

Further international greetings to the Women's Day 2019

From the Philippines sent Sharon Cabusao Silva greetings " Fiery and militant greetings on International Women's Day!"

From Africa writes Mwambu Margaret Jane from Uganda: "Thank you so much and wishing you a happy women's day, see you soon". Yours, Mwambu Margaret Jane

Grüße zum Frauentag 2019 aus Dhaka/Bangladesh vom Socialist Women's Forum





[Brief des SWF Bangladesh 8 March 2019 als PDF Datei](#)

Dear Sisters & Women Activists,

Solidarity greetings to all on International Women's Day. On 109th International Women's Day Socialist Women's Forum organized a rally at 11am 8th March 2019. Also six leftist women's organizations including Socialist Women's Forum observed International Women's Day jointly. Our call was 'protest rape-sexual harassment-violence and come on the struggle to establish women with human dignity and equal right'. On this occasion we demanded 'Equal right on inheritance'; 'Equal-wage on equal-work'; 'Establish uniform civil code'; 'Economic value of household works in GDP'; 'Stop violence against women'; 'Stop gender-base violence at work' etc.

Please keep us informed about your activities, analysis and keep in touch.

Comradely yours
Shampa Basu

General Secretary/Central Committee
Socialist Women's Forum

deepl Übersetzung:

Solidarische Grüße an Alle am Internationalen Frauentag. Am 109. Internationalen Frauentag organisierte das Sozialistische Frauenforum am 8. März 2019 um 11 Uhr eine Demonstration. Auch sechs linke Frauenorganisationen, darunter das Socialist Women's Forum, haben gemeinsam am Internationalen Frauentag teilgenommen. Unser Aufruf lautete "Protest gegen sexuelle Belästigung – Gewalt und der Kampf um die Verwirklichung von Frauen mit Menschenwürde und Gleichberechtigung". Bei dieser Gelegenheit forderten wir ' Gleiches Recht auf Erbschaft'; 'Gleiches Entgelt für gleiche Arbeit'; 'Einheitliches Zivilgesetzbuch'; 'Wirtschaftlicher Wert von Haushaltsarbeiten im BIP'; 'Gewalt gegen Frauen beenden'; 'Geschlechterbezogene Gewalt am Arbeitsplatz beenden' usw.

Bitte informieren Sie uns über Ihre Aktivitäten, Analysen und bleiben Sie in Kontakt.

Call of the World Women's Movement for International Women's Day 2019



European Coordinators of the

World Women's Conferences of Grassroot Women

Halinka Augustin/Netherlands and Susanne Bader/Germany

Call of the World Women's Movement for International Women's Day 2019

"In the struggle for liberation I felt freedom for the first time, that's why I organized myself!"

In many countries of the world, women's consciousness has awakened on a massive scale!

On International Women's Day, the day of struggle of the world women's movement, we look with pride at our revolutionary pioneers like Clara Zetkin! She wrote under the impression of the first socialist revolution in Russia in 1917, as a result of which the right to vote for women was won:

"The first dictatorship of the proletariat is a true pioneer of full social equality for women."

In many countries, on International Women's Day 2019, the women's movement chooses the "strike" as a form of protest, following the example of the workers' movement. The struggle for the liberation of women is on the agenda in the 21st century. Women of all social strata and classes are at odds with the capitalist system, its representatives in the bourgeois parties and governments. But the contradiction is often still limited to individual questions and demands and is non-binding in its form. In order to become a force that can change society, it needs clarity and organization.

The first theoretical seminar of the World Women's Movement 2018 in India was an important contribution to this. In this strategy debate it became clear:

From Africa to Europe to Asia female workers fight organized for their equal rights and participation in social life. In

India, Sri Lanka, female tea plantation workers are on strike for equal wages with their male colleagues. Female textile workers in Bangladesh are fighting union battles for wages they and their families can live on. Women farmers demand a right to land. The approximately 67 million domestic workers worldwide demand employment contracts and social security, protection against sexual violence and an end to lawlessness. Carers and nurses in the Netherlands and Germany fight for recognition of their work and higher wages.

