at a time when world opinion is in the throes of World War III. The government is unable to cover the current expenses and pay dollar salaries to its proxy forces, including Hezbollah in Lebanon, military intervention in Iraq, Syria, Yemen and even Africa and is caught in chaos and a state of collapse.

Security, judicial, and executive officials, led by IRGC mafia and the clergy, respond to the workers' and toilers' demands by shooting, prosecuting, detaining, torturing, killing in prisons, charging with false security accusations, creating scenarios, taking "confessions" under torture, and showing them on TV.

The nationwide uprising of workers and all the oppressed masses in Iran against price hikes, corruption, looting of public property, government corruption, and faced with widespread repression, special units and machine gun fire, needs the international support and solidarity of workers and freedom lovers and fighters of the world. May the world be freed from a destructive force that is the shame of history and mankind and has no motive but death and destruction.

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