



Socialist Bulletin

A Monthly Publication from Socialist Labour

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United We Stand – Divided We Fall!

The Governments “No Work - No Pay” policy is the worst attack on the labour movement for a generation. But this is only part of a general attack on the poor majority by the tiny corrupt elite. We need a united stand against all these issues.

Inflation continues to rise, but we appear to be taking no action on increasing the miserable minimum wage. Some states have still to pay the last increase and many are not paying their pensioners. The minimum wage was last increased in April 2019, since then general prices have doubled. Some prices like kerosene and gas have doubled in the last year. Who can now live on N30,000?

Fuel prices on the black market can now be double the official price. How can we afford to travel to work? When will the labour movement take action?

The Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) had a strategy for solidarity with the university lecturers of ASUU. This was outlined at the NLC protest in the National Assembly compound by the NLC General Secretary. After the wonderful protests in every state capital the Government was to be given two weeks to act, after that a three day warning strike was to be held. If the Government still did not implement its agreement with ASUU then a general strike would be called.

The only problem with these sensible plans result, three months later ASUU suspended its der. Not only that but the Government now has members for the eight months of their strike.

This policy of “No Work – No Pay” has only been strikes, mainly at individual work places. It will organise. The Minister of Labour has already tion (NMA) that they will not be paid if they

A survey in March of this year found that nine years were planning to leave the country. They versity lecturers and other professionals who

Not only are governments continually attacking when we retire. Many states now have serious arrears with their pension and gratuity payments. Workers in Akwa Ibom, for example, are planning to strike over this issue. States have plenty of money, but governors would rather spend the money on capital contracts where they make their 20% or more.

The FAAC Committee in late November agreed to distribute N737billion. This is 10% more than the same month last year. They have plenty of money to pay pensions and a decent minimum wage, they are just choosing not to. The shower of dollars at the APC and PDP presidential primaries showed just how much they have looted.

We need a united stand against all these attacks! Not only were ASUU members forced back to work, but workers at the research institutes also suspended their strike after over a year. Their strike was over an agreement that had not been implemented for a decade!! Divided we are falling! We need all trade union branches to demand action from their trade unions and the NLC and the TUC.

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is that they were not acted upon. As a strike in accordance with the court or the confidence to refuse to pay the ASUU

sparingly implemented with previous make future strikes more difficult to threatened the Nigeria Medical Association strike action!

out of 10 doctors trained in the last five will join the increasing numbers of uni-have already left.

workers, but they are also attacking us

ASUU STRIKE: THE THREAT OF “NO WORK NO PAY” IS INAPPLICABLE

By Femi Aborisade

The ASUU strike was lawful and justified. The strike is lawful as by Section 30(6)(b) &(c) of the Trade Unions Act, strikes are lawfully protected where the dispute involves disputes over rights, fundamental breaches of contract or Collective Bargaining Agreements.

ASUU’s strike involved a challenge to the unimplemented 1992 Agreement with the Federal Government. This led to several other agreements following strike actions over the same issues. To that extent, the imposition of “NO WORK NO PAY” is inapplicable in this context.

The apex court of Nigeria has also established the same principle, that where the act of the employer is the cause of strike action, the employees would be entitled to payment of salaries and allowances.

In *Olufeagba v. Abdul-Raheem* (2009) 18 NWLR 384 S. C at 441, the Supreme Court found in favour of the payment of salaries and allowances of the appellants where “it was the Respondents who refused to put an end to the impasse... when they refused to comply with the directive of the National Universities Commission... to reinstate the appellants”. On the basis of this finding, the Court held that the affected university lecturers were entitled to be reinstated and paid their salaries for the period of the strike.

We must also understand that by virtue of Section 254C(1)(j)(i) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended, collective agreements are enforceable. The ASUU strike is therefore a defence of the Constitution of Nigeria against its contemptuous breach by the Federal Government.

Fundamentally, the ASUU strike was to realize the provisions of Section 18(3) of the Constitution which guarantees provision of education in public institutions at the expense of the state/government.

The insensitivity of the Federal Government, including successive past governments, shows the utter lack of interest in sustaining public education, to the advantage of private investors in education. The lack of interest can be demonstrated by declining budgetary allocations to education over the years. Spending on education in Nigeria, at 1.7 percent of GDP, is well below the 4.7 percent average in sub-Saharan Africa (IMF 2019).

