



PAHAYAGAN SANG PARTIDO KOMUNISTA SANG PILIPINAS ★ ISLA SANG NEGROS
ANG Paghimakas
GINAUBAYAN SANG MARXISMO-LENINISMO-MAOISMO JANUARY 2022

EDITORIAL

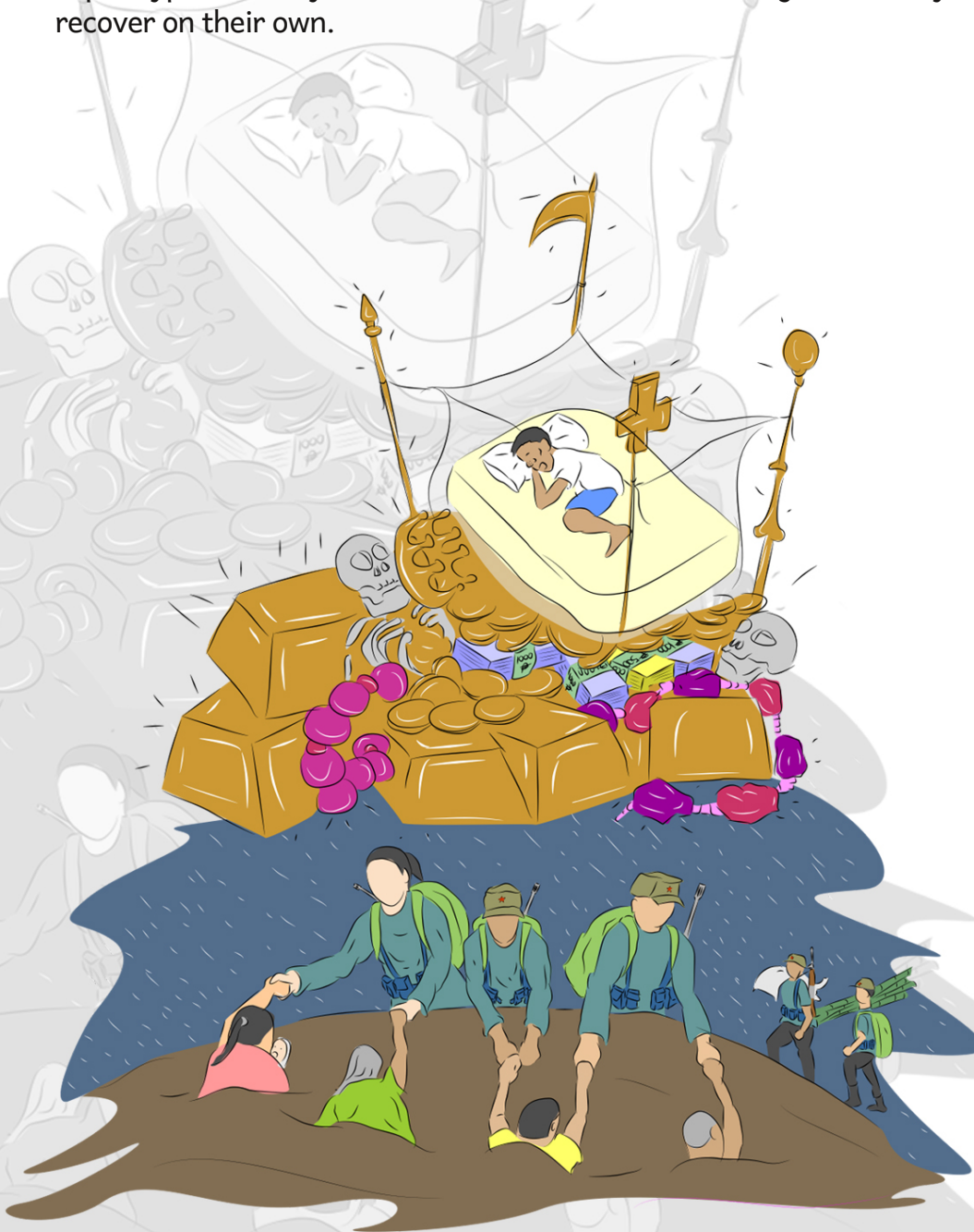
Collectively rise from the aftermath of super typhoon Odette and defeat the fascist onslaught of the Duterte regime

ALMOST TWO MONTHS AFTER SUPER typhoon Odette hit most of Visayas, Palawan Island and parts of Mindanao, hunger, homelessness, and loss of livelihood continue to overwhelm survivors. Particularly in Negros Island, around 300,000 families in Negros Occidental, including Bacolod City, and 100,000 families in Negros Oriental were affected. Over and above their hardships upon the onslaught of the super typhoon, they were furious with the Duterte regime as they were again abandoned and left to recover on their own.

