

# **AGAINST COLONIAL OPPRESSION**

## **Against the Imperialist Terror in Palestine!**

Appeal of the League Against Imperialism and for National Independence.

Hamid el Husseini, member of the General Council of the League Against Imperialism and Kemal el Daschani, one of his followers, who have been kept in the prison of Jaffa since August 27th without being examined, have been on hunger strike since the first week of October.

Imperialist terror is raging in Palestine. Hundreds of revolutionaries are arrested. The Special Court in Haifa has con-

denied 45 peasants of Tirah to a total of 185 years' hard labour. The peasants are accused of having undertaken a march on Haifa, without however a collision having ensued. The courts have already imposed sentences amounting in all to over 1000 years' imprisonment, although the great trials in Jerusalem, Hebron, Saffed etc. are still pending. The prisons are overcrowded and many of the arrested persons are transferred to internment camps where they are subjected to the most brutal treatment.

How could Hamid el Hussein be spared from this terror instigated by the MacDonald government! Hamid el Hussein, the leader of the Left wing of the Arab National Congress, had the temerity to attend an Executive Meeting of the League Against Imperialism at Cologne. On his return all the documents and even books he had brought with him were confiscated while he himself was placed under strict police supervision.

It was Hamid el Hussein who proclaimed in his speeches and articles that the struggle against British imperialism can be conducted only if the toiling population, the workers and peasants, no matter whether Mohammedan, Jew or Christian, unite for the purpose of a ruthless struggle against imperialism and its confederates, the Zionists and the Arab big landowners.

On the 12th of August, 1929, the Arab Youth of Palestine met at a Congress. Hamid el Hussein's statements were enthusiastically welcomed and the active anti-imperialist struggle was programmatically proclaimed. Since that time Hamid el Hussein and his friends were placed under even more strict surveillance. Criminal police kept watch night and day in front of his house so that it was converted into a prison.

When on the 23rd of August the revolt broke out in Jerusalem, the two supports of imperialism, the Zionists and the feudal Arab elements, tried to make out that it was a "wailing wall affair".

On the 24th of August, Hamid el Hussein came openly forward in Jaffa. He proclaimed that the time has now come when the working Jews and Mohammedans should unite. The struggle must be conducted against imperialism and the mandatory system. With the cancelling of the mandate the Balfour Declaration would also become null and void.

This furnished sufficient cause to arrest Hamid el Hussein. Not the revisionist-Zionist inciters and the reactionary feudal elements who had attempted to make use of the justified indignation of the Arab masses for their special interests were arrested, but precisely he who had enlightened the Arab population as to the true character of the events. Hamid el Hussein was thrown into prison on the accusation of having incited the population to make a revolution against the government.

Hamid el Hussein has now been in prison for two months. The government has already for the fourth time prolonged the order of arrest against him. He is not treated like a political prisoner but like common criminal. The protest of the Arab organisations from all parts of the country against this unheard-of brutality have remained without effect.

In such circumstances Hamid and Kemal el Daschani declared a hunger strike and made the following declaration:

"We have decided to enter on a hunger strike as the whole time we have been here we have not been examined, and in order to protest against the cruel treatment. This strike will last as long as the government intends to keep us in prison in this manner.

The government, apparently, is equally indifferent whether we live or die. But we are firmly determined to continue the strike until we are released. If we die, then you must know that the mandatory power with its cruel system has killed us and not hunger."

In the meantime, other political prisoners, who have for the greater part been arrested in connection with recent events, have put forward a number of demands such as the abolition of the humiliating prison regime, special privileges for political prisoners, abolition of hand cuffing, release of the administrative prisoners, amnesty for political prisoners etc. As these demands have not been fulfilled, 46 comrades have entered on a hunger strike.

In Palestine, India and Ireland the prisons are filled to overflowing with revolutionaries who fought for the independence of their countries and the emancipation of the toiling masses. In Lahore and in Meerut, in India, the prisoners have entered on a hunger strike in order to enforce from the Mac

Donald government special treatment of the political prisoners. The young national revolutionary Jatindranath Das has already paid with his life for espousing the cause of his suppressed brothers. The "Labour Government" of MacDonald has always been prepared to let revolutionaries perish in the prisons. The toiling masses of India, Palestine, Ireland and Great Britain and of the whole world have no interest in supporting the imperialist plans of a "Labour Government". They must take up the struggle against the imperialist policy of the MacDonald government, which is supported by the English Labour Party and the English Independent Labour Party;

for the immediate release of Hamid el Husseini and of all the revolutionaries who are pining in the prisons of British imperialism!