Kashmir crisis and South Asia: Message to the Working Class of Subcontinent

Saturday 2 March 2019, by **IKNSF** (Date first published: 2 March 2019).

Dear people and oppressed nationalities and working class of the Subcontinent,

We are facing terrible times here in Kashmir. The line of Control (LoC) once again converted into a living hell by both states, India and Pakistan. After Pulwama attack, India advanced its military in the Jammu Kashmir and now both sides beating the drums for war. We clearly now that this is one more episode of the war drama which can never be fought instead of cross firing across LoC. So far, in the recent episode, approximately 25 people have been killed across LoC while property worth millions have been destroyed.

First of all, let us clearly mention that we have no sympathies for warmongers, national chauvinism and so-called Jihadi militants. We, Kashmiri, believe that with a peaceful struggle and a joint movement comprised upon the masses from IoK, Jammu, Ladakh, Valley, PoK, and Gilgit Baltistan we can attain our destination of freedom. A joint struggle on the basis of class contradiction can ensure our victory, no religious movement or any sectarian stance can help us in our struggle.

Secondly, we cannot turn our faces towards Pakistan or Indian state for help instead we believe that the youth, women, workers and masses from India and Pakistan are more powerful and trustworthy in our movement.

To all the oppressed working class of Pakistan,

Your rulers and military establishment are snatching every single coin from you in the name of Kashmir war. But this war is only a business motive for them, they rob you and kill innocents. Your money is ending up as a bullet in the chest of a Kashmiri. We appeal you to speak against this brutality. Now, The time is up! Stand up and raise your voice against it. Your courage, support and solidarity is our biggest strength.

Dear Pashtuns and Balochis,

We know that you are facing tremendous difficulties from last few decades. Missing person and beaten to death is a common practice in your areas. The state is cruel and it's very much clear now but by joining our hands against this cruelty we can strengthen our voices.

To the Indian masses,

You also have seen turbulent times. A Hindutva fascist regime is in power and to be in power they are playing with our dead bodies. A war criminal is heading the state and his brutality exposed him in Gujarat first and now in Valley. Communal violence is oxygen for this regime and Kashmir question is like a heart for its state, pumping the blood of innocents in its veins. There is a huge wealth gap between the rich and poor of India, that the history never witnessed such difference ever. The so-called biggest and "Shining" democracy also has the biggest slums in the world. 80 crore of Indians don't have access to moderate food. Naxalites are fighting for their separation, while South Indians and Nagas never showed trust in the Indian state. Nagas are struggling for their

identity. The state has failed to resolve the genuine issues of the whole population. Instead by encouraging Hindu fundamentalism they are diverting the attention from real issues. We believe in You, the working class of India, that are in millions. We believe that you will stand up against all cruelties!

Comrades,

Let's join our hands and stand together with fists raised and voices high against all the oppression and cruelties of both the states and its ruling elites. We believe, the powerful working class and mass struggle against all oppression will pave the way towards our destination, the Freedom! not only the Kashmir's Freedom but the Freedom of the whole Subcontinent, Freedom from Oppression, Freedom from Deprivation, Freedom from Imperialist Aggression. Freedom of Identity, Freedom to Speak, and Freedom to Live.

And the freedom of the subcontinent will be the catalyst for the World's freedom movement,

FREEDOM OF HUMANITY!

Down With Oppression! Long Live Resistance! No War but Class War!

Jammu Kashmir National Students Federation (JKNSF)

P.S.

Support the ESSF Asia Permanent Solidarity Fund - Even "small" donations help!

Here we are with our annual appeal for the ESSF solidarity fund. We've already used almost all of our resources for 2019, and we need to prepare for 2020.

Over the last 12 years, ESSF has built unique solidarity relations in Asia. The calamitous situation in many countries is going to get worse. On October 29th, *Nature Communications* reported on a new study suggesting that the rise in sea levels will claim three times more victims than previously thought; mostly in eastern Asia. [1].

In the face of the increasingly urgent needs, we are determined to increase the number of our donors, recognising that no donation is too small. The number of donors is politically important. Each new donor is a confirmation of our solidarity with those facing disasters, a welcome encouragement. And taken together, "small' donations have enabled us to provide significant support to grassroots initiatives.

If you can contribute large sums, all the better! But do not give up the solidarity fund because you would judge the amount of your contribution too insignificant. Our minimum solidarity commitment is $\[\]$ 500 – that's only 10 donations of $\[\]$ 50. A basic standard bank transfer to our partners amounts to $\[\]$ 1,000 – that's only 10 donations of $\[\]$ 100.

ESSF works on a completely volunteer basis. It means that 100% of the donations received are actually transferred to our partners abroad. The costs related to these transfers are mostly bank

charges and reduced to a minimum (less than 5%).

Each year brings new ad hoc solidarity campaigns in response to urgent developments. But we also have ongoing engagements in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines. ESSF doesn't 'export' know-how, we don't manage our own projects. Instead, we support our movement partners in their response to local humanitarian, social and democratic crises. They take the lead in defining the needs, and the strategy to be followed. Our partners include the MiHands coalition of civil society groups in Mindanao, southern Philippines, the Free Women movement in Indonesia, the BKF-BKS peasant movements in Bangladesh and a network of popular movements in Pakistan.

These partners are facing increasingly difficult conditions, ranging from martial law in Mindanao to the violence of labour and social relations in Bangladesh, growing threat of Islamist aggression against progressives in Indonesia (particularly women and LGBT+ activists), and attacks from fundamentalists and from the secret services in Pakistan...

The conditions under which our partners act are increasingly difficult: martial law in Mindanao, extreme violence in social relations in Bangladesh, the rise of aggressive Islamism in Indonesia (particularly targeting women and LGBT +), crossfire Special Services and Fundamentalists in Pakistan ... So we need to fully consider the issue of the security of our partners.

Alongside the authoritarian radicalisation of local regimes, our partners suffer from the local impact of the USA-China conflict, as well as the complex ecological crisis, of which global warming is only one aspect. All this increases social conflicts particularly between peasants and big landowners.

We ask you to join us by making a donation – small or large – one-off or regular to the ESSF Permanent Solidarity Fund.

We warmly thank all those who are renewing their donations, as well as all those joining us for the first time!

Pierre Rousset and Adam Novak ESSF

ESSF does not receive any subsidies.

To send donations

Cheques

cheques to ESSF in euros only, payable in France, to be sent to: ESSF 2, rue Richard-Lenoir 93100 Montreuil France

Bank Account:

Crédit lyonnais Agence de la Croix-de-Chavaux (00525) 10 boulevard Chanzy 93100 Montreuil France ESSF, account number 445757C

International bank account details:

IBAN: FR85 3000 2005 2500 0044 5757 C12

BIC / SWIFT : CRLYFRPP Account holder : ESSF

Through PayPal

You can send money through Paypal: see the <u>PayPal button</u> on the upper right side of ESSF English home page: http://www.europe-solidaire.org/spip.php?page=sommaire&lang=en

Through HelloAsso

You can also send money through the association HelloAsso: see its button on the upper right side of ESSF English home page: http://www.europe-solidaire.org/spip.php?page=sommaire&lang=en Or go directly to:

https://www.helloasso.com/associations/europe-solidaire-sans-frontieres/formulaires/1/widget

We keep you regularly informed via our website of the situation and use of the solidarity fund.

Footnotes

[1] https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-019-12808-z