

greeted the steadfast Palestinians in occupied Palestine, and expressed full support for the PLO.

The politbureau of the Yemeni Socialist Party held an extraordinary meeting to discuss means of supporting the uprising. It established a special committee for this purpose, divided into several subcommittees: the political and media committee to work in coordination with the PLO office in Aden; an activities committee to organize rallies and demonstrations in all districts; and a financial committee that started its work by printing a postage stamp symbolizing the uprising.

Despite all these positive activities, Democratic Yemen's recent decision to resume relations with Egypt remains unjustified.

In Libya, Colonel Qaddafi directed several televised messages to our people in occupied Palestine, encouraging them to be steadfast. Rallies were held in support of the uprising, and Libya made large donations to support the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

All in all, the uprising had a positive impact on the Arab level. Still, the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front countries must shoulder their national responsibilities in a more serious fashion. The front should develop coordination among its members in preparation for convening a summit, in order to play the distinguished role it is expected to play in confronting the imperialist-Zionist-Arab reactionary plans against the liberation struggle.

## ARAB COMMUNIST PARTIES AND LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

In several Arab countries, the communist parties and national liberation movements were active in arranging demonstrations and other forms of mass support to the uprising. However, some of these parties and forces contented themselves with issuing verbal support. This is unfortunate in view of the overall impact of the uprising. Since its inception, the Palestinian liberation struggle has been in the forefront in the struggle against the imperialist-Zionist enemy. The Palestinian revolution has been a catalyst and inspiration for the Arab national liberation movement.



Egyptian lawyers demonstrate.

The uprising did unleash the revolutionary spirit among the Egyptian masses, enabling the movement to wage a battle against Camp David. This provides the basis for developing the popular rejection of the regime's policies, i.e., Camp David and the attempts to foil the uprising, but the national movement still has a long way to go to build the struggle required to abrogate Camp David.

Arab communist and worker's parties signed two communiques saluting the Palestinian uprising that foiled the Israeli-Jordanian schemes, condemning the Israeli practices, and confirming that the only way to a lasting and just peace is an international conference that guarantees Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, and fulfills the rights of the Palestinian people to repatriation, self-determination and an independent state. (Statements to this effect were signed on December 15th and January 12th, by the Communist Parties of Palestine, Jordan, Sudan, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Syria and Egypt; and the Progress and Socialism party in Morocco, the National Liberation Front of Bahrain, the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman, and the Socialist Vanguard Party in Algeria.

The Arab national liberation movements, located in Algeria and Libya, issued statements in support of the uprising, saluting the PLO and the United Leadership of the Uprising. The Arab communist parties dealt with the uprising in all of their publications.

## LEBANON

Based on the long tradition of joint Palestinian—Lebanese struggle, the

Lebanese nationalist forces joined with the Palestinians in organizing mass activities in support of the uprising. In December, 75,000 Lebanese and Palestinians marched in Sidon. On February 12th, a huge mass rally was organized by the Progressive Socialist Party at Ba'aqleen in the mountains. It was well attended by other parties as well: the Communist Action Organization, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, the Lebanese Communist Party and the Nasserite Unificationist Movement, in addition to the PLO delegation led by Salah Salah, secretary of the Palestinian National Work Committee in Lebanon, and PFLP Politbureau member. Walid Jumblatt, president of the Progressive Socialist Party, delivered an important speech which impressed the audience and Arab political circles. He emphasized that any formula that disregards the PLO will be foiled, and urged the revival of the Palestinian—Syrian—Lebanese nationalist alliance.

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In a short period, the uprising has achieved great victories on the political and mass level. This confirms that the masses are a decisive force in all the battles waged by the Arab liberation movement. Therefore it is the responsibility of the Arab liberation movement to mobilize broadly to motivate the masses to become a primary and effective party to the battle.

There are other tasks awaiting the Arab liberation movement, in order for it to recapture its leading role among the Arab masses, and to mobilize political and material support for the uprising and the PLO.

The first task is developing the cooperation among the different movements and moving from a minimal program to a revolutionary one. This step will enable the Arab liberation movement to enter this new stage of struggle, and achieve the goals of the Arab masses: genuine independence, freedom and social progress. The second task is the serious work needed to reestablish Palestinian-Syrian relations, in preparation for reviving the Palestinian — National Lebanese—Syrian alliance on a militant basis, to confront the US-Israeli schemes in the area.