

Imperialists are Criminals - Now in Ukraine

The war against Ukraine by Russia has entered the second month showing no signs of ending. This war is imposed by the hegemonic powers using Ukraine as a power between Russia and the West.

This war led to a humanitarian crisis of gigantic proportions. Thousands of people are being killed. The number of refugees to neighbouring countries crossed 3.6 million mark. More than 6 million people are displaced from their homes and are living under precarious conditions in insecure shelters in Ukraine. Russian president, Putin, US President Joe Biden and the Ukraine President Zelensky are responsible for the devastating toll on human life and property in Ukraine. This war has a serious global impact causing a surge in the energy and commodity prices. The United Nations and the security council proved to be completely ineffective in dealing with the situation.

Even at this stage of rising human toll and the prolongation of war US and its allies who have been provoking the war in to a reality are not at all trying to end the war through a process of reconciliation and negotiation. On the contrary they are fuelling the war through their actions. The European Union countries, the NATO allied with US under the leadership of US are imposing drastic and unprecedented sanctions on Russia. They cut off most significant Russian banks from the SWIFT system and frozen all transactions with Russian central bank. They closed their air-space to Russian air-craft. US declared Nord Stream pipeline-2 – a major gas pipeline between Germany and Russia – to be dead. European Union decided to reduce drastically its energy dependency, phase out Russian gas, oil and coal and to bolster defence capabilities. They decided to support Ukraine financially and supply it with military equipment and platforms. They decided to 'isolate' Russia economically, socially and culturally. This isolation is extended from sports to art and music. The Munich Philharmonic fired its chief conductor and Newyork's metropolitan opera let a Soprano, Anna Netabko, go because they would not criticise the war. English Premier League club Chelsea was forced to break relationship with its owner, Russian billionaire Abrcho Munich. The performances of Bolster Ballet in London and Madrid were similarly cancelled.

US President Joe Biden has been personally contacting the leaders of China and warning not to support Russia. He personally pressurising India to take sides with him (US) and the West in condemning Russia for its oppressive war on Ukraine. At his behest a string of foreign leaders, ministers and officials are descending on New Delhi. With their comments and press-statements they are clearly indicating that tensions between Russia have reached to a point of no return and India is being asked to make a very pointed choice between them and Russia. US is pressurizing India to not to buy Russian Oil. US is trying to oust Russia from G-20 group. US president Biden is insulting Russian president Putin personally by calling him a “war criminal” and a “butcher”. US and its allies decided to ramp up pressure on Kremlin with such a strategy ‘to stop this war’. But all these actions and attempts being made by US and its allies against Russia, instead of stopping Russia, have been arrogating Putin to continue the war at any cost. As was done in the case of aggression against Iraq, the US is blaming that Russia may use chemical or nuclear weapons in the war. With such disinformation tactics, using Western media with political lies US is further provoking the war instead of diffusing tensions and ending the war; acting true to its imperialist self interests of hegemony and world domination.

What ever might be the attitudes and actions of US, its allies and West and of Russia about this war, and their claims, this is clearly a war between hegemonic powers competing for political, economic and military dominations. No one can support this war that is taking huge human toll.

In this context a myth is being propagated that the world has been at peace since 1945 and that the world order constructed under the hegemony of the United States has largely worked at to contain war like proclivities of capitalist states in competition with other. That institutions of collaboration were set up in Europe (the common market, the European Union, NATO, the Euro) to contain Europe that produced two world wars. But the reality is, ‘hot’ wars (both civil and inter-state) have been waged in abundance since the beginning of 1945 with the Korean and Vietnam wars followed by the Yugoslav wars and the NATO bombing of Serbia, two wars against Iraq, and the wars in Yemen, Libya and Syria.

The world order constructed under the hegemony of US is not a world order based on the aspirations of international community but exclusively based on the strategic and commercial interests of US, with the objective of hegemony and world domination.

After the Second World War the US as the new hegemonic state within the capitalist world had developed for gaining control of the strategic centers in the world economy. US capital backed up by US military power began to penetrate

in to markets that were previously not accessible. Since the middle of the twentieth century, US has exercised power in the world. Through CIA popular leader cut down; heroes murdered plans to improve millions of lives just shattered. US has justified its assassinations coups and massacres as the “fight against communism, followed by the fight against drug trafficking and now the fight against terrorism”.