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

has recommended a benchmark of four to six percent of Gross Domestic Product or 15 to 20 percent of a country’s budget for education. However, in the seven years of the Buhari regime, the highest allocation was in 2017 when the total percentage for education was less than 7.5%.

Nigeria has more than enough resources to provide public education for young people at the expense of the State. On a daily basis, we are being inundated with unimaginable amount of resources being consumed in corruption. The challenge therefore lies in what the state prioritises as important – the greed of the rulers or the basic needs of the masses.

It is critically important to note that the key to accessing enjoyment of constitutionally and statutorily guaranteed rights is resolute strikes, mass action and peaceful protests as we have seen in the unfolding ASUU struggle.

No government in the world willingly implements policies in the interest of ordinary people without pressure from below, by the masses. Our duty is to support ASUU. ASUU is carrying the burden that belongs to all of us. ASUU should not be allowed to be defeated. A defeat for ASUU would be a defeat for the entire labour movement. A victory for ASUU is a victory for the entire labour movement - in defence of public education and the right to strike.



Who Should Fund Tertiary Education to Allow the Poor to Attend?

Idris Sulaiman Shanono

I'm wondering and astonished about those people trying to deregulate, introduce public private partnerships and privatize the educational and health sectors. Almost all of these politicians hail from peasant families and were themselves beneficiaries of free education, health etc. Now they are applying the cardinal principles of materialism, capitalism, neo colonialism and the new world order on innocent and defenceless citizens.

They are trying to introduce policies which will deny or restrict education to the masses, the working classes and peasants. This is an ideology and policy of western hegemony, imperialism and colonialism. It has failed in the west where poverty and inequality have increased. So why should we implement it here?

We have a choice. Should university students be selected on their examination success or on the wealth of their parents?



Walter Rodney in his famous work "How Europe Underdeveloped Africa" - said "Brevié, the Governor-General of French West Africa in 1930, urged the extension of the higher levels of primary schooling for Africans 'to help us in our work of colonisation'." (pg 283).

John N Paden in his book "Ahmadu Bello Sardauna of Sokoto Value and Leadership in Nigeria" said "The late Atta of Igbirra (Ibrahim), who resigned in 1954 and died in 1964, was insistent that his children receive western education. This was the major source of his conflict between him and Sharwood Smith who may have felt that too much education would hasten the demise

of colonial rule and was probably a factor in the Atta's deposition."

Ibrahim Atta was father of IG of Police, Adamu Atta; Abdulmumini Atta, Dr Sardaunan Sakkwato's physician; Rakiya Atta, Nigerian higher commissioners in 1960s to mentioned but a few.

Some politicians are saying that they introduced free primary and secondary school education for the benefit of the citizens. I am sure that if past leaders had restricted free education to only primary and secondary schools, 99 percent of them would not have been able to get a first degree or post-graduate qualifications.

Some politicians are now bragging about the Students Loans Policy. This policy will make our future generations of graduates indebted (as is the case now in Britain and the US) and turn them into slaves in their own country.

The masses, proletarian and working class, have to reason on everything they see and hear. How can the children of the poor masses enter university when the fees are hundreds of thousands of naira and loans will only make their children debt slaves?

PDP and APC Play Politics with Osun Workers Lives

Alex Batubo

The new PDP governor of Osun State has sacked thousands of workers. Many were appointed under the regime of the former APC governor after he had lost the elections in July. They are both wrecking the lives of workers in a game of politics.

The first act of the new PDP governor was to sack 12,000 workers (according to Punch). This included 3,000 primary school teachers, 1,500 secondary teachers, 1,000 workers in the health sector and 100 at the state polytechnic.



All these staff were appointed by the former APC administration after the elections they lost in mid-July. Why are the APC and PDP playing with workers' lives like this?

We need the NLC and TUC in Osun State to take action. We cannot accept this frivolous playing with workers lives.

FOOTBALL AND WORLD CUP IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Biodun Olamosu

The 2022 World Cup in Qatar is the first of its kind to be held in the Islamic World. So one would expect the organisers to know that the environment, its culture, including the psychology of the people, should be taken into consideration for a successful festival.

Over the years the World Cup and football has been made popular and thereby extended across the globe. It retains its entertainment essence, but by business. So profit is the various levels. Few of the or-game strictly for its entertain- niary interest.

