

Against the Current

*Organisation of fedaian(Minority) -
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A PROSPECTIVE FOR STUDENT MOVEMENT

On the eve of October 15, the beginning of a new educational year, one and half millions of young university students started their studies. These young masses are gathered in hundreds of private and public universities and university colleges after passing several obstacles in order to be eligible for attending universities. Educational facilities at the universities cannot respond to the needs of so many students. The quality on lectures is very low. University teachers have not much experience and enough qualification as required, in many cases, these teachers have been themselves students just two years before. Most of the students have problems with hostels and residence and can not finance their studies. Dealing with bureaucratic and reactionary system ruling the universities which unable the students from participating, giving suggestions to problems and develop creativity is another obstacle the students have to deal with. Different organs for intelligence and control with direct and indirect indications have made all difficult for students to educate themselves proper for university student, develop ideas for research, sharing their opinions and being independent in their private affairs. Examples for such organs are University student Basidj, Representative of Vali-e-faghih in University, Regulation Committees and the Islamic Associations. These connected complex of political, social and trade problems faced by the students became the reasons that the new educational year starts with some protest actions in universities in Tehran and other cities in spite of all requests made by state "reformists" and in spite of arrests, threats and hostility made by the suppressive organs of the regime.

In the month of October there was a different atmosphere ruled at universities. During the last two years the state "reformists" have attempted to engage the students with the faked hope that if the students action channels in the way this fraction want, it may lead to an openness in political life of the society and establish democracy. They were giving promises about legal "reforms" on the interest of the people and were indicating that the solution to all the problems the students are facing is depending upon the conduction of these legal "reforms". Thus every thing seemed to be hanged upon development of "reforms", i.e., progress of "reformists" within the regime and capturing more of state means. But this year, the horn of the reformists lost already its tone some months before opening of universities. Performance of the "reformists" in reactionary Majles, Revolutionary Guards' and Basidj's attacks on students gathered for Annual Gathering of the Office for Consolidation Unity in Khooram Abad and pusillanimity of reformists in supporting the students, shut down of all most all of the newspapers belonging the Khoordad Front and imprisonment of a remarkable number of their journalists, indicate that all the promises made by the Khoordad Front were just lies. Especially when the "reformists" do their best, to make sure that no one protests against the mentioned suppressive actions. This is under this condition that even Hezbollah students and their supporters have lost their faith in reform miracle and therefore, vagrancy, protest and critics against passivism of the "reformists" intensifies even among student organisations supported by the regime. This is why; the "reformists" could not even give fake promises as usual on the eve of the new educational year. Instead, they issued different resolutions and letters to the student and called for "calm" and acceptance of the present situation.

In spite of all demands and requests made by the "reformists", it is the demands of the students on political as well as student-related issues that make them to go forward. The student movement cannot put aside the struggle started for achieving the demands on political and student-related levels. This is the reason that why the regime have not been able during the last two decades to form the universities as they desired in the Islamic republic. During the last few years, the universities have been a place of activities reflecting the society's demands and protests. In demonstration took place last year on June (18 Tir), the students joint masses

on the streets and screamed the slogans for the people's mass movement against the Islamic Republic as a whole. Since then, every student political action has been taken part in the demands put by the general democratic movement, and prior to all of them, the demand for separation of religion from the state. With considering the fact that there is no hope for any of the regime's fraction and the fact that even attached student organisations to the government have disclosed them selves, this new educational year is a year for establishment of an independent student movement which become more an more closed to the mass movement. This is a reality that achievement of demands, even those which are very much student-related, hanging on to the development of the mass movement and it is only possible if it unifies it self with the working class movement. In a society that more than 80% of population live under poverty threshold, the student also may suffer from lack of educational and accommodation facilities and at the universities like in the society most of individuals have no access even to the most fundamental facilities while there are some few who have access to sufficient opportunity. Today, most of about one and half millions of university students come from low-income families. This fact alone may link the student movement to the mass movement for democracy and social justice and to the working class movement against exploration. Therefore due to the current political situation, the student movement may go forward in achieving the demands, both student-related and more general and political, only if it establishes independent organisations and link the demands to the objective slogans of a wide spread struggle. The slogan, Work, Bread, Freedom establishment of a Soviet State, is the one which may link different movements and fulfil student demands as well as workers' and mass toilers' at this stage.