Feudal structures, chains of morality, religions, customs, traditions and laws build a network of the special oppression of women. This is organized by the bourgeois state and family system in capitalism. Throughout the world, women are primarily responsible for housework, raising children, caring for and caring for the elderly and the sick. The intensification of the general crisis of capitalism increasingly questions the living conditions of the masses worldwide. The 300 participants from three continents reported on this impressively at the International Theoretical Seminar of the World Women's Movement in India at the end of 2018. "We women bear the greatest burden, under very difficult conditions. But we women can do more than housework and children, we stand with men in the struggle for our rights. Capitalism is our enemy, not the men! "Organization is the guarantor for the success of our struggles", "we lead individual struggles but in the future we must fight together across borders".

Women of all classes worldwide demand a right to self-determination over their bodies, their lives. Starting from Argentina with $\frac{1}{2}$ million women, a wave of protests has spread in the countries of Latin America. Every 30 hours a woman dies in Argentina due to domestic violence, in Germany every 58 hours. In many European countries, pupils refuse to attend classes on Fridays to save the natural environment and its future. Increasingly, the struggles are politicized, directed

against the policies of right-wing governments, against fascism and war. In Brazil hundreds of thousands of women demonstrated against the fascist and extremely misogynistic president Bolsonaro. In Turkey and Northern Kurdistan women stand up against the fascist Erdogan regime. In Rojava, women's defense units have fought in a leading and highly organized way for liberation from the fascist IS and have taken significant steps forward in women's liberation, democracy and freedom.

In the face of the looming Second World War in 1932, Clara Zetkin, as President by seniority of the Reichstag, called for "the united front of all working people to throw back fascism".

Today the women's movement again faces the challenge to face imperialist rivalry and threats of war. Their justified struggle for liberation, for the full emancipation in a liberated society needs a transnational union and coordination.

Since its beginning in 2006, the process of establishing World Women's Conferences of grassroots women has developed into an **international movement of world women**. This was only possible because it is organized and works on the basis of principles. We have set ourselves the goal of strengthening the women's movement in the long term! The development of the militant women's movement in one's own country is a yardstick. To achieve this, women's organisation must improve and the coordination of world women must be reliable and continuous.

We will build a society in which women are not discriminated against, exploited and oppressed!

Long live the international militant women's movement –
forward to the 3rd World Women's Conference 2021!

[Download here as PDF file: Call for Women's Day 2019](#)

Now with Japanese subtitles: Film about the 2nd World Women's Conference of grassroots women in 2016 in Kathmandu

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Women are climbing the highest mountains!

This was the motto of the six-days of the self-organized World Women's Conference of grassroots women in Kathmandu, Nepal. 1,300 participants from 48 countries took part, including 74 delegates from 40 countries and more than 200 volunteer helpers. In ten workshops, the participants discussed central issues of the women's movement. Women's organisations from 61 countries were actively involved in the preparation programme.

"The movement for the World Women's Conference has become a world women's movement!" (Monika Gärtner-Engel, initiator and one of the world coordinators)

During the six days of the conference, a film with English text was posted on the Internet. A German version appeared at the end of 2016.

Theoretical Seminar 2018: Key theses of the introductory speech by the Kurdish Women's Movement

- About the Kurdistan Women's Liberation Movement: Having a history of 40 years in total, the women within the

