



The new revolutionary generation in South Yemen

social democracy achieved by the popular masses through long, hard struggle. Moreover, the power of the state's repressive apparatus, used against the mass movement, political forces and the opposition, is increasing. As the social base of these regimes shrinks, the fascist tendencies grow. Suppression and harassment increases against the masses and revolutionary political forces, to prevent them from expressing their aspirations in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction, in order to achieve their rights and freedom.

The ruling bourgeoisie that led the national democratic revolution in several Arab countries, with the help of the working class movement, achieved national independence. It took economic and social measures that met its own selfish class interests and facilitated capitalist development. Furthermore, this class acquired common interests with the world capitalist system. Therefore, it shifted to conservative and retrograde positions. This means that the ruling national bourgeoisie is no longer capable of continuing to lead the national democratic revolution, much less of moving it into the socialist stage. This national bourgeoisie is no longer a dynamic force in the revolutionary process, because advancing the revolution does not meet the interests of the bourgeoisie as an exploiting class. This development assigns to the working class first and foremost, and to the toiling masses, the task of leading the revolution, not only to fulfill all the tasks of the national democratic revolution, but to transform this revolution in favor of all the exploited, working people, and to achieve socialist revolution.

The national democratic revolution in South Yemen - a vanguard experience

In several Arab countries (Egypt, Iraq and others), the representatives of the petit and middle bourgeoisie made outstanding accomplishments in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism, after seizing state power by various means. These accomplishments were seen in the defeat of the tripartite aggression against Egypt, the adjustment of the Arab countries' share in oil production, the nationalization of the Suez Canal and many other big foreign and national (local) institutions; agrarian reform was implemented to varying degrees. This created the impression among broad circles in the world and the Arab revolutionary movement, that the ruling representatives of the petit bourgeoisie are not only capable of achieving the tasks of the national democratic revolution, but of taking more decisive socioeconomic measures towards socialism as well. Nevertheless, the experience of the revolutions in these countries proves without a doubt the impotence of the petit bourgeois leadership to totally achieve the tasks of the national democratic revolution, much less the transition towards socialism. That is because the national democratic revolution led by the petit bourgeoisie occurred in conditions of relative capitalist development; the bourgeoisie had crystallized to a certain extent as a class in society. The petit bourgeoisie, as a party, political authority or leadership, possessed a desire to monopolize the political work, while depriv-