

# HAILGAN!



(THE STRUGGLE)

ORGAN OF THE SOMALI  
REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST PARTY

## Israel's obduracy and the Middle East situation

Convergence of intrests in the Horn  
of Africa

Namibia: liberation soon to come

People and their Natural environment

What is Historical progress

Struggle to  
learn, in order to  
learn to  
struggle better

# HAALGAIN

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**CENTRAL COMMITTEE**  
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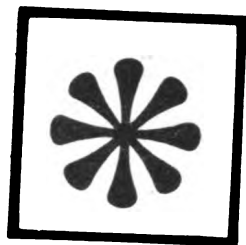
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## HALGAN

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

# ABORTED COUP

Political change may take place in a society either by force or by other means depending on the social consciousness to change the prevailing social ill-conditions in that society. Such a social change often succeeds because it represents the true aspiration of the masses and can ably effect a genuine socio-economic progress.

Historical examples of such revolution can be traced, beginning from Lenin's Great October Revolution in the USSR, the Chinese revolution under the leadership of Mao Tse Tung, and those of Korea and Vietnam. These are but only few glaring examples, indeed, many other social revolutions took place in different parts of the globe, the 21 October Revolution in Somalia being one of them.

During the process of the revolution, it is quite natural to find groups who lost their interests trying to oppose the new social order by all possible ways, ranging from the dissemination of the false slanderous propoganda, to organized armed position. In fulfilling their heinous plans these groups more often than not resort to put on the pretentious cloak of nationalism or claim class allegiance. It also happens that at other times, particularly when the country is passing through difficult circumstances, they are manipulated by external foreign forces seeking to check the march of the revolution.

Such attempts hardly succeed owing to the absence of a very important factor; winning the masses support. On 9th of last April some members of the armed forces tried to topple the existing rule of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party which is dedicated to the execution of the 21 October Revolution programme.

In view of this ugly undertaking many questions indeed come up to the mind: What were the intentions of these rebel groups? Who were they representing? What motivated them to this ill-fated action? A great deal remains still unclearified, but many aspects have however already come to the light:

— The coup bearers were a small group in pursuit of particular petty interests and who did not command the support of the Somali masses or even parts of it.

— The units of the armed forces which they had been able to treacherously gear into action did not share a common plan with the rebels. On the contrary they were deceived by the wild cry that the revolution was in danger and ought to be defended.

Moreover, these adventurous elements lacked any programme or ideology. This can be easily deduced from their hum drum methods

and their complete reliance on such primitive tribal based organization.

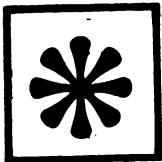
All these notwithstanding, it is quite ludicrous to find certain foreign press media depicting these self-centred elements as ardent nationalists who were opposed to the government decision to withdraw its military units from the battle zone in Western Somalia.

What a hypocrisy of patriotism.

The truth remains that these groups had for a long time, for many years, been harbouring this wicked and harmful move; but they were being closely followed by the concerned organs of the revolutionary Government who even, on certain occasions, warned some of them about the consequences of their suspicious behavior.

Blinded by their selfish interests, these elements sought to disrupt the unity of the Somali people, and hold the deep-going social changes in the society, and trample upon the equality and justice that prevails, . . . principles that contribute the rock-base of our glorious revolution. Hence their utter failure to win any sympathy or support from the masses.

The counter-revolutionary coup had been foiled, most of its participants and their leaders have been arrested and, as the secretary General of the SRSP made it clear in his address to the nation on the same day, they will all be brought before the law. Finally, it is incumbent upon the Somali masses (Workers, Peasants, armed forces, students and nomads) to realise the grave danger underlying such anti-patriotic action. It is through defending the popular revolution and its achievements that the rash, adventristic moves by few short sighted traitors, who try to deviate the revolution from its correct path, will be crushed. Party cadres and its branches will in particular be required to display great alertness and continued vigilance.



## The patriotic front is victorious

It was a short time ago, that Ian Smith and some of the African leaders in Salisbury signed the so called internal-agreement, which did not get any recognition from the World-Opinion. Ian Smith and his cohorts and company ought to see the Western states abstention in the security council's crucial vote as a sign of the sad and sorrowful end awaiting their racist regime.

That lack of recognition can be seen from the doubts of the world opinion about the Zimbabwean matter. This achievement belongs to the PF, the front line states and the progressive states or organizations which are giving unqualified support to the Liberation Movement. What can also be clearly seen is the endeavour to safeguard the strategic interests of the few white-minority regimes and that of international capitalism in General. In 1965 the supremacist regime invoked unilateral declaration in dependence, however today it can no longer maintain it.

In the face of the stiff and stubborn resistance of the patriotic movement if yesterday the black majority were easily denied the enviable majority right, today the racists were forced to deal with Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo, true representatives of the people. When the rest of Africa was divided Rhodesia came under British hegemony who, true to their colonialists style, facilitated the political authority to pass into the hands of Smith's illegal regime. There has been many U.N. discussion on Rhodesia.

How many sanctions has been agreed upon and if these were seriously carried out properly the oppression over the black majority could have long time ago, been mentioned.

The first game was the Anglo-American plan. When the patriotic front studied carefully, they declared in 21 Sept. 1977 the following:

1. The principle that independence is non-negotiable right of the people of Zimbabwe and that what is negotiable with reference to independence is merely the modalities of bringing it about.

2. The principle of democratic elections based on universal adult suffrage;

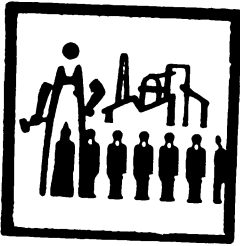
3. Recognition that the conflict situation in Zimbabwe being a war situation can only be resolved by those parties directly involved in that conflict, that is to say, the British Government and their settler kith and kin on the one hand and the patriotic front on the other. (The Zimbabwe Review vo. 6. no, 9/77).

If the African masses have been for long deceived by artificial means the masses have decided to end the colonial conditions and wage armed struggle.

The national front didn't stop on that, but has analysed every aspect of that proposal, but there has been no other points worth of discussion.

Then Smith came with a proposal; which has been his mind for a long time, namely the so-called agreement with some blacks who lost the masses and willing for opportunist interests to cooperate with him.

The security council declared that this so called agreement is illegal and unacceptable for the world. The capitalist and illegal exploiters of the resources of Zimbabwe talk about stop the blood shed. They don't see as bloodshed, those millions of African masses they were exploiting for centuries, for which the only answer is the armed struggle. The patriotic front, which represents the people of Zimbabwe still hopes for peaceful talks but Smith's regime is for seeing its downfall unwilling to step down. Today Smith and those black leaders who signed with him the so called agreement have been widely rejected in the world. Nothing has been changed from the world opinion about the Rhodesian problem, on the contrary it has increased the disgust and disapproval for the agreement. The Patriotic front and front-line states gained support and recognition from the entire world. Peace in that region lies in the establishment of a majority rule led by the Patriotic Front. Victory will be for the masses, who are fighting for their independence.



Political' Social and Economic Affairs

## Convergence of interests in the Horn!

By Abdi A. Jama

The international importance of the Horn has been increased by its strategic location in both the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean facing the strategic strait of Bab El-Mandeb in the Southern gate of the Red Sea, further North the Suez Canal, the Gulf of Aqaba, the strait of Tiran and the strait of Hormuz in the entrance of the Gulf.

It is because of this inherent strategic importance of the Horn which made it imperative for the Euro — Ethiopian Colonisation of the Somali Peninsula and their illegal partition of the Somali Nation to five artificial parts in the later part of the 19th century.

Hence, any event taking place in the Horn undoubtedly has a far reaching repercussion on Africa. On the other hand, in terms of Geopolitics the Horn of Africa seems to be very relevant to the Middle East problems.

This global importance of the region has made the world to forget the real problems, the very existence and the aspirations of the people of the area who have nothing to do with the objectives of the powers in the conflict. In fact any people who live in a given region could have problems of colonisation, domination, or conflict etc.

Specifically, in this area where the colonialists were dividing the region in this case Ethiopia profited from the contradictory ambition of overseas colonialism by colonising the people of Western Somalia. Then after the departure of the overseas colonialism Ethiopia remained in the area claiming

that as an integral part of her Empire.

In this perspective, the basic root of the conflict of the Horn of Africa is a colonised one. Subsequently, the colonised people of Western Somalia have embarked on continuous struggle against their coloniser which culminated in their recent armed uprising against the flagrant colonialism of Ethiopia.

Unfortunately, a new method of redividing the African continent has been in the making through the subtle devices of cooperation and mutual assistance. Therefore, the ambition of the big powers remains unchanged and instead of taking the initiative in solving the problems by themselves they came to the conclusion, that their interests are best served in perpetuating the status Quo Ante.

The significance of this attitude means that colonialism or border conflict must remain intact in a direct violation of the interests of the peoples concerned. It is for this reason that just wars of liberation Fronts, WSLF, Abbo and the Eritrean fronts did not obtain the required support that they would have expected from the world.

Consequently, the converging interests in the Horn have three interwoven factors:

1) Political 2) Strategic and 3) Economic

On one hand, the Warsaw Bloc countries headed by the Soviet Union and Cuba have betrayed the basic principle of scientific socialism which recognises the national liberation movement, the

socialist countries and the working parties in the capitalist countries as being the component parts of the three progressive forces in the world fighting against colonialism and imperialism. Instead, the Soviet Union and his allies have betrayed this lofty principle for its strategic interests. That is acquiring Naval facilities in the Red Sea and in Ethiopia for the deployment of its bombers from the rear in the event of the outbreak of a third world war.

While the position of the Arab states is that the local issue of the Horn should not be internationalised; it should be left to the parties concerned and that peaceful solution should be sought for the problem under the auspices of the C.A.U. Accordingly, they want to preserve the Red Sea as sea of peace for international Commerce and Communication.

Above all, the paramount interests of the Arab States particularly those of the Red Sea basin and the Gulf lies in the elimination of super powers confrontation in the Horn and the Red Sea due to its constant danger for the security and the stability of the whole area.

Likewise, Somalia's position has always been that the issue of the Horn is a local question having the nature of colonialism per excellence between the liberation forces of the people under Abyssinian colonialism and that of the Empire State of Ethiopia. Subsequently the basic and lasting solution of the problem lies in the recognition of the inalienable right of the people of Western Somalia, Abbo and

Eritrea for self-determination. The immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops in the area which only complicate the peaceful solution of the problem and settlement of the issue through negotiation.

In contrast, the position of Western Europe has been at first a sympathetic one. This is partially due to the fact that Britain, France, and Italy) were former colonisers of the Somali Peninsula. However the West in their late January meeting held in Washington and attended by United States, Britain, France, Italy and West Germany «discussed their possible role...» In the conflict of the Horn. «They agreed not to become militarily involved even indirectly by supplying arms to the Red Sea area to help offset the estimated one billion dollars worth of Russian war material supplied to Ethiopia». They didn't take adequate measures about introduction of foreign troops in the area instead they decided «To urge the Organisation of African Unity (O.A.U.) to intensify its efforts...» in settling the problem. But from the start the position of the United States has been and ambivalent one by adopting the policy of setting on the fence. In fact, despite the apparent ideological discrepancies between the super powers nevertheless, their interest coincided in the Horn of Africa. That is the preservation of the Ethiopian Empire — State intact and the subsequent, elimination of the national liberation forces of Western Somalia, Abbo, Eritrea, Afar, Tigre etc.

Further it is the interest of Israel to secure its shipping lines in the Red Sea and especially its oil routes by averting by any means available the emergence of another Arab State in the Red Sea basin i.e.

Eritrea. Thus making a reality the Red Sea as being an «Arab lake». Therefore, the larger interests of Israel is being served by the maintenance of the status Quo Ante in the Area. Furthermore the present realities prevailing in the Horn is a direct witness of the fact that the issue of the Horn «has been complicated by international power politics». Whereas in the past the United States was the dominant power supporting Ethiopia, but in the later 70's it was supplimented by the new comer, the Soviet Union, who adopted the position that the fundamental issue of the Horn was «No different from their attitude to the former colonies of the Tsars — that socialism rather secession was the panacea for all ills». While the position of the present regime in Ethiopia is that of preserving the Status Quo Ante of the Ethiopian Empire State which was buttressed in its expansionistic policies at the expense of her neighbours in the late 19th century by the European colonialist and now by the Warsaw pact countries headed by the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Needless to say, what complicates the whole issue are the converging interests of the super powers for the control of the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. In fact, both the super powers and Israel agree on one idea: That is to avoid any means the Red Sea becoming an «Arab Lake».

One could also infer from the ambiguous position of the U.S. to the issue is that perhaps it wants to use the presence of the Soviet Union in Ethiopia as a constant threat to its Arab friends in the Middle East particularly Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States in the event

of the latter stopping the flow of Oil to the U.S. and Western Europe market. Another inference that could be deduced is the fact that they might have agreed tacitly to trade the Horn for Southern Africa. Where by the U.S. and its allies are given free hand in Southern Africa. While the Horn has been acknowledged as the Soviet Union of influence.

From the economic point of view the area is economically important one, in terms of the movement of oil from the Red Sea, the Gulf to Western Europe and U.S. market. It produces 95% of the exported oil in the world and has the highest oil reserve in the world. Besides, other two important factors which make the area very crucial one are the flow of normal trade (goods) passing through the Red Sea to the Gulf States, India, South East Asia, Africa and vice-versa. The importance of the flow of goods to the above mentioned countries for their trade balance and economic development. Obviously, if the Warsaw bloc countries control the flow of oil, the existence of Western Europe will undoubtedly be at their mercy.

