



Socialist Bulletin

A Monthly Publication from Socialist Labour

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WE NEED A MASS UNITED CAMPAIGN AGAINST ANTI-PEOPLE ATTACKS

In his national Sallah address President Tinubu called on the people of Nigeria to make sacrifices in the hope that things would improve in future. The sacrifices are certainly huge and varied. Together they must amount to one of the largest attacks that working people have ever suffered.

The price of petrol is now three times higher than it was earlier this year. This price increase and the massive devaluation by 70% in the official rate of exchange of the naira to the dollar, mean that inflation, already well over 20%, has increased massively. The price of transport and the cost of many goods in the market have doubled in a matter of weeks. We are also threatened with a possible 40% increase in the price of electricity and further hikes in tuition fees after the scam of the Students Loan Act was introduced.

Unfortunately the NLC suspended its general strike. It is now sitting in committee meetings with the Government. It merely promises that they will report within the next two months. Committee reports cannot be used to buy garri. How are we, the poor majority, expected to buy food and other essentials over the coming months?

We need a united campaign against anti-people attacks. We need a mass campaign that unites both those trade unions that are prepared to lead action and those progressive civil society organisations that have the ability to organise at the grass-roots. We need to organise the widest possible opposition to the attacks on our lives by this government. We need the various campaigns to co-operate and work together.

We have to encourage and provide national solidarity for any local actions. This may include action in Kano over the re-trenchment of 10,000 local government workers or action by Oyo NLC in demanding palliatives including significant increments in allowances for all workers. A significant increase in the minimum wage would benefit all public sector workers who would in turn be able to spend more on transport and in the markets. This would benefit the informal sector and not be subject to the huge leakages that most social payments suffer from. The minimum wage should also be indexed to inflation with annual increments as happens in most countries.

Some state, like Edo and Kwara, have recognised that their workers can no longer afford the increased travel costs involved in working every day. So they have said that the workers only need to come to work for three days each week. In many other offices across the country similar arrangements have been made informally. As a result, workers only have to travel to work three days a week. The workers have arranged to stand in for each other to make this possible.

We all have the power to make a difference. We all know local trade union officials or members of civil society organisations. We all need to talk to such people about the necessity to organise a mass campaign against the Government's anti-people policies.

United we stand – together we can win!

To join the United Campaign Against Anti-People Policies send a WhatsApp message to: 0907 631 1844

