

EDITORIAL

Advance revolutionary culture and propaganda



THE FILIPINO PEOPLE ARE IN deeper crisis as prices of basic goods and services continue to soar while income continues to dwindle. Unemployment, hunger, bureaucratic corruption and state fascism is widespread. All Marcos Jr did as he ascended to power by brazen fraud is further exploit and oppress the Filipino masses while accumulating vast wealth and obscuring his families' crimes against the people.

The moribund semicolonial and semifeudal system that has spawned the Philippines' worst crisis also generates armed resistance. The worsening crisis is what pushes the Filipino people to further understand that the

road to national democratic revolution is just and necessary to crush imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism.

The current political socioeconomic conditions make the ground fertile for arousing, organizing, and mobilizing the broadest number of Filipino people. It creates favorable conditions for the revolutionary movement, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) at the lead, to muster the exploited classes of workers, peasants, urban petty bourgeoisie and national bourgeoisie towards intensifying the national democratic revolution through protracted people's war against the US-Marcos II regime.

In Negros Island, the Marcos-Duterte ruling clique is desperately trying but miserably failing in dismantling the revolutionary movement. This is evident in the people's infinite support especially to the New People's Army (NPA) that will celebrate its 54th founding anniversary come March 29.

Marcos Jr and his faction of plunderers and murderers wage their oppressive dirty war against the people. They utilize the counterinsurgency strategy of employing triad operations of intelligence, psywar and combat operations. These are characterized by massive militarization in the countryside, rampant abuses

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of human rights and killings with impunity, smear campaign against the revolutionary movement, forced and fake "NPA surrenders," rabid redtagging, and heightened attacks against legitimate dissent.

In the propaganda front, deceptive tactics and weaponized fake news and disinformation are used to make the regime's claim of "winning the war" against the revolutionary movement believable. They attack the press, media institutions and civic groups who oppose them in order to monopolize public discourse. It uses mass media and online platforms to create a false climate of "progress."

It is in this time of heightened repression and suppression that cultural and propaganda groups and cultural work must be proliferated. We have learned how the CPP and the national democratic movement gained momentum and grew in size and strength during the pre-martial law and martial law rule of dictator Marcos.

Ang Paghimakas' 50th year celebration is an apt reminder of how propaganda and cultural work is imperative to advance the people's war. First published a few months after the declaration of martial law in September 1972, it manifested the Negrosanons opposition to Marcos' dictatorship and their determination to pursue building the revolutionary movement and the NPA on the island.

As we celebrate Ang Paghimakas' jubilee, once again we can prove that it is futile for the fascist regime to silence us. The

people's resistance against this regime will produce, shape and temper new propagandists and cultural activists.

More artists, writers and cultural workers must rally to the cause of the oppressed and exploited masses with songs, poetry, dances, paintings, drawings and other art works. Themes such as agrarian problems, foreign economic plunder, labor struggles, violence against women and children and ecological damage must take center stage while expressing aspirations for genuine change and revolutionary relevance.

Cultural and artistic activities must steadily gain ground across Negros Island in variety, volume and quality. In each guerilla front, national, regional and local publications, and literary journals must be published to contain the literary and artistic works of revolutionary writers and artists while also disseminating news and information about the revolutionary forces. Distribution and saturation of such materials must also be ensured.

There is a need to systematize and conduct cultural work consistently and vigorously. This must be done alongside systematic social investigation, mass integration, and organizing among the masses in urban and rural communities, in factories and school campuses. Doing propaganda and cultural work among the masses necessitates employing the mass line.

There is a need to utilize and maximize the internet and multimedia as it is the fastest

method of communication and propaganda to reach the general public. Premium must be given to going among the masses for the purpose of arousing, organizing and mobilizing the people against the reactionary regime. Our propaganda work must serve in strengthening our organization, in supporting the people's struggles and in building a united front to thwart Marcos Jr.

With renewed vigor, the Party is entirely capable of leading the national democratic revolution to victory. **AP**

FEBRUARY 2023



ANG *Paghimakas*

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



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