FACTS AND FICTIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS

in Democratic Republic of Afghanistan

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Today, man and the question of his rights and freedom are at the centre of attention of the world public more than at any other time. Because, humanity enjoys in the present era excellent mental, material and technical possibilities and possesses precious experience of social practice.

In our time, when all possibilities have been provided for the emancipation of man from the sway of spontaneous action of the natural law, humanity is fully able to change the world, universe and society and turn our planet into a happy home for the entire human race. But, these huge possibilities, which are the outcome of man's labour and thought, are used in two wholly opposite directions.

The progressive forces of our planet who favour the course of historic development endeavour with their just work and struggle to turn this potentiality into an actual and worldwide reality. But imperialism, going on decline, strives with all its might to stop the irreversible wheel of history, or at least slacken it.
The world imperialism, led by US imperialism, has subjected humanity more than at any other time to false fabrications, distortions and deceit so as to conceal and misrepresent these opposite realities of our times.

Imperialism ignominiously and deceptively speaks of justice, democracy, human rights and freedoms and even goes on and calls itself their defender and guardian.

Wide-scale utilisation of this shameful propaganda method was started along with the "human rights campaign" under J. Carter.

According to B. Chaus, an American preacher and fighter of human rights in the United States; this hypocritical campaign of the White House rulers is a technic for achieving their foreign policy objectives.

But, if precisely assessed, the campaign is the Trojan horse of White House that hides in itself the evil of neo-colonialist and inhuman policy of imperialism.

President Reagan has not only abandoned the Trojan horse, but put it at the disposal of the unbridled ambitions of extreme reactionary imperialist circles.

More ridiculous is the fact that these "defenders" and "instructors" of "human rights" accuse the most progressive and humanitarian forces of our era-world socialism, proletariat and national liberation movements of violating democracy, freedom and human rights.

It is just like when an escaping thief shouts, "thief, thief".

Maybe the use of this term is awkward in socio-political literature, but it explains briefly
and openly the reality of imperialist style defence of “human rights”.

The true reality of imperialist countries, first and foremost the United States of America that introduces itself as the custodian of “human rights”, and their inhuman deeds throughout the world, including the undeclared war against the DRA, is a long record of imperialist aggressions committed against humanity and their natural and basic rights.

The imperialist mass media unleashing an onslaught of unbridled fabrication follow in the footsteps of Goebbels. It is done with the hope that if a lie is repeated hundred times, it will substitute reality.

In order to give credit to the mass media dependent on information monopolies, the information imperialism call them “free media” and impose on public mind a distorted and incorrect picture of the objectives and actions of the forces of peace, democracy and social progress.

Anne Raless, the notorious former chief of infernal CIA has said that skillfully made lies inflict several fold damage to the enemy than what one thousand spies can do. And he is right, because maybe the entire progressive humanity seem enemy to him.

It is true that there also exist in the West conscientious and truth seeking journalists and some of them have visited Afghanistan. They have witnessed the truth and tried to convey them to the public opinion in their countries. But, can these calls of conscience compete with the giant devil called “information imperialism?”
The question is not some misunderstanding spread by the mass media of imperialism. Because, the imperialist states and their propaganda organs well realise the truth. Only they deliberately pass it in silence. They either spread lies or mix some isolated facts with lies in such a way as to distort the truth and display everything fabricated. They do so regarding our country, and strive by making use of the Trojan horse of "human rights" to inject anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet poison in public mind.

The imperialist myths about the DRA are not simple and harmless. Because, behind these myths lie the brazen acts of imperialism using poisonous substances, ground-to-ground and ground-to-air missiles, mines, bombs, mortar shells and boobytraps in the form of toys bearing the mark of (Made in USA) or purchased by US dollars and exported to our country to bring death, disaster and sorrow to our defenceless men, women, and children who have committed no other sin except wish for a better life and refused to obey imperialism.

So far, the White House has spent under the mask of this myth 1.5 billion dollars in the form of weaponry, logistic supplies to the CIA mercenaries against our country. It has also earmarked in the current year 760 million dollars for the same purpose for CIA to carry on its crimes.

These "gifts" are exported to our country through the territory of Pakistan where the heels of General Zia strangle the people of Pakistan and from Iran from where the smell of blood and
medieval dungeons is rising.

It is just like the “gifts” exported from Honduras to heroic Nicaragua, from South Africa to Namibia, Zimbabwe, Angola and Mozambique and from Israel to the Middle East.

We have written the truth not for gents, defenders and propagandists of the crime of undeclared war against the DRA but for those who love freedom, justice, peace and truth, who possess love of their fellow human being.

In June 1982, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America declared from the tribune of the British Parliament a crusade against progressive countries and forces, the socialist countries, developing countries of socialist orientation and national liberation and revolutionary movements. He also called on his allies to join this war.

He defined in his talks the tasks of the crusade as “Struggle against terrorism”, for “human rights” and “democracy”. In this way, the campaign of Carter for “human rights” and that of Reagan for “struggle against terrorism” were unified in the crusade of the White House.

Two weeks after declaring the crusade in the British Parliament, Ronald Reagan made another speech in Langley, headquarters of CIA, where he assigned the following tasks to main and leading forces of this war:

“We should call on all states of the world in this crusade for freedom and wide-scale campaign for human rights. You (meaning spies and CIA professional destructors) stand at the forefront of this struggle.”
Let us see what honours were achieved by these pioneers of struggle for “human rights” who have got the honour of being assigned such a task and commanded by their President.

We take a brief glance at the CIA activities against revolutionary Afghanistan.

CIA ACTIVITIES AGAINST AFGHANISTAN PRIOR TO APRIL REVOLUTION:

The important geographic and strategic situation of Afghanistan in the Indian sub-continent, her common border with the Soviet Union had always caught the attention of the designers of military strategic plans of US imperialism.

The British magazine ‘Contemporary View’ frankly wrote in April 1949 that Afghanistan perhaps gains such an importance as the states bordering the “iron curtain” in Europe.”

The magazine ‘Current History’ wrote in 1950 that one of the reasons for the attention devoted by the US to Afghanistan was because of her probable future importance as a theatre of attack against Russia. And, eventually New York Times admitted in its June 1955 issue that...Today, very few regions exist in the world to attract more than Afghanistan the attention of US politico-military experts.

It is for this reason that the US government has always striven to direct the internal changes in Afghanistan to such a course as would enable it to drag Afghanistan into imperialist aggressive pacts.
Simultaneously after the downfall of the monarchical regime, the CIA, helped by professional terrorists and those organised during the monarchical regime as strike force of reaction and imperialism against the revolutionary movement, resorted to creating obstacles, attacks on public demonstrations, terror against political figures, false fabrications against progressive forces, throwing of acid on the faces of unveiled women and girls and other crimes and started forming and training of subversive groupings.

The CIA established a military camp in Atak of Pakistan and gathered five thousand people there, most of whom were criminals kept under watch by judicial and security authorities, and got them under training at its own expenses.

The engineering of the imperialist undeclared war against the DRA was started immediately after the victory of the April Revolution in Afghanistan.

Some of the feudals, compradors, usurers, lords and elite bureaucrats attached to overthrown regime fled to Pakistan. They had close political, ideological and economic dependence on imperialism and were set as the means of execution of imperialist plans against the DRA.

It goes without saying that the overthrown exploitative and oppressive classes and strata formed a small minority of our society and, without the wide-scale direct protection of reaction of the region and world imperialist led by US imperialism, had no other alternate except to give in to the will of the Afghan people. But, as imperialism was
determined to impede the April Revolution of the Afghan people and wanted to realise its long-cherished plans in Afghanistan. Hence, it undertook using them as an instrument for exercising these plans.

In January 1979, a CIA-sponsored conference of the counter-revolutionary ringleaders was held in Lahore to organise them for implementation of its plans.

The anti-Afghan activities of US imperialism became more severe particularly, since the spring of 1979 after its shameful defeat in Iran and collapse of the Iranian monarchical regime.

The daily Figaro, published from Paris, wrote on June 2, 1979 that no basis exists to think that the US would stop, after sustaining defeat in Iran, its activities in the region. The daily emphasized that the USA wanted to make at any cost maximum use of the events in Afghanistan and would organise armed resistance against the DRA and utilise it for its anti-Soviet objectives.

The daily wrote that the US must reach an accord with Pakistan to this end and added that there exists a prerequisite for this work.

