



**Marxist Leninist Communist Party / Turkey & Kurdistan**

# INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

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**Break the Isolation!  
Smash Fascism!**

## **Trust in the Hunger Strike Activists!**

The hunger strike resistance, which was started by Leyla Güven on 8 November, passed its 150th day. This action has started under such political circumstances, where no voice could be raised against the violence of fascism, where anyone who tries to do it will face heavy suppressions and where those who are willing to do whatever it takes are having hard

time finding masses around them, although masses do not ideologically yield to the fascist regime. The purity of the resistance brings about a defiant stronghold with the embodiment in a Kurdish woman at the most sensitive point of the Turkish state, at the sharpest edge of political struggle.

The hunger strike resistance, first-

ly, enlarged outside of the prisons with the participation of activists in Turkey, Kurdistan, Europe and Canada; then, played an important role to swiftly consolidate the revolutionary vanguard forces after the start of hunger strikes of more than 7000 prisoners, who approach their historical responsibilities once again with a vanguard rise on 1 March. Today, it continues in the form of a battle of will as the foremost position of the antifascist struggle against the political islamist fascist chieftaincy regime of Erdoğan. On these days when the health of hunger strikers critically worsens, eight political prisoners sacrificed their lives for the sake of blazing up the fire of resistance.

The fascist regime buried the bodies of these eight sacrificers secretly by abducting the funerals from the peoples and even from their families. Afraid of even funeral ceremonies, completely out of humane thinking, the political power, right now, tries its utmost with violence to get rid of any kind of possibility of a political spark. No one from the government up to now has made a comment about the hunger strike actions, they all close their eyes and apply a total blackout in the media over which they hold a full control. The fascist palace regime has long been criminalizing the HDP (Peo-

ples' Democratic Party), which is a democratic legal political party. But during this process, in addition to this criminalization, they set on the police to attack the street actions organized by HDP members and violate the political immunity rights of HDP parliamentarians practically. They prevent masses from gathering around the HDP, apply blockades to HDP masses, take the resisting people into custody or directly arrest them; thus, turn the democratic struggle field into a rough battlefield. In this scenario, hunger strike activists raise a level of struggle in which resistance forces can gather around, grow upon and defeat fascism, with the sacrifice of their lives. In this sense, we can easily claim that this is a resistance that can shape politics with its historical results. Yet, how can hunger strike resistance succeed in spite of such pressure and denial? What are the criteria for their success? What are the tasks and responsibilities that fall to the revolutionaries and communists from Turkey and Kurdistan? How can the psychology of defeat be avoided if the comrades falling martyrs due to increasing sacrifice actions despite the statement of PKK demanding to end such individual actions or when the news of martyrdom from the comrades as natural results of hunger

strikes start to spread? The most determined answers to these questions come from a communist prisoner who is prosecuted for MLKP case:

*“Although the resistance of Hewal (comrade) Leyla on the 8 November started with the demand to give Öcalan his political and legal rights; it is, at the same time, clearly a move to break the oppression and persecution on the oppressed sections.”*

*“She has carried the struggle to another level by opening a new path. Limiting this only with a responsibility to be taken by our Kurdish people would be a political blindness. This is also an effort to overcome the congestion in the struggle and the boundaries of the freedom forces against the fascist siege on our peoples from different religions, women and the youth. It is a powerful intervention to women’s movement at the same time.”*

*“As the resistance spreading across prisons meets with the street actions more, it will become the basis for pushing back the fascist aggression... This resistance has humane and legitimate demands. It is very critical to carry these demands, which are responded by our Kurdish people with a strong will, to the western part of the country. And this duty is primarily on the shoulders of those who are exposed to the attacks*

*of fascism. The level of Newroz actions which has recently echoed in the West presents a strong basis for this.”*

As the communist comrade stated, the hunger strike resistance is a battle in a war against the enemy. Its success cannot be evaluated by looking only at whether its demands are met or not, but rather looking at its role in the whole struggle and its meaning for peoples. It is quite obvious that in order to push the state to take some concrete steps, a qualitatively greater effort must be brought about. For instance, political-military actions and larger massive rises can play the role of prisoners and Leyla Güven on the streets. It is also obvious that despite all the challenges, when the mass potential appears to burst out, it can be achieved to force the state to step up.

On the other hand, the hesitation of some sections of laboring left movement in Turkey in the face of this channel of resistance is actually a sign of the quality of struggle of these subjects. There is no apparent answer to the question of what kind of an alternative antifascist resistance line they propose at this moment. Whereas the criticism which states that the hunger strike resistance is waged for only one person is a big example of apolitical approach. We



can find the answer to this criticism again in the history of resistance: The international campaign for Dimitrov carried out in 1933 to free him from the hands of Nazis, the campaign for the MLKP commander of the Gazi uprising Hasan Ocak against the attempt to disappear him under custody had given birth to big political results affecting the general antifascist struggle despite their seemingly focus on one person. Those who see Öcalan only as a figure of Kurdish national liberation struggle cannot also understand the fact that it wasn't important at the first sight that Dimitrov was a communist. What was important is that Dimitrov turned the banches into a place to judge fascism. The defeat of Nazi conspiracy and the release of Dimitrov meant opening a hole on the wall of fascism.

