

The New Axis-Power

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The anti-oppression heart of the world did not protest during the first Lhasa massacre of 1959, the '66-'71 massacre all over Tibet, the second Lhasa massacre in 1989. The Tibetans were not able to state their side during all these times. The world is blinded by the Chinese misinfor-mation. Also, the old left in Asia was blinded by the charisma of the Chinese Revolution and Mao. "How can the great CPC do what western imperialism does? This must be some Western/CIA propaganda." Such blinkers from 1960's were so deep that even the far left could not see the agony of the largest colony of the planet, the militarisation, plunder, genocide, and destruction of the Himalayas in Tibet. Today, the massive resistance in Tibet against the Chinese Empire in Asia hardly features in the IMC (Indymedia) portals and bulletins, in deliberations and global exchanges against neo-liberalism since 1994 and also in such excellent collections like 'We Are Everywhere'.

In the present era, Asia is the shock trooper of Corporate Globali-sation in the world. In Asia, the China-US team is the Empire, the vanguard of this neo-liberalist/ authoritarian onslaught.

The genesis of this Empire began in 1969-71. Then the Russian Empire, the strongest super-power in Asia was challenged by the rising power of China. But Russia was too strong and with its military/ economic might pushed China back to the walls. On the other side, the anti-imperialist wind in Asia which was manifesting itself in the militant resistance in Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea was pulling down the US/G-8 militarism in a quagmire far worse than that in Iraq today.

US bosses found a way out. They understood that for the leaders of the CPC (Communist Party of China) Chinese State, Power, the desire to become the number one in Asia, was more important than their strident rhetoric against capitalism/ imperialism/West. They decided to approach China to team up with them against the Russian Empire dominated front. CPC agreed and these initially secret deliberations were solemnized by the famous Nixon-Mao summit in 1971 in Beijing. Until that time, the Russian Statism had the largest number of direct colonies in Asia, staunch supporters like Vietnam, areas under control like Afghanistan, pro-Soviet CPs (Communist Parties)/factions all over Asia, and some weak supporters like the Indian Govt. This new US - China team launched a vicious war on the Soviet Empire. It set up a formidable counter Front. Dictator-ships like Pakistan, Burma, Indonesia, Nepal, former enemies like North and South Korea, pro-Chinese CPs/factions all over Asia from CPI (ML) [Communist Party of India, Marxist Leninist] to the Khmer Rouge CP of the Pol Pot faction in Kampuchea were mobilised. A formidable sword of this coalition was the support it gave to the democracy movements inside Russia and liberation struggles in its colonies. Islamic fundamentalism was its favored weapon to fight Russians via these liberation movements in colonies of Afghanistan (Taliban) and other Asian republics. This US-China led front defeated the Russian led front in the 70s and 80s. Further, with its formidable support, the liberation movements from Afganistan to Asia, East

Europe to Russia finally dismembered and shattered the old Russian Empire by 1989.

The old left mindset, even twenty years after the 'cold-war' is over, cannot digest all this. China, the CPC still remains 'anti-imperialist', and US and CIA still remain its enemies and Tibet struggle remains the "US's machinations to destroy the third world Communist China" in the left perception even today .

By the 80s, what had began as a political-military alliance flowered into a super-economy. US (and G-8) capital found their paradise/perfect host in China. China was offering the most disciplined and largest labor force in the world, was committed to supply all the energy, natural resources and other facilities without in the least bothering about human rights conventions and ecological protection considerations. And this was pursued with the ruthless despotism and zeal of a security force and cadre power that is again the largest in the world! Thus the US and Global Capital rushed in to create the largest FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) flood in the world. China became the largest (outsourced) producer for the US. Such capital and technology flow has made China the 'power house' economy that is flooding Asia and the world with the cheapest manufactured goods. Thus China is the lead exporter to US, second to India and is the number two exporter of the world, breathing down the neck of Germany, the number one. This mega production has made China the largest stake holder to the US economy. Thus China holds the largest dollar bonds, its dollar reserves being 16,00 billion, leading the old giant Japan (1000Bn.); China provided about 900 Bn loan (highest) to US Govt to balance the US deficit this year (2008).

Thus the US-China team is becoming the main pillar of the Empire globally. In Asia it is certainly the lead force of Corporate/ Authoritarian Globalisation.

Such high rate and immense volume of 'primitive' and escalating Capital accumulation in China means paying a heavy cost. It means extremely high levels of harshness, paranoia, militarisation, despotism and plunder. It means 20 million prisoners-dissidents who are made to labour; ten thousand executions this year (four thousand officially admitted); becoming number one carbon emitter in the world (it crossed US in 2007). It means Tibet and other minorities colonized, playing war games all over Himalayas. It means propping up dictatorships of Pakistan, Afganistan, Burma, N.Korea, and so on to N. Africa—all those who can keep leasing energy to this massive giant. This has led to an unprecedented militarisation of the whole of the Himalayan Zone. If one counts the armed people in all the parts of the Himalayas, fractured by the political bodies of Afganistan, Paskistan/ Kashmir, India, Nepal,... Burma—it is possibly the highest in the world.

