

MUNDO OBRERO WORKERS WORLD

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite! workers.org Vol. 66, No. 46 November 14, 2024

Don't mourn, ORGANIZE!

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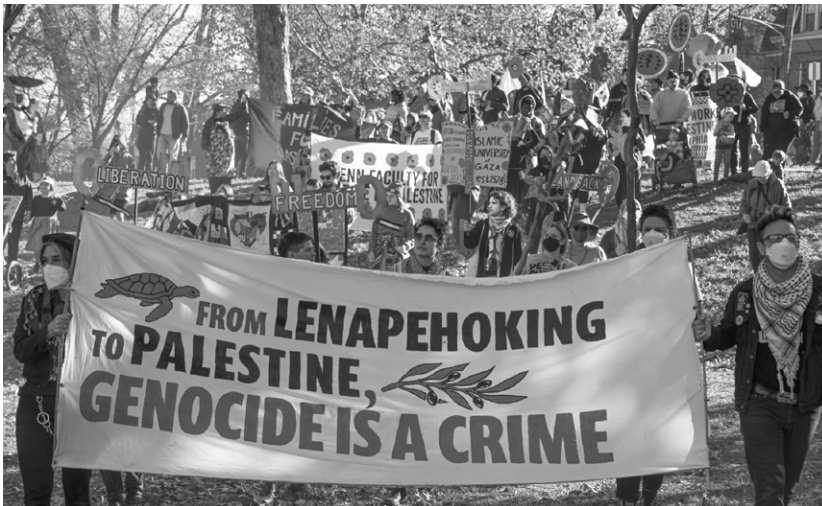
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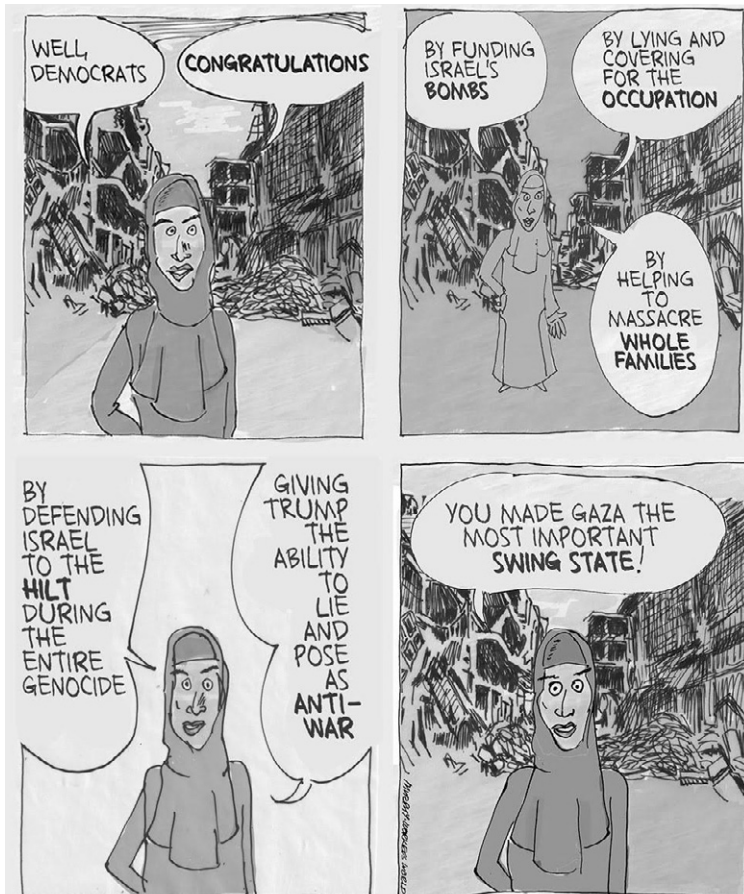
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The 24th annual Peoplehood Parade and Pageant. Philadelphia, Nov. 9, 2024. Report on page 5.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE



Seattle 'March and rally against Trump and the two-party war machine,' Nov. 9, 2024. Read online.