In conclusion, the undermined peoples of the area i.e., the National Liberation Fronts of Western Somalia, Abbo and Eritrea will continue their just struggle against their colonisers. This in turn means lack of permanent stability in the Horn as well as the absence of development and cooperation among the people in the whole region. Hence, the prevalence of the State of tension and instability in the area serve the paramount interests of the big powers and is detrimental to the colonised people of the area.



## PARTY LIFE



# Commemoration of the 7th March

The seventh of March is considered to be one of the historical days which the Somali nation recognises for its immense achievements during the period of revolutionary construction. It has been designated the day of both sport and the fight against illiteracy.

Therefore; the 7th March of this year has been marked with big commemoration which was intended for the observance of this occasion. Those who participated in the parade were: youth players, sport fans and the progressive masses of the fourteen districts of the Benadir Region. They marched throughout the streets of the city.

These people were carrying placardes depicting their sentiments as well as their chanting of revolutionary slogans. At the

end of the parade they gathered at Mogadishu Stadium.

The Secretary General of SRSP, President of the SDR Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre, participated in the commemoration of this day by delivering a historical speech.

In his speech, the President declared that the SDR will not stop its all out support to the national liberation fronts in the Horn of Africa. These liberation fronts are fighting for the achievement of their rights. Likewise, the national liberation fronts will continue their just struggle. the President said, even if all greed powers oppose their fundamental right.

J/le Siad spoke about the long struggle of the people of Western Somalia against Abyssinian colonialism, and the fact that



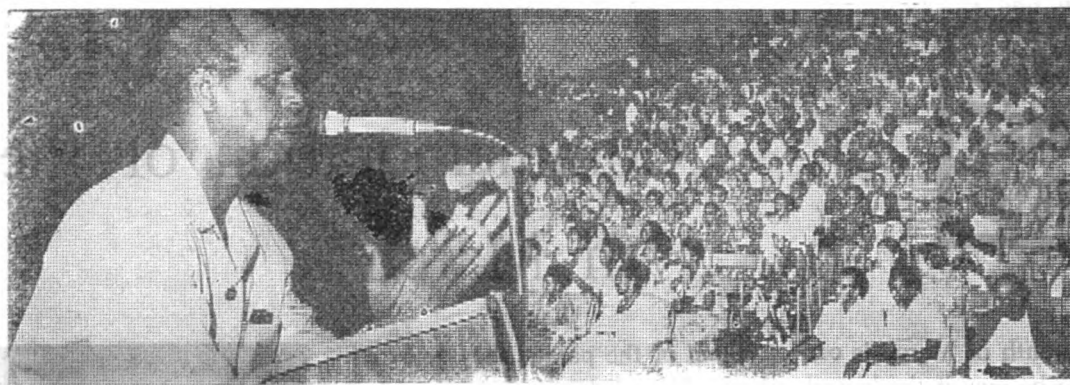
they were always victorious over their enemies. However, after every defeat, it has been the habit of the Abyssinian colonialist to rely on external force which by proxy gave a new terse of life to the slavery.

We want to tell the whole world that there is no force which can compel us to surrender our sovereignty, declared J/le Siad with the profound nationalistic sentiment with which our nation is imbued.

This historical speech of the Secretary General of the SRSP was continuously interrupted on several occasions by standing ovations, warm applauses and slogans of support manifested by the masses who were present in the stadium. The President concluded his speech by exhorting the somali nation to be prepared to sacrifice every thing for the defence of their mother land.



# Ceremonies held on the occasion of 8th March



Jaalle Kulmie delivering a speech on the occasion of 8th March.

As recognized in many parts of the world, 8th March is the international women's day that all the progressive nations celebrate and into which, Somalia has become associated since 21st October Revolution of 1969.

In particular, the celebrations of this year reflect that the significance of the day was given due consideration in Somalia mainly because the Somali Women's Democratic Organization (SWDO) was founded in the past year. Thus, as this day marks the first anniversary of the foundation of SWDO, commensurate ceremonies has been held every where in the SDR.

What deserves mentioning is how the pioneers of the SWDO greatly glorify 8th March. Accordingly the Somali women marched along the streets and towns and laid flower wreaths at the monuments of the Somali heroes as that of Sayid Mohamed Abdulle Hassan, Hawo Taako, Dhagah-Tuur and the unknown soldier which are situated in different parts of the Capital City-Mogadishu.

During the evening ceremonies were held at the district Party centres of all the districts of the Somali regions. There the Somali women presented interesting programmes including speeches, concerning the significance

of the day and the role played by the Somali women in acts of nation building, which was delivered by the authorities of the nation in various areas.

In the capital of Mogadishu the SWDO ceremony for the occasion was held at the national theatre and the women of the 14 district of the Banadir Region were active participants. Also, in this ceremony, many high ranking party functionaries members of the social unions and diplomatic representatives of foreign nations attended.

SWDO chairperson Jaalle Fa-

duma Umar Hashi presented a detailed report concerning the accomplished tasks of their organization since its foundation.

Following this speech, was a play depicting the role of the Western Somali People in their de-colonisation struggle after which the Vice-president of the SDR, Jaalle Major General Hussein Kulmiye Afrah delivered the closing speech concerning the required role of the Somali women and in a narrative flash back illustrated the historical acts played by the Somali women for the sake of nation building and defence of the mother land.

## Statement by the Central Committee of SRSP

As is well-known towards the end of the 19th Century, the Kingdom of Abyssinia participated in the colonial scramble for Africa and the colonial occupation of parts of the Somali lands adding others to her Empire in 1948 and 1954, the territory generally known by the name Western Somali.

The people of these areas colonised by Abyssinia have struggled for their freedom and resisted Abyssinian colonialism just as other nations in Africa have fought for their freedom.

This struggle of the Western Somali people has passed through several stages and it has so intensified with the passage of time and because of the hardening intransigence of the successive Abyssinian regimes and their machinations that the Western Somali liberation movement has been able to liberate in 1977 most of the Abyssinian-occupied territories in its guerrilla fighting.

Throughout these prolonged struggle waged by the Western Som-

ali Liberation forces, the Somali Democratic Republic has always advocated that the cause of this people should be attained through peaceful means and mutual understanding. It is obvious to all how often and at how many venues the Somali Democratic Republic has demanded that Abyssinia should allow the colonised subjects under her rule the right to self-determination.

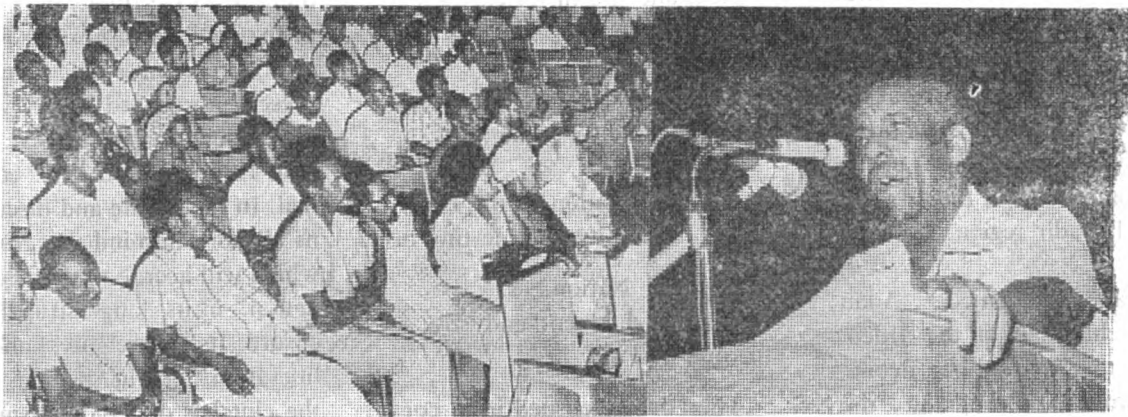
However, the successive Abyssinian regimes have consistently spurned all such pleas.

The Somali Democratic Republic, firmly believing that the people of Western Somalia are struggling for a just cause, has extended full support to them, as she has extended support to other liberation movements all over the world.

It followed that when the Western Somali people succeeded in overthrowing the Abyssinian colonialism, an alliance of the forces of foreign powers made a bid to crush their movement and exterminate the masses in the territory liberated by them. In addition to this, alliance has launched successive

(CONT. ON PAGE 29)

## General Secretary's Report



The Secretary General of the SRSP addressing Party functionaries and government officials at the National Theatre.

The Secretary General of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party (SRSP), President of the SDR, Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre, has always the habit of informing the nation about the critical period facing it and the basic duties expected from it in order that every individual will internalise the duties incumbent upon him.

On the night of 11th March an important meeting was held at the national theatre of the city of Mogadishu. This meeting was attended by high ranking government officials party Secretarie, and the party organization's.

The Seceratry General of the SRSP delivered a report at the meeting dealing with the latest

information about the worsening situation in the Horn of Africa, and the necessary steps, under-taken by the SDR for solutions to the conflict.

Likewise, the President spoke about the various stands taken by different states on the question of the Horn. The President elaborated in detail the position taken by the superpowers. Further, he defined the stand of the national liberation fronts of Western Somalia by emphasising that they will continue their firm struggle which undoubtedly will be crowned with victory.

Furthermore, the Secretary General, Jaalle Siad spoke about the condition precedent of granting the inalienable right of the people in the area, that is

Western Somalia for self-determination, and emphasised the fact that this is the only viable solution based on peace and justice.

Moreover, Jaalle Siad, made special reference to those states and international organizations who comprehended the true nature of the issue of the Horn by courageously calling for the application of the principle of self-determination to the people of the area. The President told his audience about those states and international organizations who have supported the just stand of the SDR by concentrating all their efforts in just and peaceful solution of the problem. Thus, on behalf of the Somali nation the President offered his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the afore said states

and organizations for their support of the just struggle of the Somali people.

The President remarked to his audience the need for extra vigilance in this critical period

which our nation is facing for the defence of our mother land, increasing production and alertness against maladministration and complications. The President concluded his speech by saying that «The

Somali people will overcome all difficulties facing them as they have done in the past through their vigilance, unity, perseverance and strengthening of their national sovereignty».

## An interesting debate

Early in April, in the Central headquarters of the SRSP a debating seminar was held and it lasted four days. Taking part in this debate were members of the C.C. of the SRSP and party functionaries in the Central headquarters, who played a striking role. Also represented were functionaries from the social organization's Central headquarters, as well as secretaries of the Party committees in the 14 districts of Benadir region.

Comrade Mohamed Adan Sheikh, chairman of the Ideology bureau, opened the debate and chaired it throughout the 4 days it lasted. Comrade Moha-

med Adan in the opening ceremony gave a very comprehensive insight into the points the debate was to tackle and he gave a special importance to the situation obtaining in the Horn of Africa, and the historical roots giving rise to it.

The major points discussed comprised the following:

- 1) The situation in the Horn.
- 2) The unity and destiny of the Somali Nation.
- 3) Development and strengthening of Party tasks.

The debate ensued in a cordial and comradely atmosphere

and was built on a wide practice of democracy. Each and everyone amongst the participants expressed his views as he/she thought most suitable and fortunately there was no limit as to the time and scope of the arguments. For this reason a good number of the comrades present expressed their views, ideas and contributions, without feeling bound and controlled. In the debate and discussions all bore in mind the benefits which will accrue to the Somali nation, in its long struggle to ensure its sovereignty, and the liberation of its people from the clutches of colonialism and backwardness.

## Nation wide support

Soon after the news of the abortive coup, by a small group of officers on April 9th, was heard party-committees and inhabitants in the various regions and districts of the country despatched messages of congratulations to the General Secretary of the SRPS Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre and hence manifested their sorrow over the sinister attempt by few to cripple the October 21st Revolution which has saved the Somali people from the yoke of neo-colonialism.

The inhabitants of the regions and districts led by the party-committees also staged mass rallies to condemn the sinister move of the plotters and to express their unwavering support for the country's Revolutionary Government.

During the rallies, the masses, including workers, cooperative members, religious men and other sectors of the Somali society, demonstrated their Revolutionary spirit and carried placards

condemning the abortive coup and supporting the Revolutionary Government.

The mass rallies reflected the unity and integrity of the Somali people in these difficult times of Somalia's history. They also demonstrated the good and effective cooperation between the people and the party-committees. They further proved the confidence of the Somali people in their Revolutionary leadership under the guidance of Jaalle Mahamed Siad Barre.

## Mass rally in support of the National Army

Thousands of Mogadishu's inhabitants encompassing all mass organizations staged a mammoth rally at Darawish square on the 12th of April - the

eighteenth anniversary of the foundation of the Somali National Army.

The mass rally manifested its staunch support for the So-

mal National Army during the celebration of the army on its 18th anniversary. The masses also declared their outright opposition, condemnation and an-

ger at the few officers and soldiers of the army who attempted a coup on the 9th of April to undermine the Revolution and demonstrated enthusiastically their unwavering support for the General Secretary of the SRSP and President of the SDR, Jaalle

said, has earned the respect and confidence of the Somali people.

The President congratulated the Somali National Army on its 18th anniversary and wished them great success in their efforts to safeguard and defend the sovereignty and independen-

people to be on the alert against all sinister moves of colonialism to cripple interests of the Somali people.

Representatives of various social organizations also read pledges of support and encouragement for the Revolutionary



The Secretary General of the SRSP, President Siad addressing the masses at the Darawish Park on 12th April.

Mohamed Siad Barre who also participated in the mass rally.

