

Agham Bayan

AGHAM AT TEKNOLOHIYA PARA SA MASA

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Agham Bayan is making its comeback!

After two decades, Agham Bayan, the official revolutionary publication of Liga ng Agham Para sa Bayan (LAB), returns with a new issue. The publication was first published in the 1970s through the 1990s when it stopped publication. With a new generation of revolutionary scientists and technologists, Agham Bayan is back with the goal of promoting and popularizing LAB's analysis on issues, programs and the campaigns and revolutionary activities of the Science and Technology sector. Agham Bayan supports LAB in galvanizing its growing membership to fight for national liberation and democracy in the Philippines. Let the publication inspire us to make science and technology serve the masses and the revolution!

Over the past five years of his tyrannical rule, Duterte has disregarded the interests and needs of the masses. He prioritized his cronies and big business instead of the peasants, workers, students, professionals, small-to-medium entrepreneurs, and other sectors of society that continue to face difficulties under the persistent economic crisis.

Under his term, he has implemented unscientific and militaristic solutions to the country's problems, most notably during the COVID-19 pandemic. He disregarded the advice of scientists and health experts, instituting a militaristic lockdown instead of a comprehensive solution to the health crisis.

Billions and billions of pesos have disappeared under the Duterte regime thanks to the corruption deals with Pharmally, misuse of the Malampaya fund and the P14B of unpaid claims of Philhealth, all the while facing the health crisis. Under his rule, scientists, activists, and concerned individuals have faced threats, harassment, or were even killed while doing their work or advocacy. This situation will worsen if the Marcos-Duterte alliance will win in the coming May 2022 elections. Both Bongbong Marcos and Sara Duterte come from political families who are cont to p3



Scientists and Technologists, thwart the Marcos-Duterte alliance in the 2022 elections

The 2022 national elections continue to heat up, with the fascist cliques of Marcos, Arroyo, and Duterte teaming up and forging an alliance to back Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. and Sara Duterte-Carpio as president and vice-president. This alliance threatens to continue the reign of terror, greed, and corruption under the Duterte regime.

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Agham Bayan

Agham Bayan is published by the Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan (LAB) for the purpose of raising the political and social consciousness of Filipino scientists and technologists regarding the issues and problems affecting Philippine science and society. It is committed to the promotion and use of science in the service of the Filipino nation and people. It espouses the cause of national freedom and democracy.

LAB holds 2nd Congress, reiterates role of S&T in advancing the revolution



After more than two decades, the revolutionary organization Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan (LAB) held its 2nd Congress on December 12, 2020. The last time revolutionary scientists gathered for the 1st Congress was September 1996 at the height of the Second Great Rectification Movement (SGRM). Despite the restrictions brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, representatives from four chapters made the historic Congress possible.

The Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan is an allied organization of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) among scientists, technologists, engineers, environmentalists, science educators, students, and advocates. LAB was founded on December 26, 1975, at the height of Martial Law imposed by the US-Marcos dictatorship. Prior to its founding, however, scientists were already organized against tyranny through various organizations in the pre-martial law years such as Progresibong Samahan sa Inhinyera at Agham (PSIA) and Samahan ng Makabayang Siyentipiko (SMS). Members of these organizations became the founders of LAB.

Towards the end of 1980's, LAB started to weaken as the consolidation of its forces was neglected and the sector was affected by revisionist and incorrect ideas. Sectoralism and legalism were some of the major errors identified during this period. This was the time that LAB and its forces focused on the campaign for the welfare and concerns of the science and technology (S&T) sector but at the same time this effort is disconnected to the concerns and interest of the basic sectors. The above and legal tasks were the priority while neglecting the expansion and consolidation of the revolutionary organization. It was

after the Second Great Rectification Movement that the 1st LAB Congress was held, and the organization was able to recover and expand from thereon.

During the SGRM, LAB reviewed and reaffirmed the correctness of the analysis and line of the national democratic revolution. It reaffirmed the role of the S&T sector in contributing to the development of revolutionary mass movement and armed struggle. Thus, LAB worked to arouse, organize, and mobilize (AOM) the sector continuously since. Although the many successes and victories such as the establishment of mass activists' organizations, contribution to national campaigns, mobilization of LAB members for armed resistance and agrarian revolution, and international solidarity work during this period are to be lauded, there were major weaknesses and limitations that resulted into the slow growth and development of the organization. These weaknesses were identified as conservatism in organizing which was the slow expansion of LAB; weak social investigation and class analysis (SICA) of the sector; empiricism because of the absence of regular summing up; weak link between campaign and organizing work; unbalanced disposition and overstretching of forces, and the poor functioning of the machineries and organizations.

LAB and its forces are determined to prevail over these weaknesses and mistakes. LAB conducted its Second Congress with the theme, "Expand and Strengthen the League of Science for the People, contribute to the Development of Revolutionary Mass Movement and Armed Resistance in the countryside" to further unify its members and serve as a guide and call to the advancement of LAB in the coming years. The 2nd Congress reiterated and cont to p4

China military forces harass Filipino scientists in WPS, derails marine science research in the area

Scientists from the UP Marine Science Institute (UP-MSI) recently experienced Chinese aggression while conducting research in the West Philippine Sea (WPS). This report came amid the recent incident last November when the Chinese Coast Guard blocked and blasted water cannons on Philippine ships bringing food supplies to a military detachment in Ayungin Shoal.

Despite Philippine victory at the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) Permanent Court of Arbitration, China has become even bolder and more aggressive in its claim

in the entire South China Sea (SCS) region, including the West Philippine Sea. Incidents of harassment of Chinese military in WPS were not only limited to Philippine military units but also fisherfolk and members of the media experienced harassment and aggression. Scientists of UP-MSI conducting baseline research have experienced intimidation too. They reported that Chinese Coast Guard is always monitoring their activity and forbids them to enter areas in the WPS.

