The history of mankind has always been the struggle between the two classes - the oppressed and the oppressors. But we see that we have always been 'aught by the oppressors - the ruling class - that the common man has no role to play in the development of history, instead, it is the Kings and Queens, Raja's and Maharajas, Warlords and Landlords and their handpicked agents that have made history. This is a distortion of facts. It is the common people who make history and not their oppressors.

Our beloved country, India is one of the biggest and most ancient countries of the world inhabited by 550 million people. The history of the Indian people is a history of ceaseless struggles and uprisings against their oppressors - the British colonialis­ts and the feudal landlords in the past. Today, the Indian people are continuing to wage struggles against the imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism, Soviet Social imperialism, feudalism and Comprador-bureaucrat capitalists.

The first talk of this series - History of the Indian People, will deal with these persistant uprisings and struggles of the people against their oppressors. Also, in this talk the transition of the societies from primitive communism to slave society to feudalism and colonialism to the present day semi-feudal and semi-colonial society will be outlined.

For further information, contact,
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THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA ( MARXIST-LENINIST )

On Saturday May 27, 1972 the Indian Progressive Study Group and Bind Ramdoot Laboratory held a meeting to celebrate the third anniversary of the formation of the CPI(M-L). This meeting was held in a warm revolutionary atmosphere with photographs of our beloved leader Chairman Mao Tsetung, Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist) posters, the red flag and the revolutionary slogans reflecting the sentiments and aspirations of the Indian people. More than 60 people were present from Afro-Asian countries and well-wishers and supporters of Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist).

The first speaker briefly outlined the different mass uprisings and peasant revolts waged by the Indian people during the 1800's and early 1900's. It was pointed out that the people have consistently risen up against their main oppressors - British imperialism and feudalism both before and after the 1857 National War of Independence. But these uprisings of the people failed as they did not follow any scientific theory and there was no revolutionary leadership to lead them to victory. Further, the active
force behind the 1857 National War of Independence were the broad masses of the Indian people, not the feudal lords as is commonly believed. Although the feudal lords did fight, it was only when their interests were threatened. They usurped the leadership in the war and betrayed the national struggle and liquidated the class struggle.

A new era was ushered after 1917, the year in which the heroic Russian people lead by comrade Lenin established the first Socialist state in Russia and it was in this year that the ideology of Marxism-Leninism first came to India. The fact that the Communist Party of India was formed shortly afterwards in 1923 shows that Marxism-Leninism concretely reflected the sentiment and aspirations of the Indian people. The policies and actual practice of the Communist Party of India (CPI) was then dealt with in detail of which the main feature was that the CPI made a correct analysis of the Indian situation and laid down certain policies as its guideline to action. But it failed to follow these in its actual practice. Three basic points of the policies of CPI were that: (1) it recognized that the use of violence is necessary to throw the British imperialism out of India, (2) class struggle against feudalism should be waged side by side with the struggle against British imperialism and (3) Gandhism, i.e., peace and non-violence towards British imperialism and violence towards the Indian simple must be opposed. History shows that none of these major policies were followed by the CPI; instead, the CPI leadership advocated that the best thing the Indian people could do was follow Gandhi and the sold out organisation Indian National Congress, an organisation of feudal landlords and foreign educated rich class. The reason for this is that the leadership of CPI was usurped by the revisionists who sold out the interests of the Indian people and worked in the interests of British imperialism and feudalism.

After 1947 the CPI degenerated further, gave up slowly all form of revolutionary struggle and took the "parliamentary road to socialism". Through this method it is impossible to achieve socialism as the present state belongs to comprador bourgeoisie who control the state power and feudal landlords who will not allow the workers, peasants and petty-bourgeoisie to take over the state peacefully. This bourgeois state must first be completely overthrown, smashed and a new people's democratic state must be built.

The leadership of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) which was formed in 1964 by homogenising the revisionism policies of the CPI was also usurped by neo-revisionists. They spoke a great deal of the overthrow of the present government but opposed this in practice. The 2nd speaker pointed out that it was only in 1967, 42 years after the concept of Marxism-Leninism first came to India that Marxism-Leninism was applied for the first time to the concrete conditions of India in the Naxalbari and Terai region. This was under the leadership of comrade Charu Mazumdar and the correct revolutionary party the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) was formed under his leadership in 1969. Naxalbari is an extremely important historical event as it once and for all proved that the revisionists sell out of the Indian people. It paved the way for the armed agrarian revolution in India to overthrow the rule of feudalism, comprador-bureaucrat capitalism, imperialism and social-imperialism. The simple fire and revolutionary struggle has spread to the whole of India where the people are waging struggle for the people's democratic revolution. This is to establish the dictatorship of the working class, the peasantry, the petty-bourgeoisie and even a section of small and middle bourgeoisie under the leadership of the working class. The speaker outlined in great depth the programme of CPI(M-L) presented to the Indian people.

Right here in Canada also the Indian people have a heroic history of fighting against the racial discrimination and political repression since early 1900's under the leadership of the HINDUSTANI GHADAR PARTY. Today also our compatriots are discriminated again and their interests are threatened. They usurped the leadership in the war and betrayed the national struggle and liquidated the class struggle.

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Right here in Canada also the Indian people have a heroic history of fighting against the racial discrimination and political repression since early 1900's under the leadership of the HINDUSTANI GHADAR PARTY. Today also our compatriots are discriminated against and politically oppressed in Canada. Canada itself is dominated by the U.S. imperialism economically, politically and culturally. The most effective way in which we can fight this oppression here is to organise ourselves and unite under the leadership of the N.G.P. (M-L) and join the Canadian working class in their struggle against U.S. imperialism which they are waging under the correct revolutionary party the Communist Party of Canada (M-L).

Solidarity messages were given by comrades. A member of the CPC(M-L) pointed out that "CPI(M-L) and CPC(M-L) are both fighting against the common enemy — U.S. imperialism. The present revolutionary struggle of the Indian people is a source of great inspiration to us Canadian people, as Chairman Mao has predicted the victory of Indian revolution "will end the reactionary era of imperialism in the history of mankind" and will ensure the world-wide victory of Socialism.

Other solidarity messages were given by the Pakistani Progressive Study Group, a comrade from the Philippines and a comrade representing the Afro-Asian Latin American People's Solidarity Movement.

The meeting ended with Indian revolutionary songs, the Internationale and the East is Red.