The list of US coups, assassinations against asserted socialists and democrats includes overthrow of Prime Minister Mohammed Mosaddegh in Iran in 1953, that of President Jacobo Arbenz in Guatemala in 1954, the ouster and subsequent execution of Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba of Congo in 1961, the overthrow of Prime Minister Abd al-Karim Qasim in Iraq in 1963, the removal of President Joao Goulart in Brazil and of President Kusno Sukarno of Indonesia in 1965, the ouster of President Juan Jose Tornes of Bolivia in 1971, the 1973 overthrow of President Salvador Allende in Chile, the murders of leftist leaders such as Mehdi Ben Barka of Morocco in 1965, Che Guvera in Bolivia in 1967 President of Burkina Faso in 1987. Towards Century's end US overthrow of socialist governments in Grenada and Haiti, the invasion of Iraq and dissolution of its government brutal killing of Saddam Hussein, the destruction of Libya are some of the deeds of US in exercising its power in the world. They have created a new political vocabulary “regime change” to argue their intervention, aggression on other countries.

On the other hand the USSR, ceased to be a socialist country after the death of Stalin. The leadership of USSR braced revisionism and with the policy of peaceful co-existence reverted to the capitalist economic policies. It emerged as a super-power, contending for world hegemony with US. It became a social imperialist country forming its own blocks of influence. India was attracted into its orbit (due to its enmity with PR China) and more a partner of its military strategy of world domination. It started interfering with internal affairs of other countries. On the strength of Indo-Soviet military treaty Indian army entered into Pakistan in the name of liberating Bangladesh in 1970s, in support of the rebels in East Pakistan. Subsequently India has annexed Sikkim. During 1977-78 Russia (USSR) occupied Afghanistan and after 10 years it pulled back on June 1989. With in months of this pull-back, Soviet-backed communist regimes started collapsing, partially bringing the cold war to an end. On Dec 8, 1991 it was announced that USSR no longer in existence. The establishment of Commonwealth Independent States (CIS) is also announced. Russia formed a Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO). Ukraine was a founding member of CIS but did not join CSTO. Russia was taken into GT industrialized economies in 1997.

In 2000 Putin became the elected President of Russia. During early years of Putin's presidency, Russia ties with West were relatively cordial. Putin supported US's war on terror after Sept-11 terrorist attack. In 2001 president George W. Bush said "Mr. Putin was very straight forward and trust worthy".

However, Putin's grievances began with NATO's bombing on Serbia in 1999, intervention in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya and counter revolutions to engineered regime changes, the US' unilateral withdrawal from Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty in 2002, coupled with missile defence deployments in Poland and Romania Russia felt detrimental to its security as offensive were accumulating. Moreover against to the assurance given to Gorbachev the US secretary of State James Baker in 1989, that there would be no extension of NATO's jurisdiction to the East, by the beginning of 1999, NATO added 14 new members in stages, and at the NATO summit in 2008, at US President George Bush's urging, and in principle opening for Ukraine and Georgia was announced, which clearly indicated that NATO will expand at its will to East, causing security concerns of Russia. In 2020 Ukraine was made a NATO enhanced opportunity partner. The presence of British and US warships in the Black Sea began to increase. In 2019, the UK entered in to a cooperation agreement with Ukraine to develop the new naval port on the black sea and on the sea of Azov; a move Putin saw as potentially threatening.

All these developments goaded Putin to wrest out the demands of prohibition on any further NATO expansion, removal of all US nuclear weapons from Europe and US troops to be restricted to NATO territory prior to the expansion as in 1997. These demands were dismissed by US. And this development exacerbated the tensions leading to the present war and humanitarian crisis.

However this war cannot be justified on whatever be the causes. No one has the right to play war game with the lives of the people. Neither the rhetoric of democracy vs autocracy nor the slogan of de-nazification provide any justification for the war and its continuation at the cost of the lives of innocent citizens of Ukraine. This war shall not lead to another world war.

US and NATO shall stop meddling in Ukraine!
Russia must stop war immediately!
Zelensky must go for peace talks immediately!