Conducting research and constant monitoring of marine resources is vital

in formulating programs in fisheries management. Dr. John McManus, a scientist from the University of Miami, warned that disputes in the SCS region will eventually lead to fisheries collapse due to China's illegal fishing and destructive island-building activities that destroys coral reefs. With threats of harassment looming over the horizon, marine science research and fisheries production and management will face grave challenges in the coming years.

Scientist organization AGHAM warned last April that damages brought by Chinese activities in the WPS has already reached up to 1.3-billion pesos per year. They also emphasized that the WPS is a rich petroleum reserve, which is important for national industrialization. Several marine scientists from different universities also issued a joint statement clarifying that the WPS produces up to 27% of the total marine cont to p4

"Scientists and Technologists..." from p. 1

known as corrupt, fascist, and rabid imperialist puppets. Bongbong's father, the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos was known to have the world record of the Greatest Robbery of a Government as one of the most corrupt Presidents in the world. During his 20-year term he, his family, and cronies stole billions of dollars from the nation's coffers. Marcos promoted and benefitted from the political and economic imposition of his imperialist master, the United States. He approved corrupt-laden and scientifically defective projects such as the failed Chico Dam and the mothballed Bataan Nuclear Power Plant projects. He declared martial law in 1972 to remain in power and protect his economic interests. His fascist rule fueled the revolutionary movement. The NPA grew in thousands and the armed movement got stronger. The Marcos dictatorship continued to be isolated until people power ousted it in 1986.

In 2016, as the first political act of fascist, corrupt, and puppet President Duterte, he allowed the Marcoses to bury the remains of the late dictator at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, a concrete act of political rehabilitation and restoration of the Marcoses.

The 2022 reactionary election is an exercise of the elite, the big bourgeoisie compradors, landlords and bureaucrat capitalists, to choose among themselves who will be the next ruling regime of the semi-feudal, semi-colonial Philippine society. 'Goons, guns and gold' is still the name of the game, and the Marcos-Duterte alliance holds the biggest

machinery and fund to win the election by hook or by crook.

The S&T sector must actively join the campaign to defeat the Duterte-Marcos alliance. The Dutertes and Marcoses represent the worst of the ruling clique. A Marcos-Duterte regime equates to an even more militarized bureaucracy, a bankrupt economy and subservience to imperialists such as the US and China.

The outlook of science in the country remains bleak. The backward and stunted state of the country's science and technology will aggravate as it is under such a regime in a semi-feudal and semi-colonial society.

Imperialist countries like US and China will manipulate if not collaborate whoever wins the election to perpetuate an export-oriented and import-dependent economy. The Philippines remains as a source of cheap raw materials and labor, at the same time, a market for the surplus products and capital of foreign monopoly capitalists. Research and development (R&D) and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education continue to be the last priority of the government. Brain drain will persist as scientists and engineers are already forced to go to other countries because of the lack of jobs and opportunities in the country and the labor-export policy of the government, while projects and research that help develop the local economy and truly serve the people will be disregarded.

Scientists and engineers must unite to push forward science and technology free from foreign control, one that can truly serve the needs of the masses. We must arouse, organize, and mobilize our sector and continue to push forward our democratic struggles for the welfare of

our fellow science workers and students and towards science that truly serves the people. One of our major tasks is to join and help the people in defeating the Marcos-Duterte alliance in the coming election. At the same time, we must immerse with the basic sectors of society, the farmers, and workers to fight and stand with them for their national-democratic interests and concerns.

Most importantly, a pro-people science can only be achieved through winning the national democratic revolution (NDR) with socialist perspective where the people's democratic interests are represented and science is oriented towards the needs of the masses, not the needs of a few. Upon the completion of agrarian revolution, national industrialization will follow immediately. Strategic industries like power and energy, telecommunication, mining and oil, and transportation will be nationalized. Heavy industries and high technology will be the primary factor of the economy's progress. Under the NDR Comprehensive Agreement on Economic and Social Reforms (CASER), national industrialization "aims to achieve full employment, improve real wages, continuously improve the standard of living, reduce inequality, and eliminate poverty. It raises the level of science and technology, expands domestic demand, and integrates regional production and markets into one national production system."

To realize this, it is imperative for scientists and engineers to support and engage in revolution, be valiant revolutionaries, and join the New People's Army. We must struggle with the people to push the revolution towards victory!

“China military forces”
from p. 3

fisheries production in the country, contrary to Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque’s claim that the WPS is not an important fishing ground. The government’s lack of urgency in protecting the WPS will eventually lead to China’s takeover and loss of livelihood among Filipino fisherfolk.

China’s continued aggression in the WPS and the entire SCS region will further aggravate rising tensions among surrounding nations and may affect food security in the region. China’s relentless claim of the entire SCS not only hampers fisheries production and management but also deprives surrounding Southeast Asian nations vast reserves of oil and gas which could be used for national industrialization. Currently, the Malampaya gas field is being extracted by private corporations, while other petroleum deposits off the

coast of Palawan and Zambales remain untapped. One of these reserves in the Recto Bank was also the site of another incident of Chinese aggression against Filipino fisherfolk in 2019.

Imperialist superpowers vie for control of the entire SCS region, which creates tension and conflict between them and smaller nations in the Southeast Asian region. After all, the SCS is an important navigation route in addition to its rich fishery and energy resources. Aside from China, the United States continues to assert its control in the region through the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT), Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) and Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA). These agreements further aggravate the tension between the Philippines and China. Other nations, such as Japan, also hold military drills in the area. The reactionary Duterte administration, confused on which to serve, tried to appease and accommodate these superpowers. And yet the Filipino are not too happy with how Duterte manages conflict in the WPS. No amount of military agreement with the

US and support from other imperialist nations can keep China away from the West Philippine Sea. Only through a proletarian revolution will the Filipino people topple a puppet government and install a new government free from foreign control.

