



Comité de Enlace por la Reconstrucción de la IV Internacional

January 8, 2015

Declaration of CERIC, about terrorist attack against magazine Charlie Hebdo



On Wednesday, January 7, two armed men stepped into the premises of the French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo and shot 10 journalists and cartoonists. The operation was characterized as a terrorist attack. The objective was the annihilation of journalists considered enemies of Islam and defiling the Prophet Muhammad. French police identified as responsible for the attack the brothers Said and Sherif Kouashi, tipped to be Al-Qaeda members in the Arabian Peninsula.

The fact of the attack occur in France and reach known cartoonists had an immediate worldwide impact. The content of the campaign publicized by the media is that it is an act of barbarism against civilization.

The US president set the tone of the campaign qualifying occurred "horrible and cowardly". President Dilma Rousseff followed the same tune. A list of intellectuals, journalists, cartoonists and analysts march on the banner of freedom of the press. In France, President François Hollande joined Nicolas Sarkozy in defense of the "republic" and "national unity". The right, represented by the National Front of Jean-Marie Le Pen, claims the right to be present in the defense of France movement against terrorism. The population is summoned to take to the streets and carry the flag "Je suis Charlie". Finally, terrorism is considered as the opposite of civilization, as if the former were not gestated within the latter.

The hunt for Kouashi brothers mobilized the full force of repression. Paris is besieged. The two jihadist militants were surrounded. They did not accept to surrender and died in combat with the French military. Everything indicates that it would be better for the French government have them living in their hands. It is the interest of imperialism to explore as much ideological and emotional effects of their war against Islamic nationalist movement, which uses the terrorist method of combat.

The power nations are well aware that the jihadist organizations cannot embody a revolutionary movement that endangers the economic and political foundations of capitalism. But they have to crush them since they assume nationalist positions defended with weapons, including terrorism.

The satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo means absolutely nothing in this war, which develops in the Middle East, Asian and African countries. Its weekly circulation was only 60,000 copies. The cartoons struck indiscriminately leading figures of the social and political world. There was not a magazine dedicated exclusively to mock Muhammad, Sharia and the jihadists. Why, then, Kouashi brothers planned the murder of the whole summit of Charlie?

According to the campaign of the world press, the explanation lies in the barbaric nature of the terrorist organizations that are covered with Islam. This is an explanation that serves to imperialism, which plays a wide oppression around the world, particularly in countries where Muslims are manifested movements.

Certainly, religious fanaticism is present in the attack on Charlie Hebdo. Not surprisingly, the press highlighted a phrase that was possibly torn the lungs of one of the terrorists, "Muhammad avenged." The magazine had already suffered an attack and threats to journalists were constantly made. However, fanaticism alone does not explain such hatred to caricaturists. It turns out that despite the low penetration in the population, Charlie Hebdo expressed the imperialist France against the jihadist movements. His caricatures, like it or not its creators, were part of the colonial and imperialist ideology of France. Only the absence of a class of political analysis equals a cartoon of Muhammad with the Pope. The Vatican and the Pope are politically hand in hand with France. His caricature has no transcendence.

But the caricature of Muhammad is an ideological attack on the jihadist movement. There is its transcendence. If we understand this dimension, we will have an explanation of why a small magazine was target of size hatred.

The P.O.R. as Marxist tendency has always rejected the terrorist method, catching the fighting outside the proletariat and the oppressed masses. The POR has a clear characterization about obscurantist character of movements supported on religion. However, never endorsed nor will endorse a position near to the imperialism to crush them. The attack on the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo will not bring any progress to the rebellion of the oppressed nations against the oppressor nations. But this is not a reason to condemn the attack in support of imperialism campaign. The exploited people must identify French imperialism as responsible for the emergence of Islamic nationalist movements that are launched by means of terrorism, since they are faced with a powerfully armed oppressor that is willing to slaughter and genocide to preserve its economic interests and domain. It is no coincidence that discrimination in France -and within all-powerful nations- against immigrants and particularly the Arabs, is violent.

It is false to establish an opposition between barbarism and civilization. This is what has just been done in the bloody attack on Charlie. This same criterion has been applied in the US war against the Islamic State and other jihadist movements. The modern barbarism originates within capitalism in its most advanced stage of development. The two world wars were its landmarks. Military interventions in various parts of the world by the powerful nations are the continuation of barbaric methods of rule.

The terrorism of Islamic organizations comes from the gigantic oppression of peoples and semi-colony nations. Colonialist countries like France germinate within itself such resistance. As the power nations continue to crush national movements in the Middle East, Asia and Africa, more and more will resent in his own gut of tragic events such as the Charlie Hebdo.

The main conclusion is that the working class must take in their hands the fight against imperialist oppression. Only then terrorism will lose its place of resistance. The advance of barbarism is due largely to the regression suffered by the world proletariat. Only the socialist revolution program opens the way to end the oppression of the people, poverty and backwardness of the masses. The French working class is faced with the task of unmasking the bourgeoisie, which poses as democratic, civilized and peaceful. With this fight, terrorism become innocuous.

Workers, farmers and youth, we must reject the imperialist
campaign against terrorism.

Barbarism is product of capitalism in decay.

Let us build the revolutionary party to end all kind of oppression.

Long live socialism!