



Socialist Bulletin

A Monthly Publication from Socialist Labour

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How Do We Survive After the Elections?

The next president will attempt to impose higher fuel prices, higher inflation, unemployment rates, taxes, school fees, and electric tariffs. The Government will continue strive to impose its “No work No pay” policy and postpone any increase in the minimum wage. We need to struggle against these attacks in order to survive.

We face a series of continued attacks. We need to unite and encourage the new leadership of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and the Trades Union Congress (TUC) to lead action and to provide effective solidarity action where workers take action. We need action to survive the extending crisis.

Fuel price increase

All the major presidential candidates have promised to increase PMS prices (remove petrol subsidy) by June. They have promised to crush all opposition and privatize all publicly owned refineries. If this policy is allowed to be implemented the price of petrol may increase to as much as N1,000 a litre by the end of this year. The price in Ghana is now around N800 a litre.

Any fuel subsidy removal must result in no fuel price increases. We will need massive resistance by the labour movement over the next few months to achieve this goal.

National Minimum wage

N30,000 a month is not enough to meet the basic subsistence needs of working people. None of the leading presidential candidates has promised to review the national minimum wage.

The minimum wage has only been increased once since 2011 and this has not been fully implemented in some states. The ILO says that the minimum wage should be increased every year as happens in most countries. For more details see: <https://tinyurl.com/minwageng>

Increased electricity tariff

The ruling class plans to privatize electricity transmission and break it up. The past privatization exercise failed to improve the electric power situation. The electric power gap (difference between the electric power demand and supply) continues to widen. Only half of families even have access to electricity. Workers will have to resist the planned increase in electric tariffs.

No work No pay

Salaries are always late and fractional salaries are not uncommon. However, it wishes to impose a “No work No pay” policy on workers. This aims to undermine the use of strikes for workers struggles. For more details see: <https://socialistlabour.com.ng/2022/11/07/non-payment-of-university-salaries-is-an-attack-on-us-all>

In the case of the ASUU strike, 8.5 months of work was done last year by academic workers and the state has refused to pay. There is a need for solidarity with ASUU.

The presidential candidates of the main parties have promised higher school fees, student loans and no strikes in the universities and other tertiary institutions. The struggles in the education sector should be multi-sectorial involving students, academic workers and non-academic workers.

Governments are also using other attacks, like the recent aviation workers strike when a minister claimed that it was an essential service and so strikes were illegal.

There will be other arenas of struggle that will unfold this year (anti-police brutality, against ethnic nationalism etc). The trade union federations (NLC and TUC) must prepare for a year of intensified struggles to defend our interests.

We need to develop a massive campaign to support the trade unions to lead an active struggle so that we can survive the next government.

If your trade union, at national state or local level, or your civil society organisation supports this statement please send you contact details to: socialistlabour.ng@gmail.com

Visit: socialistlabour.com.ng

The State is Increasing Tensions

Alex Batubo

The state is increasing the level of tension across the country in the weeks before the elections. The air force has been implicated in the deaths of 70 people in two incidents within two days. The change of currency notes is also causing inconvenience and uncertainty.



Perhaps 30 vigilantes were killed in an air raid in Shiroro Local Government Area, north east Niger State, on 24th January. The next day around 40 people were killed in an air attack on Rukubi village in the south east of Nasarawa State near the border with Benue, according to the Nasarawa State Governor.

That is what happens if an air force bombs, especially in rural areas. The French did the same in Mali! The US in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The rushed change in currency by the Central Bank of Nigeria is also raising tensions. Many people are

spending hours in the bank to change their money. Traders were refusing to accept old notes before official dead-line of the end of January. The extension of this is only making the agony worse for some.

The Governor of Kano State and other politicians had asked Buhari to postpone his visit to Kanu due to the level of disquiet over the currency change. **He was attacked when he visited.**

All this and more is producing an unwelcome rise in tensions and have a detrimental impact on the economy.