As the 2022 election draws closer, the Filipino people must rally behind candidates who will push for reforms in foreign affairs. These candidates should also be open for the continuation of peace talks with the National Democratic Front of the Philippines where negotiations on social and economic reforms, including foreign relations, will be tackled.

The West Philippine Sea rightfully belongs to the Filipino people. Its resources should be enjoyed by the people, not by the ruling imperialist nations. The Filipino people should freely navigate the seas either to fish or conduct marine science research without fear of intimidation or violence from any other nation trying to illegally claim it.

“LAB holds 2nd
Congress...” from p. 2

affirmed its belief that only through the victory of the National Democratic Revolution with a socialist perspective will science and technology fully develop and truly flourish in the Philippines. LAB stands that the skills and knowledge of the S&T sector must serve the people and the revolution.

The delegates of the Congress reviewed the summing up documents and discussed the experiences and practices of organizing scientists for the past two

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As we hold on to our experiences and lessons over the last two decades and strive to perform our critical and creative tasks, our AOM will be faster and more comprehensive at all levels in the coming years.

”

Ka Trinidad Ramirez
Chairperson, LAB

decades. The three-year program of LAB, formed from the lessons of the summing up documents, was presented and approved by the delegates. The three-year program’s strategic call is to **“Further advance the anti-fascist, anti-feudal and anti-imperialist movement, defeat the fascist reactionary regime of US-China-Duterte! Contribute to push forward the middle sub-stage of Strategic defensive to advance sub-stage of strategic defensive of Protracted People’s War in the Philippines.”**

According to the program, in three years, LAB envisions to achieve a development where it has led in organizing several tens of mass organizations with thousands of members from the S&T sector. It has established LAB chapters in strategic areas in the government, academe, and industry with several hundreds of revolutionary S&T members.

One of the highlights of the discussion was the proposal to hold a separate conference where members from different chapters would share their best practices in the revolutionary organizing of scientists and come up with tactics and specific programs on how to address current problems and challenges.

Toward the end of the Congress, the delegates discussed and approved the LAB Constitution and orientation. The Congress also elected a new set of officers who will lead the organization for the next three years. The Congress

put forward the creative and critical task of LAB and its members which are the following:

1. Serve the people.
2. Dare to organize.
3. Assign capable and enough organizers in different line of works.
4. Pay particular attention to organizing among professionals and youth in the S&T sector.
5. Trust the masses.
6. Strive in developing our forces to be red and expert.
7. Develop our understanding of the science and principles of revolution. Study, assess, sum up, and sharpen the level of our theory and practice of our AOM in the S&T sector.

Trinidad Ramirez, the elected Chairperson of LAB, lauded the delegates for a successful 2nd Congress, and expressed hope for more fruitful years and more victories to come and stated, “Our revolutionary work has made great strides in the S&T sector. In the next years, we will surpass our past progress, and strive to reach our goals and targets of our programs and plans. As we hold on to our experiences and lessons over the last two decades and strive to perform our critical and creative tasks, our AOM will be faster and more comprehensive at all levels in the coming years. Magpakatatag. Palakasin ang ating organisasyon. Isulong ang syensya at teknolohiya sa bansa at mag-ambag sa paglakas ng rebolusyon sa Pilipinas!”

Pagpupugay kay Jan Michael 'Ka Simon' Ayuste, mabuting anak at siyentista ng bayan!

Taos-pusong nakikidalamhati ang Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan (LAB) sa naulilang pamilya, kasama at kaibigan ni Jan Michael 'JM' Ayuste. Si JM, na mas kilala ng mamamayan sa Cordillera at Ilocos bilang Ka Simon, ay pinaslang ng pinagsanib na yunit ng teroristang 69th Infantry Battalion ng Philippine Army (PA) at lokal na Philippine National Police (PNP) sa Gueday, Besao, Mt. Province noong ika-30 ng Oktubre 2021. Hanggang sa dulo, magiting na lumaban si Ka Simon at Ka Corel sa mga pasistang kaaway. Tumatangis ngayon ang sambayanan para kay Ka Simon at Ka Corel na nag-alay ng kanilang buhay para sa kapakanan ng mamamayan at para sa pambansang demokratikong rebolusyon.

Nagmula siya sa saray ng mababang petiburgesya. Kinakitaan ng kakaibang talino si JM mula pagkabata. Nakuha nya ang pinakamataas na parangal bilang valedictorian noong nagtapos siya ng hayskul. Sa kabila ng oportunidad na magkaroon ng magandang karir bilang propesyunal na nakapagtapos ng kursong Biology sa Polytechnic University of the Philippines, mas pinili niya ang buong panahon na maglingkod sa mamamayan at isulong ang rebolusyon.

Naunang namulat si JM sa panlipunang katotohanan habang siya ay nag-aaral. Naging aktibong kasapi si JM ng LAB kung saan magkasabay niyang isinulong ang adhikaing makamit ang pambansang industriyalisasyon, tunay na repormang agraryo, at iba pang demokratikong karapatan ng mga mamamayan. Kaalinsabay, naunawaan niya agad ang pangangailangang isulong ang pambansang demokratikong rebolusyon upang makamit ang pangmatagalan at makatarungang kapayapaan, kalayaan, at kaunlaran sa ating bansa. Nang matapos

sa kolehiyo, nagpatuloy at masigasig na ginamit ni JM ang kanyang talino, lakas, at oras sa pag-oorganisa ng mga kapwa niya syentista, pagbibigay ng serbisyong teknikal sa mga batayang sektor, at paglahok sa mga kampanya na nagtataguyod ng kagalingan ng mga mamamayan.

