



Socialist Bulletin

A Monthly Publication from Socialist Labour

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PRESIDENTIAL AND NLC ELECTIONS - WHAT HOPE FOR WORKERS?

Next month we will see two important elections. These are for the leadership of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and the president of the country. Both of these elections will have an impact on workers over the next four years and more. But in each case it is clear that the labouring masses will only really benefit if they use their collective power directly.

Joe Ajearo has been the National Secretary of National Union of Electricity Employees (NUEE) since 2005 and is now standing un-opposed to become the next president of the NLC. The record of strike action by NUEE is fairly well known on account of their action over the privatisation in the electricity industry.

NUEE organised street protests, town hall meetings, symposia and picketings against the privatisation of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN). They also organised three short strikes. As much as NUEE fought, its action proved insufficient to stop the privatisation in 2013. A successful action against privatisation would have required solidarity action across the labour movement, as well as communities on a nation-wide basis.

Privatisation has hit the members of NUEE, as well as other sectors, hard. Many workers lost their jobs and some do not appear to have received their full entitlements. Agitations for payment of outstanding entitlement have continued. In contrast, the PHCN for example, was sold for only N400 billion when the trade union valued it at two trillion naira.

In the South East, NUEE held a week-long strike in July 2013. The union suspended the strike after an agreement with the PHCN. But this agreement was never implemented. A further national one-day strike was held in August last year. It was suspended after a meeting with the Minister of Labour & Employment and others. The next month, NUEE were again threatening strike action as no further payments had been made.

We need a change in strategy. We need to learn from the ASUU, for example. ASUU calls strikes and calls off strikes by balloting the membership. This would ensure that the demands justifying the strike are well known and that the basis for calling it off are democratically agreed. This is a rank and file driven mass action strategy.

The labour movement, as a whole, should also learn from the NLC-led strike action involving massive street protests in Kaduna, in May 2021. The strategy humiliated Governor El-Rufai and remarkable concessions were won, at least initially. This is an example of active strike action methodology, as opposed to the sit-at-home strike action, which removes the control of the strike from the rank and file and subjects them to the demoralizing media messages from state-controlled press.

We hope that the incoming leadership of the NLC will reflect on these issues. However, we know that it will require active participation of all trade unions in the affairs of the NLC to have the required solidarity strike actions on a national scale to support unions in action and other wider issues requiring canalisation of the strength of organised labour and the anger of the rank and file.

In reality, trade union leaders are always under multiple pressures, from governments and the media, which reflect the worldview of the ruling class. The pressure of the rank and file members of the unions would always be necessary to keep union leadership focused on protecting the welfare interests of the working people. It is also rank and file pressure that union leaders may rely upon against ruling class pressures. Therefore, both the leadership and the rank and file have responsibilities to safe guard our common interests and win demands through active strikes, including solidarity actions.

As we show in the following articles in this Socialist Bulletin, none of the three main contenders in the presidential elections provide much direct hope for workers and the popular masses. However, the election of the Labour Party's Peter Obi would provide some change from the last two decades of looting by the PDP and the APC, only if the government implements the minimum socio-economic rights guaranteed under Chapter 2 of the Constitution. The Labour Party Presiden-

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tial Candidate's Manifesto at least states it prioritises socioeconomic rights under Chapter 2 of the Constitution. But within the context of "social market" or market capitalism upon which Peter Obi's Manifesto is predicated, actualisation of Chapter 2 rights is feasible, only if the government is put under pressure from working people. Whoever wins the presidential elections next month, we will need a militant trade union movement to start to reduce poverty, inequality and corruption. No president or party will willingly give us a decent minimum wage with regular increments as inflation rises without a fight. We will have to force them to fund public education, health, electricity and water for all through waging heroic and consistent struggles by the working class.

Tinubu is no friend of workers or their trade unions

— *Biodun Olamosu*

The recent meeting of the presidents of the NLC and TUC with Bola Tinubu reinforces the mistaken impression that Tinubu is a friend of workers and their trade unions.