Thus The Socialist October Revolution Is Our Inspiration

On 25 October (7 November) 1917 the greatest outburst of the oppressed class throughout the history of humanity shook the world. In front of the bewildered eyes of the guardians and bosses of the world of capital, exploitation, oppression and slavery a class which is subject to oppression and exploitation had risen to topple the class system. The working class of Russia with an armed uprising dragged the capitalist class off the throne of power and by gaining political power started the socialist revolution.

This revolution occurred in Russia due to internal and international conditions for revolution having been more favourable than any where else. From the beginning of the Twentieth century when world capitalist system had reached the stage of monopoly, the contradictions of the system had reached such a degree of growth and acuteness that they prepared the objective conditions for social revolution in a world scale. But the unevenness of economic-political development of the capitalist world resulted in Russia becoming the centre of all contradictions of the capitalist system. Thus the objective conditions for revolution in Russia were more ready than any where else. The 1905 Russian revolution, which its active and leading force was the working class, had demonstrated that reality long before the 1917 October revolution. The 1905 revolution was a prelude to the 1917 revolution. The defeat of 1905 revolution was only a momentary retreat of the proletariat and revolution. Those contradictions remained unresolved and with the commencement of the First world war took new dimensions. Once again a revolutionary situation had appeared. The working class who during the 1905 revolution had gained a very great experience and awareness, this time with an amassed force began its offensive and during the 1917 revolution defeated and toppled Tsarism. But the overthrow of Tsarism did not mean the end of struggle. That was only a moment in the endless process towards the socialist objectives of the working class.

The Russian proletariat had risen to transform the whole of the existing system. Nevertheless, although the Russian proletariat in comparison to the other world proletarian battalions had greater and more experience, awareness and fighting spirit and the Bolshevik party by adapting a Marxist revolutionary policy was playing a remarkable role in raising the struggle of the working class and making the socialist revolution, the process of real occurrences of the revolution showed that it still was not in a position, in terms of the level of organisation and awareness, to take the political power totally. Thus the result of February revolution was a dual power. On one side were the soviets of the workers' representatives, factory committees, workers' militia that were the embodiment of the workers class power. On the other side were the bourgeois power, bourgeois cabinet and the bourgeois government apparatus. This power also enjoyed the support of Menshevik and SR social reformist parties. This period, that in spite of its ebbs and flows continued until October, was the most acute period of struggle between the bourgeoisie and proletariat for establishment of a single power. The Russian bourgeoisie had mobilised all its force to overthrow the workers' power. But the very existence of the Soviets (in spite of the soviets following the policies of Menshevik and SR parties for a time), existence of factory committees and control of production, existence of workers' militia and Red Guard and finally existence of a Bolshevik party that consistently defended the interests of workers and socialist revolution prevented the bourgeoisie from smashing the workers' power and establishing its power completely. The working class could not stagnate either and tolerate the bourgeois power beside the workers' power. The working class that during this period had become aware of its class interests on daily increasing basis and had organised itself in political and trade formations, had prepared itself for establishing a single workers power and founding the socialist revolution. Finally the suitable moment for disturbing the balance of power in the interest of the proletariat arrived.

The Russian proletariat, under the leadership of the Bolshevik party, toppled the bourgeoisie with an organised uprising and raised the flag of the socialist revolution. The Russian workers' revolution right from the beginning confirmed two great lessons of the workers' movement. The Russian workers' revolution once again demonstrated the fact that the working class can only topple the bourgeoisie through armed uprising, revolution and take power. This revolution, also like the Paris Commune, demonstrated that the working class can not exercise its class authority if bourgeois state machinery continued to exist and realise its class objectives. Therefore it totally smashed that old state machinery and established a new state machinery called the government of soviets.

The Socialist October revolution brought about great transformations in a world scale and opened new perspectives for future victories of the working class. In spite of the October socialist revolution not realising its objectives as a result of a series of internal and international obstacles and facing defeat, the path of this revolution and its objectives thus are inspiration to millions of human beings throughout the world who are struggling to topple the capitalist system and establish a communist system.