In an address to the huge rally, Jaalle Siad spoke at length of the October 21st Revolution, the role of the armed forces, particularly the Somali National Army, in its success, which, he

ce of the country.

Speaking of the abortive coup, Jaalle Siad said that it was engineered by a small group manipulated by foreign powers to undermine the revolution, destroy the interests of the Somali people and cause unnecessary bloodshed. He called on the

Government and the armed forces. A similar speech was delivered by a spokesman of the Somali National Army.

The masses carried slogans of support for the army and demonstrated their deep revolutionary spirit and patriotism.

## The closing ceremony of the co-operative's seminar

On 15th April a ceremony was held at the National Theatre on the occasion of closing a one month seminar for the Co-operative Committee Members of the Benadir Region. The seminar was organised by the organisation that has been founded on January of this year.

The main objectives of this seminar have been to equip the committee members of the OSCM with skills required for enabling them to fulfill their tasks

as well as the promotion of the committee's political consciousness based on the class outlook of a socialist society.

This seminar, the first of its kind since the foundation of OSCM, whose objectives were as aforementioned, has been attended by members of fishing, quarries, lime, weaving, handicrafts, charcoal and Iron-monger's co-operatives.

During the course of the seminar the committee members

of the co-operatives have been engaged in the study of the statutes and programmes of the OSCM besides being oriented with the programmes of other social organisations for workers, women and youth.

Also, lectures concerning the general plan of the co-operatives, the promotion of the political consciousness of the committee members and the administration and statistics of the co-operatives have been presented

in the seminar.

The aim behind organising this seminar has been reached with success as the chairman of the OSCM declared and on this occasion the SDR Vice-President, Jaalle Major-General Hus-

and the cooperative's required role to contribute in the building of a new socialist society. The Vice-President of the SDR urged the co-operative committees to utilise their maximum technological and political knowled-

on the occasion of the ceremony in which he gave a detailed report about the present achievements and future aspirations of the cooperatives in the country.

On this closing ceremony, other Central Committee membe-



sen Kulmie Afarh closed the seminar.

In a speech on the occasion Jaalle Kulmie emphasized the revolution's objectives of creating the Organisation of the Somali Co-operative Movement

ge for overcoming their role of developing the economical productivity of the country.

Earlier, the chairman of the SRSP Bureau for co-operatives, Jaalle Warsame Abdullahi Ali, delivered a welcome speech

rs of the SRSP were also invited and all have been entertained by the nationalistic songs of the Revolutionary Flowers of Yaqshid District-one of the most promising under-aged artists in the Benadir Region.

## The activities of the Youth Union

On 11th April several delegations of the Central Committee of the Somali Revolutionary Youth Union left on a tour to all the regions and districts of the country for inspecting the union's activities.

This inspection will go on for 3 weeks during which the delegations will put more emphasis on the inspection of matters such as:

1: The re-organisation of the regional and District committees of the Somali Revolutionary Youth Union.

2: The new members and candidates of the Somali Revolutionary Youth Union.

3: The presentation of a detailed dissemination of the Unions documentation and the method of using it.

4: The introduction of guidelines concerning the means and ways of improving the tasks of the union as well as the organi-

sation of Sub-committees to lead the branches of the union.

5: To ascertain the proper functioning of the student committees, the working youth, and the organisation of the Revolutionary flowers of October.

**Preparation for the celebrations of 15 May.**

On 18th April a tournament on various games among the 14 districts of the Benadir region has started at the people's Orientation centre of Boon-dheere district.

This tournament has been included in the preparatory programme of the SRYU for the celebration of 15 May.

This great day coincides with the first anniversary of the SRYU and marks the 35th anniversary of the Somali Youth League (SYL).

Thus for the celebration of this great May day the SRYU has prepared a programme com-

prising of rallies, ceremonies, games, seminars and literary work displays.

**SYMPOSIUM OPENED**

During this month of April the Somali Revolutionary Youth Union opened symposiums for the working youth, the Revolutionary flower of October, the student committees for the National University and the youth of the districts of Benadir region.

The symposium for student committees of the National University was Opened on 18.4.78 by the first vice-chairman of the SRYU also Acting chairman of the union, Jaalle Dahir Warsame Yusuf.

On this same occasion, the president of the National University, Jaalle Ibrahim Maxamud Abyan who attended at the opening Ceremony delivered a speech.

## WORLD AFFAIRS



# ISRAEL'S OB DURACY & THE M. E. PROBLEM

By Said J. Hussein

Day after day, it is becoming clearer and clearer to the world at large that the transient policies followed by the Zionist Israeli government is the main obstacle on the way to achieving a permanent peaceful solution to the problem of the Middle East. Apart from its obstinate stand to withdraw from the Arab Lands it occupied in its aggressive war of 1967, and to admit the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to return to their Homeland and establish a free and independent state of their own, the present Israeli government is bent on capturing more Arab lands and consolidating its grip on the new settlements in the face of the growing international protests and persuasions.

This is simply due to the expansionist policies firmly held by the present ruling «Likud» party under the leadership of Menachem Begin; a man notoriously remem-



President Anwar Sadat of Egypt

bered for his inhuman atrocities which included the blowing up of «King David Hotel» in Jerusalem in 1964, and the massacre at «Deir Yassin» of 250 people including women and children.

Few years ago, the prospects for peace in the Middle East seemed brighter. The Arab right gained a massive international support and sympathy, the Palestinians captured unprecedented recognition including the UNO's, the Israeli aggression met with world condemnation, and the resumption of the Geneva conference to resolve the Middle East problem seemed not only possible but desirable. However, this hope did not materialise. The ascendancy to power in Israel by the «Likud» party crushed all prospects of a peaceful settlement.

The Arab countries, the Socialist states, and all the democratic, peace loving peoples in the world are unanimously agreed that the peaceful settlement of the M.E. issue presupposes that:

- Israel should completely withdraw from Arab lands it occupied in 1967;
- The Palestinian rights, represented by the PLO, should be recognised. A return to their homeland and the establishment of a Palestinian State.
- All the countries of the region should respect the territorial integrity of each other. All differences between them should be solved not by the use of arms but rather by peaceful political means.



P.L.O. Leader Yasir Arafat.

Israel's practical behaviour proves its categorical refusal of these essential points for the resolve of the M.E. problem. It considers its return to the 1967 border as tantamount to committing suicide. Moreover, it vehemently opposes the establishment of any Palestinian state and the PLO's legitimate representation of the Palestinian peoples. In short, Israel refuses to relinquish its expansionist policy aimed at realising the dream of a greater Zionist empire. President Sadat of Egypt, to rightly expel all fears and mistrust, flew to Jerusalem on November 1977 and met with Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister of Israel. Unfortunately, this measure, instead of contributing to the settlement of the M.E. issue, only drove a wedge between the Arab frontline countries.

Israel, which has for a long time proclaimed that all the occu-

ped Arab lands were originally Israeli country in accordance with the Holy Testament is not willing today to budge an inch. The inter-Arab rivalry and difference is another factor of capitulation by Israel. Other points that encourage Israel's abduacy include:

- The disunity among the major frontline Arab states on whose responsibility falls the task of the liberation of the occupied lands from Israel.
- Egypt has not, since its expulsion of the Soviet experts, been able to secure a replacement that could either provide it with the necessary spare parts or new arms sales.
- The American Jews exert a great pressure on the White House lobby in favour of Israeli policies.
- The fact that no single Arab state can today militarily confront Israel by itself.

Begin's view point and future policy is based upon the perpetuation of this state of affairs in the Middle East in order to make his dream a reality. And the recent invasion



Israel's strong-headed Prime Minister Begin.



U.S. President Carter

of Southern Lebanon by Israel comes within the framework of this policy. If Israel was seeking revenge against the Palestinian guerrillas action which had taken place in Haifa weeks before, it should have done so inside its frontiers and not by way of violating the territorial integrity of a sovereign state — Lebanon. The ill-intention of Israel is obvious. It wants to counter the balance of forces in Lebanon and give military and material support to the right-wing reactionary forces in Lebanon and thus establish a puppet regime in that country which would fulfil the dictates of Washington and Tel-Aviv in the area.

Another important fact that immensely contributes to Israeli's stiff neckedness is the constant and consistent support it gets from the United States of America. The US government unequivocally believes that Israel is a reliable ally in the area that should not be let down under any circumstances. Illustrative of this truth is the fact that Egypt too has maintained a good relationship with the US for almost the last decade; it follows a line of policy quite opposed to the Soviet Union, and yet the US, despite its lip-service to the Egyptian's right to liberation, ironically go on

still debating in the White House if the few old F5s fighters planes to be sold to Egypt as against the more sophisticated F15s and F16s to Israel don't constitute a real danger to the security and the stability of the Middle East area.

Asserting that the sale of these planes to Egypt will in no way endanger the security of Israel, President Carter in a press conference held in the old executive Office Building, Washington on March 9, 1978 said: «I have no apology at all to make for this proposal. It maintains the military balance that exists in the Middle East. I can say without any doubt that the superior capabilities of the Israel Air Force compared to their neighbours is maintained, and at the same time, it reconfirms our own relationship with the moderate Arab leaders and nations for the future to ensure that peace can be and will be maintained in the Middle East».

In a nutshell, the imperialist — Zionist strategy in the Middle East is to arm and economically assist Israel so that its military superiority is maintained throughout so that it would check every progressive movement in the area that aspires to genuine freedom from the



domains of imperialism and its legacy of backwardness. So far this imperialist plan has made certain success; but surely, things will not continue along that order for long

There are many reasons for this: First of all, history has proved itself to be always in the side of the progressive liberation movements. A living testimony to this truth is the escalation of the Palestinian liberation struggle, the multiplication of its victories over such colossal enemy, as the Zionist — Imperialist alliance, and its daily operations in the hearts of Tel-aviv and Jerusalem. Secondly, Israel seems to be giving too much, to the internal Arab differences. These differences will eventually cease, and the numerical Arab superiority over Israel will with the forcing of time transformed into qualitative superiority Politically, Militarily, Economically etc.) over the enemy. And to there Likud's anti-historic, anti-logic policies of perpetual aggression and continual expansion which is definitely doomed to destruction.

This being the case in order to avert further damage to be inflicted by the arrogant, stubborn Israeli government, it is imperative that the Arab countries ought to realize that the occupied Arab territories can never be liberated by foreign mediation alone. The go — between mission by the US Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, in the Middle East is bound to have the same fate as his predecessors — Junnar Yarring, William Rogers, Henry Kissinger. The decisive role lies with the Arabs.

The settling of their differences through a democratic dialogue, consolidation of the democratic forces in the Arab world, and the pooling at their immense resources, coupled with their solidarity cooperation with the progressive peace loving peoples in the world; these are the essential pre-requisite

for a final and irreversible victory of the Arab cause and concurrently for the permanent peaceful settle-

ment of the Middle East problem. Any other approach is nothing but ignis Fatumo.



## Namibia: liberation soon to come

By: BOBE

Formerly known as South West Africa, Namibia was Officially renamed in June 12, 1968 by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly. It was a German colony from 1884 until 1915 when it became occupied by South African forces soon after the out break of world war I. After the war the territory was declared a Mandate of the League of Nations and its administration was entrusted to the then Union of South Africa.

As a «C» class mandate, it could be administrated by South Africa, but it could not be annexed. South Africa was instructed, under the terms of mandate, to «promote to the outmost the material and moral well-being and social progress of the inhabitants of the territory» and was required to submit annual reports to the league

Far from complying with the terms of the mandate, the South African government applied its criminal apartheid policies to Namibia notwithstanding indignations and protests expressed by majority of the UN member countries.

That is why on October 27, 1966, the United Nations General Assembly terminated, by it resolution No. 2145, the mandate granted to South Africa 46 years before and declared that henceforth South West Africa was to be regarded as the direct responsibility of the United Nations.

For the practical implmentation



Leader of SWAPO Sam Nujoma

of this resolution, the UN created in 1967 a UN council for Namibia composed of 11 members to arrange the transfer of power in Namibia to the UN. And in June 12, 1968 South West Africa was formally renamed Namibia. A relatively large but sparsely populated country, Namibia has a total land area of some 825,000 sq. kms.

It is strategically located in the South-Western corner of Africa and is bordered on the west by the Atlantic Ocean. Neighbours to the North are Angola and Zambia to the East Botswana, and to the South Africa.

Its main port, Walvis Bay is audiciously claimed as an integral part of South Africa.

Namibia is virtually a colony

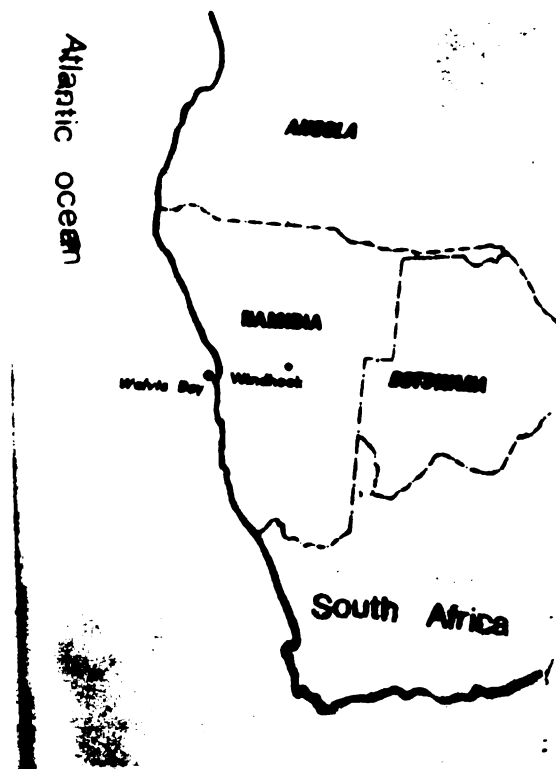
of the fascist regime of South Africa, gallantly struggling to liberate itself from the constant oppression and exploitation, perpetuated by the inhuman Pretoria dictatorship.