Bilang rebolusyonaryong siyentista, lumahok siya sa mga pagkilos para isulong ang iba't ibang isyung kinakaharap ng mamamayan. Isa sya sa mga boluntir na eksperto sa mga iba't ibang siyentipikong pagsisiyasat at pananaliksik sa lalawigan ng Pampanga, Nueva Vizcaya, Batangas, Isabela at Iloilo. Ang mga pag-aaral na ito ay tumulong sa paglalantad sa mga mapandabong na pribado at dayuhang korporasyon kasapakat ang mga malalaking

Hindi naging madali ang magdesisyon na magpatuloy bilang FT (full time). Noon pa man ay may tanaw na ako na mag-CS (countryside) ako. Ngunit paulit-ulit pumapasok sa isip ko ang lyrics ng Awit Ng Petiburges,

May panahong magduda at magtanong / May panahon ng paghirap at pagsulong

Kaya ko bang sumulong? Kailangan ko bang sumulong? Mas nangibabaw ang pangangailangan, kahit indi ako kumbinsidong kaya ko talaga. Kung gusto kong magpatuloy ang rebolusyon, kailangan kong tumulong. At hindi sapat na nasa labas ako.

Ka Simon

burgesya-komprador at panginoong maylupa na nagmamay-ari ng mga dambuhalang minahan at dam, coal-fired powerplant, biofuel plantation at iba pang mga mapaminsalang proyektong sumisira sa kalikasan, kultura at kabuhayan ng mamamayan. Kasama si JM sa paglatag ng mga siyentipikong batayan para sa mas mahigpit na kaisahan at paglaban ng mamamayan sa reaksyunaryong gobyerno at mga dambuhalang korporasyon na kumakamkam sa ating lupain, dumarambong sa pambansang patrimonya at sumisira sa kapaligiran.

Sa kanyang pagkilos sa kalunsuran, aktibo siyang lumahok sa mga kampanya, mga teknikal na serbisyo at kilos-protestang tumutunggali sa mga mga patakaran at programa ng cont to p7



Ramon “Mon Ram” P. Ramirez, Inhinyero ng Bayan (1944-2021)

Taas-kamaong nakikiramay ang Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan (LAB) sa naulilang pamilya, kasama at kaibigan ni Ramon “Mon Ram” Ramirez.

Si Mon Ram ay isang batikang inhinyero, aktibista at rebolusyunaryo.

Noong nasa kolehiyo si Mon Ram aktibo siya sa pagsulong ng mga demokratikong karapatan ng mga kapwa niya estudyante at karaniwang masa. Naging kasapi siya ng Samahan ng Makabayang Siyentipiko (SMS) at isa sia sa mga siyentistang aktibista at mag-aaral na lumaban noong diktadurya ni Marcos. Nagtapos siya ng kursong electrical engineering sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas at naging board toponotcher noong 1967. Nagtrabaho si Mon Ram bilang propesyunal na electrical engineer sa Allied Thread Company, Coca-Cola at San Miguel Corporation. Subalit iniwan ni Mon Ram ang karir bilang propesyunal sa mundo ng korporasyon at pinili niya ang buong panahong pagsisilbi sa masa at rebolusyon.

Naging miyembro ng Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas at naging kadre ng Department of the Central Committee ng Partido na nangasiwa ng military research at aplikasyon ng agham at teknolohiya sa pambansang demokratikong rebolusyon. Isa rin siya sa mga susing kagawad ng Kalipunan ng mga Siyentista at Teknolohista na nagtuon sa pagpapaunlad ng iba't ibang aspeto ng kakayahang-teknolohiko ng rebolusyonaryong kilusan. Dahil sa angking kaalaman at dalubhasa, itinalaga si Mon Ram para mamuno sa grupong elektronika na nag-ambag sa pagpapaunlad at pagpapalaganap ng radio communications at broadcasting gaya ng Radio Sierra Madre, paggamit ng mga personal computer at teknolohiya sa impormasyon, at pagdisenyo at pagpaparami ng mga portable acupuncture stimulator. Naging dalubhasa rin sa kriptograpiya para sa ligtas na komunikasyon. Isa rin siya sa mga bumuo ng Liga ng Agham

para sa Bayan (LAB), naglathala ng Agham Bayan, Pulang Dalubhasa at mga aklat ni Jose Maria Sison, at bumuo ng iba't ibang samahan sa agham at teknolohiya, kalikasan, at ekolohiya.

Nagbigay-halimbawa siya sa mga kapwa siyentista at inhinyero sa paggamit ng kanyang kakayanan at talino sa pakikibaka ng sambayanan. Dalawang beses siyang ikinulong noong 1973 at 1992 ng reaksyonaryong pamahalaan ngunit hindi siya natinag at nanatiling kumikiling sa hanay ng inaapi at pinagsasamantalahan. Ayon nga sa isang malapit na kaibigan ni MonRam, kahit noong nasa kulungan pa ito ay tinulungan siya nitong makapasa sa kanyang Physics exam.

Pagkalaya niya mula sa kulungan, nagpatuloy si Mon Ram sa pagkilos at pagtulong sa mga progresibong organisasyon at institusyon. Naging convenor siya ng People Opposed to Warrantless Electricity Rates (POWER), isang

alyansa ng mga organisasyon na ipinaglaban ang karapatan ng mga electric consumers, at nagsampa ng kaso sa Korte Suprema. Naging susi si Mon Ram sa pagpapanalo ng kasong ito laban sa Meralco noong 2002. Gamit ang kanyang talino at teknikal na kakayahan, pinag-aralan at ipinakita ni Mon Ram ang walang-habas na pandaraya sa paniningil ng MERALCO. Patuloy niyang ginamit ang kanyang talino at teknikal na kakayahan upang tulungan ang mga progresibong organisasyon para ilantad ang mga pagsasamantala at pagpapahirap sa mga mamamayan ng mga patakaran, proyekto at programa kapwa ng gobyerno at mga pribadong korporasyon. Ilan dito ang mga kapalpakan ng Electric Power Industry Act (EPIRA), ang pribatisasyon ng LRT at MRT, automated elections systems at marami pang mga katulad na patakaran at proyekto.