STRATEGY OF ACTIVE STRUGGLE BY MASSES VS. FAILED STRATEGY OF "ACTIVE CALM"

The rapid failures of gangs so called " within-government reformists" and their disability to fulfil even the smallest demand of Iranian people, put an end to the "Strategy of Active Calm" of these groups, a strategy which were supposed to provide the ability to control and to halter

mass movement. The people masses have come to an active struggle and confronting the regime widely. Even some fractions of Khoordad Front have lost their hope in getting some thing out of this "Strategy of Active Calm" and believing that this strategy could not even make the other ruling fraction to step back. While even the least aware groups of mass movement have understood that such strategy cannot be of any help, Khatami fraction's propagandists are trying to organise a massive and wide spread propaganda among their less-remained supporters specially university and school students. The aim is to convince them to be hopeful for the victory of such strategy. Some days ago, 173 members of reactionary Majles issued a resolution supporting the " Strategy of Active Calm" on the propose of beginning of the new educational year. In this resolution, the attempt of struggling students in order to organise an active, open and offensive struggle against the regime being condemned as "extreme", "aggressive" and " some-how- mysterious" action. They also once again asked the students to follow the pad of "Strategy of Active Calm". But even the recent student protests during the last few days prove that no one take these talks seriously. More than three years presidency of Khatami and his attempt to invite people to be calm and tolerant, have shown even the least political aware individuals that the main propose of "Strategy of Active Calm" has been nothing but to prevent the people to get involved with active struggle in order to fulfil their demands. Now, it is obvious to any one that the "Strategy of Active Calm" means, people must surround them selves against the rulers' suppression and be silent and calm about violation against their own rights. It means, they have to vote once a while for personalities like Khatami and his supporters and hoping for fake promises. It means, they must not take any measure and let different ruling fractions bargaining with each other so that Khoordad Front get more profit and finally it means, the living condition of people getting worse day by day. The experience of the last three and half years is a real fact that except poverty, pressure and avoidance of rights, the people have got nothing else.

It is a well known fact that during the period which "Strategy of Active Calm" was supposed to do a miracle, the Islamic Republic of Iran in tens and hundreds of occasions suppressed masses' peaceful protests in blood even though such protests were for limited and social aimed demands. During the last three and half years thousands of Iranian people have been arrested and imprisoned. Every peaceful gathering of people has been target for attacks of suppressive forces. A large number of newspapers are closed and a group of journalists who have mainly introduced them selves as pro- Khoordad Front has been arrested and imprisoned. Political activists and writers have been kidnapped and then killed. Tehran University Campus became target for attacks and the student being arrested. Students of Tabriz University were suppressed in a barbaric way and a large number of them imprisoned. Protesting workers with trade demands were also subject for suppression. Thus it is obvious that not only people got nothing out of "being reformist" and "Strategy of Active Calm" and not only none of their rights and freedom have been provided and their living condition has been improved but also strangulation, suppression, poverty and avoidance of their rights have been intensified. This fact shown it self when Khatami's invitation to people of being silent and calm resulted only more limitation and more avoidance of their rights. In the beginning, Some groups among the people specially university and school students had some hopes for Khatami and Strategy of Active Calm due to their lack of political experience and credulity, but even they lost their hope from faked "reformists" and deceived strategy of "active calm". Some groups and personalities not belonging to any ruling fraction, who recognised them selves as a part of Khoordad Front, have also come to the conclusion that this strategy may not lead them any where and therefore announced its failure. Now that the failure of Strategy of Active Calm has been recognised by every one, Khatami's supportive fraction still adores it and of course they might do it. They could a while make people hoping for mercy of ruling regime and its actors and by this fulfilled their role in extending the regime's existence by

such strategy. In addition, this strategy helped them to get more shares in government power and thereby strengthening their position. Therefore it is obvious that this strategy was fruitful for them and they have to talk about its value. But the time has come to get ride of such strategy. The masses are now aware of the nature of the fraction so called pro-reform and its strategy of active calm. Masses are on the way to open, direct and offensive even raged struggle against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The recent struggle and mass movement of Khoram Abad people was not the first neither the last example of this type of struggle even though it was suppressed. Open struggle against the regime is spreading every where. In all the production units, universities, schools, cities and different regions of Iran the struggle in various forms is taking place. "Strategy of Active Calm" along with disclosure of faked reformists is failed and the Strategy of Active Struggle has become a leading policy for masses of Iranian people.