It is quite obvious that only a couple of decades ago when the majority of the African countries were engaged in a struggle for their political independence, the liberation Revolution carried by peoples of Southern Africa did not enjoy a wide publicity, as the case is nowadays, owing to the Western mass media's willful and deliberate ignorance of that struggle.

Today, with almost the whole rest of Africa's ascension to independence and with the escalation of the people's resistance to the racist regimes in Southern Africa Rhodesia and Namibia — the problem of Southern Africa, has captured the frontal headlines in the Western press.

The people of Namibia have been subject to one of the most abhorrent colonial domination. Unlike the rest of Africa, the Southern region, has been subject to settler colonialism, that put its grip upon the wealth and potentialities of these countries. Namibia is a country rich in agriculture, fisheries and mineral wealth of immense amount that the international imperialists cannot easily abandon. That is why they, the imperialists are concentrating on finding

ways and means of confronting the genuine national liberation movement of that country (SWAPO). Such imperialist methods as the use of foreign mercenaries or the direct military aggression seem to be somewhat futile in the perpetuation of their interests in Namibia today. SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) is today fighting in different conditions. Apart from the favourable



change in the international correlation of forces, the independence of Angola from Portugal and the accession of the MPLA to power in that country has definitely a positive impact upon the liberation struggle in Namibia.

We often hear international bodies, such as the UNO, OAU etc unanimously resolve the imposition of both severe political and economic sanctions against the racist regime in South Africa with the aim of bringing these regimes to their senses», but unfortunately to no avail.

That is why many people are puzzled how can such anachronist system be able to survive and grow in this tremendously changing World. To be able to answer this question correctly, one has to clearly understand the crux of the problem and the main factors responsible for its sustenance:

«The economy (of Namibia) is based on the country's natural resources — diamonds, copper, uranium. The mining industry, controlled by South Africa and multinational cooperation for its profitability on the large

African labour force. Fishing is second to mining as a foreign exchange earner. Agriculture is also important. Namibia is the World leading exporter of Karakul sheep pelts besides South Africa, Namibia's principal trade partners are the United States, West Germany, France, the United Kingdom and Japan.»

It is these principle partners of South Africa who demagogically pay lip-service to the liberation of Namibia but at the factively support South Africa in curbing the struggle by SWAPO, the only legitimate representative of the Namibia people. To cite only one example that reveals the magnitude of the Western assistance to the Pretoria racist regime the modern (Apoutte), (pumpa) and «superhenix» helicopters, the Mirage fighters, the «Panhard» tanks used by the South African armed forces to repress the liberation movement in Namibia are all made in France, ironically a co-signatory of all the economic and military sanctions passed by the UN against the outlaw regime of Vorster.

In this light it is therefore, not surprising at all for South Africa

to repudiate no less than 80 resolutions passed by the United Nations all to the effect that South Africa's occupation Namibia is illegal and that it should withdraw from that country.

Yet with all these massive and assistance notwithstanding the Namibian resistance against the racist colonial rule has grown in leaps and bounds. SWAPO has found since its resort to armed struggle in the early sixties a reliable ally in the progressive and democratic forces in the World in all the military, political, economic, diplomatic and the cultural fields. This has been so effect, boosting the position of SWAPO to the extent that both the South African Government and its allies are trying to work out another formula for maintaining their interest in Namibia instead of the purely coercive military one.

The Bantustan policy is being put into practice in Namibia. the country is already divided into 11 ethnic «Homeland», each of which would have «limited powers of self Government under overall South African supervision. One such homeland comprising 45% of Namibia's total land area including the Kinalal etc allocated to the white minority population; the other 10 homelands, together comprising 55% of the land were each reserved for occupation by one of Namibia's «Non-white» groups. This is the land deemed as least productive by the South African Government.

This policy though will not pastime has changed, SWAPO has grown both in influence and political consciousness. Such a «Tran-skei» type of bogey is not acceptable to the people of Namibia MPLA, FRELIMO type is the path being followed by SWAPO which commands the vast majority support and backing inside the country. It will not stop at anything short of real independence

that would transform and uplift the socio-economic conditions of long oppressed and exploited masses of the country. The so-called turnhall multiracial constitutional conference arranged by the South African government, with the purpose of creating several mini-puppet states in Namibia met utter failure. It crashed the rock of massive boycott in the country and the denunciation by both the UN and the OAU.

The freedom struggle being wa-

ged by the people of Namibia under the leadership of SWAPO, is not a racial one based on the suppression of the white minority in the country; on the contrary it is a democratic and popular one the ultimate aim of which is to completely bring about the downfall and destruction of the S.A. colonial rule and with it the eradication of all forms of oppression and exploitation; the establishment of an anti-imperialist popular Government.

## The language to Smith ?

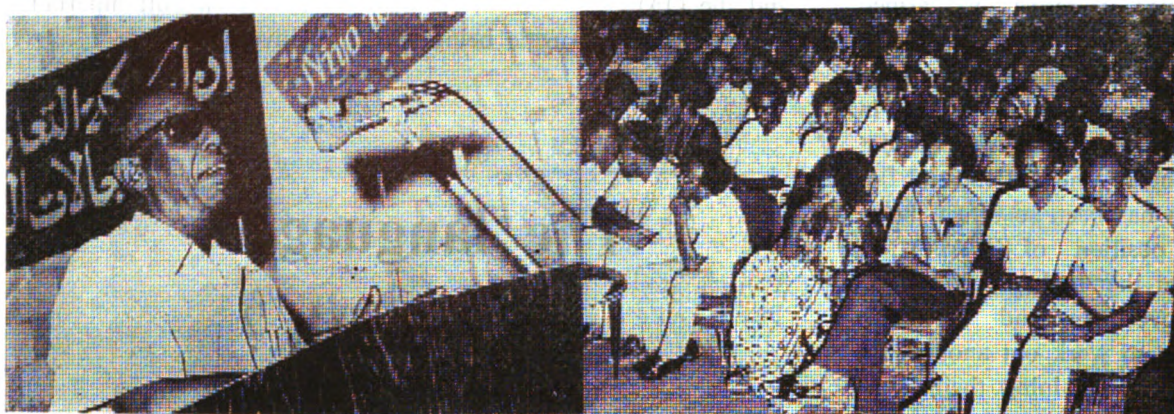
We are members of ZPRA  
there we come armed,  
and fierce,  
With our brains we think  
and plan with our guns,  
Will plan and advance,  
We have no time to waste,  
There we come, with no second,  
Of the hour in a year.  
Will dare pass without,  
The people, and achievements.  
There we come, with weapons in  
our hands  
let the barrel of the gun bring free-  
dom  
dom and peace to all,  
only through the gun,  
That we see freedom for, there we  
come, ragged and fierce,  
Let the bom! sound of the gun  
be our daily food till  
Victory.  
There we come,  
Let dew be our daily water,  
freedom is only born in the struggle  
Let the blood of patriots paint  
the revolutionary flag of Zimbabwe  
Struggle continues  
Through the gun Zimbabwe shall  
be free, victory is Certain.

The Zimbabwe Reveiw No. 9/77

## MONTHLY BULLETIN



## Student's seminar closes



Jaalle Siad addressing the students from the Soviet Union

The President of the SDR, Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre on 20th March closed a seminar for 312 students who returned from Russia and Cuba at the Police Academy in Mogadishu.

In the course of the seminar, the students were briefed on the current situation of the country and their role in the defence of the motherland.

The president, in a speech on the occasion, explained that these difficult circumstances could be overcome by unity, self-confidence and hard work. He congratulated the students on their high regard for the national interest and the decision to sacrifice their individual interest for the cause of the nation.

In opting to fully endorse their government's position in the wake of the deterioration of relations between our country and these states, the president said, the students have shown themselves to be true sons and daughters of their nation.

He added that their action would forever be remembered and assured them that they would be accorded every opportunity to complete their studies in the home and outside educational institutions.

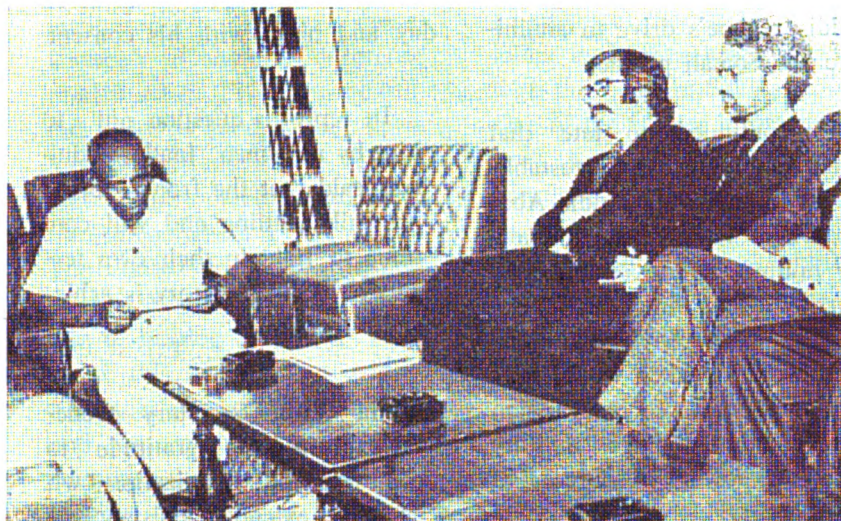
Jaalle Siad underscored the importance of academic advancement for the nation's socio-economic and political development and the revolutionary Government's commitment to train the youth for the country's future leadership.

He pointed out that the country has achieved great successes in this field, thanks to the introduction of the Somali script which, he said, has made it possible to establish schools in the most remote parts of the country.

He continued that the nation has taken great strides in its pursuit of economic progress and self-reliance. «Our aim is to work for the improvement of our people's life through our own efforts» the president concluded.

Jaalle Siad stated that our foreign policy is geared to strict nonalignment and co-operation with other nations who respect our sovereignty.

## U. S. delegation visit Somalia



Jaalle Siad receives the U. S. delegation

The U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Mr. Richard Moose and a delegation accompanying him concluded a six day Official Visit to Somalia on the 23rd of March.

Mr. Moose told newsmen upon his departure that he had discussions on several interesting topics with the Somali Leaders during his stay. The result of which, he said, he will convey to Jimmy Carter. He said that the resettled Communities which his delegation had visited, could be an outstanding example for the world.

The resettled Communities reflect how the Somali leaders under the dynamic leadership of President Siad are caring for their people, he said. Mr. Moose further declared that this step of settling the nomadic people by the Somali Government is of great value for human beings since these people have now already acquired a new way of life and of producing their food requirements.

Earlier, the visiting US Assistant Secretary of State for Af-

rican Affairs, Mr. Richard Moose, delivered a written message to President Mohamed Siad Barre of Somalia from the United States President Jimmy Carter. Jaalle Siad and Mr. Moose also discussed International Issues, particularly the Horn of African conflict.

Meanwhile, representative from the Somali Government and the United States signed on 20th March a credit agreement on food at the Central Bank headquarters in Mogadishu. The agreement provides for the delivery of 50,000 Tons of food at a cost of Seven Million U.S. Dollars to Somalia.

The Minister of Finance, Jaalle Mohamed Yuusuf Weyrah signed the agreement for the Somali Government while the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr. Richard Moose signed it on behalf of the U.S. Government.

Jaalle Weyrah said that the agreement will further strengthen relations between the two countries. The U.S. envoy, Mr. Moose, similarly expressed his appreciation of improving Somali-US relations.

## Continued struggle for liberation

The Secretary General of the Abbo Liberation Front, Jaalle Mohamed Ali Rubey on 12th March declared that the front will continue to wage its war of liberation and that it is prepared for a prolonged bitter war against the unholy alliance of the enemy forces.

Speaking to a group of local and foreign newsmen in the front's headquarters in Mogadishu, Jaalle Mohamed Said that the fighting in the Horn of Africa has entered a new phase.

He disclosed that the unholy alliance, led by Russia, which came to rescue the Abyssinian colonialists has experimented

its military might in the extermination of peoples fighting for their freedom and independence from Abyssinian colonialism.

The front's Secretary General declared that recent SDR Government's decision to withdraw its military units earlier sent to support the liberation forces, will not harm the peoples struggle for independence.

On the American attitude towards the situation in the Horn Jaalle Mohamed Said «the front demands from the U.S. government to clarify whether the human rights issue it fervently propounds is only confined to

those prisoners languishing in Russian Jails or wether Carter's concern of this principle is also applicable to the rest of world, particularly those who, like the Abbo, Western Somali and Eritrean peoples, are struggling to regain their inalienable rights to freedom.

«If President Carter's concern about human rights is only a tactical manoeuvre then he must have consented tacitly and applauded the Russian move to exterminate those who are living under Addis Ababa's colonial rule, he pointed out.

The Abbo Front-Secretary General called on the OAU, the Arab League and all freedom loving peoples to support the Somali and Eritrean Fronts.

Similarly the Secretary General of the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) Jaalle Abdullahi Mohamoud Hassan on the 11th March, declared at a press conference that his movement would continue its struggle for the total liberation of their territory.