The resistance leaped to become an action of vanguard offense through solving ambiguities and question marks by overcoming the obstacles and traps put against its determination one by one. It met with the masses at a certain level, it was responded internationally, beyond Kurdistan. Undoubtedly, solidarity actions going on all around the world put political pressure on the fascist palace regime, this has to be raised even more. Historical consciousness risen from dungeons opened a new battlefield in the war against the state, today by demanding the most basic constitutional right, the demand to remove isolation policy, against the policy of fascism to crush even the specks of hope. Therefore, we appeal everyone to take part in this battle with this consciousness. "*Leyla Güven is right, isolation must be removed!*"

## Filling the Ground of the Elections with Struggle

Turkey and North Kurdistan have passed the 31 March local elections, but the process continues especially with the attempts of Erdoğan's Justice and Development Party (AKP) towards changing the results in favor of themselves. Apart from these efforts, which actually keep on revealing the actual face of the fascist dictatorship, the local elections seem to stay on the agenda more, since it has brought new political dynamics for the struggle against Erdoğan's fascist chieftaincy regime.

It was clear that political meaning of the March 31 local elections was much more beyond electing only mayors. In this regard, the whole process has been considered and realized as a kind of a referendum on the fascist chief Erdoğan's 17-year rule.

Considering the deepening of mass discontent stemmed not only from the intensifying oppression of fascism and colonialist war but also the growing economic and political crisis, Erdoğan was willing to get over the local elections with a minimum loss before the upcoming four years which is considered to pass without elections. For this sake, the fascist alliance

of his party AKP with fascist Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) based their election strategy on the discourse of "national survival" in order to keep their voter base, pointing out that local elections are actually a matter of country's existence. In this context, everyone against their bloody fascist rule, including a range from the bourgeois opposition to the progressive, democratic and revolutionary ranks of the society, but the Kurdish people on behalf of the Kurdish liberation movement in particular, have been declared as traitors and terrorists threatening Turkey's progress. Besides, even the wholesale food dealers and local market laborers were presented to the masses as a component of the "terrorist lobby", being as the major responsible of the increasing prices. In short, rising hostility and chauvinism stood as the only mean left for the fascist dictatorship of Erdoğan in order to consolidate its illegitimate and cruel power towards the local elections.

The biggest share within this chauvinist discourse was, of course, reserved for the democratic front of the peoples of Turkey and North Kurdistan on behalf of Peoples'



Democratic Party (HDP), in order to respond not only the need of this consolidation but also to preserve the control of the municipalities in North Kurdistan which were disseized by the colonialist dictatorship through trustees designated as mayors. Before the elections, HDP had announced its election strategy as aiming to win back the municipalities in North Kurdistan and to ensure the defeat of AKP-MHP alliance in the West. According to this dual strategy, HDP participated the local elections in North Kurdistan with its own co-mayor candidates, whereas in the West, it didn't nominate candidates for the major provinces such as Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir but called for voting against the AKP-MHP coalition.

The fascist chief Erdoğan, who has personally involved and directed the propaganda of his candidates on the field, specifically put the HDP on target throughout the whole election process. In this context, all the power under his rule such as military, police, judiciary, media, have been mobilized against HDP's electoral campaign. Along with a wide criminalization policy and a total censure on HDP's political propaganda, hundreds of HDP cadres were detained during the election process. Moreover, large numbers of AKP-MHP voters such as state officers and soldiers had been shifted to strategic places in North Kurdistan, as it is revealed on 31 March with the military convoys transferring soldiers to vote all across the region. The number

of shifted soldiers-voters changed the election results in many Kurdish cities with low population.

However, despite all unequal and anti-democratic conditions, continuous military and civil oppression of state power especially over North Kurdistan, dirty manipulation of the media and various electoral tricks of the fascist dictatorship that was dominant during and after the elections, the fascist coalition of AKP-MHP remained far away from what they expected and got a significant defeat. The Kurdish people's will represented by HDP won back most of the municipalities in North Kurdistan and kicked out the trustees of the colonialist dictatorship. On the West, AKP-MHP coalition lost in many provinces, changing hand to the bourgeois opposition of Republican People's Party (CHP) and Good Party (İYİP) coalition, including the major ones such as Istanbul and Ankara, which have been ruled by the AKP and its priors for more than two decades. Not only in North Kurdistan but also in the major Western regions, the HDP voters marked as the major determinant factor of AKP-MHP coalition's defeat.

Indeed, regardless of AKP-MHP coalition's percentage of votes

across the country, which is still around %51, or the numbers of municipalities changed hands, the local elections together with the post-election period resulted in a loss of psychological superiority for Erdoğan's power and a motivation for the opposition, as well as for the wide oppressed sections under the cruelty of fascism. However, this reality might be quite decisive for the struggle against the fascist dictatorship, unless it is considered in a correct way.