The football business has im- of the people especially the employed and even fewer the rich. The rich and states they accumulate super profits tively.

The controversy associated Qatar is hardly a surprise. The organisers of the World Cup, nies, as usual, want to advance interests. For example, the constructed by companies while the bills were paid by the try is expected to make gains the festival.

In the case of Qatar, the host Western press of undermining the festival by their campaign of calumny against them. This has limited consider- ably the level of tourists and thereby put a check on the financial gains for Qatar.

What are the issues involved in this campaign? It includes the neglect of human rights associated with some gov- ernments of the Islamic World. Typical of these are issues of women's oppression; banning same sex practices; and not allowing the sale of beer or alcoholic drinks around stadia, although this was allowed in the hotels.

The US Football Association has also been accused of taking laws into their own hands. Iran says that they edited the symbol of their country by removing the Islamic symbol. One wonder what the USA would want to achieve by this action? Other European countries including Britain tried to support campaigns on the pitch against gay oppression in Qatar. This was checked by FIFA threatening to sanction any player wearing such a symbol on the pitch.

FIFA's position on all of this is understandable. Western countries in their characteristic manner of imperialism try to impose their views, thoughts and cultures on others. A festival of this kind can best be achieved by taking into consideration the sensitivities of the host culture. The idea of setting the rules of operation for organising the festival on the basis of European and American cultural ethos would amount to Eurocentrism.

An extended analysis of these issues can be found at: <https://www.rs21.org.uk/2022/11/25/ideologues-apol- gists-and-the-qatar-world-cup/>

Buhari Locks-up A Third More People

In 2015, when Burhari came to power there were just over 55,000 in prison. No there are more than 75,000. This is an increase of a third! As inequality increases so the number of people in prison increases.

What is worse is that almost 70% of these poor people are waiting to go to court. They are suffering imprison- ment, sometimes for many years, whilst being "presumed innocent" before they are found guilty by a court.

At least these prisoners are alive, unlike those who die in police custody, are summarily executed by the army or bombed out of existence by the air force.



**FIFA WORLD CUP
Qatar 2022**

it is now largely being driven motive force of football at ganisers are interested in the ment purpose, without pecu-

pacted on various layers youths as a few of them are manage to join the class of are the main beneficiaries as and raise huge taxes respec-

with the World Cup festival in problem can be traced to the FIFA. The western compa- their economic and political huge stadia and hotels were from the developed world, host country. The host coun- from the tourists attracted to

country has accused the

This has limited consider-

The Face of Poverty in Nigeria – Yusufu Bala Usman Institute (2022)

Fifty five poor people, including 26 women, were interviewed for this study. Here we provide an extract from pages 60 – 63. The study shows the desperate plight of the poor who the National Bureau of Statistics now says constitute nearly two thirds of the population. As the following extract shows, the plight of women is even worse.

This book is being freely distributed by the Yusufu Bala Usman Institute. The full final e-version is available for free download from their website: www.ybu-institute.org Paper copies are freely available from **Iva Valley Books, Second Floor, Labour House, central Abuja.**

“Gender Discrimination – the life experience of women

Of all of the 26 women that were interviewed, none of them were full time “housewives”. They were “housewives” in that they were responsible for childcare, cleaning, cooking and other household chores, but in addition they were all involved in income-generating activities to support themselves and their families. Thirty one percent of the women were either widowed or divorced, and hence solely responsible for the upkeep of their families. But even for those presently married, the majority of them are the main support of their families, as their husbands’ income is either non-existent or inadequate to provide for the family’s needs. Nearly all of the women are involved in petty trading and many of them are farming as well.

We have already seen how women are left behind in educational opportunities, as girls’ education is either frowned upon or considered a low priority when resources are scarce. But even those with qualifications such as the two degree holders, five NCE holders, and two with other professional qualifications (1 in catering, 1 in secretarial studies) are not engaged in occupations that their qualifications prepare them for, but are involved in petty trading of various types. Many were unable to find employment in their areas of qualification and were forced to look for alternative means of earning a living. Those women who do have wage earning jobs are engaged in very low paying positions like school nanny or cleaners in government institutions.