MUNDO OBRERO WORKERS WORLD

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Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and auster-
ity, racism and repression, attacks on
im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ2S+
oppression and mistreatment of people
with disabilities. It means joblessness,
increasing homelessness and impover-
ishment and lack of hope for the future.
No social problems can be solved under
capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the
world, yet no one has a guaranteed right
to shelter, food, water, health care, edu-
cation or anything else — unless they can
pay for it. Wages are lower than ever,
and youth are saddled with seemingly
insurmountable student debt, if they

even make it to college. Black, Brown
and Indigenous youth and trans people
are gunned down by cops and bigots on
a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks
to wipe out decades of gains and benefits
won by hard-fought struggles by people's
movements. The super-rich and their
political representatives have intensified
their attacks on the multinational, mul-
tigender and multigenerational working
class. It is time to point the blame at —
and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because
the working class produces all wealth in
society, and this wealth should remain
in their hands, not be stolen in the form
of capitalist profits. The wealth workers
create should be socially owned and its
distribution planned to satisfy and guar-
antee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has
been out in the streets defending the
workers and oppressed here and world-
wide. If you're interested in Marxism,
socialism and fighting for a socialist
future, please contact a WWP branch
near you. □

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Capitalism: biggest winner in election campaign

WW COMMENTARY

By **Monica Moorehead**

The writer was Workers World Party's presidential candidate in 1996, 2000 and 2016. She won more votes than any other socialist candidate in the 1996 election.

Almost a week after the Nov. 5 elections, bourgeois pundits continue to analyze how Donald Trump won so easily, and what went so badly wrong with Kamala Harris's campaign. These questions may be important in the short term, but in the long term, they leave out what is most important: the class question.

Marxists understand that the issue of class oppression is at the heart of every development, from all forms of white supremacy, misogyny, migrant bashing, trans oppression, climate change, etc. to bread and butter issues. It comes down to the exploited and the exploiter, the oppressed and the oppressor. On the surface, it may appear that individual politicians like Trump and Harris represent solely the Republican and Democratic parties, but this erroneous view is missing the forest for the trees.

The class truth is that these candidates, like many before them, belong to parties that represent the interests of the capitalist system, not the workers and oppressed peoples. Capitalism is a global economic system driven to make profits at any cost by super-exploiting the labor and resources of the global working class.

It is the capitalist system that gave rise to a small clique of multimillionaires and billionaires to help maintain this crisis-ridden system, with all its erratic up and down cycles. The system is absolutely dependent on bailouts, the raising and lowering of interest rates, mass layoffs, low wages and more for its very survival.

While the working class was in essence the biggest loser of the 2024 elections, since their day to day survival did not fundamentally change with the outcome, the biggest winner of all was the billionaire class and the system that they serve.

One only has to read the Bloomberg Billionaire Index report after the election to substantiate this reality: "Wednesday wasn't just a good day for Donald Trump. The wealth of the world's 10 richest people also soared by a record amount. The biggest gainer was Elon Musk, the world's richest person and one of Trump's most

outspoken and dedicated supporters, whose wealth jumped \$26.5 billion to \$290 billion Wednesday

"Amazon founder Jeff Bezos' wealth grew \$7.1 billion a week after defending his decision to withhold the Washington Post's endorsement of Vice President Kamala Harris. Oracle cofounder Larry Ellison, another Trump supporter, saw his net worth rise \$5.5 billion Wednesday."



May 1, 2020 protest, Philadelphia. WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

The report went on to say: "Other gainers include former Microsoft executives Bill Gates and Steve Ballmer, former Google executives Larry Page and Sergey Brin and Berkshire Hathaway CEO Warren Buffett. Although none of those billionaires endorsed a candidate this year, they have spoken in favor of Democratic candidates and causes in the past. Collectively, the top 10 richest people gained \$64 billion. Bloomberg notes it's the 'biggest daily increase' of wealth it's seen since the index began in 2012." (CNN, Nov. 7)

Forbes now estimates Elon Musk's net worth at \$304 billion.

