MAY DAY SOLIDARITY RALLY

SATURDAY 3 MAY 1986 1.00 p.m. Longsight Library, Stockport Road, Longsight, Manchester 13

Organised by All-African People's Revolutionary Party Pakistani Workers Association (Britain)

May Day is an internationally recognised day on which all those who labour and toil stand together in an historic gesture of solidarity. May Day came into being on the wings of a brutal struggle between the exploited and the exploiter (workers vs. capitalists).

It was sparked in 1886 when some workers in the U.S. went on strike on the 1st of May to demand an 8 hour working day. In the three days that followed, the struggle between the workers and capitalists intensified, with brute force and murder being used against the workers. The martyrdom of these workers symbolizes the true meaning of May Day as a day of solidarity amongst working and struggling people all over the world.

The same forces which murdered these workers in 1886 have attempted to vulgarise May Day into an annual jamboree of festivities today, with the intention of concealing its true meaning and significance.

Today in 1986, the masses of exploited and oppressed peoples worldwide are still embroiled in a bitter struggle for basic survival and liberation. May Day represents one of the focal points for the unity of oppressed and exploited peoples against our common enemies of capitalism and imperialism, in all their manifestations.

African and Asian peoples living in Britain, and other advanced capitalist countries, are not only ground down by racist oppression, but our national homelands continue to be robbed of their natural and human resources. So long as our homelands are oppressed and exploited, then our peoples can never gain freedom.

While direct British colonialism has been kicked out from the vast majority of its former colonies in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, it still tries desperately to keep its stranglehold over Ireland, and sucks the last bit of wealth from its former colonies through neo-colonialism. But today, after more than 800 years, the heroic freedom fighters of the Irish Republican Movement continue to intensify their struggle for a unified, liberated Ireland.

Today Britain is no longer the dominant imperialist power. The rapid decline of British imperialism signifies the destruction of imperialism worldwide, lead by U.S. imperialism. The U.S. and British imperialists are becoming increasingly isolated as they desperately try to prop up their parasitic domination over our countries and peoples. Nowhere is this more blatantly clear than in their total support for the racist settler colonial regimes of Israel and South Africa.

Yet, in the face of immense obstacles, the determined Palestinian people, lead by the PLO, continue to wage a relentless war against the forces of zionism.

Right now, as a direct result of the constant blows being struck by the rising resistance of the courageous masses in Azania (South Africa), apartheid is crumbling.

The victory of the heroic peoples of Palestine and Azania (South Africa) will speed up the inevitable death of imperialism. Like a dying beast lashing out in desperation, imperialism is increasingly being forced into militaristic ventures to preserve its parasitic existence.

We seize this occasion of May Day 1986 to issue a call to the toiling Asian, African, and freedom-loving people in Britain to come together at this solidarity rally, in unity against the forces which oppress and exploit us all. Only through organisation, solidarity, and mutual support can we end the suffering which the masses of the world's people endure, at the bloody, greedy hands of imperialism. It is in this spirit of struggle and solidarity that we invite you to come and hear the cultural/political messages of solidarity.

Speakers invited:

Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) African Nationalist Congress (ANC) Black Consciousness Movement (Azania) Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Sinn Fein With in British Representation Grap.

Irish Republican Socialist Party Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front

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