This fully came true because the Pakistani daily 'Nationality' wrote on July 4, 1979 that as a result of the revolution in Iran, the CIA had transferred its base to Pakistan so as to control from there the events in Afghanistan and Iran.

As was later exposed by the US press, the plot of the undeclared war engineered by CIA against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was not organised and at a low level, but President Carter
assigned the assistant chief of CIA from the very days of 1979 to put the plot into practice.

In summer 1979, a fully co-ordinated war was unleashed against the DRA and thousands of armed bandits infiltrated from the soil of Pakistan into Afghanistan.

The session of the US national security council endorsed in January 1981 the subsequent plans of "support" to Afghan counter-revolution.

In January 1980, Senator Charles Peres openly stated in a speech that the US should render direct aid to Afghan counter-revolution.

President Reagan demonstrated further ignominy by continuing the undeclared war against DRA.

When he was asked by newsmen, after taking power, about the illegality of arming of Afghan counter-revolution by the United States, he responded that philosophizing was useless when the action is done. He not only did not put an end to this illegal action but increased it to an extent that the US press itself confess that after the Vietnam war the CIA has launched its biggest clandestine operations against the DRA.

Now they admit that 80 per cent of the CIA budget is allotted for conducting the undeclared war against the DRA.

According to the data released by the US press, the government of that country has so far spent 1.5 billion dollars in the undeclared war against the DRA. It has earmarked for the current year alone 760 million dollars to CIA.
In the course of this undeclared war of reaction and imperialism, heinous crimes have been committed by CIA and its accomplices against the people of DRA.

—The counter-revolutionaries have martyred hundreds of Afghan teachers who committed no other sin but spread the light of knowledge among Afghan children.

—The counter-revolutionaries have mercilessly killed tens of engineers, doctors, nurses and employees in other vital social services who had done nothing but honest service to people.

—The counter-revolutionaries have brutally martyred almost one thousand patriotic religious scholars and clergymen who publicised the truths about the sacred religion of Islam.

—The counter-revolutionaries cruelly and barbarously threaten and frighten the people and have tortured thousands of our citizens including women, children and elderly people and disgracefully encroached on their dignity, honour, life and property and forced them to wander.

—The bandits have destroyed almost 130 hospitals and health centres, 2,000 schools and madrasas, 250 mosques and other public institutions and have totally inflicted damage of around 40 billion Afghans to our national economy.

The crimes of US imperialism are so monstrous and visible that it cannot keep silent about
them. It is for this reason that imperialism and its false propaganda machinery, in order to conceal its inhuman deeds, interference and aggression against the Afghan people, April Revolution and DRA stage unbridled false propaganda, distortion of facts, invent false claims and futile slogans etc.

The CIA again assumes an active role in this poisonous campaign against the DRA. The CIA agents illegally and under various covers enter Afghanistan and then as “unbiased witnesses” spread falsehood against the DRA. The CIA, making use of its influence in various imperialist ideological and propaganda centres inside and outside imperialist countries direct hostile fabrications against the DRA.

And, by organising conferences and functions or through infiltrating them and making use of various possibilities, injects anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet poison into world.

Afghanistan gained in 1919 its political independence after three anti-colonialist liberation wars. But the work and struggle of the Afghan people for consolidation of national independence, elimination of backwardness and doing away with imperialist influence faced from the very beginning various intrigues of British colonialists.

It was due to the colonialist plots unleashed hypocritically under the pretext of so-called defence of Islam that the movement of Amani era was strangled and monarchical reaction usurped through Nader dynasty, power in Afghanistan.

Taking over power by this dynasty as an outcome of the plots of British colonialism imp-
osed in contrast to the will of the Afghan free people an outdated medieval regime on Afghan society.

The dominance of extreme reactionary strata, classes, feudals, usurers, lords, bureaucrats who formed a small minority of our society and the continuation of medieval feudal and pre-feudal relations which had chained our society and prevented it from moving ahead, kept for decades our country that had for the first time broken the shackles of colonialism in Asia and Africa and come into being as a first liberated Islamic country in the world, in the row of most backward countries which was getting away from the caravan of present day civilisation with every passing year.

The per capita income prior to the April Revolution was only 140 US dollars. The people lived under very hard conditions. Poverty and unemployment increased and caused tens of thousands of our compatriots to go abroad for finding employment. Almost three million citizens of the country lived in nomadic conditions.

Majority of the people, among them 66-88 per cent children, suffered malnutrition till the age of one year. There were only 0.63 doctors and 1.8 beds for every 10,000 of the population.

Tens of thousands of people were dying due to malnutrition, lack of doctors and medicines and contracting communicable diseases. The average life span of an Afghan was 42 years. Afghanistan was in an extremely bad position: 92 per cent of men and 95 per cent of women were illiterate.

The people were deprived not only of socio-
economic rights but practically of all political and civil freedoms. No freedom of the press existed. Political and social organisations did not have permission for open and legal activities. Racial, national, religious and linguistic discrimination was the rule. The women were deprived of all rights, individual and social. They had to fully obey the rules of patriarchy. Nothing was heard of the equality of rights of man and woman.

The 50 years of the kingdom by Nader dynasty proved that the regime was not only able to solve the most burning problems of our society and ensure minimum rights and democratic freedoms for the Afghan people but its continuation was an intolerable burden on the shoulders of the people.

This fact by itself made unavoidable the downfall of the kingdom and its stooges—the government of Dauod.

It is an established fact that a feudal and semi-feudal society is substantially not able to ensure minimum human rights and freedoms for people as required by the 20th century. This fact drew our people to revolutionary struggle that led to the victory of the April Revolution in 1978.

The April Revolution as a great turning point in the history of the struggle of the Afghan people opened the way for building a new and democratic society in Afghanistan. But, the building of the new society which started after the revolution was not something without a background. It had to be the outcome of the removal of the features of old society which is a
long process and takes time.

Similarly, the society being an indivisible part of human family is influenced by the world factors and realities. Based on this fact, the errors that took place during the first stage of the revolution and eventually the inhuman and anti-revolutionary deeds of Hafizullah Amin and the undeclared war of imperialism led by the US imperialism unleashed since the very days of the April Revolution can be explained.

But, the revolution in the meantime is the need of society and people’s demand and gets its energy from the masses. They are enabled by it to fight the hardships and open their way forward. Therefore, as a result of the struggle of genuine revolutionary forces led by the PDPA, an end was put to all crimes of the Amin band, deviations and errors and revolutionary legality and principledness revived and strengthened.

The national democratic April Revolution as a logical outcome of the long struggles of the Afghan people and response to the urgent needs of our society, not only abolished the political power of most reactionary strata and classes but made the Afghan people, through the revolutionary changes and on the basis of its law-governed programme, the masters of their future bright destiny. In this way was realised in its real means the right to self-determination of our people.

The first step in this way was the formation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The essence of the new political power that came into existence as a result of the revolution ema-
nates from the national democratic character of
the April Revolution. This is the power of the
working people which ensured the direct right
of participation for the representatives of all stra-
tata, national, democratic and patriotic classes
of our society, including workers, peasants,
artisans, intelligentsia, national bourgeoisie mi-
ddle classes, clergymen, trusted social figures
of all nationalities, tribes and ethnic groups inhab-
it ing the country in state power, high and lo-
cal organs and social life.

The revolution as the practice of the masses
is not only realising in conformity with the cus-
toms, traditions and culture of the Afghan peo-
ple but also keep alive and develop the democ-
tratic traditions and culture of all nationalities.
One of the favourite customs of our people is
the holding of jirgahs.

The jirgahs, as a long established national
and historic tradition of our people were revived
and developed after the revolution and turned
into the main form of the new political system
in our society.

Certainly, the April Revolution was aimed
at liberating Afghanistan from the dominance
of backward medieval relations and embarking
on the road of modern civilisation which requi-
res tireless, creative and united work and stru-
ggle of all the Afghan people.

Therefore, ensuring democratic rights and
freedoms for the masses enabling them to pave
the ground for such a great and historic movem-
ent is not only the major and noble aspiration
but the urgent task and means for realisation of
the objectives of the April Revolution and its
successful growth.

Based on this principle, the people’s democratic rights and freedoms were reflected statutorily after the new and evolutionary phase of the revolution, in the Fundamental Principles of the RDA, the temporary law of the DRA, so that all citizens have equally and without prejudice benefitted from them.