Jaalle Abdullahi declared that the recent SDR government decision to withdraw the units of its army earlier sent to support WSLF forces against the unholy allied forces, cannot stop the struggle of the Western Somalis for freedom. «Our is a war of liberation and the Western Somali people will continue their struggle until we drive the colonialists out of the last inch of our territory» he said.

The WSLF Secretary General said it is strange to see both big powers, the Russians and the American's siding with the Abyssinian colonialists to

deny the Western Somali people its right to free itself from colonialism and endorsing the Addis regime's drive to annihilate the Somali people.

He continued to state that American intention to reestablish its influence in Addis Ababa, where it had been the major military and economic patron for a long time, with a hope that Russo-Abyssinian relations would weaken would never materialize since the Russian have committed huge military and manpower resources in that country.

The American government would come to realize its mistake when the Russians bring the whole of the Red Sea and Indian Ocean zones under its domination. The WSLF leader wondered whether president Carter's often declared support for human rights does not include

those of the western Somali and Abbo peoples who are being barbarously massacred day and night with his consent

In reply to question put to him by newsmen, Jaalle Abdullahi said that the front forces are still battling and will continue to fight in their own territory till final victory is achieved.

The WSLF Secretary General expressed his gratitude to countries and organizations which have extended assistance to the fronts and appealed to them for more help in their rightful struggle against colonialism. He also called on the rest of the world community to recognize and support the just cause of the Western Somalis who are fighting for their basic human dignity and rights to freedom.

## Anti-Apartheid Year

1978 marks the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; 1978 also marks the 30th anniversary of the coming to power of the apartheid regime in South Africa. The United Nations General Assembly has resolved that 1978 should be observed as International Anti-Apartheid Year, starting on March 21st, the date which commemorate the massacre in 1960 in the town of Sharpeville of Africans peacefully demonstrating against the infamous «pass laws», one of the most detested instruments of apartheid.

The purpose of the United Nations in establishing this anti-

apartheid year is to bring to the attention of the world the inhumanity of apartheid, the evils of apartheid, and by mobilizing public opinion it is hoped this would bring some pressure on the South African Government to change its ways, and that moral pressure would be brought on the particular governments which help South Africa to change their policies.

Apartheid is a matter of human rights, and as such is a major concern of UNESCO's Human Rights Division. Anticipated contribution by the UN of this field to anti-apartheid year, can be summarised as follows; Apartheid has for at least a generation occupied the

central position of international efforts to bring about the implementation of human rights. Unesco's General Conference reaffirmed in 1976 that apartheid seriously hinders the development of education, science culture and communication in the regions where it is practiced. The educational organization of the UN pays particular attention to helping the direct victims of this system in providing assistance through fellowships and so on to refugees from countries under apartheid; as regards the division of human rights and peace, it has tried to approach the problem in all of its ramifications including the analysis of apartheid as one of the greatest challenges to peace and international security, as well the most flagrant example of systematic and massive violations of human rights.

The UN specialized agency on education, scientific and culture has from its creation worked on the problem of international tensions created by the existence of racism and racial discrimination and is about to prepare a universal declaration on racism and racial prejudice. In this declaration, apartheid is singled out as a crime against humanity. There are other international human rights documents that the UN seeks to promote; the most important of which, with regard to apartheid, is the international convention on the elimination and repression of the crime of apartheid which was adopted in 1973. However the work of the Human Rights Division goes beyond these international instruments. In order to provide the in-depth analysis of social science which is required for the understanding of the problem of apartheid in education, science, culture and information and special books and

information documents on apartheid in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), South Africa, Namibia and other works dealing with the press in South Africa. One of the studies in preparation now concerns the effects of apartheid on the conditions of women in South Africa and Rhodesia; but from the human rights point of view, the existence and the perpetuation of apartheid, of a regime which systematically denies the equality of human beings, is a major challenge to the credibility of all international action in favour of human rights.

«The Somali nation has consistently supported the just struggle of the people of South Africa against the Racist regimes in Pretoria and Salisbury» so stated Colonel Abdulkadir Haji Mahamed, the Chairman for Mobilisation Bureau.

He was speaking at a ceremony marking the end of a week dedicated to the struggle against apartheid and Colonialism held at the workers Hall on 20th March.

He also touched on the Somali Struggle for Independence and Unity.

## Youth anniversary observed

The establishment of the Revolutionary Youth Centres is marked in the SDR on the 26th of March annually. The President of the SDR, Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre paid an inspection visit to the Revolutionary Youth Camps of Afgoi and Lafole. In speech at the Girls Revolutionary Youth Camp of Afgoi, the President congratulated the youth on the 8th anniversary of the establishment of these camps.

He spoke about the aims behind the establishment of these camps, which he said was to create an honest revolutionary youth for the development of the country. «That these camps have been successful can be illustrated by the responsible, efficient and hard working youth which they have produced», the President pointed out.

Earlier, President Siad sent a congratulatory message to all the students in the Revolutionary Youth camps throughout the country on the occasion of the anniversary celebrations.

Meanwhile the SDR Vice-President Jaalle Hussein Kulmie Afrah participated in a ceremony held at the Lafole Centre of the Revolutionary Youth to mark the 8th anniversary of the establishment of Revolutionary Youth Centres.

The ceremony was also attended by party Bureau's Chairmen, Ministers and other Central Committee functionaries.

Addressing the audience on the occasion Jaalle Kulmie congratulated the Revolutionary Youth in the name of the President, Jaalle Siad. The Vice President said that the main aim behind the establishment of the camps were to promote the welfare of the homeless and helpless children so as to bring them up into a well educated politically oriented youth who could be of great value to both themselves and the society, at large.

He continued that the government has tried all in its power to bring forth a devoted and de-

licated youth, and gov't efforts in this area, he added, has already borne fruits. Jaalle Kulmie stressed that it is a declared policy of our revolutionary government to train the youth for the future leadership and advancement of the nation.

He stated that the youth are obliged to repay the care and dedication bestowed on them by dedicating themselves to the implementation of the objectives as enshrined in the Party Programme. Adding that the establishment of the Revolutionary Youth Camps had been effected with the cooperation of the public and disclosed that more camps would be set up in other areas where they had not been already founded.

Groups from the Revolutionary Youth Camps of Afgoi and Lafole ceremoniously laid down wreaths at the Sayid Mohamed Dhagah-Tour, Hawo Tako and the unknown Soldier Monuments in Mogadishu.

On the occasion of the anniversary celebrations similar celebrations marking the eight anniversary of the founding of these camps were also held in the different regions of the country.



Jaalle Siad celebrating with the revolutionary pioneers on the occasion of 26th March.

## Statement on the situation in Horn of Africa

For the last 9 months the international community has been witnessing with increasing concern the unfolding of one of the most brutal and fierce wars fought in modern times in the Horn of Africa. This war of liberation, which has been going on for over a Century was being conducted, on the one hand by the Liberation Fronts of Western Somalia and Abbo and on the other by the combined forces of Cuba the Warsaw Pact and Abyssinia.

The heroic and gallant freedom fighters of Western Somalia and Abo were in this war capable and able to free over 97% of their territory from the colonial, repressive regime of Addis Ababa, after meting to the enemy forces an ignoble defeat and virtually destroying its regular army. In the face of this disastrous situation and certain annihilation, the Abyssinian ruling military regime sought as the only means available for their survival the commitment

of foreign mercenary forces to conduct the fight on their behalf. This is nothing new or strange in Ethiopian history. It is well-known fact that successive Abyssinian regimes have used the rule of involving and employing extra-Africa forces' whether it was made in defence of the so-called «Chritian Island in Muslim Sea» that was Abyssinia upto the first half of this Century, or in the name of socialist solidarity whenever and wherever they were defeated by



the peoples languishing under the colonial yoke.

This time around, the present regime succeeded in bringing in its defence over 20,000 Cuban and Warsaw Pact Forces, and over one billion US Dollars of sophisticated weaponry, which its armed forces could not use for obvious reasons to crush the liberation forces both in Western Somalia and Abo.

At the same time ashamed and embarrassed to admit its complete defeat in the military field by the liberation forces, it found it more palatable to use the Somali Democratic Republic as the scape-goat for such a failure. What is now the situation one may ask? Does the Abyssinian regime believe that the foreign forces stationed in Western Somalia and their temporary presence there shall keep the people of the region under permanent subjugation? Do they really think that they can permanently silence or completely eliminate the concerned peoples quest for independence and self-determination? Don't they see the hopelessness of their feeble dream of maintaining intact the so-called «Ethiopian Empire».

It is obvious from all historical evidence that no force, however mightily, can stop the will and genuine aspiration of peoples to attain their freedom and independence, no matter how great is their sacrifice in blood and human life. Thus, the military intervention of the foreign forces shall not assure any measures of stability for the fascist military junta of Mengistu nor shall their presence contribute towards a just and permanent solution to the problem. How surprising it is to hear of the brazen and shameful statements that are being made lately by Addis Ababa on victory and defeat when the whole world knows

that their own troops could not bear the blast of the Liberation forces that foreign troops that came from hundreds of thousands of miles away fought on their behalf and that if they occupy today any liberated territory, it is thanks to those foreign troops who cleared the way for them.

No doubt the cause of the people of Western Somalia and Abo has attained international recognition and support and the efforts of the Abyssinian regime aimed at reducing the issue to a quarrel between them and the Somali Democratic Republic is a gross and callous attempt to mislead international public opinion, for none can be deceived by the hue and cry raised by Addis Ababa when the international community is fully aware of who dictates its orchestrated baseless propaganda and the objectives, aims and interests behind this smokescreen.

On its part, the Somali Democratic Republic, apart from its obligations under the OAU and UN charters, to support all peoples fighting for their liberation from the colonial yoke, is morally bound to assist and support its brethren in Western Somalia and Abo, and shall never waiver in its determination to do so until these peoples are given full expression of their legitimate right to freedom and independence.

In this context, it must also be pointed out that the necessary conditions conducive to a just solution of the problem must be created. The intransigent and arrogant attitude adopted and the out-right rejection of all initiatives taken in this direction by friendly countries and the international community as a whole by the Abyssinian regime will only further heighten the tension in the region.

The Somali Democratic Republic considers it, however, essential as stated by Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre, Secretary General of the SRSP and President of the SDR on 8th March, 1978, that the basis for any solution to the Horn of Africa problem must include the following fundamental elements:

1. The withdraw of all Foreign troops from Western Somalia.
2. The presence of neutral forces in the territory so as to stop the on-going genocide and reprisals that are being committed by the occupying Abyssinian forces.
3. The recognition of the right of the people of the territory to full independence.
4. Negotiations through the OAU.

## Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesman

A spokesman for the SDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs described the recent allegation by the Abyssinian junta on the 26th of March, 1978 as unfounded and mendacious.

As the whole world knows

the SDR has always been staunchly supporting Djibouti achieve full independence and sovereignty, the spokesman said and added that Somalia has made known such a view at all international conference, particularly

at the UNO, the OAU, the Arab League, the Non-aligned nation's conference and at Islamic and other conferences.

The spokesman declared that the independence of Djibouti has consistently been opposed by the successive Abyssinian regimes. He said that Abyssinian colonialism is notoriously known for its expansionist policy and the suppression of freedom and the denial of the right to self-determination of colonised peoples and went on to say that it has lustily looked forward to the day when it would be able to swallow Djibouti.

«This is amply borne out by the stand of the Abyssinian regime in 1976 towards that country at the UNO,» the spokesman declared and continued that «the Abyssinian government was alone in opposing Djibouti's independence».

He said that the SDR was the first country to recognise Djibouti on its attainment of independence on 27th June last year. Moreover, Somalia, he stressed, has participated with great solemnity in the celebrations held to mark Djibouti's independence. «Throughout the SDR, the occasion was observed and it was a great holiday, the festivities of

which were shared by all Somalis with the keenest joy», he noted.

Having failed in its efforts to block Djibouti's independence, the spokesman disclosed, the Addis junta right from the very day that the former French colony achieved its freedom, has resorted to the new political tactic of fomenting instability and political chaos in that country and the creation of disunity among the citizens of Djibouti.

The bomb explosions in Djibouti in 1977, were, for example blamed on the Abyssinian junta by no less a person than the President of the Republic of Djibouti, he said.

The spokesman declared that the SDR government is in the possession of information that the Addis regime is presently training an army of mercenaries with an eye to creating political confusion in Djibouti. Somalia is also well aware, he said, that there are some foreign governments that are giving military training to some citizens of Djibouti with the purpose of creating an instable political situation that would lead to the uprising of power from the present established government of the Republic of Djibouti by some elements favourable to these foreign governments.

«Abyssinia is spreading the lie that Somalia has sent to Djibouti the troops it has recently withdraw from Western Somalia. This cheap propoganda is meant to cover Abyssinia's designs and expansionist policy towards Djibouti», the spokesman emphasized.

He further declared that it is well-known that Somalia recognized Djibouti on its attainment of independence and that it has established an embassy there such propoganda, therefore, is an insult to the sovereignty and dignity of the government of Djibouti.

«Of late, the Abyssinian regime is making an attempt to link the cause of Western Somalia and the relations of government between the SDR, on the one hand and the Republic of Djibouti and the Kenyan government on the other hand», he said and added that this is aimed at finding an excuse for colonizing the Western Somali territories and creating misunderstanding between neighbouring countries

«The only thing that can be said on such a behaviour is that Abyssinia is violating the respect that is due to these countries national sovereignty and that she is doing so as if she were expressing their interests, «the spokesman concluded.

## Cables dispatched

The president of the SDR Jaalle Mohamed Siad Bare on 2nd of April sent cables to the secretary general of the U.N. Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the current Chairman of the OAU Omar Bongo of Gabon, and Nigerian Head of state, Lt General Olusegun Obasango to brief them on the latest developments

of the situation in the Horn of Africa.