Tinubu has, throughout his life consistently attacked workers and their organisations. In addition, the origins of his business empire suggest that he is extremely corrupt. His recent statement shows Tinubu's attitude to common people that he would remove fuel subsidy regardless of the protests by ordinary people. One of the first things that Tinubu did, within two months of taking over as Governor in Lagos State, in May 1999, was to sack thousands of public sector workers in the name of "rationalisation".



In 2001/2002, Tinubu sacked over 10,000 workers over minimum wage protests. The Federal Government had increased the minimum wage to N7,500 for the Federal Government and the oil-producing states. Lagos State trade unions demanded that they be paid at this higher rate as the State had more than adequate local revenue levels. A strike was organised with daily rallies.

The NLC president, Adams Oshiomole, came to Lagos to try and settle the matter. Oshiomole insisted that the workers should go back to work during negotiations. Bola Tinubu did not pay what was being demanded, in contrast, he sacked the leaders of the strike.

Most of the workers were eventually re-instated but their late leader Ayodele Akele was never given his job back. He had been the state chair of the trade union

AUPCTRE and Chair of the rank-and-file organisation, the Congress of Industrial Unions (COIU). Tinubu also massively increased the level of student fees at Lagos State University and the Polytechnic.

In 2015, the consultancy firm controlled by Tinubu, Alpha Beta, sacked 300 of its 375 workers for indicating that they wanted to join the Association of Senior Staff of Bank and Financial Institutions (ASSBIFI). Two years later, in June 2017, 145 staff were retrenched from Tinubu's television station, TVC. It is no accident that the offices of TVC and Tinubu's newspaper, The Nation, were attacked and set on fire after the massacre of the #EndSARS protesters in October 2020 at Lekki Toll Gates.

Over the last 20 years, Alpha Beta Consulting Ltd has held the exclusive rights to collect internally generated revenue, especially the Land Use Charges in Lagos State in return for a commission. This is allegedly as high as 15%. However, as it is very difficult to account for any money until it has been paid into one of the Lagos State Government bank accounts, far more money could have been looted. According to Premium Times in 2008, "Alpha Beta Consulting is widely known amongst Lagosians as the state's preeminent tax consulting firm, amidst speculations that it is being used as a conduit for siphoning state funds into private pockets."

In 2018, Oladapo Aparo (former Managing Director of ABC) wrote a petition to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) accusing Alpha Beta of N100bn tax fraud and failure to pay his termination benefits. He also opened a court case alleging that Tinubu was concealing his control over the consultancy company. This case was eventually settled out of court in September 2022.

Like many business owners, Tinubu has ridden roughshod over worker's rights. In addition, he has allegedly used monies he siphoned from Lagos State Government when he was Governor and afterwards to fund his business empire and finance what is now the APC.

The idea that this corrupt tyrant should become President is frightening for workers and their trade unions. Handing Tinubu a copy of the NLC's Charter of Workers Demands at a friendly meeting in the presence of Oshiomole and other turn-coats is not going to change Tinubu's habits of a lifetime. The NLC and the TUC should be preparing to fight the next President, whoever they turn out to be, rather than cosyng up to them.

#jointheresistance

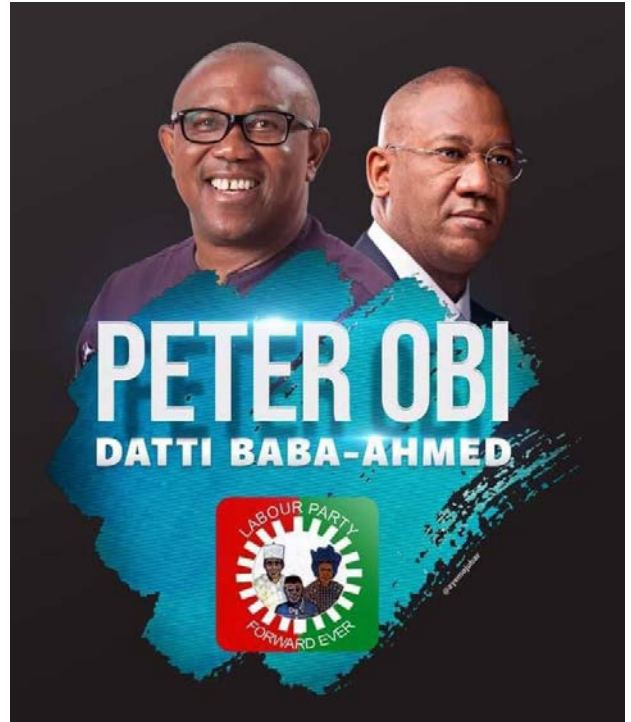
What is the Labour Party promising us?