Visit: socialistlabour.com.ng

**PETROL
PRICE**



**FOOD
PRICE**



**ELECTRICITY
PRICE**



**TRANSPORTATION
PRICE**



**OUR
INCOME**

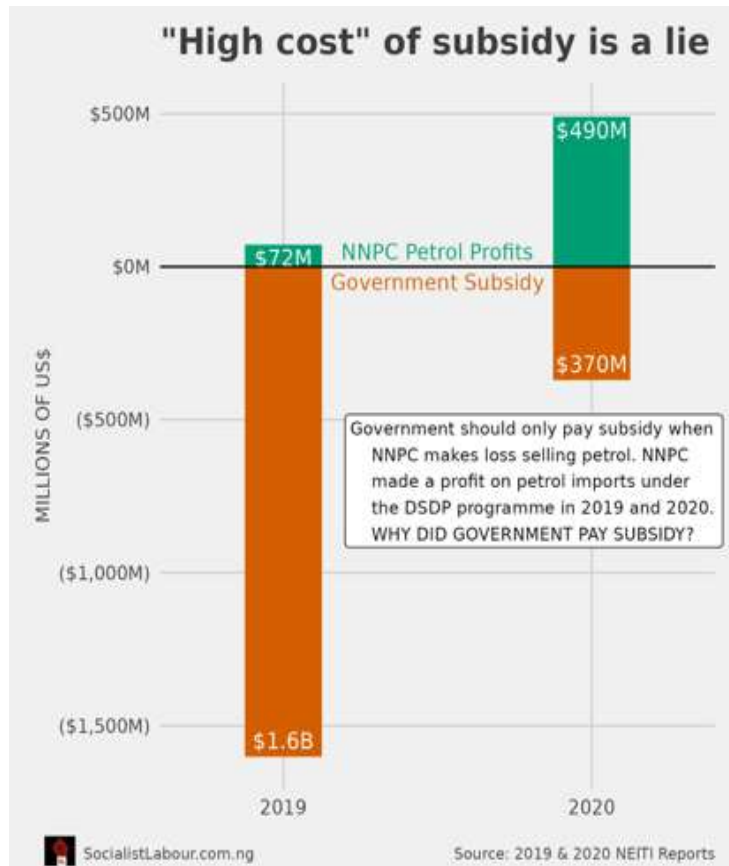


Unfortunately we are not winning the race

DSDP FUEL SUBSIDY CORRUPTION WAS CENTRED ON THE NNPC – IZIELEN AGBON

Since 2016, the NNPC has been operating a Direct Sale Direct Purchase (DSDP) arrangement. Under this arrangement, NNPC exported crude oil to approximately 16 oil trading companies. In return, the oil trading companies imported refined products (including petrol) of the same value for NNPC. These products were then sold to oil marketers for distribution/sale to the Nigerian public. Any loss by the NNPC was then to be covered by fuel subsidy. So any corruption around fuel subsidy and DSDP was within the NNPC.

Using figures from the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) and the National Bureau Statistics (NBS), we can see that NNPC made annual profits with its DSDP arrangement in 2019 and 2020. This profit was almost \$72 million in 2019. Yet, NNPC collected \$1.6 billion as fuel subsidy for that year. Similarly for 2020, NNPC made a profit of nearly \$490 million for its DSDP program. Yet, the NNPC collected \$370 million as fuel subsidy for 2020.



These figures are shown in the following graph:

In 2019 almost all the fuel subsidy (97%) was claimed by NNPC under DSDP. NNPC also claimed all the fuel subsidy over the period 2020-2023 under DSDP. So any corruption with fuel subsidy under DSDP from 2016 to 2023 is by the NNPC and so within and internal to Government. When the Government says there was corruption with fuel subsidy they know because they are stealing the money.

The NNPC has always been allowed to be very secretive by the PDP and then the APC Governments. NNPC did not even issue annual accounts as required by law for a long time. It did this for the first time in 43 years in June 2020, for the 2018 financial year. The accounts for 2019 and 2020 were issued in September 2021 and those for 2021 in October 2022. It has still not issued its annual accounts for 2022. So the NNPC does not even comply with the basic requirements of accountability for public companies. This is that their financial statements are issued within 90 of the year end.

All the fuel subsidy claims by NNPC under the DSDP arrangement from 2016 to 2023 were false.

The recent policy to increase petrol prices in order to

remove the corruption called “fuel subsidy” is wrong and a lie. It is harming the poor masses rather than those within NNPC who made false subsidy claims.

We are citizens of a neoliberal IMF induced crime scene. It is our duty to hold our leaders and government accountable. It is our duty to fight for our interests. We need mass protests against the staggering corruption within NNPC and the government for their terrible attack on working people by tripling the price of petrol.

For those comrades who missed the Socialist Labour public meeting in June on

SURRENDERING BEFORE FIRING A SHOT: How can we prevent trade

unions from derailing strikes? The recording is now available from Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/OwPX6sGzsgZB0fd3lckLMvh97b3KD9lUrqQHNumQ4I-4veW-XxYVMYibTollS0oSy.9mWWcXZzbKQcQUNt>

Passcode: 4Pkz%oz^1

DEVALUATION OF THE NAIRA AND ARREARS OF SALARIES AND PENSION – ALEX BATUBO

From mid-June the official rate of exchange of the naira against the US dollar devalued by nearly 70%. This is bad news for those people who had access to the discounted official rate in the past. So, for example, education outside Nigeria is now a lot more expensive, so are international flights and some imports. This will increase the general rate of inflation.