Isa siya sa mga convenor ng Samahan ng Nagtataguyod ng Agham at Teknolohiya Para sa Sambayanan (AGHAM) cont to p7

“
Mon, pinili mong magsilbi sa lipunan sa paraang maka-masa, na tinuturing na subersibo ng gobyerno. Ako at ang marami sa amin ay piniling magsilbi sa bansa sa paraang nakagawian, sobrang hinahangaan ka naming sa pagpili ng landas base sa iyong mga pinaniniwalaan.

”

Mula sa liham-pakikiramay ng isang kapatid ni MonRam sa fraternity



*“Pagpupugay kay Jan Michael ‘Ka Simon’ Ayuste, mabuting anak at siyentista ng bayan!”
from p. 5*

reaksyunaryong gobyerno na lalong nagpapalala sa pagsasamantala at pang-aapi sa mamamayan at nagsasadlak sa Pilipinas sa kumunoy ng kahirapan. Kabilang sa mga kampanyang ito ang panawagan para sa maayos at abot-kayang pampublikong transportasyon, panawagan laban sa mataas na singil sa kuryente at telekomunikasyon, pagbabasura ng kontraktwalisasyon sa mga manggagawa at iba pa. Masigasig din siyang lumubog sa mga maralitang tagalunsod at nagturo ng iba’t ibang batayang konsepto ng siyensa, literasiya at numerasiya.

Mabilis ang paghikbang pasulong ni JM. Nagpasya siya na ilaan ang kanyang buong panahon at kaalaman para sa pagsusulong ng kagalingan ng mamamayan at rebolusyon sa kanayunan.

Sumapi si Ka Simon sa Bagong Hukbong Bayan. Sa kabila ng kanyang balingkinitang pangangatawan,

nagawa niyang pangibabawan ang mga hamon at kahirapan sa pagkilos sa kanayunan. Nanatili siyang determinado at masikhay sa kanyang paggampan bilang rebolusyunaryong hukbo ng masa. Partikular na naging ambag ni Ka Simon ang pagbabahagi niya ng kanyang kaalaman sa agham at teknolohiya na kapaki-pakinabang sa kabuhayan ng mga mamamayang Kankanaey at Ilocano, na sa ilalim ng kasalukuyang bulok na sistema ay hindi naabot o salat ang pampublikong serbisyo na kanilang natatanggap mula sa reaksyunaryong gobyerno.

Sa kanyang mga sulat, ibinahagi ni Ka Simon sa amin ang mga hamon, tagumpay, at pag-unlad ng rebolusyunaryong kilusan sa Cordillera. Magiliw niyang ikinuwento ang kanyang mga karanasan, kapwa mahihirap at masasaya, sa pakikipamuhay sa mga mamamayan ng Cordillera. Gayundin ang patuloy na hamon sa mga kapwa siyentista na mag-ambag ng kanilang talino, kaalamang teknikal at kagalingan sa mamamayan sa kanayunan. Hango sa isang liham ni Ka Simon, “Hindi naging madali ang magdesisyon na magpatuloy bilang FT (full time). Noon pa man ay may tanaw na ako na mag-CS (countryside) ako. Ngunit paulit-ulit pumapasok sa isip ko ang lyrics ng Awit Ng Petiburges, May

panahong magduda at magtanong, May panahon ng pagharap at pagsulong. Kaya ko bang sumulong? Kailangan ko bang sumulong? Mas nangibabaw ang pangangailangan, kahit indi ako kumbinsidong kaya ko talaga. Kung gusto kong magpatuloy ang rebolusyon, kailangan kong tumulong. At hindi sapat na nasa labas ako.

Hinding-hindi malilimutan ang kabayanihan ni JM, Ka Simon. Pinakamataas na pagpupugay ang iginagawad ng Liga ng Agham Para sa Bayan sa isa sa mga pinakamahusay na siyentista ng bayan na hindi nagdalawang-isip na ialay ang kanyang buhay para sa rebolusyon. Walang humpay na isusulong ng LAB ang iyong mga simulain hanggang sa tagumpay!

Patuloy na mag-aambag ang LAB sa pagsulong ng digmang bayan tungo sa estratehiyong pagkapatas. Tiyak na maraming siyentista ng bayan na tulad niya ang papalit at tatangan ng armas na kanyang naiwan.

Dakilain natin ang alaala ni Ka Simon, ituloy natin ang kanyang sinimulan.

Siyentista ng bayan, maglingkod sa mamamayan! Sumapi sa Bagong Hukbong Bayan!

Mula sa opisyal na pahayag ng Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan

*“Ramon ‘Mon Ram’ P. Ramirez, Inhinyero ng Bayan (1944-2021)”
from p. 6*

na nagsusulong ng pambansang industriyalisasyon. Bukod sa kagalingan sa mga gawaing-teknikal ay mahusay rin siyang organisador na naglayong magpakilos ng mas marami pang mga siyentista at teknolohista.

Noong 2011, binigyan siya ng University of the Philippines Alumni Association ng award para sa social cohesion. Noong 2019, ginawaran din siya ng University of the Philippines Alumni Engineers ng National Achievement Awardee in Public Services.

Kilala rin siya ng mga kasama bilang “Bong Arki” dahil sa

pagsisimula ng Arkibong Bayan kung saan ay ibinahagi niya ang mga kwento at larawan ng pakikibaka ng mga Pilipino para sa karapatang pantao, hustisya, demokrasya, kapayapaan, at kalayaan. Sapol ni Mon Ram ang kahalagahan ng pagdodokumento at pag-arkibo ng mga impormasyon hinggil sa kilusang masa ng mamamayan bilang natatanging yaman ng kasaysayan ng mga Pilipino.