Recently, on the basis of the approval of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and its Pre­sidium, the constitution drafting commission of the DRA composed of the best and renowned representatives of all strata and classes, including workers, peasants, artisans, national trader and industrial bourgeoisie, intelligentsia, clergymen, lawyers and social figures of all nationalities, tribes and ethnic groups was announced.

This would be the first constitution in the history of Afghanistan drafted and compiled by the trusted representatives of the Afghan people. The draft constitution would be circulated for eliciting public opinion and enacted after the approval of the elected Loya Jirgah of the people of Afghanistan.

“All Afghan citizens are equal before the law. All Afghan citizens share equal rights and obligations irrespective of their racial, national, tribal, linguistic affiliations or sex, domicile, religion, education, parent age, assets and social status.

Equality of rights among citizens is ensured in all economic, political, social and cultural spheres”. (Article 28 of the Fundamental Principles of the DRA).

In this way, the Fundamental Principles—the temporary constitution, of the DRA—has not
only declared all round equality of the citizens’ rights but the state of the DRA is assigned on the basis of its provisions to actually realise this equality in social life.

The Fundamental Principles of the DRA have declared, ensured and guaranteed the following rights and freedoms for all the citizens:

— The right to lead a secure life.
— Full freedom of practice of Islam as a sacred religion for Muslims and freedom of religious rites in the case of followers of other faiths according to law.
— The right to work. The government will adopt measures to ensure the right of all the people to socially useful work, control working conditions and legislate and implement progressive laws about work.
— The right to health protection and social insurance. The government will adopt measures with regard to creation of networks of public health organisations, and if possible, through free medical services, improve social insurance to be enjoyed by the working people.
— The right to education. The government will adopt measures to develop national progressive education, eradicate illiteracy, instruction in mother tongues, growth and expansion of free intermediate, high vocational and technical education.
— Freedom of scientific, technical, cultural and artistic activities in accord with the objectives of the April Revolution.
— The right to freely and openly express of one’s opinions, the right of assembly and of
peaceful demonstrations and likewise the right to patriotically join democratic and progressive social organisations.
— The right to participate in state affairs and all walks of social life.
— The right to complain or petition individually or collectively to state organs.
The accomplishment of deep changes in all spheres of social life in favour of people and with their own participation bring about such social conditions that the people increasingly enjoy their rights and freedoms.
The state of the DRA as a representative and defender of people's ideals, rights and freedoms and as a strong base of progressive and democratic reconstruction of the society is legally bound to defend not only the people's rights and freedoms but pave the ground for their actual realisation.
"The DRA state provides the ground so that its citizens may effectively enjoy their democratic rights and freedoms". (Article 34 of the Fundamental Principles).

RIGHT TO LIFE AND SAFETY:
Article 29 of the fundamental principles of the DRA has given top priority to the right to life and security and has entrusted its ensuring and guarantee to the state.
No attention was paid to the citizen's right to a secure life prior to the revolution and it was even violated.
The life expectancy of the citizens was only 42 years. It means the Afghans lived about 20 years less than those in the advanced country.
The mortality rate was at a high level. The mortality rate of children in the age of less than one year was 181.57 per thousand. Hundreds of people suffered from malnutrition and various diseases. During droughts, groups of people, particularly peasants, died of hunger. They were even forced to sell their children or young girls to save of death.

Considering these facts, the declaration of right to life and its practical guarantee acquires great humanitarian meaning.

Declaring the right to life does not only mean the right to a mere subsistence but the right to life in its real and wide meaning-purposeful, decent, lucrative and enjoying all material and cultural gifts. Ensuring of this right is one of the major objectives of the April Revolution. According to the 2nd article of the fundamental principles of the DRA. “The government shall make all efforts to ensure for the people a prosperous, happy, peaceful, secure and tranquil life as well as develop individuals from all viewpoints, protect their rights, ownership, dignity, national customs and traditions”.

Ensuring of a secure life, particularly in present time when imperialism and reaction have unleashed an undeclared war against our revolution and country and jeopardized the peaceful and secure life of our people has gained priority and a special urgency.

It is because of this very purpose that the state and people have concentrated their joint efforts on shielding the borders of the country against the infiltration of murderers and counter-
revolutionary destroyers, for smashing the bandits exported from abroad, and to strengthen the armed forces for restoration of nationwide peace and putting an end to war and bloodshed.

It is said about the national democratic characteristics of the April Revolution and its undelayable tasks that:

"The state of the DRA which is the manifestation of our people's will pursue no other aim but ensuring socio-economic progress, flourishing of the progressive and national cultures, raising the living standards of people, maintaining of durable and indestructible peace and security, creation of necessary conditions for a peaceful, reliable and guaranteed work for all the Afghan people".

The other aspect of ensuring a secure life for the citizens is private security-security of house, secrecy of correspondence. According to the article 29 of the Fundamental Principles, the DRA, the government ensures and guarantees the security of domicile and of communications including telephone, telegraphic and other communications, according to the law.

THE RIGHT TO WORK

"The government will adopt measures to ensure the right of all the people to socially useful work, control working conditions and legislate and implement progressive laws about work". (Article 29 of the Fundamental Principles of the DRA).

The right to work is one of the basic rights of man. Naturally, work is the source of income and livelihood for millions of working men. Work
is not a mere income source but an opportunity for realisation of man as a social figure and force of building the society. Unemployment is the economic base of most of inhuman phenomena and deviations.

Therefore, ensuring fruitful social work is not a private and economic question alone but fully a social issue.

On the other hand, work under improper social and productive conditions can also cause unjust wages and relations and lack of work safety measures and social security for the working man who turns the wheels of production and provides the material grounds for social life.

As a result of the April Revolution, workers of the state sector who form the majority of working class of Afghanistan have been turned into collective owners of means of production in the state sector.

In this way, new socio-political conditions came into being for the Afghan people and the labour of the working man in our country changed into a purposeful and destiny making one.

The following measures aimed at actual realisation of the right to work and improvement of working conditions have so far been taken:

The state has worked out with the co-operation of the trade unions a progressive labour law which is in its final stages of enactment.

— The working people of our country, for the first time in history, became masters of their destiny through the formation of trade unions in which are organised the working strata of the country. The state has entrusted legal authority to trade unions. The trade unions enjoy
full authority in defending the rights of workers, provision of better working conditions and control over work safety measures and practically exercise them.

— Over 330 thousand landless and small land holding peasant families have become land owners with the implementation of the democratic land and water reforms and just working conditions have been provided for hundreds of thousands of peasants who have got rid of the oppression and exploitation of feudals.

— Eighty nine economic projects belonging to the state sector and 230 productive plants owned by the private sector have been established and commissioned since the victory of the revolution till the first half of 1364 HS (ended March 20, 1986).

As a result of these and other measures opportunity for work has been provided for thousands of our compatriots. Moreover, thousands have been employed in the social services sector.

— In 1980, the salary of workers in state sector was increased on an average by 26.6 per cent. The salary of the workers drawing the lowest wage has been increased by 40-50 per cent.

The food allowance of the workers increased by 50 per cent.

In 1984 too, an average increase of 20.33 and 33.3 per cent took place in the salary and food allowance of the workers respectively.

— The difference in the coupons of workers and state officials was eliminated. The workers in the private and mixed sectors are given instead of coupons the consumer goods price difference in cash.
In 1985 alone, the state has borne a subsidy of 2.8 billion Afghanis for meeting the social needs and Afs 3 billion for increase in the salary of the workers and employees of the state sector. During the coming five years, increase in salaries and social services for improving and raising the living standards of the workers is also considered.

Along with the right to work, the state has undertaken wide-scale measures for expansion of the right to social security, leisure, recreation etc.

Thousands of workers and children for the first time got facilities of rest inside and outside the country.

Fruitful work is not only the right of every citizen but is considered his obligation.

"Socially useful and honest work based on impeccable patriotic conscience is an important obligation and glorious action of each citizen of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan". (Article 32 of the Fundamental Principles).

The right to have land and water means the right to have life for our peasants. In this respect the 3rd thesis on the national-democratic character of the April Revolution and its undelayable tasks reads partly:

"The just solution of the land and water question in the DRA in the interest of the working peasants regarding the peculiarities, the legal and legitimate rights of other allied strata of the peasantry and middle landowners, the owners of orchards and fruit-bearing and non-fruit-bearing trees taking into consideration the right to private land and livestock ownership,
attracting the entire peasants for active participation in the ongoing land reforms, rendering all-sided assistance to the peasants in the spheres of providing them with credits, sowing seeds and chemical fertilisers, providing them with essential commodities, helping them in selling their products, assisting them in forming peasants' co-operatives on a full voluntary basis and elevating the cultures of the broad masses of peasants of the country with due consideration of the local conditions and characteristics are of prime importance for us".