However, the monthly FAAC allocations of oil money to the Federal and state governments will also increase by at least 50% (as the official rate was used for these distributions and most is oil revenue). So all governors will now get at least 50% more money each month than they would have without the devaluation. They could use this money to pay off all their arrears of salaries and pensions and pay increments for their workers.

Whether this happens or not will depend on the strength of the trade unions in each state. We need all Socialist Labour supporters to be pushing for the immediate payment of any such arrears. We need to get organised and ensure that any state where this does not happen meets immediate strike action.

According to an investigation by the Vanguard newspaper earlier this month, “No fewer than 34 governors have a huge burden of unpaid pension gratuities, while 27 of them are being choked by unpaid multi-billion pension arrears. Similarly, “13 states are burdened with a backlog of salary arrears and other unpaid benefits to their employees”.

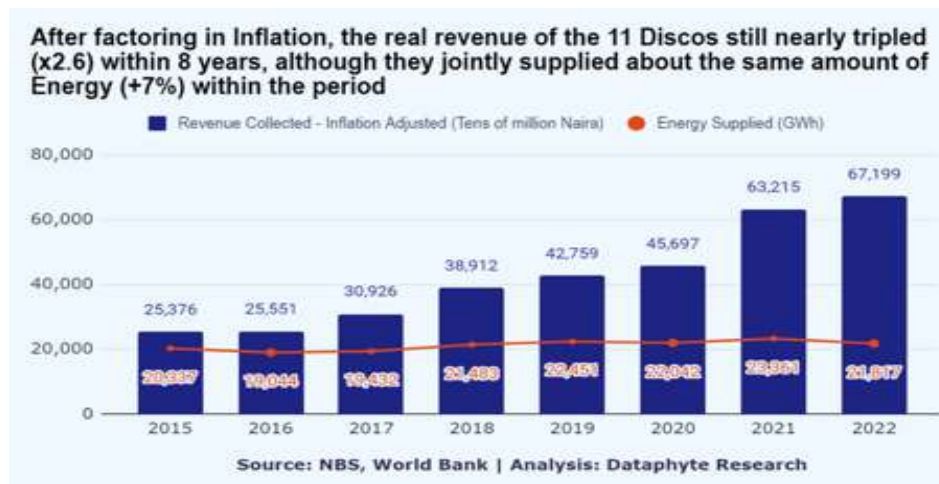
The Vanguard revealed that four states in the South-East, four in the South-West, and five Northern states owe workers’ salaries. On pensions, five states in the South-West, five in the South-East, 15 in the North, and two in the South-South owe their retirees a backlog of accumulated pensions.

In the same vein, “only about three states nationwide are believed not to owe gratuity to their pensioners”. We need trade unions in all states to fight against this. What is your trade union branch doing?

<https://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/06/unpaid-gratuities-pensions-salaries-choke-states/>

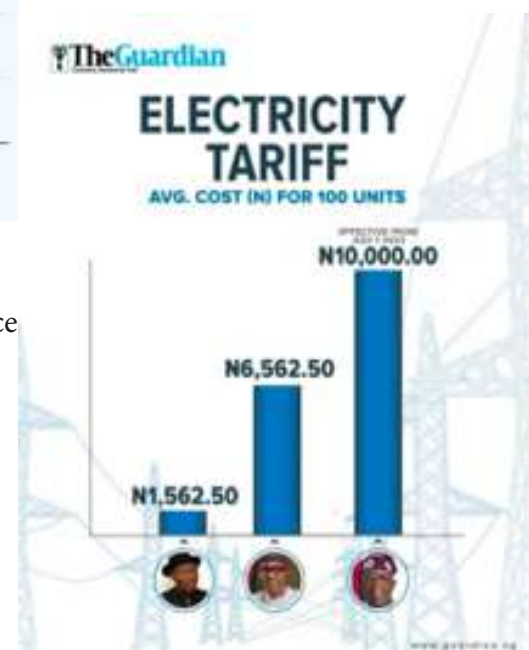
PRICE OF ELECTRICITY: THE ELECTRICITY DISCO LAW: LOWER SUPPLY, HIGHER REVENUE

Within 8 years, the 11 DisCos together tripled their revenues (an increase of 197%) but barely increased their supply of energy to their customers (an increase of 7%) for almost a decade.....