What Lies Behind the Violence in the South East?

Ike Okonta

The present violence in the southeast has deep economic and social roots. Since the return of democratic rule in 1999, the southeast governors have focussed on massive looting of their states. They have neither provided infrastructure nor created jobs. Youths who came of age at the end of the millennium and shortly after are largely unemployed even though they are well educated. In their anger and frustration they have latched onto a convenient Biafra project, even resorting to violence to coerce ordinary Igbo opposed to them to fall into line.

The solution? Call out the southeast governors and ask the EFCC to conduct a mass probe of their as-



sets. Then get Igbo political activists to take the project of taking back their region seriously and get them to join up with their fellow Nigerians in other parts of the country to form a nationwide political movement founded on the principles of social democracy as enunciated by the late Malam Aminu Kano.

President Buhari's decision

to abduct IPOB leader Nnamdi Kanu and imprison him in Abuja has not helped matters admittedly. Opportunists in Igboland cashed in and began to do whatever they liked in the name of Kanu and IPOB. But Buhari is what historians call 'immediate cause.' The deeper remote causes are more important. It will not be easy. It will even take a decade or more, but as the life of Aminu Kano himself shows persistence and patience in politics pays dividends in the fullness of time.

#jointheresistance

A Lack of NLC Solidarity Leads to Victimization

Com. Ibrahim Kirfi, branch Chair, AUPCTRE, Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja

Immediately the author became branch Chair, in December 2016, there were pending issues which led to industrial action in February and July 2017. A tripartite agreement which led to the payment of over a billion naira to staff doused the tension.

At the end of 2020, another crisis was brewing and the national body of AUPCTRE intervened. This led to a strike ultimatum. The NLC and the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade & Investment intervened. When the Ministry did not act properly, NLC called for three days of picketing of the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) head office in March, 2021.



As Wabba, the NLC President, said then, if after the three days nothing was done, all NLC State Councils would be directed to picket local CAC offices until the Federal Government gave in. After the first day, which scared both the management and the Federal Government, the picketing was abruptly suspended. The NLC President said there would be a

meeting with the management which management had refused earlier.

A series of reminders were sent to Wabba by the national body of AUPCTRE, but to our surprise, till date we have received no update.

We were reliably informed from our comrades in the office that the NLC President was, on several occasions, seen at the CAC headquarters alone and held meetings with its CEO. We also heard that the NLC President claimed that we had misled him.

Moreover, three Executives of AUPCTRE were falsely accused of fraud, were queried and asked to appear before the Commission's Central Disciplinary Committee. The comrades were cleared of allegations of fraud. Yet they have still been denied to write promotional exams on the grounds of a pending disciplinary case.

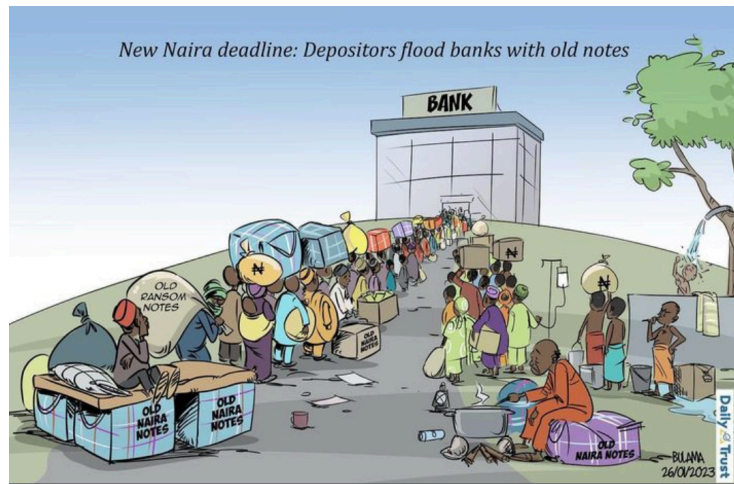
The CEO took AUPCTRE to the Industrial Court and AUPCTRE also took him to court. AUPCTRE won both cases and the CEO appealed. We are still awaiting the outcome of this appeal.