The democratic land reform was undertaken after the revolution for elimination of cruel feudal relations and for growth of productive forces as well as improvement of the life of peasants. But, owing to haste, serious errors and deviations took place in the course of land reforms.

Fortunately, after the new and evolutionary phase of the revolution the issue of the democratic land and water reforms was again taken to its main course.

330 thousand landless and petty land holding peasants families became land owners free of charge.

During the first 8 months of last year alone 8,000 families received free of charge 6.8 thousand hectares of land.

During the post-revolutionary years, the peasants were exempted from paying Afs 31 billion in dues.

Under the decree of the RC presidium of the DRA dated January 1986, the tax penalty
The state has carried out wide scale measure for raising the living standards of the peasants through grant of credits, establishment of mechanised stations and giving gratis assistance to farmers. As a result, the peasants harvest per year on an average Afs 4.11 billion worth of surplus agricultural products.

The formation of co-operatives is progressing with state help and encouragement. The central council of agricultural co-operatives of the DRA renders effective assistance to the growth and expansion of co-operatives. 578 co-operatives have so far been set up and the movement is getting momentum by every passing day.

THE RIGHT TO WORK

Article 29 of the fundamental principles of the DRA has declared the right of DRA citizens to prophylactic services and enjoined the state to expand the networks of state hygienic institutions and if possible extend free medical services. Ensuring the health of the people and setting up the material bases of public health in the country is one of the objectives of the April Revolution. The following measures have been put into practice in this sphere after the revolution, particularly during the recent five years.

— An increase of 32 per cent has taken place in the number of hospitals and 80 per cent in the number of beds.

— The number of doctors has been increased by 45 per cent.

— The budget for public health has gone up
by 67 per cent and an increase of 2.7 fold is envisaged for the state sector in the current five year plan.

Currently, 3,000 students study in Kabul State Medical Institute and faculty of medicine of Nangarhar university. This figure is five times more, compared, to the years prior to the revolution.

The institute for intermediary medical studies was set up and its admission capacity has increased by two and a half fold. 3250 students are now studying in this institution.

Moreover, a large number of Afghan youth study medicine in the Soviet Union and other friendly countries. During the current year alone, 1082 medical personnel have graduated and been assigned to the villages and localities of the country.

— The sanitary epidemiology services for fighting various contagious diseases which is one of the main problems of our country have increased leading to 42 per cent decrease in contagious diseases in the year 1984 compared to the preceding year.

Based on the recent decision of the DRA government, following the Fundamental Principles, medical services, except for some small part of clinical laboratory tests, have become free to all citizens.

The state considers providing shelter for the working people as one of its major tasks.

Notwithstanding limited financial and economic possibilities and despite the undeclared imperialist war, in comparable measures have been taken for the solution of housing problem, specia-
illy in big cities and working sites.

The construction of townships with modern and prefabricated designs have also been undertaken in rural areas. For example, for the first time in the history of Afghanistan, such a plan has been worked out for Misrabad village.

Modern townships have for the first time been built for workers in big cities and other regions. The workers township of Kabul Housing Prefabrication Factory can be cited as an example.

New city areas have been established in Kabul and other regions and low cost houses as well as land plots have been distributed to the needy people.

Four thousand modern residential apartments owned by state institutions and enterprises have been put at the disposal of working people.

The Kabul Housing Pre-fabrication Factory alone has built during the first six months of 1985, 430 modern apartments in third Microrayon and distributed them to deserving people through the executive committee of the council of people’s representatives of Kabul.

EQUALITY OF RIGHTS OF ALL NATIONALITIES.

"The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will pursue a policy of equal rights, fraternal friendship and all-out development of all nationalities, tribes and clans who live in their indivisible homeland, Afghanistan, irrespective of their size and support solidarity among all nationalities, tribes and clans in their struggle to realise the objectives and aspirations of the April Revolution
and ensure and guarantee their legal rights. The DRA aims at eradication of inequality as far as economic, social and cultural growth of our people in all regions of the country is concerned.

The DRA will preserve and develop the best and most valuable works which comprise part of the cultural heritage and traditions of all nationalities, tribes and clans of this country". (Article 7 of the DRA Fundamental Principles)

Elimination of discrimination and national inequality and creation of real equal rights and fraternity among all nationalities, tribes and ethnic groups is one of the objectives of April Revolution, which triumphed as a result of joint struggle of the vanguard and progressive forces of all the Afghan nationalities. The party and revolutionary state of the DRA persistantly execute this prime task.

Presently, the prominent and recognised representatives of all Afghan nationalities exist in the composition of the party, social and state organisations. The way of progress is open for the trustworthy representatives of all nationalities. This principle is fully observed in selection of cadres to central apparatuses.

The approximate balance of national composition is witnessed in the elected organs of state power in provinces and localities. The historic Loya Jirgah (grand assembly) of the DRA was attended in a balanced and equal manner by the representatives of all nationalities and tribes inhabiting the country.
The culture and language of all nationalities are developed and publications brought out in all national languages. The children of national minorities have got the legal rights to study in their mother tongues. The number of the national minorities in the higher educational institutions has increased by six fold.

Serious attention is paid to rapid growth of backward localities, central and frontier regions so that all the nationalities inhabiting the country enjoy equal rate of growth in the near future. 4.4 billion Afs has been spent for this purpose during the last five years. Bigger sums would be spent to this end during the current five year plan.

The central council of frontier tribes and of the working people of Hazara nationality have been set up so as to help and exert joint efforts for the implementation of national policy and rapid growth of the concerned regions.

The Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs has been established as a government organ and functions in co-operation with social and other organs for execution of the national policy of the party and the state.

"Regarding the solution of the national question, the state of the DRA guarantees and endeavours in practice that all fraternal nationalities and tribes residing in our united homeland, the new and democratic Afghanistan not only enjoy legal equality, friendship and brotherhood but shall also enjoy practical equality in economic life and growth of their ancient cultures..."

(Thesis No. 6)
Araticle 28 of the Fundamental Principles of the DRA has declared and guaranteed equal rights of women with men. "The family, mother and child will be under the special protection of government. The latter will pay special attention to the health of mothers and children and adopt appropriate measures with regard to creating favourable conditions for women in connection with vocations and job opportunities."

The revolutionary changes and wide-scale reconstruction in all walks of social life on the basis of national-democratic objectives brought about possibilities and real conditions for the active and equal participation of women in the social life.

The attraction of women to social life on the one hand accelerates the process of social progress and on the other provides women with the possibilities to defend in actual practice as a full equal member of the society their rights and democratic freedoms.

Only 5000 women took direct part in production process prior to the revolution. The figure now reaches 245,994 which shows a 50 fold increase. They are mainly working in educational, public health, social services, light industries. The law has ensured the principle of equal wage for equal work and equal opportunities for promotion of women in their occupations.

The share of women has been expanded in the cultural life of the society. The number of girls and boys are almost equal in higher educational institutions. 440,000 girls and young women are enrolled in middle schools. At present,
190 women are working as lecturers in the universities of the country. Sixty-one women are members of the Academy of Sciences of the DRA.

The role of women in socio-political activities is increasingly elevated. 100,000 women are mobilised in the ranks of social organisations and actively work and struggle in various spheres of social life and revolutionary changes.

The Women's Democratic organisation of Afghanistan, which has a membership of over 50,000, not only plays a valuable role in mobilisation of women but defends their rights. The organisation enjoys vast legal powers.

Women take active part not only in the lower and middle ranks, but also lead higher party and state organs.

For instance, the chair person of WDOA is a member of the politburo of the PDPA CC and RC Presidium of the DRA and tens of well-known women including peasants, workers, and intelligentsia who were confined to their homes before the victory of revolution, have now become members of the Revolutionary Council.

THE RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY

Activities of workers' unions, women's and youth organisations, scientific, cultural, artistic and other social and democratic organisations of the working people uniting in their ranks workers, peasants, tradesmen, the intelligentsia, and other inhabitants with a view to raising their organisational, social and productive standards to realise the objectives of the April Revolution and ensure their specific interests shall be encouraged and supported. (Article 6 of the Funda-
Moreover, item 7 of Article 29 of the Fundamental Principles of the DRA guarantees the "right to patriotically join democratic and progressive social organisations".