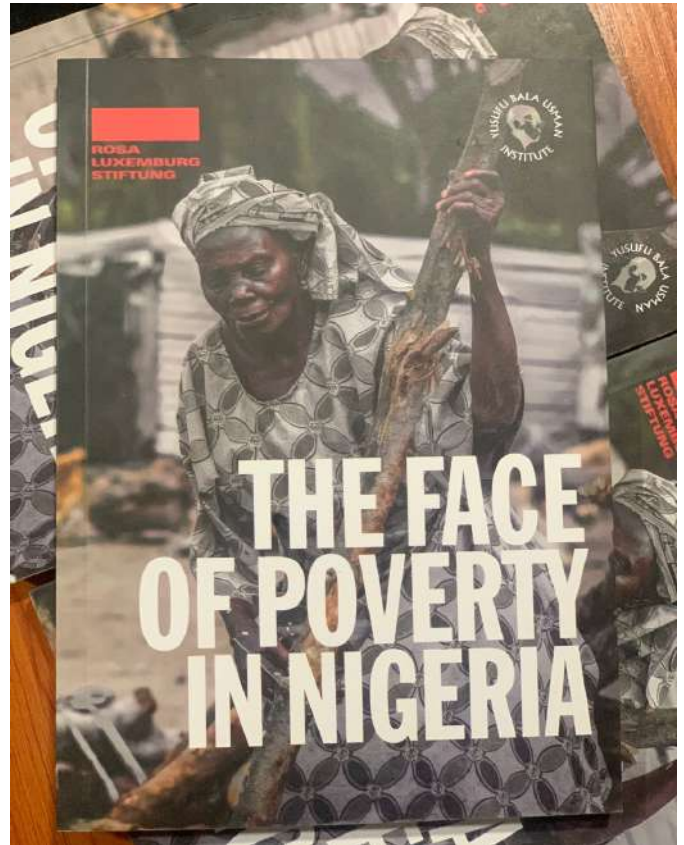
Below we relate some of the work experiences of our female interviewees:

A 30-year-old woman in a Zaria suburb whose occupation is grinding of ingredients for soup and selling bread says: “I have been grinding for at least 7 months, for the bread I have recently started. The capital I used to start the bread business is not much. I can afford to buy N1000 to N1500 worth of bread that I sell each day.”...

A 46-year-old woman who sells fruit and roasted corn on a table at a shopping area in Lekki, Lagos, relates her work experience: “I pay one thousand every month for the space I am using, I used to do catering jobs but I didn’t have peace of mind. I was always thinking of cooking and buying. The only discouragement in this business is scarcity of goods. Before now everything was fine, you make enough profit and have something to save, but now the insecurity has really affected the market. Things are scarce and expensive. We are only managing now. After buying corn, charcoal, calculating your transport fare and nylon (plastic bags) there is not much profit.”...

“A 48-year-old woman from Edo State who has a degree in economics from National Open University: “When I couldn’t get a job I had to go into farming to survive. I grow cassava, tomatoes, beans and cucumber mainly. There is also an orange tree orchard with ridges between where I plant my crops. People come to the farm to buy my products when I harvest them. I have been in this business for two years. Sometimes my farm crops are stolen when they are due for harvest, so it reduces my income. I took a loan from the cooperative society that I used to start this business. A larger part of the income from the farm is used to offset the loan on a monthly basis. I can’t afford three square meals a day for my family. This is because if we spend more money on feeding, servicing the loan I took becomes a problem and that could terminate the only source of getting money to run my farm.”

#jointheresistance



NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO REDUCING INEQUALITY IS EXTREMELY POOR

In October Oxfam issued the fourth edition of its report on government commitments to reducing inequality. This report reviews the actions of governments on spending, tax and labour policies during 2020–2022. Shockingly, the Nigerian Government is the third worst country in the world. Only Liberia and South Sudan are worse.

The Oxfam report measures governments' commitment to reducing inequality across three dimensions. These are spending on public services (health, education, and social protection); taxing the rich; and workers' rights (including women's rights and minimum wage).

Nigeria is next to the bottom after South Sudan on public service spending (worse than Chad and Niger, for example). Nigeria scores relatively highly on tax because despite the increase in the rate of VAT many petty traders are now exempt. Nigeria is bottom on labour rights with very high vulnerable employment and weak labour rights.

As an average, the minimum wage is around half of the per capita GDP of a country. In Nigeria it is not much more than a third. Oxfam recommends that the minimum wages to match per capita GDP and thereafter establish annual reviews to increase them in line with inflation. This would mean a minimum wage of around N100,000 in Nigeria now with increases each year in future, especially as inflation is now more than 20%.