Kurdish National Liberation Struggle are organising themselves autonomously since the early 1990's. This process that started first within the guerrilla ranks by establishing a women's guerrilla army today has reached a level of equal participation and representation in all parts of the struggle. Inside the women are organised autonomously and are the ones that take all decisions on women. But the ideological and practical struggle for true liberation continues as it aims to liberate both women and men from the patriarchal and capitalist-modernist mind of state. The women's struggle within the Kurdish liberation movement marks a revolution within a revolution. It is based on the idea that true revolutions must be female; that liberation theories and ideologies need to take the issue of women's liberation in it's centre. The one who started first analysis on women's status within the society and the liberation of women was the founder and leader of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), Abdullah O He was abducted through a NATO-operation in 1999 and since then kept in solitary confinement on a prison island in Turkey. Sakine Cansiz, nom de guerre 'Sara', was one of the first female revolutionaries in Kurdistan. Cansiz was founding member of the PKK. She was imprisoned in 1980 and brutally tortured. By leading the resistance in the prisons against the colonialist Turkish state she became a living legend. She was at the same time a living history of the Kurdish women's liberation struggle. On January 9, 2013 Sakine Cansiz, together with her comrades Fidan Dogan and Leyla Saylemez, was assassinated by the Turkish intelligence service in Paris/France.

- **Woman's question as primary conflict**

The woman's question marks the most profound, deep-rooted question in society and history. Women are the most oppressed race, nation or class. All other forms of

enslavement have been implemented on the basis of housewifisation. Without an analysis of woman's status in the hierarchical system and the conditions under which she was enslaved, neither the state nor the classed system that it rests upon can be understood. Without a thorough analysis of women's enslavement and establishing the conditions for overcoming it, no other slavery can be analysed or overcome.

- **Importance to analyse masculinity as system**

Power is synonymous to masculinity. If we want to understand the fundamental characteristics of the consequent male-dominant social culture, we need to analyse the process through which woman was socially overcome. Class and sexual oppression develop together; masculinity has generated ruling gender, ruling class, and ruling state. Overcoming masculinity as a system must be the fundamental principle of socialism.

- **Sexism as the basic ideology of power**

Ever since the hierarchical order's enormous leap forward, sexism has been the basic ideology of power. It is closely linked to class division and the wielding of power. Power and sexism in society share the same essence.

- **Importance of organizing women autonomously**

Liberating life is impossible without a radical women's revolution, which would change man's mentality and life. But it's also impossible to make a revolution with slave women. The extent to which society can be thoroughly transformed is determined by the extent of the transformation attained by women. The level of woman's freedom and equality determined the freedom and equality of all sections of society. Women need to be an organized autonomous force within liberation movements to be able to create real change – starting at themselves.

Main concepts and theories of the Kurdistan Women's Liberation

Movement

- *Break-off theory*: Ideational and physical breaking off by women from the patriarchal mentality
- *Total divorce*: The ability to divorce from the five thousand years old culture of male domination
- *Transformation of the man*: Liberation is not just a matter of women but of men also
- *Women's liberation ideology*: Expression of the need of an ideological ground of women's liberation struggle
- *Jineology*: The science of woman and life that rejects the relation between power and science and at the same time nourishes the scientific character of ideology
- *Free partner life*: Alternative that aims to liberate the institution of marriage and reorganize the relation between women and men

Call for the International Seminar 2018

European Coordinators of the World Women's Conference

Halinka Augustin / Netherlands



Susanne Bader / Germany

**World women focus their strategic view!
They call for participation in the International Seminar on
the Theory of the Liberation of Women!**

In accordance with the resolutions of the 2nd World Women's Conference of grassroots women in 2016, the World Coordinators are preparing an **International Seminar on the Theory of the Liberation of Women.**

It will take place from **2nd to 4th December in India, Bangalore.**

We are delighted with the invitation from representatives of the Indian women's movement. They will welcome us in Bangalore, the capital of the Indian state of Karnataka in the southwest of the country.

For three days, the seminar will offer all interested women the opportunity to discuss theories of women's liberation in a spirit of solidarity and militancy.

The seminar is based on the realization from the Second World Women's Conference that

"The increasing crises of imperialism ... challenge the masses, especially the women of the world, to take up the struggle for their future. Increasingly, we need to discuss and search for alternatives. We need to look for answers."