Government aid have barely reached the tables of the poorest Filipinos. They have heard many empty promises from their local officials typical during election season. They have mostly received a few kilos of rice, and some sardines and noodles. Up to now, many have not received government aid or, if they had, they were left with no choice but to comply with stringent requirements. These cannot make up for the worsening socio-economic conditions currently oppressing the Filipino people.

Duterte claimed that his government's funds were immensely depleted and, as usual, blamed it on the COVID-19 pandemic. His predictable solution was to draw P10 billion from the World Bank disaster financing loan to finance government aid for Odette victims which gives him more money to plunder in preparation for the upcoming elections.

Meantime, the peasant masses, who are battling for daily survival after their homes and



farms were destroyed, are living in terror as their communities are militarized. The military and police continue to launch Sauron-like attacks all over Negros Island even before the super typhoon hit and after. Innocent farmers are getting killed or imprisoned because they are suspected as supporters or members of the New People's Army (NPA). Relief goods and cash aids are being weaponized by the NTF-Elcac and the Community Support Programs. Distribution of relief packs are used to lure farmers to attend mass meetings where they are then declared as "NPA surrenderees." Those who refuse to attend are threatened with trumped-up charges.

Duterte has caused the Filipino people greater suffering much worse than that of a super typhoon. He greedily plundered the people's coffers and criminally neglected the people's welfare all throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and the aftermath of natural disasters. He imposed even worse anti-people neoliberal policies favoring big business and disregarding genuine land reform and national industrialization. He squandered billions on costly military equipment and operations for his counterrevolutionary war, a brutal campaign to suppress the broad masses and pacify their resistance to his tyrannical rule.

Duterte's regime will end in a few months. He is surely devising ways to secure himself and his clique whether by extending his rule through martial law or ensuring the victory by election fraud of whoever can provide the most advantageous guarantee for his freedom and protection.

The people must demand for accountability from Duterte and his cohorts while he is in power

or even when a new president of the reactionary government is elected. He must not get away from all his crimes against the people and humanity.

Meanwhile, the victims of super typhoon Odette must collectively assert their urgent demands for food, housing, livelihood assistance and other basic needs from their local governments. They must organize themselves and help each other towards recovery while considering pre-emptive COVID-19 measures. They can link with pro-people organizations and institutions who are willing to extend assistance and resources.

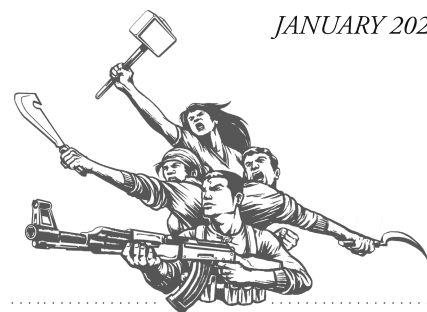
Revolutionary forces in the cities and countryside, on the other hand, must support relief and rehabilitation efforts. They should help Odette victims in asserting their rights and welfare and raise their political consciousness. Mass campaigns for land reform and food production must be launched simultaneous with the demand to end destructive mining and quarrying that contributed greatly to the terrible devastation caused by super typhoon Odette in Central and South Negros and other provinces in the country.

There must also be mass campaigns to condemn the widespread militarization in the countryside especially now that state forces have declared a "last push" to implement its futile counter-insurgency campaign by June 2022. Gross violations of human rights such as extrajudicial and summary killings, illegal arrests, abductions, torture, forced surrender, military occupation of communities, bombardments, weaponization of relief efforts, red-tagging, intimidations and harassments must be exposed up to the international community.

The NPA, while continuing to assist in rehabilitation efforts and responding to the economic needs of the peasant masses, must resolutely persevere in defending the people from terroristic attacks of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP). They must mount successful tactical offensives to give justice to all victims of human rights violations and frustrate the onslaught of fascist state forces to destroy the revolutionary movement.

Long-term recovery from the aftermath of super typhoon Odette and the upliftment of economic conditions can never be realized in the rotten semi-feudal and semicolonial system. Duterte's tyranny, fascism, corruption and ineptness have proven the necessity of the people's democratic revolution. **AP***

JANUARY 2022

ANG *Paghimakas*

Nagapasalamat ang *Ang Paghimakas* sa mga kontribusyon agud maging madinalag-on ang ini nga isyu. Sa pagpauswag sang aton *Ang Paghimakas*, ginapangabay sa tanan nga bumalasa nga padayon nga magamot sang mga balita, piktyur, istorya kag iban pa nga sinulat. Nagapangayo man kami sang inyo mga suhestyon kag komentaryo paano pa gid ini pauswag.



angpaghimakas@yahoo.com



negrosrevportal.wordpress.com