In his cable, the president expressed his honour to bring to their excellencies' attention that on 31st March 1978 Ethiopian planes twice raided the Somali village of Kalabeyd near Hargeisa in North-Western region

causing death and destruction. The cable continued; this follows in the wake of the Ethiopian statement earlier that they will attack Somalia in reprisal for Western liberation front operation in their territory. This act of desperation is a product of their bitter disillusion over the failure of foreign interven.

tionist forces to destroy the liberation movements. In the tradition of colonial oppressors they have now followed the example of the Rhodesia minority clique and the Zionists by resorting to open aggression against Somalia in the hope that this may help divert international attention from real issues at stake.

This fresh aggression is a clear indication of resolve on part of Addis-Ababa regime and its mentors to invade Somali territory in the vain hopes of western Somali and Abbo peoples. Such dangerous action will only bring about further escalation of conflict and direct confrontation.

The Government of the Somali Democratic Republic has in the past shown ample good will in seeking a peaceful solution to the problem. It heeded the appeals of World leaders by withdrawing units of its forces only recently introduced into the area in order to pave the way for withdrawal of all extra African forces and create a climate conducive to negotiation.

This peace gesture has not been reciprocated by the other side. On the contrary as shown by their action and words they have assumed a more rigid, uncompromising and aggressive attitude. Ethiopia's ill-advised naked aggression against the territory of the Somali Democratic Republic will not intimidate the Somali people. It can only strengthen their resolve to increase their support to the liberation movements for the realization of their human aspirations.

The core issue is that of extending the right of self-determination to the people of Western Somalia, Abbo and others

colonized by Ethiopia. Unless this right is recognized and fully exercised, the prospects for peace will remain slender. Ethiopia is therefore under international obligation to express its readiness to respect the fundamental rights of peoples under her domination.

The current Ethiopian policy of aggression will only serve to contribute to the heightening of tension. It will neither help the cause of peace nor of stability in the region. If such acts are not terminated Somalia will have no alternative but to take drastic counter action.

Under such circumstances Ethiopia and its allies will have

to bear full responsibilities for the consequences which will necessarily follow. In addition, if peace is to be attainable in the area it is incumbent upon the OAU and the World community to insure the immediate departure of all foreign forces in the area since their continued presence there will always encourage aggression and intransigence. While reaffirming our commitment to peace, progress and unity of Africa, «I take this opportunity to extend to your excellency the assurances of my highest consideration and regard», concluded President Siad in his cable.

## Coup attempt foiled

The General Secretary of the SRSP and President of the SDR Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre disclosed here today that at about 4 A.M. this morning a group of officers and soldiers attempted to stage a coup but were overpowered by the loyal armed forces.

Speaking to the nation over Radio Mogadishu, Jaalle Siad said that it was unfortunate to see after nine years of orientation for national unity and promotion of national aspirations there were still in our midst some foreign agents hired to cause destruction and bloodshed within our society.

The President, however declared that these traitors who attempted to overthrow the government were crushed by the army and arrested. He said that they would be brought before

a court of Justice and would be dealt with in accordance with country's laws.

The President called for national unity and urged all the Somali people to be calm and be vigilant against those imperialist hirelings militating against the national unity.

Jaalle Siad said imperialism in its many faces was spreading propaganda against Somalia that the country was in economic and political crisis in an effort to cause confusion disorder and destruction in the country. But imperialist conspiracy and intrigue would be foiled said the President, our nation would march forward.

Jaalle Siad once again called on the Somali people to strengthen their unity so as to defeat imperialist conspiracy and intrigues.

# A day of international significance

Comrade Lenin Vladimir Ilyuch Ulyonov was born in the 21st April 1870 in a town called Simbriska in Russia.

At a young age, Lenin made a thorough study of the science of socialism formulated by K. Marx and F. Engels. He later elaborated that science, developed it in theory and embodied it in the Russian Revolutionary party. It was this revolutionary party with the socialist outlook and strictly adhering to the Leninist principles of organisation that led the alliance between the progressive forces in Russia to stage the first and greatest socialist revolution, that swept the abominable Czarist rule and its moribund system for ever.

Lenin had correctly understood early that this world could only rid itself of repression, exploitation, poverty, and aggression if the working class in the world seize the political power in their respective countries, of course under the leadership of their vanguard revolutionary parties. That is why he set down to work laboriously on the essential principles of party life, its structure, its organisation, its tasks in order to destroy the capitalist system and establish a system of a new and by far superior order — the socialist system.

The developing countries which have recently won their political independence are confronted by many difficult and complex problems that impede their smooth development.

One such problem is the question of nationalities and that just right to self determination.

Comrade Lenin has worked out the correct solution to this



Lenin: Liberated the workers

complicated problem based on the socialist principles and in full conformity with the interests of the vast majority of working masses. Amongst the greatest achievements of the Russian revolution was the way it had been able to smoothly and successfully solve the problem of the nationalities which was very acute under the Czarist rule.

Lenin had indeed displayed as unsurpassed in tackling this problem through a revolutionary democratic and humanistic way.

A thorough study of the Leninist approach to the question of nationalities, coupled with a sound understanding of how this question has been further complicated by the colonial powers that arbitrarily seized and administered the countries of the 3rd world, will reveal that it is the only method worth following.

Any other approach from a big country or a small one, from a political party or any other organisation, from a group of people or an individual to solve the problem of nationalities and guarantee their right to self-determination is absolutely doomed to utter failure. History as usual, will definitely reveal the fallacy of any other method adopted for the solution of this problem. Lenin has long made it that all oppression, whether it be that of a nation on another, or a country on another is a result of a class struggle where a minority group yielding power are trying to perpetuate their selfish interests at the expense of the toil of the oppressed masses.

It therefore naturally follows from this that the remedy lies in the overthrow of this small class by the majority — the peoples — All other means have so far proved futile.

The struggle being waged by the oppressed peoples of Somali West, Abbo and Eritrea is in line with the teaching and principles of Lenin. They don't only suffer from class oppression which they share with the Ethiopian working masses but they are also subject to a national one by virtue of their distinct nationalities.

Today, when the 108th birth day of the Great Lenin is being Commemorated throughout the world, it is a matter of pride and pleasure for us to join those who believe in those principles in the celebration of this jubilee. Leninism shall for ages to come be the torch for all the workers and oppressed people struggling for their total freedom.

## The leader highly commends the National Army

The General Secretary of the SRSP and president of the SDR, Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre tonight sent warm congratulations to all members of the national army on the occasion of the 18th Anniversary of the foundation of the national army the 12th of April.

Addressing the nation over the radio, the President wished the national army success in carrying out their national duties and serve their people, who accord them great respect, for their dedication and great zeal.

«I am confident that you will always serve your people, fulfill their aspirations, defend their dignity and independence», Jaalle Siad said.

He said that the national army is known for being the vanguard of its people in defending its dignity and interests.

«The army has always fulfilled its obligations to its people and its accomplishment are remarkable and not obscure for they have always served well their people», he said.

The president added that the national army is from the people, belongs to the people and will belong to them.

Commenting on Sunday's abortive coup by the small group who were serving foreign powers, Jaalle Siad disclosed that the puppet group killed 20 persons wounded 34 others and destroyed few military vehicles, equipment and weapons.

He further said that the Somali army, which countered the plotters, employed every effort to avoid bloodshed and have, in an intelligent way, captured most of them except a few who

fled away and are being hunted down.

«The national army which countered these hirelings were being motivated by their national duties and obligations as was usual for them in the past, whenever the country was faced by a difficult situation.» the president said.

He said that the aim of the puppet group was to exploit this difficult period which the country is experiencing to hand over the country to foreign powers who have bought them

and to disrupt its stability and peace.

The president added that the aim of these foreign powers is to undermine the progress of the Somali people and destroy its self-confidence and unity.

In conclusion, the president declared that any conspiracy against the country hatched by foreign powers will be foiled as Sunday's attempted coup was crushed and that the Somali nation is prepared to defend and safeguard the achievements of their Revolution.

## President Siad visits China



Jaalle Siad, Comrade Feng and Jaalle Ismail Ali Abokor at the Peoples House.

The Secretary General of the SRSP Jaalle Mahamed Siad Barre and a high level delegation accompanying him paid an official visit to the Peoples Republic

of China from April 14th to 19th.

The presidential delegation included Vice-President, Jaalle

Brig.-General Ismail Ali Abokor, Chairmen of the SRSP Bureaus Ministers and high ranking Government officials.

The president and his delegation were accorded warm reception at Peking Airport upon arrival by Chairman Hua Kuo Feng, Vice-Premiers Li Hsien-Nien, and Keng Piao, foreign minister Huang Hua, Deputy chief of staff of General staff of the Chinese peoples liberation Army Chang Tsai-Chien and other leading members of the Chinese Party and Government

The grand welcoming ceremony for the President and his delegation was also attended by foreign diplomats in Peking and thousandsof welcoming crowds waving the flags of the two countries, chanting «Long live the friendship between the Chinese and the Somali peoples».

The crowds cheered as the president's plane touched down in Peking and as he alighted from the plane amid a warm applause. Jaalle Siad accompanied by chairman Hua Kuo Feng, reviewed a guard of honor made up of men of the ground naval and airforces of Chinese people's liberation Army.

At a banquet which was held at the Great Hall of the people and attended by Chinese Party and Government officials and foreign diplomats, President Siad delivered a speech in reply to senior vice-premier Li Hsien-Nien's earlier.

At the outset the President took the opportunity to express appreciation and thanks for the enthusiastic and cordial welcome and the generosity of the hospitality extended to him and his delegation on this visit to China, a land so great and cele-

brated, the land of the People's Republic of China with a glorious and sublime history.

President Siad congratulated personally Comrade Hua Kuo Feng on his recent appointment as the premier of the state council, the conclusion of the fifth National People's Congress, as the visit coincided within the wake of the completion of the work of the fifth Congress.

Speaking on economic assistance, he expressed gratitude to the leaders of the P.R.C. in their tireless efforts to render the developing countries and in particular Somalia, vital economic assistance. And added; «I wish, also to commend the role of the Chinese experts in Somalia for the dedication, hard-work and sincerity they have shown in fulfilling their tasks and their general behavior with our people. It is well known that these admirable qualities not only win the hearts of the Somali people but also those of other developing countries.

This, will, indeed help to further consolidate the cooperation between the two peoples of China and Somalia. In this connection I would like to once again place on record our heartfelt gratitude for the selfless and remarkable assistance given to us by the Government of the P.R.C. in many fields seen as the back bone of our economic and social development. Of course, these achievements in our relations would have been impossible if our relations had not been based on correct principles of full respect for sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs, cooperation for peace and freedom for all». President Siad continued, that the militant relations existing between China and Somalia would not have been realized without

the sound and dynamic party leadership by which the great Chinese people are being led forward in modesty but not servility with pride but not arrogance and with confidence but not complacency.

On the situation in the Horn of Africa he high-lighted the naked aggression committed against the freedom-loving Somali people in this troubled region of Africa.

«In its attempt to defy the Western Somali Liberation cause the Soviet Union, not only denied the Western Somali people's right to self determination and legitimate armed struggle, but also armed their colonizer Abyssinia with the most sophisticated weapons. The Soviet and their lackeys did not stop there, since the front's forces were adamant in their struggle and since the Ethiopian army proved no match to the gallant forces of the front, the Soviet Union and its lackeys had to intervene by air-lifting massive weapons and combat soldiers to the area. It goes without saying that this wanton interference, on the part of the USSR, utterly contradicts the very principles that the Soviet Union professes to champion, the socialist principles attributed to promote the cause of liberation movements and suppressed progressive forces».

Jaalle Siad reaffirmed that the war of liberation by the western Somali Liberation Front will continue and no power will avert the down fall of the Ethiopian Empire which has no place in the socialist ideology which Abyssinia falsely claims. No peaceful settlement can, therefore, be meaningfully achieved unless the right of self-determination is exercised by the people of Western Somalia and

other people under Ethiopian colonialism, under the auspices of the OAU, Arab league and the UN. «It is also of crucial importance that Soviet and Cuban forces, the presence of which constitute a most destabilizing factor in the region, are withdrawn from the scene» he added.

Speaking on international issues; the red sea he said is an important waterway and should therefore, be a zone of peace so that it could benefit the interests of the littoral states and the World in general. With regard to the Indian Ocean the Somali

Government maintains that it also be a zone of peace and not an Ocean of confrontation.

On the middle East question the Somali Government urges the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories while at the same time it calls for the realization of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine including a homeland and a state of their own, he stated.

In conclusion President Siad reiterated that the Government and people of the SDR com-

mend the vanguard role played by the Government and people of the P.R.C. in effectively participating the wars of liberation as well as economic, social and political emancipation of the people of the third world.

During the delegation's stay in China the SDR and the P.R.C. signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement between the two countries in Peking.

The Presidential delegation wound-up their five day official visit to China on the 19th of April 1978.

(Cont. from Page 9)

air-bombardments on some regions of the Somali Democratic Republic. Such air-raids have caused the death of numerous innocent civilians and heavy economic loss to the country.

Such wanton aggressions against the Somali Democratic Republic by the allied foreign forces had obliged the Somali Democratic Republic to decide on sending some units of her forces to support the Western Somali Liberation Movements.

In view, however, of the proposal of the big powers to settle the crisis of the Horn of Africa peacefully and to withdraw all foreign forces from the region and call upon the SDR to recall its units, as these big powers have promised the right of self-determination for the people of Western Somalia should be respected.