Answers to Questions

A comrade has sent a couple of questions to Kar requesting answers, they are as follows:

1- What practicable actions has the organisation taken to unite with and get closer to other revolutionary and socialist currents and in principle has unity been achieved or not?

2- Does dictatorship of proletariat in the socialist revolution mean establishment of a one party system of communist experts or not?

Answer: In reply to the first question, we must say during past several years numerous efforts were made by the organisation in the direction of party unity and permanent united actions. Numerous articles in the Kar have been dedicated to the subject. These efforts so far have not resulted in unification. It is not possible to explain these efforts in the Answers to Questions column. Therefore, for complete information it is necessary to refer to the archives of the past several years of Kar publication. Also in this issue of Kar an article concerning the current efforts of the organisation for a permanent united action has been printed.

Concerning the second question also to date comprehensive articles have been printed in the organisation's publications. Nevertheless, briefly in reply to this question, we point out that our organisation's understanding of the dictatorship of the proletariat is completely separate from the understanding that substitutes the class with the party and or equates the dictatorship of the proletariat with the one party system. Dictatorship of the proletariat as its name shows means exercise of the political will and authority of the working class. The existence of this political authority, which is the very exertion of the political rule of the working class, is essential for the period of transition from capitalism to communism. But in spite of the dictatorship of the proletariat's existence during a historical period (until disappearance of classes and class struggle the dictatorship of proletariat is necessary), the dictatorship of the proletariat is different to all class dictatorships that have existed through history including the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie. This difference is not merely about an exploiting and oppressive minority exercising their political will and authority over the great majority of the mass of people, that is exercising their dictatorship. Where dictatorship of the proletariat is the imposition of the political will and authority of the great majority of the oppressed over a bunch of oppressors and exploiters. This aspect of difference although important is not all of the fact. Still the fact that dictatorship of the proletariat is the prelude to negation of any kind of political dictatorship and government remains an unsaid fact. The difference completely

shows itself factually where in one, bourgeois dictatorship, exercise of political authority and imposition of will is for making political and class rule for ever and in the other, dictatorship of the proletariat, this exercise of political will and authority is for the purpose of abolishing any kind of political will and authority of the class society and the very political authority. Thus the bourgeoisie needs a state machinery with military bureaucratic organs separate from people and above them and also organs and institutions for mass infatuation to exercise its authority and impose its political will, i.e. dictatorship. It needs them to retain the oppressed in captivity and make its political and class rule indefinite. Here the mass of people are not in charge of running the affairs of the state and every so often a party from among the political parties that represent the bourgeoisie, in the name of people and democracy, takes the helm of power; and by relying on the long and wide state machinery secures the political and class rule of the bourgeoisie. But the working class who wants to abolish classes and class society does not want nor can make efforts to make its political and class rule remain for ever. If the working class is compelled to take political power at a certain historical period and exercise its political authority it is merely due to the necessities of the class struggle. Thus the means that the working class employs to exercise its political authority is separate to what the bourgeoisie employs. Here lays the difference of the government that the proletariat needs to advance to its aims and objectives. The expediencies of the dictatorship of the proletariat necessitates the kind of government which the broad masses of the toiling people and at their helm the working class can take on the running of the affairs of the state and directly exercise its authority. The more this government machinery is organised so that the broad mass of toiling people can easier and better take part in the management of the affairs of the state it is more correspondent to the duties of the dictatorship of the proletariat. It is a government that has cut relations with any kind of bureaucracy and professional armed forces separate from people. The soviet government is a kind of this type of proletarian government. This government is no longer a government of the usual and traditional type. It is a fading government that in which political outputs gradually loose their importance and a time would come that this government together with political authority would become inappropriate and disappear. Therefore, if here the discussion about the exercise of the direct mass authority of the working class is the broad participation of the toiling masses in the management of the affairs of the state and the broader this participation is and the people learn managing the state, political outputs loose their importance quicker. Clearly, the dictatorship of the proletariat can not be exercised through the party of the workers' vanguards, the party which represents the working class (and contrary to what has been propounded in the question it is not the experts but the most vanguard and aware part of the working class). The party only contains a small part of the working class. This small part can not substitute the class and take on the duties of the class and the broad mass of toiling people. Exercise of political will and authority can only be done by the working class and through organs of direct exercise of authority like the soviets. Not only the party can not substitute the class and its organs of exercise of authority from the aspect of political duties, but from the aspect of economic and social duties too nothing can substitute the dictatorship of the class itself.