The “Obi/Baba-Ahmed pact with Nigeria” does not mention:

- NLC or the TUC
- NLC Charter of Demands
- payment of a decent minimum wage
- ASUU and proper funding of public education
- doctors and proper funding of public health
- provision of safe drinking water for all.

It does say:

- “strikes that bedevil our country, particularly our tertiary institutions.” So strikes are the problem, not underfunding of public education.
- “significant and sustainable funding for the health, education” to improve “the remuneration and conditions of service for our teachers, health workers, and administrators.” But no specifics and has to be “sustainable” so only when it is ‘affordable’.
- health services to be based on insurance and “private sector-driven health provision”
- “poverty-inducing fuel subsidy program” – implying its ending and increased fuel costs.
- “Public-Private model that involves private corporations assuming funding and managerial responsibilities” for schools.



The Peter Obi manifesto is a Neoliberal plan to industrialise Nigeria. So it plans for more privatisation, de-regulation and competition. The economy has grown massively over the last two decades and more. Industrialisation has made manufacturing at least 10% of the economy and the oil sector less than 50%. But this has been alongside increased poverty and lower living standards for most people.

There are candidates with better manifestos than the Labour Party (as was Buhari’s in 2015), but they are, unfortunately, not really likely to be elected. Sowore would have to receive around 50 times as many votes as last time. The electorate know that the choice before them is the APC, PDP or the Labour Party.

An APC or PDP presidency would be worse. A least a Labour Party win would be a vote for change and provide confidence that this is on the agenda. Whoever wins, we have to depend on the organised working class to fight for a decent minimum wage and proper funding for public education, health, water and electricity.

The official Obi/Baba-Ahmed manifesto is available from: <https://manifesto.obidatticampaign.com/>

States loot rather than pay salaries

The FAAC Committee in December agreed to distribute N902 billion. This means that the total amount distributed in 2022 is the highest since 2013. It is also 9% more than 2021. All the states have plenty of money to pay their pensioners and a decent minimum wage for their workers. Despite this, the Guardian newspaper did a survey of salary arrears for teachers in mid-December, 2022. They reported that:

- Imo teachers yet to be paid two and half years
- Delta teachers receive old salary
- In Rivers, teachers not promoted in seven years
- Ondo teachers drive taxis to survive
- Ekiti owes four months
- Benue State also owes teachers 13 months salaries.

<https://guardian.ng/features/focus/as-year-ends-sad-tales-from-states-over-unpaid-salaries-arrears/>

Will New Central Bank of Nigeria Restrictions Benefit the Mass of Nigerians?

Alex Batubo

The head-line this morning in Punch was: “Withdrawal limits will cripple campaign fund, say parties”. We can but hope – isn’t that the point? As if to emphasise the point, the DSS recently tried, but failed to have the Governor of the Central Bank, Godwin Emefiele arrested for “economic crimes of national security dimension”.

It is very rare that the revised bank withdrawal limits of N500,000 a week will have any effect on most people. The CBN says that the new limits will affect 6% of personal transactions and 18% of corporate withdrawals. Although the limit of N20,000 a day via an ATM will impact more people.

Those that deal with so much cash are mainly those who have people to settle. But such people will not mind paying bank fees of 5%, so they may not be noticeably impacted. Legitimate payments to agents of political parties etc can be made by bank transfer, it is only the corrupt that want to make large cash payments.

The corrupt politicians and kidnappers may just move from naira to dollars if they find the new restrictions too onerous – as they did at the APC and PDP presidential primaries earlier this year.