This report did not make major headlines following the election. And for good reason. It is not in the interest of the major mouthpieces of the billionaire ruling class, the media, to spread these outrageous figures. The ruling class fears creating anger amongst the workers and, more importantly, raising class consciousness about what the U.S. elections are all about: maintaining and strengthening class rule.

Elections: one arena of reaching our class

In every election that Workers World Party has participated in since 1980, the main objective has been to expose the class bias of the elections to any worker and oppressed person who would listen — anyone seeking a real alternative to their unstable conditions.

WWP electoral campaigns always spoke to the needs and aspirations of our class, what capitalist politicians only give lip service to every four years, hoping to occupy the White House. WWP never separates its revolutionary program from the necessity for a socialist revolution to overturn cruel and inhumane class relations and free the workers from wage slavery.

Any anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist party choosing to use the arena of the bourgeois elections — which are forced on our class every four years — as a tactic and strategy to reach the broadest sectors of the working class is duty-bound to show that the road to true liberation is not depending on one capitalist party over another but through an independent struggle.

What is the task going forward now that the 2024 elections are over? This is not an easy question to answer with many progressive forces still reeling from an openly fascistic, misogynist, xenophobic billionaire once again occupying the Oval Office.

Supporting upcoming demonstrations as a defensive measure will remain important to show the proponents of the status quo that the movement is still alive and well and not going anywhere. At the same time, the most class conscious, revolutionary forces must go on the offensive to develop a united, class-wide perspective on a global scale. That will help fill the void that the bourgeois elections have created. They have held sway over the workers and oppressed for way too long. □

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Unite workers and oppressed, fight MAGA and war

WW EDITORIAL

Workers World's editorial the day after the election called on all those who fight imperialist war and on all those who hate and aim to combat the MAGA program to "answer with all forms of protest any attack that comes our way."

The initial response from the anti-imperialist opposition has been encouraging: no hesitation from those combating genocide in Gaza and Lebanon to stay in the streets.

These actions have been the cutting edge of the anti-imperialist movement for the past year. Judging by the number of actions scheduled for the New York City region throughout November, the anti-genocide movement refuses to concede to U.S. imperialism, no matter which party directs Washington. The activists deserve the full support of all who consider themselves anti-imperialists and fighters for socialism.

Democrats and Republicans have virtually the same foreign policy. Their main disagreement involves blaming each other for the many setbacks for U.S. imperialist hegemony in the last period — the pullout from Afghanistan, the impending collapse of the proxy war in Ukraine, the economic gains of China.

Both parties arm Israel and have for 75 years. They both fund the Pentagon's bases surrounding China and North Korea. They both threaten Iran. They both wage economic war with sanctions and

provoke emigration — and then blame the migrants for everything. They both arm the Ukrainian reactionaries and NATO's war against Russia. Trump demands bigger European funding. Big deal.

Remember that whether Trump or Joe Biden was the Commander in Chief, the Pentagon had to get out of Afghanistan and Iraq and retreat from plans for the conquest of Syria. Anti-imperialists will have new opportunities to obstruct the U.S. drive to militarism and war, from West Asia to Eastern Europe to East Asia, and to fight to stop the U.S. from arming Israel, whether Democrats or Republicans are in the White House.

On another front, many people consider the electoral victory for Trump's Republican Party a particular threat on vital issues. They have good reasons to prepare for self-defense. Trump has openly attacked reproductive rights, women, unionization, racial equality, government programs subsidizing health care, retirement pay, affirmative action and public education. His campaign targeted our working-class siblings who have migrated to the United States and who are essential workers here. He and his cronies spew bigotry, especially against trans people, racism, misogyny and xenophobia throughout the media.

It is encouraging then that organizations and coalitions have also called protests to show opposition to the new regime on those

issues and on any steps the MAGA regime takes to attack oppressed sectors of the working class inside U.S. borders. Solidarity must be the first point on our agenda.

There have already been protests by some unions. Ad hoc coalitions have called for protests of the new administration on Jan. 18 and on Inauguration Day. Anti-imperialist and revolutionary organizations must also intervene in these kinds of actions. They must join with sectors of the working class that are in motion against the new MAGA regime and help weld these various sectors into a united fighting force. Only in this way can they both win battles and influence the direction of the struggle.