The mass organisations are a prime need of the revolution. The more the people get organised in the ranks of their socio-political organisations, further strengthened would be the organised social pillars of the revolution. Therefore, the state of the DRA favours people's organisation.

The following socio-political organisations have either gained freedom of open activities or have been newly set up after the April Revolution, specially in its new and evolutionary phase:

- People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan
- National Fatherland Front of the DRA
- Trade Unions of Afghanistan
- Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan
- Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan
- Union of Peasants Co-operatives of the DRA
- Union of Poets and Writers of the DRA
- Union of Artists of the DRA
- Union of Journalists of the DRA
- Association of Physicians of the DRA
- Council of Religious Scholars and Clergymen
- Central Council of Frontier Tribes
- Central Council of the Working People of Hazara Nationality
- Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organisation of the DRA
THE RIGHT OF PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN STATE AFFAIRS, SOCIAL CHANGES AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

"Democracy in revolutionary and new Afghanistan meaning people's power ruled by the people is growing and the equitable rights of all citizens of the country are ensured in governing state, socio-political, economic and cultural affairs and the role of the working people are elevated in these spheres". (Main statement of the RC's extraordinary session, November, 1985).

Measures vital for national destiny were taken last year, 1985, for attracting the wide masses to the management of affairs of state and society. The historic Loya Jirgah and the High Jirgah of Frontier Tribes were convened and the elections to local organs of state power and administration started. The 4th extended and extraordinary session of the Revolutionary Council was held in November 1985 and adopted important platform documents that is, the 10-point theses and declaration of the RC.

The participation of vast masses and representatives of all strata and social groups of the country, including workers, peasants, middle land owners, artisans, intelligentsia, army officers, soldiers, generals, private entrepreneurs national, trade and industrial capital holders, clergymen and trusted social figures of all nationalities and tribes i.e., representatives of all the Afghan people in all organs of state power, socio-economic, political and cultural activities was formulated
in the documents as a prime and undelayable task and set for implementation.

For this reason, we can say that real democracy is expanding in today's Afghanistan. The major ways ofRealisation of this democracy are as follows:

Through participation of trustworthy representatives of all strata and social groups in the highest state organs: For example, out of 79 new members of the Revolutionary Council, 10 are well-known clergymen, seven peasants, five national bourgeoisie, three workers, two artisans, five women and two ex-bandit commanders. Seventy one per cent of the RC's new members are non-party members, three of whom are vice-presidents of the Revolutionary Council. Out of 21 ministers and deputy ministers, 15 are non-party men.

— Through the local organs of state power and administration:

Representatives of all strata and social groups are included in the composition of elected deputies. Almost 55 per cent of the deputies are from among workers and peasants and 60 per cent of all elected deputies are non-party individuals.

The elections to local organs of state power and administration that started in 1985 were participated in by 95 per cent people eligible to vote.

— Through socio-political, cultural and religious organisation:

These organisations which constitute the most important rungs of political system in the coun-
ntry—and hold immense and increasing rights and authority have organised thousands of people in their ranks and mobilize them in political, cultural, socio-economic affairs.

— Through Jirgahs:

Afghanistan is the country of jirgahs. Jirgah is the traditional form of expressing views, discussion and deciding by people on local and national problems of our country.

Apart from hundreds of local jirgahs, the historic Loya Jirgah of Afghanistan, being a reputable traditional forum for taking decision on urgent national issues, was held in 1985.

Likewise, the High Jirgah of Frontier Tribes was also held last year.

— Through collectives:

The working people taking active part through their collectives in productive, administrative and cultural affairs as well as in their gathering set forth their proposals, views and criticism and thus contribute to the framing of the policy of party and state.

In addition to the above methods, all the citizens individually have the right to take part in all walks of social life and make use of them.

THE RIGHT TO FREE EXPRESSION, AND FREEDOM OF SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL, CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES:

Article 29 of the Fundamental Principles of the DRA ensures and guarantees the right to free and open expression of opinion.

This public right was not only declared after the victory of April Revolution, but real condi-
tions and material foundations were provided for actual realization of this right by the people. The mass media and radio-TV were set at people's service and at their disposal. The right of criticism and expression on state, social and local affairs which constitute one of the major aspects of the freedom of speech was ensured.

The ground was paved for artistic literary and scientific creativeness.

Presently, all the social and political organisations possess their own organs of publication.

The total circulation of dailies and weeklies has increased by 12.5 folds after the revolution. Special columns and pages exist in all dailies and weeklies for reflecting the demands, views, criticism and proposals of the people.

Radio broadcasting has increased by two and a half fold and is carried on in the language of all nationalities. TV stations have been set up in addition to Kabul in 13 other provinces which regularly telecast programmes. Also special programmes are telecast for all social groups prepared with the co-operation of their organisations and direct participation of people.

For example, the radio programme 'voice of people', alone receives monthly 300 letters and 1,000 telephone calls and reflect them.

Real conditions of work and creativity have been provided for creative intelligentsia. The total volume of books published during the last five years is 8 fold more than that published in the four decades of monarchical rule.

The citizens also make use of this right through speeches, discussions in gatherings, meetings, marches, sessions of collectives and in mosques etc.
What is forbidden in Afghanistan are publicity of inhuman opinions, racism, fascism, apartheid, zionism and war. “War propaganda is forbidden in the DRA” (Article 15 of DRA Fundamental Principles).

“Respect, observance and preservation as well as freedom of religious rites guaranteed for Muslims in the DRA” (Article 5 of the DRA Fundamental Principles)

This article has set the following legislative obligations before the state:

— Equal observance of rights and freedoms of all religions and sects of the sacred religion of Islam.

— The sacred religion of Islam, its tenets and principles are respected both by the state, socio-political institutions and citizens.

— The state observes in its activities the principles of the sacred religion of Islam, consults religious scholars and clergymen in taking measures. The Islamic shariat is observed in judicial system and the party and state leaders participate in religious ceremonies.

Any kind of insult and disdain to religious beliefs and traditions as well as insult and pressure on Muslims is considered a crime and its conduct punished.

At the same time, the incorrect interpretation and political misuse of religion against the interests of Muslims and their state which is indeed insult to sacred religion of Islam is not allowed.

— Ensuring freedom of religious rites and providing all possibilities for making use of this right in a safe climate is among the state obligations.
“The followers of all religions have full freedom to ritual performances unless threatening the tranquility and security of the society” (Article 5 of the DRA Fundamental Principles.)

The followers of all religions in Afghanistan will enjoy full freedom of religious practice as well as wide-scale state assistance.

“The state helps the clergymen and religious scholars in performing their patriotic activities, duties and obligations” (Article 5 of the DRA Fundamental Principles.)

The major practical measures of the state for carrying out its obligations under Article 5 of the Fundamental Principles are as follows:

— The ministry of Islamic Affairs and Religious Trusts and High Council of Religious Scholars and Clergymen whose agencies are functioning in provinces were established for the first time in the history of Afghanistan.

The total of state’s material assistance in the course of last four years aimed at helping religious rites, repair of mosques, their maintenance, assistance to religious scholars and clergymen in performing their tasks amounted to 1.25 billion Afghanis.

— The faculty of theology, madrasas and schools for reciting holy Quran are active throughout the country and religious subjects are taught in all educational institutions of the country. The magazine Payam-e-Haq, special radio-TV programmes, pages and columns in dailies, weeklies and magazines are allocated for explaining the truth of sacred religion of Islam.

— Eleven per cent of the participants of Loya Jirghah and 18 per cent of the high jirgah of fro-
ntier tribes were renowned and trusted representatives of religious scholars and clergymen.

—Over 10 per cent of the new members of Revolutionary Council and a considerable number of the elected deputies to local organs of state power and administration are from among religious scholars and clergymen.

—New mosques have been built in all corps, divisions and units of army and tsarandoy and preachers drawing sufficient salary are assigned for them.

—Well known religious scholars and clergymen, religious teachers and preachers are exempted by the law from the military service.

Article 29 (7) of the Fundamental Principles of the DRA proclaims and guarantees the right of assembly and of peaceful demonstrations provided they do not disturb the social order and the security and tranquillity of the country.

The revolution, has stimulated in an unprecedented manner the socio-political activities of the vast masses of people. One of such activities is the formation of various assemblies and gatherings for expressing views, exchange of views, discussions and solution of problems.

During HS 1364 (1985), a total of 8,672 functions, meetings and marches were held on the initiative of the socio-political organisations of the country in which about five million people participated and a few thousand spoke.