After this record we are threatened with another 40% increase in the price of electricity:

For more details see: <https://www.dataphyte.com/editorial/data-dive/the-electricity-disco-law-lower-supply-higher-revenue/>



THE CLASS CHARACTER OF THE STUDENTS' LOAN ACT -

Oyelumade Oluwakemi

The Students' Loan Act is a scam that must be rejected and opposed! Tinubu claimed that "poverty should not prevent anybody, any child, including the daughter or son of a wood seller, 'boli' (plantain) seller or yam seller from attaining their highest standard of education, to eliminate poverty. If we all believe that education is the greatest weapon against poverty, then we have to invest in it. If you eliminate poverty from one family, you can carry the rest of the weight".



Well, let's subject the programme to scrutiny by examining the Act to see if the President's remark holds water as we attempt to unravel the class nature of the programme. Does the programme stand to benefit the ruling class or the working class?

According to section 14(b), an applicant does not meet eligibility if their annual family income is more than M500,000 a year which equates to less than N42,000 a month. This is a FAMILY income equating to less than N1,500 daily for an entire family!

There are further restrictions. For example, section 14(c) demands two guarantees from civil servants (of at least grade level 12 in the service), an experienced lawyer, judicial officer or justice of the peace. How many poor people on less than N42,000 monthly family income have such friends that will guarantee a loan? Indeed how many of such people can afford to send their children to secondary school?

We have to really question the intention of this scheme which discriminates against the most marginalised members of society. They will be restricted from much-needed access to the fund. In the poverty capital of the world, Nigeria, people have had to resort to crime in times of desperation just to survive. A good example was citizens breaking into warehouses just to get COVID palliatives hoarded by crooked politicians of the ruling class in 2020.

The Students' Loan Act is merely a scheme to divert attention from the Federal Government refusing to properly fund the education sector. This has remained one of ASUU's core demands. It has also been pointed out that the scheme is a ploy to allow increased tuition fees in public universities. Students are required to pay obligatory dues which have kept increasing over the years and may skyrocket with the introduction of this deceitful students' loan programme. It is a continuation of the commercialisation of public education.

The Students' Loan Act is an abominable affront on public education with dastardly social implications on the society at large. It is a scam that must be rejected and opposed by all students and their representatives!

Students recently protested at Ambrose Alli University against a 300% hike in fees. They also protested at University of Nigeria, Nsukka over a 50% increase in fees.

The full article is available from:

<https://nationalrecord.com.ng/the-class-character-of-the-students-loans-act-by-oyelumade-oluwakemi/>

Generations of the Nigerian and African Left – History and Historicity - Biodun Jeyifo

"When our online-accessible archives become available, a new renaissance will follow closely in its wake – studies, readers, anthologies, booklets, full-length books all derived from the great harvest of SOLAR's digitalized archives will be published in waves and cycles."

The full text of remarks orally presented by Biodun Jeyifo at the formal launching of the website of the Socialist Library and Archives (SOLAR) on Friday, June 16, 2023)

<https://thenewsnigeria.com.ng/2023/06/23/generations-of-the-nigerian-and-african-left-history-and-historicity/>

Radical Movement – Socialist Library and Archives

This archive has started with a good collection of articles currently from Eddie Madunagu and a few from Eskor Toyo. These are/were two of the leading socialists in Nigeria for several decades. Happy reading

<https://socialistlibraryandarchives.org/category/essays/publications/radical-movement/>

END SCANDALOUS PENSIONS FOR GOVERNORS NOW!

Many state governors have voted themselves humongous pension payments and allowances. Many of these same governors actually chose not to pay the pensions and gratuities for their former workers whilst they were in office. In these circumstances we need a massive campaign against special pension arrangements for state governors.

