

OPPRESSORS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE CAN HAVE NO COMMON INTERESTS

Big colonial Empire the British rulers once reined in the World is collapsed. They are relegated to a second-rate position in the camp of imperialist powers today. Internally, now they are plagued by a worst economic and political crisis. Yet, they continue to live in an illusory world of past glory of being a world colonial power. Their die-hard colonial mindset is evident in their boastful claims about how they utilized the services of colonial people in two World Wars.

The Royal British Legion and British Future have jointly initiated a "Remember Together Campaign" to commemorate, teach and document the services of soldiers from Commonwealth nations (erstwhile British colonies including India). Boris Johnson, UK Prime Minister, said in a statement in Nov 2020: "In every theatre of the Second World War, volunteers from India, Africa and the Caribbean made an immense contribution to victory." "When Britain embarked on the liberation of South East Asia, assembling nearly a million troops in the 14th Army, the great majority of the soldiers in this magnificent unit came from India and Africa. Volunteers from as far away as Sierra Leone and Nigeria helped to release Myanmar from Japanese occupation." "All of these courageous people chose to fight for freedom under the British flag. Their services helped to defeat a terrible evil and allow millions to live in peace and prosperity." Opposition Labor Party leader, Sir Keir Starmer, also said: "We will never forget the bravery of the 1.5 million Indian soldiers that fought in the British Army in trenches of World War 1, or the allies we stood shoulder to shoulder."

British imperialist rulers seek to conceal important facts behind their claims:

1. In the colonial era the British colonialists had spread their tentacles to every nook and corner of the world by drowning the people in blood and by employing divisive and deceptive methods. They used India as a vast testing ground for these methods. Not only they British deployed the British soldiers and officers, but also recruited millions of toiling poor in India into the British India Army and used them to ruthlessly crush the people's opposition and rebellion against the British colonial rule. Thus they used the colonized Indian people to perpetuate their colonial oppression in India.

2. British Colonialists used the people of their colonies who were drawn into their armed forces to fight wars in other territories and they called these wars as a fight for 'liberation' or 'independence' of those countries. But, in reality, these wars were fought to crush the genuine struggles of the concerned people for liberation and to enlarge the British colonial hold to those countries and people.

3. British imperialists fought two World Wars (1914 -18 and 1939 - 45) not for any sane cause but to retain and further expand their colonial empire. While the armed forces or volunteers recruited from the toiling poor of their colonies including India were fighting and dying in far away territories under the British flag and for the British imperialists, the British colonial rulers and their armies were brutally attacking and killing the people in India who were fighting for India's independence or liberation. Thus the present British imperialist rulers hailing the sacrifices of colonial people including India in the wars fought under the British flag and for the British imperialists is a big fraud. Here the colonial rulers used the colonial people as mercenaries and cannon fodder to oppress the people elsewhere.

4. The colonial oppressor and the oppressed people neither had nor can have common interests. While the oppressed people in the colonies including India fought to break the shackles of colonial oppression, the colonial rulers used all their oppressive might to crush the oppressed people to perpetuate their colonial oppression.

5. Present generation of people in the countries like India, who are still weighed down heavily by the imperialist plunder and oppression remember and take inspiration from the millions of people who fought and sacrificed their lives in the struggle to get rid of the colonial yoke. They sympathise those toiling poor who helplessly, unconsciously and without their consent lost their lives working as mercenaries of colonial rulers. They learn from and never forget this painful experience. They owe to expose the treacherous deal of compromise made by the leadership of the then Indian National Independence Movement with the British colonial rulers to douse the rising flames of revolutionary mass upsurge and save the interests of imperialists and their Indian Compradors from being totally swept away and to prevent the emergence of a New Democratic India. They owe to continue the struggle to end the semi-colonial, semi-feudal system and establish a New Democratic system in India.

6. It is shameful for the present Indian ruling classes to continue in the so called Commonwealth-a relic of colonial domination and feel proud of their servility to the colonial rulers.