Ayon sa isang liham-pakikipamay ng isang kapatid sa fraternity, “Mon, pinili mong magsilbi sa lipunan sa paraang maka-masa, na tinuturing na subersibo ng gobyerno. Ako at ang marami sa amin ay piniling magsilbi sa bansa sa paraang nakagawian, sobrang hinahangaan ka naming sa pagpili ng landas base sa iyong mga pinaniniwalaan.”

Ang mga kwento ng buhay, tiyaga, at determinasyon nina Mon

Ram at iba pang mga siyentista’t aktibista na piniling igugol ang kanilang buhay at dalubhasa sa piling ng sambayanan ay patuloy na magbibigay inspirasyon sa mga susunod pang henerasyon ng mga siyentista’t teknolohista. Makakaasa silang ipagpapatuloy ng LAB ang paggamit ng agham at teknolohiya sa pagsuri ng lipunan, pagsulong ng pambansang demokratikong rebolusyon, at pagpapalaya ng sambayanan mula sa mga salot na imperyalismo, pyudalismo, at burukrata-kapitalismo.

Mula sa Liga ng Agham ng Bayan, pulang saludo kay Ramon ‘Ka Mon Ram’ Ramirez! Ang iyong buhay ay patuloy na magsisilbing inspirasyon at gabay namin sa patuloy na paglilingkod sa sambayanan at pagtatagumpay ng rebolusyon sa Pilipinas.

Glasgow COP 26 is a failure, peoples' movements work for climate justice



Last November, world leaders met in Glasgow during the 6th Conference of Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) or COP26 that discussed and assessed progress in addressing global warming and climate change. The negotiations saw the signing of the Glasgow Climate Pact with the goal of keeping the world from warming over 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial time and other “solutions” to mitigate the effects of climate change. Numerous scientists and the UNFCCC itself stated that the world is in a climate emergency and warned that the rising temperature above this level will be catastrophic: more frequent droughts, heatwaves, and forest fires as well as the destruction of biodiversity and degradation of ecosystems—with people from the most affected places and areas (MAPA) feeling the brunt of the changes.

However, the lack of urgency and seriousness to drastically cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the countries historically contributing the most continue. Countries such as the United States, Canada, China, Japan, United Kingdom, and those in the European Union turn away from their responsibility to provide compensation to the loss and damages and aid financially and technologically to MAPA countries to be able to adapt. Rather than commitments to recompensate those directly suffering the effects of the climate crisis, the pact itself protect the capital accumulation of these imperialist countries—with plans to offset GHG emissions as they continue to build hydroelectric mega dams and nuclear plants for private and profit-oriented institutions.

Now, it is imperative for scientists to bring the facts closer to the communities and communicate their findings of the imminent danger of climate change rooted in the historical damage of imperialism and solutions towards a people-centered adaptation. In Glasgow and around the world, millions gathered to rally for stronger and immediate action in cutting emissions and to demand action against imperialism that is the root cause of the climate crisis. In the Philippines, the struggle for climate justice and environmental protection comes from grassroots movements. From various environmental and scientist groups joining climate strikes to community organizations opposing the establishment of new coal plants, the Filipino people are aware of the threats of imperialism. Aside from legal mass organizations, revolutionary organizations, such as the Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan (LAB), takes part in organizing scientists and science workers, as well as raising campaigns related to the climate crisis to the problem of imperialism. Revolutionary scientists provide technical assistance to communities of peasants, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples and urban poor communities who face development aggression from the state and large corporations. Technical assistance can be in the form of participatory research together with affected communities or scientific lectures that raise awareness and knowledge of communities about capitalist exploitation, environmental destruction and impacts of climate change.

Despite the urgent need to protect the environment, the state through

the mercenary Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP) suppress environmental movements through rampant redtagging, harassment, illegal arrests, and worst killings. For five consecutive years, the Philippines remained to be the deadliest country in Asia and consistently in the top 3 deadliest country in the world for environmental and land rights defenders. At present, up to 178 environmental defenders have been killed since 2016. One of deadliest killing happened exactly a year from now when the PNP massacred nine members and leaders of the Tumandok tribe in the provinces of Iloilo and Capiz. These environmental defenders have been defending their rainforests and rivers against the construction of the Jalaur Mega Dam. Amid worsening political climate, LAB spokesperson Ka Trinidad Ramirez expressed solidarity to environmental defenders, and reiterated that only people's movements can topple those hungry for capital and disregard its effects on the planet. “By removing monopoly capitalists, in the Philippines in particular, imperialist puppets, landlords, and bureaucrat capitalists from power and influence, we thereby make a crucial step in solving the climate crisis,” said LAB spokesperson Ka Trinidad Ramirez. As leaders from imperialist countries refuse to take accountability from polluting the world, as the Philippine government continues its criminal negligence in mitigating climate change, and as scientific advice, warnings and calls from scientists and affected communities fall to deaf ears, it is only up to the Filipino masses and all peoples of the world to act and uproot the oppressive system.

Revolutionary forces of peasants, indigenous peoples and workers are at the forefront of the climate justice and environmental movement in the countryside. Through the New People's Army, the burning of destructive heavy equipment owned by foreign mining and logging companies as well as tactical offensives and harassments against reactionary forces of the AFP and PNP help conserve and protect the remaining rainforests of the country. These rainforests serve as important carbon sinks that play a crucial role in removing excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. More importantly, rainforests are the ancestral lands of indigenous peoples, which serve as their homes, sources of livelihood, the basis of their culture and identity as indigenous people as well as the base of their struggle for self-determination. Only through waging a protracted people's war will the environment be liberated from overexploitation and degradation brought by multi-national corporations, local landlords and bureaucrat-capitalists.