The mass media of the country, plays an important role in the effectiveness of such functions and gatherings by spreading the news and reports of such ceremonies. The state of the DRA made available for free use the confer-
ence halls, buildings etc for holding these assem-
blies, functions and meetings and maintained
their security.

In accordance with the Fundamental Prin-
ciples of the DRA which are in full conformity
with the universal declaration of human rights,
the misuse of the assembly, demonstrations and
other rights and freedoms against the interests
of the DRA and rights of citizens is prohibited.

CITIZENS' RIGHTS AND REVOLUTIONARY
LEGALITY

The Fundamental Principles of the DRA
not only proclaim and ensure the democratic rig-
hts and freedoms of the citizens but also enjo-
ins the safeguarding and maintenance of the citi-
zens' rights and specifies the limits of their auth-
orities and responsibilities.

Based on the Fundamental Principles of the
DRA, the Supreme Court, Attorney General, Spe-
cial revolutionary Court and special revolutionary
attorney were established and are functioning.

Under Article 55 of the Fundamental Prin-
ciples, the Supreme Court is the highest judic-
ial organ in the DRA which will 'supervise
the activities of various courts according to prov-
isions of law and ensure uniform application of
laws by all courts'.

The Fundamental Principles of the DRA in
its articles 55, 56, 57 and 58 proclaim and ensures
the following principles in the field of judiciary.
- Principle of judicial independence
- Principle of security of judges
- Principles of authority of the law
- Principle of open judicial trial
- Principle of assessment and settlement of
judicial cases in Pashtoo, Dari and in the local majority languages and in case of necessity the right to employ an interpreter.

— Principle of reasonability

— Principle of application of the definite verdicts.

In accordance with law, the authority and organisation of the DRA court, the courts are obliged to safeguard the property, rights, legal state and citizens' interests, life, honour, prestige, wealth, family environment, political rights and freedom of the citizens which have been guaranteed in the Fundamental Principles of the DRA.

According to Fundamental Principles the purpose of the judgements are:

— Ensuring the observance of law by all institutions, organisations, responsible officials and citizens of the DRA;

— Raising the legal awareness of citizens and their training in the spirit of conscious observance of law;

— Restoration of legality on the basis of complaints regarding the violation of the law.

— Prevention of violation of law and anti-social deeds;

Punishment and reform of violators of laws. Norms which have been prescribed for safeguarding rights and freedoms of the citizens during the investigation and trial of cases are:

— Equality of citizens before the law and court;

— Assessment of the cases collectively by a minimum of three judges;

— Trial of cases in open sessions;
— Trial and disposal of cases in Pashtoo, Dari and in the local majority language and if necessary the employment of an interpreter;
— Right of defence of the accused;
— Observance of law by judges;

— Right of appeal over lower courts' decisions by the aggrieved parties or by the attorney;

Issue of the verdict and restoration of the revolutionary legality means release of the accused or recognising him as a criminal and award of punishment proportionate to the crime in accordance with the provision of law. Only the authority of the court to be decided by the judges can give verdict.

Punishment against human dignity is prohibited according to law and the torture of the accused is considered a crime.

The decisions of the judges after passing the judgement when made final are to be implemented by the state local organs observing the fundamental principles of the DRA and in accordance with other related laws.

The decisions of the judges are pronounced observing democratic legality, ensuring the legal rights of the sides, precise observance of the laws, rules, regulations, provisions and other formulas related to court procedure in regard to the contents of the claim, defence, testimony of the wit-
nesses and other issues related to the claim under consideration.

Over 250 laws on the basis of the Fundamental Principles of the DRA have been enacted and enforced after the new and evolutionary phase of the glorious April Revolution. The main aims of these laws are to legalize the individual and social life of the people, determination of the limits of the authority and responsibility of the state institutions and employees exercising the state power. Presently there is no administration or institution which has no law and regulation for it to carry out its activity accordingly.

The attorney organs exercise high legal power and responsibility in the process of detection, investigation, search and arrest of the accused. The State Information Service (SIS) and sarandoy (police) are also empowered to detect and investigate crimes and make arrests carrying out their activities in the framework of related laws.

The attorney organs are independent of local organs of power as far as their performance is concerned and they are subordinate only to the office of the Attorney General. The Attorney General is responsible to the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and regularly report to it about its performance.

The courts are also subordinate to the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court reports about its performance only to the Revolutionary Council.

The Special Revolutionary Court is independent of local organs of power as far as its performance is concerned and reports only to the Re-
volutionary Council of the DRA.

Thus in the DRA, according to the Fundamental Principles the organs for safeguarding the democratic rights and freedoms of the citizens, and also the authority empowered by these organs to be in the service of the people and not to be misused, their activity and performance are carried on according to provision of law. Furthermore, an appellate authority assesses the performance of other sources in the framework of the law and also the higher authorities supervise the activity and performance of lower authorities either approving it or rejecting it.

All these measures predicated in the Fundamental Principles and in other laws are to ensure the dependence of the authorities on law in whatever post and dignity they may be, to legalize the activity and life of the people and to ensure the rule of the law throughout the country.

The attorneys supervise and control the exercise of revolutionary legality and nationwide uniform application of laws. The attorneys will take necessary and legal decision against those who do not observe the DRA laws. If the disobedience and crime relates to military, it will be investigated by the armed force attorney; if it is against the state it will be dealt by the special revolutionary attorney and if it is a civil crime it will be investigated by the attorney general's office. In case sufficient documents are available the case is referred to concerned court.

In the DRA, the accusation of crime is levelled against those, who perform action which is considered as crime under the provisions of law. The
perpetrator will not be counted as a criminal till the crime is proved and the court verdict declared.

If the concerned authorized organs do not carry on their duties accordingly in the detection and investigation of the crimes or breach the law, they would be interrogated and their deeds are considered as violation of law.

Naturally after the court trial an accused is either acquitted or found guilty and sentenced to undergo punishment according to court verdicts.

The attorneys also control and supervise the enforcement of law in jails to see that no body is imprisoned illegally and inhumanely treated or tortured.

After the new and evolutionary phase of the democratic April Revolution, on the basis of the lofty and humanitarian objectives of the party and revolutionary state, the jail cells have changed into reforming and training centres.

The idea of training and rehabilitation of the criminal is based on the principle that humankind is the product of social environment. Man would be raised with good character in a classless society. Otherwise he may choose a wrong path and the administration of justice is responsible for retraining him as a good social element.

Therefore in the DRA jails, besides respecting human dignity and paying attention to boarding and hygienic conditions of the prisoners, steps have also been taken for their literacy occupations, and provision of sound entertainment. They receive news of happenings through the mass media such as newspapers, radio-TV and have contact with the
relatives and family. Hence after the termination of the term of imprisonment, a prisoner will no longer be an ignorant person, but perhaps a sound social, literate element with occupation and well-informed of social laws.

Usually after the completion of a certain period of imprisonment the case of the prisoner who has not committed any major crime will be reviewed and if it is found that he has changed into a good element and can live in society as a useful citizen he would be pardoned according to law.

The policy of the DRA state, in the struggle against crime and to bring it down is not only carried out by the security and judicial organs but mostly implemented through socio-economic and cultural policy, because the struggle against crime without elimination of its causes is fruitless.

The programmes and scientific policy of the party and the revolutionary state, particularly after the new and evolutionary phase of the April Revolution—accomplishment of the fundamental transformation in all spheres of social life in the interests of the masses, ensuring of social justice, speedy progress towards eradication of poverty, illiteracy and other social backwardness and meeting the moral and material demands of the people in socio-economic fields—would eliminate all sorts of crimes.

Therefore the endeavours of the state in ensuring justice and legality is not restricted as in the capitalist countries but is to expand all over the society and in all spheres of the activities.

Knowing that the reactionary circles and
imperialism taking advantage of the cultural back­wardness, illiteracy and lack of political awa­reness of some of our compatriots and also by usi­ng inhumane intimidation have deceived and fo­rced them to commit anti-social and anti-revol­utionary activities, the party and revolutionary state by following the humanitarian policy are creating such an atmosphere that these compa­triots could return to an honourable and humane life.

The presidium of the revolutionary Council had adopted an amnesty decree on the basis of wh­ich, those who deceived by the enemies of revolu­tionary Afghanistan, or due to any other reason had embarked upon anti-revolutionary deeds or left the country are provided the opportunity to return to their homeland and society and resume peaceful life.