A new report from the National Bureau of Statistics issued in mid-November found that nearly two thirds of Nigerians are now multidimensionally poor (63%). This is a huge increase on the 40% of people found to be poor by their 2018/19 survey.



As Oxfam says, “None of this is inevitable. Inequality is a policy choice. Even in the midst of these multiple crises, some governments are showing that another way is possible. That the road to greater equality is a practical alternative journey that can be taken by all nations. Never has taking this road been more urgent.” But it will take pressure from the trades unions to ensure that this choice is taken. The Government has the money to fund education and provide a decent minimum wage.

However, whoever wins the elections next year, it is action by the labour movement that will be necessary to ensure that this policy choice is taken.

The full report is available from: <https://policy-practice.oxfam.org/resources/the-commitment-to-reducing-inequality-index-2022-621419/>

Why are strikes important?

Strikes are uniquely powerful under the capitalist system because employers need one thing, and one thing only, from workers: show up and make the employer money. When it comes to forcing the top executives to rethink their pay, benefits, or other policies, there's no form of regulation more powerful than a serious strike. The strikes that work the best and win the most are the ones in which at least 90 percent of all the workers walk out, having first forged unity among themselves and with their broader community. To gain the trust and support of those whose lives may be affected, smart unions work diligently to erase the line separating the workplace from society.

An extract from Jane McAlevey's book: “A Collective Bargain Unions, Organizing, and the Fight for Democracy”, 2021. Her other major book is available for free download: <https://ivavalleybooks.com/2022/10/04/no-shortcuts-organising-for-power-in-the-new-gilded-age/>

Military Coups are Never Saviours for the working class

Tokunbo Oke

During Jerry Rawling's first coming in the Ghana coup of June 4th 1979, there were no socialists involved.



Major Boakye-Djan, the second in command, was to the left of Rawlings but he was not a socialist. I met him in London and he got very upset with me when I criticised his interpretation of Nkrumah's book *Consciencism*.

During his first coup, Rawling's saw the problem with Ghana as one of corruption, popularly described then as *kalabule*. He saw his mission as housekeeping and cleansing of the political economy not the overthrow capitalism. He attacked market women for hoarding and profi-

teering and destroyed Accra's popular Makola market.

It was this poverty of vision that led him to hand power over to the pseudo-Nkrumahist Hilla Limann. Under Limann, corruption of the Ghanaian bourgeoisie continued unabated. One infamous example of this corruption was the disappearance of a ship load of cocoa on the high-seas destined for European markets.

It was the decline of the living standards of the mass of Ghanaian workers and peasants in the face of elite corruption that led to Rawling's second coming.

Whatever one thinks of Rawlings, our position must be that we are against all coups. Whether they claim to be left or right, we recognise no Gods or Saviours. In contrast, we look to the self-activity of the working class. Socialism can only be built through the conscious intervention of the working class in history, consciously creating the institutions from the bottom up that will allow it to impose its hegemony over society. This is qualitatively different from a "Marxist" soldier barking orders at you!

The soldiers in Ghana did not act in a vacuum. There were wider struggles taking place in society. Workers, peasants and students protested against the corruption of the Achaempong regime (1972-1978). It was the wider struggles in Ghanaian society that spilt the army along class lines.

It was the absence of a party of the working class that could take advantage of the power vacuum that galvanised the soldiers into staging their bid for power.

In 1978, there was a palace coup whereby General Fred Akuffo removed Achaempong. Akuffo's biggest mistake was transmitting Rawling's trial on television to the nation. Rawling's exposure of the corruption of government galvanised popular support for the coup, lower ranking officers released him from prison and the rest is history.

The demise of the West African left was caused, not just by the collapse of the Soviet Union, but also because they opportunistically aligned with so-called Marxist soldiers looking for short cuts to power.

We saw this in Benin under Kekekou, Ghana under Rawlings and in Liberia under Doe. The last coup started off with a leftist bent before the Americans intervened and spilt the ranks of the soldiers: elevating Doe whilst casting out Thomas Quiwokpa. The Movement for Justice in Africa (MOJA) which was the main leftist movement in Liberia (some of its members like Fahnbulleh and Baccus Mathew's became ministers in Doe's government) are open about the mistakes they made in aligning with the military coup. Even with Thomas Sankara, in Burkina Faso, who was the best of the lot, the left found its self behind bars and striking teachers were all retrenched.

