

Divert People's Attention from Fundamental Issues and get Political Mileage

In the wake of Assembly elections in 5 states, The BJP and the RSS have raked up a new controversy of preventing students from entering schools in Karnataka if they wear hijabs. It seems they came to the conclusion that invoking hatred against Pakistan and China, Ram Mandir and building huge idols will not work to garner votes in these elections. So they rolled the dice of hijab now sensing that the people were angry at the unemployment, peasant laws, labour laws, wholesale selling of public sectors and are questioning them everywhere. In every historical context where the continuation of their hegemony of exploitation and oppression of the people is threatened the ruling classes have resorted to tactics that undermine the strength and unity of the people. It is well known that religious forces, that can vigorously surrender our national wealth and sovereignty to imperialists, are in power today. For this Big Corporates are squandering billions of exploitation money as electoral bonds. Under the auspice of big capitalist powers and imperialist agencies WhatsApp universities are constantly researching new and faster ways of propagating the brutal ways of exploitation as welfare. They are now harvesting the results of the poisonous seeds planted through 60-70 years of divisive policies among the people. Those who digested this poison as kids entered all sectors of the nation and are now coming of age to spew venom against their brethren. None of this is new to the working class. If the working class becomes class conscious and unites with the peasantry the religious forces could not stand against them.

British imperialist rulers who are unable to withstand the long people's resistance against their colonial exploitation decided to change the form of their direct exploitation. Their immediate agenda was to ensure that the Indian subcontinent is divided so that it won't turn 'red' with the inspiration of Soviet Russia and China, the socialist nations of the day. So they came up with the plan of dividing the country on religious lines, between Hindus and Muslims. It worked, leading to 'social murder' of millions of people and a divided subcontinent. The Indian ruling class continue their legacy of exploitative change tactics from time to time to oppress the people. Even though there are squabbles between the various political parties over the brokerage thrown by imperialists for facilitating the transfer of national wealth out of the country,

there are no differences between them when it comes to mortgaging our country to imperialists and hindering the development of our nation.

The BJP government which is in power at the Centre is rolling the dice of religion, regionalism and chauvinism during every election and coming to power. Sensing that people won't buy these tricks any more they implemented the hijab agenda in Karnataka, where they are in power. In places where they dominate, they have already filled the people's minds with poison to the point that any such ignition as hijab will lead to a forest fire. This poisoning also was done in Karnataka, their southern laboratory. With a two-pronged strategy of majority and minority aggregations (80%, 20%) they are spreading across the country.

But they cannot roll the same dice every time. Anger is brewing among various sectors of people: peasants feel betrayed over the centre's lacklustre attitude in withdrawing Farms laws; In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar unemployed youth blockaded the railway tracks; In Andhra Pradesh, millions of teachers and employees took to the roads; Thousands of Anganwadis agitated in Delhi. Millions of working people, farmers and middle class in India and other countries are taking to the roads to solve their problems. It is in this context that historical and cultural distortions must be reversed, the histories of popular struggles must be brought before the people. The revolutionary forces have to prepare themselves to adapt to the situation in mobilizing the people and align the class struggles everywhere. Hindutva forces are turning to more aggression in order to withstand the people's movements that are arising against the increasing exploitation. By taking this fact to the masses, by sharpening the working class struggles and by uniting all the oppressed people we can halt this fascist-style aggression and expel these divisive religious forces.