Therefore, if the dictatorship and exercise of political authority is only for the working class, and contrary to the bourgeois society in the socialist society the class itself must directly exercise its authority, what is the working class party's role in the period of transition from capitalism to communism?

Contrary to the anarcho/syndicalist view which believes there is no need for the political party of the working class and that the working class itself would organise the affairs spontaneously, the Communist Party's existence not only is essential before the gaining of political power by the working class but specifically during the era of the dictatorship of the

proletariat. The Communist Party which is the vanguard part of the working class and contains the most aware, active and vanguard workers, is the class leadership of the workers. The party organises and leads the class struggle of workers during the dictatorship of the proletariat. The party draws up the strategy and tactics of the working class in the era of dictatorship of the proletariat and advances the class policies of the workers. The members of the Communist Party who are the most aware and active part of the working class play an important role to advance the political, economic and social duties of the working class. Very obviously when the workers want to choose their representatives to carry out sensitive political, economic and social duties they would elect the most aware and active workers and not the most ignorant and inactive of them. Therefore the Communist Party has very important duties during the era of dictatorship of the proletariat. But all this does not mean that the party substitutes the class and the class party of the workers takes on the duty of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Where ever such situation occurs the dictatorship of the proletariat would decline and social revolution would fail to realise its aims.

Concerning the other part of this question, we must also say the dictatorship of the proletariat is in no way equivalent to establishment of a one party system. Where the working class takes the political power and a proletarian government is formed efforts must be made to make the broad masses of people more aware, daily increasing their participation in managing the affairs of the state, necessarily there must exist the most wide spread and broadest political freedoms. These freedoms are not only for the working class but the general public must enjoy freedom. Where political freedoms exist there must exist the freedom to form parties and political, trade and democratic organisations. Therefore the opponents of the working class, the opponents of workers' government do also enjoy the freedom to form parties and organisations particular to them. If we accept the reality that during the period of revolutionary transition from capitalism to communism the class struggle would continue, it is better that this struggle is open and transparent. Then the class enemies of workers would show themselves and the working class would continue the struggle with the bourgeoisie and all its remnants with total awareness and alert. Should the power really be in the hands of the workers, should the dictatorship of the proletariat be established to its true meaning, should the government apparatus be a proletarian government, a government of the new type, a soviet government and the broad masses of toiling people manage the affairs of the state through the soviets and this mass be armed, the proletariat will have no fear of freedom of political activities for the bourgeoisie.

The proletariat that has established a government apparatus particular to itself and exercises its political authority and will through it would secure its political power. It would continue its revolutionary duties to abolish and delete classes. Therefore, clearly the dictatorship of the proletariat is not equal to one party system and does not deprive the opponents of political freedoms. Today in a number of most advanced capitalist countries, while the bourgeoisie is in power and exercises its political will and authority, meaning it has established its class dictatorship, political freedoms also, of course within bourgeois limits, exist. Therefore, dictatorship is not the equivalent of violence, suppression and lack of rights for the people. The class that wants to exercise authority, wants to impose its political will and authority, would necessarily also use violence. It would suppress its class enemies, but dictatorship does not equate violence and lack of rights. Today, in the most advanced capitalist countries that parliamentary systems are in force, while the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie is in force, that is the bourgeoisie exercising its political will and authority, political freedoms also exist. Even the opposition parties can also be active, but the bourgeoisie, where ever it sees fit also resorts to open political violence and also uses the police, army and anti-riot units for suppression. In the dictatorship of the proletariat too, inevitably, where ever it is necessary political violence