The issues that led to the industrial dispute include, among others:

- 1) staff wrote and passed their promotional exams, but their one year arrears were not paid;
- 2) vacancies were limited and few were declared even for levels 12 and 13 who are supposed to be pool staff;
- 3) the CEO queried and stopped the salaries of some staff during the Covid-19 lockdown for non-attendance at the office. Till date the queries are still in their files;
- 4) our tripartite agreement specifies that when there is liquidity 20% disparity should be added to the salaries of PM downward staff. The CEO confirmed that there was liquidity, but he refused to authorise these payments.
- 5) all staff loans were stopped without giving any reason.

The executives of AUPCTRE and some of their supporters were transferred to various state offices for over two years now, including those who even just 'liked' our posts on our platforms or were heard talking to us by phone. The CEO issued a circular dissolving the union and another barring the transferred staff from any form of leave for six months.

And yet the NLC has taken no further action till date. Members of the AUPCTRE executive were left to their fate and their union branch remains dissolved.



Three Richest are Wealthier than 83 Million

Oxfam in Nigeria announced in January that three of the richest men in the country are wealthier than 83 million Nigerians. These are Aliko Dangote, Abdulsamad Rabiou and Mike Adenuga. In addition, the richest 0.003 per cent Nigerians (6,355 individuals worth \$5 million and above) have 1.4 times more wealth than 107 million other Nigerians.

“A wealth tax of two per cent on the millionaires, three per cent on those with wealth above \$50m and five per cent on the Nigerian billionaires would raise \$3.2bn annually. This would be enough to double health spending.

“Oxfam is calling for more tax on billionaires, but not workers. Their report noted that a tax of up to five per cent on the world’s multi-millionaires and billionaires could raise \$1.7 trillion a year, enough to lift 2 billion people out of poverty.

The three richest and most powerful Nigerians:



1 Aliko Dangote the richest African, personally controls about 8 per cent of the nation’s GDP with interests in cement, sugar and flour. He is worth perhaps \$14 billion. Although he could be as rich as \$20 billion, the cost of his Lagos refinery. Born into a rich family in 1957 in Kano State. Dangote Group is active in 15 African countries with salt, sugar and flour. He has two private jets.



2 Abdulsamad Rabiou is worth nearly \$8 billion dollars after floating some of his companies on the stock exchange. He is the four richest person in Africa after Dangote and Johann and Nicky Oppenheimer of South Africa. His father was one of Nigeria’s richest industrialists in the 1970s and 1980s. Abdul Samad is the founder and chairman of BUA Group, one of Africa’s largest food and infrastructure conglomerates. He is also the chairman of Nigerian Bank of Industry. He was

born in Kano in 1960 and now has two private jets.



3 Globacom boss Mike Adenuga is worth of \$6 billion. He owns Conoil that operates six oil blocks in the Niger Delta. Born in 1953 in Ibadan. Globacom (Glo) has 55 million subscribers in Nigeria, Benin and Ghana. It is the second largest network in Nigeria after the South African owned MTN. He owns substantial stakes in both Sterling Bank and First Bank of Nigeria. He also has interests in several Western European countries, North America and the Middle-East. He has three private jets.

Workers Questions

1. ***If I work with a firm that thinks it meets up with my welfare conditions, will it be morally right to down tools.***

Workers are not slaves and so they are morally entitled not to work if they are not happy. The International Labour Organisation and other international bodies recognise that the right to strike is a fundamental human right. If the majority of workers in a particular workplace decide for whatever reason that they wish to strike they are democratically entitled to do that. The right to strike has been largely acknowledged as an indispensable element of collective bargaining, and as one of the most essential means by which workers can preserve their socio-economic rights. It is safeguarded by international and European human rights instruments, and is enshrined in a number of states' constitutions, including several parties to the European Convention on Human Rights ('ECHR').