The Central Committee of the Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party has passed a resolution that the SDR should recall its units from the front. In this light the government of the SDR

calls upon the big powers to insure:

1. The withdrawal of all foreign forces from the Horn of Africa.
2. The recognition by the parties concerned and the exercises of the right to self determination by the people of Western Somalia.
3. Urgently initiate the process for bringing about a peaceful, just and lasting negotiated settlement to the conflict of the Horn of Africa.

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THE SRYU ON THE OCCASION OF 15TH MAY — THE YOU-

TH DAY AND THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDA-

TION OF THE SRYU.



# CULTURE AND ART

## PEOPLE AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

by Rashid Sh. Abdillahi

The Somalis of antiquity — if that is the right term — were not fortunate to have a general systematic knowledge of their natural environment and specifically with respect to the one under which they lived. The conceptual legacy transmitted to us regarding a balanced and integrated theory on geography is lacking.

However, they did have life knowledge and experiences welded to practical tasks. Anything beyond this which relates to the interpretation of diverse phenomena, and the replaced processes of climatic condition in the areas inhabited, were attributed to a supernatural force of legendary tales.

An illustration of this is evidenced by the Somali nomads' early recognition that if a place is inhabited too long a period, and then it gets rain, the likelihood will have minimized nutritional value to livestock. Accordingly the quality of the animals' supper, and the possibility of herds becoming infected with ectoparasites, i.e. ticks and such like, are heightened.

Somali nomads through practical experience conversely concluded that if a place is left fallow for fairly a long period, and livestock does not browse in the area most probably grass gains in quality and its nutritional value to livestock hence increases there by animals and their greater yield both in terms of meat and milk. Ectoparasites and biting insects also become extinct in such areas, and therefore animal diseases become a rarity. The

condition where settlement and movement is excessive is called «Oolimaad-settlement» in some regions, whereas in others it is termed «Ugbaad».

This example is meant to convey that the knowledge of this type does not go beyond the life experience of a nomadic, pastoral setting. In English parlance the term practical knowledge denotes this life's scope, and in Arabic «El kibra-Imaliya» is the best terminology to be given to it. This knowledge has not been arrived at through social scientists' intensive research, thus is not grounded on the methodology of analysis, synthesis and criticism on the basis of comparing and contrasting the ecological quality and variability of settlement.

In the same way there were not researchers who scientifically probed and surveyed the various kinds of biting insects which carried multiple diseases which their livestock became afflicted with. Their knowledge of animal diseases emanated from the simple involvement in pastoral life, and their endeavours to avoid hazards, while at the same time absorbing and adopting the beneficial aspects.

As it is the theoretical legacy inherited from our forefathers, as above enumerated stems from those practical oriented experiences and accordingly did not attain a level of scientific knowledge. This is not surprising in as much as the level of social development of a pastoral and livestock rearing community not yet fully emerging from the early level of communal ownership, with its primitive form

of social division of labour and production exchanges invariably dictated the lack of educationally qualified people specialising only in search. As it is, it was not possible for society to give rise to a social group devoted only to scientific research in all its multiple branches, and the setting up of institutions dedicated to scientific knowledge.

Human societies have all travelled this self-same stage and today in certain parts of the world it still survives though advanced science and technology closes the gulf, and thereby renders the continuing existence of primitive society almost impossible. However as has been made clear (16th issue of Halgan) the primitive stage of social development is too intimate a part of our present which cannot be washed away.

Admitting that the Somali society's legacy in earlier periods with regard to natural surroundings within which they lived is not to be directly found in written form, yet we do not mean to imply that our ancestors did not address themselves to the problem.

The fact remains that written materials were first excluded by the lack of a script and secondly the historical conditions basing our people made a comprehensive study of a meticulous nature improbable to be carried out.

The Somali people's ability to perceive and sense their natural surroundings, and the struggle waged against nature, and to the extent they were able to tame it, and



their adaptation, to it are all to be seen in our folklore literature which always has been culturally an intimate aspect of their life. This literature is not one directly dealing with the nature of the land, the air, the cold and the hot seasons, the rainy seasons, drought, etc. Notwithstanding all the, facts is in the majority of cases literature did not take up the above issues. If at all it did happen that some known poets mentioned them in their poetic recitations as certain lines indirectly impinge on natural environment, yet this rather rare. By indirect we mean that the lines hinting at nature were mainly created to convey and other completely different meanings, and are included simply on a simile rational (1) As an example the following lines of the late Abdillaahi Sultan Tima Adde» are enlightening:

God eternal

The day we become feeble  
And the livestock we rear  
And the hunted animals are  
powerless

You made rain come

Direct it into the meadows  
Where the greenery sprouts

It can clearly be seen that the poet, though utilising natural imagery such as drought, rain environment, and meadows, yet his objective is quite a different matter.

(1) By simile is meant the comparison between two things and the bringing out of their shared attributes such as saying: Ali is a lion which is meant to convey that Ali has the attributes of a lion in terms of manness, courage and strength.

In as much as we are faced with this reality we admittedly have all the right to convince ourselves that a scientific outlook was ruled that in earlier Somali art. Accordingly we commit a grave historical error if we insist, as some people do, that our ancestors gave final answers to all the scientific questions posed by life. Looked at from another angle it is a wrong against the preceding So-

malis generation to impute to them to have found answers for certain tasks which history as an objective process did not as yet highlight.

It is an incontestable fact that human society never interests itself to answer questions which social need does not make practical ones for solution. The discovery by present science and technology of certain fundamental matters is inseparable from the processes of social growth, which has attained a stage when such affairs become standing questions necessitating immediate answers. It was not so much because there were questions calling for answerable solutions that instigated the European society of 16th century and after to develop, but the society above all, had the capacity to deeply probe into the important matters needing to be attended to.

Thus so long we come to understand that the earlier generations of Somalis did not attain a social growth enabling them to take a scientific lead in the research of the natural conditions with which they were surrounded and additionally in their social life, there is no rhyme or reason to ascribe to them some fictional capabilities.

#### FOLK LITERATURE AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

Let us now direct our attention to the objective relations subsisting between peoples literature and the natural environment inhabited by the Somali nation. By the Somali people is strictly meant those who were most directly responsible to initiate the creation of the people's literature now under discussion. The term the Somali people obviously by its very nature is suffused with historical meaning and its discussion involves us to single out the phases through which it had and is to go.

Somali folk literature, more often, does not take up natural environment, but is linked to people's social life, and for this very reason the relationship it

has with natural environment is precisely the one social life strikes with the environment from which it springs. As it is if we delve more intently into the essence and content of folk literature, peoples environment and the effectiveness of their implements or manual equipment people were armed with in combatting natural environment's hardships become obvious and apparent to ones discriminating ones discriminating mind. Looked at from another angle the Somali people lived in their own land, which had its own specific characteristics, its numerous vicissitudes and hazards confronting them to frustrate their endeavours to create and facilitate life. The life they created had its particularity as shaped by the struggles people waged to overcome the hardships, and the life thus created could not be a stable and balanced one but then though its evolution was slow, it was nonetheless growing and thus harmonising both natural and historical planes. Accordingly the objective relationship subsisting between the people and their soil was reflected by the then folk literature. In all seasons Somali folk literature brings forth the people's movement to create life, and the ever changing transformations environment, in its dimensions of polarities such as drought and opulence happiness and sadness, etc.

Somali people inhabit an arid rainless land, and within a year, it only rains at most two months a year, with the rainfall being minimal. By virtue of being a semi-desert Somalia is sparsely populated and largely is thorny and thirsty land, that is, excluding the inter-riverina area (Juba and Shebelle) the rest is dry land. Even in the regions close to the rivers dryness happens to be predominating. It is mainly in areas with specific exceptional environmental conditions that literary gifted personalities reside.

Anyway the stages travelled through

(CONT. ON PAGE 36)

## THEORETICAL ISSUES



# *What is a historical progress ?*

By, Mohamuud A. Ali (Bayr)

The idea of progress has acted, and still acts as a rich and controversial thematic subject for human social thought to find a conclusive answer, or at any rate for attempts to arrive at such an answer. The controversies, passionate debates and emotionally charged atmosphere surrounding the notion of historical progress intimately touches mankind's destiny here on earth. The categories, tendencies, Schools of social thought vying for honourable place to illuminate as to what we understand by progress accordingly necessitate further elucidation and amplification.

In the attempt to discover the objective laws and regularities of the complex array of natural and social phenomena and processes it becomes imperative to shed light on the interconnection existing, and the direction which the interconnected processes perform take. Henceforth social thinkers have been paying due attention to discover, predict and point out to the direction which human development since antiquity to this very day took. Major groupings emerged amidst social thinkers of thought, with each group expressing sometimes opposite and mutually exclusive principles as to the true nature of historical progress: A set of social scientists categorically and unequivocally committed themselves to defend that the development of human society is an ascending order, a development from lower to higher, the simple to the complex. Underlying this progressive, all-rounded material and spiritual enrichment of mankind is the ever-rising and expanding productive capacities of man, engendered by great social division of labour, sophistication of productive implements, deepening and qualitative transformations of man's skills and efficiency. All these are dictated by historical necessity, i.e. the ever expanding horizons of man's needs favourably acts on the regeneration and rejuvenation of his productive forces, his control over nature, and the more economic and efficient utilisation of resources.

In principle these social thinkers assert the infinite and inexhaustible capacities of man, which if rationally and creatively harnessed are certain to enable us to attain a state of plenty where every individual in society is assured of the full satisfaction of his needs. This tendency in social thought is basically an optimistic and humanistic one since it bases its principles on

the unshakeable belief in man's happiness and freedom which as it openly announces is a fulfilable and cherishable ideal.

Set against and opposing the views briefly above expressed is a host of social thinkers who cast aspersions and deeply seated doubts as to the whole notion of historical progress. Picking up on certain historical events and incidents of a regressive nature they go on to pontificate about the non-existence and actual impossibility of human progress. The schools of thought congregating on the principles of the absolute denial of progress utilise all kinds of facetious and spurious arguments; biological, demographical, geographical and social to assert man's helplessness in the face of the challenges which natural and social development throw up against him. These social thinkers in antiquity and to this day subscribe to man's incapacity to progressively tackle the tremendous tasks that life incessantly imposes upon him. They contend that man, a puny figure, ill-equipped finds himself in a cul-de-sac, as it were vicious circle, which despite all efforts he cannot get out of. In its modern grab this school of thought seizes on the population explosion, the shortage of natural resources, the possibility of a nuclear holocaust and certain unfavourable scientific exigencies, to decry human progress. In point of fact a practical illustration of this sickening mental framework of academic and practical thought is embodied in today's doom predicting philosophy (doom sayers) which of late has taken deep root in Western Europe and America. The fallacious contention of the genetic degeneration of man, thereby the domination of the genetically inferior but uncreative majority over the genetically superior but creative minority eloquently exemplifies the bankruptcy of this pessimistic and anti-human latter day racist inspired and exploitative philosophy spurting from the mouths of academic apologists for continued colonial, Neo-colonial and class domination. Apartheid, Zionism and other forms of callous racism finds succour and support in such philosophies which are formulated by and for the benefit of state monopoly capitalism and the ravenous multinational companies.

## THE ESSENCE OF HISTORICAL PROGRESS.

The postulations of progress though in practical illustration, easy to grasp and pinpoint nonetheless remain

ns a complex and contradictory process which hence defies easy pigeon holing. The complexity of progress resides in the multiplicity and variedness of the numerous elements converging to make it a social whole. Any simplification of this process, or the absolutisation of one set of elements at the expense of others condemns us to a partial and misconceived understanding of the notion of progress. It is precisely in this that the epistemological roots of misguided cognition of progress, or for that matter any other category resides.

Thus to spell out the essence of progress, its driving forces, an all-sided and historical perspective of it is called for.

Looked at historically the notion of progress has travelled a long way and gained depth and insight as man's knowledge of both nature and society gathered increasing momentum. In early antiquity social thinkers advancing progressive ideas grounded it on spontaneous humanistic and justice seeking moral ideals. Since social injustice and oppression gathered momentum after breakup of the primitive commune, and the appearance of classes, and class domination, these progressive social thinkers advanced views strongly critical of slavery and feudalism. Being all objectively ill equipped to furnish scientific substantiation for the views they advocated, these thinkers had no option but to have ultimate recourse to the fashioning of social utopias, or in other words the subjective and voluntarist fashioning and belief in a beautiful world, other than the one we live in. In this beautiful world, progressive social thinkers banished all forms of social injustices, exploitation, oppression and man's cruelty to fellow men. Realising that the emergence of private property was at the root of man's inhumanity to other men acted as a fuel for these thinkers to outrightly and frankly condemn private property, and to strongly advocate a system of public property so as to ensure a just social order. Thomas Mores, Utopia's are eloquent testimonies to the deep human feelings and empathy that was generated in the hearts of these great and noble men, who under unfavourable conditions, championed the cause of the exploited. Another singular attribute of these early progressive social thinkers has been their hatred for the feudal monarchic political structure obtaining under them. In its place they championed a republican political system. Further More and Campanella were highly distrustful of the state as a repressive and coercive political machine. In nutshell More and Campanella's drew their strength from communistic and humanistic views they upheld, but their weakness lay in contrasting a future utopian vision for the reality then existing.

