

Imperialists Unite to Commit New Crimes

In the period of Second World War, Japan was a partner of the Fascist bloc headed by Germany and Hitler. This bloc had come up with an aim of imposing its domination over the world through a most devastating war. While the Japanese imperialists had concentrated their aggressive war activities in the Asia-Pacific region, the German imperialists had concentrated in Europe and against the Socialist Russia. The US was at the other end of the pole. It had become a partner of European imperialist powers who were dominating a larger part of the globe. It wished, through war, to create more favorable conditions to impose its own domination in the world.

On Dec 7, 1941, without any declaration of war, the Japanese navy and air force made a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor (Hawaii), the main base of the US navy and air force in the Pacific area. As a result, 2400 Americans died and the USS Arizona was wrecked.

On August 6 and 9 of 1945, the US had rained atom bombs on Japan's thickly populated Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As a result, more than one lakh people had instantly died. Several lakhs of people were disabled and diseased for generations. The air, water and everything were polluted and poisoned. The people are still chased by the harrowing consequences of this attack. The US imperialists sought to justify their bombing as an act of retaliation to Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor base. It is not true.

The US also sought to justify its attack on the plea that it forced Japan to surrender which it was refusing to do even after Germany's crushing defeat in the war. It, again, is a lie. Much before this attack, the Japanese invaders had received death blows in the hands of Chinese people. The defeat of German Fascists by the Soviet people and the anti-fascist forces left no option for the Japanese imperialists except to surrender. They were already preparing to formally declare their surrender. But the US imperialists were conspiring to usurp the credit for the surrender and use it to gain dominance over Japan and push through their politics of domination in Asia and the world. The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki came only in this wake.

In 75 years after 1941, the world had seen many twists and turns. One peculiar fact we are witnessing today is: Yesterday's enemies are today's allies. The Japanese imperialists are partners in the strategic alliance formed by the US with the purpose of gaining dominance in Asia and Pacific region. In line with this changed relationship, the rulers of both Countries are taking steps to wipe out the previous hostilities from the memories of people. As part of this, the US President Obama had visited Japan in May, 2016 and paid homage and condolences to the victims of 1945 US bomb attacks in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Recently, i.e., on December 28, 2016, the Japanese PM Shinzo Abe and the US President Obama went on a joint visit to Pearl Harbour. They paid homage and condolences to more than 2400 Americans killed in the Japanese attack on Dec' 7, 1941. They delivered a wreath of peace lilies and observed silence before the shrine to those lost on the USS Arizona. In this context, Abe offered his "sincere and everlasting condolences". He said: "we must never repeat the horrors of war"; "what has bonded us together is the power of reconciliation, made possible through the spirit of tolerance". In his welcome speech, Obama said, "there is more to be won in peace than in war, that reconciliation carries more rewards than retribution."

Some are seeing this so called "reconciliation", "tolerance" and "urge for peace" expressed by the heads of US and Japan as a welcome development. But, the fact remains that these two imperialist powers had locked their horns and attacked each other during the Second World War to realize their aims of world domination. The same powers are now in friendship and alliance for no other reason, but to realize the same aims of world domination. The people of both countries had neither accepted earlier, nor accept in future the ambitions of imperialist rulers to impose their domination separately or together over the world. The people are the real victims of hostilities, reconciliation, peace or attacks between the imperialist powers. The people of both countries must, therefore, oppose the politics of domination pursued by the rulers of their own countries. They must refuse to being used by the imperialist powers as a canon-fodder in the wars to realize their own ambitions of world domination. They must unite with the working class, oppressed nations and people in the world in the struggle to end imperialism.