would be used against the class enemies too. But this does not mean abolishing freedoms and establishment of a one party system. Even if under special conditions, in an emergency situation the working class is compelled to deprive its class enemies of the right to political life, in the same way as the European bourgeoisie did at a time in the struggle against the feudals, it would be an emergency and short term measure. It must be looked at as a special situation. Therefore, in principle, the working class would not deprive even its class enemies of political freedoms and thus together with political freedoms numerous political parties would exist.

" YOUNG POLICE"

On October 15, a group of 120 Hezbollah students wearing police uniforms, presented at Revolution Street in order to claim the formation of Young Police. The Deputy chief of the Islamic Republic Police forces told to Iran newspaper that the aim for grounding the Young Police is to maintain and regulate security in schools. He then stated that the Islamic Republic Police Organ has planned to have police units in all schools in Iran. He hoped," in cooperation with the Board of Education, there will be girl and boy police in all the schools." As it can be indicated from the interview with the Social Affairs Deputy of Police, the Islamic Republic is deeply worried about security issues in schools. The regime is afraid that as it was the case in Shah's time, when Iranian people's struggle develops and wide spreads then school students will participate in political struggle and thus if millions of students come to the streets then no one will be able to stop them. This is why, they have put off their masks and decided to establish police units in all Iranian schools and call them "Young Police". This new plan proves that on-function suppressive organs such as basidj and Educational Guidance can not any more level with the present rate of dislikes and protests among the students. These suppressive tools cannot maintain control over the students. Thus among the students selves police units being organised in order to suppress students in an organised way. In this way the police forces can easily go to schools as it please them and bring about an atmosphere of fear. But of course all these plans are wishes made by the Islamic Republic, which is impossible to fulfil due to the present situation in Iran. Neither students and teachers let the Islamic regime to establish a Police House in every school nor the regime can possibly establish "Young police" unit in each school. Even if the regime establish units in some of the schools by force, the students will have the same attitude they have had towards Basidj forces in the schools. Attempts conducted by the police organ of the regime results certainly a lost for them. Nothing can any more stop Iranian people masses, included the students, from struggling against the regime and for achieving their demands.

News from Iran

PROTEST GATHERING OF SINA HOSPITAL WORKERS

Workers of Sina Hospital have lost their jobs and therefore they gathered on 29th October in front of the hospital and demanded the their rights should be considered. After that their protest action stopped by the police forces, they gathered this time in front of the Workers House. It is worth to mention that these workers have more than 6 years of work experience and have a valid contract with the Transport Co. owned by University of Medical Sciences

until 21st March 2001. While ago the employer of these workers changed from the mentioned company to Three Panjfar without any notice to the workers. The new employer then decided to pay the workers and dismiss them. The workers demanded going back to work and their rights being considered.

40 WORKERS LOST THEIR JOBS

Due to shut down of Ghelzat factory, a producer of tomato paste located in Kermanshah, 40 workers have lost their jobs. The workers demand re-opening of the factory. They protested severely and demanded going back to work.

PERSI GAZ WORKERS LOST THEIR JOBS

Persi Gaz Co. in province of Oromiyeh has been closed and all the workers after 6-27 years of working for this company have lost their jobs. General- director of this company stated in a letter, dated 23rd September, that there is a lack of access to gas and therefore the workers should be dismissed. The workers on the other hand refuse such excuse by saying, " there is no problem with access to gas and these gentlemen are only worrying about not having more profit." It is noticeable that the employer has transferred the entire factory property and facilities to an unknown destination and said in response to the workers' protest, " You can go and complain"!

PACHENAR RESIDENTS PROTEST

A large group of Pachenar residents in city of Roudbar, organised together an action in protest against lack of drinking water. The protesters, most of them women and children, demanded the officials to take measures in order to solve the problem with drinking water as soon as possible. It has been two years now that the residents have problem with drinking water and at present they have access to drinking water only half an hour per day. After that the officials promised them to consider their demand, the protesters ended the action.