According to an investigation by the Vanguard newspaper in early June, “No fewer than 34 governors have a huge burden of unpaid gratuities, while 27 of them are being choked by unpaid multi-billion pension arrears”.

Similarly, the Revenue Mobilisation and Allocation and Fiscal Commission has recommended a 114% increase for the president, governors and others.

Below we look at the case studies of three states, Lagos, Rivers and Akwa Ibom. We believe that the trade unions in these states should use this information to campaign against the pensions of their former governors and for the current governors to pay pension gratuities and monthly pension payments to former workers as and when due.

Lagos State

The Lagos State government said in January 2022 that it settled about N35bn accrued pension rights between May 2019 and December 2021. This was out of the N50bn arrears inherited from previous administrations in May 2019. Also millions of pension arrears were owed by parastatals. In December 2022 Lagos State Government paid N700million for pension arrears for only six parastatals.

Retired governors of Lagos State (including Tinubu) receive nearly three and a half times the basic salary of the current governor. In addition, they receive accommodation, free medical treatment, vehicles, security and domestic staff. How does this compare to civil servants who work for 35 years or nearly 10 times a one term governor?

The basic annual salary for a governor is N2,223,705. So former governors of Lagos State receive a pension of about N650,000 each month and other generous benefits.

Rivers State

The Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) said in March 2023 that Governor Nyesom Wike of Rivers State owed pensioners in the state for no less than 15 months.

Retired governors of Rivers State receive over two and a half times the basic salary of the current governor. In addition, they receive accommodation, free medical treatment, vehicles, security and domestic staff.

The basic annual salary for a governor is N2,223,705. So the former governors of Rivers State, including Nyesom Wike, now receives a pension of around N500,000 each month and other generous benefits after only eight years work.

Akwa Ibom State

The Governor of Akwa Ibom State owes its teachers deductions for contributory pensions that were taken from teachers from 2012 and 2013, but never paid to the pension managers or repaid to the teachers. The teachers held a four day strike in late April over this issue.

In this state, the pensions have not been increased to address the consequential adjustments of retirees in line with the 2019 increase in the minimum wage.

Retired governors of Akwa Ibom State receive nearly seven times the basic salary of the current governor and other benefits of up to N110 million. In addition, they receive accommodation, vehicles, security and a personal assistant.

The basic annual salary for a governor is N2,223,705. So the former governors of Akwa Ibom State, now receives a pension of up to N10,500,000 each month and other generous benefits after only eight years work.

Conclusions

By 2020, two thirds of the states of the Federation had agreed to pay pension to their former governors. However, this can change if we campaign. The Lagos State House of Assembly reduced the pension payments and benefits of former Governors by 50 percent in August 2021. Governments of Kwara, Imo and Zamfara States have abolished the pension for their governors.

Let us join the campaign for the abolition of the outrageous pension for ex-governors in Nigeria. The pension laws applicable to other public officers should also apply to all ex-governors. Why should governors be entitled to such huge salaries after only a few years, especially as many of them go on to become senators, ministers or even presidents when they retire as governors?

CATALOGUE OF LOOTING & BRIGANDAGE IN NIGERIA - THE MAIN SUBSIDIES ARE FOR THE RICH- BY FEMI FALANA, SAN

<https://socialistlabour.com.ng/2023/06/13/catalogue-of-looting-brigandage-in-nigeria-the-main-subsidies-are-for-the-rich/>

The above article indicates the mass of income that Federal Governments have not bothered to collect. This forms a massive subsidy for the corrupt elite. When governments claim they cannot afford to pay salaries or pensions as and when due they are lying. They have plenty of income and as this article shows they could have untold further amounts. The total of these scams comes to a minimum of at least N156 trillion. This is seven times the total Federal Budget for 2023 or seven years of total expenditure by the Federal Government.

The sacrifices by the poor masses that Tinubu called for in his Sallah address are not necessary governments have plenty of money to improve our standards of living as this research demonstrates.