How does the Empire in Asia, its militarism and despotic Corporate Globalisation affect everyone outside China and its colonies?

Everytime trading houses and the Govt. of India buy a made-in-China product (in India often there is no alternative)—people are contributing to empower the system that produced it. Also, this commodity gives a command-message to all—"violate human rights and nature that made me so cheap if you want to produce, or come to China, or move over".

Then, everytime Bush makes war somewhere to fill the coffers of the war industry with public money, the Chinese will help the deficit budget that the war expense will create. Dictators in Burma, or Sudan know "China will always back us, give us all the arms and loans..., they need our Gas, energy; and US/

G8 States despite protesting noises they have to make, are behind China. Isn't everybody having production lines in China?"

Of course the War-Lord States—Russia, US, Central Asian republics, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India... everyone competing to control the Himalayas are responsible for the militarisation there. But, can one imagine the inferno in the Himalayas without the prime mover - the Chinese State?

To put it simply, trampling of the spaces of freedom and dignity, for any human or non-human or biospheric entity degrade people everywhere in this connected planet. And the largest such violation of spaces happen in China—abetted by the US and all other Capital States.

Here two clusters of streams directly resist the Asian Empire—the Democracy/ rights movements in China, and the freedom movements in Tibet and other colonies. Of these, due to a combination of factors, Tibetan resistance has become the hot spot, hammering at the weakest link in the Empire. In this last largest colony of the world the longest, deepest non-violent resistance of present times has become the incandescent tip of defiance against the Empire in Asia.

Since 1978, China/ US bosses have been trying to 'fix' this problem. US is making friends within Tibet resistance, rebuilding the 'good will' that it had before 1969-71 (before it dumped the large scale support to Tibet). It keeps trying to make 'friends' by the gift of money and other supports to the Tibetan side via CIA conduits like National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and other donor bodies. Its real purpose is to coopt persons and initiatives that are most authentically struggling for the Tibetan rights. It is the 'insurance' to protect the site (China) of the largest investment/ outsourcing of US Capital in the world, its geopolitical interests in Asia - the hen that lays the largest golden eggs for US. Thus amongst the NED recipients one finds Harry Wu - the person who has done possibly, the most risky service to the democracy movement in China, who has exposed the whole system of 'Lao Gai' - the hidden Gulags of China. What does it mean? Why US needs to support Harry Wu? It means that the US is trying real hard to influence the Democracy Movement in China so that it gets tamed, and on the other hand it is making an attempt that China compromises with its tamed sections. Such a tamed democracy movement could be 'influenced' to accept China as the sweatshop for Global capital as it is now - but with the partial and pseudo 'human rights', 'legal rights', professional Trade Unions and 'democracy' that is available to the sweatshops in S. Korea, Taiwan, or even in India. In Tibet, they have been desperately trying to tame the Dalai Lama and put together a credible new ruling group that will be committed to the Empire. All such compromises by the bosses means a little less profit, a little loss of hegemony today, a little more space for the people but stability for the system as a whole in the long run. The good news is that all these attempts have failed so far. How can China agree to the 'outrageous' call of the Dalai Lama for a Tibet/ Himalayas without armies - a 'Zone of Peace'? How can China accept a Dalai Lama 'who can't control' the new generation leadership struggling for full human rights and independence? The bulk of the Chinese bosses feel terribly insecure remembering the Russian experience - "if you give a little rights to the people, the colonies, do a little 'Glassnost', they demand more and the whole system bursts".

Thus, like any movement process, the Tibetan movement also has streams that would accept 'autonomy' with extremely limited human rights, with the

Chinese in control of their security, polity and economy, committed to Corporate Globalisation and 'Development'. China, US and all the Capital managers who cannot think without the Chinese production base are trying their best to strengthen such tame streams, 'fix' such solution to the crisis. The anti-Globalisation movements can help mobilise the world opinion and gather support for the other side. It can give tremendous empowerment to that side of the Tibetan resistance that stands for full human rights, its full demilitarisation, saving the Himalayan biosphere from Corporate Globalisation. Such solidarity and struggle has the potentialities of giving new life to the resistance inside China - something that the Chinese and US bosses are mortally scared of. This can spike the victory march of the Empire in Asia.

The Asian people, with its Left traditions created the largest revolutions/resistance in the world in the 20th century. But enmeshed in all this people also had their deep needs for paternalistic Fathers, and absolute Truths. First it was Lenin and Stalin, the Great October Revolution in Russia. This faith blocked the marxist left from seeing the largest and harshest colonisation and resistance, the largest imperialist-capitalism and Statism in Asia. The Japanese imperialist phase (before the second world war) was tiny and temporary in comparison. Then came Mao and the Great Chinese Revolution. Then came the war amongst the Great Fathers (the Russian and Chinese State) from 60's to 80's. This pained the progressives the world over to an intolerable extent. They saved their faith by shutting their eyes to all these heresies! Thus the left remained blocked to the cries of Tibet. □□□