The International Trade Union Confederation noted, in 2022, that 95% of African countries violated the right to strike –

<https://www.globalrightsindex.org/en/2022/violations/right-to-strike>

It depends who is saying the firm “meets up with my welfare conditions”. It is for the workers themselves to decide not outsiders or the bosses. If they are not happy for whatever reason they should be able to strike.

2. ***If I work with a firm that that doesn't meet up with my conditions of service including owing my salary, will it be morally right to down tools.***

Of course!! If the government can say “no work - no pay”, then certainly the workers have a right to say that if they are not paid their salaries as and when due then they will not work. Workers in so many states are entitled and indeed should take industrial action, including strike action, to force the state governments to pay their arrears of salaries. these states all have plenty of money they are just choosing not to pay salaries and pensions. In 2022 the oil money states received was at the highest level since 2013.

3. ***If I down tools in 2 above, what is the morality for the person in 1. to down tools in solidarity since my firm in 1 meets up with my welfare.***

Workers have a fundamental right to strike. That right means they decide when and if they will go out on strike. The Association of Resident Doctors (ARD), University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UIITH), on 30th December 2022 commenced a five days total strike over an assault on one of its members. Solidarity strike action is part of the fundamental right to strike which



is recognised internationally. Governments in an attempt to reduce or curtail this right have sometimes made solidarity action illegal, but this is not morally acceptable.

General strikes have occurred across the world on a regular basis. This is the highest and best form of solidarity action. In Nigeria we need the NLC and TUC to organise general strikes over the pitifully low level of the minimum wage, against the increase in electricity and other prices, and the other issues that workers suffer like unpaid salaries and pensions.

Who Dey Giv Us Dis Kain Leada Dem?

Steve Bode



We dey always talk one thing
wey I no undastand.
We dey always talk am say:
'Na God dey giv pipo leada'
Pastor dey always tell us say
make we dey pray for awa leada dem
and Imam dey talk am say
make we dey obey awa leada
bikos na God choose dem for us.
Di thing dey do me biribiri for eye'ò.
So, I wan ask una some kwueshon:
How we go dey obey and pray
for awa leada when ih clear
for awa eye say dem wicked
pass Devil sef and im angels?
If na God dey giv us dis leada dem
why ih bi say dem wicked like dis
so tay so tay so tay dem dey rape
their own mama and their papa wife
for public from republic to republic?
Wait'ò, you sure say na
Allah giv us Tarewa Babewa?
Na God giv us Agihinosi dat year?
Na God bring Ogorwon and Okuku
wey fight war kill pipo berekete?
Na Allah bring Amedu Atalamuri?
Na God still raise Shika Biika kill am?
Na God bring Egbasanjo dat time?
Na Allah replace am with Heu Nagari
kom komot am put Onamad Nuhari?
Na Allah let Badnagida komot Nuhari
Kom step am aside for Shomicorn?
wey Akpani Achaba komot?
Na Allah bring Abdu-na- Alarm
Na God giv us Egbasanjo again