The state of the DRA even provides all facilities and necessary help to the return of those compatriots who left the country so that they can live as other citizens with full democratic ri­ghts and freedom without any harassment.

Since the convocation of the historical Loya Jirgah of the DRA, over 30,000 deceived compatriots have laid down their arms and joined the revolutionary state. Today they are living beside their other compatriots leading a peaceful and prosperous life.
As a result of 1.5 billion dollars spent by US imperialism in the undeclared war against the DRA, thousands of unforgivable crimes have been perpetrated against our people by belligerent mercenaries, who are trained by professional CIA experts and their criminal accomplices and supplied with deadly weapons.

— From the first days of the April Revolution till now, they have killed over 2000 teachers who committed to crime except taking the torch of learning to the people of Afghanistan to the children and youth of the country.

— They martyred over 300 spiritual figures and religious scholars and 962 Imams of mosques who professed the truth of Islam. Among them we can name Mawlawi Nasir Gardezi, Mawlawi Assadullah Nasrat Andkhoie, Fariabi, Shaikh Mohammad Amin Sadat, Shaikh Sayed Kamal Abas, Shaikh Ali Hussain Natiq, Mawlawi Abdul Aziz Habibi Saghari, Modaris Abdul Ghafar Akhond Zadah, Mawlawi Abdul Hakim Jauzjani, Damulla Yaqoot, Mawlawi Rahmatullah Ouzgani, Qari Shukrullah, Qari Mohammad Ibrahim and Mawlawi Abdul Karim, Kandahari, warrior of liberation war. And tens others who enjoyed respect among our Muslem people have been savagely attacked by these criminals.

— Thousands of innocent children, women and old men have been attacked, tortured, kidnapped and deprived of their belongings.

— Hundreds of our countrymen have been poisoned and suffered long lasting psychological and physical effects of poisoning by chemical substances which the CIA put at the disposal
of counter-revolutionary elements. All remember the poisoning of school girls in Kabul city. Hundreds of children, women and men have been killed or maimed by booby traps and anti-personnel mines which the counter-revolutionaries have got from the CIA and other clandestine imperialist sources.

It is difficult to count the substances and weapons which are used by the counter-revolutionaries. Different kinds of these weapons and chemical poisons which bear the label and name of the producing country are in the Kabul museum of weapons captured from the enemy. These all show the undeniable crimes of US imperialism against our people that the hue and cry of imperialist propaganda can never hide.

Presently, hundreds of these criminals are in Pulicharkhi prison. They have confessed their crimes and their links with imperialist intelligence services, among them CIA. They were tried openly and punished according to their crimes. But Reagan calls them “freedom fighters” and “heroes” and gives them honourary titles.

We can publish the list of our compatriots who have been martyred, maimed, tortured, kidnapped or attacked by these inhuman enemies, but here we just mention only a few examples of the “heroism” of Reagan’s “fighters for human rights”.

March 1984: A bomb explosion in the mosque of Kabul Polytechnic Institute killed and wounded a number of pious compatriots offering prayers.
April 1984: A bomb planted by counter-revolution exploded during screening of a film for children in Ariana cinema which killed and wounded large number of innocent children.

June 1984: A time bomb placed in a trolley bus killed 12 and wounded 26 children, women and old men.

November 4, 1984: The counter-revolutionaries, using ground-to-ground US rockets against the residential area of Shor Bazar and Shahri Kohna, destroyed the houses of residents, martyred five and wounded 16.

November 26, 1984: Terrorists launched ground-to-ground missiles at Qalai Zaman Khan village of Kabul, damaging houses, killed three children of a family and injured several others.

June 1985: The bandits threw hand grenades in the campus of Fakhrulmadaris Madrasa (religion school) and wounded three students of theology.

August 1985: The counter-revolution blew up Mazar hotel near the shrine of Ali (fourth caliph of Islam), killed and wounded large number of innocent compatriots and those who had come for offering prayers.

We can recount hundreds of other similar crimes in which large number of our defenceless
compatriots, children, women and elders have fallen victims to the undeclared imperialist war. So this is the yield of White House’s 1.5 billion dollars to the people of Afghanistan. The cutthroat bandits receive payment for their every murder, every bomb blast and other crimes. These fees are paid for shedding the blood of our people from the account of dollars which imperialism generously increases. US imperialism alone has allocated in the current year an amount of 760 million dollars for this purpose.

On September 4, 1985 at 11 a.m., a civil airliner of Bakhtar Afghan airlines which was on a routine flight from Kandahar to Farah province was shot down by US ground-to-air missiles by the Thronton group of killers, killing all 52 passengers and crew on board. When the news came out the imperialist propaganda machines made fabrications for justifying their inhuman deed. Their first claim was that the plane had crashed as a result of technical defects and that the DRA state was blaming the counter-revolution for its own fault. Later, they claimed that it was a military plane. Finally, Yonus Khalis, the master of criminals of the so-called “Islami” band admitted the crime. Then the imperialist propaganda machines claiming this and that wanted to confuse the world public and to make a news shelter for the crime:

“Kabul Radio announced a few days ago that a civil airplane was shot down by partisans after it had taken off from Kandahar airport. Now the partisans have admitted that they had
shot down the plane. The message of partisans which has arrived in Quetta says that after understanding that the passengers of the plane were Soviet officials, authorities of Khad (S.I.S. of Afghanistan) and some soldiers they crashed the plane. ... There is no reliable evidence to identify the passengers, but it is sure that the plane was a civil one”.

BBC (Persian programme Sept 13, 1985)

“There is no reliable evidence?” The fact is that on Sept 11, 1985, the protest message of pilots, flight engineers and stewards of the civil aviation airlines of the DRA which was addressed to the US senate reads in part: “The plane was hit by a ground-to-air missile at an altitude of 2800 m (3800 m standard) as a result of which all its five crew and 47 passengers including six children, two doctors, one engineer and other civilians were killed. ... This is not the first time that the counter-revolution of Afghanistan has carried out such a crime. Last year, a DC-10 plane of Ariana Afghan Airlines was attacked by counter-revolution and badly damaged. (The plane was transporting Haj pilgrims)... We condemn this inhuman and dirty action which violates all norms and rules of international aviation and hampers flights as well as threaten the lives of passengers...

“No reliable evidence?” On Sept 10, 1985, the open letter of the bereaved families of the victims of the Bakhtar Afghan Airlines plane was addressed to the US senate, “You gentlemen who claim yourselves to be defenders of justice and human rights and appear as
civilized men ..... shamelessly endorsed giving of side winder and stinger missiles to the counter-revolutionaries of Afghanistan one of which killed 52 of our dear ones, among them innocent children, women and elders. .... ... You, under the pretext that a US ship was attacked in the Tonkin gulf of Vietnam, drowned in blood the territory of that country. You did not avoid massacre of Arab people under the pretext that the life of some Americans were in danger in Lebanon. Is the blood of an American different from that of a Vietnamese, Arab or an Afghan. But in Afghanistan the blood of no American has been shed. Neither any one of your ships or airplanes have been attacked nor the life or any American is in danger. Then how will you describe this your willingness to shed blood in the court of humanity?"

After the publication of the identification list of the victims of the bandit attack on Bakhtar Afghan Airlines plane, when it was proved that all those killed were civilians, the propaganda machines of imperialism decided to keep silent as though nothing had happened. Those who were shedding crocodile tears for "human rights" became mute.

Here we mention the names and identification of the victims of the crime of imperialism mercenaries: Abdul Jalil s/o Mohammad Kazim, physician in Farah hospital; Torpaykai D/o Ghulam Jailani with her four year old son Jamil s/o Mohammad Ibrahim; Mohammad Qasim s/o Ghulam Hazrat and Ahmad Zia s/o Abdul Rahman, students in Fara Agricultural Lycee, Ghulam Jailani son of Ghulam Haz-
rat, graduated from Kabul Polytechnic institute in 1985 who was going to practice teaching in Farah province; Habibullah, planning director of Balkh Gin and Press department; Assadullah physician in Farah. Habibullah s/o Abdullah, university student; Maasooma with her two small children; Noor Ahmad s/o Sher Ahmad, KU student; Haji Mir Haidar s/o Sayed Raza with his wife and his small daughter; Sher Zaman and Asmati engineers of Farah Brishna; Nesar Ahmad, worker of Farah Brishna; Dr. Mohammad Yosuf with his wife and child; Saleh Mohammad, Abdul Ghafoor and Mahmoud officials of Ministry of Communications; Lal Mohammad s/o Gul Mohammad; Abdul Rahman s/o Lal Mohammad; Azizullah s/o Amirjan; Mohammad Amin and his wife; Abdul Qadir s/o Abdul Rasul and several other victims who all were civilian and not guilty of anything except that they were Afghans. They were martyred by imperialism’s mercenaries with the money and missiles of the USA.