The move to lower denomination notes being paid from ATMs will benefit most people. One thousand or N500 naira notes are nothing but an inconvenience. Our first task after getting cash from an ATM is to find change so that the money can be spent. However, perhaps more fundamental measures are needed to solve the daily hunt for change. Most countries use coins for smaller transactions of N500 or less.



Bullion vans arriving at Tinabu’s residence

The major problem will be for the POS business. How will they get their cash from the bank to pay out to their customers? This business provides work for around 1.4 million people. It is estimated that they could lose 80% of their business if the restrictions are enforced. A negative impact on this business sector will have a major detrimental impact on poverty and unemployment across the country.

The POS business fills a major hole in the banking sector. The banking network of branches and ATMs are mainly restricted to town and city centres. POS agents are essential in rural areas and the urban suburbs for people to withdraw money from their bank accounts.

It is good that the Central Bank of Nigeria is trying to take action on political and general corruption, but much more is needed. We need concerted action and co-operation between the banks, the public and the anti-corruption agencies. They and we know who the corrupt elite are. It was obvious when bullion vans arrived at Tinabu’s residence, the same when dollars were distributed at the PDP and APC presidential primaries.

distributed at the PDP and APC presidential primaries.

The NLC also issued a statement on this topic, see: <https://www.nlcng.org/nigerian-workers-demand-that-the-central-bank-of-nigeria-revisits-the-policy-on-deposit-withdrawal/>

Cameroon: never ending Biya

PAUL MARTIAL

Paul Biya has now been president of Cameroon for over four decades. This has left the population drained, in a corrupt country, in the grip of a dirty war in its English-speaking region. Despite this record, the power of this almost ninety year-old continues to benefit from the leniency of the French authorities.

For more details see: <https://socialistlabour.com.ng/2022/12/02/cameroon-never-ending-biya/>

Against the exclusion of pregnant students

PAUL MARTIAL

Thousands of young women are excluded from school because of their pregnancy or their status as mothers. They are sometimes also the victims of sexual violence or forced marriage. The authorities of certain African countries reinforce discrimination by preventing the schooling of these young girls.

This was the case in Tanzania, under the presidency of John Magufuli, a convinced Catholic and father of five children. He led a campaign against contraception and is at the origin of the law banishing young women who are mothers or future mothers from the school system. Other countries have applied similar regulations including Nigeria and Mozambique. School authorities have even been empowered to force young girls to take pregnancy tests.

Many men in political circles justify these discriminatory provisions on the grounds of defending morality. Obviously only young women are victims because students identified as fathers are not expelled from school. This morality is variable. It is the same people who defend early marriages. This ideology is shared in all strata of society. In Nigeria, for example, the former governor of the state of Zamfara, Marjariya Yarima, married a thirteen year old Egyptian girl after a payment of 100,000 dollars.



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He later tried to become the presidential candidate with the APC in May 2022. He considers his marriage to be compatible with sharia law which he introduced in his state when he was the governor.

These are the same people who are standing up against loose morals of the youth. Their hypocritical puritanism borders on the ridiculous. In Uganda MPs passed an anti-pornography law banning mini-skirts. It was repealed by the Constitutional Court following the actions of feminist activists. These politicians also constantly fight against attempts to include sex education in the school curriculum.

Early marriage is a real danger for girls and young women. In addition to the fact that in almost all cases these are forced unions, it represents a danger to the health of girls, and is often synonymous with dropping out of school.

The Covid 19 crisis has had an amplifying effect on the number of marriages arranged by poor families for the purpose of survival. Statistics from the Zimbabwe Ministry of Women's Affairs revealed that in the first two months of 2021, nearly 5,000 students were pregnant and of these 1,770 were forced into marriage.

Some countries welcome young pregnant women or young mothers in the education system, such as in Benin, Lesotho, the Democratic Republic of Congo or Mauritania. Zimbabwe recently passed laws that guarantee access to school for all students. Sierra Leone has profoundly changed its position by adopting so-called "radical inclusion" measures.

As for Tanzania, it maintains its principle of banning school and has set up a "substitute educational pathway", in other words special schools for these young women. The program was to be financed by the World Bank, but it cancelled its financial support in the face of protests from feminist and human rights organizations.

