

# Cultural Decadence and Moral Crisis in US Capitalist System

On 14<sup>th</sup> May an 18 years old young white man, Payton Gendron of New York shot 10 persons dead and wounding three at a Buffalo, New York grocery store in a racially motivated attack that he live-streamed on Camera. Eleven of the victims were African Americans. According to the authorities the shooter posted a detailed 'manifesto' online before shooting in which he outlined his plans and racial motivations for the attack. According to the manifesto posted online by the shooter, that he had been inspired by white supremacist acts of violence including the massacre of 51 Muslims in Christ-Church, New Zealand in March 2019. The shooter "travelled hours from out-side this community to perpetrate this crime. The shooter last year made "general threats" at his high-school after which the state police referred him to a hospital for a mental health evaluation, and was released after one day and a half.

On May 16<sup>th</sup> in California at a Church Southeast of Los Angeles left one person dead and four others critically wounded in a shooting.

Again within 10 days, on May 24 an 18 year old gunman Salvador Ramos, a resident of the community about 135 kms West of San Antonio slaughtered 19 children and two teachers at a Texas elementary school. According to State Senator Ronald Gutierrez, Ramos had hinted at an attack on social media, suggesting the "kids should watch out" and that he had bought "two assault weapons" after turning 18.

According to statistics - in USA such incidents of gun-shooting and mass killings have considerably increased in the last four decades. While there are 118 gun shooting incidents occurred since 2018, 26 school shootings occurred in 2022 alone.

These incidents highlight how a strong gun shooting culture is institutionalized in USA. If we can remember that the neo-liberal capitalist policies are being aggressively pursued and implemented in USA as well throughout the world we can easily understand, how and why 'wild west', and mass gun shooting killing culture is deep-rooted in USA.

The world capitalist system, because of the economic crises being faced regularly, in a bid to overcome these recurrent economic crises and concurrent economic depressions has assumed the form of neo-liberal globalisation. This new form of capitalism has been promoting the ideology and culture of raising avarice, greed, extreme-money mindedness, utter selfishness, false pride, ego and a naked type of careerism with the tremendous support of media hype and publicity among people and particularly among citizens of USA, making them sycophants. But the system failed to deliver goods in bringing about the well being of people. Despite the best efforts by individuals only a very few are becoming

winners, and the multitude of rest becoming losers, having no hopes of any better future. So naturally the US citizens particularly the youth, the future citizens are being frustrated and becoming the victims of cultural and moral crises. This pauperized conditions of lack of morals, ethics and progressive ideology is making the youth perverse and act accordingly, to chose this type of reactionary gun culture and mass killings to satisfy their ethical moral and cultural deficiencies, inculcated by the free market system and ideology of exploitation and oppression.

But the US President Joe Biden diverts from this real cause of decadent culture and moral crises deep-rooted in the American society, against his opposition Republican Party and blaming the fire-arm manufactures as the cause for gun-violence to gain political dividends; from these gruesome mass-killing incidents.

In fact the evil is embedded in the very capitalistic system and its foundations of free market, free trade policies of parliamentary democracy. The very fact that the fire-arm manufactures lobby and National Rifle Association, are able to make US Congress refuse to make laws to clamp-down gun violence, clearly exposes the futility of a parliamentary democratic system and speaks volumes about the hollowness of that system, indicating that such a system is not at all of the people, by the people and for the people but of the big-capitalists, by the big capitalists and for the big-capitalists.

These incidents, at least now shall open the eyes of intellectuals and democratic and progressive forces of USA, against the fraud played against them by the capitalist system, and to think and practice of progressive, scientific ideology and culture to come out of the cultural and moral crises in to which they are steeped !