In Nigeria we were lucky enough to escape the progressive coup virus. But many of our comrades were virtually begging Colonel Abubakar Umar, Governor of Kaduna State to seize power in the late 1980s, believing he would be Nigeria's Sankara. This is why reclaiming history for the memory of the working class is so important

The Work of Women is Never Done

Izielen Agbon

“Women’s struggles are labor politics, but they’re unwaged labor politics. And they’re not less important or more important but integral to the entire picture. There is waged work in the society, and there is unwaged work in the society, and they’re both absolutely crucial to the accumulation of capital and to its destruction.” Selma James

Under neo-colonial capitalism, all women work. In the factories and offices, capital, the bosses, combine the labour power of waged women workers with raw materials in order to transform the raw materials into commodities. These commodities are then sold or transformed into monetary capital in order to extract the surplus value created by women during the production process.

Apart from the factories/offices, women also work in farms, in homes, in shops, in market places and in the informal sector. From the perspective of women, the work place is the society as a whole. In short, society as a whole is a social factory. The surplus value generated by women during the production process outside the factories/offices proper is very often hidden because the work is unwaged.

In the homes, women are responsible for the reproduction of the labour power of all members of the household. This housework is unwaged labour and all women are unwaged workers in their own homes. Men, whether waged or unwaged, mediate the relationship between women, as unwaged household workers, and capital.

If the men are waged workers, the monetary wages received by the waged worker is given to the housewife who does the unpaid work of purchasing the means of subsistence and processing it for household consumption. Women are responsible for cleaning the house, caring for the children/husband, cooking the meals and doing the laundry. Housework is a monotonous, repetitious, never ending job.

There is a production process within the household which is necessary for the reproduction of labour power. Capital attempts to control every moment of the reproduction of labour power through the State with laws regulating labour, food, marriage, family and birth control. Without the unpaid labour of housewives, wages would certainly be higher, leading to the reduction of the surplus value or profit realized by capital.

In the rural areas, capital attempts to control the reproduction of labour power by undermining the peasant’s access to land and controlling their lives through the marriage and inheritance laws.

The reproduction sphere of the peasant class is different from that of the working class. Peasants produce all the means of subsistence required for the reproduction of their labour power. However, like their working-class counterparts, peasant female household members are responsible for performing all the work necessary for the reproduction of the labour power of the peasant household.

This work includes the processing of the means of subsistence for human consumption. Hence, despite the unwaged nature of the peasant and his wife, the peasant male still acts as a mediator between the peasant house-wife and capital. Within the peasant class, as an unwaged class, capital divides the class based on gender.

This is also true of the unwaged sector of the working class and reveals the general oppression of women which is hidden by the waged-unwaged categories of males and females in the working class. The oppression of women based on gender is essential to the smooth accumulation of capital in Nigeria. Therefore, women’s struggles are labour politics. They are an essential part of the way that we fight back against capital, the bosses, the corrupt elite.



#FreeAminu
Aminu Muhammed was arrested and severely beaten for allegedly insulting the First Lady Aisha Buhari

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Another Critic of the Elite is Detained

Aminu Adamu Muhammed, a final year student of Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State was abducted on Thursday 8th November, 2022, by persons suspected to be security operatives. This is due to his Twitter post in Hausa on 6th of August, 2022. This included a picture of the first lady, Aisha Buhari, stating that “Su mama anchi kudin talakawa ankochi”. This literally means “The mothers have eaten funds, belonging to the poor, to their full”.

He has been remanded in prison until January and so missing his final exams.

Coups, imperialism and instability in Burkina Faso

Discussing the recent coup in Burkina Faso (the second in nine months), Bettina Engels describes the major instability in the country and the region. For several years there have been attacks by non-state groups across the country. The current military junta is an expression of this wider breakdown. Radical organisations and trade unions in Burkina Faso opposed both coups.

<https://roape.net/2022/11/24/more-of-the-same-coups-imperialism-and-instability-in-burkina-faso/>

Stop the Repression in Chad!

After the National Conference in September 2022, the Chadian opposition was drowned in blood with over 50 killed, 300 injured and hundreds arrested according to the Government's own figures. But Amnesty International reported 30 deaths in the southern town of Moundou alone.