Fortunately, feminist mobilizations across Africa are succeeding in improving the situation. With each setback to ruling class gender insensitivity, it is the right to education for all that advances.

The Lagos Dangote refinery

– a monument to private sector inefficiency?

Alex Batubo

If the Dangote refinery ever comes fully on stream, it will make a major difference to the oil sector in Nigeria. But it will also allow Dangote to dominate the oil refining sector, as he now monopolises sugar and cement. As a result, it will provide no guarantee of low fuel costs.

The project also demonstrates the inefficiency of the private sector and its failure to keep to budgets and to time. This is contrary to those like the World Bank and IMF that claim that the market and the private sector are the most efficient way to run the economy.

The government issued licences to 19 companies to develop refineries in 2011. Over ten years later only five are being developed including the Dangote refinery in Lagos. This project was first announced in September 2013, and work started in 2016, with estimated cost of \$8 billion. Production was originally due to start in 2018, but is now not expected to start until later this year.

Early last year, the oil refinery and fertilizer complex was estimated to cost a total of \$20.5 billion (approximately the same as Dangote's estimated personal wealth). IMF staff estimate that production of 300,000 barrels per day (45% of full production) will only be achieved by 2026.

This is a large and complex project with an eventual capacity of 650,000 barrels-per-day – the largest refinery in Africa and the sixth largest capacity in the world. But any public sector project that came in at least eight years late, at a cost of getting on for three times the original budget would be heavily criticised.

Not only this, but it appears that the project is also being at least partially bailed out by the public sector. Last year the NNPC announced that it was investing \$2.76 billion in the project to acquire a 20% stake. The NNPC has also announced that it is to supply 300,000 b/d of crude to the refinery for the next 20 years.

The Dangote refinery is being built in the Lekki Free Trade Zone in Lagos. As a result, it will benefit from many tax free advantages.

As with the other refineries based in Nigeria, every year we are promised that soon importation of refined products will be a thing of the past. NNPC is now promising that the Dangote refinery will ensure that this goal is reached this year. But only time will tell. To be sure profits and looting will continue at the cost of ordinary people until we have a different approach to the provision of essential goods and service.



<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/countries-by-share-of-global-economy/>

Building Socialist Student Groups

Socialist groups in many countries have managed to build successfully on university campuses. The recent ASUU strike is one example of the importance of organising socialist student groups. If we had had socialist groups in more universities it would have been much easier to build links between the students and the ASUU strikers. Such groups could also be the base from which to enter the Student Unions and so NANS at the regional and national levels. This is important to have a better co-ordinated fight back against the attacks of raising student fees and the regressive idea of student loans.

One outline of the strategic importance of socialists building in universities comes from the largest socialist group in Australia: <https://redflag.org.au/article/strategic-importance-students> This strategy recently allowed them to have a successful intervention in the local elections in Victoria State: <https://redflag.org.au/article/socialist-breakthrough-victoria>

One way to assist to build such student groups would be to have discussion groups around the monthly Socialist Bulletin. Groups of students could be invited to meet each month and to discuss their favourite articles from the most recent Bulletin.

It would also be great if ASUU members could send us contacts of socialist students so we can send them copies of the Socialist Bulletin each month to assist them to build their own groups.

A good example of what is possible is Liberated Minds in UniBen. This group met regularly on Sunday afternoons to discuss socialist politics and issues of general and academic interest to students. Meetings were regularly up to 50 strong. Liberated Minds then went on to contest in the student union elections and backed the ASUU strikes over the years.

Other groups that have organised students in some universities in recent years are “Alliance of Nigerian Students Against Neoliberal Attacks” (ANSA) and the Education Rights Campaign (ERC) of the DSM. So student groups have been successfully built in some universities. We need to try and rebuild these groups and expand them to other campuses.

After the elections, whoever wins, we will need a massive working class and student fight back. The alternative will be declining employment prospects for graduates, lower real values of the minimum wage and higher fuel prices. We will also need a fight to get proper funding for public education and health. The alternative is raising tuition fees and the burden of student loans. We need to assist socialist students to organise and resist such attacks.