wey go bring Yeah Na Doer
wey sickness no let am do us betta?
Na God giv us Jona Boo-Luck
Wey we vote komot as Badluck?
Na Allah replace am second time
with retired General Nuhari
wey promise us Boomharism
kom change am to Doomharism?
How God wey love us with all im bele,
God wey giv us everything free
kom curse us with dis kain leadas?
As dem dey come, dey go, dey die
Na so dem dey worse put
Ah, ah! I bow! Ih taya me' o!
So, which one God wan giv us now
from dis chimp, gorilla and ape dem
wey dey wear over-size agbada
over-long dansiki & babaringa
Wey dem dey use pack dirty & mud
to advatise boju-boju manifesto
wey dem don mix with fake honey?
Fear dey catch me' o! I swear!
Fear dey dey catch me wel-wel
No do no do, as we no dey send,
anoda Mess-ziah go kom
turn dis Doomharism now
to di Boomharism of 2015 to 2023,
as Doomhari do di one we call Badluck!
You dey say tufiakwa or Oloun ma je?
Walahi talahi, ih go shock you!
Na so we go dey speak gramma
with oyinbo nose accent, dey write
dey look, dey snore on top of sleep
Troway awa fate to spoilitician dem:
Pipo wey no get heart and joy
Blood-sucking demon dem!
Afta eleshon, dem go settle down
pour raw acid from America
for awa private part and face,
turn awa garri to sand-sand
giv us paint wey dem make for UK
to soak and drink am by force!
Wetin remain again wey dem
don kuku blind us with acid?

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Nine Questions for Politicians About Women

1. What do you think should be done to reduce the incidence of maternal mortality in Nigeria from the current level of 814 women per 100,000 live births

Maternal mortality can be reduced by increased access to maternal healthcare (that is, antenatal, natal and postnatal healthcare) mostly in rural areas and suburban areas where access to healthcare in general is very low. Increase in maternal healthcare can be through provision of more healthcare infrastructures in these places by the government and through adequate sensitization/awareness on the positive impacts of maternal healthcare in places where healthcare infrastructures already exist.

2. What do you think should be done to extend the availability of modern forms of contraception to Nigerian women? Only 15% of women of child bearing age use modern forms of contraception.

Sensitization on the availability and usage of these modern contraceptives will educate a wide range of women. Free distribution of these modern contraceptives after adequate sensitization will spread a wide usage among women. In ethnicities where contraceptives are attributed to men only, such sensitization is needed so as to enable women to accept the use of these modern contraceptives.

3. What do you think should be done to avoid the expulsion of young women from education if they become pregnant? Women between the ages of 15 and 19 account for 145 out of every 1,000 births.

Expulsion of young women from education can be avoided by accepting that education is for all irrespective of condition. Education is a right and not a privilege. Pregnancy does not take the right to quality education away.

Creating and implementing laws and policies that accept young pregnant women into the school system.

Laws against the stigmatization of young pregnant women will aid young pregnant women to be more comfortable in the learning system.

By including curricula that portray general acceptance of all individuals into the learning system.

4. What do you think can be done to reduce the level of illegal and so unsafe abortions in Nigeria from the current level of around half a million a year? The lifetime risk of a Nigerian woman dying during pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum or post-abortion is 1 in 22.

Adequate use of contraceptives during sex can prevent unwanted pregnancies first of all.

To reduce illegal and unsafe abortions;

Comprehensive sexuality education that includes medically accurate information about abstinence and contraception.

Adequate family planning approaches to lessen occurrence of unwanted pregnancies.

Greater access to emergency contraception methods.

Ease of availability of contraceptive methods.

Sensitization on the negative impacts of illegal and unsafe abortions.

5. What do you think can be done to reduce the incidence of female genital mutilation? According to UNICEF, almost 20 million Nigerian women have suffered from FGM the third highest of any country in the world. Strict laws to counter the practice of FGM by the government. Sensitization on the negative impacts of FGM. Capacity building by various NGOs and CBOs to increase awareness in communities where FGM is practiced.

6. How can we increase the proportion of women elected to the National Assembly, for example? Only seven out of 109 senators and 22 of the current 360 member House of Representatives members are women.

7. What do you think can be done to reduce the risk to women of rape? The 2018 official Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey found that 30% of girls and women aged between 15 and 49 reported suffering sexual abuse including rape. In 2019, the Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development said that two (2) million Nigerians are raped every year. Federal Government does not make public any records it holds of incidents of gender-based violence in general nor of rape in particular.

By enacting strict laws against rape.

By encouraging women to speak out in cases of rape.