Reklamasyon ni Duterte perwisyo sa mamamayan at kalikasan

Unang Parte: Hindi mapipigilan ng pagtambak ng lupa ang ating pagkalunod



ANG DAGAT AY BUHAY Pangisdaan ang pangunahing hanapbuhay ng mga komunidad sa baybayin ng Bulacan.

Palala na nang palala ang krisis sa klima. Dulot ng walang tigil na pagsunog ng mga fossil fuel, lalong umakyat ang lebel ng carbon dioxide sa atmosphere kaya mas lalong uminit ang temperatura ng mundo. Kaakibat nito ang pagbago sa klima na magdudulot ng mas lalong pag-init at paglamig sa iba't-ibang bahagi ng mundo at mas lalong pagtindi ng mga dadaang bagyo. Matutunaw ang yelo sa mga matataas na kabundukan at rehiyong polar na magdudulot ng pagtaas ng lebel ng karagatan. Ayon sa ulat ng Climate Central, isang organisasyon ng mga siyentista sa Estados Unidos, maraming komunidad, lungsod at kahit pa mga isla ang mawawala bunsod ng pagtaas ng lebel ng karagatan. Maraming mabababang lugar sa Metro Manila, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Butuan at Iligan ay lulubog sa baha pagdating ng 2050.

Isa ang Pilipinas sa pinakabulnurable sa mga epekto ng krisis sa klima. Taon-taon, dinadaan ang bansa ng mga mapaminsalang bagyo at ang laging unang natatamaan ay ang mga komunidad sa dalampasigan. Noong

2013, higit 6,000 katao ang namatay at higit limang bilyong halaga ng ari-arian at kabuhayan ang nasira o nawala matapos salantain ng bayong Yolanda ang Pilipinas. Sa paglala ng krisis sa klima, asahan na mas marami pang mga bagyo na sasalanta sa bansa. Nitong buwan lamang, hinagupit at napinsala ng bagyong Odette ang buong Kabisayaan, hilagang bahagi ng Mindanao, at isla ng Palawan. Hindi pa batid ang bilang ng mga namatay at halaga ng pinsala hanggang sa kasalukuyan.

Papalalain ng reklamasyon ang panganib na dulot ng krisis sa klima.

Sa ilalim ng rehimeng US-Duterte, mayroong hindi bababa sa isandaang proyektong reklamasyon sa maraming bahagi ng bansa. Mahigit sa 30 nito ay matatagpuan sa Central Visayas, kagaya ng kontrobersyal na 174-ektaryang proyekto sa dalampasigan ng Dumaguete na sisira sa mga coral reef at seagrass bed doon. Mayroon ding malalaking proyekto sa Mandaue, Minglanilla, Talisay at Consolacion, Cebu. Sa Manila Bay, hindi bababa sa 25,000 ektarya ng karagatan ang tatambakan ng lupa para pagtayaran ng 23 proyektong

mula Bataan hanggang Cavite. Ang pinakamalaking bulto sa mga proyektong ito ay pagmamay-ari ng San Miguel Corporation (SMC). Higit sa 21,000 ektarya na bahagi ng dagat mula Bataan hanggang Navotas ang tatambakan ng SMC para pagtayaran ng mga proyekto gaya ng Bulacan Aerotropolis (2,500 ektarya), Manila Bay Integrated Flood Control, Coastal Defense and Expressway o MBIFCCDE (18,000 ektarya) at Navotas Coastal Bay Reclamation Project (576 ektarya). Sa Cavite naman, aabot sa 1,331 ektarya ang kabuuang erya ng itatayong isla ng lokal na pamahalaang pamprobinsya sa Cavite City at mga bayan ng Kawit, Noveleta at Rosario. Aabot naman sa 420 ektarya ang tatambakan ng lokal na pamahalaan ng Bacoor, Cavite sa pangunguna ni Mayor Lani Mercado-Revilla.

Kabilang sa mga panganib na makikita sa Manila Bay ay inland flooding, liquefaction, storm surge at land subsidence na maaring lumala dulot ng reklamasyon. Ang inland flooding o pagbaha ay papalalain ng reklamasyon dahil iibahin nito ang daloy ng tubig. Halimbawa, lalong

lalala ang pagbaha sa Bulacan dahil pipigilan at iibahin ng reklamasyon ang natural na daloy ng ilog sa mga ilog doon. Ang liquefaction naman ay ang paglambot ng lupa tuwing mayroong lindol na maaaring magdulot ng pagguho ng mga gusali. Ang storm surge o daluyong naman ay mga malalakas na alon na dala ng bagyo. Ang malalakas na alon tuwing bagyo ay nagdadala ng panganib sa mga naninirahan sa dalampasigan. Ang pagpapatayo ng mga gusali at iba pang establisimento sa Manila Bay sa pamamagitan ng reklamasyon ay maglalagay sa panganib sa mga manggagawa at residente na magtatrabaho at maninirahan dito. Ang mga malalakas na daluyong na ito ay naobserbahan din noong kasagsagan ng bagyong Odette kung saan tumagilid ang ilang mga barko at nasira ang mga establisimento sa dalampasigan ng Cebu. Ang land subsidence naman ay ang paglubog ng lupa dulot ng sobrang pagkuha ng tubig sa ilalim ng lupa. Ito ay naobserbahan na sa maraming komunidad sa Bulacan at Navotas. Ang mga panganib na ito ay maaaring lumala dulot ng krisis sa klima.

Babagsak ang pangisdaan dulot ng reklamasyon.