Meanwhile the government is doing almost nothing to deal with the recent floods. These have affected well over half a million people across half the country, including the capital, N'Djamena. Before the floods a third of the population were in need of urgent humanitarian aid. Chad is an oil exporting country, but is one of the least developed countries in the world.

For more details: <https://socialistlabour.com.ng/2022/11/25/stop-the-repression-in-chad/>

COP27 Climate Conference Leaves Business and Growth to Destroy the World

Nigerian activist Nnimmo Bassey asks why the COP27 international conference did not accept that fossil fuels are burning the planet? How come everyone knows that up to 85 percent of the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere emerged from the burning of fossil fuels but the COP ignores this truth? Having witnessed COP27 first-hand, Bassey writes how the event was a huge carbon trade fair for the fossil fuels lobby.

<https://roape.net/2022/11/30/playing-the-ostrich-cop27-in-egypt/>

Summary of Workers Strikes - NOVEMBER 2022

We need your assistance to ensure that this monthly report is comprehensive. Please submit details of any strikes or other protests in your state or community to tpapsnigeria@gmail.com. All these strikes and protests need our support and solidarity. We call on all trade union branches to send messages of support and to organise solidarity visits to any strikes in their localities.

The strike by the **Joint Research and Allied Institutions Sector Unions (JORAISU)** was suspended from Friday, 18th November, 2022 after over 13 months on strike. This involved members of the Non-Academic Staff Union of Educational and Associated Institutions (NASU) and the Senior Staff Association of Universities Teaching Hospitals Research Institutes and Associated Institutions (SSAUTHRIAI). The strikers were paid their salaries during the strike.

Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) suspended its eight month strike on 13th October. It was agreed that the lecturers would be paid their with-held salaries with four months being paid immediately. However, this undertaking has not been agreed to with the Government attempting to implement its "No Work – No Pay" policy. Individual ASUU branches organised one day protests during November.

Lagos commercial bus drivers organised in the Joint Drivers' Welfare Association of Nigeria (JDWAN) began a seven-day strike on 31st October. The strike was over the indiscriminate extortion and violent harassment by the management of parks and garages in the state. The strike had a major impact on transport within Lagos during the period of the strike.

On 7th November the **staff of Taraba State House of Assembly, members of the Parliamentary Staff Association of Nigeria (PASAN)** started five day warning strike over the non-payment of their Outfit Allowances for seven years. The staff then went on to start an indefinite strike on 15th November. This strike was then suspended on almost a week later on 21st November.

On 1st November, the **Air Transport Services Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (ATSSSAN)** organised a strike against Bi-Courtney Aviation Services Limited over the sacking of 34 members of the union without due process. The strike was called off the same day as the company agreed to recall the laid off staff and undertook to pay their salaries during the strike.

Socialist Labour Depends on its Supporters for Finances

Socialist Labour depends on its members and supporters for funds. We need more financial support so that we can be more active, expand and grow. If you are able to make a modest financial contribution that would be really helpful. We would also like all readers of this Bulletin to consider fully joining Socialist Labour by paying monthly subscriptions.

The standard rate is N1,000 a month, with a lower rate of N500 for students or unem-ployed and N5,000 for higher paid comrades. We can all afford something - every little helps.

Please make your contributions to the following bank account:

First Bank Nig. Ltd. Account No. 3158880328

Account Name: Aborisade Albert Femi

The account is only used for Socialist Labour purposes.

Socialist Labour-JOIN US

The economic, environmental and Covid-19 crises have made clear that society is a conflict between two classes: the vast majority who create the wealth, and a tiny minority who profit from it. Attempts to reform this have failed: the only solution is to replace it with a truly democratic socialist society. The corrupt elite will only give up their power if forced to do so. We need a mass democratic movement to bring about socialism. Events, such as Russia in 1917, the January 2012 protests in Nigeria and the mass uprisings in Sudan and Algeria in 2019, show what we need.

For more details of the basic ideas and policies of Socialist Labour see:

www.socialistlabour.com.ng/about-us/

Join the Socialist Labour supporters WhatsApp group by clicking this link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KiOyN3OKGBIIvtuh0ycDaU>

We would love to receive letters, comments or suggestions from our readers. We want to hear from you with suggestions for articles for our future editions or questions on any articles in this issue.

We especially welcome news about protests and strikes in your community or town.

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