(Kathmandu resolution 2016)

After these three days we will have the opportunity to visit Indian women's organisations.

To prepare for this trip, study meetings are currently taking place in several cities in Germany and the Netherlands.

Interested women are welcome to join in.

Every woman who is interested can participate in the international seminar in India. We will circulate all known contact addresses via the homepage of the World Women's Conference. In this way, interested women can get together to prepare and organise the trip together. In Germany, information can also be obtained from the women's association Courage.

Flights must be booked to **Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru**. We will continuously inform you about further facts such as accommodation, conference site etc. on the homepage.

For now the following is important:

You will need a tourist visa which you should apply for as soon as possible. Your passport must remain valid for at least 6 months after your return.

We hope to hear from you and we look forward to seeing you in India!

With many greetings of solidarity,

Suse and Halinka

Download call:

[180626 Call for theoretical Seminar us](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=180626)

**Sharmista Choudhury is free!
International solidarity and
mass protests in the country
are successful!**

Translated:

Our world woman Sharmista and her fellow campaigners are free again!

We have just received this wonderful news from India:

“We thank you for the message of solidarity with Sharmista. We are pleased to inform you that Sharmista and the others who were abducted with her were released the same evening after a massive protest by the people.”

And further they write that the situation is very tense but Sharmista and other activists are in a safe place.

“(…) We thank you again for your support and promise you that the fight will continue.”

**Protestation of the Fortuna
Workers/Bosnia for the
release of Sharmista**

Choudhury

We, the workers of „Fortuna“ Gračanica shoe factory and participants of European world womens conference of grassroots woman, strongly condemn the brutal attack and abduction of activist Sharmista Choudhury and other leaders of the Bhangor-Movement!

As woman, workers and fighters for worker rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina we were also victims of physical and psychic attacks and it is our obligation to the society and to the world to stand up against such attacks on individuals and activist groups.

We demand for immediate and unharmed release of Sharmista and other activists!

We call on the government to take action against such criminal activities and also we call upon the government to take steps to protect the activists in the country.

Free Sharmista!

The workers of “Fortuna ” Gračanica Shoe Factory / Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Militant Women's Council
Germany: Protest declaration
in regards to Sharmista**

Choudhury

Protest declaration

In the name of the Women's Political counsel we protest against the brutal attacks and the kidnapping of our friend Sharmista Choudhury and other leaders of the Bhangor-Movement.

Sharmista Choudhury is an well known woman here in germany, she often visited our Women's Political Counsel, the greatest self organized women event in germany. She is an aktivist of the worlwomen's conference movement and we work strongly together.

We ask the government to take action against these criminal activities.

We demand the immediate and unharmed release of Sharmista Choudhury and all the other leaders.

This procedure is a disgrace.

We call on all democratic forces in the country to take to the streets for the release of the kidnapped leaders.

Militant Women's Council Germany

Anne Wilhelm

25.4.2018

frauenpolitischerratschlag@gmx.de

From Switzerland: Solidarity is the tenderness of peoples – Immediate reconnaissance and release of kidnapped Sharmista in India

With absolute horror and great anger we learned about Sharmista's kidnapping and other guides last night. We know Sharmista as a combative and very committed woman.

Her struggle for the environmental and popular movement "For land, livelihoods, ecology and environmental protection" is obviously also the reason for the cowardly attack on her and that she was attacked and abducted by thugs of the ruling party TMC.

The resistance in West Bengal to a high voltage road in West Bengal is a thorn in the side of the corporations. They are afraid of a protest that raises much more fundamental questions such as freedom and peace, life without poverty. These project managers go over dead bodies, they serve to maximize the profits of large corporations. We have seen with our own eyes in India how houses were demolished in which people still lived, for main roads leading to large hotel chains.

We will inform all progressive forces in Switzerland about the kidnapping and its background and Sharmista's photo will be with us in the tent on May 1st, her courage is a role model for us and the resistance will live on.

MLGS; 26.04.2018

Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator