

# Revolted Generation

THE PRESENT ARTICLE, WRITTEN BY A SPECIALIST  
ON THESE PROBLEMS, DEALS WITH THE ACTUAL SITUATION  
IN THE YOUTH AND STUDENT MOVEMENT OF THE CAPITALIST  
COUNTRIES, ITS TENDENCIES OF DEVELOPMENT AND OBJECTIVES

by **ARQILE SEMINI**

Today you can easily feel the pulse of the capitalist system by means of two significant indicators: the class struggle of the working people against capital and its power and the economic crises. Certainly, these two aspects are closely connected with one another and are supplemented by other aspects such as the national liberation struggles of the peoples and those for the defence of national independence against imperialist aggression, colonialism and neocolonialism, and the political struggle of various social strata for democratic freedoms and rights, in which an ever more important place is being occupied by youth and students.

However, the present-day laws of the development of society have brought to the fore a new significant aspect. Unlike the

pre-imperialist period, when the labour movement was not yet well organized on a world scale, today the class struggle of the working people has a stable priority with regard to the economic crises of the capitalist system. While the economic crises have known between them also periods of temporary stability, the class struggle has constantly been in the rise, irrespective of the oscillations it has had from time to time due to the betrayal of social-democracy, of opportunism and modern revisionism. In the pre-imperialist period the economic crises, as expressions of more savage forms of capitalist exploitation and oppression, constituted the decisive stimulating factor in organizing the class struggle of the proletariat. In the imperialist period the class struggle of

---

Arqile Semini – *writer and publicist, author of the novel «Black Cloud», of the volume of short stories «Our men».*

sing day an aspiration of the peoples of the world.

Speaking about these problems at the 6th Congress of the PLA, Enver Hoxha said: "The class struggle of the proletariat and of the other exploited social strata has assumed such proportions, both as regards the number of the participants and its sharpness, that the present-day period could be compared with the most critical periods which the bourgeoisie of the capitalist countries has gone through". And further on, dealing with the younger generation of these countries, he pointed out: **"Another particularity of the class struggle against the capitalist exploiting system and the imperialist policy is the outbreak everywhere of the youth and student movement which is changing into a powerful revolutionary force of our times... It is now in search of the truth and the truth is leading and will lead it for certain towards the union with the working class, towards the revolution."**

This objective appraisal of the youth and student movement appears before us clear and complete as soon as we cast a glance on our globe.

One of the most important gains registered in these recent years by the youth and student movement in the capitalist world is, no doubt, the growth of political consciousness in the ranks of the rising generation. This was achieved thanks to a protracted, toilsome, sanguinary struggle. It is interesting to consider one of the most fiery stages of the student struggle, that of the year 1968. This struggle (from the outside aspect, for within it seethed with general indignation) began with simple demands relating to the decadent educational system and trade union rights, but soon it passed over to political demands. Then the revolted students began to take the real road and this began to lead them to the Working class. Although the struggle of the students in the capitalist countries during the year 1968 was suppressed by the state apparatus of the bourgeoisie through fire and betrayal, the feeling of the demand for a clear ideological and political platform began to take root in the student movement.

In these last four years the political struggle of the students in the imperialist metropolises themselves has shaken the power of capital. It has stretched even to the countries included in the framework of the influence of the imperialists and modern revisionists, encompassing the five

continents of the terrestrial globe. At the same time the worker youth which makes up the most vivid and exploited stratum of the working class goes on strike from time to time, has the initiative in its hands and takes part in political manifestations playing an important role in trade union and political re-organisation, especially in the period following the revisionist betrayal. Likewise, the peasant youth, particularly that of the countries of typical feudo-bourgeois exploitation, as in Latin America, Africa and Asia, clashes with the imperialist forces and with the local reactionaries.

In many countries of the world, where the peoples are fighting arms in hand for national liberation or for the defence of their national independence, as in Indochina, Thailand, Burma, Malaya, the Philippines, in the Portuguese colonies of Africa, in the Arab countries, in Ireland or Columbia and elsewhere, the younger generation makes up the main force of the national liberation armies or of the guerrilla units. Not only that. In the areas occupied by the aggressors or in those which are under the control of the mercenary forces, the youth and students are in the front-ranks of the political demonstrations and manifestations of various social strata. The alliance of youth and of the other broad popular masses and its role in the strengthening of the anti-imperialist unity is clearly expressed in them.

An important aspect of the struggle of the rising generation is the political struggle against the imperialist and revisionist aggression which is expressed in the internationalist solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of Indochina, with that of the Palestinian people, with the struggle of the Czechoslovak people, with the struggle for civil rights against racial discrimination in the United States of America, South Africa, etc., and finally with the struggle of the students in various countries of the world for freedom, progress and democratic rights.

These facts speak of the existence of the feeling of protest, of general opposition to the existing capitalist order, that has gripped the younger generation to such a degree that it has compelled the very ideologists of the bourgeoisie to call it the "insurgent generation".

Actually, facing the youth and student movement is a very important problem. It is the question of the ideological and orga-

the proletariat has won and is winning over various social strata, sometimes all the social strata which has led to the constant elevation of the political consciousness of the working people. Consequently, their political struggle, too, has always been in the rise, relegating to the background the role of the economic crises. It follows as a conclusion that the class struggle of the working people becomes the decisive factor in the outbreak of the general crisis of the capitalist system. Thus, here is a question of the subjective factor which is synthetically expressed in the necessity for and the role of the Marxist-Leninist parties. This fact speaks of the vitality of the Marxist-Leninist ideas and of the triumphant march of the revolution, which is becoming with every pas-

nisational platform of this movement. This movement itself, being a mass movement, has advanced more in the political aspect than in the ideological and organisational aspects. For this reason, too the Marxist-Leninist principle of connecting and placing the youth and student movement under the leadership of the working class and of its vanguard party (it is a question of a genuine Marxist-Leninist party) is in our days forcefully rising and gaining momentum with every passing day in this movement. This demand is becoming a necessity, a law for the successful development of this movement. The youth and students find in the working class, in its ideological platform and organisational experience a guaranty for the success of their programme, for the attainment of the targets of their struggle. The youth and students are seeing for themselves that when they are separated from the working class, on many occasions they have not realized even the minimum demands of their struggle which has been easily suppressed by the power of capital. Similar examples in Europe, on the American continent and in other countries are already known. On the other side in these very regions and other countries, when the youth and student movement has ensured unity with the revolutionary struggle of the working class, creating a common anti-imperialist and anti-monopoly front, successes and victories have been scored in the economic and political fields, such as the struggle against the imperialist aggression, the fascist danger (as in Italy), etc. At the same time, the experience of the youth and student movement in the countries where the power of capital was overthrown and which engaged in the road of socialism, united their struggle with that of the other labouring masses under the leadership of the working class and its party, for the destruction of fascism and for the victory of the democratic and socialist revolution, is an example of inspiration and mobilization for the youth and student movements in various countries, which are fighting against aggression, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

Under these conditions the reason for which the bourgeoisie and its lackeys resort to all forms and means to distract the younger generation from politics, from class struggle, is clear. These forms and means begin with instigating and throwing individual strata of youth into a dissipate

and aimless life, into the creation of environments with a spiritual vacuum, the decadent fashion, the use of narcotics and ending with the empty public theories and discussions on the «freedom of sex», «erotics and pornography», followed with «new» variants of the bourgeois philosophy about the «withering away of the class struggle», the gradual disappearance of the bourgeoisie as a class and its substitution with technocracy». There are also such theories as «the struggle between generations» and the losing of the vanguard role of the working class» and the substitution of this role by the students and intelligentsia. All these theories in one way or another aim at spreading ideological confusion among the ranks of the rising generation, especially now that the propaganda about the «communist danger» finds no ground as one time. At the same time the bourgeoisie, more frequently using its servants, such as the modern revisionists and social-democracy, exerts constant pressure, blackmail and countless diversions in order to split the youth and student movement from the organisational point of view, and at the most critical moments it also resorts to police violence and terror against this movement.

In the extent of the successes achieved by the youth and student movement a negative role has been played by the betrayal of the modern revisionists who resort to all forms of propaganda and interference, to all the means of corruption and subversion to divide this movement, to isolate and detach it from the working class. The students and youth have experienced and continue to experience this betrayal on themselves, which shows that the modern revisionists, be they their Soviet chiefs or the French, Italian, Spanish, British, American and other revisionists, have objectively ranked themselves on a par with the power of capital. More than anything else, they fear the unity of youth and students with the working class, therefore they obstruct, sabotage and rise against their joint actions. It occurred so with the youth and student movements during the year 1968 in France and in other capitalist countries, it is occurring so also in our days. The modern revisionists went as far as to call the revolted students «hooligans», «adventurers». These renegades, by means of their tools at the leading forums of the international youth and student organisations and of some national organisations, while making fuss

with their demagogical slogan «We accuse imperialism», take no concrete action for real unity of the youth and student movement with the working class. And while they put out some general words about this problem, sham unity is hidden behind them in as much as the very cause of the working class has been betrayed by the modern revisionists.

However, the anti-imperialist and progressive youth and student movement is advancing. The idea of the revolution in the ranks of youth and students is no more a vague idea or an instigation and mobilization of the fresh forces of the rising generation for incomplete social reforms in the frame of capital or for partial political gains. It is becoming a clear, inspiring, mobilizing idea with definite objectives. Also in the least meaning of this idea, which is expressed through the liberation struggle of the peoples or through the struggle for the defence of democratic rights, the range of the revolted thought goes beyond these limits. This is seen in the very programmes of the struggles of this nature which raise the problem of continuing the revolution.