The documents which were found from the box of Charles Thornton, CIA spy who had illegally entered Afghanistan were shown to local and foreign journalists at a press conference in November 1985. The documents vividly proved that Charles Thornton was directly involved in the attack on the plane of Bakhtar Afghan Airlines and he was directing the operations of the terrorists. So this is the masterpiece of CIA in Afghanistan, the infernal organisation that calls notorious cutthroats as fighters to uphold human rights.
Reaction and international imperialism headed by US imperialism have conducted the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for eight years and relentlessly continue it with full enmity. American, Chinese, Pakistani and Egyptian advisors train the counter-revolutionaries and then send them into Afghanistan for subversive and criminal activities and to create terror and panic.

These criminals have attacked public establishments, residential localities, non-military targets and killed innocent and defenceless civilians. The bandits have mercilessly tortured and killed thousands of innocent teachers, spiritual leaders, religious scholars, doctors, engineers, children and aged people.

A large number of our people were crippled or poisoned with chemical substances. The criminals also attacked and burned down hundreds of schools, mosques, hospitals and productive institutions.

The total economic loss inflicted by these actions of counter-revolutionaries come to 36 billion Afghanis.

The bloody hands of Washington and its allies are behind these crimes. Today these crimes are obvious to the world public and the people of the world know better the facts and realities. The mass media of the USA itself writes that the CIA has launched biggest secret operation against the DRA after the Vietnam war.

In order to hide their shameless and overt crimes and interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, the White House and its allies
are compelled to use their propaganda machines and distort facts and spread false news. They call the killers and criminals as heros of right and freedom and consider their crimes as defence of the people of Afghanistan.

According to their blind logic, such criminal actions of counter-revolutionaries organized at the behest of the White House are not violation of human rights, but the struggle of the people and government of the DRA against such crimes is called violation of human rights.

The security forces of the DRA in their successful operations against the secret networks of counter-revolutionary bands have arrested a large number of these criminals and brought them before courts. Tens of spies of the CIA and other imperialistic espionage organizations are among the arrested criminals. Presently, large number of criminals, spies and saboteurs are spending the time of their sentences. Also, investigations are continuing.

The criminals themselves have openly confessed their inhuman actions and replied to questions put by local and foreign journalists in several press conferences. They have explained their arrests and investigations. The documents, witnesses and facts related to proving the crimes of the accused in open trial have also been telecast for public knowledge. But the imperialist propaganda machinery, even the ruling circles of some imperialist countries, ignoring the facts, launch shameless propaganda against the judicial department of the DRA in the name of these criminals trials.
Fugitives forced to fight imperialist's undeclared war.

At the beginning of the April Revolution of the people of Afghanistan, the US imperialism launched its undeclared war against our people. They decided to have a base near the border of the DRA in order to accelerate their undeclared war and Pakistan was chosen for this purpose. A small group of the Gulbuddin band who settled in Pakistan in 1974, were trained by CIA. The limited number of big feudals and bureaucrats as well as close relatives of the overthrown oppressive state of the dynasty of Nader-Daud were not enough for the White House. Hence with the cooperation of the government of Gen. Zia, they prevented the return of nomadic people who traditionally and freely cross the border areas. They also prevented the return of those Afghan who were working for years in Pakistan.

The counter-revolutionary elements with the cooperation of local reactionaries resorted to deceiving and kidnapping some of our compatriots along the border.

The criminal and anti-revolutionary deeds of Hafizullah Amin and his collusion with the CIA also helped the undeclared war of US imperialism.

The US imperialism with the close collaboration of the Pak government, succeeded in gathering some of our innocent compatriots in the special camps which had been established in the area of North-West Frontier province and Baluchistan. After the new and evolutionary phase of
the April Revolution, the party and the revolutionary state provided the possibilities for safe returning of our compatriots to their homeland but the government of Gen. Zia at the command of the White House prevent and does not allow their return. Our compatriots are kept in Pakistan as hostages. They are living in unbearable conditions, in tents and camps without any facilities. There is no food and drinking water in these camps and the inmates suffer from various diseases such as TB, Malaria, plague etc.

US imperialism and the government of Gen. Zia with the direct collaboration of Afghan bandits, compel our compatriots with threats and use of arms to join counter-revolutionary bands and participate in criminal actions against the people, revolution and government of the DRA. These compatriots are armed and forcibly sent to Afghanistan for subversive activities. In order to prevent the deceived people surrendering and joining the DRA state, they keep their wives, sisters, brothers, children and parents as hostages. Those who do not obey and reject their demands are sent to Pak jails or to special jails of counter-revolutionary bands and deprived of even their insufficient food allowances.

The bandits with the cooperation of CIA advisors and other black organizations that have enough skill and experience in psychological warfare and brain washing, forcibly train children and teenagers against their homeland and people and inject them with inhuman ideas. They use women and aged people as their servants and slaves. The death rate, particularly am-
ong the children, is woeful and the rate of crimes, addiction and psychological diseases in the camps accelerate day by day.

The counter-revolutionaries had lost a big portion of their main forces during the successful operations of the armed forces of the DRA. Therefore the deceived people are forced to join the destructive and terroristic groups. But with each passing day the residents of the camps or the fugitives realize the real essence of the April Revolution and also become aware of the collusion of counter-revolutionaries with USA and other enemies of Islam and Muslims and their criminal actions.

Expressions of dissatisfaction even protest uprisings against such conditions have been taking place in the camps of Jamroad, Balira, Safar Khan, Babo, Mani, Monda and Alozai. They demand their return to Afghanistan which is growing day by day, but such resistance is strongly suppressed. The Pak authorities, acting at the behest of Washington permit no official authorities of the DRA to visit or to have contact with the fugitives.

Also, the residents of the camps are not allowed to have contact with Afghan authorities. In this way US imperialism with the cooperation of the oppressive government of Gen Zia wants to make thousands of our compatriots into professional criminals, terrorists and traitors to their homeland through various means i.e. use of armed threats and force, taking of hostages, of psychological war, brain washing etc.
This way, US imperialism wants to keep our compatriots deprived of their most natural rights and freedoms, that is the right to return to their homeland. They are forcibly kept in the gathering centers inside Pakistan contrary to their will.

It has also been reflected in the official document of the UN organization dated Nov. 14, 1985 that the Pak authorities continue their policy of preventing the return of the Afghans residing in that country, and for that the units of the armed forces and militias of Pakistan are centered in the border regions.

For example, in June 1985 the Pak forces prevented by use of arms the return of 600 families of Momand tribe residing near Konar area to their homeland.

In July and August of 1985, over 50 per cent of the fugitives had expressed their desire through meetings held to return to the DRA, but besides chasing and arresting the residents of the camps of Nabo, Karm Giri, Baqikhel and Toran located in the North-West Frontier Province, the Pak authorities also cut their food allowances.

Why are these obstacles to the returning of the Afghans to their country not removed?

The answer is clear:

The perpetrators of the undeclared war against our country do not want to give up their inhuman policy vis-a-vis the deceived people. They want to fill their pockets in the name of the so-called Afghan fugitives.

The issue of the “so-called Afghan fugitives” is also a tool for anti-DRA propaganda, deceiving world public and collecting more aid.
The Pak government always exaggerates the number of the fugitives. As we have mentioned earlier, a large number of the so-called fugitives are nomadic people who traditionally travel between the two countries but whom the Pak government calls fugitives.

Facts show that a number of the so-called fugitives have been registered in their lists two or more times. Those who have returned to their homeland, are still in the list of fugitives and besides a large number of local people are also registered in the lists in order to inflate their number.

It is a fact that the issue of the so-called "Afghan fugitives" is not only a tool in the hands of the perpetrators of the undeclared war, particularly the White House, against our country but also a good source of income for Pakistan. This is the reason for the continuation of the artificially created issue of "Afghan fugitives". Otherwise, the DRA state has shown its readiness since long to solve the problem regarding the voluntary return of our compatriots who have repeatedly asked to return to their homeland. But the Islamabad authorities, at the behest of White House, reject and create obstacles.