

The popular uprisings in the Middle East, which inspired the Rojava revolution, revive again. At the end of 2017, they showed up in South Kurdistan and Iran. Against exploitation, oppression and poverty, people go to the streets. An interview with Commander Ahmet Şoreş of the MLKP/Rojava is given on the popular movement in Iran.

How do you evaluate the popular movement in Iran?

The demonstrations in Iran and Rojhilat have been going on for over 10 days. The demonstrators are still on the streets. The mullah regime in Iran continues to crack down. The reasons for the uprising are obvious. The people who are in uprising do not leave the streets. The ruling mullah dictatorship is organizing tough actions, preparing for the attacks instead of taking steps to improve. The split attitude of the global imperialist forces reappears at the session of the UN Security Council. It can be seen that global imperialist forces are trying to make their position more concrete by providing for various sanctions and countermeasures / support, including an intervention in Iran.

Within the left there are also different approaches. The leadership problem due to the "spontaneity" of the uprising, suspicious approaches to US statements, Iran's political stance and military existence, its hostility to the US as an anti-imperialist force continue to inspire solidarity and support. Marxist-Leninist Communists have been defending the legitimacy and correctness of this popular movement since day one. That's why they explain that they are on the side of the rebellion and that they have to support it. They have turned their attention to the causes of the uprising, its developmental issues, the revolutionary international tasks, the counterrevolutionary encirclement, its forms and risks. It is well known that this uprising movement is being persecuted by people from all parts of society, especially revolutionary and counter-revolutionary forces, and that new judgments are constantly being made here.

The popular uprisings in Iran, which began last year, have aroused attention, interest and curiosity among many circles, especially the oppressed. The developments in Iran and in Rojhilat have reminded us of developments at the beginning of the Rojava revolution. Our story is the same and known. Our way is similar. That's why our excitement is quite different. It is women, Kurds, ethnic and oppressed communities, youth and students, workers, the unemployed and working people who go out on the streets and form the mass of actions.

People do not want to live like they used to. So many of the people who are on the streets - these are the advanced ones today - want change. This development can be understood as the beginning of a phase on the way to revolution. We understand this and also want to understand this. If we do not understand this, then we can not unite the slogan "the task of a revolutionary is to make revolution" with this popular movement.

The slogans "Down with Khomeini!", "Down with Rohani!", "Down with the dictatorship!" are aimed directly at ruling ones and institutional representatives, etc. clarifying the political content of the actions.

It is very important to protest against the policies and economics of the Iranian state, which is an important regional state in the capitalist system, more than that slogans are called for a change of power. For this reason, the popular movement in Iran is legitimate, correct, political and has the quality of developing revolutionary dynamics.

Iran and the US have got in the way in Syria and Iraq. It is well known that Iran is hampering US work in the Middle East. Some circles evaluate Iran as anti-imperialist and think that the US is behind the popular movement. What do you want to say about that? What was the positive or negative impact of Trump's statements against Iranian rule as a result of the popular uprising in Iran?

Iran has paramilitary forces in Yemen, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon. It tries to gain influence areas like the USA and Russia. It does this with war, that is, with military forces, because the Iranian state is a capitalist and colonial state. It leads a policy of occupation war against the states and peoples of the region. If one looks at these facts, one knows that Iran does not accept and does not become anti-imperialist. But for that to be understood, one must first perceive the Kurds and the reality of Kurdistan. The reason why some are confused here is the lack of understanding for the reality of Kurdistan. Iran has participated in the war in Syria and Iraq through directly-organized or any-kind-backed forces such as Hizbollah and Hashdi-Shabi. ISIS has been defeated, but Iran is still present in both countries. So it is a regional force that is conducting a war of occupation and continues to be an enemy of the peoples of the Middle East. To fight against this attitude of Iran and to make politics by different means is correct and legitimate. Iran does not represent the oppressed against the US or Israel, it defends its hegemony in the region and wages war as a colonial capitalist state to increase it.

In Iran, there is now a colonialist fascism that exploits, exploits and murders women, peoples and communities of different nationalities, workers and the other oppressed. The rulers have similar policies with the US and Israel. They are very similar. For these reasons, that is, because of class and gender politics, national and international politics, Iran has never been anti-imperialist.

Why is anyone even surprised about a popular uprising in Iran! We have to wonder why there are none. It is now fashionable to find the US or other reactionary forces behind every popular uprising. Earlier, the leftists were targeted as "provocateurs" behind or in popular uprisings. Now, the imperialist structures and their intelligence services have taken this position of the left according to this understanding. Actually, that is also ideological and part of the political hegemony that is deliberately used by some parts. They regard imperialism as invincible. They think that without the imperialists, no bird would fly in the world. This is a right approach that looks to the left and looks distrustfully at the people. It is surrendering.