IRAN JIKA WORKERS GATHERED IN PROTEST

More than 140 workers of Iran Jika gathered in front of General- governor Office for Gilan Province and demanded that their problems should be considered and that the situation of this factory should be very soon clarified. The workers of this factory of whom 95% are women have not received their wages for six months now and are very anxious about their future.

Iran Jika Co. has been several times transferred to different organisations and persons during the last few years and the employers cannot clarify the workers' future situation. Recently, this company is transferred to Tobacco Co. and only this has caused more problems for the workers and increased uncertainty of job situation of the workers. One of the workers talked about their previous protest actions and how these actions became a target for suppressive police forces. The worker said, "while ago we protested in front of General- governor Office for Gilan Province, in order to solve our problems. In response, the police forces assaulted and beaten us up and no one listened to us. These forces forced us then to go away." But even though these workers became targets for police brutality, they once again organised a protest action and demanding their rights.

PROTEST GATHERING OF GILAN GLAZED TILE WORKERS

More than 80 workers of Gilan Glazed tile Factory, located in Industrial City of Rasht, protested against problems they are facing by gathered at the factory. During the protest action, which held day and night, the workers, did not allow the in-charged personnel to leave the factory and demanded immediate payment of their retroactive wages.

PROTEST GATHERING OF WORKERS IN NEYSHABOUR CITY

A large group of workers protested in front of General-governor Office of Neyshabour City. They were against transfer of Social Security Hospital to the Ministry of Health. While ago the workers sent a protest letter to the Director of the Organisation for Social Security and warned him for transferring the hospital. They also mentioned in the letter that if their demand would not be consider they will organise more serious protest actions.

PROTEST LETTER OF PIPE MANUFACTURING WORKERS

A large number of workers engaged in Ahad Pipe Manufacturing Co. in province of Kermanshan demanded in a letter addressed to the Office for Labour and Social Affairs, consideration of their problems and payment of their retroactive wages. It is a while now that water, electricity and telephone have been cut and the in-charged personnel are absent at the work in order to avoid the workers.

70 WORKERS OF TAVANIR DISMISSED

Directors of Shayeste Nirou Co. dismissed 70 workers. This company is one of the daughter companies of Tavanir and the Mother Company has decided to force the workers to redeem themselves. But the workers are against such decision and demanding to go back to work and the company remains open.

DISMISS OF 37 WORKERS OF BONYAD BATOON

The directors of Bonyad Batoon Co. dismissed 37 workers and spread gossip that the company is going to be bankrupted and being closed in order to force the workers to redeem themselves. The management since while ago has started selling the so-called worn- out machinery without replacing them. For instead, of 40 transport machinery only 10 are remained. The workers are against shut down of factory, they demand that the factory remains open and they get a work guarantee.

90 PIPE MANUFACTURING WORKERS DISMISSED

According to the report from Kar&Karegar newspaper, the management of Persit Co. has closed the company's Pipe Manufacturing Unit and is going to close the Plate Manufacturing Unit as well. Due to this shut down, more than 90 contract workers lost their job with more than 8 years job experience.

WORKERS HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY WAGE FOR MONTHS IN GILAN PROVINCE

Workers engaged in Shomal Weaving, Nakh Taz, Touranj Talai, Gilkan and many other production units in Gilan province have not received any payment for months. All the mentioned units have been announced shut downed and all the workers facing an uncertain future without any further notice.

PROTEST GATHERING OF SHADAN POUR WORKERS

A large group of workers of Shadan Pour Shoe, gather in protest against not payment of their retroactive wages at the factory in Tehran and demanded the payments. The owner of this factory have sold row material and in addition a part of machinery facilities and therefore work situation of 500 workers of this factory is in danger. The owner also complained to police and there by 5 workers arrested on November 25 and transferred to Province 5 Police station. The workers protested severely against such extortion and unreasonable pressure and demanded, payment of retroactive wages, production's continuity, work guarantee and release of their co-workers.