COMRADE LAOYE SANDA: A SOCIALIST HUMANIST PAR EXCELLENCE By Biodun Olamosu

Comrade Laoye Sanda was born in 1944 into a prominent family of Sanda dynasty in Ibadan. The period of his birth fell within the era of the Second World War, which commenced in 1939 and ended in 1945. Nigeria was no less affected by the war despite the factor of distance away from its epicenters in Europe and Asia.



It is gratifying to note that our esteemed Comrade Laoye Sanda is leaving behind for us a compendium reference book on Pan-Africanists' contributions to knowledge, professions, science and technology but advocates in the over a thousand page book that all such contributions would be useful and impacted on the working people in advancing humanity only with socialist world in place. His contributions in his weekly column in the defunct Daily Sketch for many years, is capable of forming other volumes of a book on the issue of heroes and heroines.

See the whole tribute at:

<https://nationalrecord.com.ng/comrade-laoye-sanda-a-socialist-humanist-par-excellence-by-biodun-olamosu/>

JUSTICE FOR ALEX CAMPAIGN WINS IN COURT

Comrade Alex Ogbu, a journalist, trade unionist and human rights activist was killed by a police bullet on January 21, 2020, at Berger Roundabout, Wuse, Abuja. The incident happened during a brutal police crackdown on protesters calling for the release of the leader of the Islamic Movement in Nigeria, Ibrahim El-Zakzaky.

On 21st July, 2023 the Justice for Alex Campaign was vindicated. The Federal High Court, Kurudu, ordered the Nigeria Police Force to pay 50 million naira to the family of late comrade Alex Ogbu. Justice has been served, after three and a half years of legal and political battles. The case suffered so many adjournments with frustrations but we remained undaunted. We hope the wife and daughter of Alex will soon receive this money and that this judgement deters the police from being so trigger happy in future.

For more details about this case see:

<https://nationalrecord.com.ng/alex-ogbu-justice-at-last-but-not-yet-uhuru-by-dimeji-macaulay/>



The Class Nature of Nigerian State: a dead end to development

Alpha J. Marshall

“The history of all hitherto existing societies is a history of class struggle”. – Karl Marx (1818-1883)

“Every nation that has come to be, came as a result of ‘FORCE’ and it is held together by ‘ideology’. Nigeria as a nation emerged through ‘negotiation’. In other words, Nigerians simply inherited a nation, they never founded one.”

The articles are good in recognising that our immediate enemy are the Nigerian corrupt elite, Tinubu, Dangote and co. However, we have to recognise the permanence of change. So quotations from the 1980’s, and more so the 1960s, tell us a little about the world then, but it is very different now.

A good read to understand the political economy of Nigeria in recent years.

Part 1: <https://nationalrecord.com.ng/the-class-nature-of-nigerian-state-a-dead-end-to-development-part-1-by-alpha-j-marshall/>

Part 2: <https://nationalrecord.com.ng/the-nigerian-economic-development-a-case-against-liberal-democracy-ii-by-alpha-j-marshall/>



Reactionary Crusade in Africa by PAUL MARTIAL

The Christian right in the United States is trying to influence African policies concerning the rights of women and sexual minorities with millions of dollars.

In Uganda President Museveni recently signed a horrendous law against homosexuals. Christian right-wing organizations in the United States continue to support homophobic campaigns in this country.

Evangelical Churches and the American Right

Right-wing US organisations spent nearly \$53 million in African countries. Deeply reactionary, they are opposed to equality between men and women, to sexual relations outside marriage, to contraception, to abortion and of course to homosexuality.

In the 2000s, Janet Museveni, wife of the Ugandan president, led a campaign for sexual abstinence presented as the solution against the spread of HIV. At the same time, President George W. Bush launched his anti-AIDS plan, the “President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief” (PEPFAR). In 2005, two-thirds of PEPFAR funds were used to promote abstinence.