During the discussions within HDP before the elections, the communist component of the party had objected to the electoral strategy, emphasizing the importance of carrying out an electoral propaganda and organizational works in the West with own co-mayor candidates. The risk of letting the revolutionary potential to be reserved by CHP, which is steering more and more to rightist policies including nominating fascist candidates, as a result of leaving the oppressed classes without a revolutionary alternative in the West was one of the reasons of this objection. However, the majority of the will within HDP evaluated the aim of weakening AKP in the West is much more urgent under the intensifying conditions of fascism,

even though at the expense of voting rightist/fascist candidates of CHP.

As it is once more proved with the statement of CHP's leader right after the elections, saying that his party is ready to take responsibilities to overcome the economic crisis, the bourgeois opposition presents no progressive and democratic programme for the broad oppressed sections living under the cruel conditions of the fascist capitalist Turkish state. It is quite clear that for the sake of preserving the gained municipalities from the seizing attacks of the dictatorship, the bourgeois opposition will continue to suppress the growing anger of workers, laborers, Kurdish people, women, youth within the limits of the order, rather than progressing their will reflected in the election towards a confrontation against Erdoğan's chieftaincy regime. Thus, this positive ground emerged after the elections, that is, the motivation and confidence gained by the loss of Erdoğan's AKP can survive as long as it is transformed into an organizational power of struggle which would manifest itself beyond the limits of the bourgeois order. As the communists pointed out in the context of the electoral strategy of HDP,

this kind of a struggle seems to be the only way to secure the success of the elections.

The fascist chief received an unexpected blow from the elections that played a role of deepening the regime crisis. This may more likely to result in the intensification of fascist and colonialist aggression. So far, apart from various efforts towards renewing the elections in Istanbul, eight towns in North Kurdistan, which are actually won by the HDP co-mayor candidates, are disseized by the AKP through a scandalous 'law' of the Supreme Election Committee, deciding that those who had been fired before by the decree laws cannot be mayors, even though their application was approved before the elections. In this regard, what's happening during only 15 days after the elections once again proves that fascism will never hesitate to use all de facto means for the sake of its illegitimate power. Thus, what will be decisive for the fall of the fascist dictatorship of Erdoğan is the perspective and practice of the revolutionary forces towards leaning on their own legitimate power, filling this advantageous atmosphere with a struggle line aiming to enhance the mass de facto confrontation.

## Call for rallying Forces for an Anti-Imperialist United Front

**The signatories call:**

**Let us unite across borders!  
Let us build an anti-imperialist  
united front spanning the globe!**



1. Worldwide, imperialism shows its reactionary face. Wars are threatening. The exploitation of humanity and nature is brutally intensified. Mass unemployment and poverty are raging. Oppression and violence against women are part of everyday life. The natural foundations of life are endangered more and more every day. The causes of flight are increasing. Rightist to fascist governments are reflected in strengthening of rightist and fascist forces also among the masses. Destruction of the future of the youth – that is the ultimate consequence of imperialist logic.

2. In all this our opponents are highly organized! And what about us? The revolutionary, anti-imperialist forces

are still very fragmented and sometimes quarrel over trivialities. That must be changed urgently if the world is not to drown in barbarism. But there are also hopeful beginnings of new unions and alliances, and growing need for cooperation.

3. The labor productivity of the workers and peasants has exploded during the last decades. The resources of humanity and nature could provide all humankind with jobs, food, education, health, and room for culture and social commitment. But this is only possible in social conditions in which humanity and nature are in the center and not, like today, maximum profit, imperialist power and rivalry.

4. Among the masses the cons-

sciousness of the unjust and exploitative societal relationships has clearly developed. The will for change is growing as well as the search for a societal alternative. What is still lacking among the broad masses is the deep clarity about the imperialist roots of the disaster. Confidence and certainty are lacking about the possibility of a society based on unity of humanity and nature, with democracy and freedom and socialist future prospects.

5. In many countries, during the last years revolutionary, anti-imperialist parties, organizations and movements have come into existence and have strengthened themselves. The wish grows to cooperate despite existing differences, and in doing so to clarify political contradictions and those regarding world outlook step by step.

6. Let us take the initiative for building an anti-imperialist united front for that:

- which is directed against all imperialists and above all fights against US imperialism

as main warmonger, superpower and enemy of all peoples!

- which promotes the worldwide process of clarification about imperialism in order to strengthen self-confidence, the level of organization, and trust, on the national and international level;

- which organizes and coordinates effective steps of joint struggle;

- which lays the foundations to become a superior force to imperialism.

7. Discuss everywhere the need for this union and the need to invest resources in this.

8. Collect signatories for this call until 1 May 2019!

9. Recommend trustworthy representatives who will take initiative for the coordination of a first conference!

10. Let us celebrate a first worldwide anti-imperialist day of struggle by mutual agreement in 2020!