As during the first Trump administration, many of those protesting the MAGA crowd may have the illusion that pushing the government back toward the Democratic Party will protect them and resolve their problems. No, it won't. We need a popular self-defense of all sectors of our class — the working class — under attack. And we need an organization independent of capitalist electoral politics, or the working class will again be trapped choosing between two parties that are both its enemies, as the 2024 election showed.

Only by finding ways to participate in the actions while maintaining our independent, revolutionary, anti-imperialist position will we be able to influence broader sectors of our class and expose the impossibility of either Republican or Democratic Party to lead to anything but disaster. Defeating the militarist MAGA bigots while breaking with the militarist Democrats is the way forward. □

Market Elections: How Democracy Serves the Rich by Vince Copeland

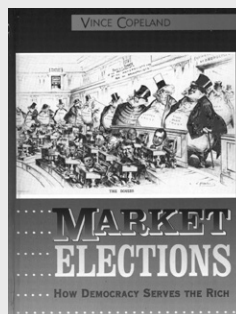
When you couple "democracy" with a "free market" in the presence of multimillionaires and billionaires — think Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos and Bill Gates — you get a system where "government" is as much a commodity as anything you can buy in a supermarket.

How the wealthy capture the votes of the many is not simple. While the candidates with the most money behind them usually win, Vince Copeland shows that there are exceptions to that rule. Mass struggles impact elections.

Copeland's "Market Elections: How Democracy Serves the Rich" never loses sight of broad historical trends and yet also gives space to the quirks

and oddities — some comic, some puzzling — of politicians, their entourages and enablers. He presents the class struggle in presidential elections in a clear and witty way that reflects the decades he spent as a class warrior confronting the bosses.

This book, published in 2000, is available as a free download in a choice of PDF or ePub formats at workers.org/books.



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Peoplehood draws hundreds in Philly

By Joe Piette
Philadelphia

The 24th annual Peoplehood Parade and Pageant took place in Philadelphia on Nov. 9, a sunny fall Saturday. The event featured hundreds of community activists representing a diverse range of neighborhood organizations. Drummers and musicians, colorful banners, signs, puppets and other props drew people from their homes, some to watch and others to join the parade.

The route zigzagged through West Philadelphia streets from the Paul Robeson House all the way to Clark Park, where Spiral Q presented their annual pageant highlighting current struggles for justice, equality, peace and a better life.

“The Peoplehood Parade joyfully lifts up PEOPLE, especially the everyday Philadelphians working toward collective liberation,” is how Spiral Q describes their yearly event. Coming just days after the election of



The 24th annual Peoplehood Parade and Pageant. Philadelphia, Nov. 9, 2024.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

ultraright former President Donald Trump as the next U.S. president, the spirited event proved that people are not taking a step back from organizing in their communities.

Participating organizations included activists fighting for an end to genocide in Palestine, fighting the building of a billionaires’ sports arena in Chinatown, fighting against the climate crisis and fighting the city’s use of police to clear drug users from the Kensington neighborhood — instead of investing more in drug treatment, health care

and a host of other needs.

The Philadelphia Alliance Against Imperialism — which includes ANAKBAYAN, Black Alliance for Peace, Freedom Road Socialist Organization, Friends of Swazi Freedom, Korea Peace Now, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, and World World Party — marched as a contingent for the first time in Peoplehood.

The people united will never be defeated! □

Vote against genocide wins 70% support in Cunningham Township

By Sue Harris

In Cunningham Township, Illinois — which includes Urbana, home to the University of Illinois — 70% of the electorate voted on Nov. 5 in favor of a non-binding recommendation for an arms embargo on Israel.

The ballot stated, in part: “Funding to Israel costs \$3.8 Billion,” and “Israel is recognized as an apartheid regime with a track record of human rights violations.”