Political agenda

The ultra-conservatives in the United States rely on the African evangelical churches to maintain the patriarchal order. These churches appear to care little that certain organizations like the World Congress of Families have links with the European far right.

In countries where a growing proportion of the population is confronted with misery, insecurity and lack of prospects, evangelical churches serve as spiritual and sometimes material refuges. They attract millions of people and become a political issue for the African governments in place.

If we rightly point to the harmful role played by Islamic fundamentalists supported by the Gulf countries in Africa, we cannot forget that of the evangelists supported by the Christian far right in the USA with similar political agendas.

Mass Protests in Senegal¹

Frustrations have grown over high youth unemployment and accusations of systemic corruption in Senegal. The widespread demonstrations since the beginning of June were the latest in a cycle of unrest in the west African country stretching back two years. They were notable on two counts: the level of violence inflicted and the involvement of young people, including children who appeared to be well under 10 years old. “We, the youth, will fight until order has been restored,” Youssouf said.

Most of the anger has been directed towards the Senegalese president, Macky Sall, who, since taking office in 2012, has cracked down on press freedom, jailed journalists and political opponents, and altered the constitution to increase term limits. Many fear he will exploit the amendment to justify a third run for the presidency – a move he has not ruled out. Macky Sall, president of Senegal, announced he will not run for a third term. The protests won.

For more details on the protests see:

<https://www.liberationnews.org/why-are-protests-flaring-in-senegal/>

Civil War in Sudan?– Alex Batubo

The situation in Sudan is not simple. We need to start from the terrible situation of the common people. They have had repeated successful fights against military rule over the decades from the successful popular uprising in 1965, to the overthrow of Bashir after nearly 30 years in power in 2019.

The main opposition to the military coup of 2021 has been the Resistance Committees, grass roots community based organisations. They have become an alternative centre of political power and are now organising the provision of basic services. They are calling for an end to military rule, no partnerships with the military and no foreign interference.

The former military dictator, Omer Bashir, built up the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) as a presidential guard to protect him from a possible military coup. They originated from government backed militia involved in mass killings in the West of Sudan. More recently the RSF have been fighting in Yemen, financed by Saudi Arabia against the Iranian backed Houthi rebels.

None of the main imperialist governments, US, China, EU or Russia are backing either of the two armed groups in Sudan. All have been calling for a cease fire which both sides have largely ignored.

The US cut off links with Sudan in the early 1990s and bombed a pharmaceutical factory that year. The Sudanese Government had given refuge to Osama Bin Laden in 1991. The Sudanese army includes elements from the Bashir era and so is not supported by the US. Public opinion in the US is also against the RSF for their role in the mass killings in Darfur in the West of Sudan.

Since Sudan lost its oil reserves to South Sudan when it gained independence in 2011 it only has exports limited natural resources. These are not significant for the main imperialist powers.

We are against both the Sudanese army and the RSF. We call for the end of the military government and an immediate return to civilian rule. We express solidarity with the Resistance Committees and other popular forces in Sudan.

For more background on Sudan see:

<https://socialistworker.co.uk/international/as-sudan-generals-massacre-people-organise-against-the-state-and-military/>

Russia Attempted Coup- Implications for Africa.

“When we were fighting in Africa...” It is no coincidence that mercenary Wagner boss, Yevgeny Prigozhin, mentioned the African continent on Saturday, June 24, in one of his Telegram posts, from the city of Rostov-on-Don, in southwestern Russia, when he was orchestrating his attempted rebellion against the Russian military command. Africa is intimately linked to Wagner’s adventure. After the intervention in Syria alongside the regime of Bashar Al-Assad, it was the scene of the expansion of the paramilitary group, which grew, from the years 2017-2018, breakthroughs in Sudan, in Central African Republic (CAR), Libya and Mali. This was thanks to an opportunistic strategy served by a recurring model: supply of security to corrupt, right wing and anti-worker leaders. Wagner is no better than Putin, we support neither side in Russia. For more on Russia see: <https://socialistworker.co.uk/alex-callinicos/the-attempted-coup-weakens-putins-grip/>



#jointheresistance

NO ATTACKS ON THE LABOUR MOVEMENT! CONDEMN THE BURNING OF NLC PRESIDENT'S HOUSE!