By adequate sensitization of the general public on the negative impacts of rape.

By creating school curricula that portray social awareness against rape in our basic schools.

By equipping the law enforcement departments with the needed tools to combat rape cases.

8. What can be done to sign the bill on equality and equity in favour of everyone.

9. What can be done to stop husbands from forcing their wives in getting pregnant when they are not physiologically ready.

FGM Prevalence in Nigeria



With an estimated

19.9 million

survivors, Nigeria accounts for the third highest number of **women and girls** who have undergone FGM worldwide; accounting for 10 percent of the **200 million** FGM survivors worldwide.

Source: UNICEF

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), the removal of part or the whole of the clitoris, is one of the most inhuman acts and a violation of human rights.

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/578531-fgm-survivors-narrate-experiences-dealing-with-absence-of-the-clitoris.html>

African Civilisations – Graham Connah, 2016

We need to understand the past if we are to try and change the future. Chapters 6 and 7 of this book provide a summary of the current knowledge of the civilisations of respectively the savanna belt (including northern Nigeria) and the West African forest (including southern Nigeria).

We know that all humans originated from Africa and spread out across the world over the last 200,000 years or so. As a result, the original British, around 10,000 years ago, still had black skin - <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2018/feb/07/first-modern-britons-dark-black-skin-cheddar-man-dna-analysis-reveals>

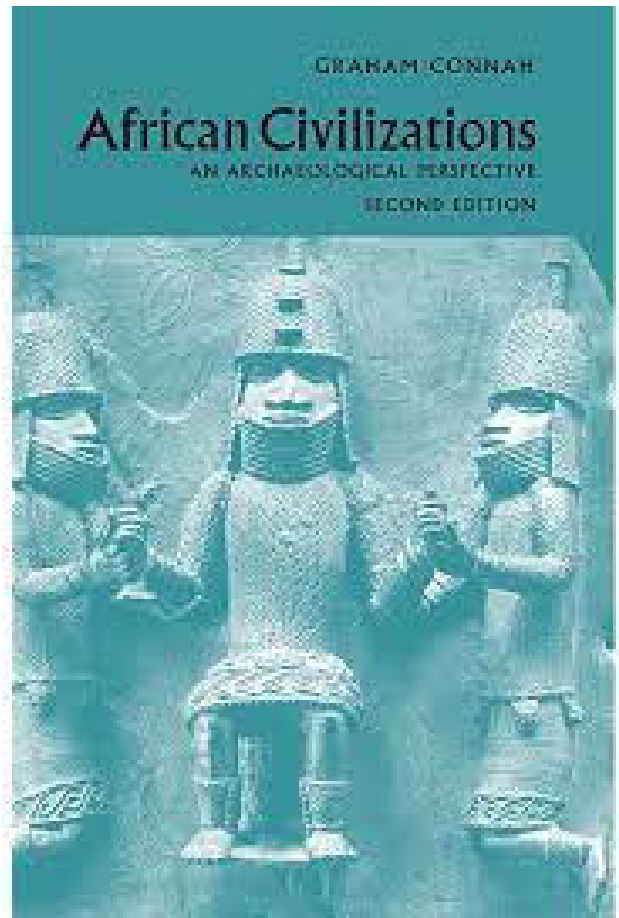
The summary of the latest research provided in these two chapters from this book also show that West Africans led the world in technology until the last few thousand years. The earliest pottery in the world comes from Mali and is dated around 11,500 years. As does the domestication of cattle and millet around the same time. Iron was also used in West Africa at least 3,400 years ago, before its use was known in Western Europe. The civilisations that developed into the empires of Mali, Ghana and Goa originated independently, well before trans-Saharan trade developed with the Muslim world around a thousand years ago.

African civilisations were still at least comparable to the cities of Europe until 400 years ago. In 1600 a Dutch trader entering the city of Benin wrote, “The city looks very big when you go into it. The houses in the town stand in good order as our Dutch houses are. These people are in no way inferior to the Dutch in cleanliness. They wash and scrub their houses so well that these are as polished as a looking glass.”