## EARLY BOURGEOIS CONCEPTION OF PROGRESS.

In the heyday of the World bourgeois order when capitalism was still locked up in struggle with the decaying feudal order, progress was a self-evident and undoubted phenomena for bourgeoisie social thinkers. Herder, Turgot, Condorcet and Hegel, great bourgeois theoreticians saw mankind's inevitable advance to a better, more human and just social order. They saw the widening of human horizons resulting from the expansion of the productive capacities of society. Be that as it is, these bourgeois theoreticians sought human progress, its laws, driving forces and essence in the sphere of spiritual principles of man's development. As Hegel argues the historical task of man is the realisation of the self-development of the absolute idea. The absolute idea needless to say, predates man, and gives rise to him. In short for Hegel the development of the World, is the development of ideas, spirit etc.

The bourgeois thinkers for whom progress was an undeniable natural advance were those two espoused an enlightened view of social development. The period of enlightenment beginning from renaissance to the French and German enlightenment eras saw the praise lavished at progress. In the minds of the rationalist philosophers such as Spinoza the historical march forward was ingrained in man's reason which impelled the pooling of human efforts, the banding of man into society as a natural process, with the state expressing the power of people brought together. The supposed march forward was not susceptible to reverse, or to gave way to an epoch of decline. Turgot, in his discourse on universal History said that «Through the alternation of agitation and calm, of good and evil, the mass of the human race keep marching ceaselessly towards its perfection». The tenor of this proves the resilient belief in historical progress, though Machiavelli's influence is also noticeable.

The shortcomings of the great enlightener's views on progress were a natural of their idealistic historical outlook. Indeed they recognized the valuable role that knowledge and science play in equipping man to control nature and use it for his betterment, but progress was mainly associated with spiritual development and the improvements brought on political institutions, notably the state. Of course the state was purified of the sacred and divine aura surrounding it as was the case in the times of slavery and feudalism. It was made secular and answerable to society, as emphatically propounded in Montesquieu's «L'Esprit de lois». At the same, these formidable thinkers ignored certain highly relevant spheres such as the origin of exploitation, the roots of injustice and the antagonistic nature of class interests. The French revolution

with its slogans of equality, fraternity and liberty was the brainchild of rationalist and enlightened bourgeoisie thinking on progress. This revolution was the consummation of all its ideas on social justice, which as practical experience has proved to be nonmaterialisable and simply a chimera. Jean Jacques Rousseau, a great enlightener who paved the way for the French revolution sounded the alarm very early and discovered earlier than others that their conception of progress was not foolproof and watertight. Neither the equality, liberty nor the brotherhood called by the French revolution found practical implementation.

#### PRESENTDAY BOURGEOIS CONCEPTION OF PROGRESS

Positivism and positivistic analysis today dominates the bourgeois sociological views on progress. Positivism as a world outlook made its appearance in early 19th Century when capitalism was losing energy and drive to propel society further ahead into the golden age as envisioned by optimistic social thinkers of earlier periods. Auguste Comte and Herbert Spencer in the first half of the 19th Century came up with an evolutionary and organistic determined views on social development. Drawing on Charles Darwin's evolutionary theories they formulated a structuralist oriented perspective of human progress. Moreover progress for them came to an end with the advent of the capitalist era. Any progress to be further accomplished ought to remain within the bounds of the immutable and eternal prerequisites fashioned by the capitalist order. Over and above this, progress was seen as a slow and smooth process bereft of all social antagonisms. It was simply a successful and efficient adaptation to new natural and social conditions. This smooth and calm process was characterised by social homogeneity, continuity, and Obviated any qualitative and discontinuous tendencies toward social transformation. Harmony in both nature and society was the catchword and keynote to balanced and regulated progress analogous to the cumulative changes that occur from time to time in the organic World.

The views of Comte and Spencer, obviously with greater sophistication and adaptability hold sway in the presentday sociological life in the West. An analysis of various elements, instead of the social whole of development, a glut of empirical factual data regarding social institutions, without any attempt at sweeping generalisations and the laying down of fundamental principles is a singular characteristic of present day bourgeois sociology, as is admitted by the respected American sociologist Talcott Parsons.

Noteworthy to be mentioned is that today empirical sociology addresses itself to social change rather than progress. The notion of social change was advanced by Ogburn with the conscious understanding of expun-

ing and Jettisoning the concept to progressive change. The proponents of the concepts of social changes assert that accumulated scientific data of the 20th Century has frustrated the too simplistic views of an immediate and straight forward stages of social progression held in the 19th Century and for this reason these advocates of social change subscribe to the viewpoint that any notions of progressive social development has to be banished from sociological analysis. Concomitant with the stages of social progress, and pre-supposed by them, is the replacement of a set social structure social relations, as a reflection of the material foundation, with another set which are qualitatively distinguishable. The notion of social change negating the dialectical materialist method opposes this, and states that scientific research has disproved the sequential following of social structure. On these grounds they, at worst, discard or at best belittle progressive development of human society. For the advocates of social changes versed in modern positivism phenomena are individual, unique and inimitable, and these phenomena instead of going through transformation and metamorphosis go through death and destruction. The metaphysical nature and idealist trappings of modern positivism need not be exclusively elucidated but a practical guideline is its negation of human needs, aspirations and hopes which only a progressive philosophy can eloquently express.

#### REVIVAL OF THE CYCLIC THEORY.

Doubt with regard to social progress, and its everlasting efficiency has been expounded for a long time. Early in the 18th Century the Italian philosopher Giovanni Battista Vico, honestly translating the objective circumstances obtaining in Italy refused to commit himself to any constructive and progressive evolution of society. Vico's outlook is a sad and agonising one, he can neither find moral justification for the rotten feudal order he was living under, nor could he drum up support and sing praises for the rising bourgeois order. In the end he evolved an agonistic philosophy. Human history is telescoped into three stages: The divine period, the heroic and the human period. Each has its attributes, but the main thing is that for Vico, is the inspirational lack of a bright future for mankind. In the 3rd human period though the noble and aristocratic strata is beaten by the masses, nevertheless, society suffers a decline, and the cherished hopes of mankind are shattered.

The Cyclic theory in its modern and refurbished image derives its inner strength from the writings of Oswald Spengler who in 20s and 30s of this Century propounded a theory of cycles Vis-a-Vis European culture and civilisation.

European history as spelt out by Spengler drawn on the analogy of a child's development; a child is born,

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## BOOKS &amp; DOCUMENTS



## ROOTS BY ALEX HALEY

By Amina H. Adan

Kunta Kinte was highly unfortunate to be a slave but on the other hand was fortunate to have a superb novelist as a seventh generation grandson. The above mentioned title is the story of this slave. It is the blood dripping tragedy of an African from the Gambia in the 1700's who was young, youthful and perhaps musically gifted who left his village (in now famous Juffre) to make a drum for himself from the woods. Fate or shall we say, the economical order of the day, put him in the merciless hands of slave capturers.

Haley has written this book so lovingly, he made each chapter fit the other as if it were an orchestra which the musicians would play each note so precisely, so carefully and so gently. Millions of T.V. viewers wept, felt guilty asked each other questions, admired the bravery of the slaves. Yes, Kunta was a brave and strong man. His bravery and strength are undeniable because, any slave who arrived the middle passage and made it to the new world, was a war hero by anyone, standards. Newsweek reported that a nine year girl called Becky Kelley from North Carolina wept when she saw the slaves shackled in the ship's hold. « I used not to like blacks», Becky said «Now I feel sorry for them because they were treated like that». Not only the children of America see Roots, but right now children in Abu Dhabi watch Roots every Friday. The Chapters about slavery are so vivid, so well organized, so penetrating to the so-

ul you would not know whether you are relapsing into a sleep or awaking from a nightmare. No wonder in Brazil were burned all records, documents and works about slavery in the 1800's to try to conceal a so huge crime!

And so Kunta Kinta made it to America and contributed his efforts to the building of that nation. Like many of his fellow Africans he planted cotton and cane, like many he knew the whip, the lash, the slave broker and the overseer. Like many he wept, sang, dreamed, prayed, believed in god so intensively, so that he might be delivered. Like many he got disappointed and died as slave. He wondered why his kind were singled out for misery. He yearned for a peaceful truly life. Like many he doubted the humanity of the slave-owners and thought he was superior to them because they had no feeling and what is a man if he beget all the wealth of the World and loses his soul!

When the book was changed to a film millions saw it in Europe and America. In the African continent where parts of the tragic drama originated it is changing Africa history. African historians are contacting their griots like mad.

Let us pause for a moment and ask who is Alex Haley? He is a self taught native son of black American, who worked on a U.S. coast guardship for twenty years. He wrote reports for the Captain who could not write and also helped fellow crew members to compose

love letters for their girl friends. Haley charged one dollar for each letter and also since he was the only Afro-American on the ship his colleagues never dared to utter the word nigger for fear that he might withhold his much needed talent «writing for them». So clearly in life, Haley knew how to combat his enemies with the written word. After retiring in 1959 he became a magazine writer and an interviewer. Then in the mid Sixties he wrote a most wonderful work, that was sold, read and seen by the millions: The Autobiography of Malcolm X. political scientists and historians the World over are aware of the mighty spell that Malcolm's book had on millions. It is not our concern here to comment on Malcolm's book but sincerely I wish we have the chance to discuss it sometime. Twelve years went by before Haley gave his readers Roots, and Roots was hailed as «an epic work destined to become a classic of American literature before it was published. So Haley, the writer, whose readers always pass the million was drawing great numbers again, 250 American colleges offered credit courses relating to Roots. Washington's national archives became crowded with people who were inspired by Roots and want to trace their own roots.

It was reported as a record that 130 million Americans saw it on T.V that is 85% of the American population. NBC reported that Roots was seen by more than any other series even «Gone with Wind».

It's viewers skyrocketed that T.V. manager commented «I think its the beginning of a dynasty». one advertiser signed up for the series by 120,000 a minute. Haley has made more than \$ 2 million in royalties alone. Roots has already been sold in 16 countries. The readers might be delighted

to know Haley is writing another novel 'Search' which is the story of how he searched, researched and reconstructed the history of his ancestor.

This is the story history, the melodrama of three continents, Europe, The New World and Africa. It is the story of a native

son of Gambia. It is the story of Nat Turner, Dr. Dbuio; Harrit, Tubman, Carmicheal and Rap. Yes all of them and more. It is the combined efforts of a beautiful people who survived the toughest odds mankind saw. In short it is the blues blended with Jazz in written form

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grows up, matures, gains adulthood, gets old, decays and eventually dies. Human culture and civilisation travels through the self-same historical rungs: It has its child-brith, its noonday, when it enjoys full strenght and vitality, followed by the inescapable decline and decay. This process of growth, flourishing maturity and irretrievable destruction is an ongoing, and is a doomed historical tragedy which mankind with folded hands h<sup>4</sup>s to go through, and passively sucumb to. Mankinds, avenues of hope are all closed to this invariable demise and the best reaction is a graceful submission.

Arnold Toynbee, the late prolific British historian in ten successive volumes of his: A Study of History (1934-1955) has elaborated on the cyclic theory by giving it an academic respectability it never enjoyed before. In his theoretical exposition he adduces his own version of historical development by taking a standard model. Society in his schematic plan is divisible into two levels of civllisation. Growth and decline. These take place within the social perimeter consisting of two groups; a creative minority, and an uncreative majority. The two groups are surround by primitive societies. A progressive evolution of this society warranted an idyllic relation subsisting between these three parts. In this the creative minority who is charged with onerous tasks, serves ideally the welfare of the society, i.e dis-

charges duties beneficial to the uncreative majority, and strikes just relations with the surrounding barbaric tribes. However this setup is extremely fluid for the creative minority gives away to dominant minority who practise repression against the mass. Accordingly a Schism develops within the uncreative mass, giving rise to a dominant minority Vis-a-Vis the surrounding barbaric tribes. Consequently the external proletariat in ten successive Volumes of his: A study of History and this has the natural consequence of creating a chasm in social unity, thereby prompting decline. Toynbee sees the inherent social contradictions with which class-divided Society is rent, but pinning his hopes on the capitalist order he seeks for stablishing factor. Naturally he discovers the Christian religion as a convient smokescreen giving a new lease of life to this exploitative system. Be that as it is the Christian religion fails to act as a prop to a system which in the eyes of human society is too bankrupt to be doctored back into life

In conclusion for this first part of my article one can only modestly cover the complexity of the whole issue, the multiplicity of theories regarding it, and thereby the need for a comprehensive critique grounded on an objective assessment of human experience as it pertains to this vitally important sphere. In my second article a Marxist approach to historical progress will be attempted.

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ough must have constituted more than the hunting of wild animals and picking fruits. But then the hardships of life must have compelled them to pursue a trans-human life in as much as life did not allow them a settled way of life. At all times they had to move to where the circumstances took them, and where seasonal water Reservoir were to be found, and the nomadic community's folk literature showed the pervailing realities as best it could; as the following example manifests:

The dark clouds, bring in Mor-

ning And evening rain.

This is a song for livestock, and clearly evinces the great value with which rain was vested by this society. And in this way literature of the daily tasks reflects the natural phenomena and their skills: (this will be dealt in greater detail in a later struggle).

The ecology conditions also compelled them to mainly rear camels, and accordingly the season why camels were valued so dearly from the fact that its adaptability to dryland is much greater, and it can cope with water scarcity, and moreover can support human sur-

vival in such arduous conditions as the following example

Jawoy mine and the lean camel herder

Alone weather the hard, dry season and for this you are loved.

Rearing of livestock, particularly camels, the methods of caring for it the long Journeys and the continuous moving about has created a society extermely conscious of rain. The spificicity of this life is intimated by folk literature, but this will be a different subject matter to be tackled in a later article.



8th March celebrations



12th April: The National Army day.