PROTEST GATHERING OF WORKERS IN FRONT OF GENERAL-GOVERNOR OFFICE

Workers of Fooka Industry in Hamedan city, gathered on November 29 in front of General-governor Office in protest against Executive Director of the company who could not fulfil his promises, among them payment of last two months wages. Their gathering lasted two hours in front of the office. Then they marched towards the General Office for Labour and Social Affairs and there they demanded that their demands should be considered. The officials attended the gathering and asked the workers to keep calm and promised them to consider their demands. The workers warned the officials that if their wages not paid within one week then they would once again organise protest action and demonstration. The workers ended the gathering after four hours.

PROTEST GATHERING OF ALADIN WORKERS IN FRONT OF MINISTRIES OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRY

The workers of Aladin Co. Once again on December 3, gathered in front of Ministry for Industry. They expressed their worry over their work situation in future and demanded payment of all retroactive wages. But the workers did not receive any proper respond from the officials therefore, the next day on December 4, gathered the workers this time in front of the Ministry for Labour and demanded consideration of their uncertain situation. According to one the workers, it is decided that if Majles accept the payment, a sum of 40 millions will be paid to the workers as two months retroactive wages and then the workers will be eligible to unemployment insurance.

JAVAHERIAN WORKERS BLOCKED A ROAD

On December 10, the workers of Javaherian Co. Gathered in the morning and blocked Radjai Street. The workers set fire on car tubes and blocked the road for three hours. They demanded payment of their retroactive wages and an end to their present uncertain situation. One of the workers said, it is two and half years now that they only promise us but now we have water over our heads. The protest action ended only when the police forces came to the place and the officials promised to consider the workers' demands. The workers threatened that if the officials do not hold their promise; they will next time demonstrate with all their families and will block the road.

PROTEST GATHERING OF WORKERS ENGAGED IN HEDJRAT CHEMICAL CO.

About 50 of workers of Hedjrat Chemical Co. Gathered on December 11 in front of the company's building. The employer has not only refused to pay the workers' subsidiary for several months but also threaten them to dismiss them. The workers, by this protest action, demanded payment of their retroactive subsidiaries and work guarantee.

PROTEST GATHERING OF AMIN SADEGHIYEH HOSPITAL WORKERS

The workers engaged in Amin Sadeghiyeh Hospital organised a protest action against not payment of their wages. As a result of this action and due to arbitration of General director of the Labour House, the employer has promise the workers to consider their demands and pay one month of retroactive wages from the Saving Account. It is now three months since the last payment of wages and subsidiaries took place for 70 workers of this hospital.

WORKERS' PROTEST AGAINST DISMISSES

The employer of Ferdous Flour Co. In Oroumiyeh has started to gradually dismiss the workers since in beginning of December. First two workers with 8 respective 10 years of experience dismissed and then three workers with 18 -20 years of experience threatened to be dismissed. The workers have severely expressed their objection to the dismiss. They demanded that such process will be stopped and that their co-workers will be returned to work.

PARIFAB SHUT DOWN

In the beginning of December, the directors of Parifab finally announced the company as bankrupted after two years of not payment or delay of wages and subsidiaries and after that putting a great pressure of uncertainty on workers. Due to shut down of this factory, which was established 30 years ago, 120 workers of this company lost their jobs and joint millions of other unemployed.

SHORT NEWS

v The dismissed workers of Pars Compress Co. In Shiraz City, sent a protest letter addressing the General-Governor of Fars province and demanded consideration of their problems. These workers collectively dismissed for more than six months ago.

v Bistoon Gunny Bag Co. is closed and 100 engaged workers of this factory have been unemployed.

v Press Silander Co. Located in Albourz Industrial town in Gazvin province is going to be closed. The workers of this company sent a press release to media and while expressed their worry over future demanded the officials to consider their problems.

v Almost 3 thousands workers of production units in Mazandaran province have not received any payment for the last three months. Among the units are, Behshahr Weaving, Amoul Jeans Mode, Sari Choukharie, Sari Pak and Tabarestan Weaving.

v Two years ago, 2114 workers of Tabaristan factory temporarily went under unemployment insurance so that after one and half years going back to work again. The reason stated as low rate of production. But after two years, the directors of this factory try to close it and redeem all the workers.