The Bantu Migration also originated from what is now the Nigerian/Cameroonian border around 3,500 years ago. These people spread out across eastern and southern Africa taking their new technology with them. - https://www.worldhistory.org/Bantu_Migration/

Several important archaeological sites across Nigeria have been excavated, but much evidence for early civilisation has yet to be found, for example, Kano, Zaria and Katsina have yet to attract significant attention from archaeologists.

For a free download of the two chapters, click <https://ivavalleybooks.com/2023/01/26/african-civilisations-graham-connah-2016/?v=330a840f8637>



Do British workers benefit from exploitation of the Global South? - Gyekye Tanoh

Speaking at the British SWP’s annual festival, a Ghanaian socialist argued that British workers do not benefit from the exploitation of workers in Africa. He argues that it is the exploitation of workers across the world that leads to increasing inequality between and within countries. His full talk is available to watch at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RTWmNL_gBP8

Writing 20 years ago the British socialist Chris Harman argued:

It often seems counterintuitive to argue that groups of workers who have better conditions than others

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do not benefit at their expense – whether the argument is used about Western workers and workers in the Third World, or formal sector Third World workers and informal sector workers. But in this case the ‘counterintuitive’ argument is correct. In many industries, the more stable and experienced a workforce, the more productive it is. Capital is prepared to concede higher wages to certain of the workers in those industries because by doing so it is able to make more profits out of them. Hence the apparent contradiction – some sections of the world’s workers are both better paid than others, and more exploited. It is this alone which explains why capitalists, motivated only by the drive for profit, do not usually invest on any great scale in regions like Africa, where wages are lowest.

In the same article further claimed that:

In general, the suffering of a very large chunk of the urban masses in such countries comes not from being super-exploited by large capital, but from the fact that large capital does not see a way of making sufficient profits out of exploiting them at all. This is even more clearly the case in much of sub-Saharan Africa. After squeezing wealth out of the continent during the period from the onset of the slave trade to the end of empire in the 1950s, those who run the world system (including local rulers who move their own money to Europe and North America) are now prepared to write off most of its people as ‘marginal’ to their requirements.

<https://www.marxists.org/archive/harman/2002/xx/workers.html>

Two of the core reasons for the low productivity of workers in Nigeria is because of the lack of reliable public electricity, which may add 40% to the running costs of factories, and the high interest and conditions for bank loans. Neither of these are due to “imperialists” preventing industrial development. Neither is the third most important factor, corruption.

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 Association of Resident Doctors (ARD), University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH), on 30th December commenced a five days total strike over an assault on one of its members.

Similarly, **the Association of Resident Doctors (ARD)**, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital (NAUTH), Nnewi, commenced a five days total strike over an assault on one of its members on 25th January. The strike was suspended at their emergency meeting two days later as the culprit had been arrested and the management had shown commitment to fulfilling all the other demands outlined by the doctors.

Airport workers, members of the National Union of Air Transport Employees (NUATE) and the Air Transport Senior Staff Services Association of Nigeria (ATSSAN) held a strike that delayed or diverted international flights in Lagos and Abuja on 23rd January, 2023. They had previously given their employees, NAHCO, a five-day warning for slow progress over negotiation for salary review. The management agreed to stop legal actions and to start negotiations the same week to enable the strike to be suspended. Management agreed around 30% for lower paid staff and 12% for senior staff, but this is for the last two years when inflation has been well over 30%. We need annual pay increases!

NIPOST workers, members of the National Union of Postal and Telecommunications Employees (NUPTE) and the Senior Staff Association of Statutory Corporations and Government Owned Companies (SSASCGOC) held a one-day warning strike on Friday, 27th January. The strike is against planned asset stripping of the company by the by the Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE).

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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