Socialist Labour would like to hear from any socialist or progressive student groups and we will try to provide what support we can.

Sudan - The resistance committees: a revolution from below

By Hamad Gamal et Sarah Bachelierie

Workers councils have developed at the highpoints of working class struggle over the last 100 years or more. In Russia from 1905 they were termed soviets, in Iran in 1979 they were called shoras. In Sudan currently, they are called resistance committees. In each case they formed the basis of working class power and the possible beginnings of a new state in circumstances of dual power between the old government



and the new workers state. The experience of resistance committees in Sudan now is important because it shows how a workers state, or socialism, can be organised in practice.

The following article provides a first-hand account of these institutions in Sudan: <https://socialistlabour.com.ng/2023/01/02/sudan-the-resistance-committees-a-revolution-from-below/>

Another Massacre by the Air Force in Zamfara, Alex Batubo

On Sunday, 18th December the Air Force bombed a busy market in in the Mutumji Community of Zamfara State. At least 68 people were killed. On Wednesday, the Minister of Information said that the government and the Air Force regretted the killing of civilians during an air strike by the Air Force. The APC in Zamfara State have called for an investigation.

The Air Force had attempted to repel attacks on nearby villages and the bandits fled into Mutumji. The military attacks started on Saturday and continued at least into the next day. In one ambush 10 soldiers may have been killed near Mutumji. The Air Force also claimed to have killed 40 bandits in Malele village in the same area.

These unfortunate deaths, as a result of military attacks, are not the first and others will follow unless the use of lethal force by the military is subject to much greater restriction.

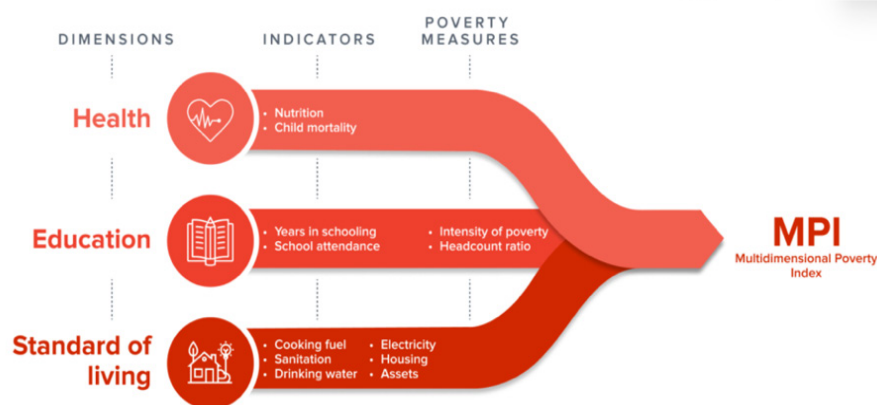
On 13th April 2022, the air force bombed Kurebe community in the Shiroro area of Niger State, six girls were killed by a bore hole. The Air Force had been informed that there were only bandits in the area. See the Premium Times investigation: <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/investigationspecial-reports/545183-investigation-inside-story-of-how-nigeria-air-force-bombed-children-terrorised-by-boko-haram-in-niger.html>

Massacre's like this are the inevitable outcome of using the Air Force near civilian communities. It happened with the French in Mali and with the Togo Air Force in the north of their country in July 2022. Labelling bandits and others as terrorists allows the armed forces to attack at will with the inevitable deaths of innocent civilians. Much of the insecurity arises from economic distress and feelings of injustice. Massacres such as the one in Mutunji community far from addressing the roots of insecurity only make the situation worse.

Nearly Two Thirds of Nigerians Multidimensionally Poor

A new report from the National Bureau of Statistics issued in mid-November last year found that nearly two thirds of Nigerians are now multidimensionally poor (63%). This is a huge increase on the 40% of people found

The 3 dimensions and 10 indicators of Multidimensional Poverty globally



to be poor according to their 2018/19 survey.

More than two-thirds (67.5%) of children (0–17) are multidimensionally poor. And although the rates vary between states, more than half of children are poor in every state.