Kasama sa pagtatambak ng lupa ang pagsira sa mga ekosistema sa karagatan. Ang mga ekosistema tulad ng coral reef, seagrass bed at mangrove forest ay nasisilbing tahanan ng maraming uri ng hayop,

kagaya ng isda, alimango, hipon at iba pa. Nagsisilbi din ang mga ito bilang nursery ground ng mga semilya ng isda at iba pang lamang-dagat. Ang pagkasira ng mga ekosistemang ito ay magdulot ng pagkawala ng tirahan ng mga lamang-dagat na mauwi sa pagbagsak ng pangisdaan at kawalan ng seguridad sa pagkain.

Hindi pa man nakukumpleto o nasisimulan ang karamihan sa mga proyektong reklamasyon ay damang-dama na ng mga mangingisda ang masamang epekto nito sa kanilang kabuhayan. Sa Bulacan, pinalayas ng SMC ang mga mangingisda ng Bulakan mula sa kanilang mga tirahan at tradisyunal na pook-pangisdaan, at pinagbawalan din ang mga mangingisda mula sa karatig bayan ng Malolos, Paombong, Hagonoy at Obando na mangisda malapit sa site ng Aerotropolis. Ayon sa mga mangingisda, nabubulabog ang mga isda dulot ng dredging o pagdadraga na ginagawa ng SMC kaya kakaunti o halos wala na silang mahuli at makain. Iniulat din nila ang pagkakaroon ng red tide at fish kill noong nagsimula ang pagdadraga na nagdulot ng pagkawala ng isda at kagutuman sa mga mangingisda sa loob ng ilang linggo. Ang mas malala pa, hinuli at tinakot pa sila ng militar noong ipinaglaban nila ang kanilang karapatang mangisda sa kanilang tradisyunal na pook-pangisdaan. Sa Cavite, pinabaklas ng Department of Environment

and Natural Resources (DENR) ang mga baklad, saprahan at fish pen na pagmamay-ari ng mga mangingisda dahil diumano ay nagdulot ng polusyon ang mga kawayan na ginagamit sa mga istrukturang ito. Subalit ang pagpapabaklas sa mga istrukturang ito ay magbibigay daan naman sa reklamasyon sa probinsya. Kung tunay ngang nais ng DENR na linisin at rehabilitahin ang Manila Bay, bakit hinahayaan ng ahensya ang malawakang pagputol ng mga bakhawan, pagtatambak ng lupa sa mga dalampasigan at paghuhukay sa karagatan? Paano muling manunumbalik ang mga ekosistema at organismo sa ating karagatan kung ito ay natambakan na ng lupa at napagtayuan na ng mga gusali?

Kahirapan at hindi tunay na pag-unlad ang hatid ng reklamasyon

Kung pagsasamahin ang mga epektong dulot ng mga panganib kaugnay sa mga sakuna at krisis sa klima, kawalan ng seguridad sa pagkain dulot ng pagwasak ng karagatan, at pagkawala ng kabuhayan ng mga mangingisda, asahang lalong lalala ang kahirapan na mararanasan ng masang Pilipino sa susunod na mga taon.

Pinangangalandakan ng gobyerno at ng mga malalaking korporasyon na magdadala ng pag-unlad ang mga proyektong ito, subalit sa katotohanan ay iilang dayuhang kapitalista, burgesya kumprador, panginoong may lupa at burukrata kapitalista lamang ang tunay na makikinabang dito. Ang patuloy na pagsisilbi sa interes ng malalaking korporasyon at negosyante, pagsasawalang bahala ng rehimeng US-Duterte sa mga babala ng mga eksperto at panawagan ng mga mamamayan ay lalong mag-uudyok ng malawakang pagkilos laban sa reklamasyon.

Walang sino man ang nagmamay-ari sa karagatan. Ang mga yaman ng ating mga dagat at baybayin ay dapat tinatamasa ng lahat ng mamamayan, hindi ng iilan. Sa huli, kahit tambakan man ng ekta-ektrayang lupa ang mga dalampasigan at maglikha man ng mga panibagong isla, hindi nito mapipigilan ang ating tuluyang pagkalunod sa hinaharap dulot ng tumitinding krisis sa klima. Tiyak na babalikwas ang mamamayan upang pigilan at biguin ang pakana ng mga naghaharing uri.

Ang lathalaing ito ay ang unang bahagi sa serye ng dalawang lathalaing tungkol sa reklamasyon.



BAKHAWANAN Ang mga bakhawanang ang nagsisilbing tirahan at pinagkukunan ng makakain ng mga mangingisda.

Siyensya at Rebolusyon

Isang siyensya ang rebolusyon.

Makakamit natin ang tunay na tagumpay at paglaya ng lipunan

Kung masusing pag-aaralan at isusulong natin ang pagbabago.

Bukod sa ating pag-aaral sa laboratoryo at klasrum,

Tayo ay dapat lumabas, makipamuhay at matuto mula sa masa,

Ang ating kapwa guro at mag-aaral, sa lansangan, pabrika, kanayunan at kabundukan.

Dahil ang siyentipikong pagbabago sa lipunan ay nagmumula sa masa at ito ay patungo sa masa.



Duterte's Failed COVID-19 Response: IN NUMBERS

Cases and deaths

2,839,111

Total COVID-19 cases in the PH as of 12/28

51,213

COVID-19 deaths in the PH as of 12/28

From DOH

Unemployment

8.9%
unemployment rate

Many Filipinos lost their jobs due to economic failures from COVID-19 lockdowns
Worst in Asia-Pacific

From PSA

PH Debt

Php 13.42 T

Projected PH debt in 2022, largely due to excessive borrowing of the Duterte regime during the pandemic

Corruption

Php 8.7 B

worth of contracts bagged by Pharmally, a little-known trading business with bogus addresses to supply the government with "overpriced" medical supplies and COVID-19 testing kits

118
years

from P20M (1898) to P6.1T (2016)

6
years

from P6.1T (2016) to P13.42T (2022)

It only took 6 years to almost double government debt, which was largely incurred to pay off COVID expenses

From IIBON Foundation