“It was just an incredible effort of a diverse coalition committed to justice, peace and human rights. And it was, it was a united movement,” said Jessica Yasin, a member of Champaign-Urbana Muslim Action Committee.

“It was by not only CUMAC but Urbana-Champaign Jews For Ceasefire ... and countless individuals who believe our tax dollars [should] not fund a country accused of serious human rights abuses.” (ipmnewsroom.org, Nov. 6)

The recommendation has no binding effect on lawmakers, but the organizers hope it sends a message to policy makers that the war in Gaza should end.

Whether or not the proposal impacts legislation, it is a clear indication that there is powerful growing antipathy to the genocide in Gaza and to its cost and its inhumanity. More and more people of different backgrounds but similar passions are willing to struggle together for what they believe in. □



March against genocide in Palestine. Urbana, Illinois, Oct. 28, 2023.

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DECLARACIÓN DE MUNDO OBRERO

Las elecciones por fin han terminado

¡ORGANIZAR LA RESISTENCIA!

Las elecciones del 5 de noviembre han sucedido y el resultado es conocido en todo el mundo. El más vil, repugnante, supremacista blanco, xenófobo, transfóbico, capacitista, misógino, violador, neofascista — la lista continúa — volverá a la Casa Blanca en enero.

Estos resultados han producido sin duda una amplia gama de emociones, ya sean desesperación, desmoralización, frustración, miedo, entumecimiento, ira o sentimientos para los que no hay palabras. Esto es completamente comprensible.

Varios factores contribuyeron a la derrota de la vicepresidenta Kamala Harris frente al ex presidente Donald Trump. Los demócratas no tenían absolutamente ningún programa para abordar preocupaciones muy reales -una de las principales preocupaciones de muchos votantes encuestados- sobre una economía estancada y un coste de la vida que se ha disparado. No ha habido tregua en el genocidio estadounidense/israelí que se está cometiendo contra el pueblo palestino bajo una administración democrata. ¿Por qué votar por cuatro años más de esto?

Aún así, es doloroso reflexionar sobre el hecho de que alguien tan despreciable como Trump haya sido capaz de llenar el vacío, aparentemente con facilidad.

Los resultados electorales de este año requerirán un gran análisis marxista reflexivo en las próximas semanas y meses. Tenemos que tener una visión histórica, científica y dialéctica sobre el colapso del liberalismo burgués y la socialdemocracia.



Protesta en Nueva York contra el genocidio en Gaza, 5 de noviembre de 2024.

MO FOTO: JENNIFER KANTER

Pero aunque el análisis es importante, los revolucionarios de la clase obrera, incluso en circunstancias muy difíciles, tienen la responsabilidad primordial de proyectar un camino hacia delante. Ese camino consiste en unir todas las fuerzas, sin importar las diferencias, para luchar contra los inevitables ataques.

Karl Marx reconoció en 1848 que la historia es la historia de la lucha de clases. Ahora, a medida que nos acercamos a 2025, tenemos que elevar la lucha contra el fanatismo, la guerra y la explotación y construir la solidaridad de la clase obrera. Literalmente, no tenemos otra opción.

Vayamos al grano. Puede que algunos estén deprimidos, pero tenemos que dejar de lamernos las heridas. Los jóvenes que han salido a la calle durante más de un año para hacer frente al genocidio estuvieron en la calle durante todo el 5 de noviembre, y hay previstas manifestaciones de protesta para los próximos días y semanas. Les saludamos.

Y en los próximos días y semanas, debemos responder con todas las formas de protesta a cualquier ataque que se nos presente, ya sea racismo, misoginia, capacitismo, o discriminación anti-LGBTQIA2S+, ataques contra inmigrantes y deportaciones de los mismos, ataques al sindicalismo, guerra imperialista. Seguiremos en las calles por Palestina, **hasta la liberación, ¡del río al mar!**

La resistencia empieza ahora. ¡Organízate, organízate, organízate! □



Protesta en Nueva York contra el genocidio en Gaza, 5 de noviembre de 2024.

MO FOTO: BRENDA RYAN

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¡Proletarios y oprimidos de todos los países uníos!



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