What do we want more! The people are on the streets. The oppressed ones are on the streets. Their demands are very national. Is there something incomprehensible for the oppressed? We do not think that. That is what is happening. Even with delay. Those who seek something behind or above the oppressed people's uprising have set aside their revolutionary nature and revolution. They surf the keyboard and are in the role of the viewer behind the screen. Actually, the minds and lives of these people are guided by others, they just do not know it yet.

One has to understand these developments as regional facts of a revolutionary situation. Based on this reality, some of the revolutionary subjects are in rebellion. Maybe this power does not yet manage to lead Iran into a revolution. Depending on the course of events, an important section of the people may become involved and take on a watchful, wait-and-see position. Precisely for these reasons, revolutionary subjects and understandings must, without doubt and fear, unite with the revolutionary possibilities and dynamics of this uprising. You have to carry courage. Isn't the mind, the will, the courage, the anger and hatred of the oppressed enough to understand and move a situation? Can't it be that the oppressed peoples of Iran and Rojhilat and their pioneers take advantage of the situation in which the mullah regime is positioned?

The US declaration of support did not frighten the ruling classes or the people in the uprising. But anyone who is afraid of this explanation is clear. They betray themselves.

The confrontation between the US and Iran is leading to new developments in the Middle East, because Iran is a regional in the Middle East, the US a global one force. Therefore, in the front of the rulers such a confrontation and a subsequent war will weaken both sides. From the point of view of revolutionary strategy, such developments are heralds of new changes and possibilities. These are developments that show that the two ruling powers of the region can no longer be guided as before. It is foreseeable that the current uprising will not destroy the Iranian state at the moment. Therefore, it is important for the rebels to gather strength and prepare destructive elements. For this, it is important from the point of view of the revolutionary strategy to benefit from the conflict between the USA and Iran.

Any approach that supports one of the two reactionary poles, one global and the other regional, only remains as reserves for these forces. It's about building the third way and taking advantage of this conflict for revolutionary purposes. If you were to use the possibilities from this point of view, these would be important factors for the revolution. We do not need to fear polarization, but Iran and the US should! Because the revolutionaries can benefit most from this conflict. I do not know what impact Trump's explanation has had on the rebellious masses. We do not have enough information to evaluate this. That does not mean we have to stay in uncertainty. The "support" of Israel and America does not change the demands of the masses. The fact that the correctness and legitimacy of the oppressed masses who go out into the streets start uprisings and destroy the rule is undisputed. It is also unthinkable that a charlatan like Trump can influence such a mass movement. Trump's explanations are more likely to be understood as an advocacy of global capital at the moment. Of course, that does not stick with the declaration of the President of the United States. But what matters to us is the condition and needs of the masses of rebellion. Organizing fast solidarity actions can reduce disinformation.

One of the demands of the activists is the withdrawal of Iran from Syria and Iraq. Taking into account the hegemonic power of Iran in the region, would one expect a step backwards? What change would this development in Syria bring to Syria? This insurgency demand shows that the Iranian state's reactionary, expansionist, occupying war policy is not being represented. That is a revolutionary demand. Would Iran take a step back? Not now! But only for now. Iran's state policy and the class-specific, religious peculiarities of its rulers suggest even more efforts for political, military,

economic and religious interests. In addition, they can choose a path of self-defense that spreads the war in the region. They will be forced to withdraw their forces if the rebellion of the oppressed increases and shatters the rule of the regime, because they need them to crush the rebellion and the revolution. That is why the last word belongs to the determination of the rebellious masses and those who have the courage to organize the revolution.

There is no doubt that developments in Iran have an impact on Syria. Here we can have expectations and foresight. But to tell us something about how it will work and what the consequences will be, we still need time. What do you think, where this uprising of the people for change in Iran, which started in South Kurdistan, will lead? Can it lead to serious changes in the region, what do you think about this reality? The uprising and the banner of the uprising are passed from hand to hand. It was important for the uprising that the popular uprising in Southern Kurdistan pointed to poverty and freedom. It is accepted by all parts that the most important mass subject and the region of revolutionary dynamics are the Kurds and Kurdistan.

We must emphasize that the people of Kurdistan and its vanguard forces are the most political, the most prepared and the most willing for the road and arming. They will hold an important position over this time. In Iran and Rojhilat, the masses of women and their vanguard attitudes stand out. This illustrates the historical significance of the insurgency and the importance of freedom, as well as not easily withdrawing from the streets. This movement will follow the path paved by the women's revolution in Rojava. The change dynamics in which the Kurds and women are in the center of course will have a domino effect in the region. From this point of view, the Rojava Revolution is an inspiration source. This revolution has an important place in the hearts and minds of the people who are against the rotten policies in Southern Kurdistan and in Rojhilat Kurdistan. Developments in Iran are important to the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party because they support their definition of " regional revolution" and "regional revolutionary situation". In order for these revolutionary situations to reach the level of revolutions, the question of revolutionary leadership both in the individual countries and the question of united leadership in the region must be clarified. That is why our most important task is to increase and spread the fire of the revolution.