

BUILD THE UNITY OF THE PEOPLE AGAINST THE FASCIST TERROR AND COMMUNALIST VIOLENCE OF THE INDIRA GANDHI GOVERNMENT !

Statement of Hind Mazdoor Lehar, 23rd July, 1984

Dear brothers and sisters,

After the bloody massacre by the fascist Indira Gandhi government on June 6 in Amritsar, very serious discussions have taken place amongst the people as to what is the way forward. On this very important and serious issue facing the Punjabi people, Hind Mazdoor Lehar (Britain) (Indian Workers' Movement) would like to present its stand and views on this issue.

After the army attack on the Golden Temple, the Punjab has now been turned into a permanent military camp. This army of the capitalists is running rampant in the villages, towns and cities, and has made it impossible for the people to carry on their daily life. In some villages all the menfolk between 15 and 35 years of age have been blindfolded and handcuffed and taken away with no one knowing what has happened to them. As well as this terrorism is also being carried out against the progressive people, the Marxist-Leninists and the trade-union activists.

This massacre, carried out on an even bigger scale than the Jallianwalla Bagh massacre of 1919, proves once again that the Indian government is a fascist and bloodthirsty regime, which resorts to open terrorism and violence to suppress even the smallest demands of the people. In 1947 this regime was installed in power by the British colonialists through drowning in blood the struggles of the Indian people for genuine democracy and independence. It has used the double-edged sword of launching open terroristic violence against the people, and by every means possible creating divisions to make people fight amongst themselves – with the aim of defending and continuing the exploitation of the people and the rule of the big capitalists and big landlords.

The capitalists present the issue of the Punjab as a religious issue, but the struggle of the Punjab is not a religious problem. The immediate issues for the people are the right of nations, and the rights of the workers and peasants, issues which arose in 1947 and still remain to be resolved. The fascist government of India is not a government of the workers and peasants belonging to the Hindu religion, and nor are the poor Sikhs, Hindus or people of other religions responsible for the oppression. In fact, it is the reactionary capitalists who carry out attacks on people irrespective of religion, nationality, caste, etc. In Assam over 3,500 Hindus and Muslims were killed; in Orissa the murder of 1,200 workers and their families; in Bombay the violence perpetrated on the textile mill workers – these are just a few examples from many. To present the issues as religious is a deliberate policy of the capitalists. The Indira Gandhi government, to provoke hatred amongst the Hindus against the Sikhs, organised the murders of Hindus; likewise, after the massacre at the Golden Temple, it did propaganda that Hindus distributed sweets (ludoos) in the streets of Delhi in order to make the Sikhs fight the Hindus. So we have to be very vigilant and should not get caught in the intrigues and poisonous schemes of the capitalists to make people fight each other. So if we, the people, start to fight amongst each other as the capitalists would like us to, then they will be overjoyed.

The capitalists throughout the world present India as the biggest "democracy". But the events in Amritsar have again exposed the real face of this "democracy"; the government and state do not represent the ordinary people, because a government representing the people cannot order such massacres to be carried out.

In our view, the capitalists use religion to create splits and divisions amongst the people, the problems facing the people cannot be resolved on the basis of religion. We Marxist-Leninists believe in the right of people, if they so wish, to practise their religious beliefs, but no government has a right to launch fascist attacks on the people's religious views and institutions. The Sikhs have the right to advance their demands, but if Indira Gandhi or anyone else does not agree to the demands, then political struggle should be waged instead of resorting to open fascist terroristic violence to crush the people.

To win our rights, the people cannot rely on any foreign imperialist or social-imperialist governments. Those governments that launch attacks on the workers on their own country cannot have any sympathy for the workers and peasants of any other country. The governments of imperialist and social-imperialist countries carry out interference in other countries to advance their capitalist interests, but there are no examples where they have carried out interference for the interests of the people. With regard to the

massacres that have been carried out in the Punjab, not a single government of the capitalist and revisionist countries has issued any statement to denounce the violence of the Indira Gandhi government.

The massacres in the Punjab have thoroughly exposed the Indian government and all the reactionary political parties. All these parties, including the bogus "communists" of the "Communist" Party of India and the "Communist" Party of India ("Marxist"), have shamelessly supported the Indira Gandhi government by saying that the massacres were "necessary". These sham "communists" also do propaganda that India is a democracy. The "C"PI nodded its head in approval of the National Emergency of 1975 imposed by the Indira Gandhi government, and the "C"PM said that Morarji Desai is the defender of democracy. Likewise, the Maoists are also carrying out the dirty role of creating splits amongst the people; they say the struggle in the Punjab is between those that believe in god and those that do not.

Today it is very important that we should recognise all the anti-people elements who are misleading and attempting to split the people, in order to build a genuine democracy, to overthrow the present parasitic government and state, to build a broad democratic united front on a national scale of all the people waging struggles against the terrorist violence of the government, to advance the interests of the people. Only in a People's Democratic India will the problems of the rights of nations and the rights of the workers and peasants be solved.

Hind Mazdoor Lehar (Indian Workers' Movement) will continue its activities to unite the people to fulfill this sacred task for which innumerable martyrs of the Indian people, Bhagat Singhs and Sarabhas, have made sacrifices.

Death to the fascist government of Indira Gandhi!

Long live the unity of the people!

Long live revolution!

PICKET

ARMY AND POLICE GET OUT OF THE PUNJAB!

**DOWN WITH THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE CAPITALISTS AND
LANDLORDS OF INDIA!**

Indian High Commission Offices, Aldwych, London
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1984, 11 am.

Organised by HIND MAZDOOR LEHAR (BRITAIN)
(INDIAN WORKERS' MOVEMENT, BRITAIN)