Socialist Labour condemns in the strongest possible terms the burning of Comrade Joe Ajaero's House in Lagos at the weekend. The entire building was razed to the ground without a pin salvaged, but thank fully no lives were lost. Whilst the full might of the DSS and the police are used to personally protect each corrupt member of the National Assembly and the Government, the security services are not prepared to protect the common people. Every day we suffer attacks, burglaries and worse.

We see this attack on Comrade Ajaero as an attack on the whole labour movement over our fight to stop the anti-people attacks of this government. This massive attack on the popular masses requires a resolute and unified response from the labour movement and wider civil society. We cannot let this unprovoked personal attack on the President of the NLC deter our campaigns against this neoliberal government. They are hell bent on implementing the pro-rich policies of the IMF and World Bank. In the face of the cowardly personal attack on Comrade Ajaero's house we need to strengthen our collective resolve to defeat all this Government's anti-poor people's policies. We need the labour movement and civil society to unite as never before in the face of these attacks.



Summary of Workers Strikes - February 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.

Doctors in Abia State embarked on strike on December 8, 2022, to demand payment of salary arrears. Doctors at the State teaching hospital are owed two years salaries going back to 2019. The strike continues in late May 2023. It was suspended on 10th June after six months.

The Judiciary Staff Union of Nigeria (JUSUN), Abia State, started indefinite strike on 11th April and this continued into May. The demand for the acting Chief Judge, Lilian Abai to be sworn in was implemented on 5th May. JUSUN are also demanding for their members to receive leave allowance payments announced by the State Government in March 2023; salary arrears; and financial autonomy for the state judiciary. The election petition tribunal had to relocate to a hotel.

Health workers, members of JOHESU and the Assembly of Healthcare Professional Associations started an indefinite strike in Federal medical institutions from 25th May. The strike had the following key demands: adjustment to the health workers salary structure, payment of allowances and salary arrears and increasing the retirement age to at least 65 years. JOHESU suspended its last strike on these issues in September 2021. Their salary scale, CONHESS was last adjusted in 2010. The strike was suspended on 5th June.

The Joint Negotiating Council chapter of Plateau State and the leadership of the Nigerian Labour Congress/Trade Union Congress called an indefinite strike from 11th May. The strike over salary arrears and other issues. They had previously held a five day warning strike in early December last year. The workers are owed three months' salaries. They are also suffering from lack of promotion, non-implementation of existing salary structure, and third-party dedications as part of the issues. The strike was suspended from around 5th June.

The Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria (MWUN) suspended its strike after one day on 5th June. The strike was over poor treatment of its members by shipping companies. The companies agree to sincere negotiations. The lecturers of the Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, Ondo State commenced strike action to protest against non-payment of their 13 months' salary on 9th June. Members of the Academic Staff Union of Polytechnic, RUGIPO chapter, also vowed not to participate in the first semester examinations of the school, on 13th June.

Members of the Amalgamated Union of App-Based Transport Workers of Nigeria (AUATWON) started a three day strike on 7th June. The drivers of Uber and Bolt taxis are asking for a rise in fare by 200 percent and a reduction of commission by 50 percent. They are also demanding recognition of their trade union.

Socialist Labour-JOIN US

The economic, environmental and Covid-19 crises show that society is a conflict between two classes: the vast majority who create the wealth, and a tiny minority who profit from our work. Reform attempts have failed: the only solution is 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 from 2019, begin to 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/KiOyN3OKGBIvtuh0ycDaU>

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. Please contact us via WhatsApp of 0916 693 3998

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

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 unemployed 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.

Please join Socialist Labour, by submitting the following details:

Name: _____ **Email:** _____ **WhatsApp number:** _____

State: _____

Workplace address/university/school: _____

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