The report also found that over half of the population are multidimensionally poor and cook with dung, wood or charcoal. This means that they are at severe risk of suffering death or respiratory illness from the resulting air pollution. It is estimated that perhaps 175,000 people die prematurely each year in Africa from household air pollution.

One of the easiest ways of reducing poverty would be to increase the minimum wage. Oxfam recommended that the minimum wage should be increased to N100,000 and then increased each year as in most countries. This would directly impact on people employed, but they would have much more to spend in their local markets.

A FEMINIST MANIFESTO FOR THE 99%

Feminism should be about liberating the lives of market women, women farmers, nurses, primary school teachers, office cleaners. The many women who both go out to work and look after their children and homes.

“Women occupy the frontlines of the present ecological crisis, making up 80 per cent of climate refugees. In the Global South, they constitute the majority of the rural workforce and shoulder the burden of social-reproductive labour (family work).”

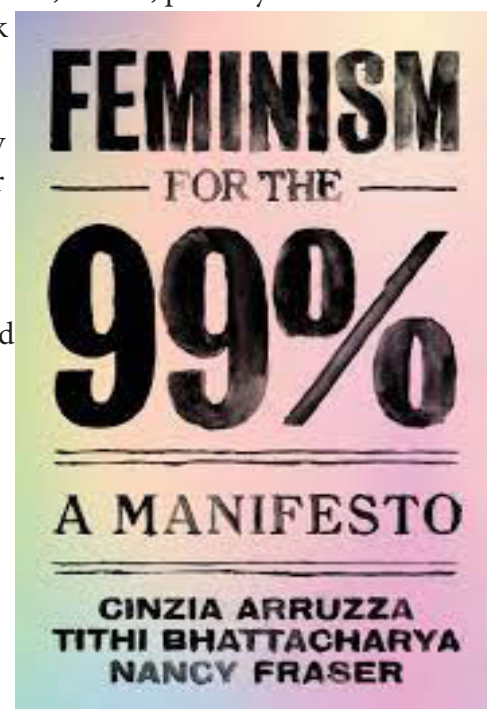
“We are invited to vote for women politicians and to celebrate their ascent to power, as if it struck a blow for our liberation.” Margaret Thatcher and Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala made the lives of most women much worse. They only worked for the richest 1%, the corrupt elite.

“Struggle is an opportunity and a school. It can transform those who participate in it, challenging our prior self-understandings and reshaping our view of the world.”

“Joining together to fight against capitalism is the best way to overcome the divisions among us that capital cultivates—divisions of culture, race, ethnicity, ability, sexuality and gender. Feminists for the 99 per cent aim to unite existing and future movements into a broad-based global insurgency.”

We need many more women (and men) to read this free book, understand our world more clearly and to actively join the movement to liberate the 99%.

To get the book go to: <https://ivavalleybooks.com/2022/03/29/feminism-for-the-99>



Summary of Workers Strikes - January 2023

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 drewpovey@btinternet.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 State Joint National Public Service Negotiating Council, (JNPSNC) of Plateau State organised a five-day warning strike from Sunday, 11th December. This includes NLC and TUC trade unions. The strike was over salary, promotion and annual increment arrears and the failure of the State Government to keep to its agreement. The workers had not been paid for three months and their pension contributions had not been paid to the pension funds. The workers also demanded “a wholistic audit of the payroll system.” The strike was restricted to state workers and so did not include, for example, ASUU.

The Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) of Abia State started an indefinite strike in the state on December 8. This is over the non-payment of salaries by the Government. Doctors at Abia State University Teaching Hospital (ABSUTH) are owed around two years salaries. This strike includes all doctors in in Federal, State, and private sector institutions.

The resident doctors of the ABSUTH have been on strike since April 2021 over non-payment of their salaries. On 28th December workers picketed the Abia Health Management Board over 13-months of salary arrears. A two week notice of strike action runs out on 14th January, 2023.

Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT), Benue State recently stayed at home “for a short period”, as they did not have money to take them to work. The backlog of unpaid salaries is 10 months in 2017. Then December 2021; February and March 2022; and currently, September has been paid but not everybody has been paid.

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.

Please join Socialist Labour, by submitting the following details:

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